myo·glo·bin \-'glō-bən, 'mī-ə-ˌ\ *n* [ISV] : a red iron-containing protein pigment in muscles that is similar to hemoglobin
myo·ino·si·tol \ˌmī-ō-in-'ō-sə-ˌtōl, -ˌtōl\ *n* : an optically inactive inositol that is a component of the vitamin B complex and a lipotropic agent and that occurs widely in plants, microorganisms, and higher animals including man
my·ol·o·gy \mī-'äl-ə-jē\ *n* [F or NL; F *myologie*, fr. NL *myologia*, fr. *my-* + L *-logia* -logy] : a scientific study of muscles — **my·o·log·ic** \ˌmī-ə-'läj-ik\ *or* **my·o·log·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj*
my·o·ma \mī-'ō-mə\ *n, pl* **-mas** *or* **-ma·ta** \-mət-ə\ [NL] : a tumor consisting of muscle tissue — **my·o·ma·tous** \-mət-əs\ *adj*
myo·neu·ral \ˌmī-ə-'n(y)ůr-əl\ *adj* : of or relating to both muscle and nerve
my·op·a·thy \mī-'äp-ə-thē\ *n* [ISV] : a disorder of muscle tissue or muscles — **myo·path·ic** \ˌmī-ə-'path-ik\ *adj*
my·ope \'mī-ˌōp\ *n* [F, fr. LL *myops* myopic, fr. Gk *myōps*, fr. *myein* to be closed + *ōps* eye, face — more at MYSTERY, EYE] : a myopic person
my·o·pia \mī-'ō-pē-ə\ *n* [NL, fr. Gk *myōpia*, fr. *myōp-*, *myōps*] **1** : a condition in which the visual images come to a focus in front of the retina of the eye resulting esp. in defective vision of distant objects **2** : deficiency of foresight or discernment — **my·o·pic** \-'ō-pik, -'äp-ik\ *adj* — **my·o·pi·cal·ly** \-(ə-)lē\ *adv*
my·o·sin \'mī-ə-sən\ *n* [ISV *myos-* (fr. Gk *myos*, gen. of *mys* mouse, muscle)] **1** : ACTOMYOSIN **2** : a fibrous globulin of muscle that can split ATP and that reacts with actin to form actomyosin
my·o·sis, my·ot·ic *var of* MIOSIS, MIOTIC
my·os·otis \ˌmī-ə-'sōt-əs\ *n* [NL, genus name, fr. L, mouse-ear, fr. Gk *myosōtis*, fr. *myos* (gen. of *mys* mouse) + *ōt-*, *ous* ear — more at MOUSE, EAR] : FORGET-ME-NOT
myo·tome \'mī-ə-ˌtōm\ *n* [ISV] **1** : the portion of an embryonic somite from which skeletal musculature is produced **2** : the muscles of a metamere esp. in a segmented invertebrate
myo·to·nia \ˌmī-ə-'tō-nē-ə\ *n* [NL] : tonic spasm of one or more muscles; *also* : a condition characterized by such spasms — **myo·ton·ic** \-'tän-ik\ *adj*
[1]myr·i·ad \'mir-ē-əd\ *n* [Gk *myriad-*, *myrias*, fr. *myrioi* countless, ten thousand] **1** : ten thousand **2** : an immense number
[2]myriad *adj* **1** : INNUMERABLE, MULTITUDINOUS **2** : having innumerable aspects or elements ⟨the ~ activity of the new land — Meridel Le Sueur⟩
myr·ia·me·ter \'mir-ē-ə-ˌmēt-ər\ *n* [F *myriamètre*, fr. Gk *myrioi* + F *-mètre* -meter] — see METRIC SYSTEM table
myr·ia·pod *also* **myr·io·pod** \'mir-ē-ə-ˌpäd\ *n* [deriv. of Gk *myrioi* + *pod-*, *pous* foot — more at FOOT] : any of a group (Myriapoda) of arthropods having the body made up of numerous similar segments nearly all of which bear true jointed legs and including the millipedes and centipedes — **myriapod** *also* **myriopod** *adj*
my·ris·tate \mə-'ris-ˌtāt, mī-; 'mir-əs-, 'mī-rəs-\ *n* [ISV] : a salt or ester of myristic acid
my·ris·tic acid \mə-ˌris-tik-, mī-\ *n* [ISV, fr. NL *Myristica*, genus of trees] : a crystalline fatty acid $C_{14}H_{28}O_2$ occurring esp. in the form of glycerides in most fats
myrmec- *or* **myrmeco-** *comb form* [Gk *myrmēk-*, *myrmēko-*, fr. *myrmēk-*, *myrmēx* — more at PISMIRE] : ant ⟨*myrmeco*phagous⟩
myr·me·col·o·gy \ˌmər-mə-'käl-ə-jē\ *n* [ISV] : the scientific study of ants — **myr·me·co·log·i·cal** \-kə-'läj-i-kəl\ *adj* — **myr·me·col·o·gist** \-'käl-ə-jəst\ *n*
myr·me·coph·a·gous \-'käf-ə-gəs\ *adj* : feeding on ants
myr·meco·phile \'mər-mi-kə-ˌfīl\ *n* [ISV] : an organism that habitually shares an ant nest — **myr·me·coph·i·lous** \ˌmər-mə-'käf-ə-ləs\ *adj* — **myr·me·coph·i·ly** \-lē\ *n*
myr·mi·don \'mər-mə-ˌdän, -məd-ən\ *n* [L *Myrmidon-*, *Myrmido*, fr. Gk *Myrmidōn*] **1** *cap* : a member of a legendary Thessalian people who took part with Achilles their king in the Trojan War **2** : a loyal follower; *esp* : a subordinate who executes orders unquestioningly or pitilessly
my·rob·a·lan \mī-'räb-ə-lən, mə-\ *n* [MF *mirobolan*, fr. L *myrobalanus*, fr. Gk *myrobalanos*, fr. *myron* unguent + *balanos* acorn — more at SMEAR, GLAND] **1** : the dried astringent fruit of an East Indian tree (genus *Terminalia*) used chiefly in tanning and in inks **2** : CHERRY PLUM
myrrh \'mər\ *n* [ME *myrre*, fr. OE, fr. L *myrrha*, fr. Gk, of Sem origin; akin to Ar *murr* myrrh] : a yellowish brown to reddish brown aromatic gum resin with a bitter slightly pungent taste obtained from a tree (esp. *Commiphora abyssinica*) of east Africa and Arabia; *also* : a mixture of myrrh and labdanum
myr·tle \'mərt-ᵊl\ *n, often attrib* [ME *mirtille*, fr. MF, fr. ML *myrtillus*, fr. L *myrtus*, fr. Gk *myrtos*] **1 a** : a common evergreen bushy shrub (*Myrtus communis*) of southern Europe with oval to lance-shaped shiny leaves, fragrant white or rosy flowers, and black berries **b** : any of a family (Myrtaceae, the myrtle family) of chiefly tropical shrubs or trees to which the common myrtle belongs **2 a** : [1]PERIWINKLE a **b** : CALIFORNIA LAUREL
my·self \mī-'self, mə-\ *pron* **1** : that identical one that is I — used reflexively ⟨I'm going to get ~ a new suit⟩, for emphasis ⟨I ~ will go⟩, or in absolute constructions ⟨~ a tourist, I nevertheless avoided other tourists⟩ **2** : my normal, healthy, or sane condition ⟨didn't feel ~ yesterday⟩
mys·ost \'mē-ˌsȯst\ *n* [Norw, fr. *myse* whey + *ost* cheese] : a brown Norwegian whey cheese of hard buttery consistency and mild sweetish taste
mys·ta·gogue \'mis-tə-ˌgäg\ *n* [L *mystagogus*, fr. Gk *mystagōgos*, fr. *mystēs* initiate + *agein* to lead — more at AGENT] **1** : one who initiates another into a mystery cult **2** : one who disseminates mystical doctrines — **mys·ta·go·gy** \-ˌgäj-ē, -ˌgō-jē\ *n*
mys·te·ri·ous \mis-'tir-ē-əs\ *adj* **1 a** : of, relating to, or constituting mystery ⟨the ~ ways of God⟩ **b** : exciting wonder, curiosity, or surprise while baffling efforts to comprehend or identify : MYSTIFYING ⟨heard a ~ noise each night⟩ ⟨a ~ stranger⟩ **2** : stirred by or attracted to the inexplicable — **mys·te·ri·ous·ly** *adv* — **mys·te·ri·ous·ness** *n*
syn MYSTERIOUS, INSCRUTABLE, ARCANE *shared meaning element* : being beyond one's powers to discover, understand, or explain

[1]mys·tery \'mis-t(ə-)rē\ *n, pl* **-ter·ies** [ME *mysterie*, fr. L *mysterium*, fr. Gk *mystērion*, fr. (assumed) *mystos* keeping silence, fr. Gk *myein* to be closed (of the eyes or lips)] **1 a** : a religious truth that man can know by revelation alone and cannot fully understand **b** (1) : any of the 15 events (as the Nativity, the Crucifixion, or the Assumption) serving as a subject for meditation during the saying of the rosary (2) *cap* : a Christian sacrament; *specif* : EUCHARIST **c** (1) : a secret religious rite believed (as in Eleusinian and Mithraic cults) to impart enduring bliss to the initiate (2) : a cult devoted to such rites **2 a** : something not understood or beyond understanding : ENIGMA **b** *obs* : a private secret **c** : the secret or specialized practices or ritual peculiar to an occupation or a body of people ⟨the *mysteries* of the tailor's craft⟩ **d** : a piece of fiction dealing usu. with the solution of a mysterious crime **3** : profound, inexplicable, or secretive quality or character ⟨the ~ of her smile⟩
syn MYSTERY, PROBLEM, ENIGMA, RIDDLE, PUZZLE, CONUNDRUM *shared meaning element* : something which baffles or perplexes
[2]mystery *n, pl* **-ter·ies** [LL *misterium*, *mysterium*, alter. of *ministerium* service, occupation, fr. *minister* servant — more at MINISTER] **1** *archaic* : TRADE, CRAFT **2** *archaic* : a body of persons engaged in a particular trade, business, or profession : GUILD **3** : MYSTERY PLAY
mystery play *n* [[2]*mystery*] : a medieval drama based on scriptural incidents and usu. centering on the life, death, and resurrection of Christ
[1]mys·tic \'mis-tik\ *adj* [ME *mistik*, fr. L *mysticus* of mysteries, fr. Gk *mystikos*, fr. (assumed) *mystos*] **1** : MYSTICAL 1 **2** : of or relating to mysteries or esoteric rites : OCCULT **3** : of or relating to mysticism or mystics **4 a** : MYSTERIOUS **b** : OBSCURE, ENIGMATIC **c** : inducing a feeling of awe or wonder **d** : having magical properties
[2]mystic *n* **1** : a follower of a mystical way of life **2** : an advocate of a theory of mysticism
mys·ti·cal \'mis-ti-kəl\ *adj* **1** : having a spiritual meaning or reality that is neither apparent to the senses nor obvious to the intelligence ⟨the ~ food of the sacrament⟩ **2 a** : of, relating to, or resulting from an individual's direct communion with God or ultimate reality ⟨the ~ experience of the Inner Light⟩ **b** : based on subjective experience (as intuition or insight) ⟨the ~ religions of the East⟩ **3** : CRYPTIC, UNINTELLIGIBLE **4** : MYSTIC 2 — **mys·ti·cal·ly** \-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
mys·ti·cism \'mis-tə-ˌsiz-əm\ *n* **1** : the experience of mystical union or direct communion with ultimate reality reported by mystics **2** : the belief that direct knowledge of God, spiritual truth, or ultimate reality can be attained through subjective experience (as intuition or insight) **3 a** : vague speculation : a belief without sound basis **b** : a theory postulating the possibility of direct and intuitive acquisition of ineffable knowledge or power
mys·ti·fi·ca·tion \ˌmis-tə-fə-'kā-shən\ *n* **1** : an act or instance of mystifying **2** : the quality or state of being mystified **3** : something designed to mystify
mys·ti·fy \'mis-tə-ˌfī\ *vt* **-fied; -fy·ing** [F *mistifier*, fr. *mystère* mystery, fr. L *mysterium*] **1** : to perplex the mind of : BEWILDER **2** : to make mysterious or obscure ⟨~ an interpretation of a prophecy⟩ — **mys·ti·fi·er** \-ˌfī(-ə)r\ *n* — **mys·ti·fy·ing·ly** \-ˌfī-iŋ-lē\ *adv*
mys·tique \mis-'tēk\ *n* [F, fr. *mystique*, adj., mystic, fr. L *mysticus*] **1** : a complex of transcendental or somewhat mystical beliefs and attitudes developing around something (as an idea) ⟨the ~ of progress⟩ **2** : the special esoteric skill essential in a calling or activity ⟨the ~ of confrontation politics⟩
myth \'mith\ *n* [Gk *mythos*] **1** : a usu. traditional story of ostensibly historical events that serves to unfold part of the world view of a people or explain a practice, belief, or natural phenomenon **2** : PARABLE, ALLEGORY **3 a** : a person or thing having only an imaginary or unverifiable existence **b** : an ill-founded belief held uncritically esp. by an interested group **4** : the whole body of myths
syn MYTH, LEGEND, SAGA *shared meaning element* : a traditional story of ostensibly historical content whose origin has been lost
myth·i·cal \'mith-i-kəl\ *also* **myth·ic** \-ik\ *adj* **1** : based on or described in a myth esp. as contrasted with factual history : IMAGINARY **2 a** : fabricated, invented, or imagined in an arbitrary way or in defiance of facts **b** : having qualities suitable to myth ***syn*** see FICTITIOUS — **myth·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
myth·i·cize \'mith-ə-ˌsīz\ *vt* **-cized; -ciz·ing** **1** : to turn into or envelop in myth **2** : to treat as myth — **myth·i·ciz·er** *n*
myth·mak·er \'mith-ˌmā-kər\ *n* : a creator of myths or of mythical situations or lore — **myth·mak·ing** \-kiŋ\ *n*
my·thog·ra·phy \mith-'äg-rə-fē\ *n* [Gk *mythographia*, fr. *mythos* + *-graphia* -graphy] **1** : the representation of mythical subjects in art **2** : a critical compilation of myths — **my·thog·ra·pher** \-fər\ *n*
myth·o·log·i·cal \ˌmith-ə-'läj-i-kəl\ *also* **myth·o·log·ic** \-ik\ *adj* **1** : of or relating to mythology or myths : dealt with in mythology **2** : lacking factual basis or historical validity : MYTHICAL, FABULOUS — **myth·o·log·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
my·thol·o·gize \mith-'äl-ə-ˌjīz\ *vb* **-gized; -giz·ing** *vt* **1** *obs* : to explain the mythological significance of **2** : to build a myth around : MYTHICIZE ~ *vi* : to relate, classify, and explain myths — **my·thol·o·giz·er** *n*
my·thol·o·gy \mith-'äl-ə-jē\ *n, pl* **-gies** [F or LL; F *mythologie*, fr. LL *mythologia* interpretation of myths, fr. Gk, legend, myth, fr. *mythologein* to relate myths, fr. *mythos* + *logos* speech — more at LEGEND] **1 a** : an allegorical narrative **b** : a body of myths; *esp* : the myths dealing with the gods, demigods, and legendary heroes

of a particular people and usu. involving supernatural elements **2** : a branch of knowledge that deals with myth — **my·thol·o·ger** \-jər\ *n* — **my·thol·o·gist** \-jəst\ *n*

mytho·ma·nia \ˌmith-ə-ˈmā-nē-ə, -nyə\ *n* [NL, fr. Gk *mythos* + LL *mania*] : an excessive or abnormal propensity for lying and exaggerating — **mytho·ma·ni·ac** \-nē-ˌak\ *n or adj*

mytho·poe·ia \ˌmith-ə-ˈpē-(y)ə\ *n* [LL, fr. Gk *mythopoiia*, fr. *mythopoiein* to make a myth, fr. *mythos* + *poiein* to make — more at POEM] : a creating of myth : a giving rise to myths — **mytho·poe·ic** \-ˈpē-ik\ *or* **mytho·po·et·ic** \-pō-ˈet-ik\ *or* **mytho·po·et·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj*

my·thos \ˈmī-ˌthäs, ˈmith-ˌäs\ *n, pl* **my·thoi** \-ˌthȯi, -ˌȯi\ [Gk] **1 a** : MYTH 1 **b** : MYTHOLOGY 1b **2** : a pattern of beliefs expressing often symbolically the characteristic or prevalent attitudes in a group or culture **3** : THEME, PLOT

my word *interj* — used to express surprise or astonishment

myx·ede·ma \ˌmik-sə-ˈdē-mə\ *n* [NL, fr. Gk *myxa* lamp wick, nasal mucus + NL *edema* — more at MUCUS] : severe hypothyroidism characterized by firm inelastic edema, dry skin and hair, and loss of mental and physical vigor — **myx·ede·ma·tous** \-ˈdem-ət-əs, -ˈdē-mət-\ *adj*

myx·o·ma \mik-ˈsō-mə\ *n, pl* **-mas** *or* **-ma·ta** \-mət-ə\ [NL, fr. Gk *myxa*] : a soft tumor made up of gelatinous connective tissue resembling that found in the umbilical cord — **myx·o·ma·tous** \-mət-əs\ *adj*

myx·o·ma·to·sis \mik-ˌsō-mə-ˈtō-səs\ *n* [NL, fr. *myxomat-*, *myxoma*] : a condition characterized by the presence of myxomas in the body; *specif* : a severe virus disease of rabbits that is transmitted by mosquitoes and has been used in the biological control of rabbits in plague areas

myxo·my·cete \ˌmik-sō-ˈmī-ˌsēt, ˌmik-sō-(ˌ)mī-ˈ\ *n* [deriv. of Gk *myxa* + *mykēt-*, *mykēs* fungus — more at MYC-] : SLIME MOLD — **myxo·my·ce·tous** \-(ˌ)mī-ˈsēt-əs\ *adj*

myxo·vi·rus \ˈmik-sə-ˌvī-rəs\ *n* [NL, fr. Gk *myxa* mucus + NL *virus;* fr. its affinity for certain mucins] : any of a group of rather large RNA-containing viruses that includes influenza and mumps viruses — **myxo·vi·ral** \ˌmik-sə-ˈvī-rəl\ *adj*



¹n \ˈen\ *n, pl* **n's** *or* **ns** \ˈenz\ *often cap, often attrib* **1 a** : the 14th letter of the English alphabet **b** : a graphic representation of this letter **c** : a speech counterpart of orthographic *n* **2** : a graphic device for reproducing the letter *n* **3 a** : one designated *n* esp. as the 14th in order or class **b** : an indefinite number; *esp* : a constant integer or a variable taking on integral values **4** : something shaped like the letter N **5** : the haploid or gametic number of chromosomes **6** : EN 2

²n *abbr, often cap* **1** name **2** nano- **3** navy **4** net **5** neuter **6** noon **7** normal **8** north **9** note **10** noun **11** number

³n *symbol* **1** exponent denoting an unspecified degree, order, or power **2** *usu ital* neutron **3** *usu ital* index of refraction

N *symbol* nitrogen

-n — see -EN

'n' *also* **'n** \ən, ᵊn\ *conj* : AND ⟨fish *'n'* chips⟩

Na *symbol* [NL *natrium*] sodium

NA *abbr* **1** national academician **2** no account **3** North America **4** not applicable **5** not available

NAACP \ˌen-ˌdəb-ə-ˌlā-ˌsē-ˈpē, ˌen-ˌā-ˌā-ˌsē-\ *abbr* National Association for the Advancement of Colored People

nab \ˈnab\ *vt* **nabbed; nab·bing** [perh. alter. of E dial. *nap*] **1** : to catch or seize in arrest : APPREHEND **2** : to seize suddenly

NAB *abbr* New American Bible

na·bob \ˈnā-ˌbäb\ *n* [Hindi & Urdu *nawwāb*, fr. Ar *nuwwāb*, pl. of *nā'ib* governor] **1** : a provincial governor of the Mogul empire in India **2** : a man of great wealth or prominence — **na·bob·ess** \-əs\ *n*

Na·both \ˈnā-ˌbäth\ *n* [Heb *Nābhōth*] : the owner of a vineyard coveted and seized by Ahab king of Israel

na·celle \nə-ˈsel\ *n* [F, lit., small boat, fr. LL *navicella*, dim. of L *navis* ship — more at NAVE] : an enclosed shelter on an aircraft for an engine or sometimes for the crew

na·cre \ˈnā-kər\ *n* [MF, fr. OIt *naccara* drum, nacre, fr. Ar *naqqārah* drum] : MOTHER-OF-PEARL — **na·cred** \-kərd\ *adj* — **na·cre·ous** \-krē-əs, -k(ə-)rəs\ *adj*

NACS *abbr* National Association of College Stores

NACU *abbr* National Association of Colleges and Universities

¹NAD \ˌen-ˌā-ˈdē\ *n* [*n*icotinamide-*a*denine *d*inucleotide] : a coenzyme $C_{21}H_{27}N_7O_{14}P_2$ of numerous dehydrogenases that occurs in most cells and plays an important role in all phases of intermediary metabolism as an oxidizing agent or when in the reduced form as a reducing agent for various metabolites — called also *nicotinamide-adenine dinucleotide, diphosphopyridine nucleotide, DPN*

²NAD *abbr* **1** National Academy of Design **2** no appreciable disease

Na–dene *also* **Na–dé·né** \nä-ˈden-ē\ *n* [*na-* (fr. an Athapaskan word stem akin to Haida *na* to dwell) + *Déné*] : a group of related American Indian languages spoken in parts of western No. America from Alaska to northern Mexico

na·dir \ˈnā-ˌdi(ə)r, ˈnād-ər\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. Ar *naẓīr* opposite] **1** : the point of the celestial sphere that is directly opposite the zenith and vertically downward from the observer **2** : the lowest point

NADP \en-ˌā-ˌdē-ˈpē\ *n* [*n*icotinamide-*a*denine *d*inucleotide *p*hosphate] : a coenzyme $C_{21}H_{28}N_7O_{17}P_3$ of numerous dehydrogenases (as that acting on glucose-6-phosphate) that occurs esp. in red blood cells and plays a role in intermediary metabolism similar to NAD but acting often on different metabolites — called also *nicotinamide-adenine dinucleotide phosphate, TPN, triphosphopyridine nucleotide*

NAEB *abbr* National Association of Educational Broadcasters

¹nag \ˈnag\ *n* [ME *nagge;* akin to D *negge* small horse] : HORSE; *esp* : one that is old or in poor condition

²nag *vb* **nagged; nag·ging** [prob. of Scand origin; akin to ON *gnaga* to gnaw; akin to OE *gnagan* to gnaw] *vi* **1** : to find fault incessantly : COMPLAIN **2** : to be a continuing source of annoyance ~ *vt* **1** : to irritate by constant scolding or urging **2** : BADGER, WORRY — **nag·ger** *n* — **nagging** *adj* — **nag·ging·ly** \-iŋ-lē\ *adv*

³nag *n* : one who nags habitually

Nah *abbr* Nahum

Na·huatl \ˈnä-ˌwät-ᵊl\ *n, pl* **Nahuatl** *or* **Nahuatls** [Sp, fr. Nahuatl] **1** : a group of Amerindian peoples of southern Mexico and Central America **2** : the Uto-Aztecan language of the Nahuatl people — **Na·huat·lan** \nä-ˈwät-lən\ *adj or n*

Na·hum \ˈnā-(h)əm\ *n* [Heb *Naḥūm*] **1** : a Hebrew prophet of the 7th century B.C. **2** : a prophetic book of canonical Jewish and Christian Scripture — see BIBLE table

NAIA *abbr* National Association of Intercollegiate Athletes

na·iad \ˈnā-əd, ˈnī-, -ˌad\ *n, pl* **na·iads** *or* **na·ia·des** \-ə-ˌdēz\ [F or L; F *naïade*, fr. L *naiad-*, *naias*, fr. Gk, fr. *nan* to flow — more at NOURISH] **1** : one of the nymphs in ancient mythology living in and giving life to lakes, rivers, springs, and fountains **2** : the aquatic young of a mayfly, dragonfly, damselfly, or stone fly **3** : any of a genus (*Naias*) of submerged aquatic plants

na·ïf \nä-ˈēf\ *adj* [F] : NAIVE — **naïf** *n*

¹nail \ˈnā(ə)l\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *nægl;* akin to OHG *nagal* nail, fingernail, L *unguis* fingernail, toenail, claw, Gk *onyx*] **1 a** : a horny sheath protecting the upper end of each finger and toe of man and most other primates **b** : a structure (as a claw) that terminates a digit and corresponds to a nail **2** : a slender usu. pointed and headed fastener designed to be pounded in **3** : an English unit of length equal to $^1/_{16}$ yard

²nail *vt* **1** : to fasten with or as if with a nail **2** : to fix in steady attention ⟨~*ed* his eye on the crack⟩ **3** : CATCH, TRAP; *esp* : to detect and expose so as to discredit **4 a** : STRIKE, HIT **b** : to put out (a runner) in baseball — **nail·er** *n*

nail·brush \ˈnā(ə)l-ˌbrəsh\ *n* : a small firm-bristled brush for cleaning the hands and esp. the fingernails

nail down *vt* **1** : to settle or establish clearly and unmistakably **2** : to gain or win decisively ⟨~ down his consent⟩

nail file *n* : a small narrow instrument (as of metal or cardboard) with a rough or emery surface that is used for shaping fingernails

nain·sook \ˈnān-ˌsůk\ *n* [Hindi *nainsukh*, fr. *nain* eye + *sukh* delight] : a soft lightweight muslin

nai·ra \ˈnī-rə\ *n* [native name in Nigeria] — see MONEY table

na·ive *or* **na·ïve** \nä-ˈēv\ *adj* **na·iv·er; -est** [F *naïve*, fem. of *naïf*, fr. OF, inborn, natural, fr. L *nativus* native] **1** : marked by unaffected simplicity : ARTLESS, INGENUOUS **2 a** : deficient in worldly wisdom or informed judgment; *esp* : CREDULOUS **b** : not previously subjected to experimentation or a particular experimental situation ⟨made the test with ~ rats⟩ ***syn*** see NATURAL — **na·ive·ly** *adv* — **na·ive·ness** *n*

na·ive·té *or* **na·ïve·té** *or* **na·ive·te** \(ˌ)nä-ˌē-və-ˈtā, nä-ˈē-və-ˌ; ˌnä-ˌēv-ˈtā\ *n* [F *naïveté*, fr. OF, inborn character, fr. *naif*] **1** : the quality or state of being naive **2** : a naive remark or action

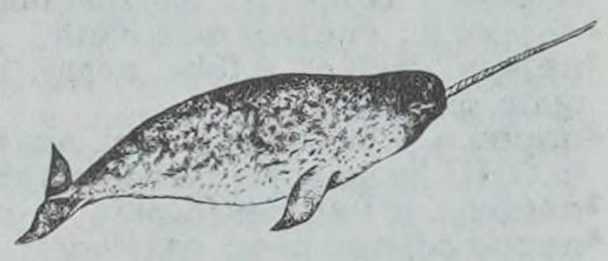
na·ive·ty *also* **na·ïve·ty** \nä-ˈē-vət-ē, -ˈēv-tē\ *n, pl* **-ties** : NAIVETÉ

na·ked \ˈnā-kəd, *esp South* ˈnek-əd\ *adj* [ME, fr. OE *nacod;* akin to OHG *nackot* naked, L *nudus*, Gk *gymnos*] **1** : not covered by clothing : NUDE **2** : devoid of customary or natural covering : BARE: as **a** : not enclosed in a sheath or scabbard **b** : not provided with a shade **c** *of a plant or one of its parts* : lacking pubescence or enveloping or subtending parts **d** : lacking foliage or vegetation **e** *of an animal or one of its parts* : lacking an external covering (as of hair, feathers, or shell) **3 a** : scantily supplied or furnished **b** : lacking embellishment : UNADORNED **4** : UNARMED, DEFENSELESS **5** : lacking confirmation or support **6** : devoid of concealment or disguise **7** : unaided by any optical device or instrument ⟨visible to the ~ eye⟩ ***syn*** see BARE — **na·ked·ly** *adv* — **na·ked·ness** *n*

na·led \ˈnā-ˌled\ *n* [origin unknown] : a short-lived insecticide of relatively low toxicity to warm-blooded animals that is used esp. to control crop pests and mosquitoes

na·li·dix·ic acid \ˌnā-lə-ˌdik-sik-\ *n* [origin unknown] : an antibacterial agent $C_{12}H_{12}N_2O_3$ that is used esp. in the treatment of genitourinary infections
na·lor·phine \nal-ˈȯr-ˌfēn\ *n* [*N-allyl* + *morphine*] : a white crystalline compound $C_{19}H_{21}NO_3$ that is derived from morphine and is used in the form of its hydrochloride as a respiratory stimulant to counteract poisoning by morphine and similar narcotic drugs
nal·ox·one \ˈnal-ək-ˌsōn\ *n* [*N-allyl* + hydr*oxy*- + *-one*] : a potent antagonist $C_{19}H_{21}NO_4$ of narcotic drugs and esp. morphine
NAM *abbr* National Association of Manufacturers
nam·by–pam·by \ˌnam-bē-ˈpam-bē\ *adj* [*Namby Pamby*, nickname given to Ambrose Philips] **1** : lacking in character or substance : INSIPID **2** : WEAK, INDECISIVE — **namby–pamby** *n*
¹name \ˈnām\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *nama;* akin to OHG *namo* name, L *nomen*, Gk *onoma, onyma*] **1 a** : a word or phrase that constitutes the distinctive designation of a person or thing **b** : a word or symbol used in logic to designate **2** : a descriptive often disparaging epithet ⟨called him ~*s*⟩ **3 a** : REPUTATION ⟨gave the town a bad ~⟩ **b** : an illustrious record : FAME ⟨made a ~ for himself in golf⟩ **c** : a person or thing with a reputation **4** : FAMILY, CLAN **5** : appearance as opposed to reality ⟨a friend in ~ only⟩ **6** : one referred to by a name ⟨praise his holy ~⟩ — **in the name of** : by authority of ⟨open *in the name of* the law⟩
²name *vt* **named; nam·ing** **1** : to give a name to : CALL **2 a** : to mention or identify by name **b** : to accuse by name **3** : to nominate for office : APPOINT **4** : to decide upon : CHOOSE ⟨~ the day for the wedding⟩ **5** : to mention explicitly : SPECIFY ⟨unwilling to ~ a price⟩ ***syn*** see MENTION — **nam·er** *n*
³name *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or bearing a name ⟨~ tags⟩ **2** : appearing in the name of a literary or theatrical production **3 a** : having an established reputation **b** : featuring celebrities
name·able *also* **nam·able** \ˈnā-mə-bəl\ *adj* **1** : capable of being named : IDENTIFIABLE **2** : worthy of being named : MEMORABLE
name–call·ing \ˈnām-ˌkȯ-liŋ\ *n* : the use of offensive names esp. to win an argument or to induce rejection or condemnation (as of a person or project) without objective consideration of the facts
name day *n* : the day of a church feast (as a saint's day) whose name corresponds to one's given name
name·less \ˈnām-ləs\ *adj* **1** : OBSCURE, UNDISTINGUISHED **2** : not known by name : ANONYMOUS **3** : having no legal right to a name : ILLEGITIMATE **4** : not having been given a name : UNNAMED **5** : not marked with a name ⟨a ~ grave⟩ **6 a** : incapable of precise description : INDEFINABLE **b** : too repulsive or distressing to describe — **name·less·ly** *adv* — **name·less·ness** *n*
name·ly \ˈnām-lē\ *adv* : that is to say : to wit
name of the game : the essential quality or matter ⟨patience is the *name of the game* in coastal duck hunting —Dick Beals⟩
name·plate \-ˌplāt\ *n* **1** : a plate or plaque bearing a name (as of a resident) **2** : a line of merchandise : BRAND
name·sake \-ˌsāk\ *n* [prob. fr. *name's sake*] : one that has the same name as another; *esp* : one named after another
NAMH *abbr* National Association for Mental Health
nance \ˈnan(t)s\ *n* [short for *nancy*, fr. the name *Nancy*] **1** : an effeminate male **2** : HOMOSEXUAL
NAND \ˈnand\ *n* [*not AND*] : a computer logic circuit that produces an output which is the inverse of that of an AND circuit
nan·keen \(ˈ)nan-ˈkēn\ *n* [*Nanking*, China] **1** : a durable brownish yellow cotton fabric orig. loomed by hand in China **2** *pl* : trousers made of nankeen
Nan·kin \ˈnan-ˈkin, ˈnän-\ *or* **Nan·king** \-ˈkiŋ\ *n* [*Nanking*, China] : Chinese porcelain decorated in blue on a white ground
nan·no·plank·ton *also* **nano·plank·ton** \ˌnan-ō-ˈplaŋ(k)-tən, -ˌtän\ *n* [NL, fr. Gk *nanos, nannos* dwarf + NL *plankton*] : the smallest plankton that consists of those organisms (as bacteria) passing through nets of very fine mesh silk bolting cloth — **nan·no·plank·ton·ic** \-plaŋ(k)-ˈtän-ik\ *adj*
nan·ny *also* **nan·nie** \ˈnan-ē\ *n, pl* **nannies** [prob. of baby-talk origin] *chiefly Brit* : a child's nurse : NURSEMAID
nan·ny goat \ˈnan-ē-\ *n* [*Nanny*, nickname for *Anne*] : a female domestic goat
nano- \ˈnan-(ˌ)ō, -ə\ *comb form* [ISV, fr. Gk *nanos* dwarf] : one billionth (10^{-9}) part of ⟨*nano*second⟩
nano·gram \ˈnan-ə-ˌgram\ *n* [ISV] : one billionth of a gram
nano·me·ter \ˈnan-ə-ˌmēt-ər\ *n* [ISV] : one billionth of a meter
nano·sec·ond \-ˌsek-ənd, -ənt\ *n* [ISV] : one billionth of a second
Na·o·mi \nā-ˈō-mē\ *n* [Heb *Nā'ŏmī*] : the mother-in-law of the Old Testament heroine Ruth
¹nap \ˈnap\ *vi* **napped; nap·ping** [ME *nappen*, fr. OE *hnappian;* akin to OHG *hnaffezen* to doze] **1** : to sleep briefly esp. during the day : DOZE **2** : to be off guard
²nap *n* : a short sleep esp. during the day : SNOOZE
³nap *n* [ME *noppe*, fr. MD, flock of wool, nap; akin to OE *hnoppian* to pluck, Gk *konis* ashes — more at INCINERATE] : a hairy or downy surface (as on a woven fabric) — **nap·less** \-ləs\ *adj* — **napped** \ˈnapt\ *adj*
⁴nap *vt* **napped; nap·ping** : to raise a nap on (fabric or leather)
NAPA *abbr* **1** National Association of Performing Artists **2** National Automotive Parts Association
¹na·palm \ˈnā-ˌpäm, -ˌpälm\ *n* [*na*phthene + *palm*itate] **1** : a thickener consisting of a mixture of aluminum soaps used in jelling gasoline (as for incendiary bombs) **2** : fuel jelled with napalm
²napalm *vt* : to assault with napalm
nape \ˈnāp, ˈnap\ *n* [ME] : the back of the neck
na·pery \ˈnā-p(ə-)rē\ *n* [ME, fr. MF *naperie*, fr. *nappe, nape* tablecloth — more at NAPKIN] : household linen; *esp* : TABLE LINEN
Naph·ta·li \ˈnaf-tə-ˌlī\ *n* [Heb *Naphtālī*] : a son of Jacob and the traditional eponymous ancestor of one of the tribes of Israel
naphth- *or* **naphtho-** *comb form* [ISV, fr. *naphtha & naphthalene*] **1** : naphtha ⟨*naphth*ene⟩ **2** : naphthalene ⟨*naphtho*quinone⟩
naph·tha \ˈnaf-thə, ˈnap-\ *n* [L, fr. Gk, of Iranian origin; akin to Per *neft* naphtha] **1** : PETROLEUM **2** : any of various volatile often flammable liquid hydrocarbon mixtures used chiefly as solvents and diluents
naph·tha·lene \-ˌlēn\ *n* [alter. of earlier *naphthaline*, irreg. fr. *naphtha*] : a crystalline aromatic hydrocarbon $C_{10}H_8$ usu. obtained by distillation of coal tar and used esp. in organic synthesis — **naph·tha·len·ic** \ˌnaf-thə-ˈlēn-ik, ˌnap-, -ˈlen-\ *adj*
naph·thene \ˈnaf-ˌthēn, ˈnap-\ *n* [ISV] : CYCLOPARAFFIN; *esp* : one that occurs in shale or tar oil and yields aromatic hydrocarbons on dehydrogenation — **naph·then·ic** \naf-ˈthēn-ik, nap-, -ˈthen-\ *adj*
naph·thol \ˈnaf-ˌthȯl, ˈnap-, -ˌthōl\ *n* [ISV] **1** : either of two isomeric derivatives $C_{10}H_8O$ of naphthalene found in coal tar or made synthetically and used as antiseptics and in manufacture of dyes **2** : any of various hydroxy derivatives of naphthalene that resemble the simpler phenols
naph·thyl·amine \naf-ˈthil-ə-ˌmēn, nap-\ *n* [ISV] : either of two isomeric crystalline bases $C_{10}H_9N$ that are used esp. as dye intermediates
na·pi·er grass \ˈnā-pē-ər-\ *n* [*Napier*, town in So. Africa] : a tall stout perennial grass (*Pennisetum purpureum*) that resembles sugarcane and is widely grown for forage — called also *elephant grass*
Na·pier·ian logarithm \nə-ˌpir-ē-ən-, nā-\ *n* [John *Napier*] : NATURAL LOGARITHM
Na·pi·er's bones \ˌnā-pē-ərz-\ *n* [fr. the short rods by which it was operated] : a pocket calculator for multiplication and division that was invented by John Napier
na·pi·form \ˈnā-pə-ˌfȯrm\ *adj* [L *napus* turnip (fr. Gk *napy* mustard) + ISV *-iform;* akin to Gk *sinapy* mustard] : globular at the top and tapering off abruptly — used esp. of roots
nap·kin \ˈnap-kən\ *n* [ME *nappekin*, fr. *nappe* tablecloth, fr. MF, fr. L *mappa* napkin] **1** : a piece of material (as cloth or paper) used at table to wipe the lips or fingers and protect the clothes **2** : a small cloth or towel: as **a** *dial Brit* : HANDKERCHIEF **b** *chiefly Scot* : KERCHIEF **c** *chiefly Brit* : DIAPER 2 **3** : SANITARY NAPKIN
na·po·leon \nə-ˈpōl-yən, -ˈpō-lē-ən\ *n* [F *napoléon*, fr. *Napoléon* Napoleon I] **1** : a French 20-franc gold coin **2** : an oblong pastry with a filling of cream, custard, or jelly
nappe \ˈnap\ *n* [F, tablecloth, sheet, nappe — more at NAPKIN] **1** : a large mass thrust over other rocks **2** : SHEET 6 **3** : one of the two sheets that lie on opposite sides of the vertex and together make up a cone
¹nap·per \ˈnap-ər\ *n* : one that takes naps
²napper *n* : one that naps cloth
¹nap·py \ˈnap-ē\ *n* [obs. *nappy*, adj. (foaming)] *chiefly Scot* : LIQUOR; *specif* : ALE
²nappy *n, pl* **nappies** [E dial. *nap* bowl, fr. ME, fr. OE *hnæpp;* akin to OHG *hnapf* bowl] : a rimless shallow open serving dish
³nappy *n, pl* **nappies** [*nap*kin + *-y*] *chiefly Brit* : DIAPER 2
⁴nappy *adj* **nap·pi·er; -est** [*³nap*] : KINKY 1
nap·ra·path \ˈnap-rə-ˌpath\ *n* : a practitioner of naprapathy
na·prap·a·thy \nə-ˈprap-ə-thē\ *n* [Czech *naprava* correction + E *-pathy*] : a therapeutic system of treatment by manipulation and without use of drugs that is based on a theory that disease symptoms result from disorder in the ligaments and connective tissue
narc *or* **nark** \ˈnärk\ *n* [short for *narcotic agent*] *slang* : one (as a government agent) who investigates narcotics violations
nar·cism \ˈnär-ˌsiz-əm\ *n* [G *narcismus*, fr. L *Narcissus*] : NARCISSISM — **nar·cist** \-səst\ *n*
nar·cis·sism \ˈnär-sə-ˌsiz-əm\ *n* [G *narzissismus*, fr. *Narziss* Narcissus, fr. L *Narcissus*] **1** : EGOISM, EGOCENTRISM **2** : love of or sexual desire for one's own body — **nar·cis·sist** \ˈnär-sə-səst\ *n or adj* — **nar·cis·sis·tic** \ˌnär-sə-ˈsis-tik\ *adj*
nar·cis·sus \när-ˈsis-əs\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *Narkissos*] **1** *cap* : a youth of Greek myth caused to pine away for love of his own reflection and transformed into a narcissus **2** *pl* **narcissus** *or* **nar·cis·sus·es** \-ˈsis-ə-səz\ *or* **nar·cis·si** \-ˈsis-ˌī, -(ˌ)ē\ [NL, genus name, fr. L, narcissus, fr. Gk *narkissos*] : DAFFODIL; *esp* : one whose flowers have a short corona and are usu. borne separately
nar·co \ˈnär-(ˌ)kō\ *n, pl* **narcos** [short for *narcotic agent*] *slang* : NARC
nar·co·lep·sy \ˈnär-kə-ˌlep-sē\ *n* [ISV, fr. Gk *narkē*] : a condition characterized by brief attacks of deep sleep
¹nar·co·lep·tic \ˌnär-kə-ˈlep-tik\ *adj* [fr. *narcolepsy*, after such pairs as E *epilepsy: epileptic*] : of, relating to, or affected with narcolepsy
²narcoleptic *n* : one who is subject to attacks of narcolepsy
nar·co·sis \när-ˈkō-səs\ *n, pl* **-co·ses** \-ˌsēz\ [NL, fr. Gk *narkōsis*, action of benumbing, fr. *narkoun*] : a state of stupor, unconsciousness, or arrested activity produced by the influence of narcotics or other chemicals
¹nar·cot·ic \när-ˈkät-ik\ *n* [ME *narkotik*, fr. MF *narcotique*, fr. *narcotique*, adj., fr. ML *narcoticus*, fr. Gk *narkōtikos*, fr. *narkoun* to benumb, fr. *narkē* numbness — more at SNARE] **1 a** : a drug (as opium) that in moderate doses dulls the senses, relieves pain, and induces profound sleep but in excessive doses causes stupor, coma, or convulsions **b** : a drug (as marijuana or LSD) subject to restriction similar to that of addictive narcotics whether in fact physiologically addictive and narcotic or not **2** : something that soothes, relieves, or lulls
²narcotic *adj* **1 a** : having the properties of or yielding a narcotic **b** : inducing mental lethargy : SOPORIFEROUS **2** : of, induced by, or concerned with narcotics **3** : of, involving, or intended for narcotic addicts — **nar·cot·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
nar·co·tize \ˈnär-kə-ˌtīz\ *vb* **-tized; -tiz·ing** [ISV] *vt* **1 a** : to treat with or subject to a narcotic **b** : to put into a state of narcosis **2** : to soothe to unconsciousness or unawareness ~ *vi* : to act as a narcotizing agent
nard \ˈnärd\ *n* [ME *narde*, fr. MF or L; MF, fr. L *nardus*, fr. Gk *nardos*, of Sem origin; akin to Heb *nērd* nard] : SPIKENARD 1b

na·ris \'nar-əs, 'ner-\ *n, pl* **na·res** \'na(ə)r-(,)ēz, 'ne(ə)r-\ [L; akin to L *nasus* nose — more at NOSE] : the opening of the nose or nasal cavity of a vertebrate
nark \'närk\ *n* [perh. fr. Romany *nak* nose] *Brit* : STOOL PIGEON
Nar·ra·gan·set \,nar-ə-'gan(t)-sət\ *n, pl* **Narraganset** *or* **Narragansets** **1** : a member of an Amerindian people of Rhode Island **2** : an Algonquian language of the Narraganset people
nar·rate \'na(ə)r-,āt, na-'rāt\ *vt* **nar·rat·ed; nar·rat·ing** [L *narratus*, pp. of *narrare*, fr. L *gnarus* knowing; akin to L *gnoscere, noscere* to know — more at KNOW] : to recite the details of (a story) : RELATE — **nar·ra·tor** \'na(ə)r-,āt-ər; na-'rāt-, nə-; 'nar-ət-\ *n*
nar·ra·tion \na-'rā-shən, nə-\ *n* **1** : the act or process or an instance of narrating **2** : STORY, NARRATIVE — **nar·ra·tion·al** \-shnəl, -shən-ᵊl\ *adj*
nar·ra·tive \'nar-ət-iv\ *n* **1** : something that is narrated : STORY **2** : the art or practice of narration — **narrative** *adj* — **nar·ra·tive·ly** *adv*
¹nar·row \'nar-(,)ō, -ə(-w)\ *adj* [ME *narowe*, fr. OE *nearu;* akin to OHG *narwa* scar, *snuor* cord, Gk *narnax* box] **1 a** : of slender width **b** : of less than standard width **c** *of a textile* : woven in widths less than 18 inches **2** : limited in size or scope : RESTRICTED **3 a** : illiberal in views or disposition : PREJUDICED **b** *chiefly dial* : STINGY, NIGGARDLY **4 a** : barely sufficient : CLOSE **b** : barely successful **5** : minutely precise : METICULOUS **6** *of a ration* : relatively rich in protein as compared with carbohydrate and fat **7** : TENSE 3 — **nar·row·ly** *adv* — **nar·row·ness** *n*
²narrow *n* : a narrow part or passage; *specif* : a strait connecting two bodies of water — usu. used in pl. but sing. or pl. in constr.
³narrow *vt* **1** : to decrease the breadth or extent of : CONTRACT **2** : to decrease the scope or sphere of : LIMIT ~ *vi* : to lessen in width or extent : CONTRACT
nar·row–mind·ed \,nar-ō-'mīn-dəd, ,nar-ə-\ *adj* : lacking in tolerance or breadth of vision : PETTY — **nar·row–mind·ed·ly** *adv* — **nar·row–mind·ed·ness** *n*
nar·thex \'när-,theks\ *n* [LGk *narthēx*, fr. Gk, giant fennel, cane, casket] **1** : the portico of an ancient church **2** : a vestibule leading to the nave of a church — see BASILICA illustration
nar·whal *also* **nar·wal** \'när-,(h)wäl, -wəl\ *or* **nar·whale** \-,(h)wāl\ *n* [Norw & Dan *narhval* & Sw *narval*, prob. modif. of Icel *nárhvalur*, fr. ON *nāhvalr*, fr. *nār* corpse + *hvalr* whale; fr. its color] : an arctic cetacean (*Monodon monoceros*) about 20 feet long with the male having a long twisted ivory tusk of commercial value


narwhal

nary \'na(ə)r-ē, 'ne(ə)r-\ *adj* [alter. of *ne'er a*] *chiefly dial* : not one
NAS *abbr* **1** National Academy of Sciences **2** naval air station
nas- *or* **naso-** *also* **nasi-** *comb form* [L *nasus* nose — more at NOSE] **1** : nose : nasal ⟨*naso*scope⟩ ⟨*naso*sinusitis⟩ **2** : nasal and ⟨*naso*labial⟩
NASA \'nas-ə\ *abbr* National Aeronautics and Space Administration
¹na·sal \'nā-zəl\ *n* [MF, fr. OF, fr. *nes* nose, fr. L *nasus*] **1** : the nosepiece of a helmet **2** : a nasal part **3** : a nasal consonant or vowel
²nasal *adj* **1** : of or relating to the nose **2 a** : uttered through the nose with the mouth passage occluded (as with English *m, n, ng*) **b** : uttered with the mouth open, the soft palate lowered, and the nose passage producing a phonemically essential resonance (as of a vowel in French) or a phonemically nonessential resonance (as of a vowel in English) **c** : characterized by resonance produced through the nose **3** *of a musical tone* : SHARP, PENETRATING — **na·sal·i·ty** \nā-'zal-ət-ē\ *n* — **na·sal·ly** \'nāz-(ə-)lē\ *adv*
na·sal·ize \'nā-zə-,līz\ *vb* **-ized; -iz·ing** *vt* : to make nasal ~ *vi* : to speak in a nasal manner — **na·sal·iza·tion** \,nā-zə-lə-'zā-shən\ *n*
NASCAR *abbr* National Association of Stock Car Auto Racing
na·scence \'nas-ᵊn(t)s, 'nās-\ *n* : NASCENCY
na·scen·cy \-ᵊn-sē\ *n, pl* **-cies** : BIRTH, ORIGIN
na·scent \'nas-ᵊnt, 'nās-\ *adj* [L *nascent-, nascens*, prp. of *nasci* to be born — more at NATION] : coming or having recently come into existence : beginning to develop
NASD *abbr* National Association of Securities Dealers
na·so·pha·ryn·geal \,nā-zō-fə-'rin-j(ē-)əl, -,far-ən-'jē-əl\ *adj* : of or relating to the nose and pharynx or the nasopharynx
na·so·phar·ynx \-'far-iŋ(k)s\ *n* [NL] : the upper part of the pharynx continuous with the nasal passages
nas·tic \'nas-tik\ *adj* [Gk *nastos* close-pressed, fr. *nassein* to press] : of, relating to, or constituting a movement of a plant part caused by disproportionate growth or increase of turgor in one surface
nas·tur·tium \nə-'stər-shəm, na-\ *n* [L, a cress] : any of a genus (*Tropaeolum* of the family Tropaeolaceae, the nasturtium family) of herbs with showy spurred flowers and pungent seeds; *esp* : either of two widely cultivated ornamentals (*T. majus* and *T. minus*)
nas·ty \'nas-tē\ *adj* **nastier; -est** [ME] **1 a** : disgustingly filthy **b** : physically repugnant **2** : INDECENT, OBSCENE **3** : MEAN, TAWDRY **4 a** : extremely hazardous or harmful ⟨had a ~ climb to reach the summit⟩ **b** : sharply unpleasant : DISAGREEABLE ⟨~ weather⟩ **5 a** : difficult to understand or deal with : VEXATIOUS ⟨a ~ problem⟩ **b** : psychologically unsettling : TRYING ⟨faced with a ~ fear that she was lost⟩ **6** : lacking in courtesy or sportsmanship : SPITEFUL ***syn*** see DIRTY — **nas·ti·ly** \-tə-lē\ *adv* — **nas·ti·ness** \-tē-nəs\ *n*
-nas·ty \,nas-tē\ *n comb form* [G *-nastie*, fr. Gk *nastos*] : nastic movement of a plant part ⟨epi*nasty*⟩
nat *abbr* **1** national **2** native **3** natural
na·tal \'nāt-ᵊl\ *adj* [ME, fr. L *natalis*, fr. *natus*, pp. of *nasci* to be born — more at NATION] **1** : NATIVE **2** : of, relating to, or present at birth; *esp* : associated with one's birth ⟨a ~ star⟩
na·tal·i·ty \nā-'tal-ət-ē, nə-\ *n, pl* **-ties** : BIRTHRATE
na·tant \'nāt-ᵊnt\ *adj* [L *natant-, natans*, prp. of *natare* to swim; akin to L *nare* to swim — more at NOURISH] : swimming or floating in water ⟨~ decapods⟩
na·ta·tion \nā-'tā-shən, na-\ *n* : the action or art of swimming
na·ta·to·ri·al \,nāt-ə-'tōr-ē-əl, ,nat-, -'tȯr-\ *or* **na·ta·to·ry** \'nāt-ə-,tōr-ē, 'nat-, -,tȯr-\ *adj* **1** : of or relating to swimming **2** : adapted to or characterized by swimming ⟨a ~ leg of an aquatic insect⟩
na·ta·to·ri·um \,nāt-ə-'tōr-ē-əm, ,nat-, -'tȯr-\ *n* [LL, fr. L *natatus*, pp. of *natare*] : an indoor swimming pool
NATE *abbr* National Association of Teachers of English
na·tes \'nā-,tēz\ *n pl* [L, pl. of *natis* buttock; akin to Gk *nōtos, nōton* back] : BUTTOCKS
nathe·less \'nāth-ləs\ *or* **nath·less** \'nath-\ *adv* [ME, fr. OE *nā thē lǣs* not the less] *archaic* : NEVERTHELESS, NOTWITHSTANDING
Na·tick \'nāt-ik\ *n* : a dialect of Massachuset
na·tion \'nā-shən\ *n* [ME *nacioun*, fr. MF *nation*, fr. L *nation-, natio* birth, race, nation, fr. *natus*, pp. of *nasci* to be born; akin to L *gignere* to beget — more at KIN] **1 a** (1) : NATIONALITY 5a (2) : a politically organized nationality (3) : a non-Jewish nationality ⟨why do the ~*s* conspire —Ps 2:1 (RSV)⟩ **b** : a community of people composed of one or more nationalities and possessing a more or less defined territory and government **c** : a territorial division containing a body of people of one or more nationalities and usu. characterized by relatively large size and independent status **2** *archaic* : GROUP, AGGREGATION **3** : a tribe or federation of tribes (as of American Indians)
¹na·tion·al \'nash-nəl, -ən-ᵊl\ *adj* **1** : of or relating to a nation **2** : NATIONALIST **3** : comprising or characteristic of a nationality **4** : belonging to or maintained by the federal government **5** : of, relating to, or being a coalition government formed by most or all major political parties usu. in a crisis — **na·tion·al·ly** \-ē\ *adv*
²national *n* **1** : one that owes allegiance to or is under the protection of a nation without regard to the more formal status of citizen or subject **2** : a competition that is national in scope — usu. used in pl. ***syn*** see CITIZEN
national bank *n* **1** : a bank associated with the finances of a nation **2** : a bank operating under federal charter and supervision
national forest *n* : a usu. forested area of considerable extent that is preserved by government decree from private exploitation and is harvested only under supervision
National Guard *n* : a militia force recruited by each state, equipped by the federal government, and jointly maintained subject to the call of either
national income *n* : the aggregate of earnings from a nation's current production including compensation of employees, interest, rental income, and profits of business after taxes
na·tion·al·ism \'nash-nəl-,iz-əm, -ən-ᵊl-\ *n* : loyalty and devotion to a nation; *esp* : a sense of national consciousness exalting one nation above all others and placing primary emphasis on promotion of its culture and interests as opposed to those of other nations or supranational groups
¹na·tion·al·ist \-əst\ *n* **1** : an advocate of or believer in nationalism **2** *cap* : a member of a political party or group advocating national independence or strong national government
²nationalist *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or advocating nationalism **2** *cap* : of, relating to, or being a political group advocating or associated with nationalism
na·tion·al·is·tic \,nash-nəl-'is-tik, -ən-ᵊl-\ *adj* **1** : of, favoring, or characterized by nationalism ⟨~ election speeches⟩ **2** : NATIONAL 1 — **na·tion·al·is·ti·cal·ly** \-ti-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
na·tion·al·i·ty \,nash-(ə-)'nal-ət-ē\ *n, pl* **-ties** **1** : national character **2** : NATIONALISM **3 a** : national status; *specif* : a legal relationship involving allegiance on the part of an individual and usu. protection on the part of the state **b** : membership in a particular nation **4** : political independence or existence as a separate nation **5 a** : a people having a common origin, tradition, and language and capable of forming or actually constituting a nation-state **b** : an ethnic group constituting one element of a larger unit (as a nation)
na·tion·al·ize \'nash-nəl-,īz, -ən-ᵊl-\ *vt* **-ized; -iz·ing** **1** : to give a national character to **2** : to invest control or ownership of in the national government — **na·tion·al·iza·tion** \,nash-nəl-ə-'zā-shən, -ən-ᵊl-\ *n* — **na·tion·al·iz·er** \'nash-nəl-,ī-zər, -ən-ᵊl-\ *n*
national monument *n* : a place of historic, scenic, or scientific interest set aside for preservation usu. by presidential proclamation
national park *n* : an area of special scenic, historical, or scientific importance set aside and maintained by a national government and in the U.S. by an act of Congress
national product *n* : the value of the goods and services produced in a nation during a year
national seashore *n* : a recreational area adjacent to a seacoast and maintained by the federal government
national socialism *n* : NAZISM — **national socialist** *adj*
na·tion·hood \'nā-shən-,hůd\ *n* : NATIONALITY 1, 3a, 4
na·tion–state \'nā-shən-'stāt, -,stāt\ *n* : a form of political organization under which a relatively homogeneous people inhabits a sovereign state; *esp* : a state containing one as opposed to several nationalities
na·tion·wide \,nā-shən-'wīd\ *adj* : extending throughout a nation
¹na·tive \'nāt-iv\ *adj* [ME *natif*, fr. MF, fr. L *nativus*, fr. *natus*, pp. of *nasci* to be born — more at NATION] **1** : INBORN, INNATE ⟨~ talents⟩ **2** : belonging to a particular place by birth ⟨~ to Wisconsin⟩ **3** *archaic* : closely related **4** : belonging to or associated with one by birth **5** : NATURAL, NORMAL **6 a** : grown, produced, or originating in a particular place or in the vicinity : LOCAL **b** : living or growing naturally in a particular region : INDIGENOUS **7** : SIMPLE, UNAFFECTED **8 a** : constituting the original substance or source **b** : found in nature esp. in an unadulterated form ⟨mining ~ silver⟩ **9** *chiefly Austral* : having a usu. superficial resemblance to a specified English plant or animal — **na·tive·ly** *adv* — **na·tive·ness** *n*
syn NATIVE, INDIGENOUS, ENDEMIC, ABORIGINAL *shared meaning element* : belonging to a locality ***ant*** alien, foreign

²native *n* **1** : one born or reared in a particular place **2 a** : an original or indigenous inhabitant **b** : something indigenous to a particular locality **3** : a local resident; *esp* : a person who has lived all his life in a place as distinguished from a visitor or a temporary resident

na·tiv·ism \'nāt-iv-ˌiz-əm\ *n* **1** : a policy of favoring native inhabitants as opposed to immigrants **2** : the revival or perpetuation of an indigenous culture esp. in opposition to acculturation — **na·tiv·ist** \-əst\ *n or adj* — **na·tiv·is·tic** \ˌnāt-iv-'is-tik\ *adj*

na·tiv·i·ty \nə-'tiv-ət-ē, nā-\ *n, pl* **-ties** [ME *nativite*, fr. MF *nativité*, fr. ML *nativitat-, nativitas*, fr. LL, birth, fr. L *nativus*] **1** : the process or circumstances of being born : BIRTH; *specif, cap* : the birth of Jesus **2** : a horoscope at or of the time of one's birth **3** : the place of origin

natl *abbr* national

NATO \'nāt-(ˌ)ō\ *abbr* North Atlantic Treaty Organization

na·tri·ure·sis \ˌnā-trē-yu̇-'rē-səs\ *n* [NL, fr. *natrium* sodium (fr. ISV *natron*) + *uresis* urination, fr. Gk *ourēsis*, fr. *ourein* to urinate — more at URINE] : excessive loss of cations and esp. sodium in the urine — **na·tri·uret·ic** \-'ret-ik\ *adj*

na·tro·lite \'nā-trə-ˌlīt\ *n* [G *natrolith*, fr. *natron* (fr. F) + *-lith* -lite] : a hydrous sodium aluminum silicate $Na_2Al_2Si_3O_{10}.2H_2O$ related to zeolite

na·tron \'nā-ˌträn, -trən\ *n* [F, fr. Sp *natrón*, fr. Ar *natrūn*, fr. Gk *nitron*] : a hydrated native sodium carbonate $Na_2CO_3.10H_2O$ used in ancient times in embalming, in ceramic pastes, and as a cleansing agent

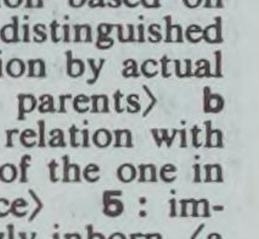
nat·ter \'nat-ər\ *vi* [prob. imit.] *chiefly Brit* : CHATTER

nat·ty \'nat-ē\ *adj* **nat·ti·er; -est** [perh. alter. of earlier *netty*, fr. obs. *net* neat, clean] : trimly neat and tidy : SMART — **nat·ti·ly** \'nat-ᵊl-ē\ *adv* — **nat·ti·ness** \'nat-ē-nəs\ *n*

¹nat·u·ral \'nach-(ə-)rəl\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *naturalis* of nature, fr. *natura* nature] **1** : based on an inherent sense of right and wrong ⟨~ justice⟩ **2 a** : being in accordance with or determined by nature **b** : having or constituting a classification based on features existing in nature **3 a** (1) : begotten as distinguished from adopted; *also* : LEGITIMATE (2) : being a relation by actual consanguinity as distinguished from adoption ⟨~ parents⟩ **b** : ILLEGITIMATE ⟨a ~ child⟩ **4** : having an essential relation with someone or something : following from the nature of the one in question ⟨his guilt is a ~ deduction from the evidence⟩ **5** : implanted or being as if implanted by nature : seemingly inborn ⟨a ~ talent for art⟩ **6** : of or relating to nature as an object of study and research **7** : having a specified character by nature ⟨a ~ athlete⟩ **8 a** : occurring in conformity with the ordinary course of nature : not marvelous or supernatural ⟨~ causes⟩ **b** : developed by human reason alone rather than revelation ⟨~ religion⟩ **c** : having a normal or usual character ⟨events followed their ~ course⟩ **9** : possessing or exhibiting the higher qualities (as kindliness and affection) of human nature ⟨a noble . . . brother . . . ever most kind and ~ —Shak.⟩ **10 a** : growing without human care; *also* : not cultivated ⟨~ prairie unbroken by the plow⟩ **b** : existing in or produced by nature ⟨~ scenery⟩ ⟨~ curiosities⟩ **11 a** : being in a state of nature without spiritual enlightenment : UNREGENERATE ⟨~ man⟩ **b** : living in or as if in a state of nature untouched by the influences of civilization and society **12 a** : having a physical or real existence as contrasted with one that is spiritual, intellectual, or fictitious ⟨a corporation is a legal but not a ~ person⟩ **b** : of, relating to, or operating in the physical as opposed to the spiritual world ⟨~ laws describe phenomena of the physical universe⟩ **13 a** : closely resembling an original : true to nature **b** : marked by easy simplicity and freedom from artificiality, affectation, or constraint **c** : having a form or appearance found in nature **14 a** : having neither flats nor sharps ⟨the ~ scale of C major⟩ **b** : being neither sharp nor flat **c** : having the pitch modified by the natural sign — **nat·u·ral·ness** \-(ə-)rəl-nəs\ *n*

syn **1** see REGULAR ***ant*** unnatural, artificial
2 NATURAL, INGENUOUS, NAIVE, UNSOPHISTICATED, ARTLESS *shared meaning element* : free from pretension or calculation. NATURAL at once implies freedom from all artificiality and constraint and an easy spontaneity that suggests nature rather than art ⟨set him to write poetry, he is limited, artificial, and impotent; set him to write prose, he is free, *natural*, and effective —Matthew Arnold⟩ INGENUOUS stresses inability to hide one's thoughts and feelings and usually suggests candidness and lack of reserve, often with a hint of childlike simplicity ⟨how deliciously *ingenuous* she was, both in her confidences and in her reservations —Victoria Sackville-West⟩ NAIVE is likely to stress lack of worldly wisdom ⟨he claimed to himself to be innocent or *naive*, but his pretense was the thinnest —John Cheever⟩ and may further suggest incapacity for enlightenment ⟨that *naive* patriotism which leads every race to regard itself as evidently superior to every other —J. W. Krutch⟩ UNSOPHISTICATED also stresses lack of worldly wisdom but tends to suggest lack of experience and training as its source ⟨she's not the type of the moment, not elegant or artificial, too much the *unsophisticated* child of nature —Rose Macaulay⟩ ARTLESS lays stress on the absence of design and suggests a naturalness resulting from unawareness of the effect one is producing ⟨moving with *artless* grace⟩

²natural *n* **1** : one born without the usual powers of reason and understanding **2 a** : a sign placed on any degree of the musical staff to nullify the effect of a preceding sharp or flat **b** : a note or tone affected by the natural sign **3** : a result or combination that immediately wins the stake in a game; *specif* : a throw of 7 or 11 on the first cast in craps **4 a** : one having natural skills, talents, or abilities **b** : something that is likely to become an immediate success **c** : one that is obviously suitable for a specific purpose **5** : AFRO ***syn*** see FOOL


natural 2a

natural gas *n* : gas issuing from the earth's crust through natural openings or bored wells; *esp* : a combustible mixture of methane and higher hydrocarbons used chiefly as a fuel and raw material

natural history *n* **1** : a treatise on some aspect of nature **2** : the natural development of something (as an organism or disease) over a period of time **3** : the study of natural objects esp. in the field from an amateur or popular point of view

nat·u·ral·ism \'nach-(ə-)rə-ˌliz-əm\ *n* **1** : action, inclination, or thought based only on natural desires and instincts **2** : a theory denying that an event or object has a supernatural significance; *specif* : the doctrine that scientific laws are adequate to account for all phenomena **3** : realism in art or literature; *specif* : a theory in literature emphasizing scientific observation of life without idealization or the avoidance of the ugly

¹nat·u·ral·ist \-ləst\ *n* **1** : one that advocates or practices naturalism **2** : a student of natural history; *esp* : a field biologist

²naturalist *or* **nat·u·ral·is·tic** \ˌnach-(ə-)rə-'lis-tik\ *adj* : of, characterized by, or according with naturalism — **nat·u·ral·is·ti·cal·ly** \-ti-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

nat·u·ral·ize \'nach-(ə-)rə-ˌlīz\ *vb* **-ized; -iz·ing** *vt* **1 a** : to introduce into common use or into the vernacular **b** : to cause (as a plant) to become established as if native **2** : to bring into conformity with nature **3** : to confer the rights of a national on; *esp* : to admit to citizenship ~ *vi* : to become established as if native — **nat·u·ral·iza·tion** \ˌnach-(ə-)rə-lə-'zā-shən\ *n*

natural law *n* : a body of law or a specific principle held to be derived from nature and binding upon human society in the absence of or in addition to positive law

natural logarithm *n* : a logarithm with *e* as a base

nat·u·ral·ly \'nach-(ə-)rə-lē, 'nach-ər-lē\ *adv* **1** : by nature : by natural character or ability ⟨~ timid⟩ **2** : according to the usual course of things : as might be expected ⟨we ~ dislike being hurt⟩ **3 a** : without artificial aid ⟨hair that curls ~⟩ **b** : without affectation ⟨speak ~⟩ **4** : with truth to nature : REALISTICALLY

natural number *n* : the number 1 or any number (as 3, 12, 432) obtained by repeatedly adding 1 to this number

natural philosophy *n* : NATURAL SCIENCE; *esp* : PHYSICAL SCIENCE — **natural philosopher** *n*

natural resources *n pl* : industrial materials and capacities (as mineral deposits and waterpower) supplied by nature

natural right *n* : a right based upon natural law

natural science *n* : any of the sciences (as physics, chemistry, or biology) that deal with matter, energy, and their interrelations and transformations or with objectively measurable phenomena — **natural scientist** *n*

natural selection *n* : a natural process that tends to cause the survival of individuals or groups best adjusted to the conditions under which they live and that is equally important for the perpetuation of desirable genetic qualities and for the elimination of undesirable ones as these are produced by genic recombination or mutation

natural theology *n* : theology deriving its knowledge of God from the study of nature independent of special revelation

na·ture \'nā-chər\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *natura*, fr. *natus*, pp. of *nasci* to be born — more at NATION] **1 a** : the inherent character or basic constitution of a person or thing : ESSENCE **b** : DISPOSITION, TEMPERAMENT **2 a** : a creative and controlling force in the universe **b** : an inner force or the sum of such forces in an individual **3** : a kind or class usu. distinguished by fundamental or essential characteristics ⟨documents of a confidential ~⟩ ⟨acts of a ceremonial ~⟩ **4** : the physical constitution or drives of an organism; *esp* : an excretory organ or function — usu. used in the phrase *call of nature* **5** : a spontaneous attitude (as of generosity) **6** : the external world in its entirety **7 a** : a man's original or natural condition **b** : a simplified mode of life resembling this condition **8** : natural scenery ***syn*** see TYPE

na·tu·ro·path \'nā-chə-rə-ˌpath, nə-'t(y)u̇r-ə-\ *n* [back-formation fr. *naturopathy*] : a practitioner of naturopathy

na·tu·rop·a·thy \ˌnā-chə-'räp-ə-thē\ *n* [*nature* + *-o-* + *-pathy*] : a system of treatment of disease emphasizing assistance to nature and including the use of natural medicinal substances and physical means (as manipulation and electrical treatment) — **na·tu·ro·path·ic** \ˌnā-chə-rə-'path-ik, nə-ˌt(y)u̇r-ə-\ *adj*

¹naught \'nȯt, 'nät\ *pron* [ME, fr. OE *nāwiht*, fr. *nā* no + *wiht* creature, thing — more at NO, WIGHT] : NOTHING

²naught *n* **1 a** : NOTHING ⟨his efforts had gone for ~⟩ **b** : NOTHINGNESS, NONEXISTENCE **2** : the arithmetical symbol 0 : ZERO, CIPHER

³naught *adj* : of no importance : INSIGNIFICANT

naugh·ty \'nȯt-ē, 'nät-\ *adj* **naugh·ti·er; -est** [²*naught*] **1 a** *archaic* : vicious in moral character : WICKED **b** : guilty of disobedience or misbehavior **2** : lacking in taste or propriety ***syn*** see BAD — **naugh·ti·ly** \'nȯt-ᵊl-ē, 'nät-\ *adv* — **naugh·ti·ness** \'nȯt-ē-nəs, 'nät-\ *n*

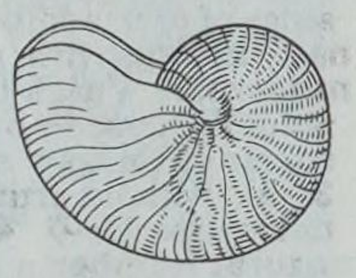
nau·ma·chia \nȯ-'māk-ē-ə, -'mak-\ *n, pl* **-chi·ae** \-ē-ˌē, -ē-ˌī\ *or* **-chi·as** [L, fr. Gk, naval battle, fr. *naus* ship + *machesthai* to fight — more at NAVE] **1** : an ancient Roman spectacle representing a naval battle **2** : a place for naumachiae

nau·pli·us \'nȯ-plē-əs\ *n, pl* **-plii** \-plē-ˌī, -ˌē\ [NL, fr. L, a shellfish, fr. Gk *nauplios*] : a crustacean larva in usu. the first stage after leaving the egg and with three pairs of appendages, a median eye, and little or no segmentation

nau·sea \'nȯ-zē-ə, -shə, -sē-ə, -zhə\ *n* [L, seasickness, nausea, fr. Gk *nautia, nausia*, fr. *nautēs* sailor] **1** : a stomach distress with distaste for food and an urge to vomit **2** : extreme disgust — **nau·se·ant** \-z(h)ē-ənt, -s(h)ē-\ *n or adj*

nau·se·ate \'nȯ-z(h)ē-ˌāt, -s(h)ē-\ *vb* **-at·ed; -at·ing** *vi* **1** : to become affected with nausea **2** : to feel disgust ~ *vt* : to affect with nausea or disgust — **nau·se·at·ing·ly** \-iŋ-lē\ *adv*

nau·seous \'nȯ-shəs, 'nȯ-zē-əs\ *adj* **1** : causing nausea : SICKENING **2** : affected with nausea or disgust — **nau·seous·ly** *adv* — **nau·seous·ness** *n*
naut *abbr* nautical
nautch \'nȯch\ *n* [Hindi *nāc*, fr. Skt *nṛtya*, fr. *nṛtyati* he dances] : an entertainment in India consisting chiefly of dancing by professional dancing girls
nau·ti·cal \'nȯt-i-kəl, 'nät-\ *adj* [L *nauticus*, fr. Gk *nautikos*, fr. *nautēs* sailor, fr. *naus* ship — more at NAVE] : of, relating to, or associated with seamen, navigation, or ships — **nau·ti·cal·ly** \-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
nautical mile *n* : any of various units of distance used for sea and air navigation based on the length of a minute of arc of a great circle of the earth and differing because the earth is not a perfect sphere: as **a** : a British unit equal to 6080 feet or 1853.2 meters — called also *Admiralty mile* **b** : a U.S. unit no longer in official use equal to 6080.20 feet or 1853.248 meters **c** : an international unit equal to 6076.115 feet or 1852 meters used officially in the U.S. since July 1, 1959
nau·ti·loid \'nȯt-ᵊl-ˌȯid, 'nät-\ *n* : any of a group (Nautiloidea) of cephalopods that were important in the Ordovician and esp. the Silurian but are represented in the recent fauna only by the nautiluses — **nautiloid** *adj*
nau·ti·lus \'nȯt-ᵊl-əs, 'nät-\ *n, pl* **-lus·es** *or* **-li** \-ᵊl-ˌī, -ˌē\ [NL, genus name, fr. L, paper nautilus, fr. Gk *nautilos*, lit., sailor, fr. *naus* ship] **1** : any of a genus (*Nautilus*) of cephalopod mollusks of the So. Pacific and Indian oceans with a spiral chambered shell that is pearly on the inside **2** : PAPER NAUTILUS


nautilus 1

nav *abbr* **1** naval **2** navigable; navigation
Na·va·ho *or* **Na·va·jo** \'nav-ə-ˌhō, 'näv-\ *n, pl* **Navaho** *or* **Navahos** *or* **Navajo** *or* **Navajos** [Sp (*Apache de*) *Navajó*, lit., Apache of Navajó, fr. *Navajó*, a pueblo] **1** : a member of an Amerindian people of northern New Mexico and Arizona **2** : the language of the Navaho people
nav·aid \'nav-ˌād\ *n* [*nav*igation *aid*] : a device or system (as a radar beacon) that provides a navigator with navigational data
na·val \'nā-vəl\ *adj* [L *navalis*, fr. *navis* ship] **1** *obs* : of or relating to ships or shipping **2 a** : of or relating to a navy **b** : consisting of or involving warships
naval architect *n* : one whose profession is the designing of ships
naval stores *n pl* [fr. their former use in the construction and maintenance of wooden sailing vessels] : products (as turpentine, pitch, and rosin) obtained from resinous conifers and esp. pines
¹nave \'nāv\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *nafu*; akin to OE *nafela* navel] : the hub of a wheel
²nave *n* [ML *navis*, fr. L, ship; akin to OE *nōwend* sailor, Gk *naus* ship, Skt *nau*] : the main part of the interior of a church; *esp* : the long narrow central hall in a cruciform church that rises higher than the aisles flanking it to form a clerestory — see BASILICA illustration
na·vel \'nā-vəl\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *nafela*; akin to OHG *nabalo* navel, L *umbilicus*, Gk *omphalos*] **1** : a depression in the middle of the abdomen that marks the point of former attachment of the umbilical cord or yolk stalk **2** : the central point : MIDDLE
navel orange *n* : a seedless orange having a pit at the apex where the fruit encloses a small secondary fruit — called also *navel*
¹na·vic·u·lar \nə-'vik-yə-lər\ *adj* [L *navicula* boat, dim. of *navis*] : shaped like a boat ⟨a ~ bone⟩
²navicular *n* [NL (*os*) *naviculare* navicular bone] : a navicular bone; *esp* : one situated at the medial side of the tarsus
nav·i·ga·ble \'nav-i-gə-bəl\ *adj* **1** : deep enough and wide enough to afford passage to ships **2** : capable of being steered — **nav·i·ga·bil·i·ty** \ˌnav-i-gə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* — **nav·i·ga·ble·ness** \'nav-i-gə-bəl-nəs\ *n* — **nav·i·ga·bly** \-blē\ *adv*
nav·i·gate \'nav-ə-ˌgāt\ *vb* **-gat·ed; -gat·ing** [L *navigatus*, pp. of *navigare*, fr. *navis* ship + *-igare* (fr. *agere* to drive) — more at AGENT] *vi* **1** : to travel by water : SAIL **2** : to steer a course through a medium; *specif* : to operate an airplane **3** : to get about : WALK ⟨well enough to ~ under his own power⟩ ~ *vt* **1 a** : to sail over, on, or through **b** : to make one's way over or through : TRAVERSE **2 a** : to steer or manage (a boat) in sailing **b** : to operate or control the course of (as an airplane)
nav·i·ga·tion \ˌnav-ə-'gā-shən\ *n* **1** : the act or practice of navigating **2** : the science of getting ships, aircraft, or spacecraft from place to place; *esp* : the method of determining position, course, and distance traveled **3** : ship traffic or commerce — **nav·i·ga·tion·al** \-shnəl, -shən-ᵊl\ *adj* — **nav·i·ga·tion·al·ly** \-ē\ *adv*
nav·i·ga·tor \'nav-ə-ˌgāt-ər\ *n* : one that navigates or is qualified to navigate
nav·vy \'nav-ē\ *n, pl* **navvies** [by shortening & alter. fr. *navigator* (construction worker on a canal, navvy)] *Brit* : an unskilled laborer
na·vy \'nā-vē\ *n, pl* **navies** [ME *navie*, fr. MF, fr. L *navigia* ships, fr. *navigare*] **1** : a group of ships : FLEET **2** : a nation's ships of war and of logistic support **3** *often cap* : the complete naval establishment of a nation including yards, stations, ships, and personnel **4** : a variable color averaging a grayish purplish blue
navy bean *n* : a white-seeded kidney bean grown esp. for its nutritious seeds
Navy Cross *n* : a U.S. Navy decoration awarded for extraordinary heroism in operations against an armed enemy
navy exchange *n* : a post exchange at a naval installation
navy yard *n* : a yard where naval vessels are built or repaired
na·wab \nə-'wäb\ *n* [Hindi & Urdu *nawwāb*] : NABOB 1
¹nay \'nā\ *adv* [ME, fr. ON *nei*, fr. *ne* not + *ei* ever — more at AYE] **1** : NO **2** : not merely this but also : not only so but ⟨the letter made him happy, ~, ecstatic⟩
²nay *n* **1** : DENIAL, REFUSAL **2 a** : a negative reply or vote **b** : one who votes no
Naz·a·rene \ˌnaz-ə-'rēn\ *n* [ME *Nazaren*, fr. LL *Nazarenus*, fr. Gk *Nazarēnos*, fr. *Nazareth*] **1** : a native or resident of Nazareth **2 a** : CHRISTIAN 1a **b** : a member of the Church of the Nazarene that is a Protestant denomination deriving from the merging of three holiness groups, stressing sanctification, and following Methodist polity
Na·zi \'nät-sē, 'nat-\ *n* [G, by shortening & alter. fr. *nationalsozialist*, fr. *national* + *sozialist* socialist] **1** : a member of a German fascist party controlling Germany from 1933 to 1945 under Adolf Hitler **2** *often not cap* : one held to resemble a German Nazi — **nazi** *adj, often cap* — **na·zi·fi·ca·tion** \ˌnät-si-fə-'kā-shən, ˌnat-\ *n, often cap* — **na·zi·fy** \'nät-si-ˌfī, 'nat-\ *vt, often cap*
Naz·i·rite *or* **Naz·a·rite** \'naz-ə-ˌrīt\ *n* [LL *nazaraeus*, fr. Gk *naziraios, nazaraios*, fr. Heb *nāzīr*, lit., consecrated] : a Jew of biblical times consecrated to God by a vow to avoid drinking wine, cutting the hair, and being defiled by the presence of a corpse — **Naz·i·rit·ism** \-ˌrīt-ˌiz-əm\ *n*
Na·zism \'nät-ˌsiz-əm, 'nat-\ *or* **Na·zi·ism** \-sē-ˌiz-əm\ *n* [*Nazi* + *-ism*] : the body of political and economic doctrines held and put into effect by the National Socialist German Workers' party in the Third German Reich including the totalitarian principle of government, state control of all industry, predominance of groups assumed to be racially superior, and supremacy of the führer
Nb *symbol* niobium
NB *abbr* **1** New Brunswick **2** northbound **3** nota bene
NBA *abbr* **1** National Basketball Association **2** National Boxing Association
NBC *abbr* National Broadcasting Company
NBS *abbr* National Bureau of Standards
NC *abbr* **1** no charge **2** no credit **3** North Carolina **4** nurse corps
NCAA *abbr* National Collegiate Athletic Association
NCC *abbr* National Council of Churches
NCCJ *abbr* National Conference of Christians and Jews
NCCM *abbr* National Council of Catholic Men
NCCW *abbr* National Council of Catholic Women
NCE *abbr* New Catholic Edition
NCO \ˌen-ˌsē-'ō\ *n* : NONCOMMISSIONED OFFICER
NCTE *abbr* National Council of Teachers of English
NCTM *abbr* National Council of Teachers of Mathematics
NCV *abbr* no commercial value
Nd *symbol* neodymium
ND *abbr* **1** no date **2** North Dakota
-nd *symbol* — used after the figure 2 to indicate the ordinal number *second* ⟨2*nd*⟩ ⟨72*nd*⟩
N Dak *abbr* North Dakota
NDEA *abbr* National Defense Education Act
Ne *symbol* neon
NE *abbr* **1** Nebraska **2** New England **3** no effects **4** northeast
ne- *or* **neo-** *comb form* [Gk, fr. *neos* new — more at NEW] **1 a** : new : recent ⟨*Neo*cene⟩ **b** : new and different period or form of ⟨*Neo*platonism⟩ : in a new and different form or manner ⟨*Neo*platonic⟩ **c** : New World ⟨*Neo*tropical⟩ **d** : new and abnormal ⟨*neo*plasm⟩ **2** : new chemical compound isomeric with or otherwise related to (such) a compound ⟨*neo*arsphenamine⟩
NEA *abbr* National Education Association
Ne·an·der·thal \nē-'an-dər-ˌt(h)ȯl, nā-'än-dər-ˌtäl\ *adj* **1** : being, relating to, or resembling Neanderthal man **2** : suggesting a caveman in appearance or behavior — **Neanderthal** *n*
Neanderthal man *n* [*Neanderthal*, valley in western Germany] : a Middle Paleolithic man (*Homo neanderthalensis*) known from skeletal remains in Europe, northern Africa, and western Asia — **Ne·an·der·thal·oid** \-ˌȯid\ *adj or n*
¹neap \'nēp\ *adj* [ME *neep*, fr. OE *nēp* being at the stage of neap tide] : of, relating to, or constituting a neap tide
²neap *n* : NEAP TIDE
Ne·a·pol·i·tan \ˌnē-ə-'päl-ət-ᵊn\ *n* [L *neapolitanus* of Naples, fr. Gk *neapolitēs* citizen of Naples, fr. *Neapolis* Naples] : a native or inhabitant of Naples, Italy — **Neapolitan** *adj*
Neapolitan ice cream *n* : a brick of from two to four layers of ice cream of different flavors
neap tide *n* : a tide of minimum range occurring at the first and the third quarters of the moon
¹near \'ni(ə)r\ *adv* [ME *ner*, partly fr. *ner* nearer, fr. OE *nēar*, comparative of *nēah* nigh; partly fr. ON *nær* nearer, compar. of *nā-* nigh — more at NIGH] **1** : at, within, or to a short distance or time **2** : ALMOST, NEARLY ⟨~ dead⟩ **3** : in a close or intimate manner ⟨~ related⟩ **4** *archaic* : in a frugal manner
²near \(')ni(ə)r\ *prep* : close to
³near \'ni(ə)r\ *adj* **1** : closely related or intimately associated **2 a** : not far distant in time, place, or degree ⟨in the ~ future⟩ **b** : barely avoided **c** : CLOSE, NARROW ⟨a ~ miss⟩ **3 a** : being the closer of two ⟨the ~ side⟩ **b** : being the left-hand one of a pair ⟨the ~ wheel of a cart⟩ **4** : DIRECT, SHORT ⟨the ~*est* road⟩ **5** : CLOSEFISTED, STINGY **6 a** : closely resembling a prototype **b** : approximating the genuine ⟨~ silk⟩ — **near·ness** *n*
⁴near \'ni(ə)r\ *vb* : APPROACH
near beer *n* : any of various malt liquors that are considered nonalcoholic because they contain less than a specified percentage of alcohol
near·by \ni(ə)r-'bī, 'ni(ə)r-ˌ\ *adv or adj* : close at hand
Ne·arc·tic \(')nē-'ärk-tik, -'ärt-ik\ *adj* : of, relating to, or being the biogeographic subregion that includes Greenland, arctic America, and the parts of No. America north of tropical Mexico
near gale *n* : MODERATE GALE — see BEAUFORT SCALE table
near·ly \'ni(ə)r-lē\ *adv* **1** : in a close manner or relationship ⟨~ related⟩ **2** : almost but not quite ⟨~ identical⟩ ⟨~ a year later⟩
near point *n* : the point nearest the eye at which an object is accurately focused on the retina at full accommodation
near·sight·ed \'ni(ə)r-'sīt-əd\ *adj* : able to see near things more clearly than distant ones : MYOPIC — **near·sight·ed·ly** *adv* — **near·sight·ed·ness** *n*
¹neat \'nēt\ *n, pl* **neat** *or* **neats** [ME *neet*, fr. OE *nēat*; akin to OHG *nōz* head of cattle, OE *nēotan* to make use of] : the common domestic bovine (*Bos taurus*)
²neat *adj* [MF *net*, fr. L *nitidus* bright, neat, fr. *nitēre* to shine; akin to OPer *naiba-* beautiful] **1 a** : free from admixture or dilution

: STRAIGHT ⟨~ brandy⟩ ⟨~ cement⟩ **b** : free from irregularity : SMOOTH ⟨~ silk⟩ **2** : marked by tasteful simplicity ⟨a ~ outfit⟩ **3 a** : PRECISE, SYSTEMATIC **b** : marked by skill or ingenuity : ADROIT **4** : free from dirt and disorder : habitually clean and orderly ⟨a ~ careful little man⟩ **5** : CLEAR, NET ⟨~ profit⟩ **6** *slang* : FINE, ADMIRABLE — **neat·ly** *adv* — **neat·ness** *n*

syn NEAT, TIDY, TRIM, TRIG *shared meaning element* : manifesting care and orderliness

³neat *adv* : without admixture or dilution : STRAIGHT

neat·en \'nēt-ᵊn\ *vt* **neat·ened; neat·en·ing** \'nēt-niŋ, -ᵊn-iŋ\ **1** : to set in order : make neat **2** : to finish (as a piece of sewing) carefully

neath \(')nēth\ *prep, dial* : BENEATH

neat·herd \'nēt-ˌhərd\ *n* : HERDSMAN

neat's–foot oil \'nēts-ˌfüt-\ *n* : a pale yellow fatty oil made esp. from the bones of cattle and used chiefly as a leather dressing

neb \'neb\ *n* [ME, fr. OE; akin to ON *nef* beak] **1 a** : the beak of a bird or tortoise : BILL **b** *chiefly dial* : a person's mouth **c** : NOSE 1, SNOUT **2** : NIB, TIP

Neb *abbr* Nebraska

NEB *abbr* New English Bible

neb·bish \'neb-ik, -ish\ *n* [Yiddish *nebach, nebech* poor thing (used interjectionally), of Slav origin; akin to Polish *niebożę* poor thing] : a timid, meek, or ineffectual person

ne·ben·kern \'nā-bən-ˌkərn, -ˌke(ə)rn\ *n* [G, lit., subsidiary nucleus] : a two-stranded helical structure of the proximal tail region of spermatozoa that is derived from mitochondria

Nebr *abbr* Nebraska

Neb·u·chad·nez·zar \ˌneb-(y)ə-kəd-'nez-ər, -ˌkad-\ *also* **Neb·u·chad·rez·zar** \-'rez-\ *n* [Heb *Nēbhūkhadhnēṣṣar*, modif. of Bab *Nabû-kudurri-uṣur*] : king of Babylon from 605 to 562 B.C. and conqueror of Jerusalem

neb·u·la \'neb-yə-lə\ *n, pl* **-las** *or* **-lae** \-ˌlē, -ˌlī\ [NL, fr. L, mist, cloud; akin to OHG *nebul* fog, Gk *nephelē, nephos* cloud] **1** : a slight cloudy opacity of the cornea **2 a** : any of many immense bodies of highly rarefied gas or dust in interstellar space **b** : GALAXY; *esp* : a galaxy other than the Milky Way galaxy — **neb·u·lar** \-lər\ *adj*

nebular hypothesis *n* : a hypothesis in astronomy: the solar system has evolved from a hot gaseous nebula

neb·u·lize \'neb-yə-ˌlīz\ *vt* **-lized; -liz·ing** [L *nebula*] : to reduce to a fine spray — **neb·u·li·za·tion** \ˌneb-yə-lə-'zā-shən\ *n* — **neb·u·liz·er** \'neb-yə-ˌlī-zər\ *n*

neb·u·los·i·ty \ˌneb-yə-'läs-ət-ē\ *n, pl* **-ties** **1** : the quality or state of being nebulous **2** : nebulous matter; *also* : NEBULA 2

neb·u·lous \'neb-yə-ləs\ *adj* [L *nebulosus* misty, fr. *nebula*] **1** : INDISTINCT, VAGUE **2** : of, relating to, or resembling a nebula : NEBULAR — **neb·u·lous·ly** *adv* — **neb·u·lous·ness** *n*

nec·es·sar·i·ly \ˌnes-ə-'ser-ə-lē\ *adv* : of necessity : UNAVOIDABLY

¹nec·es·sary \'nes-ə-ˌser-ē\ *n, pl* **-saries** : an indispensable item : ESSENTIAL; *esp* : an item needed to maintain a reasonable or accustomed standard of living

²necessary *adj* [ME *necessarie*, fr. L *necessarius*, fr. *necesse* necessary, fr. *ne-* not + *cedere* to withdraw — more at NO, CEDE] **1 a** : of an inevitable nature : INESCAPABLE **b** (1) : logically unavoidable (2) : that cannot be denied without contradiction **c** : determined or produced by the previous condition of things **d** : COMPULSORY **2** : absolutely needed : REQUIRED

necessary condition *n* **1** : a proposition whose falsity assures the falsity of another **2** : a state of affairs that must prevail if another is to occur : PREREQUISITE

ne·ces·si·tar·i·an·ism \ni-ˌses-ə-'ter-ē-ə-ˌniz-əm, -ˌiz-əm\ *n* : the theory that results follow by invariable sequence from causes — **ne·ces·si·tar·i·an** \-ē-ən\ *adj or n*

ne·ces·si·tate \ni-'ses-ə-ˌtāt\ *vt* **-tat·ed; -tat·ing** **1** : to cause to be a necessary concomitant, result, or consequence **2** : FORCE, COMPEL — **ne·ces·si·ta·tion** \-ˌses-ə-'tā-shən\ *n*

ne·ces·si·tous \ni-'ses-ət-əs\ *adj* **1** : NEEDY, IMPOVERISHED **2** : URGENT, PRESSING **3** : NECESSARY — **ne·ces·si·tous·ly** *adv* — **ne·ces·si·tous·ness** *n*

ne·ces·si·ty \ni-'ses-ət-ē, -'ses-tē\ *n, pl* **-ties** [ME *necessite*, fr. MF *necessité*, fr. L *necessitat-, necessitas*, fr. *necesse*] **1** : the quality or state of being necessary : INDISPENSABILITY **2 a** : pressure of circumstance **b** : natural compulsion ⟨physical ~⟩ **c** : impossibility of a contrary order or condition **3** : the quality or state of being in need; *esp* : POVERTY **4 a** : something that is necessary : REQUIREMENT **b** : an urgent need or desire ***syn*** see NEED

¹neck \'nek\ *n* [ME *nekke*, fr. OE *hnecca;* akin to OHG *hnac* nape, OE *hnutu* nut — more at NUT] **1 a** : the part of an animal that connects the head with the body **b** : the part of a garment that covers or is next to the neck **2** : a relatively narrow part suggestive of a neck: as **a** (1) : the constricted end of a bottle (2) : the slender proximal end of a fruit **b** : CERVIX 2 **c** : the part of a stringed musical instrument extending from the body and supporting the fingerboard and strings **d** : a narrow stretch of land **e** : STRAIT 1b **f** : a column of solidified magma of a volcanic pipe or laccolith **3** : a narrow margin ⟨won by a ~⟩ **4** : REGION, PART ⟨my ~ of the woods⟩

²neck *vt* **1** : to reduce in diameter **2** : to kiss and caress amorously ~ *vi* **1** : to engage in amorous kissing and caressing **2** : to become constricted : NARROW

necked \'nekt\ *adj* : having a neck esp. of a specified kind — often used in combination ⟨long-*necked*⟩

neck·er·chief \'nek-ər-chəf, -(ˌ)chif, -ˌchēf\ *n, pl* **-chiefs** *also* **-chieves** *see* HANDKERCHIEF *pl* \ [ME *nekkerchef*, fr. *nekke* + *kerchef* kerchief] : a kerchief for the neck

neck·ing \'nek-iŋ\ *n* **1** : a small molding near the top of a column or pilaster **2** : the act or practice of kissing and caressing amorously

neck·lace \'nek-ləs\ *n* : an ornament worn around the neck

neck·line \-ˌlīn\ *n* : the line of the neck opening of a garment

neck–rein \-ˌrān\ *vi, of a saddle horse* : to respond to the pressure of a rein on one side of the neck by turning in the opposite direction ~ *vt* : to direct (a horse) by pressures of the rein on the neck

neck·tie \-ˌtī\ *n* : a narrow length of material worn about the neck and tied in front; *esp* : FOUR-IN-HAND

necr- *or* **necro-** *comb form* [LL, fr. Gk *nekr-, nekro-*, fr. *nekros* dead body — more at NOXIOUS] **1 a** : those that are dead ⟨*necro*philia⟩ **b** : one that is dead ⟨*necro*psy⟩ **2** : conversion to dead tissue ⟨*necro*biosis⟩

ne·crol·o·gist \nə-'kräl-ə-jəst, ne-\ *n* : one that writes or compiles a necrology

ne·crol·o·gy \-jē\ *n, pl* **-gies** [NL *necrologium*, fr. *necr-* + *-logium* (as in ML *eulogium* eulogy)] **1** : a list of the recently dead **2** : OBITUARY — **nec·ro·log·i·cal** \ˌnek-rə-'läj-i-kəl\ *adj*

nec·ro·man·cy \'nek-rə-ˌman(t)-sē\ *n* [alter. of ME *nigromancie*, fr. MF, fr. ML *nigromantia*, by folk etymology fr. LL *necromantia*, fr. LGk *nekromanteia*, fr. Gk *nekr-* + *-manteia* -mancy] **1** : conjuration of the spirits of the dead for purposes of magically revealing the future or influencing the course of events **2** : MAGIC, SORCERY — **nec·ro·man·cer** \-sər\ *n* — **nec·ro·man·tic** \ˌnek-rə-'mant-ik\ *adj* — **nec·ro·man·ti·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

nec·ro·pha·gia \ˌnek-rə-'fā-j(ē-)ə\ *n* [NL] : the act or practice of eating corpses or carrion

ne·croph·a·gous \nə-'kräf-ə-gəs, ne-\ *adj* : feeding on corpses or carrion ⟨~ insects⟩ ⟨~ savages⟩

ne·croph·a·gy \-jē\ *n* : NECROPHAGIA

nec·ro·phil·ia \ˌnek-rə-'fil-ē-ə\ *n* [NL] : obsession with and usu. erotic interest in or stimulation by corpses — **nec·ro·phil·ic** \-'fil-ik\ *adj*

ne·croph·i·lism \nə-'kräf-ə-ˌliz-əm, ne-\ *n* : NECROPHILIA

ne·crop·o·lis \nə-'kräp-ə-ləs, ne-\ *n, pl* **-lis·es** *or* **-les** \-ˌlēz\ *or* **-leis** \-ˌlās\ *or* **-li** \-ˌlī, -ˌlē\ [LL, city of the dead, fr. Gk *nekropolis*, fr. *nekr-* + *-polis*] : CEMETERY; *esp* : a large elaborate cemetery of an ancient city

¹nec·rop·sy \'nek-ˌräp-sē\ *n, pl* **-sies** : POSTMORTEM EXAMINATION

²necropsy *vt* **-sied; -sy·ing** : to perform a postmortem examination upon

ne·cro·sis \nə-'krō-səs, ne-\ *n, pl* **ne·cro·ses** \-ˌsēz\ [LL, fr. Gk *nekrōsis*, fr. *nekroun* to make dead, fr. *nekros* — more at NOXIOUS] : usu. localized death of living tissue — **ne·crot·ic** \-'krät-ik\ *adj*

nec·ro·tize \'nek-rə-ˌtīz\ *vb* **-tized; -tiz·ing** [Gk *nekrōtikos* necrotic, fr. *nekroun*] *vi* : to undergo necrosis ~ *vt* : to cause necrosis

nec·tar \'nek-tər\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *nektar*] **1** : the drink of the Greek and Roman gods; *broadly* : a delicious drink **2** : a sweet liquid that is secreted by the nectaries of a plant and is the chief raw material of honey — **nec·tar·ous** \-t(ə-)rəs\ *adj*

nec·tar·ine \ˌnek-tə-'rēn\ *n* [obs. *nectarine*, adj. (like nectar)] : a peach with a smooth-skinned fruit that is a frequent somatic mutation of the normal peach; *also* : its fruit

nec·tary \'nek-t(ə-)rē\ *n, pl* **-tar·ies** [NL *nectarium*, irreg. fr. L *nectar* + *-arium* -ary] : a plant gland that secretes nectar

NED *abbr* New English Dictionary

née *or* **nee** \'nā\ *adj* [F *née*, fem. of *né*, lit., born, pp. of *naître* to be born, fr. L *nasci* — more at NATION] **1** — used to identify a woman by her maiden family name **2** : originally or formerly called ⟨Cape Kennedy (~ Canaveral) in Florida —John Lear⟩

¹need \'nēd\ *n* [ME *ned*, fr. OE *nīed, nēd;* akin to OHG *nōt* distress, need] **1** : necessary duty : OBLIGATION **2 a** : a lack of something requisite, desirable, or useful **b** : a physiological or psychological requirement for the well-being of an organism **3** : a condition requiring supply or relief : EXIGENCY **4** : lack of the means of subsistence : POVERTY

syn NEED, NECESSITY, EXIGENCY *shared meaning element* : a pressing lack of something essential

²need *vi* **1** : to be in want **2** : to be needful or necessary ~ *vt* : to be in need of : REQUIRE ~ *verbal auxiliary* : be under necessity or obligation to ⟨he ~ not answer⟩ ***syn*** see LACK

¹need·ful \'nēd-fəl\ *adj* : NECESSARY, REQUISITE — **need·ful·ly** \-fə-lē\ *adv* — **need·ful·ness** *n*

²needful *n* **1** : something needed or requisite **2** : MONEY

¹nee·dle \'nēd-ᵊl\ *n* [ME *nedle*, fr. OE *nǣdl;* akin to OHG *nādala* needle, *nājan* to sew, L *nēre* to spin, Gk *nēn*] **1 a** : a small slender usu. steel instrument that has an eye for thread at one end and that is used for sewing **b** : any of various devices for carrying thread and making stitches (as in crocheting or knitting) **c** (1) : a needle designed to carry sutures when sewing tissues in surgery (2) : a slender hollow instrument for introducing material into or removing material from the body parenterally (3) : a hollow device designed to contain radioactive material **2** : a slender usu. sharp-pointed indicator on a dial; *esp* : MAGNETIC NEEDLE **3 a** : a slender pointed object resembling a needle: as (1) : a pointed crystal (2) : a sharp rock (3) : OBELISK **b** : a needle-shaped leaf (as of a conifer) **c** : a slender piece of jewel, steel, wood, or fiber with a rounded tip used in a phonograph to transmit vibrations from the record : STYLUS **d** : a slender pointed rod controlling a fine inlet or outlet (as in a valve) — **nee·dle·like** \'nēd-ᵊl-ˌ(l)īk\ *adj*

²needle *vb* **nee·dled; nee·dling** \'nēd-liŋ, -ᵊl-iŋ\ *vt* **1** : to sew or pierce with or as if with a needle **2 a** : TEASE, TORMENT **b** : to incite to action by repeated gibes ⟨*needled* the boy into a fight⟩ **3** : to strengthen (a beverage) by adding raw alcohol ~ *vi* : SEW, EMBROIDER — **nee·dler** \'nēd-lər, -ᵊl-ər\ *n* — **nee·dling** *n*

nee·dle·fish \'nēd-ᵊl-ˌfish\ *n* **1** : any of a family (Belonidae) of voracious elongate teleost fishes resembling but not related to the freshwater gars **2** : PIPEFISH

nee·dle·point \-ˌpȯint\ *n* **1** : lace worked with a needle in buttonhole stitch over a paper pattern **2** : embroidery done on canvas usu. in simple even stitches across counted threads — **needlepoint** *adj*

need·less \'nēd-ləs\ *adj* : not needed : UNNECESSARY ⟨~ waste⟩ — **need·less·ly** *adv* — **need·less·ness** *n*
nee·dle·wom·an \'nēd-ᵊl-ˌwu̇m-ən\ *n* : a woman who does needlework; *esp* : SEAMSTRESS
nee·dle·work \-ˌwərk\ *n* **1** : work done with a needle; *esp* : work (as embroidery) other than plain sewing **2** : the occupation of one who does needlework — **nee·dle·work·er** \-ˌwər-kər\ *n*
needn't \'nēd-ᵊnt\ : need not
needs \'nēdz\ *adv* [ME *nedes*, fr. OE *nēdes*, fr. gen. of *nēd* need] : of necessity : NECESSARILY ⟨must ~ be recognized⟩
needy \'nēd-ē\ *adj* **need·i·er; -est** : being in want : POVERTY-STRICKEN ⟨~ families⟩ — **need·i·ness** *n*
neem \'nēm\ *n* [Hindi *nīm*, fr. Skt *nimba*] : a large East Indian tree (*Azadirachta indica*) whose trunk exudes a tenacious gum and has a bitter bark used as a tonic and whose fruit and seeds yield a medicinal aromatic oil
ne'er \(')ne(ə)r, (')na(ə)r\ *adv* : NEVER
ne'er–do–well \'ne(ə)r-dü-ˌwel, 'na(ə)r-\ *n* : an idle worthless person — **ne'er–do–well** *adj*
ne·far·i·ous \ni-'far-ē-əs, -'fer-\ *adj* [L *nefarius*, fr. *nefas* crime, fr. *ne-* not + *fas* right, divine law; akin to L *fari* to speak] : flagrantly wicked or impious : EVIL *syn* see VICIOUS — **ne·far·i·ous·ly** *adv* — **ne·far·i·ous·ness** *n*
neg *abbr* negative
ne·gate \ni-'gāt\ *vt* **ne·gat·ed; ne·gat·ing** [L *negatus*, pp. of *negare* to say no, deny, fr. *neg-* no, not (akin to *ne-* not) — more at NO] **1** : to deny the existence or truth of **2** : to cause to be ineffective or invalid *syn* see NULLIFY — **negate** *n* — **ne·ga·tor** *or* **ne·gat·er** \-'gāt-ər\ *n*
ne·ga·tion \ni-'gā-shən\ *n* **1 a** : the action of negating : DENIAL **b** : a negative statement, judgment, or doctrine; *esp* : a logical proposition formed by asserting the falsity of a given proposition **2 a** : something that is the absence of something actual : NONENTITY **b** : something considered the opposite of something regarded as positive — **ne·ga·tion·al** \-shnəl, -shən-ᵊl\ *adj*
¹neg·a·tive \'neg-ət-iv\ *adj* **1 a** : marked by denial, prohibition, or refusal **b** (1) : denying a predicate of a subject or a part of a subject ⟨"no A is B" is a ~ proposition⟩ (2) : denoting the absence or the contradictory of something ⟨*nonwhite* is a ~ term⟩ (3) : expressing negation ⟨~ particles such as *no* and *not*⟩ **2 a** : lacking positive qualities; *esp* : DISAGREEABLE **b** : marked by features (as hostility or withdrawal) opposing constructive treatment or development ⟨had a ~ pessimistic outlook on life⟩ **3 a** : less than zero and opposite in sign to a positive number that when added to the given number yields zero ⟨−2 is a ~ number⟩ **b** : extending or generated in a direction opposite to an arbitrarily chosen regular direction or position ⟨~ angle⟩ **4 a** : being, relating to, or charged with electricity of which the electron is the elementary unit **b** : gaining electrons **c** (1) : having lower electric potential and constituting the part toward which the current flows from the external circuit ⟨the ~ pole⟩ (2) : constituting an electrode through which a stream of electrons enters the space between electrodes in an electron tube **5 a** : not affirming the presence of the organism or condition in question ⟨a ~ TB test⟩ **b** : directed or moving away from a source of stimulation ⟨~ tropism⟩ **c** : less than the pressure of the atmosphere ⟨~ pressure⟩ **6** : having the light and dark parts in approximately inverse order to those of the original photographic subject **7** *of a lens* : diverging light rays and forming a virtual inverted image — **neg·a·tive·ly** *adv* — **neg·a·tive·ness** *n* — **neg·a·tiv·i·ty** \ˌneg-ə-'tiv-ət-ē\ *n*
²negative *n* **1 a** : a proposition which denies or contradicts another; *esp* : the one of a pair of propositions in which negation is expressed **b** (1) : a reply that indicates the withholding of assent : REFUSAL (2) *archaic* : a right of veto (3) *obs* : an adverse vote : VETO **2** : something that is the opposite or negation of something else **3 a** : an expression (as the word *no*) of negation or denial **b** : a negative number **4** : the side that upholds the contradictory proposition in a debate **5** : the plate of a voltaic or electrolytic cell that is at the lower potential **6** : a negative photographic image on transparent material used for printing positive pictures; *also* : the material that carries such an image **7** : a reverse impression taken from a piece of sculpture or ceramics
³negative *vt* **-tived; -tiv·ing** **1 a** : to refuse assent to **b** (1) : to reject by or as if by a vote (2) : VETO **2** : to demonstrate the falsity of : DISPROVE **3** : to deny the truth, reality, or validity of : CONTRADICT **4** : NEUTRALIZE, COUNTERACT *syn* see DENY
negative income tax *n* : a system of federal subsidy payments to families with incomes below a stipulated level proposed as a substitute for or supplement to welfare payments
negative staining *n* : a method of demonstrating the form of small objects (as bacteria) by surrounding them with a stain that they do not take up so that they appear as sharply outlined unstained bright bodies on a colored ground
negative transfer *n* : the impeding of learning or performance in a situation by the carry-over of learned responses from another situation — called also *negative transfer effect*
neg·a·tiv·ism \'neg-ət-iv-ˌiz-əm\ *n* **1** : an attitude of mind marked by skepticism about nearly everything affirmed by others **2** : a tendency to refuse to do, to do the opposite of, or to do something at variance with what is asked — **neg·a·tiv·ist** \-əst\ *n* — **neg·a·tiv·is·tic** \ˌneg-ət-iv-'is-tik\ *adj*
neg·a·tron \'neg-ə-ˌträn\ *also* **neg·a·ton** \-ˌtän\ *n* [*negatron* fr. *negative* + elec*tron*; *negaton* fr. *negative* + ²*-on*] : ELECTRON
¹ne·glect \ni-'glekt\ *vt* [L *neglectus*, pp. of *neglegere*, *neclegere*, fr. *nec-* not (akin to *ne-* not) + *legere* to gather — more at NO, LEGEND] **1** : to give little attention or respect to : DISREGARD **2** : to leave undone or unattended to esp. through carelessness — **ne·glect·er** *n*
syn NEGLECT, OMIT, DISREGARD, IGNORE, OVERLOOK, SLIGHT, FORGET *shared meaning element* : to pass over without giving due attention *ant* cherish
²neglect *n* **1** : an act or instance of neglecting something **2** : the condition of being neglected
ne·glect·ful \ni-'glek(t)-fəl\ *adj* : given to neglecting : CARELESS, HEEDLESS *syn* see NEGLIGENT *ant* attentive — **ne·glect·ful·ly** \-fə-lē\ *adv* — **ne·glect·ful·ness** *n*
neg·li·gee *also* **neg·li·gé** \ˌneg-lə-'zhā\ *n* [F *négligé*, fr. pp. of *négliger* to neglect, fr. L *neglegere*] **1** : a woman's long flowing usu. sheer dressing gown **2** : carelessly informal or incomplete attire
neg·li·gence \'neg-li-jən(t)s\ *n* **1 a** : the quality or state of being negligent **b** : failure to exercise the care that a prudent person usu. exercises **2** : an act or instance of negligence
neg·li·gent \-jənt\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF & L; MF, fr. L *neglegent-*, *neglegens*, prp. of *neglegere*] **1** : marked by or given to neglect esp. habitually or culpably **2** : marked by a carelessly easy manner — **neg·li·gent·ly** *adv*
syn NEGLIGENT, NEGLECTFUL, LAX, SLACK, REMISS *shared meaning element* : culpably careless or indicative of such carelessness
neg·li·gi·ble \'neg-li-jə-bəl\ *adj* [L *neglegere*, *negligere*] : so small or unimportant or of so little consequence as to warrant little or no attention : TRIFLING — **neg·li·gi·bil·i·ty** \ˌneg-li-jə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* — **neg·li·gi·bly** \'neg-li-jə-blē\ *adv*
ne·go·tia·ble \ni-'gō-sh(ē-)ə-bəl\ *adj* : capable of being negotiated: as **a** : transferable from one person to another by being delivered with or without endorsement so that the title passes to the transferee ⟨~ securities⟩ **b** : capable of being traversed, dealt with, or accomplished ⟨a difficult but ~ road⟩ ⟨~ demands⟩ — **ne·go·tia·bil·i·ty** \-ˌgō-sh(ē-)ə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n*
ne·go·tiant \-'gō-sh(ē-)ənt\ *n* : one that negotiates
ne·go·ti·ate \ni-'gō-shē-ˌāt\ *vb* **-at·ed; -at·ing** [L *negotiatus*, pp. of *negotiari* to carry on business, fr. *negotium* business, fr. *neg-* not + *otium* leisure — more at NEGATE] *vi* : to confer with another so as to arrive at the settlement of some matter ~ *vt* **1 a** : to deal with (some matter or affair that requires ability for its successful handling) : MANAGE **b** : to arrange for or bring about through conference, discussion, and compromise ⟨~ a treaty⟩ **2 a** : to transfer (as a bill of exchange) to another by delivery or endorsement **b** : to convert into cash or the equivalent value ⟨~ a check⟩ **3 a** : to successfully travel along or over ⟨~ the turn⟩ **b** : COMPLETE, ACCOMPLISH ⟨~ the trip in two hours⟩ — **ne·go·ti·a·tor** \-ˌāt-ər\ *n* — **ne·go·tia·to·ry** \-sh(ē-)ə-ˌtōr-ē, -ˌtȯr-\ *adj*
syn NEGOTIATE, ARRANGE, CONCERT *shared meaning element* : to bring about by mutual agreement
ne·go·ti·a·tion \ni-ˌgō-s(h)ē-'ā-shən\ *n* : the action or process of negotiating or being negotiated; *esp* : PARLEY 1 — often used in pl.
Ne·gress \'nē-grəs\ *n* : a female Negro
Ne·gril·lo \ni-'gril-(ˌ)ō, -'grē-(ˌ)(y)ō\ *n, pl* **Negrillos** *or* **Negrilloes** [Sp, dim. of *negro*] : a member of a people (as Pygmies) belonging to a group of Negroid peoples of small stature that live in Africa
Ne·gri·to \nə-'grēt-(ˌ)ō\ *n, pl* **Negritos** *or* **Negritoes** [Sp, dim. of *negro*] : a member of a people (as the Andamanese) belonging to a group of Negroid peoples of small stature that live in Oceania and the southeastern part of Asia
ne·gri·tude \'neg-rə-ˌtüd, 'nē-grə-, -ˌtyüd\ *n* [F *négritude*, fr. *nègre* Negro + *-i-* + *-tude*] : a consciousness of and pride in the cultural and physical aspects of the African heritage
Ne·gro \'nē-(ˌ)grō\ *n, pl* **Negroes** [Sp or Pg, fr. *negro* black, fr. L *nigr-*, *niger*] **1** : a member of the black race of mankind distinguished from members of other races by physical features without regard to language or culture; *esp* : a member of a people belonging to the African branch of the black race **2** : a person of Negro descent — **Negro** *adj* — **Ne·groid** \'nē-ˌgrȯid\ *n or adj, often not cap* — **Ne·gro·ness** \-grō-nəs\ *n*
ne·gro·phile \'nē-grō-ˌfīl\ *n, often cap* : one who is esp. friendly to Negroes and their interests — **ne·gro·phi·lism** \-ˌfī-ˌliz-əm, ni-'grȧf-ə-ˌliz-\ *n, often cap*
ne·gro·phobe \'nē-grə-ˌfōb\ *n, often cap* : one who strongly dislikes or fears Negroes — **ne·gro·pho·bia** \ˌnē-grə-'fō-bē-ə\ *n, often cap*
¹ne·gus \'nē-gəs, ni-'güs\ *n* [Amharic *negūs*, fr. Eth *nĕgūša nagašt* king of kings] : KING — used as a title of the sovereign of Ethiopia
²ne·gus \'nē-gəs\ *n* [Francis *Negus* †1732 E colonel] : a beverage of wine, hot water, sugar, lemon juice, and nutmeg
Neh *abbr* Nehemiah
Ne·he·mi·ah \ˌnē-(h)ə-'mī-ə\ *n* [Heb *Nĕḥemyāh*] **1** : a Jewish leader of the 5th century B.C. who supervised the rebuilding of the Jerusalem city walls and instituted religious reforms in the city **2** : a narrative and historical book of canonical Jewish and Christian Scripture — see BIBLE table
Ne·he·mi·as \-'mī-əs\ *n* [LL, fr. Heb *Nĕḥemyāh*] : NEHEMIAH
NEI *abbr* not elsewhere included
neigh \'nā\ *vi* [ME *neyen*, fr. OE *hnǣgan*; akin to MHG *nēgen* to neigh] : to make the loud prolonged cry of a horse — **neigh** *n*
¹neigh·bor \'nā-bər\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *nēahgebūr*; akin to OHG *nāhgibūr* neighbor; both fr. a prehistoric WGmc compound represented by OE *nēah* near and by OE *gebūr* dweller — more at NIGH, BOOR] **1** : one living or located near another **2** : FELLOWMAN
²neighbor *adj* : being immediately adjoining or relatively near
³neighbor *vb* **neigh·bored; neigh·bor·ing** \-b(ə-)riŋ\ *vt* : to adjoin immediately or lie relatively near to ~ *vi* **1** : to live or be located as a neighbor **2** : to associate in a neighborly way
neigh·bor·hood \'nā-bər-ˌhu̇d\ *n* **1** : neighborly relationship **2** : the quality or state of being neighbors : PROXIMITY **3 a** : a place or region near : VICINITY **b** : an approximate amount, extent, or degree ⟨cost in the ~ of $10⟩ **4 a** : the people living near one another **b** : a section lived in by neighbors and usu. having distinguishing characteristics **5** : the set of all points whose distances from a given point are not greater than a given positive number
neigh·bor·ly \-lē\ *adj* : of, relating to, or characteristic of congenial neighbors; *esp* : FRIENDLY *syn* see AMICABLE *ant* unneighborly, ill-disposed — **neigh·bor·li·ness** *n*
neigh·bour \-bər\ *chiefly Brit var of* NEIGHBOR
¹nei·ther \'nē-thər *also* 'nī-\ *pron* [ME, alter. of *nauther*, *nother*, fr. OE *nāhwæther*, *nōther*, fr. *nā*, *nō* not + *hwæther* which of two, whether] : not the one or the other of two or more
²neither *conj* **1** : not either ⟨~ black nor white⟩ **2** : also not ⟨~ did I⟩

[3]neither *adj* : not either ⟨~ hand⟩
[4]neither *adv* **1** *chiefly dial* : EITHER ⟨are not to be understood ~ —Earl of Chesterfield⟩ **2** : similarly not : also not ⟨just as the serf was not permitted to leave the land, so ~ was his offspring — G. G. Coulton⟩
nek·ton \'nek-tən, -ˌtän\ *n* [G *nekton*, fr. Gk *nēkton*, neut. of *nēktos* swimming, fr. *nēchein* to swim; akin to L *nare* to swim — more at NOURISH] : free-swimming aquatic animals (as whales or squid) essentially independent of wave and current action — **nek·ton·ic** \nek-'tän-ik\ *adj*
nel·son \'nel-sən\ *n* [prob. fr. the name *Nelson*] : a wrestling hold marked by the application of leverage against an opponent's arm, neck, and head — compare FULL NELSON, HALF NELSON
ne·ma \'nē-mə, 'nem-ə\ *n* [by shortening] : NEMATODE
nemat- *or* **nemato-** *comb form* [NL, fr. Gk *nēmat-*, fr. *nēmat-*, *nēma*, fr. *nēn* to spin — more at NEEDLE] **1** : thread ⟨*nemato*cyst⟩ **2** : nematode ⟨*nemato*logy⟩
ne·ma·thel·minth \ˌnem-ə-'thel-ˌmin(t)th, ˌnē-mə-\ *n* [deriv. of Gk *nēma* + *helmis* worm — more at HELMINTH] : any of a phylum (Nemathelminthes) of wormlike animals with a cylindrical unsegmented body covered by an unciliated ectoderm that secretes an external cuticle
ne·mat·ic \ni-'mat-ik\ *adj* [ISV *nemat-* + *-ic*] : of, relating to, or being the phase of a liquid crystal characterized by having the long axes of the molecules in parallel lines but not layers — compare SMECTIC
ne·ma·to·cid·al *also* **ne·ma·ti·cid·al** \ˌnem-ət-ə-'sīd-ᵊl, ni-ˌmat-ə-\ *adj* : capable of destroying nematodes
ne·ma·to·cide *also* **ne·ma·ti·cide** \'nem-ət-ə-ˌsīd, ni-'mat-ə-\ *n* : a substance or preparation used to destroy nematodes
ne·ma·to·cyst \'nem-ət-ə-ˌsist, ni-'mat-ə-\ *n* [ISV] : one of the minute stinging organs of various coelenterates
nem·a·tode \'nem-ə-ˌtōd\ *n* [deriv. of Gk *nēmat-*, *nēma*] : any of a class or phylum (Nematoda) of elongated cylindrical worms parasitic in animals or plants or free-living in soil or water
nem·a·tol·o·gy \ˌnem-ə-'täl-ə-jē\ *n* : a branch of zoology that deals with nematodes — **nem·a·to·log·i·cal** \ˌnem-ət-ᵊl-'äj-i-kəl\ *adj* — **nem·a·tol·o·gist** \ˌnem-ə-'täl-ə-jəst\ *n*
Nem·bu·tal \'nem-byə-ˌtȯl\ *trademark* — used for the sodium salt of pentobarbital
nem con *abbr* [NL *nemine contradicente*] no one contradicting
nem diss *abbr* [NL *nemine dissentiente*] no one dissenting
ne·mer·te·an \ni-'mərt-ē-ən\ *n* [deriv. of Gk *Nēmertēs* Nemertes, one of the Nereids] : any of a class (Nemertea) of often vividly colored marine worms most of which burrow in the mud or sand along seacoasts — called also *ribbon worm* — **nemertean** *adj* — **nem·er·tine** \'nem-ər-ˌtīn\ *or* **nem·er·tin·e·an** \ˌnem-ər-'tin-ē-ən\ *adj or n*
nem·e·sis \'nem-ə-səs\ *n* [L, fr. Gk] **1** *cap* : the Greek goddess of fate and punisher of extravagant pride **2** *pl* **nem·e·ses** \-ˌsēz\ **a** : one that inflicts retribution or vengeance **b** : a formidable and usu. victorious rival or opponent **3** *pl* **nemeses** **a** : an act or effect of retribution **b** : BANE 2 ⟨a weakness for good company and strong drink was his ~⟩
ne·moph·i·la \ni-'mäf-ə-lə\ *n* [NL, genus name, fr. Gk *nemos* wooded pasture + *philos* loving] : any of a genus (*Nemophila*) of American annual herbs of the waterleaf family cultivated for their showy blue or white usu. spotted flowers
ne·ne \'nā-(ˌ)nā\ *n* [Hawaiian *nēnē*] : a nearly extinct goose (*Nesochen sandvicensis*) of the Hawaiian islands that inhabits waterless uplands and feeds on berries and vegetation
neo- — see NE-
neo·an·throp·ic \ˌnē-ō-an-'thräp-ik\ *adj* : belonging to the same species (*Homo sapiens*) as recent man : modern in anatomy or type
neo·ars·phen·a·mine \ˌnē-ō-ärs-'fen-ə-ˌmēn\ *n* : a yellow powder $C_{13}H_{13}As_2N_2NaO_4S$ similar to arsphenamine in structure and use
Neo·cene \'nē-ə-ˌsēn\ *adj* : relating to or being the later portion of the Tertiary including the Miocene and Pliocene — **Neocene** *n*
neo·clas·sic \ˌnē-ō-'klas-ik\ *adj* : of, relating to, or constituting a revival or adaptation of the classical esp. in literature, music, art, or architecture — **neo·clas·si·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj* — **neo·clas·si·cism** \-'klas-ə-ˌsiz-əm\ *n* — **neo·clas·si·cist** \-səst\ *n or adj*
neo·co·lo·nial \ˌnē-ō-kə-'lō-nyəl, -'lō-nē-əl\ *adj* : of or relating to neocolonialism
neo·co·lo·nial·ism \-ˌiz-əm\ *n* : the economic and political policies by which a great power indirectly maintains or extends its influence over other areas or people — **neo·co·lo·nial·ist** \-əst\ *n or adj*
neo·cor·tex \ˌnē-ō-'kȯr-ˌteks\ *n* [NL; fr. its being the cortex of the phylogenetically most recently developed part of the brain] : the dorsal region of the cerebral cortex that is unique to mammals
neo·cor·ti·cal \-'kȯrt-i-kəl\ *adj* : of or relating to the neocortex
neo–Dar·win·ian \-där-'win-ē-ən\ *adj, often cap N* : of or relating to neo-Darwinism
neo–Dar·win·ism \-'där-wə-ˌniz-əm\ *n, often cap N* : a theory that explains evolution in terms of natural selection and population genetics and specif. denies the possibility of inheriting acquired characters — **neo–Dar·win·ist** \-nəst\ *n, often cap N*
neo·dym·i·um \ˌnē-ō-'dim-ē-əm\ *n* [NL, fr. *ne-* + *-dymium* (fr. *didymium*)] : a yellow metallic element of the rare-earth group — see ELEMENT table
neo–Freud·ian \-'frȯid-ē-ən\ *adj, often cap N* : of or relating to a school of psychoanalysis that differs from Freudian orthodoxy in emphasizing the importance of social and cultural factors in the development of an individual's personality — **neo–Freudian** *n, often cap N*
neo·gen·e·sis \ˌnē-ō-'jen-ə-səs\ *n* [NL] : new formation : REGENERATION ⟨~ in rat skin⟩ — **neo·ge·net·ic** \ˌnē-ō-jə-'net-ik\ *adj*
neo–im·pres·sion·ism \ˌnē-ō-im-'presh-ə-ˌniz-əm\ *n, often cap N&I* [F *néo-impressionisme*, fr. *né-* ne- + *impressionisme* impressionism] : a late 19th century French art theory and practice characterized by an attempt to make impressionism more precise in form and the use of a pointillist painting technique — **neo–im·pres·sion·ist** \-'presh-(ə-)nəst\ *adj or n, often cap N&I*
Neo–Lat·in \-'lat-ᵊn\ *n* [ISV] **1** : NEW LATIN **2** : ROMANCE
neo·lith \'nē-ə-ˌlith\ *n* [back-formation fr. *neolithic*] : a Neolithic stone implement
neo·lith·ic \ˌnē-ə-'lith-ik\ *adj* **1** *cap* : of or relating to the latest period of the Stone Age characterized by polished stone implements **2** : belonging to an earlier age and now outmoded
ne·ol·o·gism \nē-'äl-ə-ˌjiz-əm\ *n* **1** : a word, usage, or expression that is often disapproved because of its newness or barbarousness **2** : a meaningless word coined by a psychotic — **ne·ol·o·gis·tic** \-ˌäl-ə-'jis-tik\ *adj*
ne·ol·o·gy \nē-'äl-ə-jē\ *n, pl* **-gies** [F *néologie*, fr. *né-* ne- + *-logie* -logy] **1** : the use of a new word or expression or of an established word in a new or different sense **2** : NEOLOGISM 1 — **neo·log·i·cal** \ˌnē-ə-'läj-i-kəl\ *adj*
neo·my·cin \ˌnē-ə-'mīs-ᵊn\ *n* [*ne-* + *myc-* + *-in*] : a broad-spectrum antibiotic or mixture of antibiotics produced by a soil actinomycete (*Streptomyces fradiae*)
ne·on \'nē-ˌän\ *n* [Gk, neut. of *neos* new — more at NEW] **1** : a colorless odorless primarily inert gaseous element found in minute amounts in air and used in electric lamps — see ELEMENT table **2** **a** : a discharge lamp in which the gas contains a large proportion of neon **b** : a sign composed of such lamps **c** : the illumination provided by such lamps or signs — **neon** *adj* — **ne·oned** \-ˌänd\ *adj*
neo·na·tal \ˌnē-ō-'nāt-ᵊl\ *adj* : of, relating to, or affecting the newborn and esp. the human infant during the first month after birth — **neo·na·tal·ly** \-ᵊl-ē\ *adv*
ne·o·nate \'nē-ə-ˌnāt\ *n* [NL *neonatus*, fr. *ne-* + *natus*, pp. of *nasci* to be born — more at NATION] : a newborn child; *esp* : a child less than a month old
neo·or·tho·dox \ˌnē-ō-'ȯr-thə-ˌdäks\ *adj* : of or relating to a 20th century movement in Protestant theology characterized by a reaction against liberalism and emphasis on various scripturally based Reformation doctrines — **neo·or·tho·doxy** \-ˌdäk-sē\ *n*
neo·phyte \'nē-ə-ˌfīt\ *n* [LL *neophytus*, fr. Gk *neophytos*, fr. *neophytos* newly planted, newly converted, fr. *ne-* + *phyein* to bring forth — more at BE] **1** : a new convert : PROSELYTE **2** : NOVICE 1 **3** : TYRO, BEGINNER
neo·pla·sia \ˌnē-ə-'plā-zh(ē-)ə\ *n* [NL] **1** : the formation of tumors **2** : a tumorous condition
neo·plasm \'nē-ə-ˌplaz-əm\ *n* [ISV] : a new growth of tissue serving no physiologic function : TUMOR
neo·plas·tic \ˌnē-ə-'plas-tik\ *adj* [ISV] **1** : of, relating to, or constituting a neoplasm or neoplasia **2** : of or relating to neoplasticism
neo·plas·ti·cism \-tə-ˌsiz-əm\ *n* [*ne-* + *plastic* + *-ism*] : the de Stijl art principle in painting — **neo·plas·ti·cist** \-səst\ *n*
Neo·pla·to·nism \ˌnē-ō-'plāt-ᵊn-ˌiz-əm\ *n* [ISV] **1** : Platonism modified in later antiquity to accord with Aristotelian, post-Aristotelian, and oriental conceptions that conceives of the world as an emanation from the One with whom the soul is capable of being reunited in trance or ecstasy **2** : doctrines similar to ancient Neoplatonism — **Neo·pla·ton·ic** \-plə-'tän-ik, -plā-\ *adj* — **Neo·pla·to·nist** \-'plāt-ᵊn-əst\ *n*
neo·prene \'nē-ə-ˌprēn\ *n* [*ne-* + chlor*oprene*] : a synthetic rubber made by the polymerization of chloroprene and characterized by superior resistance (as to oils)
Ne·op·tol·e·mus \ˌnē-ˌäp-'täl-ə-məs\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *Neoptolemos*] : a son of Achilles and slayer of Priam at the taking of Troy
neo–scho·las·ti·cism \ˌnē-ō-skə-'las-tə-ˌsiz-əm\ *n* : a contemporary movement among Catholic scholars aiming to restate the methods and teachings of medieval Scholasticism in a manner suited to the intellectual needs of the present
neo·stig·mine \ˌnē-ə-'stig-ˌmēn\ *n* [*ne-* + *-stigmine* (as in *physostigmine*)] : a cholinergic drug used in the form of its bromide $C_{12}H_{19}BrN_2O_2$ or a methyl sulfate derivative $C_{13}H_{22}N_2O_6S$ esp. in the treatment of some ophthalmic conditions and in the diagnosis and treatment of myasthenia gravis
ne·o·te·ny \'nē-ə-ˌtē-nē, nē-'ät-ᵊn-ē\ *n* [NL *neotenia*, fr. *ne-* + Gk *teinein* to stretch — more at THIN] **1** : attainment of sexual maturity during the larval stage **2** : retention of some larval or immature characters in adulthood — **ne·o·ten·ic** \ˌnē-ə-'ten-ik\ *adj*
ne·o·ter·ic \ˌnē-ə-'ter-ik\ *adj* [LL *neotericus*, fr. LGk *neōterikos*, fr. Gk, youthful, fr. *neōterios* compar. of *neos* new, young — more at NEW] : recent in origin : MODERN
Neo·trop·i·cal \ˌnē-ō-'träp-i-kəl\ *also* **Neo·trop·ic** \-ik\ *adj* [ISV] : of, relating to, or constituting the biogeographic region that includes So. America, the West Indies, and tropical No. America
neo·type \'nē-ə-ˌtīp\ *n* : a type specimen that is selected subsequent to the description of a species to replace a preexisting type that has been lost or destroyed
Neo·zo·ic \ˌnē-ə-'zō-ik\ *adj* : of, relating to, or constituting the entire period from the end of the Mesozoic to the present time
Ne·pali \nə-'pȯl-ē, -'päl-, -'pal-\ *n, pl* **Nepali** *also* **Nepal·is** [Hindi *naipālī* of Nepal, fr. Skt *naipālīya*, fr. *Nepāla* Nepal] **1** : the Indic language of Nepal **2** : a native or inhabitant of Nepal — **Nepali** *adj*
ne·pen·the \nə-'pen(t)-thē\ *n* [L *nepenthes*, fr. Gk *nēpenthes*, neut. of *nēpenthēs* banishing pain and sorrow, fr. *nē-* not + *penthos* grief, sorrow; akin to Gk *pathos* suffering — more at NO, PATHOS] **1** : a potion used by the ancients to induce forgetfulness of pain or sorrow **2** : something capable of causing oblivion of grief or suffering — **ne·pen·the·an** \-thē-ən\ *adj*
neph·anal·y·sis \ˌnef-ə-'nal-ə-səs\ *n* [NL, fr. Gk *nephos* cloud + *analysis* — more at NEBULA] : the analysis of the clouds and related phenomena over a large area of the earth on a chart used esp. in weather forecasting; *also* : the chart itself

neph·e·line \'nef-ə-ˌlēn\ *also* **neph·e·lite** \-ˌlīt\ *n* [F *néphéline*, fr. Gk *nephelē* cloud — more at NEBULA] : a hexagonal mineral $KNa_3Al_4Si_4O_{16}$ that is a usu. glassy crystalline silicate of sodium, potassium, and aluminum common in igneous rocks — **neph·e·lin·ic** \ˌnef-ə-'lin-ik\ *adj*

neph·e·lin·ite \'nef-ə-lə-ˌnīt\ *n* [ISV] : a silica-deficient igneous rock having nepheline as the predominant mineral — **neph·e·lin·it·ic** \ˌnef-ə-lə-'nit-ik\ *adj*

neph·e·lom·e·ter \ˌnef-ə-'läm-ət-ər\ *n* [Gk *nephelē* cloud + ISV *-meter*] **1** : an instrument for measuring the extent or degree of cloudiness **2** : an instrument for determining the concentration or particle size of suspensions by means of transmitted or reflected light — **neph·e·lo·met·ric** \ˌnef-ə-lō-'me-trik\ *adj* — **neph·e·lom·e·try** \-'läm-ə-trē\ *n*

neph·ew \'nef-(ˌ)yü, *chiefly Brit* 'nev-\ *n* [ME *nevew*, fr. OF *neveu*, fr. L *nepot-*, *nepos* grandson, nephew; akin to OE *nefa* grandson, nephew, Skt *napāt* grandson] **1 a** : a son of one's brother or sister or of one's brother-in-law or sister-in-law **b** : an illegitimate son of an ecclesiastic **2** *obs* : a lineal descendant; *esp* : GRANDSON

ne·phom·e·ter \ne-'fäm-ət-ər\ *n* [Gk *nephos* cloud] : NEPHELOMETER 1

nepho·scope \'nef-ə-ˌskōp\ *n* [Gk *nephos* cloud + ISV *-scope* — more at NEBULA] : an instrument for observing the direction and velocity of clouds

nephr- *or* **nephro-** *comb form* [NL, fr. Gk, fr. *nephros* — more at NEPHRITIS] : kidney ⟨*nephr*ic⟩ ⟨*nephro*logy⟩

ne·phrec·to·my \ni-'frek-tə-mē\ *n, pl* **-mies** [ISV] : the surgical removal of a kidney — **ne·phrec·to·mized** \-ˌmīzd\ *adj*

neph·ric \'nef-rik\ *adj* [*nephr-* + *-ic*] : RENAL

ne·phrid·i·um \ni-'frid-ē-əm\ *n, pl* **-ia** \-ē-ə\ [NL] **1** : a tubular glandular excretory organ characteristic of various coelomate invertebrates **2** : a primarily excretory structure; *esp* : NEPHRON — **ne·phrid·i·al** \-ē-əl\ *adj*

neph·rite \'nef-ˌrīt\ *n* [G *nephrit*, fr. Gk *nephros*; fr. its formerly being worn as a remedy for kidney diseases] : a compact tremolite or actinolite that is the commoner and less valuable kind of jade and that varies in color from white to dark green or black

ne·phrit·ic \ni-'frit-ik\ *adj* **1** : RENAL **2** : of, relating to, or affected with nephritis

ne·phri·tis \ni-'frīt-əs\ *n, pl* **ne·phrit·i·des** \-'frit-ə-ˌdēz\ [LL, fr. Gk, fr. *nephros* kidney; akin to ME *nere* kidney] : acute or chronic inflammation of the kidney caused by infection, degenerative process, or vascular disease

neph·ro·gen·ic \ˌnef-rə-'jen-ik\ *adj* **1** : originating in the kidney **2** : developing into or producing kidney tissue

neph·ron \'nef-ˌrän\ *n* [G, fr. Gk *nephros*] : a single excretory unit esp. of the vertebrate kidney

ne·phrop·a·thy \ni-'fräp-ə-thē\ *n* [ISV] : an abnormal state of the kidney; *esp* : one associated with or secondary to some other pathological process

ne·phro·sis \ni-'frō-səs\ *n* [NL] : noninflammatory degeneration of the kidneys chiefly affecting the renal tubules — **ne·phrot·ic** \-'frät-ik\ *adj or n*

neph·ro·stome \'nef-rə-ˌstōm\ *n* [NL *nephrostoma*, fr. *nephr-* + *stoma*] : the ciliated funnel-shaped coelomic opening of a typical nephridium

ne plus ul·tra \ˌnē-ˌpləs-'əl-trə\ *n* [NL, (go) no more beyond] **1** : the highest point capable of being attained : ACME **2** : the most profound degree of a quality or state

nep·o·tism \'nep-ə-ˌtiz-əm\ *n* [F *népotisme*, fr. It *nepotismo*, fr. *nepote* nephew, fr. L *nepot-*, *nepos* grandson, nephew — more at NEPHEW] : favoritism shown to a relative (as by giving an appointive job) on a basis of relationship

Nep·tune \'nep-ˌt(y)ün\ *n* [L *Neptunus*] **1 a** : the Roman god of the sea — compare POSEIDON **b** : OCEAN **2** : the planet 8th in order from the sun — see PLANET table — **Nep·tu·ni·an** \nep-'t(y)ü-nē-ən\ *adj*

nep·tu·ni·um \nep-'t(y)ü-nē-əm\ *n* [NL, fr. ISV *Neptune*] : a radioactive metallic element that is chemically similar to uranium and is obtained in nuclear reactors as a by-product in the production of plutonium — see ELEMENT table

Ne·re·id \'nir-ē-əd\ *n* [L *Nereid-*, *Nereis*, fr. Gk *Nēreid-*, *Nēreis*, fr. *Nēreus* Nereus] : any of the sea nymphs fathered by the sea-god Nereus according to Greek myth

ne·re·is \'nir-ē-əs\ *n, pl* **ne·re·ides** \nə-'rē-ə-ˌdēz\ [NL, genus name, fr. L, Nereid] : any of a genus (*Nereis*) of usu. large often dimorphic and greenish marine polychaete worms — see ANNELID illustration

ne·rit·ic \nə-'rit-ik\ *adj* [perh. fr. NL *Nerita*, genus of marine snails] : of, relating to, or constituting the belt or region of shallow water adjoining the seacoast

ne·rol \'ne(ə)r-ˌōl, 'ni(ə)r-\ *n* [ISV *ner-* (fr. *neroli oil*) + *-ol*] : a liquid alcohol $C_{10}H_{18}O$ that has a rose scent and is used esp. in perfumery

ner·o·li oil \'ner-ə-lē-\ *n* [F *néroli*, fr. It *neroli*, fr. Anna Maria de La Trémoille, princess of *Nerole fl* 1670] : a fragrant pale yellow essential oil obtained from orange flowers and used esp. in cologne and as a flavoring

nerts \'nərts\ *n pl* [alter. of *nuts*] *slang* : NONSENSE, NUTS

nerv- *or* **nervi-** *or* **nervo-** *comb form* [ME *nerv-*, fr. L, fr. *nervus*] : NEUR- ⟨*nervine*⟩

ner·va·tion \ˌnər-'vā-shən\ *n* : an arrangement or system of nerves; *also* : VENATION

¹nerve \'nərv\ *n* [L *nervus* sinew, nerve; akin to Gk *neuron* sinew, nerve, *nēn* to spin — more at NEEDLE] **1** : SINEW, TENDON ⟨strain every ~⟩ **2** : one of the filamentous bands of nervous tissue that connect parts of the nervous system with the other organs, conduct nervous impulses, and are made up of axons and dendrites together with protective and supportive structures **3 a** : NERVE CENTER 2 **b** : power of endurance or control : FORTITUDE, STRENGTH **c** : ASSURANCE, BOLDNESS; *also* : presumptuous audacity : GALL **4 a** : a sore or sensitive point **b** *pl* : nervous disorganization or collapse : HYSTERIA **5** : VEIN 3 **6** : the sensitive pulp of a tooth ***syn*** see TEMERITY

²nerve *vt* **nerved; nerv·ing** : to give strength or courage to : supply with physical or moral force

nerve cell *n* : NEURON; *also* : the body proper of a neuron

nerve center *n* **1** : CENTER 2c **2** : a source of leadership, control, or energy ⟨the financial *nerve center* of the nation⟩

nerve cord *n* : the pair of closely united ventral longitudinal nerves with their segmental ganglia that is characteristic of many elongate invertebrates (as earthworms)

nerved \'nərvd\ *adj* **1 a** : VEINED ⟨a ~ wing⟩ **b** : having veins or nerves esp. of a specified kind or number — used in combination ⟨fan-*nerved* leaves⟩ **2** : showing courage or strength

nerve fiber *n* : AXON, DENDRITE

nerve gas *n* : an organophosphate war gas that interferes with normal nerve transmission and induces intense bronchial spasm with resulting inhibition of respiration

nerve impulse *n* : the progressive alteration in the protoplasm of a nerve fiber that follows stimulation and serves to transmit a record of sensation from a receptor or an instruction to act to an effector — called also *nervous impulse*

nerve·less \'nərv-ləs\ *adj* **1** : lacking strength or courage : FEEBLE **2** : exhibiting control or balance : POISED, COOL — **nerve·less·ly** *adv* — **nerve·less·ness** *n*

nerve net *n* : a network of nerve cells apparently continuous with one another and conducting impulses in all directions; *also* : a primitive nervous system (as in a jellyfish) consisting of such a network

nerve–rack·ing *or* **nerve–wrack·ing** \'nərv-ˌrak-iŋ\ *adj* : extremely trying on the nerves ⟨a ~ ordeal⟩

nerve trunk *n* : a bundle of nerve fibers enclosed in a connective tissue sheath

ner·vos·i·ty \ˌnər-'väs-ət-ē\ *n* : the quality or state of being nervous

ner·vous \'nər-vəs\ *adj* **1** *archaic* : SINEWY, STRONG **2** : marked by strength of thought, feeling, or style : SPIRITED ⟨a vibrant tight-packed ~ style of writing⟩ **3** : of, relating to, or composed of neurons **4 a** : of or relating to the nerves; *also* : originating in or affected by the nerves **b** : easily excited or irritated : JUMPY **c** : TIMID, APPREHENSIVE ⟨a ~ smile⟩ **5 a** : tending to produce nervousness or agitation : UNEASY ⟨a ~ situation⟩ **b** : appearing or acting unsteady, erratic, or irregular — used of inanimate things — **ner·vous·ly** *adv* — **ner·vous·ness** *n*

nervous breakdown *n* : NEURASTHENIA; *also* : an emotional or psychic disorder that requires hospitalization and professional treatment

nervous Nel·lie *or* **nervous Nel·ly** \-'nel-ē\ *n, pl* **nervous Nellies** *often cap 1st N* [fr. the name *Nellie*] **1** : a timid or ineffectual person **2** : a person who is given to often unwarranted worrying

nervous system *n* : the bodily system that in vertebrates is made up of brain and spinal cord, nerves, ganglia, and parts of the receptor organs and that receives and interprets stimuli and transmits impulses to the effector organs

ner·vure \'nər-vyər\ *n* [F, fr. *nerf* sinew, fr. L *nervus*] : VEIN 3

nervy \'nər-vē\ *adj* **nerv·i·er; -est** **1** *archaic* : SINEWY, STRONG **2 a** : showing calm courage : BOLD **b** : marked by effrontery or presumption : BRASH **3** : EXCITABLE, NERVOUS — **nerv·i·ness** *n*

NES *abbr* not elsewhere specified

ne·science \'nesh-(ē-)ən(t)s, 'nēsh-; 'nes-ē-ən(t)s, 'nēs-\ *n* [LL *nescientia*, fr. L *nescient-*, *nesciens*, prp. of *nescire* not to know, fr. *ne-* not + *scire* to know — more at NO, SCIENCE] : lack of knowledge or awareness : IGNORANCE — **ne·scient** \-(ē-)ənt, -ē-ənt\ *adj*

ness \'nes\ *n* [ME *nasse*, fr. OE *næss*; akin to OE *nasu* nose — more at NOSE] : CAPE, PROMONTORY

-ness \nəs\ *n suffix* [ME *-nes*, fr. OE; akin to OHG *-nissa* -ness] : state : condition : quality : degree ⟨good*ness*⟩

Nes·sel·rode \'nes-əl-ˌrōd\ *n* [Count Karl R. *Nesselrode* †1862 Russ statesman] : a mixture of candied fruits, nuts, and maraschino used in puddings, pies, and ice cream

Nes·sus \'nes-əs\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *Nessos*] : a centaur slain by Hercules but avenged by means of a poisoned garment that caused Hercules to die in torment

¹nest \'nest\ *n* [ME, fr. OE; akin to OHG *nest* nest, L *nidus*] **1 a** : a bed or receptacle prepared by a bird for its eggs and young **b** : a place or specially modified structure serving as an abode of animals and esp. of their immature stages ⟨an ants' ~⟩ **c** : a receptacle resembling a bird's nest **2 a** : a place of rest, retreat, or lodging **b** : DEN, HANGOUT **3** : the occupants or frequenters of a nest **4 a** : a group of similar things : AGGREGATION ⟨a ~ of giant mountains —Helen MacInnes⟩ **b** : HOTBED 2 ⟨a ~ of rebellion⟩ **5** : a group of objects made to fit close together or one within another **6** : an emplaced group of weapons

²nest *vi* **1** : to build or occupy a nest **2** : to fit compactly together or within one another : EMBED ~ *vt* **1** : to form a nest for **2** : to pack compactly together

nest egg *n* **1** : a natural or artificial egg left in a nest to induce a fowl to continue to lay there **2** : a fund of money accumulated as a reserve

nest·er \'nes-tər\ *n* **1** : one that nests **2** *West* : a homesteader or squatter who takes up land on open range for a farm

nes·tle \'nes-əl\ *vb* **nes·tled; nes·tling** \-(ə-)liŋ\ [ME *nestlen*, fr. OE *nestlian*, fr. *nest*] *vi* **1** *archaic* : NEST 1 **2** : to settle snugly or comfortably **3** : to lie in an inconspicuous or sheltered manner ~ *vt* **1** : to settle, shelter, or house in or as if in a nest ⟨the children were *nestled* all snug in their beds —Clement Moore⟩ **2** : to press closely and affectionately ⟨~s a kitten in her arms⟩ — **nes·tler** \-(ə-)lər\ *n*

nest·ling \'nest-liŋ\ *n* : a young bird that has not abandoned the nest

Nes·tor \'nes-tər, -ˌtȯ(ə)r\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *Nestōr*] **1** : a king of Pylos who served in his old age as a counselor to the Greeks at Troy **2** *often not cap* : one who is a patriarch or leader in his field

Nes·to·ri·an \ne-'stōr-ē-ən, -'stȯr-\ *adj* **1** : of or relating to the doctrine ascribed to Nestorius and ecclesiastically condemned in 431 that divine and human persons remained separate in the incarnate Christ **2** : of or relating to a church separating from Byzantine Christianity after 431, centering in Persia, and surviving

chiefly in Asia Minor — **Nestorian** *n* — **Nes·to·ri·an·ism** \-ˌiz-əm\ *n*

¹net \'net\ *n* [ME *nett*, fr. OE; akin to OHG *nezzi* net, L *nodus* knot] **1 a** : an open meshed fabric twisted, knotted, or woven together at regular intervals **b** : something made of net: as (1) : a device for catching fish, birds, or insects (2) : a fabric barricade which divides a court in half (as in tennis or volleyball) and over which a ball or shuttlecock must be hit to be in play (3) : the fabric that encloses the sides and back of the goal in various games (as soccer or hockey) **2** : an entrapping situation ⟨caught in the ~ of suspicious circumstances⟩ **3** : something resembling a net in reticulation (as of lines, fibers, or figures) **4** : a ball hit into the net in a racket game **5 a** : a group of communications stations operating under unified control **b** : NETWORK 4 — **net·less** \-ləs\ *adj* — **net·like** \-ˌlīk\ *adj* — **net·ty** \'net-ē\ *adj*

²net *vt* **net·ted; net·ting** **1** : to cover or enclose with or as if with a net **2** : to catch in or as if in a net **3** : to cover with a network **4 a** : to hit (a ball) into the net for the loss of a point in a racket game **b** : to hit (a ball) into the goal for a score (as in hockey or soccer) — **net·ter** *n*

³net *adj* [ME, clean, bright, fr. MF] **1** : free from all charges or deductions: as **a** : remaining after the deduction of all charges, outlay, or loss ⟨~ earnings⟩ ⟨~ worth⟩ — compare GROSS **b** : excluding all tare ⟨~ weight⟩ **2** : FINAL ⟨the ~ result⟩

⁴net *vt* **net·ted; net·ting** **1 a** : to make by way of profit : CLEAR **b** : to produce by way of profit **2** : to get possession : GAIN

⁵net *n* **1** : a net amount, profit, weight, or price **2** : the score of a golfer in a handicap match after deducting his handicap from his gross **3** : ESSENCE, GIST

NET *abbr* National Educational Television

NETFS *abbr* National Educational Television Film Service

Neth *abbr* Netherlands

neth·er \'neth-ər\ *adj* [ME, fr. OE *nithera*, fr. *nither* down; akin to OHG *nidar* down, Skt *ni*, Gk *en*, *eni* in — more at IN] **1** : situated down or below : LOWER ⟨the ~ side⟩ **2** : situated or believed to be situated beneath the earth's surface ⟨the ~ regions⟩

neth·er·most \-ˌmōst\ *adj* : farthest down : LOWEST

neth·er·world \-ˌwərld\ *n* **1** : the world of the dead **2** : UNDERWORLD 4 ⟨the ~ of deceit, subversion, and espionage —R. M. Nixon⟩

net·keep·er \'net-ˌkē-pər\ *n* : GOALKEEPER

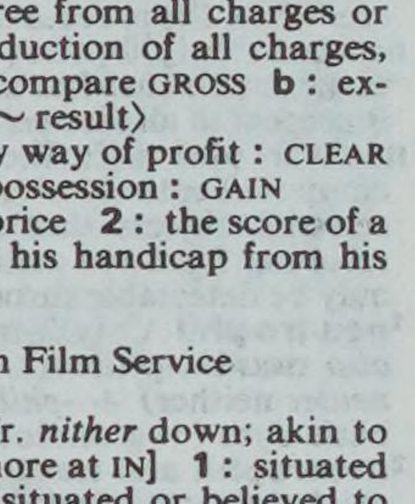
net·mind·er \-ˌmīn-dər\ *n* : GOALKEEPER

net·su·ke \'net-s(ə-)kē\ *n, pl* **netsuke** *or* **netsukes** [Jap] : a small and often intricately carved toggle (as of wood, ivory, or metal) used to fasten a small pouch or purse to a kimono sash

nett *Brit var of* NET

net·ting \'net-iŋ\ *n* **1** : NETWORK **2** : the act or process of making a net or network **3** : the act, process, or right of fishing with a net

¹net·tle \'net-ᵊl\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *netel*; akin to OHG *nazza* nettle, Gk *adikē*] **1** : any of a genus (*Urtica* of the family Urticaceae, the nettle family) of chiefly coarse herbs armed with stinging hairs **2** : any of various prickly or stinging plants other than the nettle



nettle 1

²nettle *vt* **net·tled; net·tling** \'net-liŋ, -ᵊl-iŋ\ **1** : to strike or sting with or as if with nettles **2** : to arouse to sharp but transitory annoyance or anger ***syn*** see IRRITATE

nettle rash *n* : URTICARIA

net·tle·some \'net-ᵊl-səm\ *adj* : causing vexation : IRRITATING

net–veined \-'vānd\ *adj* : having veins arranged in a fine network ⟨a ~ leaf⟩ ⟨a ~ wing⟩ — compare PARALLEL-VEINED

net–winged \'net-'wiŋd\ *adj* : having wings with a fine network of veins

¹net·work \'net-ˌwərk\ *n* **1** : a fabric or structure of cords or wires that cross at regular intervals and are knotted or secured at the crossings **2** : a system of lines or channels resembling a network **3** : an interconnected or interrelated chain, group, or system ⟨a ~ of hotels⟩ **4 a** : a group of radio or television stations linked by wire or radio relay **b** : a radio or television company that produces programs for broadcast over such a network

²network *vt* **1** : to cover with or as if with a network ⟨a continent . . . so *~ed* with navigable rivers and canals —*Lamp*⟩ **2** : to present on or integrate into a radio or television network ⟨*~ed* programs⟩

Neuf·châ·tel \ˌn(y)ü-shə-'tel, ˌnə(r)sh-ə-\ *n* [F, fr. *Neufchâtel*, France] : a soft unripened cheese similar to cream cheese but containing less fat and more moisture

neume \'n(y)üm\ *n* [F, fr. ML *pneuma*, *neuma*, fr. Gk *pneuma* breath — more at PNEUMATIC] : any of various symbols used in the notation of Gregorian chant — **neu·mat·ic** \n(y)ù-'mat-ik\ *adj*

neur- *or* **neuro-** *comb form* [NL, fr. Gk, nerve, sinew, fr. *neuron* — more at NERVE] **1** : nerve ⟨*neur*al⟩ ⟨*neuro*logy⟩ **2** : neural : neural and ⟨*neuro*muscular⟩

neu·ral \'n(y)ůr-əl\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or affecting a nerve or the nervous system **2** : situated in the region of or on the same side of the body as the brain and spinal cord : DORSAL — **neu·ral·ly** \-ə-lē\ *adv*

neural arch *n* : the cartilaginous or bony arch enclosing the spinal cord on the dorsal side of a vertebra — see VERTEBRA illustration

neu·ral·gia \n(y)ù-'ral-jə\ *n* [NL] : acute paroxysmal pain radiating along the course of one or more nerves usu. without demonstrable changes in the nerve structure — **neu·ral·gic** \-jik\ *adj*

neural tube *n* : the hollow longitudinal tube formed by infolding and subsequent fusion of the opposite ectodermal folds in the vertebrate embryo

neur·amin·i·dase \ˌn(y)ůr-ə-'min-ə-ˌdās, -ˌdāz\ *n* [*neuramin*ic acid (an amino acid) + *-ide* + *-ase*] : a hydrolytic enzyme that is found esp. in microorganisms of the respiratory or intestinal tract and that splits mucoproteins by breaking a glucoside link

neur·as·the·nia \ˌn(y)ůr-əs-'thē-nē-ə\ *n* [NL] : an emotional and psychic disorder that is characterized by impaired functioning in interpersonal relationships and often by fatigue, depression, feelings of inadequacy, headaches, hypersensitivity to sensory stimulation (as by light or noise), and psychosomatic symptoms (as disturbances of digestion and circulation) — **neur·as·then·ic** \-'then-ik\ *adj* — **neur·as·then·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

neu·ri·lem·ma \ˌn(y)ůr-ə-'lem-ə\ *n* [NL, fr. *neur-* + Gk *eilēma* covering, coil, fr. *eilein* to wind; akin to Gk *eilyein* to wrap — more at VOLUBLE] **1** : the delicate nucleated outer sheath of a nerve fiber **2** : PERINEURIUM — **neu·ri·lem·mal** \-'lem-əl\ *adj*

neu·ris·tor \n(y)ù-'ris-tər\ *n* [*neuron* + trans*istor*; fr. its functioning like a neuron and not requiring the use of transistors] : a usu. electronic device along which a signal propagates with uniform velocity and without attenuation

neu·ri·tis \n(y)ù-'rīt-əs\ *n, pl* **-rit·i·des** \-'rit-ə-ˌdēz\ *or* **-ri·tis·es** [NL] : an inflammatory or degenerative lesion of a nerve marked esp. by pain, sensory disturbances, and impaired or lost reflexes — **neu·rit·ic** \-'rit-ik\ *adj or n*

neu·ro·ac·tive \ˌn(y)ůr-ō-'ak-tiv\ *adj* : stimulating neural tissue

neu·ro·bi·ol·o·gy \-bī-'äl-ə-jē\ *n* : a branch of the life sciences that deals with the anatomy, physiology, and pathology of the nervous system from a holistic viewpoint — **neu·ro·bi·o·log·i·cal** \-ˌbī-ə-'läj-i-kəl\ *adj* — **neu·ro·bi·ol·o·gist** \-bī-'äl-ə-jəst\ *n*

neu·ro·blas·to·ma \-blas-'tō-mə\ *n, pl* **-mas** *or* **-ma·ta** \-mət-ə\ [NL, fr. ISV *neuroblast* (embryonic ganglion cell), fr. *neur-* + *-blast*] : a malignant tumor formed of embryonic ganglion cells

neu·ro·chem·is·try \-'kem-ə-strē\ *n* : the study of the chemical makeup and activities of nervous tissue — **neu·ro·chem·i·cal** \-'kem-i-kəl\ *adj* — **neu·ro·chem·ist** \-'kem-əst\ *n*

neu·ro·cir·cu·la·to·ry \ˌn(y)ůr-ō-'sər-kyə-lə-ˌtōr-ē, -ˌtȯr-\ *adj* : of or relating to the nervous and circulatory systems

neu·ro·en·do·crine \-'en-də-krən, -ˌkrīn, -ˌkrēn\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or being a hormonal substance that influences the activity of nerves **2** : of, relating to, or being neurosecretion or a neurosecretion

neu·ro·ep·i·the·li·al \ˌn(y)ůr-ō-ˌep-ə-'thē-lē-əl\ *adj* : having qualities of both neural and epithelial cells

neu·ro·fi·bril \ˌn(y)ůr-ō-'fīb-rəl, -'fib-\ *n* [NL *neurofibrilla*, fr. *neur-* + *fibrilla* fibril] : a fine proteinaceous fibril that is found in conductile protoplasm (as in a neuron or a paramecium) — **neu·ro·fi·bril·lary** \-rə-ˌler-ē\ *adj*

neu·ro·gen·ic \ˌn(y)ůr-ə-'jen-ik\ *adj* **1** : originating in or controlled by nervous tissue ⟨~ heartbeat⟩ **2** : induced or modified by nervous factors; *esp* : disordered because of abnormally altered neural relations — **neu·ro·gen·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

neu·ro·glia \n(y)ù-'räg-lē-ə; ˌn(y)ůr-ə-'glē-ə, -'glī-\ *n* [NL, fr. *neur-* + MGk *glia* glue] : supporting tissue intermingled with the essential elements of nervous tissue esp. in the brain, spinal cord, and ganglia — **neu·ro·gli·al** \-əl\ *adj*

neu·ro·hor·mon·al \ˌn(y)ůr-ō-hȯr-'mōn-ᵊl\ *adj* **1** : involving both neural and hormonal mechanisms **2** : of, relating to, or being a neurohormone

neu·ro·hor·mone \-'hȯr-ˌmōn\ *n* [ISV] : a hormone (as acetylcholine or norepinephrine) produced by or acting on nervous tissue

neu·ro·hu·mor \ˌn(y)ůr-ō-'hyü-mər, -'yü-\ *n* : a substance liberated at a nerve ending that participates in the transmission of a nerve impulse — **neu·ro·hu·mor·al** \-mə-rəl\ *adj*

neu·ro·hy·poph·y·sis \-hī-'päf-ə-səs\ *n* [NL] : the portion of the pituitary body that is composed of the infundibulum and posterior lobe and is concerned with the secretion of various hormones — **neu·ro·hy·poph·y·se·al** \-(ˌ)hī-ˌpäf-ə-'sē-əl\ *or* **neu·ro·hy·po·phys·i·al** \-ˌhī-pə-'fiz-ē-əl\ *adj*

neurol *abbr* neurological; neurology

neu·ro·lept·an·al·ge·sia \'n(y)ůr-ə-ˌlep-ˌtan-ᵊl-'jē-zhə, -z(h)ē-ə\ *or* **neu·ro·lep·to·an·al·ge·sia** \ˌn(y)ůr-ə-'lep-tō-ˌan-\ *n* [NL, fr. ISV *neuroleptic* + *analgesic* + NL *-ia* (as in *analgesia*)] : joint administration of a tranquilizing drug and an analgesic esp. for relief of surgical pain — **neu·ro·lept·an·al·ge·sic** \-'jē-zik, -sik\ *adj*

neu·ro·lep·tic \ˌn(y)ůr-ə-'lep-tik\ *n* [F *neuroleptique*, fr. *neur-* + *-leptique* affecting, fr. Gk *lēptikos* seizing, fr. *lambanein* to take, seize — more at LATCH] : TRANQUILIZER 2 — **neuroleptic** *adj*

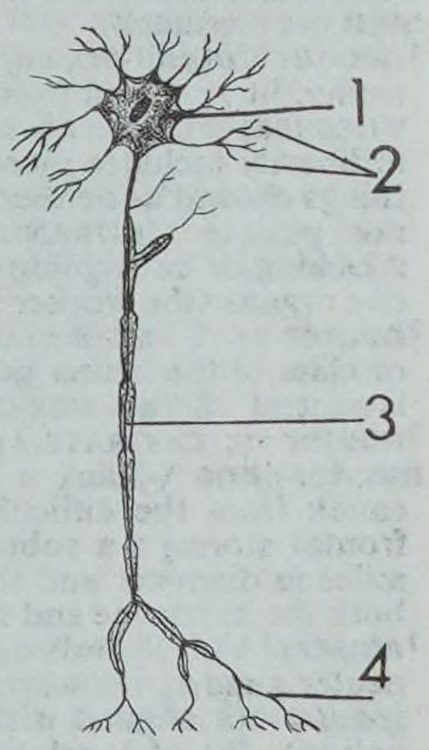
neu·rol·o·gist \n(y)ù-'räl-ə-jəst\ *n* : one specializing in neurology; *esp* : a physician skilled in the diagnosis and treatment of disease of the nervous system

neu·rol·o·gy \-jē\ *n* [NL *neurologia*, fr. *neur-* + *-logia* -logy] : the scientific study of the nervous system — **neu·ro·log·i·cal** \ˌn(y)ůr-ə-'läj-i-kəl\ *or* **neu·ro·log·ic** \-ik\ *adj* — **neu·ro·log·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

neu·ro·ma \n(y)ù-'rō-mə\ *n, pl* **-mas** *or* **-ma·ta** \-mət-ə\ [NL] : a tumor or mass growing from a nerve and usu. consisting of nerve fibers

neu·ro·mo·tor \ˌn(y)ůr-ə-'mōt-ər\ *adj* : relating to efferent nervous impulses

neu·ro·mus·cu·lar \ˌn(y)ůr-ō-'məs-kyə-lər\ *adj* [ISV] : of or relating to nerves and muscles; *esp* : jointly involving nervous and muscular elements ⟨a ~ junction⟩



neuron: *1* cell body, *2* dendrite, *3* axon, *4* nerve ending

neu·ron \'n(y)ü-ˌrän, 'n(y)ù(ə)r-ˌän\ *also* **neu·rone** \-ˌrōn, -ˌōn\ *n* [NL *neuron*, fr.

Gk, nerve, sinew — more at NERVE] : a grayish or reddish granular cell with specialized processes that is the fundamental functional unit of nervous tissue — **neu·ro·nal** \'n(y)u̇r-ən-ᵊl, n(y)u̇-'rōn-ᵊl\ *also* **neu·ron·ic** \n(y)u̇-'rän-ik\ *adj*

neu·rop·a·thy \n(y)u̇-'räp-ə-thē\ *n, pl* **-thies** [ISV] : an abnormal and usu. degenerative state of the nervous system or nerves; *also* : a systemic condition that stems from a neuropathy — **neu·ro·path·ic** \ˌn(y)u̇r-ə-'path-ik\ *adj* — **neu·ro·path·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

neu·ro·phar·ma·col·o·gy \'n(y)u̇r-ō-ˌfär-mə-'käl-ə-jē\ *n* : a branch of medical science dealing with the action of drugs on and in the nervous system — **neu·ro·phar·ma·co·log·ic** \-kə-'läj-ik\ *or* **neu·ro·phar·ma·co·log·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj* — **neu·ro·phar·ma·col·o·gist** \-'käl-ə-jəst\ *n*

neu·ro·phys·i·ol·o·gy \ˌn(y)u̇r-ō-ˌfiz-ē-'äl-ə-jē\ *n* : physiology of the nervous system — **neu·ro·phys·i·o·log·i·cal** \-ē-ə-'läj-i-kəl\ *also* **neu·ro·phys·i·o·log·ic** \-ik\ *adj* — **neu·ro·phys·i·o·log·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **neu·ro·phys·i·ol·o·gist** \-ē-'äl-ə-jəst\ *n*

neu·ro·psy·chi·a·try \-sə-'kī-ə-trē, -sī-\ *n* : a branch of medicine concerned with both the psychic and organic aspects of mental disorder — **neu·ro·psy·chi·at·ric** \-ˌsī-kē-'a-trik\ *adj* — **neu·ro·psy·chi·at·ri·cal·ly** \-tri-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **neu·ro·psy·chi·a·trist** \-sə-'kī-ə-trəst, -sī-\ *n*

neu·ro·psy·chic \ˌn(y)u̇r-ə-'sī-kik\ *also* **neu·ro·psy·chi·cal** \-'ki-kəl\ *adj* : of or relating to both the mind and the nervous system as affecting mental processes

neu·rop·ter·an \n(y)u̇-'räp-tə-rən\ *n* [deriv. of Gk *neur-* + *pteron* wing — more at FEATHER] : any of an order (Neuroptera) of usu. net-winged insects that include the lacewings and ant lions — **neuropteran** *adj* — **neu·rop·ter·ous** \-rəs\ *adj*

neu·ro·sci·ence \ˌn(y)u̇r-ō-'sī-ən(t)s\ *n* : a branch (as neurophysiology) of the life sciences that deals with the anatomy, physiology, biochemistry, or molecular biology of nerves and nervous tissue and esp. with their relation to behavior and learning — **neu·ro·sci·en·tist** \-ənt-əst\ *n*

neu·ro·se·cre·tion \-si-'krē-shən\ *n* **1** : a secretion produced by nerve cells **2** : the act or process of producing a neurosecretion — **neu·ro·se·cre·to·ry** \-'krēt-ə-rē\ *adj*

neu·ro·sen·so·ry \-'sen(t)s-(ə-)rē\ *adj* : of or relating to afferent nerves

neu·ro·sis \n(y)u̇-'rō-səs\ *n, pl* **-ro·ses** \-ˌsēz\ [NL] : a functional nervous disorder without demonstrable physical lesion

neu·ros·po·ra \n(y)u̇-'räs-pə-rə\ *n* [NL, genus name, fr. *neur-* + *spora* spore] : any of a genus (*Neurospora* of the family Sphaeriaceae) of ascomycetous fungi which are used extensively in genetic research and have black perithecia and persistent asci and some of which have salmon pink or orange spore masses and are severe pests in bakeries

neu·ro·sur·geon \ˌn(y)u̇r-ō-'sər-jən\ *n* : a surgeon specializing in neurosurgery

neu·ro·sur·gery \-'sərj-(ə-)rē\ *n* : surgery of nervous structures (as nerves, the brain, or the spinal cord) — **neu·ro·sur·gi·cal** \-'sər-ji-kəl\ *adj*

¹neu·rot·ic \n(y)u̇-'rät-ik\ *adj* : of, relating to, constituting, or affected with neurosis — **neu·rot·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

²neurotic *n* **1** : an emotionally unstable individual **2** : one affected with a neurosis

neu·rot·i·cism \n(y)u̇-'rät-ə-ˌsiz-əm\ *n* : a neurotic character, condition, or trait

neu·ro·tox·ic \ˌn(y)u̇r-ə-'täk-sik\ *adj* : toxic to the nerves or nervous tissue — **neu·ro·tox·ic·i·ty** \-ˌtäk-'sis-ət-ē\ *n*

neu·ro·tox·in \-'täk-sən\ *n* [ISV] : a poisonous protein complex that acts on the nervous system

neu·ro·trans·mit·ter \ˌn(y)u̇r-ō-tran(t)s-'mit-ər, -tranz-\ *n* : a substance (as norepinephrine) that transmits nerve impulses across a synapse

neu·ro·trop·ic \ˌn(y)u̇r-ə-'träp-ik\ *adj* [ISV] : having an affinity for or localizing selectively in nerve tissue

neus·ton \'n(y)ü-ˌstän\ *n* [G, fr. Gk, neut. of *neustos* swimming, fr. *nein* to swim — more at NOURISH] : minute organisms that float in the surface film of water

neut *abbr* neuter

¹neu·ter \'n(y)üt-ər\ *adj* [ME *neutre*, fr. MF & L; MF *neutre*, fr. L *neuter*, lit., neither, fr. *ne-* not + *uter* which of two — more at NO, WHETHER] **1 a** : of, relating to, or constituting the gender that ordinarily includes most words or grammatical forms referring to things classed as neither masculine nor feminine **b** : neither active nor passive : INTRANSITIVE **2** : taking no side : NEUTRAL **3** : lacking or having imperfectly developed or nonfunctional generative organs ⟨the worker bee is ~⟩

²neuter *n* **1 a** : a noun, pronoun, adjective, or inflectional form or class of the neuter gender **b** : the neuter gender **2** : one that is neutral **3 a** : WORKER 2 **b** : a spayed or castrated animal

³neuter *vt* : CASTRATE, ALTER

neu·ter·cane \-ˌkān\ *n* [L *neuter* neither + E *-cane* (as in hurricane); from the difficulty of classifying it as either hurricane or frontal storm] : a subtropical cyclone that is usu. less than 100 miles in diameter and that draws energy from sources common to both the hurricane and the frontal cyclone

¹neu·tral \'n(y)ü-trəl\ *adj* [MF, fr. (assumed) ML *neutralis*, fr. L, of neuter gender, fr. *neutr-, neuter*] **1** : not engaged on either side; *specif* : not aligned with a political or ideological grouping ⟨a ~ nation⟩ **2** : of or relating to a neutral state or power ⟨~ territory⟩ **3 a** : neither one thing nor the other : INDIFFERENT **b** (1) : ACHROMATIC (2) : nearly achromatic **c** (1) : NEUTER 3 (2) : lacking stamens or pistils **d** : neither acid nor basic **e** : not electrically charged **4** : produced with the tongue in the position it has when at rest ⟨the ~ vowels of \ə-'bəv\ *above*⟩ — **neu·tral·ly** \-trə-lē\ *adv* — **neu·tral·ness** *n*

²neutral *n* **1** : one that is neutral **2** : a neutral color **3** : a position of disengagement (as of gears)

neu·tral·ism \'n(y)ü-trə-ˌliz-əm\ *n* **1** : NEUTRALITY **2** : a policy or the advocacy of neutrality esp. in international affairs — **neu·tral·ist** \-ləst\ *n* — **neu·tral·is·tic** \ˌn(y)ü-trə-'lis-tik\ *adj*

neu·tral·i·ty \n(y)ü-'tral-ət-ē\ *n* : the quality or state of being neutral; *esp* : immunity from invasion or use by belligerents

neu·tral·iza·tion \ˌn(y)ü-trə-lə-'zā-shən\ *n* **1** : an act or process of neutralizing **2** : the quality or state of being neutralized

neu·tral·ize \'n(y)ü-trə-ˌlīz\ *vb* **-ized; -iz·ing** *vt* **1** : to make chemically neutral **2** : to counteract the activity or effect of : make ineffective ⟨propaganda that is difficult to ~⟩ **3** : to make electrically inert by combining equal positive and negative quantities **4** : to invest (as a territory or a nation) with conventional or obligatory neutrality conferring inviolability during a war **5** : to make neutral by blending with the complementary color ~ *vi* : to undergo neutralization — **neu·tral·iz·er** *n*

neutral red *n* : a basic phenazine dye used chiefly as a biological stain and acid-base indicator

neutral spirits *n pl but sing or pl in constr* : ethyl alcohol of 190 or higher proof used esp. for blending other alcoholic liquors

neu·tri·no \n(y)ü-'trē-(ˌ)nō\ *n, pl* **-nos** [It, dim. of *neutrone* neutron] : an uncharged elementary particle that has two forms associated respectively with the electron and the muon, that is believed to be massless, and that interacts very weakly with matter after being created in the process of particle decay

neu·tron \'n(y)ü-ˌträn\ *n* [prob. fr. *neutral*] : an uncharged elementary particle that has a mass nearly equal to that of the proton and is present in all known atomic nuclei except the hydrogen nucleus

neutron star *n* [fr. the hypothesis that the cores of such stars are composed entirely of neutrons] : any of various hypothetical dense celestial objects that consist of closely packed nuclear particles resulting from the collapse of a much larger stellar body and that may be detectable through their emission of X rays

¹neu·tro·phil \'n(y)ü-trə-ˌfil\ *or* **neu·tro·phil·ic** \ˌn(y)ü-trə-'fil-ik\ *also* **neu·tro·phile** \'n(y)ü-trə-ˌfīl\ *adj* [ISV *neutro-* (fr. L *neutr-, neuter* neither) + *-phil*] : staining to the same degree with acid or basic dyes ⟨~ granulocytes⟩

²neutrophil *also* **neutrophile** *n* : a finely granular cell that is the chief phagocytic leukocyte of the blood

Nev *abbr* Nevada

né·vé \nā-'vā\ *n* [F (Swiss dial.), fr. L *niv-, nix* snow — more at SNOW] : the partially compacted granular snow that forms the surface part of the upper end of a glacier; *broadly* : a field of granular snow

nev·er \'nev-ər\ *adv* [ME, fr. OE *nǣfre*, fr. *ne* not + *ǣfre* ever — more at NO] **1** : not ever : at no time ⟨~ saw him before⟩ **2** : not in any degree : not under any condition ⟨~ the wiser for his experience⟩

nev·er·more \ˌnev-ər-'mō(ə)r, -'mȯ(ə)r\ *adv* : never again

nev·er–nev·er land \ˌnev-ər-'nev-ər-\ *n* : an ideal or imaginary place

nev·er·the·less \ˌnev-ər-thə-'les\ *adv* : in spite of that : HOWEVER ⟨her childish but ~ real delight —Richard Corbin⟩

ne·vus \'nē-vəs\ *n, pl* **ne·vi** \-ˌvī\ [NL, fr. L *naevus*] : a congenital pigmented area on the skin : BIRTHMARK

¹new \'n(y)ü, *before a stress in geographical names also* n(y)u̇ *or* n(y)ə(-w)\ *adj* [ME, fr. OE *nīwe;* akin to OHG *niuwi* new, L *novus*, Gk *neos*] **1** : having existed or having been made but a short time : RECENT **2 a** (1) : having been seen, used, or known for a short time : NOVEL ⟨rice was a ~ crop for the area⟩ (2) : UNFAMILIAR ⟨visit ~ places⟩ **b** : being other than the former or old ⟨a ~ model⟩ **3** : having been in a relationship or condition but a short time ⟨~ to the job⟩ **4 a** : beginning as the resumption or repetition of a previous act or thing ⟨a ~ day⟩ ⟨the ~ edition⟩ **b** : made or become fresh ⟨awoke a ~ man⟩ **5** : different from one of the same category that has existed previously ⟨~ realism⟩ **6** : of dissimilar origin and usu. of superior quality ⟨introducing ~ blood⟩ **7** *cap* : MODERN 3; *esp* : having been in use after medieval times — **new·ish** \'n(y)ü-ish\ *adj* — **new·ness** *n*

syn NEW, NOVEL, MODERN, ORIGINAL, FRESH *shared meaning element* : having recently come into existence or use or into a particular state or relationship. NEW may apply to what is freshly made and unused ⟨*new* bricks⟩ ⟨a *new* dress⟩ or to what has not been known or experienced before ⟨a *new* design⟩ ⟨love was a *new* experience to her⟩ or to a person just taken into a group or association ⟨met *new* boys at school⟩ ⟨her *new* roommate⟩ NOVEL applies to what is both new and strange or unfamiliar ⟨a single courageous state may . . . try *novel* social and economic experiments without risk to the rest of the country —L. D. Brandeis⟩ MODERN applies to what belongs to or is characteristic of the present time or era ⟨*modern* manners⟩ ⟨*modern* as opposed to classical physics⟩ ORIGINAL applies to what is or produces something at once new or novel and the first of its kind ⟨the Aztec character was perfectly *original* and unique —W. H. Prescott⟩ ⟨an *original* thinker⟩ FRESH applies to what is or seems new or has not lost its qualities of newness (as liveliness, purity, or energy) ⟨put out *fresh* towels for guests⟩ ⟨make a *fresh* start⟩ ***ant*** old

²new \'n(y)ü\ *adv* : NEWLY, RECENTLY — usu. used in combination

¹new·born \-'bȯ(ə)rn\ *adj* **1** : recently born **2** : born anew

²newborn *n, pl* **newborn** *or* **newborns** : a newborn individual : NEONATE

New·burg *or* **New·burgh** \'n(y)ü-ˌbərg\ *adj* [origin unknown] : served with a sauce made of cream, butter, wine, and egg yolks ⟨lobster ~⟩ ⟨shrimp ~⟩

new candle *n* : CANDLE 3b

New·cas·tle disease \'n(y)ü-ˌkas-əl-, n(y)ü-'\ *n* [*Newcastle* upon Tyne, England] : a destructive virus disease of birds and esp. domestic fowl that involves respiratory and nervous symptoms

new·com·er \'n(y)ü-ˌkəm-ər\ *n* **1** : one recently arrived **2** : BEGINNER

New Criticism *n* : an analytic literary criticism that regards the events of an author's life as having no bearing on his work and that is marked by concentration on the language, imagery, and emotional or intellectual tensions in the work — **New Critic** *n*

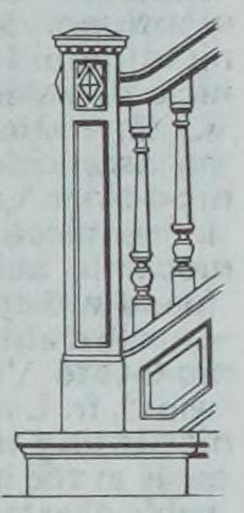
new deal *n* [fr. the supposed resemblance to the situation of freshness and equality of opportunity afforded by a fresh deal in a card game] **1** *cap N&D* **a** : the legislative and administrative program of President F. D. Roosevelt designed to promote economic recov-

ery and social reform during the 1930s **b** : the period of this program **2** : a governmental program resembling the Roosevelt New Deal in objectives or techniques — **new deal·er** \-'dē-lər\ *n, often cap N&D* — **new deal·ish** \-'dē-lish\ *adj, often cap N&D* — **new deal·ism** \-'dē(ə)l-ˌiz-əm\ *n, often cap N&D*

new drug *n* : a drug that has not been declared safe and effective by qualified experts under the conditions prescribed, recommended, or suggested in the label and that may be a new chemical formula or an established drug prescribed for use in a new way

new economics *n pl but usu sing in constr* : an economic concept that is a logical extension of Keynesianism and that holds that appropriate fiscal and monetary maneuvering can maintain healthy economic growth and prosperity indefinitely

new·el \'n(y)ü-əl\ *n* [ME *nowell*, fr. MF *nouel* stone of a fruit, fr. LL *nucalis* like a nut, fr. L *nuc-, nux* nut — more at NUT] **1** : an upright post about which the steps of a circular staircase wind **2** : a post at the foot of a straight stairway or one at a landing



newel 2

New Eng *abbr* New England

New English Bible *n* : a translation of the Bible by a British interdenominational committee first published in its entirety in 1970

new·fan·gled \'n(y)ü-'faŋ-gəld\ *adj* [ME, fr. *newefangel*, fr. *new* + OE *fangen*, pp. of *fōn* to take, seize — more at PACT] **1** : attracted to novelty **2** : of the newest style — **new·fan·gled·ness** *n*

new–fash·ioned \-'fash-ənd\ *adj* **1** : made in a new fashion or form **2** : UP-TO-DATE

new·found \-'faůnd\ *adj* : newly found ⟨a ~ friend⟩

New·found·land \'n(y)ü-fən-(d)lənd, -ˌ(d)land, n(y)ü-'faůn-(d)lənd\ *n* [*Newfoundland*, Canada] : any of a breed of very large heavy highly intelligent usu. black dogs developed in Newfoundland



Newfoundland

New·gate \'n(y)ü-ˌgāt, -gət\ *n* : a London prison razed in 1902

New Greek *n* : Greek as used by the Greeks since the end of the medieval period

New Hamp·shire \n(y)ü-'ham(p)-shər, -ˌshi(ə)r\ *n* [*New Hampshire*, U.S.A.] : any of a breed of single-combed general purpose domestic fowls developed chiefly in New Hampshire and noted for heavy winter egg production

New Hebrew *n* : the Hebrew language in use in present-day Israel

New Jer·sey tea \n(y)ü-ˌjər-zē-\ *n* [*New Jersey*, U.S.A.; fr. the use of its leaves as a substitute for tea during the American Revolution] : a low deciduous shrub (*Ceanothus americanus*) of the eastern U.S. with dull green leaves and small white flowers borne in large terminal panicles

New Je·ru·sa·lem \-jə-'rü-s(ə-)ləm, -'rüz-(ə-)ləm\ *n* [fr. the phrase "the holy city, *New Jerusalem*" (Rev. 21:2)] **1** : the final abode of souls redeemed by Christ **2** : an ideal earthly community

New Latin *n* : Latin as used since the end of the medieval period esp. in scientific description and classification

New Left *n* : a political movement originating in the U.S. in the 1960s that is composed chiefly of students and various extremist groups and that actively advocates (as by demonstrations) radical changes in prevailing political, social, and educational practices — **new leftist** *n, often cap N&L*

new·ly \'n(y)ü-lē\ *adv* **1** : LATELY, RECENTLY ⟨a ~ married couple⟩ **2** : ANEW, AFRESH

new·ly·wed \-ˌwed\ *n* : one recently married

new·mar·ket \'n(y)ü-ˌmär-kət\ *n* [*Newmarket*, England] : a long close-fitting coat worn in the 19th century

new math *n* : mathematics that is based on set theory esp. as taught in elementary and secondary school — called also *new mathematics*

new moon *n* **1** : the moon's phase when it is in conjunction with the sun so that its dark side is toward the earth; *also* : the thin crescent moon seen shortly after sunset a few days after the actual occurrence of the new moon phase **2** : the first day of the Jewish month

news \'n(y)üz\ *n pl but sing in constr, often attrib* **1** : a report of recent events **2 a** : material reported in a newspaper or news periodical or on a newscast **b** : matter that is newsworthy **3** : NEWSCAST — **news·less** \-ləs\ *adj*

news agency *n* : an organization that supplies news to subscribing newspapers, periodicals, and newscasters

news·agent \'n(y)ü-ˌzā-jənt\ *n, chiefly Brit* : NEWS DEALER

news·boy \'n(y)üz-ˌbȯi\ *n* : a person who delivers or sells newspapers

news·break \-ˌbrāk\ *n* : a newsworthy event

news·cast \-ˌkast\ *n* [*news* + broad*cast*] : a radio or television broadcast of news — **news·cast·er** \-ˌkas-tər\ *n* — **news·cast·ing** \-tiŋ\ *n*

news conference *n* : PRESS CONFERENCE

news dealer *n* : a dealer in newspapers and magazines

news·let·ter \'n(y)üz-ˌlet-ər\ *n* : a printed sheet, pamphlet, or small newspaper containing news or information of interest chiefly to a special group

news·mag·a·zine \'n(y)üz-ˌmag-ə-ˌzēn, -'zēn\ *n* : a usu. weekly magazine devoted chiefly to summarizing and analyzing news

news·man \-mən, -ˌman\ *n* : one who gathers, reports, or comments on the news : REPORTER, CORRESPONDENT

news·mon·ger \-ˌməŋ-gər, -ˌmäŋ-\ *n* : one who is active in gathering and repeating news; *esp* : GOSSIP

¹news·pa·per \-ˌpā-pər\ *n* **1** : a paper that is printed and distributed usu. daily or weekly and that contains news, articles of opinion, features, and advertising **2** : an organization that publishes a newspaper **3** : the paper making up a newspaper

²newspaper *vi* : to do newspaper work

news·pa·per·man \'n(y)üz-ˌpā-pər-ˌman\ *n* : one who owns or is employed by a newspaper; *esp* : one who writes or edits news or prepares advertising copy for a newspaper

new·speak \'n(y)ü-ˌspēk\ *n, often cap* [*Newspeak*, a language "designed to diminish the range of thought," in the novel *Nineteen Eighty-Four* (1949) by George Orwell] : propagandistic language marked by ambiguity and contradictions : DOUBLE-TALK 2

news·print \'n(y)üz-ˌprint\ *n* : cheap machine-finished paper made chiefly from wood pulp and used mostly for newspapers

news·reel \-ˌrēl\ *n* : a short movie dealing with current events

news release *n* : HANDOUT 3

news·room \'n(y)üz-ˌrüm, -ˌrům\ *n* **1** : a room or place where newspapers and periodicals are sold **2** : a reading room having newspapers and periodicals **3** : a place (as an office) where news is prepared for publication or broadcast

news·stand \'n(y)üz-ˌstand\ *n* : a place (as an outdoor stall) where newspapers and periodicals are sold

New Style *adj* : using or according to the Gregorian calendar

news·wom·an \'n(y)üz-ˌwům-ən\ *n* : a female newsman

news·wor·thy \-ˌwər-thē\ *adj* : sufficiently interesting to the general public to warrant reporting (as in a newspaper)

news·writ·ing \-ˌrīt-iŋ\ *n* : JOURNALISM 1a

newsy \'n(y)ü-zē\ *adj* **news·i·er; -est** **1** : containing or filled with news ⟨~ letters⟩ **2** : NEWSWORTHY — **news·i·ness** *n*

newt \'n(y)üt\ *n* [ME, alter. (resulting from incorrect division of *an ewte*) of *ewte* — more at EFT] : any of various small semiaquatic salamanders (as of the genus *Triturus*)

New Testament *n* : the second part of the Christian Bible comprising the canonical Gospels and Epistles and also the book of Acts and book of Revelation — see BIBLE table

new thing *n, often cap N&T* : freely improvised jazz that has no particular tempo and that is often based on no particular tune

New Thought *n* : a mental healing movement embracing small groups devoted to spiritual healing and the creative power of constructive thinking

new·ton \'n(y)üt-ᵊn\ *n* [Sir Isaac *Newton*] : the unit of force in the mks system of physical units that is of such size that under its influence a body whose mass is one kilogram would experience an acceleration of one meter per second per second

New·to·ni·an \n(y)ü-'tō-nē-ən\ *adj* : of, relating to, or following Sir Isaac Newton, his discoveries, or his doctrines ⟨~ dynamics⟩

new town *n* : an urban development comprising a small to medium-sized city with a broad range of housing and planned industrial, commercial, and recreational facilities

new wave *n, often cap N&W* [trans. of F *nouvelle vague*] : a cinematic movement that is characterized by improvisation, abstraction, and subjective symbolism and that often makes use of experimental photographic techniques

New World *n* : the western hemisphere; *esp* : the continental landmass of No. and So. America

New Year *n* **1** : NEW YEAR'S DAY; *also* : New Year's Day and the first days of the year **2** : ROSH HASHANAH

New Year's Day *n* : January 1 observed as a legal holiday in many countries

¹next \'nekst\ *adj* [ME, fr. OE *nīehst*, superl. of *nēah* nigh — more at NIGH] : immediately preceding or following (as in place, rank, or time)

²next *adv* **1** : in the time, place, or order nearest or immediately succeeding ⟨~ we drove home⟩ ⟨the ~ closest school⟩ **2** : on the first occasion to come ⟨when ~ we meet⟩

³next \(')nekst\ *prep* : nearest or adjacent to

next–door *adj* : located or living in the next building, house, apartment, or room ⟨~ neighbors⟩

next door *adv* : in or to the next building, house, apartment, or room ⟨lives *next door*⟩ — **next door to** : next to

next friend *n* : a person admitted to or appointed by a court to act for the benefit of a person (as an infant) lacking full legal capacity to act for himself

next of kin : one or more persons in the nearest degree of relationship to another person

¹next to *prep* : immediately following or adjacent to

²next to *adv* : very nearly : ALMOST ⟨it was *next to* impossible to see in the fog⟩

nex·us \'nek-səs\ *n, pl* **nex·us·es** \-sə-səz\ *or* **nex·us** \-səs, -ˌsüs\ [L, fr. *nexus*, pp. of *nectere* to bind] **1** : CONNECTION, LINK ⟨this traditional ~ between work and income —Elizabeth Wickenden⟩ **2** : a connected group or series

Nez Percé \'nez-'pərs, 'nes-'pe(ə)rs, *F* nā-per-sā\ *n* [F, lit., pierced nose] **1** : a member of an Amerindian people of Idaho, Washington, and Oregon **2** : a language of the Nez Percé people

NF *abbr* **1** national formulary **2** no funds

NFC *abbr* National Football Conference

NFL *abbr* National Football League

Nfld *abbr* Newfoundland

NFS *abbr* not for sale

NG *abbr* **1** national guard **2** no good

N gauge *n* [prob. fr. *n*ine] : a gauge of track in model railroading in which the rails are approximately 9 millimeters apart

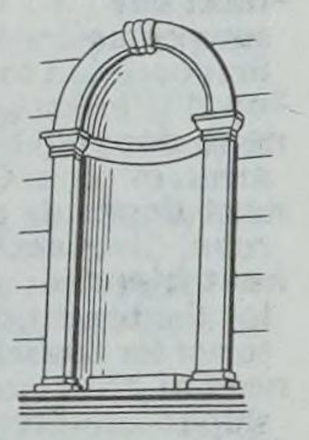
ngwee \en-'gwē\ *n, pl* **ngwee** [native name in Zambia, lit., bright] — see *kwacha* at MONEY table

NH *abbr* **1** never hinged **2** New Hampshire

NHI *abbr* national health insurance

NHL *abbr* National Hockey League

NHP *abbr* nominal horsepower
NHRA *abbr* National Hot Rod Association
Ni *symbol* nickel
ni·a·cin \'nī-ə-sən\ *n* [*nic*otinic *ac*id + *-in*] : NICOTINIC ACID
Ni·ag·a·ra \nī-'ag-(ə-)rə\ *n* [*Niagara* Falls] : an overwhelming flood : TORRENT ⟨a ~ of protests⟩
ni·al·amide \nī-'al-ə-ˌmīd\ *n* [*nic*otinic acid + *amyl* + *amide*] : an antidepressant drug $C_{16}H_{18}N_4O_2$ that is an inhibitor of monoamine oxidase
nib \'nib\ *n* [prob. alter. of *neb*] **1** : BILL, BEAK **2 a** : the sharpened point of a quill pen **b** : PEN POINT; *also* : each of the two divisions of a pen point **3** : a small pointed or projecting part
[1]nib·ble \'nib-əl\ *vb* **nib·bled; nib·bling** \-(ə-)liŋ\ [origin unknown] *vt* **1 a** : to bite gently **b** : to eat or chew in small bits **2** : to take away bit by bit ⟨waves *nibbling* the shore⟩ ~ *vi* **1** : to take gentle, small, or cautious bites **2** : to deal with something cautiously — **nib·bler** \-(ə-)lər\ *n*
[2]nibble *n* **1** : an act of nibbling **2** : a very small quantity (as of food)
Ni·be·lung \'nē-bə-ˌlůŋ\ *n* [G] **1** : a member of a race of dwarfs in Germanic legend **2** : any of the followers of Siegfried **3** : any of the Burgundian kings in the medieval German *Nibelungenlied*
nibs \'nibz\ *n pl but sing in constr* [origin unknown] : an important or self-important person — usu. used in the phrase *his nibs*
nic·co·lite \'nik-ə-ˌlīt\ *n* [NL *niccolum* nickel, prob. fr. Sw *nickel*] : a pale copper-red usu. massive mineral NiAs of metallic luster that is essentially a nickel arsenide
nice \'nīs\ *adj* **nic·er; nic·est** [ME, foolish, wanton, fr. OF, fr. L *nescius* ignorant, fr. *nescire* not to know — more at NESCIENCE] **1** *obs* **a** : WANTON, DISSOLUTE **b** : COY, RETICENT **2 a** : showing fastidious even finicky tastes : PARTICULAR **b** : exacting in requirements or standards : PUNCTILIOUS **3** : possessing, marked by, or demanding great, sometimes excessive, precision and delicacy (as in doing, discriminating, or stating) ⟨the ~ and subtle ramifications of meaning —Samuel Johnson⟩ **4** *obs* : TRIVIAL **5 a** : PLEASING, AGREEABLE ⟨a ~ time⟩ ⟨a ~ person⟩ **b** : well-executed ⟨~ shot⟩ **6** : most inappropriate : BAD ⟨a ~ one to talk⟩ **7 a** : socially acceptable : WELL-BRED **b** : VIRTUOUS, RESPECTABLE — **nice** *adv* — **nice·ly** *adv* — **nice·ness** *n*
syn **1** NICE, DAINTY, FASTIDIOUS, FINICKY, FINICAL, PARTICULAR, FUSSY, SQUEAMISH *shared meaning element* : having or displaying exacting standards
2 see CORRECT
Ni·cene \'nī-ˌsēn, nī-'\ *adj* [ME, fr. LL *nicaenus*, fr. L *Nicaea* Nicaea] **1** : of or relating to Nicaea or the Nicaeans **2** : of or relating to a church council held in Nicaea in A.D. 325 or to the Nicene Creed
Nicene Creed *n* : a Christian creed expanded from a creed issued by the first Nicene Council, beginning "I believe in one God", and used in liturgical worship
nice–nel·ly \'nī-'snel-ē\ *adj, often cap 2d N* [fr. the name *Nelly*] **1** : PRUDISH **2** : marked by euphemism — **nice nelly** *n, often cap 2d N* — **nice–nel·ly·ism** \-ˌiz-əm\ *n, often cap 2d N*
nice·ty \'nī-sət-ē, -stē\ *n, pl* **-ties** [ME *nicete*, fr. MF *niceté* foolishness, fr. *nice*, adj.] **1** : the quality or state of being nice **2** : an elegant, delicate, or civilized feature ⟨enjoy the *niceties* of life⟩ **3** : a fine point or distinction : SUBTLETY ⟨the *niceties* of table manners⟩ **4** : careful attention to details : delicate exactness : PRECISION **5** : delicacy of taste or feeling : FASTIDIOUSNESS
[1]niche \'nich\ *n* [F, fr. MF, fr. *nicher* to nest, fr. (assumed) VL *nidicare*, fr. L *nidus* nest — more at NEST] **1 a** : a recess in a wall esp. for a statue **b** : something that resembles a niche **2 a** : a place, employment, or activity for which a person is best fitted **b** : a habitat supplying the factors necessary for the existence of an organism or species **c** : the ecological role of an organism in a community esp. in regard to food consumption


niche 1a

[2]niche *vt* **niched; nich·ing** : to place in or as if in a niche
[1]nick \'nik\ *n* [ME *nyke*, prob. alter. of *nocke* nock] **1 a** : a small notch or groove **b** : a notch on the belly of a piece of type **2** : a final critical moment ⟨in the ~ of time⟩
[2]nick *vt* **1 a** : to make a nick in : NOTCH, CHIP **b** : to cut into or wound slightly ⟨a bullet ~*ed* his leg⟩ **2** : to jot down : RECORD **3** : to cut short ⟨cold weather, which ~*ed* steel and automobile output —*Time*⟩ **4** : to catch at the right point or time **5** : CHEAT, OVERCHARGE ~ *vi* **1** : to make petty attacks : SNIPE **2** : to complement one another genetically and produce superior offspring
[1]nick·el *also* **nick·le** \'nik-əl\ *n* [prob. fr. Sw *nickel*, fr. G *kupfernickel* niccolite, prob. fr. *kupfer* copper + *nickel* goblin; fr. the deceptive copper color of niccolite] **1** : a silver-white hard malleable ductile metallic element capable of a high polish and resistant to corrosion that is used chiefly in alloys and as a catalyst — see ELEMENT table **2 a** (1) : the U.S. 5-cent piece regularly containing 25 percent nickel and 75 percent copper (2) : the Canadian 5-cent piece **b** : five cents
[2]nick·el *vt* **nick·eled** *or* **nick·elled; nick·el·ing** *or* **nick·el·ling** \'nik-(ə-)liŋ\ : to plate with nickel
nick·el·ic \nik-'el-ik\ *adj* : of, relating to, or containing nickel esp. with a higher valence than two
nick·el·if·er·ous \ˌnik-ə-'lif-(ə-)rəs\ *adj* : containing nickel
nick·el·ode·on \ˌnik-ə-'lōd-ē-ən\ *n* [prob. fr. [1]*nickel* + *-odeon* (as in archaic *melodeon* music hall)] **1** : an early movie theater to which admission usu. cost five cents **2** : JUKEBOX
nick·el·ous \'nik-ə-ləs\ *adj* : of, relating to, or containing nickel esp. when bivalent
nickel silver *n* : a silver-white alloy of copper, zinc, and nickel
nick·er \'nik-ər\ *vi* **nick·ered; nick·er·ing** \-(ə-)riŋ\ [perh. alter. of *neigh*] : NEIGH, WHINNY — **nicker** *n*
nick·nack *var of* KNICKKNACK
[1]nick·name \'nik-ˌnām\ *n* [ME *nekename* additional name, alter. (resulting from incorrect division of *an ekename*) of *ekename*, fr. *eke* + *name*] **1** : a usu. descriptive name given instead of or in addition to the one belonging to an individual **2** : a familiar form of a proper name (as of a person or a city)
[2]nickname *vt* **1** : MISNAME, MISCALL **2** : to give a nickname to — **nick·nam·er** *n*
ni·co·ti·a·na \nik-ˌō-shē-'an-ə, -'än-ə, -'ā-nə\ *n* [NL, fr. *herba nicotiana*, lit., Nicot's herb, fr. Jean *Nicot* †1600 F diplomat and scholar] : any of several tobaccos (as *Nicotiana alata*) grown for their showy flowers
nic·o·tin·amide \ˌnik-ə-'tē-nə-ˌmīd, -'tin-ə-\ *n* [ISV] : a compound $C_6H_6N_2O$ of the vitamin B complex found esp. as a constituent of coenzymes and used similarly to nicotinic acid
nicotinamide–adenine dinucleotide *n* : NAD
nicotinamide–adenine dinucleotide phosphate *n* : NADP
nic·o·tine \'nik-ə-ˌtēn\ *n* [F, fr. NL *nicotiana*] : a poisonous alkaloid $C_{10}H_{14}N_2$ that is the chief active principle of tobacco and is used as an insecticide
nic·o·tin·ic \ˌnik-ə-'tē-nik, -'tin-ik\ *adj* [ISV] : of or relating to nicotine or nicotinic acid
nicotinic acid *n* : an acid $C_6H_5NO_2$ of the vitamin B complex found widely in animals and plants and used esp. against pellagra — called also *niacin*
nic·ti·tate \'nik-tə-ˌtāt\ *vi* **-tat·ed; -tat·ing** [alter. of *nictate* (to wink), fr. L *nictatus*, pp. of *nictare* — more at CONNIVE] : WINK
nictitating membrane *n* : a thin membrane found in many animals at the inner angle or beneath the lower lid of the eye and capable of extending across the eyeball
nid·get \'nij-ət\ *n* [alter. of earlier *nidiot*, alter. (resulting from incorrect division of *an idiot*) of *idiot*] *archaic* : IDIOT, FOOL
ni·dic·o·lous \nī-'dik-ə-ləs\ *adj* [L *nidus* nest + E *-colous*] **1** : reared for a time in a nest **2** : sharing the nest of another kind of animal
ni·di·fi·ca·tion \ˌnid-ə-fə-'kā-shən, ˌnīd-\ *n* [ML *nidification-*, *nidificatio*, fr. L *nidificatus*, pp. of *nidificare* to build a nest, fr. *nidus* nest] : the act, process, or technique of building a nest
ni·dif·u·gous \nī-'dif-yə-gəs\ *adj* [L *nidus* nest + *fugere* to flee — more at FUGITIVE] : leaving the nest soon after hatching
ni·dus \'nīd-əs\ *n, pl* **ni·di** \'nī-ˌdī\ *or* **ni·dus·es** [NL, fr. L] **1** : a nest or breeding place; *esp* : a place or substance in an animal or plant where bacteria or other organisms lodge and multiply **2** : a place where something originates, develops, or is located
niece \'nēs\ *n* [ME *nece*, granddaughter, niece, fr. OF *niece*, fr. LL *neptia*, fr. L *neptis*; akin to L *nepot-*, *nepos* grandson, nephew — more at NEPHEW] **1** : a daughter of one's brother, sister, brother-in-law, or sister-in-law **2** : an illegitimate daughter of an ecclesiastic
[1]ni·el·lo \nē-'el-(ˌ)ō\ *n, pl* **ni·el·li** \-'el-(ˌ)ē\ *or* **niellos** [It, fr. ML *nigellum*, fr. neut. of L *nigellus* blackish, dim. of *niger* black] **1** : any of several enamel-like alloys usu. of sulfur with silver, copper, and lead and a deep black color **2** : the art or process of decorating metal with incised designs filled with niello **3** : a piece of metal or an object decorated with niello
[2]niello *vt* : to inlay or ornament with niello
Nif·lheim \'niv-əl-ˌhām\ *n* [ON *Niflheimr*] : the abode of the dead in Norse mythology
[1]nif·ty \'nif-tē\ *adj* **nif·ti·er; -est** [origin unknown] : very good : very attractive : FINE ⟨~ clothes⟩
[2]nifty *n, pl* **nifties** : something that is nifty; *esp* : a clever or neatly turned phrase or joke
Ni·ger–Con·go \ˌnī-jər-'käŋ-(ˌ)gō\ *n* [*Niger* (river) + *Congo* (river)] : a language family that includes the Mande and Kwa branches and that is spoken by most of the indigenous peoples of west, central, and south Africa
[1]nig·gard \'nig-ərd\ *n* [ME, of Scand origin; akin to ON *hnøggr* niggardly; akin to L *cinis* ashes — more at INCINERATE] : a meanly covetous and stingy person : MISER — **niggard** *adj*
[2]niggard *vi, obs* : to act niggardly ~ *vt, obs* : to treat in a niggardly manner
nig·gard·ly \-lē\ *adj* **1** : grudgingly mean about spending or granting **2** : provided in meanly limited supply ***syn*** see STINGY ***ant*** bountiful — **nig·gard·li·ness** *n* — **niggardly** *adv*
nig·ger \'nig-ər\ *n* [alter. of earlier *neger*, fr. MF *negre*, fr. Sp or Pg *negro*, fr. *negro* black, fr. L *niger*] **1** : NEGRO — usu. taken to be offensive **2** : a member of any dark-skinned race — usu. taken to be offensive
nig·gle \'nig-əl\ *vb* **nig·gled; nig·gling** \-(ə-)liŋ\ [origin unknown] *vi* **1 a** : TRIFLE **b** : to spend too much effort on minor details **2** : to find fault constantly in a petty way : CARP ⟨she haggles, she ~*s*, she wears out our patience —Virginia Woolf⟩ **3** : GNAW ~ *vt* : to give stingily or in tiny portions — **nig·gler** \-(ə-)lər\ *n*
nig·gling \'nig-(ə-)liŋ\ *adj* **1** : PETTY **2 a** : demanding meticulous care **b** : overly elaborate in execution — **niggling** *n* — **nig·gling·ly** \-(ə-)liŋ-lē\ *adv*
[1]nigh \'nī\ *adv* [ME, fr. OE *nēah*; akin to OHG *nāh*, adv., nigh, prep., nigh, after, ON *nā-* nigh] **1** : near in place, time, or relationship — often used with *on*, *onto*, or *unto* **2** : NEARLY, ALMOST
[2]nigh *adj* **1** : CLOSE, NEAR **2** *chiefly dial* : DIRECT, SHORT **3** : being on the left side ⟨the ~ horse⟩
[3]nigh \(ˌ)nī\ *prep* : NEAR
[4]nigh \'nī\ *vt* : to draw or come near to : APPROACH ~ *vi* : to draw near
[1]night \'nīt\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *niht*; akin to OHG *naht* night, L *noct-*, *nox*, Gk *nykt-*, *nyx*] **1** : the time from dusk to dawn when no light of the sun is visible **2 a** : an evening or night taken as an occasion or point of time ⟨the opening ~⟩ **b** : an evening set aside for a particular purpose **3 a** : the quality or state of being dark **b** : a condition or period felt to resemble the darkness of night: as (1) : a period of dreary inactivity or affliction (2) : absence of moral values **c** : the beginning of darkness : NIGHTFALL
[2]night *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or associated with the night ⟨~ air⟩ **2** : intended for use at night ⟨a ~ lamp⟩ **3** : existing, occurring, or functioning at night ⟨~ baseball⟩ ⟨a ~ nurse⟩

night and day *adv* : all the time : CONTINUALLY
night–blind \'nīt-ˌblīnd\ *adj* [back-formation fr. *night blindness*] : afflicted with night blindness
night blindness *n* : reduced visual capacity in faint light (as at night)
night–blooming cereus *n* : any of several night-blooming cacti; *esp* : a slender sprawling or climbing cactus (*Selenicereus grandiflorus*) often cultivated for its large showy fragrant white flowers
night·cap \'nīt-ˌkap\ *n* **1** : a cloth cap worn with nightclothes **2** : a usu. alcoholic drink taken at bedtime **3** : the final race or contest of a day's sports; *esp* : the final game of a baseball doubleheader
night·clothes \-ˌklō(th)z\ *n pl* : garments worn in bed
¹night·club \-ˌkləb\ *n* : a place of entertainment open at night usu. serving food and liquor, having a floor show, and providing music and space for dancing
²nightclub *vi* : to patronize nightclubs — **night·club·ber** *n*
night court *n* : a criminal court in a large city that sits at night (as for the summary disposition of criminal charges and the granting of bail)
night crawler *n* : EARTHWORM; *esp* : a large earthworm found on the soil surface at night
night·dress \'nīt-ˌdres\ *n* **1** : NIGHTGOWN **2** : NIGHTCLOTHES
night editor *n* : an editor in charge of the final makeup of a morning newspaper
night·fall \'nīt-ˌfȯl\ *n* : the close of the day : DUSK
night·glow \-ˌglō\ *n* : airglow seen during the night
night·gown \-ˌgaůn\ *n* **1** *archaic* : DRESSING GOWN **2** : a loose garment worn in bed
night·hawk \-ˌhȯk\ *n* **1 a** : any of several No. American goatsuckers (genus *Chordeiles*) related to the whippoorwill **b** : the European nightjar **2** : a person who habitually stays up or goes about late at night
night heron *n* : any of various widely distributed nocturnal or crepuscular herons (as of the genus *Nycticorax*)
night·ie \'nīt-ē\ *or* **nighty** *n, pl* **night·ies** [*night*gown + *-ie* or *-y*] : a nightgown for a woman or child
night·in·gale \'nīt-ᵊn-ˌgāl, -iŋ-\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *nihtegale*, fr. *niht* + *galan* to sing — more at YELL] : any of several Old World thrushes (genus *Luscinia*) noted for the sweet usu. nocturnal song of the male; *also* : any of various other birds that sing at night
night·jar \'nīt-ˌjär\ *n* [fr. its harsh sound] : a common grayish brown European goatsucker (*Caprimulgus europaeus*); *broadly* : GOATSUCKER
night latch *n* : a door lock having a spring bolt operated from the outside by a key and from the inside by a knob
night letter *n* : a telegram sent at night at a reduced rate per word for delivery the following morning
night·life \'nīt-ˌlīf\ *n* : the activity of pleasure-seekers at night (as in nightclubs)
night–light \-ˌlīt\ *n* : a light kept burning throughout the night
¹night·long \-ˌlȯŋ\ *adj* : lasting the whole night ⟨~ festivities⟩
²night·long \-ˈlȯŋ\ *adv* : through the whole night
¹night·ly \'nīt-lē\ *adj* **1** : of or relating to the night or every night **2** : happening, done, or used by night or every night
²nightly *adv* : every night; *also* : at or by night
night·mare \'nīt-ˌma(ə)r, -ˌme(ə)r\ *n* [¹*night* + ¹*mare*] **1** : an evil spirit formerly thought to oppress people during sleep **2** : a frightening dream accompanied by a sense of oppression or suffocation that usu. awakens the sleeper **3** : an experience, situation, or object having the monstrous character of a nightmare or producing a feeling of anxiety or terror — **nightmare** *adj* — **night·mar·ish** \-ˌma(ə)r-ish, -ˌme(ə)r-\ *adj* — **night·mar·ish·ly** *adv*
night owl *n* : a person who keeps late hours at night : NIGHTHAWK
night rail \-ˌrāl\ *n* [*night* + *rail* (garment)] *archaic* : NIGHTGOWN
night raven *n* : a bird that cries at night
night rider *n* : a member of a secret band who ride masked at night doing acts of violence for the purpose of punishing or terrorizing
nights \'nīts\ *adv* : in the nighttime repeatedly : on any night ⟨works ~⟩
night·shade \'nīt-ˌshād\ *n* **1** : any of a genus (*Solanum* of the family Solanaceae, the nightshade family) which comprises herbs, shrubs, and trees with alternate leaves, cymose flowers, and fruits that are berries and includes some poisonous weeds, various ornamentals, and important crop plants (as the potato and eggplant) **2** : BELLADONNA 1


nightshade 1

night·shirt \-ˌshərt\ *n* : a nightgown resembling a shirt
night·side \-ˌsīd\ *n* : the side of a body (as the earth, the moon, or a planet) not in daylight
night soil *n* : human excrement collected for fertilizing the soil
night·stand \'nīt-ˌstand\ *n* : NIGHT TABLE
night·stick \-ˌstik\ *n* : a policeman's club
night table *n* : a small bedside table or stand
night·tide \'nīt-ˌtīd\ *n* : NIGHTTIME
night·time \-ˌtīm\ *n* : the time from dusk to dawn — **nighttime** *adj*
night·walk·er \-ˌwȯ-kər\ *n* : a person who roves about at night esp. with criminal or immoral intent
ni·gri·tude \'nī-grə-ˌt(y)üd, 'nig-rə-\ *n* [L *nigritudo*, fr. *nigr-*, *niger* black] : intense darkness : BLACKNESS
ni·gro·sine \'nī-grə-ˌsēn\ *also* **ni·gro·sin** \-sən\ *n, often cap* [L *nigr-*, *niger*] : any of several azine dyes closely related to the indulines
ni·hil·ism \'nī-(h)ə-ˌliz-əm, 'nē-\ *n* [G *nihilismus*, fr. L *nihil* nothing — more at NIL] **1 a** : a viewpoint that traditional values and beliefs are unfounded and that existence is senseless and useless **b** : a doctrine that denies any objective ground of truth and esp. of moral truths **2 a** (1) : a doctrine or belief that conditions in the social organization are so bad as to make destruction desirable for its own sake independent of any constructive program or possibility (2) *cap* : the program of a 19th century Russian party advocating revolutionary reform and using terrorism and assassination **b** : TERRORISM — **ni·hil·ist** \-ləst\ *n or adj* — **ni·hil·is·tic** \ˌnī-(h)ə-'lis-tik, ˌnē-\ *adj*
ni·hil·i·ty \nī-'hil-ət-ē, nē-\ *n* : absence of existence : NULLITY
ni·hil ob·stat \ˌnī-ˌhil-'äb-ˌstät, ˌnē-ˌhil-, ˌnik-ˌil-, -ˌstat\ *n* [L, nothing hinders] : authoritative or official approval
-nik \nik\ *n suffix* [Yiddish, fr. Russ & Pol] : one connected with or characterized by being ⟨beat*nik*⟩
Ni·ke \'nī-kē\ *n* [Gk *Nikē*] : the Greek goddess of victory
nil \'nil\ *n* [L, nothing, contr. of *nihil*, fr. OL *nihilum*, fr. *ne-* not + *hilum* trifle — more at NO] : NOTHING, ZERO — **nil** *adj*
nile green *Nile* (river) *n, often cap N* : a variable color averaging a pale yellow green
nill \'nil\ *vb* [ME *nilen*, fr. OE *nyllan*, fr. *ne* not + *wyllan* to wish — more at NO, WILL] *vi, archaic* : to be unwilling ⟨will you ~ you, I will marry you —Shak.⟩ ~ *vt, archaic* : not to will : REFUSE
Ni·lot·ic \nī-'lät-ik\ *adj* [L *Niloticus*, fr. Gk *Neilōtēs*, fr. *Neilos* Nile] : of or relating to the Nile or the peoples of the Nile basin
nil·po·tent \'nil-ˌpōt-ᵊnt\ *adj* [L *nil* nothing + *potent-*, *potens* having power — more at POTENT] : equal to zero when raised to some power ⟨~ matrices⟩
¹nim \'nim\ *vb* **nimmed; nim·ming** [earlier *nim* to take, fr. ME *nimen*, fr. OE *niman*] *vt, archaic* : STEAL, FILCH ~ *vi, archaic* : THIEVE
²nim *n* [prob. fr. ¹*nim*] : any of various games in which counters are laid out in one or more piles and each player in turn draws one or more counters with the object of taking the last counter, forcing the opponent to take it, or taking the most or fewest counters
nim·ble \'nim-bəl\ *adj* **nim·bler** \-b(ə-)lər\; **nim·blest** \-b(ə-)ləst\ [ME *nimel*, fr. OE *numol* holding much, fr. *niman* to take; akin to OHG *neman* to take, L *numerus* number, Gk *nemein* to distribute, manage, *nomos* pasture, *nomos* usage, custom, law] **1** : marked by quick light movement : LIVELY ⟨~ fingers⟩ **2 a** : marked by quick, alert, clever conception, comprehension, or resourcefulness ⟨a ~ mind⟩ **b** : SENSITIVE, RESPONSIVE ⟨a ~ listener⟩ ***syn*** see AGILE — **nim·ble·ness** \-bəl-nəs\ *n* — **nim·bly** \-blē\ *adv*
nim·bo·stra·tus \ˌnim-bō-'strāt-əs, -'strat-\ *n* [NL, fr. L *nimbus* + NL *stratus*] : a low dark gray rainy cloud layer — see CLOUD illustration
nim·bus \'nim-bəs\ *n, pl* **nim·bi** \-ˌbī, -ˌbē\ *or* **nim·bus·es** [L, rainstorm, cloud; akin to Pahlavi *namb* mist] **1 a** : a luminous vapor, cloud, or atmosphere about a god or goddess when on earth **b** : a cloud or atmosphere (as of romance) about a person or thing **2** : an indication (as a circle) of radiant light or glory about the head of a drawn or sculptured divinity, saint, or sovereign **3 a** : the rain cloud that is of uniform grayness and extends over the entire sky **b** : a cloud from which rain is falling


nimbus 2

nim·bused \-bəst\ *adj* : furnished with or surrounded by a nimbus
ni·mi·ety \nim-'ī-ət-ē\ *n, pl* **-eties** [LL *nimietas*, fr. L *nimius* too much, adj., fr. *nimis*, adv.] : EXCESS, REDUNDANCY
nim·i·ny–pim·i·ny \ˌnim-ə-nē-'pim-ə-nē\ *adj* [prob. alter. of *namby-pamby*] : affectedly refined : FINICKY
Nim·rod \'nim-ˌräd\ *n* [Heb *Nimrōdh*] **1** : a descendant of Ham represented in Genesis as a mighty hunter and a king of Shinar **2** *not cap* : HUNTER
nin·com·poop \'nin-kəm-ˌpüp, 'niŋ-\ *n* [origin unknown] : FOOL, SIMPLETON — **nin·com·poop·ery** \-ə-rē\ *n*
nine \'nīn\ *n* [ME, fr. *nyne*, adj., fr. OE *nigon*; akin to OHG *niun* nine, L *novem*, Gk *ennea*] **1** — see NUMBER table **2** : the ninth in a set or series ⟨wears a ~⟩ **3** : something having nine units or members: as **a** *cap* : the nine Muses **b** : a baseball team **c** : the first or last nine holes of an 18-hole golf course — **nine** *adj or pron* — **to the nines** : to the highest degree
nine days' wonder *n* : something that creates a short-lived sensation
nine·fold \'nīn-ˌfōld, -'fōld\ *adj* **1** : having nine units or members **2** : being nine times as great or as many — **nine·fold** \-'fōld\ *adv*
nine·pin \-ˌpin\ *n* **1** : a pin used in ninepins **2** *pl but sing in constr* : a bowling game resembling tenpins played without the headpin
nine·teen \(')nīn(t)-'tēn\ *n* [ME *nynetene*, adj., fr. OE *nigontēne*; akin to OE *tīen* ten] — see NUMBER table — **nineteen** *adj or pron* — **nine·teenth** \-'tēn(t)th\ *adj or n*
nine·ty \'nīnt-ē\ *n, pl* **nineties** [ME *ninety*, adj., fr. OE *nigontig*, short for *hundnigontig*, fr. *hundnigontig*, n., group of 90, fr. *hund* hundred + *nigon* nine + *-tig* group of 10 — more at HUNDRED, EIGHTY] **1** — see NUMBER table **2** *pl* : the numbers 90 to 99; *specif* : the years 90 to 99 in a lifetime or century — **nine·ti·eth** \-ē-əth\ *adj or n* — **ninety** *adj or pron*
nin·hy·drin \nin-'hī-drən\ *n* [fr. *Ninhydrin*, a trademark] : a poisonous crystalline oxidizing agent $C_9H_6O_4$ used esp. as an analytical reagent
ninhydrin reaction *n* : a reaction of ninhydrin with amino acids or related amino compounds that is used esp. for the colorimetric determination of amino acids, peptides, or proteins

nin·ny \'nin-ē\ *n, pl* **ninnies** [perh. by shortening and alter. fr. *an innocent*] : FOOL, SIMPLETON
nin·ny·ham·mer \'nin-ē-ˌham-ər\ *n* : NINNY
ni·non \'nē-ˌnän\ *n* [prob. fr. F *Ninon*, nickname for *Anne*] : a smooth sheer fabric
ninth \'nīn(t)th\ *n* **1** — see NUMBER table **2 a** : a musical interval embracing an octave and a second **b** : the tone at this interval **c** : a chord containing a ninth — **ninth** *adj or adv*
ninth cranial nerve *n* : GLOSSOPHARYNGEAL NERVE
Ni·o·be \'nī-ə-bē\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *Niobē*] : a daughter of Tantalus and the wife of Amphion who after losing her children was turned to stone and became a mountain whose streams are her tears
ni·o·bi·um \nī-'ō-bē-əm\ *n* [NL, fr. L *Niobe;* fr. its occurrence in tantalite] : a lustrous platinum-gray ductile metallic element that resembles tantalum chemically and is used in alloys — see ELEMENT table
[1]nip \'nip\ *vb* **nipped; nip·ping** [ME *nippen;* akin to ON *hnippa* to prod, Gk *konis* ashes — more at INCINERATE] *vt* **1** : to catch hold of and squeeze tightly between two surfaces, edges, or points : PINCH ⟨the dog *nipped* his ankle⟩ **2 a** : to sever by or as if by pinching sharply **b** : to destroy the growth, progress, maturing, or fulfillment of ⟨*nipped* in the bud⟩ **3** : to injure or make numb with cold : CHILL **4** : SNATCH, STEAL ~ *vi, chiefly Brit* : to move briskly, nimbly, or quickly
[2]nip *n* **1** : something that nips: as **a** : a sharp biting comment **b** : a sharp stinging cold ⟨the ~ of the winter air⟩ **c** : a biting or pungent flavor : TANG ⟨cheese with a ~⟩ **2** : the act of nipping : PINCH, BITE **3** : the region of a squeezing or crushing device (as a calender) where the rolls or jaws are closest together **4** : a small portion : BIT
[3]nip *n* [prob. fr. *nipperkin* (a liquor container)] : a small quantity of liquor : SIP
[4]nip *vi* **nipped; nip·ping** : to take liquor in nips : TIPPLE
ni·pa \'nē-pə\ *n* [prob. fr. It, fr. Malay *nipah* nipa palm] **1** : an alcoholic drink made from the juice of an Australasian creeping palm (*Nipa fruticans*); *also* : this palm **2** : thatch made of nipa leaves
nip and tuck \ˌnip-ən-'tək\ *adj or adv* : being so close that the lead or advantage shifts rapidly from one contestant to another
nip·per \'nip-ər\ *n* **1** : any of various devices (as pincers) for nipping — usu. used in pl. **2** *chiefly Brit* **a** : a boy employed as a helper (as of a carter or hawker) **b** : CHILD; *esp* : a small boy
nip·ping \'nip-iŋ\ *adj* : SHARP, CHILLING — **nip·ping·ly** \-iŋ-lē\ *adv*
nip·ple \'nip-əl\ *n* [earlier *neble, nible,* prob. dim. of *neb, nib*] **1** : the protuberance of a mammary gland upon which the ducts open and from which milk is drawn **2 a** : an artificial teat through which a bottle-fed infant nurses **b** : a device with an orifice through which the discharge of a liquid can be regulated **3 a** : a protuberance resembling or suggesting the nipple of a breast **b** : a small projection through which oil or grease is injected into machinery **4** : a pipe coupling consisting of a short piece of threaded tubing
Nip·pon·ese \ˌnip-ə-'nēz, -'nēs\ *adj* [*Nippon* (Japan)] : JAPANESE — **Nipponese** *n*
nip·py \'nip-ē\ *adj* **nip·pi·er; -est** **1** : marked by a tendency to nip ⟨a ~ dog⟩ **2** : brisk, quick, or nimble in movement : SNAPPY **3** : PUNGENT, SHARP **4** : CHILLY, CHILLING ⟨a ~ day⟩ — **nip·pi·ly** \'nip-ə-lē\ *adv* — **nip·pi·ness** \'nip-ē-nəs\ *n*
nip–up \'nip-ˌəp\ *n* : a spring from a supine position
nir·va·na \ni(ə)r-'vän-ə, (ˌ)nər-\ *n, often cap* [Skt *nirvāṇa,* lit., act of extinguishing, fr. *nis-* out + *vāti* it blows — more at WIND] **1** : the final beatitude that transcends suffering, karma, and samsara and is sought esp. in Buddhism through the extinction of desire and individual consciousness **2 a** : a place or state of oblivion to care, pain, or external reality **b** : a goal hoped for but apparently unattainable : DREAM
Ni·san \'nis-ᵊn, nē-'sän\ *n* [Heb *Nīsān*] : the 7th month of the civil year or the 1st month of the ecclesiastical year in the Jewish calendar — see MONTH table
ni·sei \(')nē-'sā, 'nē-ˌ\ *n, pl* **nisei** *also* **niseis** [Jap, lit., second generation, fr. *ni* second + *sei* generation] : a son or daughter of immigrant Japanese parents who is born and educated in America and esp. in the U.S.
ni·si \'nī-ˌsī\ *adj* [L, unless, fr. *ne-* not + *si* if] : taking effect at a specified time unless previously modified or avoided by cause shown, further proceedings, or a condition fulfilled ⟨decree ~⟩
Nis·roch \'nis-ˌräk, -ˌrōk\ *n* [Heb *Nisrōkh*] : an Assyrian deity honored with a temple at Nineveh
Nis·sen hut \ˌnis-ᵊn-\ *n* [Peter N. *Nissen* †1930 Brit. mining engineer] : a prefabricated shelter built of a semicircular arching roof of corrugated iron with a cement floor
ni·sus \'nī-səs\ *n, pl* **ni·sus** \-səs, -ˌsüs\ [L, fr. *nisus,* pp. of *niti* to bear down, strive; akin to L con*nivēre* to close the eyes — more at CONNIVE] : a mental or physical effort to attain an end : a perfective urge or endeavor
[1]nit \'nit\ *n* [ME *nite,* fr. OE *hnitu;* akin to OHG *hniz* nit, Gk *konid-, konis*] : the egg of a louse or other parasitic insect; *also* : the insect itself when young
[2]nit *n, chiefly Brit* : NITWIT
NIT *abbr* **1** National Intelligence Test **2** National Invitational Tournament
ni·ter *also* **ni·tre** \'nīt-ər\ *n* [ME *nitre* natron, fr. MF, fr. L *nitrum,* fr. Gk *nitron,* fr. Egypt *ntry*] **1** : POTASSIUM NITRATE **2** : SODIUM NITRATE; *esp* : CHILE SALTPETER
nit·id \'nit-əd\ *adj* [L *nitidus* — more at NEAT] : BRIGHT, LUSTROUS
nit·pick \'nit-ˌpik\ *vi* [back-formation fr. *nitpicking*] : to engage in nit-picking — **nit·pick·er** *n*
nit–pick·ing \'nit-ˌpik-iŋ\ *n* [[1]*nit*] : minute and usu. unjustified criticism
nitr- *or* **nitro-** *comb form* [*niter*] **1** : niter : nitrate ⟨*nitro*bacteria⟩ **2 a** : nitrogen ⟨*nitr*ide⟩ ⟨*nitro*meter⟩ **b** *usu nitro-* : containing the univalent group NO_2 composed of one nitrogen and two oxygen atoms ⟨*nitro*benzene⟩
[1]ni·trate \'nī-ˌtrāt, -trət\ *n* [F, fr. *nitrique*] **1** : a salt or ester of nitric acid **2** : sodium nitrate or potassium nitrate used as a fertilizer
[2]ni·trate \-ˌtrāt\ *vt* **ni·trat·ed; ni·trat·ing** : to treat or combine with nitric acid or a nitrate; *esp* : to convert (an organic compound) into a nitro compound or a nitrate — **ni·tra·tion** \nī-'trā-shən\ *n* — **ni·tra·tor** \'nī-ˌtrāt-ər\ *n*
nitrate bacterium *n* : a bacterium that converts nitrites to nitrates in the nitrogen cycle
ni·tric \'nī-trik\ *adj* [F *nitrique,* fr. *nitr-*] : of, relating to, or containing nitrogen esp. with a higher valence than in corresponding nitrous compounds
nitric acid *n* : a corrosive liquid inorganic acid HNO_3 used esp. as an oxidizing agent, in nitrations, and in making organic compounds (as fertilizers, explosives, and dyes)
nitric oxide *n* : a colorless poisonous gas NO obtained by oxidation of nitrogen or ammonia
ni·tride \'nī-ˌtrīd\ *n* [ISV] : a binary compound of nitrogen with a more electropositive element
ni·tri·fi·ca·tion \ˌnī-trə-fə-'kā-shən\ *n* : the process of nitrifying; *specif* : the oxidation (as by bacteria) of ammonium salts to nitrites and the further oxidation of nitrites to nitrates
ni·tri·fy \'nī-trə-ˌfī\ *vt* **-fied; -fy·ing** [F *nitrifier,* fr. *nitr-*] **1** : to combine or impregnate with nitrogen or a nitrogen compound **2** : to subject to or produce by nitrification
ni·trile \'nī-trəl, -ˌtrēl\ *n* [ISV *nitr-* + *-il, -ile* (fr. L *-ilis* [1]-ile)] : an organic cyanide containing the group CN which on hydrolysis yields an acid with elimination of ammonia
ni·trite \'nī-ˌtrīt\ *n* : a salt or ester of nitrous acid
nitrite bacterium *n* : a bacterium that oxidizes ammonium to nitrites — called also *nitrosobacterium, nitrous bacterium*
[1]ni·tro \'nī-(ˌ)trō\ *adj* [*nitr-*] : containing or being the univalent group NO_2 united through nitrogen
[2]nitro *n, pl* **nitros** : any of various nitrated products; *esp* : NITROGLYCERIN
ni·tro·ben·zene \ˌnī-trō-'ben-ˌzēn, -ben-'\ *n* [ISV] : a poisonous yellow insoluble oil $C_6H_5NO_2$ with an almond odor that is used esp. as a solvent, mild oxidizing agent, and in making aniline
ni·tro·cel·lu·lose \-'sel-yə-ˌlōs, -ˌlōz\ *n* [ISV] : CELLULOSE NITRATE — **ni·tro·cel·lu·los·ic** \-ˌsel-yə-'lō-sik, -zik\ *adj*
ni·tro·fu·ran \ˌnī-trō-'fyu̇(ə)r-ˌan, -fyu̇-'ran\ *n* : any of several derivatives of furan that contain a nitro group and are used as bacteria-inhibiting agents
ni·tro·gen \'nī-trə-jən\ *n, often attrib* [F *nitrogène,* fr. *nitr-* + *-gène* -gen] : a colorless tasteless odorless gaseous element that constitutes 78 percent of the atmosphere by volume and occurs as a constituent of all living tissues in combined form — see ELEMENT table — **ni·trog·e·nous** \nī-'träj-ə-nəs\ *adj*
nitrogen balance *n* : the difference between nitrogen intake and nitrogen loss in the body or the soil
nitrogen cycle *n* : a continuous series of natural processes by which nitrogen passes through successive stations in air, soil, and organisms involving principally nitrogen fixation, nitrification, decay, and denitrification
nitrogen fixation *n* **1** : the industrial conversion of free nitrogen into combined forms useful esp. as starting materials for fertilizers or explosives **2** : the metabolic assimilation of atmospheric nitrogen by soil microorganisms and esp. rhizobia and its release for plant use by nitrification in the soil on the death of the microorganisms
nitrogen–fixer *n* : any of various soil organisms that are involved in nitrogen fixation
nitrogen–fixing *adj* : capable of nitrogen fixation ⟨~ bacteria⟩
nitrogen mustard *n* : any of various toxic blistering compounds analogous to mustard gas but containing nitrogen instead of sulfur
nitrogen narcosis *n* : a state of euphoria and exhilaration that occurs when nitrogen in normal air enters the bloodstream at approximately seven times atmospheric pressure (as in deep-water diving) — called also *rapture of the deep*
nitrogen trichloride *n* : a volatile explosive yellow oil NCl_3 formerly used in bleaching and aging flour
ni·tro·glyc·er·in *or* **ni·tro·glyc·er·ine** \ˌnī-trə-'glis-(ə-)rən\ *n* [ISV] : a heavy oily explosive poisonous liquid $C_3H_5(NO_3)_3$ used chiefly in making dynamites and in medicine as a vasodilator
ni·tro·par·af·fin \ˌnī-trō-'par-ə-fən\ *n* [ISV] : a nitro derivative of any member of the methane series
nitros- *or* **nitroso-** *comb form* [NL *nitrosus* nitrous] : containing the group NO composed of one nitrogen and one oxygen atom ⟨*nitroso*benzene C_6H_5NO⟩ ⟨*nitros*amines⟩
ni·tro·sa·mine \nī-'trō-sə-ˌmēn\ *also* **ni·tro·so·amine** \-sō-ə-ˌmēn\ *n* : any of various neutral compounds which are characterized by the grouping NNO and some of which are powerful carcinogens
ni·tro·so·bac·te·ri·um \nī-ˌtrō-sō-bak-'tir-ē-əm\ *n* [NL, fr. *nitrosus* + *-o-* + *bacterium*] : NITRITE BACTERIUM
ni·trous \'nī-trəs\ *adj* [NL *nitrosus,* fr. L, full of natron, fr. *nitrum* natron — more at NITER] **1** : of, relating to, or containing niter **2** : of, relating to, or containing nitrogen esp. with a lower valence than in corresponding nitric compounds
nitrous acid *n* : an unstable acid HNO_2 known only in solution or in the form of its salts
nitrous bacterium *n* : NITRITE BACTERIUM
nitrous oxide *n* : a colorless gas N_2O that when inhaled produces loss of sensibility to pain preceded by exhilaration and sometimes laughter and is used esp. as an anesthetic in dentistry — called also *laughing gas*
nit·ty–grit·ty \'nit-ē-ˌgrit-ē, ˌnit-ē-'\ *n* [origin unknown] : the actual state of things : what is ultimately essential and true ⟨immersed himself in getting to the ~ of the problems —Ronald Martinetti⟩ — **nitty–gritty** *adj*
nit·wit \'nit-ˌwit\ *n* [prob. fr. G dial. *nit* not + E *wit*] : a scatterbrained or stupid person
[1]nix \'niks\ *n* [G, fr. OHG *nihhus;* akin to OE *nicor* water monster, Gk *nizein* to wash] : a water sprite of Germanic folklore
[2]nix *n* [G *nichts* nothing] : NOTHING : no one

[3]nix *adv* : NO — used to express disagreement or the withholding of permission; often used with *on* ⟨father said ~ on our plan⟩
[4]nix *vt* : VETO, FORBID ⟨the court ~*ed* the merger⟩
[1]nix·ie \'nik-sē\ *n* [G *nixe* female nix, fr. OHG *nichessa*, fem. of *nihhus* nix] : [1]NIX
[2]nix·ie *also* **nixy** \'nik-sē\ *n, pl* **nix·ies** [[2]*nix* + *-ie* or *-y*] : a piece of mail that is undeliverable because illegibly or incorrectly addressed
ni·zam \ni-'zäm, 'nī-ˌzam, nī-'\ *n* [Hindi *nizām* order, governor, fr. Ar *niẓām*] : one of a line of sovereigns of Hyderabad, India, reigning from 1713 to 1950 — **ni·zam·ate** \ni-'zäm-ˌāt, nī-'zam-\ *n*
NJ *abbr* New Jersey
NL *abbr* **1** National League **2** new line **3** night letter **4** [L *non licet*] it is not permitted **5** north latitude
NLAA *abbr* National Legal Aid Association
NLF *abbr* National Liberation Front
NLRB *abbr* National Labor Relations Board
NLT *abbr* night letter
nm *abbr* nanometer
NM *abbr* **1** nautical mile **2** New Mexico **3** night message **4** no mark; not marked
N Mex *abbr* New Mexico
NMR *abbr* nuclear magnetic resonance
NNE *abbr* north-northeast
NNW *abbr* north-northwest
[1]no \(')nō\ *adv* [ME, fr. OE *nā*, fr. *ne* not + *ā* always; akin to ON & OHG *ne* not, L *ne-*, Gk *nē-* — more at AYE] **1 a** *chiefly Scot* : NOT **b** — used as a function word to express the negative of an alternative choice or possibility **2** : in no respect or degree — used in comparisons **3** : not so — used to express negation, dissent, denial, or refusal ⟨~, I'm not going⟩ **4** — used with a following adjective to imply a meaning expressed by the opposite positive statement ⟨~ uncertain terms⟩ **5** — used as a function word to emphasize a following negative or to introduce a more emphatic, explicit, or comprehensive statement **6** — used as an interjection to express surprise, doubt, or incredulity
[2]no *adj* **1 a** : not any ⟨~ parking⟩ **b** : hardly any : very little ⟨finished in ~ time⟩ **2** : not a : quite other than a ⟨he's ~ expert⟩
[3]no \'nō\ *n, pl* **noes** *or* **nos** \'nōz\ **1** : an act or instance of refusing or denying by the use of the word *no* : DENIAL **2 a** : a negative vote or decision **b** *pl* : persons voting in the negative
[4]no *abbr* **1** north **2** [L *numero*, abl. of *numerus*] number
[1]No *or* **Noh** \'nō\ *n, pl* **No** *or* **Noh** [Jap *nō*, lit., talent] : classic Japanese dance-drama having a heroic theme, a chorus, and highly stylized action, costuming, and scenery
[2]No *symbol* nobelium
no–account *adj* : of no account : TRIFLING ⟨his ~ relatives⟩
No·a·chi·an \nō-'ā-kē-ən\ *adj* [Heb *Nōaḥ* Noah] **1** : of or relating to the patriarch Noah or his time **2** : ANCIENT, ANTIQUATED
No·ah \'nō-ə\ *n* [Heb *Nōaḥ*] : the builder of the Ark by means of which he and his family escaped the Flood
[1]nob \'näb\ *n* [prob. alter. of *knob*] **1** : HEAD 1 **2** : a jack of the same suit as the starter in cribbage that scores one point for the holder — usu. used in the phrases *his nob* or *his nobs*
[2]nob *n* [perh. fr. [1]*nob*] *chiefly Brit* : one in a superior position in life
nob·ble \'näb-əl\ *vt* **nob·bled; nob·bling** \-(ə-)liŋ\ [perh. irreg. freq. of *nab*] **1** *Brit* : to incapacitate (a racehorse) esp. by drugging **2** *slang Brit* **a** : to win over to one's side **b** : STEAL **c** : SWINDLE, CHEAT — **nob·bler** \-(ə-)lər\ *n*
nob·by \'näb-ē\ *adj* **nob·bi·er; -est** : CHIC, SMART ⟨the ~ nightclub atop a skyscraper —*Holiday*⟩
No·bel·ist \nō-'bel-əst\ *n* : a winner of a Nobel prize
no·bel·i·um \nō-'bel-ē-əm\ *n* [NL, fr. Alfred B. *Nobel*] : a radioactive element produced artificially — see ELEMENT table
No·bel prize \(ˌ)nō-ˌbel-\ *n* : any of various annual prizes (as in peace, literature, medicine) established by the will of Alfred Nobel for the encouragement of persons who work for the interests of humanity
no·bil·i·ty \nō-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* [ME *nobilite*, fr. MF *nobilité*, fr. L *nobilitat-*, *nobilitas*, fr. *nobilis*] **1** : the quality or state of being noble in character, quality, or rank **2** : the body of persons forming the noble class in a country or state : ARISTOCRACY
[1]no·ble \'nō-bəl\ *adj* **no·bler** \-b(ə-)lər\; **no·blest** \-b(ə-)ləst\ [ME, fr. OF, fr. L *nobilis* knowable, well known, noble, fr. *noscere* to come to know — more at KNOW] **1 a** : possessing outstanding qualities : ILLUSTRIOUS **b** : FAMOUS, NOTABLE ⟨~ deed⟩ **2** : of high birth or exalted rank : ARISTOCRATIC **3 a** : possessing very high or excellent qualities or properties ⟨~ hawk⟩ **b** : very good or excellent **4** : grand or impressive esp. in appearance ⟨~ edifice⟩ **5** : possessing, characterized by, or arising from superiority of mind or character or of ideals or morals : LOFTY ⟨a ~ aim, faithfully kept, is as a ~ deed —William Wordsworth⟩ **6** : chemically inert or inactive esp. toward oxygen ⟨~ metal⟩ ***syn*** see MORAL ***ant*** base (*of actions*), atrocious (*of deeds*) — **no·ble·ness** \-bəl-nəs\ *n* — **no·bly** \-blē *also* -bə-lē\ *adv*
[2]no·ble *n* **1** : a person of noble rank or birth **2** : an old English gold coin equivalent to 6*s* 8*d*
noble gas *n* : any of a group of rare gases that include helium, neon, argon, krypton, xenon, and sometimes radon and exhibit great stability and extremely low reaction rates — called also *inert gas*
no·ble·man \'nō-bəl-mən\ *n* : a man of noble rank : PEER
no·blesse \nō-'bles\ *n* [ME, fr. OF *noblesce*, fr. *noble*] **1** : noble birth or condition : NOBILITY **2** : the members esp. of the French nobility
no·blesse oblige \nō-ˌbles-ə-'blēzh\ *n* [F, lit., nobility obligates] : the obligation of honorable, generous, and responsible behavior associated with high rank or birth
no·ble·wom·an \'nō-bəl-ˌwům-ən\ *n* : a woman of noble rank : PEERESS
[1]no·body \'nō-ˌbäd-ē, -bəd-ē\ *pron* : no person : not anybody
[2]nobody *n, pl* **no·bod·ies** : a person of no influence or consequence
no·cent \'nōs-ᵊnt\ *adj* [ME, fr. L *nocent-*, *nocens*, fr. prp. of *nocēre* to harm, hurt — more at NOXIOUS] : HARMFUL ⟨a ~ dose⟩
no·ci·cep·tive \ˌnō-si-'sep-tiv\ *adj* [L *nocēre* + E *-i-* + *receptive*] **1** *of a stimulus* : PAINFUL, INJURIOUS **2** : of, induced by, or responding to a nociceptive stimulus — used esp. of receptors or protective reflexes
[1]nock \'näk\ *n* [ME *nocke* notched tip on the end of a bow; akin to MD *nocke* summit, tip, L *nux* nut — more at NUT] **1** : one of the notches cut in either of two tips of horn fastened on the ends of a bow or in the bow itself for holding the string **2 a** : the part of an arrow having a notch for the bowstring **b** : the notch itself
[2]nock *vt* : to make a notch in or fit into or by means of a notch
noct- *or* **nocti-** *or* **nocto-** *comb form* [L *noct-*, *nocti-*, fr. *noct-*, *nox* — more at NIGHT] : night ⟨*noct*ambulation⟩
noct·am·bu·la·tion \(ˌ)näk-ˌtam-byə-'lā-shən\ *n* [*noct-* + *-ambulation* (as in *somnambulation*)] : SOMNAMBULISM
noct·am·bu·lism \näk-'tam-byə-ˌliz-əm\ *n* : NOCTAMBULATION — **noct·am·bu·list** \-ləst\ *n*
noc·ti·lu·ca \ˌnäk-tə-'lü-kə\ *n* [NL, genus name, fr. L, something that shines by night, fr. *noct-* + *lucēre* to shine — more at LIGHT] : any of a genus (*Noctiluca*) of marine bioluminescent flagellates (order Dinoflagellata) that often cause phosphorescence of the sea
noc·ti·lu·cent cloud \-ˌlüs-ᵊnt-\ *n* [*noctilucent* deriv. of L *noct-* & *lucent-*, *lucens* lucent] : a luminous thin usu. colored cloud seen at night at a height of about 50 miles
noc·tu·id \'näk-chə-wəd, 'näk-tə-\ *n* [NL *Noctuidae*, group name, fr. *Noctua*, genus of moths, fr. L, night owl; akin to L *nox* night] : any of a large family (Noctuidae) of medium-sized often dull-colored moths with larvae (as cutworms and armyworms) that are often destructive agricultural pests — **noctuid** *adj*
noc·turn \'näk-ˌtərn\ *n* [ME *nocturne*, fr. MF, fr. ML *nocturna*, fr. L, fem. of *nocturnus*] : a principal division of the office of matins
noc·tur·nal \näk-'tərn-ᵊl\ *adj* [MF or LL; MF fr. LL *nocturnalis*, fr. L *nocturnus* of night, nocturnal, fr. *noct-*, *nox* night] **1** : of, relating to, or occurring in the night ⟨a ~ journey⟩ **2** : active at night ⟨a ~ predator⟩ — **noc·tur·nal·ly** \-ᵊl-ē\ *adv*
noc·turne \'näk-ˌtərn\ *n* [F, adj., nocturnal, fr. L *nocturnus*] : a work of art dealing with evening or night; *esp* : a dreamy pensive composition for the piano — compare AUBADE 3
noc·u·ous \'näk-yə-wəs\ *adj* [L *nocuus*, fr. *nocēre* to harm — more at NOXIOUS] : HARMFUL — **noc·u·ous·ly** *adv*
[1]nod \'näd\ *vb* **nod·ded; nod·ding** [ME *nodden*; akin to OHG *hnotōn* to shake, L *cinis* ashes — more at INCINERATE] *vi* **1** : to make a quick downward motion of the head whether deliberately (as in expressing assent, salutation, or command) or involuntarily (as from drowsiness) **2** : to incline or sway from the vertical as though ready to fall **3** : to bend or sway the upper part gently downward or forward : bob gently **4** : to make a slip or error in a moment of abstraction ⟨there are lapses; even Homer ~*s* —Emerson Tuttle⟩ ~ *vt* **1** : to incline (as the head) downward or forward **2** : to bring, invite, or send by a nod ⟨*nodded* them into the room⟩ **3** : to signify by a nod ⟨*nodded* their approval⟩ — **nod·der** *n*
[2]nod *n* **1** : the act or an instance of nodding ⟨gave a ~ of greeting⟩ **2** : an indication of something (as agreement or approval) ⟨received the party's ~ as candidate for governor⟩
nod·al \'nōd-ᵊl\ *adj* : being, relating to, or located at or near a node — **no·dal·i·ty** \nō-'dal-ət-ē\ *n* — **nod·al·ly** \'nōd-ᵊl-ē\ *adv*
nod·ding *adj* : bending downward or forward : PENDULOUS, DROOPING ⟨a plant with ~ flowers⟩
nod·dle \'näd-ᵊl\ *n* [ME *nodle* back of the head or neck] : HEAD, PATE
nod·dy \'näd-ē\ *n, pl* **noddies** [prob. short for obs. *noddypoll*, alter. of *hoddypoll* (fumbling inept person)] **1** : a stupid person **2** : any of several stout-bodied terns (genera *Anous* and *Micranous*) of warm seas
node \'nōd\ *n* [L *nodus* knot, node — more at NET] **1** : an entangling complication (as in a drama) : PREDICAMENT **2 a** : a thickened or swollen enlargement (as of a rheumatic joint) **b** : a discrete mass of one kind of tissue enclosed in tissue of a different kind **3** : either of the two points where the orbit of a planet or comet intersects the ecliptic; *also* : either of the points at which the orbit of an earth satellite crosses the plane of the equator **4 a** : a point at which subsidiary parts originate or center **b** : a point on a stem at which a leaf or leaves are inserted **c** : a point at which a curve intersects itself in such a manner that the branches have different tangents **d** : VERTEX 1a(2) **5** : a point, line, or surface of a vibrating body that is free or relatively free from vibratory motion
node of Ran·vier \-'rän-vē-ˌā\ [Louis A. *Ranvier* †1922 F histologist] : a constriction in the medullary sheath of a medullated nerve fiber
no·di·cal \'nōd-i-kəl, 'näd-\ *adj* : of or relating to astronomical nodes
no·dose \'nō-ˌdōs\ *adj* [L *nodosus*, fr. *nodus*] : having numerous or conspicuous protuberances ⟨~ antennae⟩ — **no·dos·i·ty** \nō-'däs-ət-ē\ *n*
nod·u·lar \'näj-ə-lər\ *adj* : of, relating to, characterized by, or occurring in the form of nodules ⟨~ lesions⟩
nod·u·la·tion \ˌnäj-ə-'lā-shən\ *n* **1** : the process of forming nodules and esp. root nodules containing symbiotic bacteria **2** : NODULE
nod·ule \'näj-(ˌ)ü(ə)l\ *n* [L *nodulus*, dim. of *nodus*] : a small mass of rounded or irregular shape: as **a** : a small rounded lump of a mineral or mineral aggregate **b** : a swelling on a leguminous root that contains symbiotic bacteria
no·dus \'nōd-əs\ *n, pl* **no·di** \'nō-ˌdī, -ˌdē\ [L, knot, node] : COMPLICATION, DIFFICULTY

no-el \nō-'el\ *n* [F *noël* Christmas, carol, fr. L *natalis* birthday, fr. *natalis* natal] **1** : a Christmas carol **2** *cap* : the Christmas season
noes *pl of* NO
no-et-ic \nō-'et-ik\ *adj* [Gk *noētikos* intellectual, fr. *noein* to think, fr. *nous* mind] : of, relating to, or based on the intellect
no-fault *adj* : of, relating to, or being a motor vehicle insurance plan under which an accident victim is compensated usu. up to a stipulated limit for actual losses (as medical bills and lost wages) but not for nuisance claims (as of pain and suffering) by his own insurance company regardless of who is responsible for the accident
¹nog \'näg\ *n* [origin unknown] : a wooden peg, pin, or block of the size of a brick; *esp* : one built into a wall as a hold for nails
²nog *n* [origin unknown] **1** : a strong ale formerly brewed in Norfolk, England **2** [by shortening] : EGGNOG **3** : an often alcoholic drink containing beaten egg, milk, or both
nog-gin \'näg-ən\ *n* [origin unknown] **1** : a small mug or cup **2** : a small quantity (as a gill) of drink **3** : a person's head
nog-ging \'näg-ən, -iŋ\ *n* [¹*nog*] : rough brick masonry used to fill in the open spaces of a wooden frame
¹no-good \ˌnō-ˌgůd\ *adj* : having no worth, use, or chance of success
²no-good \'nō-ˌgůd\ *n* : a no-good person or thing
Noh *var of* NO
no-hit *adj* : of, relating to, or being a baseball game or a part of a game in which a pitcher allows the opposition no base hits
no-hit-ter \(')nō-'hit-ər\ *n* : a no-hit game in baseball
no-how \'nō-ˌhaů\ *adv* **1** : in no manner or way : not at all ⟨was ~ equal to the task⟩ **2** *dial* : ANYHOW
noil \'nȯi(ə)l\ *n* [origin unknown] : short fiber removed during the combing of a textile fiber and often separately spun into yarn
¹noise \'nȯiz\ *n* [ME, fr. OF, strife, quarrel, noise, fr. L *nausea* nausea] **1** : loud, confused, or senseless shouting or outcry **2 a** : SOUND; *esp* : one that lacks agreeable musical quality or is noticeably unpleasant **b** : any sound that is undesired or interferes with one's hearing of something **c** : an unwanted signal or a disturbance (as static or a variation of voltage) in an electronic communication system (as radio or television); *broadly* : a disturbance interfering with the operation of a mechanical device or system **d** : electromagnetic radiation (as light or radio waves) that is composed of several frequencies and that involves random changes in frequency or amplitude **e** : irrelevant or meaningless bits or words occurring along with desired information (as in a computer output) **3** : common talk : RUMOR; *esp* : SLANDER ***syn*** see SOUND — **noise-less** \-ləs\ *adj* — **noise-less-ly** *adv*
²noise *vb* **noised; nois-ing** *vt* : to spread by rumor or report — usu. used with *about* or *abroad* ⟨the scandal was quickly *noised* about⟩ ~ *vi* **1** : to talk much or loudly **2** : to make a noise
noise-mak-er \'nȯiz-ˌmā-kər\ *n* : one that makes noise; *esp* : a device (as a horn or rattle) used to make noise at parties — **noise-mak-ing** \-kiŋ\ *n or adj*
noise pollution *n* : environmental pollution consisting of annoying or harmful noise (as of automobiles or jet airplanes)
noi-some \'nȯi-səm\ *adj* [ME *noysome*, fr. *noy* annoyance, fr. OF *enui, anoi* — more at ENNUI] **1** : NOXIOUS, UNWHOLESOME **2** : offensive to the senses and esp. to the sense of smell ***syn*** see MALODOROUS — **noi-some-ly** *adv* — **noi-some-ness** *n*
noisy \'nȯi-zē\ *adj* **nois-i-er; -est** **1** : making noise **2** : full of or characterized by noise — **nois-i-ly** \'nȯi-zə-lē\ *adv* — **nois-i-ness** \-zē-nəs\ *n*
no-li me tan-ge-re \ˌnō-lē-(ˌ)mē-'tan-jə-rē, -ˌlī-mē-\ *n* [L, do not touch me] : a warning against touching or interference
nol-le pro-se-qui \ˌnäl-ē-'präs-ə-ˌkwī\ *n* [L, to be unwilling to pursue] : an entry on the record of a legal action denoting that the prosecutor or plaintiff will proceed no further in his action or suit either as a whole or as to some count or as to one or more of several defendants
no-lo \'nō-(ˌ)lō\ *n* : NOLO CONTENDERE
no-load \ˌnō-ˌlōd\ *adj* : sold at net asset value ⟨a ~ mutual fund⟩
no-lo con-ten-de-re \ˌnō-(ˌ)lō-kən-'ten-də-rē\ *n* [L, I do not wish to contend] : a plea by the defendant in a criminal prosecution that without admitting guilt subjects him to conviction but does not preclude him from denying the truth of the charges in a collateral proceeding
nol-pros \'näl-'präs\ *vt* **nol-prossed; nol-pros-sing** [*nolle prosequi*] : to discontinue by entering a nolle prosequi
nom *abbr* nominative
no-ma \'nō-mə\ *n* [NL, fr. Gk *nomē*, fr. *nemein* to spread (of an ulcer), lit., to graze, pasture — more at NIMBLE] : a spreading gangrene of the lining of cheek and lips that occurs usu. in severely debilitated persons
no-mad \'nō-ˌmad, *Brit also* 'näm-ˌad\ *n* [L *nomad-, nomas* member of a wandering pastoral people, fr. Gk, fr. *nemein* to pasture — more at NIMBLE] **1** : a member of a people that has no fixed residence but wanders from place to place usu. seasonally and within a well-defined territory in order to secure its food supply **2** : an individual who roams about aimlessly — **nomad** *adj* — **no-mad-ism** \'nō-ˌmad-ˌiz-əm\ *n*
no-mad-ic \nō-'mad-ik\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or characteristic of nomads ⟨a ~ tribe⟩ **2** : roaming about from place to place aimlessly or without a fixed pattern of movement ⟨lived ~ lives, moving from . . . house to . . . house —Frank Conroy⟩
no-man's-land \'nō-ˌmanz-ˌland\ *n* **1 a** : an area of unowned, unclaimed, or uninhabited land **b** : an unoccupied area between opposing armies **2** : an area of anomalous, ambiguous, or indefinite character ⟨the ~ of the generation gap —*Psychology Today*⟩
nom-bril \'näm-brəl\ *n* [MF, lit., navel, deriv. of L *umbilicus*] : the center point of the lower half of an armorial escutcheon — see ESCUTCHEON illustration
nom de guerre \ˌnäm-di-'ge(ə)r\ *n, pl* **noms de guerre** \ˌnäm(z)-di-\ [F, lit., war name] : PSEUDONYM
nom de plume \-'plüm\ *n, pl* **noms de plume** \ˌnäm(z)-di-\ [F *nom* name + *de* of + *plume* pen] : PSEUDONYM, PEN NAME
nome \'nōm\ *n* [Gk *nomos* district — more at NIMBLE] : a province of ancient Egypt
no-men \'nō-mən\ *n, pl* **no-mi-na** \'näm-ə-nə, 'nō-mə-\ [L *nomin-, nomen* name — more at NAME] : the second of the three usual names of an ancient Roman
no-men-cla-tor \'nō-mən-ˌklāt-ər\ *n* [L, slave whose duty was to tell his master the names of persons he met when campaigning for office, fr. *nomen* + *calatus*, pp. of *calare* to call — more at LOW] **1** : a book containing collections or lists of words **2** *archaic* : one who announces the names of guests or of persons generally **3** : one who gives names to or invents names for things
no-men-cla-to-ri-al \ˌnō-mən-klə-'tōr-ē-əl, -'tȯr-\ *adj* : relating to or connected with nomenclature
no-men-cla-ture \'nō-mən-ˌklā-chər *also* nō-'men-klə-ˌchů(ə)r, -'meŋ-, -klə-chər, -klə-ˌt(y)ů(ə)r\ *n* [L *nomenclatura* calling by name, list of names, fr. *nomen* + *calatus*, pp.] **1** : NAME, DESIGNATION **2** : the act or process or an instance of naming **3 a** : a system or set of terms or symbols **b** : a system of terms used in a particular science, discipline, or art; *esp* : an international system of standardized New Latin names used in biology for kinds and groups of kinds of animals and plants — **no-men-cla-tur-al** \ˌnō-mən-'klāch-(ə-)rəl\ *adj*
no-men con-ser-van-dum \'nō-mən-ˌkän(t)-sər-'van-dəm\ *n, pl* **no-mi-na con-ser-van-da** \'näm-ə-nə-ˌkän(t)-sər-'van-də, 'nō-mə-\ [NL, name to be kept] : a biological taxonomic name (as of a genus) that is preserved by special sanction in exception to the usual rules (as of priority)
nomen du-bi-um \-'d(y)ü-bē-əm\ *n, pl* **nomina du-bia** \-bē-ə\ [NL, doubtful name] : a taxonomic name that cannot be assigned with certainty to any taxonomic group because the description is insufficient for identification and the original specimens are lost or destroyed
no-men nu-dum \-'n(y)üd-əm\ *n, pl* **nomina nu-da** \-ə\ [NL, bare name] : a proposed taxonomic name that is invalid because the group designated is not described or illustrated sufficiently for recognition, that has no nomenclatural status, and that consequently can be used as though never previously proposed
¹nom-i-nal \'näm-ən-ᵊl, 'näm-nəl\ *adj* [ME *nominalle*, fr. ML *nominalis*, fr. L, of a name, fr. *nomin-, nomen* name] **1** : of, relating to, or being a noun or a word or expression taking a noun construction **2 a** : of, relating to, or constituting a name **b** : bearing the name of a person **3 a** : existing or being something in name or form only ⟨~ head of his party⟩ **b** : of, being, or relating to a designated or theoretical size that may vary from the actual : APPROXIMATE **c** : TRIFLING, INSIGNIFICANT **4** : being according to plan : SATISFACTORY ⟨everything was ~ during the spacecraft launch⟩ — **nom-i-nal-ly** \-ē\ *adv*
²nominal *n* : a word or word group functioning as a noun
nom-i-nal-ism \-ˌiz-əm\ *n* **1** : a theory that there are no universal essences in reality and that the mind can frame no single concept or image corresponding to any universal or general term **2** : the theory that only individuals and no abstract entities (as essences, classes, or propositions) exist — **nom-i-nal-ist** \-əst\ *n* — **nominalist** *or* **nom-i-nal-is-tic** \ˌnäm-ən-ᵊl-'is-tik, ˌnäm-nəl-\ *adj*
nominal value *n* : PAR 1b
nominal wages *n pl* : wages measured in money as distinct from actual purchasing power
nom-i-nate \'näm-ə-ˌnāt\ *vt* **-nat-ed; -nat-ing** [L *nominatus*, pp. of *nominare*, fr. *nomin-, nomen* name] **1** : DESIGNATE, NAME **2 a** : to appoint or propose for appointment to an office or place **b** : to propose as a candidate for election to office **c** : to propose for an honor ⟨~ him for player of the year⟩ **3** : to enter (a horse) in a race — **nom-i-na-tor** \-ˌnāt-ər\ *n*
nom-i-na-tion \ˌnäm-ə-'nā-shən\ *n* **1** : the act, process, or an instance of nominating **2** : the state of being nominated
nom-i-na-tive \'näm-(ə-)nət-iv; *2 & 3 are also* 'näm-ə-ˌnāt-\ *adj* [fr. the traditional use of the nominative form in naming a noun] **1 a** : marking typically the subject of a verb esp. in languages that have relatively full inflection ⟨~ case⟩ **b** : of or relating to the nominative case ⟨a ~ ending⟩ **2** : nominated or appointed by nomination **3** : bearing a person's name — **nominative** *n*
nom-i-nee \ˌnäm-ə-'nē\ *n* [*nominate*] : a person who has been nominated
no-mo-gram \'näm-ə-ˌgram, 'nō-mə-\ *n* [Gk *nomos* law + ISV *-gram* — more at NIMBLE] : a graphic representation that consists of several lines marked off to scale and arranged in such a way that by using a straightedge to connect known values on two lines an unknown value can be read at the point of intersection with another line
no-mo-graph \-ˌgraf\ *n* : NOMOGRAM — **no-mo-graph-ic** \ˌnäm-ə-'graf-ik, ˌnō-mə-\ *adj* — **no-mog-ra-phy** \nō-'mäg-rə-fē\ *n*
no-mo-log-i-cal \ˌnäm-ə-'läj-i-kəl, ˌnō-mə-\ *adj* [*nomology* (science of physical and logical laws)] : relating to or expressing basic physical laws or rules of reasoning ⟨~ universals⟩
no-mo-thet-ic \-'thet-ik\ *adj* [Gk *nomothetikos* of legislation, fr. *nomothetēs* lawgiver, fr. *nomos* law + *-thetēs* one who establishes, fr. *tithenai* to put — more at DO] : relating to, involving, or dealing with abstract, general, or universal statements or laws
-no-my \n-ə-mē\ *n comb form* [ME *-nomie*, fr. OF, fr. L *-nomia*, fr. Gk, fr. *nemein* to distribute] : system of laws governing or sum of knowledge regarding a (specified) field ⟨agro*nomy*⟩
non- \(')nän *also* ˌnən *or* 'nən *before* '*-stressed syllable,* ˌnän *also* ˌnən *before* ˌ*-stressed or unstressed syllable; the variant with* ə *is also to be understood at pronounced entries, where it is not shown* \ *prefix* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *non* not, fr. OL *noenum*, fr. *ne-* not + *oinom*, neut. of *oinos* one — more at NO, ONE] **1** : not : reverse of : absence of **2** : of little or no consequence : unimportant : worthless ⟨*non*issues⟩ ⟨*non*system⟩ **3** : lacking the usual characteristics of the thing specified ⟨*non*celebration⟩ ⟨*non*theater⟩

nonabrasive	**nonacademic**	**nonacidic**
nonabsorbable	**nonacceptance**	**nonactinic**
nonabsorbent	**nonaccredited**	**nonaction**
nonabstainer	**nonacid**	**nonactive**

nonadaptive
nonaddicted
nonaddicting
nonaddictive
nonadherence
nonadhesion
nonadhesive
nonadiabatic
nonadjacent
nonadjustable
nonadministrative
nonadmission
nonaffluent
nonaggression
nonaggressive
nonagreement
nonagricultural
nonalcoholic
nonallergenic
nonallergic
nonalphabetic
nonanalytic
nonanthropological
nonantigenic
nonappearance
nonaquatic
nonaqueous
nonarbitrary
nonascetic
nonaspirated
nonassessable
nonassimilable
nonassociative
nonathlete
nonathletic
nonattendance
nonattributive
nonauditory
nonauthoritative
nonautomatic
nonautomotive
nonbacterial
nonbasic
nonbearing
nonbeing
nonbeliever
nonbelieving
nonbelligerency
nonbelligerent
nonbetting
nonbinding
nonbiodegradable
nonbiological
nonbiting
nonbonded
nonbonding
nonbreakable
nonbureaucratic
noncaking
noncancerous
noncanonical
noncarbohydrate
noncarbonaceous
noncarbonated
noncarnivorous
noncash
noncatalytic
noncellular
noncertified
nonchargeable
nonchurchgoer
noncircadian
noncitizen
nonclassical
nonclassified
nonclerical
nonclinical
nonclotting
noncoagulable
noncoercive
noncognitive
noncoherent
noncohesive
noncoital
noncollapsible
noncollectible
noncollegiate
noncolloid
noncombat
noncombining
noncombustible
noncommercial
noncommunicable
noncommunicant
noncommunication
noncommutative
noncommutativity
noncompensating
noncompetent
noncompeting
noncompetition
noncompetitive
noncomplementary
noncompliance
noncomplying
noncompound
noncomprehension
noncompressible
nonconclusive
nonconcurrent
noncondensable
noncondensing
nonconditioned
nonconductibility
nonconducting
nonconduction
nonconductive
nonconfidence
nonconfidential
nonconflicting
noncongenital
nonconjugated
nonconscious
nonconservation
nonconserved
nonconsolidated
nonconstitutional
nonconstructive
nonconsumable
noncontact
noncontagious
noncontemporary
noncontentious
noncontiguous
noncontinuous
noncontraband
noncontradiction
noncontradictory
noncontributing
noncontributory
noncontrollable
noncontrolled
noncontrolling
noncontroversial
nonconventional
nonconvertible
noncorporate
noncorrodible
noncorroding
noncorrosive
noncovalent
noncovered
noncreative
noncriminal
noncritical
noncryogenic
noncrystalline
noncultivated
noncultivation
noncumulative
noncurrent
noncyclic
noncyclical
nondecreasing
nondeferrable
nondefining
nondegenerate
nondegenerated
nondegradable
nondelegable
nondelinquent
nondelivery
nondemocratic
nondenominational
nondenominationalism
nondepartmental
nondeposition
nonderivative
nondeteriorative
nondetonating
nondevelopable
nondevelopment
nondiabetic
nondialyzable
nondifferentiation
nondiffusible
nondigestible
nondipolar
nondipole
nondirectional
nondisclosure
nondiscrimination
nondiscriminatory
nondiscursive
nondisqualifying
nondisruptive
nondistribution
nondivided
nondoctrinaire
nondocumentary
nondogmatic
nondollar
nondomesticated
nondramatic
nondurable
nondynastic
nonecclesiastical
noneffective
noneffervescent
nonelastic
nonelect
nonelection
nonelective
nonelectric
nonelectrical
nonelectronic
noneligible
nonemergency
nonemotional
nonempirical
nonempty
nonencapsulated
nonenforcement
nonentanglement
nonenzymatic
nonenzymic
nonepiscopal
nonequilibrium
nonequivalence
nonequivalent
noneruptive
nonessential
nonesterified
nonexchangeable
nonexclusive
nonexempt
nonexistence
nonexistent
nonexpendable
nonexperimental
nonexplosive
nonexportation
nonextant
nonfarmer
nonfatal
nonfattening
nonfebrile
nonfederal
nonfederated
nonfeeding
nonferromagnetic
nonfilamentous
nonfilterable
nonfinancial
nonfissionable
nonflagellated
nonfluorescent
nonflying
nonforfeiture
nonfossiliferous
nonfraternal
nonfreezing
nonfulfillment
nonfunctional
nongame
nongaseous
nongeneric
nongenetic
nongonococcal
nongraded
nongranular
nongregarious
nongrowing
nonhandicapped
nonhardy
nonharmonic
nonhazardous
nonhelical
nonhereditary
nonheritable
nonhistorical
nonhomogeneous
nonhomologous
nonhormonal
nonhostile
nonhuman
nonhypergolic
nonideal
nonidentity
nonideological
nonimmigrant
nonimmune
nonimportation
nonincreasing
nonindustrial
nonindustrialized
noninfectious
noninfective
noninfested
noninflammable
noninflammatory
noninflationary
noninflectional
noninjurious
noninjury
noninsecticidal
noninstitutional
noninstitutionalized
noninstructional
nonintegrated
nonintellectual
nonintercourse
noninterference
nonintersecting
nonintoxicant
nonintoxicating
nonirradiated
nonirrigated
nonirritating
nonisothermal
nonleaded
nonlegal
nonlegume
nonleguminous
nonlethal
nonlexical
nonlife
nonlinear
nonliquid
nonliterary
nonliturgical
nonliving
nonlocal
nonlogical
nonluminous
nonlysogenic
nonmagnetic
nonmailable
nonmalignant
nonmalleable
nonman
nonmanufacturing
nonmarine
nonmarketable
nonmaterial
nonmaterialistic
nonmathematical
nonmechanical
nonmechanistic
nonmember
nonmembership
nonmetameric
nonmetered
nonmetrical
nonmetropolitan
nonmigratory
nonmilitary
nonmimetic
nonmolecular
nonmoney
nonmotile
nonmotility
nonmoving
nonmusical
nonmutant
nonmyelinated
nonnarcotic
nonnational
nonnative
nonnatural
nonnaturalism
nonnaturalist
nonnecessity
nonnegotiable
nonneoplastic
nonnitrogenous
nonnormative
nonnumeric
nonnumerical
nonnutritive
nonobese
nonobligatory
nonobservance
nonobvious
nonoccurrence
nonofficial
nonopaque
nonoperating
nonoperational
nonorganic
nonoriented
nonorthodox
nonorthogonal
nonoscillatory
nonoverlapping
nonpalatal
nonpalatalization
nonparallel
nonparalytic
nonparasitic
nonparticipant
nonparticipating
nonparticipation
nonparty
nonpaternity
nonpaying
nonpayment
nonpecuniary
nonpenetrating
nonperformance
nonperishable
nonpermanent
nonpersonal
nonphonemic
nonphonetic
nonphosphatic
nonphotosynthetic
nonphysical
nonphytotoxic
nonpigmented
nonplastic
nonplaying
nonpoisonous
nonpolarizable
nonpolitical
nonpolluting
nonporosity
nonporous
nonpossession
nonpractical
nonpredicative
nonpregnant
nonprinting
nonproducer
nonprogressive
nonpropositional
nonproprietary
nonproven
nonpsychedelic
nonpublic
nonpungent
nonpunitive
nonquota
nonrabbinic
nonracial
nonracialism
nonradiative
nonradical
nonradioactive
nonrandom
nonrandomness
nonrated
nonrational
nonreactive
nonreactivity
nonreactor
nonrealistic
nonreciprocal
nonrecognition
nonrecourse
nonrecoverable
nonrecurrent
nonrecurring
nonreducing
nonrefillable
nonregistered
nonregulation
nonreligious
nonremovable
nonrenewable
nonrepayable
nonrepresentative
nonresidential
nonresonant
nonrestraint
nonrestricted
nonretractile
nonretroactive
nonrevenue
nonreversible
nonrhetorical
nonrotating
nonruminant
nonsalable
nonsaline
nonsaponifiable
nonscientific
nonscientist
nonseasonal
nonsecret
nonsecretory
nonsegregated
nonsegregation
nonselected
nonselective
non-self-governing
nonsensitive
nonsensuous
nonseptate
nonserious
nonsexual
nonshrinkable
nonsingular
nonsinkable
nonskier
nonslaveholding
nonsmoker
nonsmoking
nonsolar
nonsolid
nonspatial
nonspeaking
nonspecialist
nonspecialized
nonspecific
nonspecifically
nonspectacular
nonspectral
nonspeculative
nonspherical
nonspontaneous
nonstaining
nonstationary
nonstatistical
nonstellar
nonstrategic
nonstriated
nonstriker
nonstriking
nonstructural
nonstructured
nonstudent
nonsubscriber
nonsuccess
nonsugar
nonsurfer
nonsurgical
nonsymbiotic
nonsymbolic
nonsymmetric
nonsymmetrical
nonsynchronous
nonsyntactical
nonsystemic
nontarnishable
nontaxable
nontechnical
nontechnological
nonteleological
nontemporal
nonterritorial
nontheatrical
nontheistic
nonthermal
nonthreatening
nontidal
nontoxic
nontoxicity
nontraditional
nontransferable
nontransparency
nontransparent
nontransposing
nontreated
nontropical
nontrump
nontuberculous
nontypical
nonunderstandable
nonuniform
nonuniformity
nonurban
nonutilitarian
nonvariable
nonvariant
nonvascular
nonvegetative
nonvenomous
nonvibratory
nonvintage
nonviolation
nonviral
nonvirulent
nonviscous
nonvisual
nonvocal
nonvocational
nonvoluntary
nonvoter
nonvoting
nonwoody
nonworker
nonworking
nonyellowing

non·ad·di·tive \(ˈ)nän-ˈad-ət-iv\ *adj* **1** : not having a numerical value equal to the sum of values for the component parts **2** : of,

relating to, or being a genic effect that is not additive — **non·ad·di·tiv·i·ty** \ˌnän-ˌad-ə-ˈtiv-ət-ē\ *n*

non·age \ˈnän-ij, ˈnō-nij\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. *non-* + *age*] **1** : MINORITY 1 **2 a** : a period of youth **b** : lack of maturity

no·na·ge·nar·i·an \ˌnō-nə-jə-ˈner-ē-ən, ˌnän-ə-\ *n* [L *nonagenarius* containing ninety, fr. *nonageni* ninety each, fr. *nonaginta* ninety, fr. *nona-* (akin to *novem* nine) + *-ginta* (akin to *viginti* twenty) — more at NINE, VIGESIMAL] : a person who is in his nineties — **nonagenarian** *adj*

no·na·gon \ˈnō-nə-ˌgän\ *n* [L *nonus* ninth + E *-gon* — more at NOON] : a polygon of nine angles and nine sides

non·aligned \ˌnän-ᵊl-ˈīnd\ *adj* : not allied with other nations and esp. with one of the great powers — **non·align·ment** \-ˈīn-mənt\ *n*

non·al·le·lic \ˌnän-ə-ˈlē-lik, -ᵊlel-ik\ *adj* : not behaving as alleles toward one another ⟨~ genes⟩

non·bank \ˈnän-ˈbaŋk\ *adj* : done by or being something other than a bank

¹non·book \ˈnän-ˈbůk\ *adj* : being something other than a book; *esp* : being a library holding (as a microfilm) that is not a book

²non·book \-ˌbůk\ *n* : a book of little literary merit which is often a compilation (as of pictures, press clippings, or speeches)

non·busi·ness \-ˈbiz-nəs, -nəz\ *adj* : not related to business; *esp* : not related to one's primary business

non·cal·car·e·ous \ˌnän-kal-ˈkar-ē-əs, -ˈker-\ *adj* : lacking or deficient in lime ⟨~ soils⟩

non·ca·lo·ric \ˌnän-kə-ˈlȯr-ik, -ˈlōr-, -ˈlär-; (ˈ)nän-ˈkal-ə-rik\ *adj* : free from or very low in calories

non·can·di·date \(ˈ)nän-ˈkan-(d)ə-ˌdāt, -(d)əd-ət\ *n* : one who is not a candidate; *esp* : one who has declared himself not a candidate for a particular political office

¹nonce \ˈnän(t)s\ *n* [ME *nanes*, alter. (fr. incorrect division of *then anes* in such phrases as *to then anes* for the one purpose) of *anes* one purpose, irreg. fr. *an* one, fr. OE *ān*] : the one, particular, or present occasion, purpose, or use ⟨for the ~⟩

²nonce *adj* : occurring, used, or made only once or for a special occasion ⟨~ word⟩

non·cha·lance \ˌnän-shə-ˈlän(t)s; ˈnän-shə-ˌlän(t)s, -lən(t)s\ *n* : the state of being nonchalant

non·cha·lant \-ˈlänt, -ˌlänt, -lənt\ *adj* [F, fr. OF, fr. prp. of *nonchaloir* to disregard, fr. *non-* + *chaloir* to concern, fr. L *calēre* to be warm — more at LEE] : giving an effect of easy unconcern or indifference ***syn*** see COOL — **non·cha·lant·ly** *adv*

non·chro·mo·som·al \ˌnän-ˌkrō-mə-ˈsō-məl\ *adj* **1** : not situated on a chromosome **2** : not involving chromosomes

non·com \ˈnän-ˌkäm\ *n* : NONCOMMISSIONED OFFICER

non·com·ba·tant \ˌnän-kəm-ˈbat-ᵊnt, (ˈ)nän-ˈkäm-bət-ənt\ *n* : one that does not engage in combat: as **a** : a member (as a chaplain) of the armed forces whose duties do not include fighting **b** : CIVILIAN — **noncombatant** *adj*

non·com·mis·sioned officer \ˌnän-kə-ˌmish-ənd-\ *n* : a subordinate officer (as a sergeant) in the army, air force, or marine corps appointed from among the enlisted men

non·com·mit·tal \ˌnän-kə-ˈmit-ᵊl\ *adj* **1** : giving no clear indication of attitude or feeling **2** : having no clear or distinctive character — **non·com·mit·tal·ly** \-ᵊl-ē\ *adv*

non–Com·mu·nist \(ˈ)nän-ˈkäm-yə-nəst\ *adj* : not Communist : being other than Communist

non com·pos men·tis \ˌnän-ˌkäm-pə-ˈsment-əs, ˌnōn-\ *adj* [L, lit., not having mastery of one's mind] : not of sound mind

non·con·cur·rence \ˌnän-kən-ˈkər-ən(t)s, -ˈkə-rən(t)s\ *n* : the act or an instance of refusing to concur

non·con·duc·tor \ˌnän-kən-ˈdək-tər\ *n* : a substance that conducts heat, electricity, or sound only in very small degree

non·con·form \-ˈfȯ(ə)rm\ *vi* [back-formation fr. *nonconformist*] : to fail to conform — **non·con·form·er** *n*

non·con·for·mance \-ˈfȯr-mən(t)s\ *n* : failure to conform

non·con·form·ism \-ˈfȯr-ˌmiz-əm\ *n* : NONCONFORMITY

non·con·form·ist \-ˈfȯr-məst\ *n* **1** *often cap* : a person who does not conform to an established church; *esp* : one who does not conform to the Church of England **2** : a person who does not conform to a generally accepted pattern of thought or action — **nonconformist** *adj, often cap*

non·con·for·mi·ty \-ˈfȯr-mət-ē\ *n* **1 a** : failure or refusal to conform to an established church **b** *often cap* : the movement or principles of English Protestant dissent **c** *often cap* : the body of English Nonconformists **2** : refusal to conform to an established or conventional creed, rule, or practice **3** : absence of agreement or correspondence

non·co·op·er·a·tion \ˌnän-kō-ˌäp-ə-ˈrā-shən\ *n* : failure or refusal to cooperate; *specif* : refusal through civil disobedience of a people to cooperate with the government of a country — **non·co·op·er·a·tion·ist** \-sh(ə-)nəst\ *n* — **non·co·op·er·a·tor** \-ˈäp-ə-ˌrāt-ər\ *n*

non·co·op·er·a·tive \-ˈäp-(ə-)rət-iv, -ə-ˌrāt-\ *adj* : of, relating to, or characterized by noncooperation

non·cred·it \(ˈ)nän-ˈkred-ət\ *adj* : not offering credit toward a degree ⟨~ courses⟩

non·cross·over \(ˈ)nän-ˈkrȯ-ˌsō-vər\ *adj* : having or being chromosomes that have not participated in genetic crossing-over ⟨~ offspring⟩

non·dairy \ˈnän-ˈde(ə)r-ē\ *adj* : containing no milk or milk products ⟨~ whipped topping⟩

non·de·duct·ible \ˌnän-di-ˈdək-tə-bəl\ *adj* : not deductible; *esp* : not deductible for income tax purposes — **non·de·duct·ibil·i·ty** \-ˌdək-tə-ˈbil-ət-ē\ *n*

non·de·fense \ˌnän-di-ˈfen(t)s\ *adj* : not used or intended for or associated with the military ⟨~ spending⟩

non·de·script \ˌnän-di-ˈskript\ *adj* [*non-* + L *descriptus*, pp. of *describere* to describe] : belonging or appearing to belong to no particular class or kind : not easily described — **nondescript** *n*

non·de·struc·tive \-ˈstrək-tiv\ *adj* : not destructive; *specif* : involving no alteration of physical state or arrangement or of chemical constitution ⟨~ analysis⟩ — **non·de·struc·tive·ly** *adv* — **non·de·struc·tive·ness** *n*

non·dia·paus·ing \ˌnän-ˌdī-ə-ˈpȯ-ziŋ\ *adj* **1** : not having a diapause **2** : not being in a state of diapause

non·di·rec·tive \ˌnän-də-ˈrek-tiv, -(ˌ)dī-\ *adj* : of, relating to, or being psychotherapy, counseling, or interviewing in which the counselor refrains from interpretation or explanation but encourages the client (as by repeating phrases) to express himself freely

non·dis·junc·tion \ˌnän-dis-ˈjəŋ(k)-shən\ *n* [ISV] : failure of two chromosomes to separate subsequent to metaphase in meiosis or mitosis so that one daughter cell has both and the other neither of the chromosomes — **non·dis·junc·tion·al** \-shnəl, -shən-ᵊl\ *adj*

non·dis·tinc·tive \-ˈtiŋ(k)-tiv\ *adj, of a speech sound* : having no signaling value

non·di·vid·ing \ˌnän-də-ˈvīd-iŋ\ *adj* : not undergoing cell division

non·dor·mant \(ˈ)nän-ˈdȯr-mənt\ *adj* **1** : being in such a condition that germination is possible ⟨~ seeds⟩ **2** : being in active vegetative growth ⟨~ plants⟩

non·drink·er \-ˈdriŋ-kər\ *n* : one who abstains from alcoholic beverages

non·drink·ing \-kiŋ\ *adj* : abstaining from alcoholic beverages

nondrying oil \ˌnän-ˌdrī-iŋ-\ *n* : a highly saturated oil (as olive oil) that is unable to solidify when exposed in a thin film to air

¹none \ˈnən\ *pron, sing or pl in constr* [ME, fr. OE *nān*, fr. *ne* not + *ān* one — more at NO, ONE] **1** : not any : NOTHING **2** : not one : NOBODY **3** : not any such thing or person

²none *adj, archaic* : not any : NO

³none *adv* **1** : by no means : not at all ⟨~ too soon to begin⟩ **2** : in no way : to no extent ⟨~ the worse for wear⟩

⁴none \ˈnōn\ *n, often cap* [LL *nona*, fr. L, 9th hour of the day from sunrise — more at NOON] : the fifth of the canonical hours

non·eco·nom·ic \ˌnän-ˌek-ə-ˈnäm-ik, -ˌē-kə-\ *adj* : not economic; *esp* : having no economic importance or implication

non·elec·tro·lyte \ˌnän-ə-ˈlek-trə-ˌlīt\ *n* : a substance (as sugar or benzene) that is not appreciably ionized

non·en·force·able \ˌnän-in-ˈfōr-sə-bəl, -ˈfȯr-\ *adj* : not enforceable — **non·en·force·abil·i·ty** \-ˌfōr-sə-ˈbil-ət-ē, -ˌfȯr-\ *n*

non·en·ti·ty \nä-ˈnen(t)-ət-ē\ *n* **1** : something that does not exist or exists only in the imagination **2** : NONEXISTENCE **3** : one of no consequence or significance

nones \ˈnōnz\ *n pl but sing or pl in constr* [ME *nonys*, fr. L *nonae*, fr. fem. pl. of *nonus* ninth] **1** : the ninth day before the ides according to ancient Roman reckoning **2** *often cap* : ⁴NONE

none·such \ˈnən-ˌsəch\ *n* : a person or thing without an equal — **nonesuch** *adj*

none·the·less \ˌnən-thə-ˈles\ *adv* : NEVERTHELESS

non–eu·clid·e·an \ˌnän-yü-ˈklid-ē-ən\ *adj, often cap E* : not assuming or in accordance with all the postulates of Euclid's *Elements* ⟨~ geometry⟩

non·event \ˈnän-i-ˌvent, ˌnän-i-ˈ\ *n* : an expected event that fails to take place or to satisfy expectations

non·ex·is·tence \ˌnän-ig-ˈzis-tən(t)s\ *n* : absence of existence : the negation of being

non·ex·pert \(ˈ)nän-ˈek-ˌspərt\ *n* : one who is not an expert

non·farm \ˈnän-ˈfärm\ *adj* : not of or related to the farm

non·fat \ˈnän-ˈfat\ *adj* : lacking fat solids : having fat solids removed ⟨~ milk⟩

non·fea·sance \(ˈ)nän-ˈfēz-ᵊn(t)s\ *n* [*non-* + obs. E *feasance* (doing, execution)] : failure to act; *esp* : failure to do what ought to be done

non·fer·rous \(ˈ)nän-ˈfer-əs\ *adj* **1** : not containing, including, or relating to iron **2** : of or relating to metals other than iron

non·fic·tion \ˈnän-ˈfik-shən\ *n* : literature that is not fictional — **non·fic·tion·al** \(ˈ)nän-ˈfik-shnəl, -shən-ᵊl\ *adj*

non·fig·u·ra·tive \(ˈ)nän-ˈfig-(y)ə-rət-iv\ *adj* : NONOBJECTIVE 2

non·flam·ma·ble \-ˈflam-ə-bəl\ *n* : not flammable; *specif* : not easily ignited and not burning rapidly if ignited — **non·flam·ma·bil·i·ty** \ˌnän-ˌflam-ə-ˈbil-ət-ē\ *n*

non·flow·er·ing \-ˈflaů-(ə-)riŋ\ *adj* : producing no flowers; *specif* : lacking a flowering stage in the life cycle

non·flu·en·cy \-ˈflü-ən-sē\ *n, pl* **-cies** **1** : lack of fluency **2** : an instance of nonfluency

non·food \ˈnän-ˈfüd\ *adj* : of, relating to, or being something other than food ⟨~ items sold in supermarkets⟩

non·gov·ern·men·tal \ˌnän-ˌgəv-ər(n)-ˈment-ᵊl\ *or* **non·gov·ern·ment** \ˈnän-ˈgəv-ər(n)-mənt, -ˈgəv-ᵊm-ənt\ *adj* : not governmental

non·grad·u·ate \ˈnän-ˈgraj-(ə-)wət, -ə-ˌwāt\ *n* : one who is not a graduate

non·green \ˈnän-ˈgrēn\ *adj* : not green; *specif* : containing no chlorophyll ⟨~ saprophytes⟩

non·he·ro \ˈnän-ˈhē-(ˌ)rō, -ˈhi(ə)r-(ˌ)ō\ *n* : ANTI-HERO

non·his·tone \(ˈ)nän-ˈhis-ˌtōn\ *adj* : rich in aromatic amino acids and esp. tryptophan ⟨~ proteins⟩

non·iden·ti·cal \ˌnän-(ˌ)ī-ˈdent-i-kəl, ˌnän-ə-ˈdent-\ *adj* **1** : DIFFERENT **2** : FRATERNAL 2

no·nil·lion \nō-ˈnil-yən\ *n, often attrib* [F, fr. L *nonus* ninth + F *-illion* (as in *million*) — more at NOON] — see NUMBER table

non·in·duc·tive \ˌnän-in-ˈdək-tiv\ *adj* : not inductive; *esp* : having negligible inductance

non·in·fect·ed \-ˈfek-təd\ *adj* : not having been subjected to infection

non·in·ter·ven·tion \ˌnän-ˌint-ər-ˈven-chən\ *n* : the state or policy of not intervening ⟨~ in the affairs of other countries⟩ — **non·in·ter·ven·tion·ist** \-ˈvench-(ə-)nəst\ *n or adj*

non·in·volve·ment \ˌnän-in-ˈvälv-mənt\ *n* : absence of emotional involvement or attachment

non·ion·ic \ˌnän-(ˌ)ī-ˈän-ik\ *adj* : not ionic; *esp* : not dependent on a surface-active anion for effect ⟨~ surfactants⟩

nonionic detergent *n* : a synthetic detergent that produces electrically neutral colloidal particles in solution

non·join·der \(ˈ)nän-ˈjȯin-dər\ *n* : failure to include a necessary party to a suit at law

non·judg·men·tal \ˌnän-ˌjəj-ˈment-ᵊl\ *adj* : avoiding judgments based on one's personal and esp. moral standards

non·jur·ing \(ˈ)nän-ˈjů(ə)r-iŋ\ *adj* [*non-* + L *jurare* to swear — more at JURY] : not swearing allegiance — used esp. of a member

of a party in Great Britain that would not swear allegiance to William and Mary or to their successors
non·ju·ror \(')nän-'jůr-ər, -'jů(ə)r-,ȯ(ə)r\ *n* : a person refusing to take an oath esp. of allegiance, supremacy, or abjuration; *specif* : one of the beneficed clergy in England and Scotland refusing to take an oath of allegiance to William and Mary or to their successors after the revolution of 1688
non·lin·guis·tic \,nän-liŋ-'gwis-tik\ *adj* : not consisting of or relating to language
non·lit·er·ate \(')nän-'lit-ə-rət, -'li-trət\ *adj* : having no written language — **nonliterate** *n*
non·match·ing \-'mach-iŋ\ *adj* **1** : not matching **2** : not requiring a matching contribution ⟨~ grants⟩
non·met·al \(')nän-'met-ᵊl\ *n* : a chemical element (as boron, carbon, or nitrogen) that lacks typical metallic properties and is able to form anions, acidic oxides and acids, and stable compounds with hydrogen
non·me·tal·lic \,nän-mə-'tal-ik\ *adj* **1** : not metallic **2** : of, relating to, or being a nonmetal
non·mon·e·tary \(')nän-'män-ə-,ter-ē, -'mən-\ *adj* : not monetary : not involving money
non·mor·al \-'mȯr-əl, -'mär-\ *adj* : not falling into or existing in the sphere of morals or ethics ***syn*** see IMMORAL
non·neg·a·tive \-'neg-ət-iv\ *adj* : not negative : being either positive or zero
non·nu·cle·ar \(')nän-'n(y)ü-klē-ər\ *adj* **1** : not producing or involving a nuclear explosion ⟨a ~ bomb⟩ **2** : not operated by or involving atomic energy ⟨a ~ propulsion system⟩ **3** : not having the atom bomb ⟨a ~ country⟩ **4** : not involving the use of atom bombs ⟨a ~ war⟩
no–no \'nō-,nō\ *n, pl* **no–no's** *or* **no–nos** : something unacceptable or forbidden
non·ob·jec·tive \,nän-əb-'jek-tiv\ *adj* **1** : not objective **2** : representing or intended to represent no natural or actual object, figure, or scene ⟨~ art⟩ — **non·ob·jec·tiv·ism** \-tiv-,iz-əm\ *n* — **non·ob·jec·tiv·ist** \-əst\ *n* — **non·ob·jec·tiv·i·ty** \,nän-,äb-,jek-'tiv-ət-ē, ,nän-əb-\ *n*
non obst *or* **non obs** *abbr* non obstante
non ob·stan·te \,nän-əb-'stant-ē, ,nōn-\ *prep* [L] : NOTWITHSTANDING
no–nonsense *adj* : tolerating no nonsense : SERIOUS, BUSINESSLIKE
non·para·met·ric \,nän-,par-ə-'me-trik\ *adj* : not involving the estimation of parameters of a statistical function
[1]non·pa·reil \,nän-pə-'rel\ *adj* [MF, fr. *non-* + *pareil* equal, fr. (assumed) VL *pariculus*, fr. L *par* equal] : having no equal
[2]nonpareil *n* **1** : an individual of unequaled excellence : PARAGON **2 a** : a small flat disk of chocolate covered with white sugar pellets **b** : small sugar pellets of various colors
non·par·ti·san \(')nän-'pärt-ə-zən, -sən\ *adj* : not partisan; *esp* : free from party affiliation, bias, or designation ⟨~ ballot⟩ ⟨a ~ board⟩ — **non·par·ti·san·ship** \-,ship\ *n*
non·pas·ser·ine \(')nän-'pas-ə-,rīn\ *adj* : not passerine; *esp* : CORACIIFORM
non·patho·gen·ic \,nän-,path-ə-'jen-ik\ *adj* : not capable of inducing disease — compare AVIRULENT
non·per·sis·tent \,nän-pər-'sis-tənt, -'zis-\ *adj* : not persistent: as **a** : decomposed rapidly by environmental action ⟨~ insecticides⟩ **b** : capable of being transmitted by a vector for only a relatively short time ⟨~ viruses⟩
non·per·son \'nän-'pərs-ᵊn, -,pərs-\ *n* **1** : a person who is regarded as nonexistent or as never having existed **2** : UNPERSON
non pla·cet \'nän-'plā-sət, 'nōn-\ *n* [L, it does not please] : a negative vote
[1]non·plus \'nän-'pləs\ *n* [L *non plus* no more] : a state of bafflement or perplexity : QUANDARY
[2]nonplus *vt* **-plussed** *also* **-plused** \-'pləst\; **-plus·sing** *also* **-plus·ing** : to cause to be at a loss as to what to say, think, or do : PERPLEX ***syn*** see PUZZLE
non·po·lar \(')nän-'pō-lər\ *adj* : not polar; *esp* : not having or requiring the presence of electrical poles ⟨a ~ solvent⟩
non pos·su·mus \'nän-'päs-ə-məs, 'nōn-\ *n* [L, we cannot] : a statement expressing inability to do something
non·pre·scrip·tion \,nän-pri-'skrip-shən\ *adj* : capable of being bought without a doctor's prescription
non·pro·duc·tive \,nän-prə-'dək-tiv\ *adj* : not productive: as **a** : failing to produce or yield : UNPRODUCTIVE ⟨a ~ oil well⟩ **b** : not directly concerned with production ⟨the ~ labor of clerks and inspectors⟩ **c** *of a cough* : DRY — **non·pro·duc·tive·ness** *n*
non·pro·fes·sion·al \-'fesh-nəl, -ən-ᵊl\ *adj* : not professional — **nonprofessional** *n* — **non·pro·fes·sion·al·ly** \-ē\ *adv*
non·prof·it \'nän-'präf-ət\ *adj* : not conducted or maintained for the purpose of making a profit
non·pro·lif·er·a·tion \,nän-prə-,lif-ə-'rā-shən\ *adj* : providing for the stoppage of proliferation (as of nuclear arms) ⟨~ treaty⟩ — **nonproliferation** *n*
non·pros \'nän-'präs\ *vt* **non·prossed; non·pros·sing** [*non prosequitur*] : to enter a non prosequitur against
non pro·se·qui·tur \,nän-prə-'sek-wət-ər, ,nōn-\ *n* [LL, he does not prosecute] : a judgment entered against the plaintiff in a suit in which he does not appear to prosecute
non·pro·tein \'nän-'prō-,tēn, -'prōt-ē-ən\ *adj* : not being or derived from protein ⟨the ~ part of an enzyme⟩ ⟨~ nitrogen⟩ — **non·pro·tein·aceous** \,nän-,prō-,tē-'nā-shəs, -,prōt-ē-ə-'nā-\ *adj*
non·read·er \'nän-'rēd-ər\ *n* : one who does not or cannot read; *esp* : a child who is very slow in learning to read
non·re·com·bi·nant \,nän-(,)rē-'käm-bə-nənt\ *adj* : not exhibiting the results of genetic recombination — **nonrecombinant** *n*
non·re·fund·able \,nän-ri-'fən-də-bəl\ *adj* : not subject to refunding ⟨a ~ bond⟩
non·rel·a·tiv·is·tic \,nän-,rel-ət-iv-'is-tik\ *adj* **1** : not based on or involving the theory of relativity ⟨~ equations⟩ ⟨~ kinematics⟩ **2 a** : moving at less than a relativistic velocity **b** : of or relating to a body moving at such a velocity — **non·rel·a·tiv·is·ti·cal·ly** \-'is-ti-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
non·rep·re·sen·ta·tion·al \,nän-,rep-ri-,zen-'tā-shnəl, -zən-, -shən-ᵊl\ *adj* : NONOBJECTIVE 2 — **non·rep·re·sen·ta·tion·al·ism** \-,iz-əm\ *n*
non·res·i·dence \(')nän-'rez-əd-ən(t)s, -'rez-dən(t)s, -'rez-ə-,den(t)s\ *n* : the state or fact of being nonresident
non·res·i·den·cy \-'rez-əd-ən-sē, -'rez-dən-, -'rez-ə-,den-\ *n* : NONRESIDENCE
non·res·i·dent \-'rez-əd-ənt, -'rez-dənt, -'rez-ə-,dent\ *adj* : not residing in a particular place — **nonresident** *n*
non·re·sis·tance \,nän-ri-'zis-tən(t)s\ *n* : the principles or practice of passive submission to constituted authority even when unjust or oppressive; *also* : the principle or practice of not resisting violence by force
non·re·sis·tant \-tənt\ *adj* : not resistant; *specif* : susceptible to the effects of a deleterious agent (as an insecticide, a pathogen, or an extreme environmental condition) — **nonresistant** *n*
non·re·stric·tive \,nän-ri-'strik-tiv\ *adj* : not restrictive; *specif* : not limiting the reference of a modified word or phrase
nonrestrictive clause *n* : a descriptive clause that is not essential to the definiteness of the meaning of its antecedent (as in "the aldermen, *who were present*, assented")
non·re·turn·able \,nän-ri-'tər-nə-bəl\ *adj* : not returnable; *specif* : not returnable to a dealer in exchange for a deposit ⟨~ bottles⟩
non·rig·id \(')nän-'rij-əd\ *adj* : not rigid; *esp* : maintaining form by pressure of contained gas ⟨a ~ airship⟩ — **non·ri·gid·i·ty** \,nän-rə-'jid-ət-ē\ *n*
non·sched·uled \(')nän-'skej-(,)ü(ə)ld, -'skej-əld\ *adj* : licensed to carry passengers or freight by air without a regular schedule ⟨~ airlines⟩
[1]non·sci·ence \(')nän-'sī-ən(t)s\ *n* : one (as a discipline) that is not a science
[2]nonscience *adj* : of or relating to fields other than science
non·se·cre·tor \,nän(t)-si-'krēt-ər\ *n* : an individual of blood group A, B, or AB who does not secrete the antigens characteristic of these blood groups in bodily fluids (as saliva)
non·sec·tar·i·an \,nän-(,)sek-'ter-ē-ən\ *adj* : not having a sectarian character : not affiliated with or restricted to a particular religious group
non·sed·i·ment·able \,nän-,sed-ə-'ment-ə-bəl\ *adj* : not capable of being sedimented under specified conditions (as of centrifugation)
[1]non·sense \'nän-,sen(t)s, 'nän(t)-sən(t)s\ *n* **1 a** : words or language having no meaning or conveying no intelligible ideas **b** (1) : language, conduct, or an idea that is absurd or contrary to good sense (2) : an instance of absurd action **2 a** : things of no importance or value : TRIFLES **b** : affected or impudent conduct ⟨took no ~ from his subordinates⟩ **3** : nonsense genetic material — **non·sen·si·cal** \(')nän-'sen(t)-si-kəl\ *adj* — **non·sen·si·cal·ly** \-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **non·sen·si·cal·ness** \-kəl-nəs\ *n*
[2]nonsense *adj* **1** : consisting of an arbitrary grouping of speech sounds or symbols ⟨\'shrȯg-,thī-əmpth\ is a ~ word⟩ ⟨a ~ syllable⟩ **2** : consisting of one or more codons that do not code for any amino acid and usu. cause termination of the molecular chain in protein synthesis ⟨~ mutation⟩
nonsense verse *n* : humorous or whimsical verse that features unique characters and actions and often contains evocative but meaningless nonce words
non seq *abbr* non sequitur
non se·qui·tur \(')nän-'sek-wət-ər *also* -,tů(ə)r\ *n* [L, it does not follow] **1** : an inference that does not follow from the premises; *specif* : a fallacy resulting from a simple conversion of a universal affirmative proposition or from the transposition of a condition and its consequent **2** : a statement (as a response) that does not follow logically from anything previously said
non·sig·nif·i·cant \,nän(t)-sig-'nif-i-kənt\ *adj* : not significant: as **a** : INSIGNIFICANT **b** : MEANINGLESS **c** : having or yielding a value lying within limits between which variation is attributed to chance ⟨a ~ statistical test⟩ — **non·sig·nif·i·cant·ly** *adv*
non·sked \'nän-'sked\ *n* [by shortening & alter. fr. *nonscheduled*] : a nonscheduled airline or transport plane.
non·skid \-'skid\ *adj* : designed or equipped to prevent skidding
non·slip \-'slip\ *adj* : designed to reduce or prevent slipping
non·so·cial \(')nän-'sō-shəl\ *adj* : not socially oriented : lacking a social component ⟨~ speech continues . . . in the stream of consciousness —Joseph Church⟩ ***syn*** see UNSOCIAL ***ant*** social
non·sport·ing \-'spōrt-iŋ, -'spȯrt-\ *adj* : lacking the qualities characteristic of a hunting dog
non·stan·dard \-'stan-dərd\ *adj* **1** : not standard **2** : not conforming in pronunciation, grammatical construction, idiom, or word choice to the usage generally characteristic of educated native speakers of a language — compare SUBSTANDARD
non·start·er \-'stärt-ər\ *n* **1** : one that does not start **2** : one that gets off to a poor start
non·ste·roid \-'stī(ə)r-,ȯid *also* -'ste(ə)r-\ *n* : a compound and esp. a drug that is not a steroid — **nonsteroid** *or* **non·ste·roi·dal** \,nän-stə-'rȯid-ᵊl\ *adj*
non·stick \'nän-'stik\ *adj* [[3]*stick*] : allowing of easy removal of cooked food particles ⟨a ~ coating in a frying pan⟩
non·stop \'nän-'stäp\ *adj* : done, made, or held without a stop : not easing or letting up — **nonstop** *adv*
non·such \'nən-,səch *also* 'nän-\ *var of* NONESUCH
non·suit \'nän-'süt\ *n* [ME, fr. AF *nounsuyte*, fr. *noun-* non- + OF *siute* following, pursuit — more at SUIT] : a judgment against a plaintiff for his failure to prosecute his case or inability to establish a prima facie case — **nonsuit** *vt*

non·sup·port \ˌnän(t)-sə-ˈpō(ə)rt, -ˈpȯ(ə)rt\ *n* : failure to support; *specif* : failure (as of a parent) to honor a statutory or contractual obligation to provide maintenance
non·swim·mer \ˈnän-ˈswim-ər\ *n* : one who is unable to swim
non·syl·lab·ic \ˌnän(t)-sə-ˈlab-ik\ *adj* : not constituting a syllable or the nucleus of a syllable ⟨\n\ is syllabic in \ˈbät-ᵊn-ē\ *botany*, ~ in \ˈbät-nē\⟩ ⟨the second vowel of a falling diphthong is ~ (as \i\ in \ȯi\)⟩
non·sys·tem \ˈnän-ˈsis-təm\ *n* : a system that lacks effective organization
non·tar·get \-ˈtär-gət\ *adj* : not being the intended object of action by a particular agent ⟨effect of insecticides on ~ organisms⟩
non·teach·ing \-ˈtē-chiŋ\ *adj* : not concerned with or involving teaching
non·ten·ured \-ˈten-yərd\ *adj* : not having tenure
non·ti·tle \-ˈtīt-ᵊl\ *adj* : of, relating to, or being an athletic contest in which a title is not at stake
non·triv·i·al \(ˈ)nän-ˈtriv-ē-əl\ *adj* **1** : not trivial **2** : having the value of at least one variable not equal to zero ⟨~ solutions to linear equations⟩
non trop·po \(ˈ)nän-ˈtrȯ-(ˌ)pō, ˈnōn-\ *adv or adj* [It, lit., not too much] : without excess — used to qualify a direction in music
non–U \(ˈ)nän-ˈyü\ *adj* : not characteristic of the upper classes
non·union \(ˈ)nän-ˈyü-nyən\ *adj* **1** : not belonging to or connected with a trade union ⟨~ carpenters⟩ ⟨a ~ job⟩ **2** : not recognizing or favoring trade unions or their members
non·use \ˈnän-ˈyüs\ *n* **1** : failure to use ⟨~ of available material⟩ **2** : the fact or condition of not being used
non·us·er \-ˈyü-zər\ *n* : one who does not make use of something (as an available public facility or a harmful drug)
non·vec·tor \(ˈ)nän-ˈvek-tər\ *n* : an organism (as an insect) that does not transmit a particular pathogen (as a virus)
non·ver·bal \-ˈvər-bəl\ *adj* : not verbal: as **a** : being other than verbal ⟨~ factors⟩ **b** : involving minimal use of language ⟨~ tests⟩ **c** : ranking low in verbal skill — **non·ver·bal·ly** \-bə-lē\ *adv*
non·vi·a·ble \-ˈvī-ə-bəl\ *adj* : not capable of living, growing, or developing and functioning successfully
non·vi·o·lence \-ˈvī-ə-lən(t)s\ *n* **1** : abstention from violence as a matter of principle; *also* : the principle of such abstention **2 a** : the quality or state of being nonviolent : avoidance of violence **b** : nonviolent demonstrations for the purpose of securing political ends ⟨studied the history and techniques of ~⟩
non·vi·o·lent \-lənt\ *adj* : abstaining or free from violence — **non·vi·o·lent·ly** *adv*
non·vol·a·tile \-ˈväl-ət-ᵊl\ *adj* : not volatile; *esp* : not volatilizing readily
non–West·ern \(ˈ)nän-ˈwes-tərn\ *adj* **1** : not being part of the western tradition ⟨~ countries⟩ **2** : of or relating to non-Western societies ⟨~ values⟩
non·white \-ˈhwīt, -ˈwīt\ *n* : a person whose features and esp. whose skin color are distinctively different than those of Caucasians of northwestern Europe; *esp* : one who has African ancestors of the black race — **nonwhite** *adj*
non·ze·ro \-ˈzē-(ˌ)rō, -ˈzi(ə)r-(ˌ)ō\ *adj* : being, having, or involving a value other than zero
¹noo·dle \ˈnüd-ᵊl\ *n* [perh. alter. of *noddle*] **1** : a stupid person : SIMPLETON **2** : HEAD
²noodle *n* [G *nudel*] : a food paste made with egg and shaped typically in ribbon form
³noodle *vi* **noo·dled; noo·dling** \ˈnüd-liŋ, -ᵊl-iŋ\ [imit.] : to improvise on an instrument in an informal or desultory manner
nook \ˈnu̇k\ *n* [ME *noke, nok*] **1** *chiefly Scot* : a right-angled corner **2 a** : an interior angle formed by two meeting walls : RECESS **b** : a secluded or sheltered place or part
nooky \ˈnu̇k-ē\ *n* [prob. fr. *nook* + *-y*, n. suffix forming diminutives] : SEXUAL INTERCOURSE — usu. considered vulgar
noon \ˈnün\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *nōn* ninth hour from sunrise, fr. L *nona*, fr. fem. of *nonus* ninth; akin to L *novem* nine — more at NINE] **1** : the middle of the day : MIDDAY **2** *archaic* : MIDNIGHT — used chiefly in the phrase *noon of night* **3** : the highest point
noon·day \-ˌdā\ *n* : MIDDAY
no one *pron* : no person : NOBODY
noon·ing \ˈnü-niŋ, -nən\ *n* **1** *chiefly dial* : a meal eaten at noon **2** *chiefly dial* : a period at noon for eating or resting
noon·tide \ˈnün-ˌtīd\ *n* **1** : the time of noon : MIDDAY **2** : the highest or culminating point
noon·time \-ˌtīm\ *n* : NOONTIDE
¹noose \ˈnüs, *Brit also* ˈnüz\ *n* [prob. fr. Prov. *nous* knot, fr. L *nodus* — more at NET] **1** : a loop with a running knot that binds closer the more it is drawn **2** : something that snares like a noose
²noose *vt* **noosed; noos·ing** **1** : to secure by a noose **2** : to make a noose in or of
noo·sphere \ˈnō-ə-ˌsfi(ə)r\ *n* [ISV *noo-* mind (fr. Gk *noos, nous*) + *sphere*] : the biosphere as altered consciously or unconsciously by human activities
Noot·ka \ˈnu̇t-kə\ *n, pl* **Nootka** *or* **Nootkas** **1** : a member of a Wakashan people of Vancouver Island and the Cape Flattery region in northwestern Washington **2** : the language of the Nootka people
NOP *abbr* not otherwise provided for
no·pal \nō-ˈpäl, -ˈpal; ˈnō-pəl\ *n* [Sp. fr. Nahuatl *nopalli*] : any of a genus (*Nopalea*) of cacti that differ from the prickly pears in having erect petals and scarlet flowers with the stamens much longer than the petals; *broadly* : PRICKLY PEAR
no–par *or* **no–par–val·ue** *adj* : having no nominal value ⟨~ stocks⟩
nope \ˈnōp, *or with glottal stop instead of* p\ *adv* [by alter.] : NO
¹nor \nər, (ˈ)nȯ(ə)r\ *conj* [ME, contr. of *nother* neither, nor, fr. *nother*, pron. & adj., neither — more at NEITHER] **1** — used as a function word to introduce the second or last member or the second and each following member of a series of items each of which is negated ⟨neither here ~ there⟩ ⟨not done by you ~ me ~ anyone⟩ **2** — used as a function word to introduce and negate a following clause or phrase **3** *archaic* : NEITHER
²nor \nər\ *conj* [ME, perh. fr. ¹*nor*] *dial* : THAN
Nor *abbr* Norway, Norwegian
NOR \ˈnȯ(ə)r\ *n* [*not or*] : a computer logic circuit that produces an output that is the inverse of that of an OR circuit
nor·adren·a·line *also* **nor·adren·a·lin** \ˌnȯr-ə-ˈdren-ᵊl-ən\ *n* [*nor*mal + *adrenaline*] : NOREPINEPHRINE
¹Nor·dic \ˈnȯrd-ik\ *adj* [F *nordique*, fr. *nord* north, fr. OE *north*] **1** : of or relating to the Germanic peoples of northern Europe and esp. of Scandinavia **2** : of or relating to a physical type characterized by tall stature, long head, light skin and hair, and blue eyes **3** : of or relating to competitive ski events consisting of ski jumping and cross-country racing — compare ALPINE
²Nordic *n* **1** : a native of northern Europe **2** : a person of Nordic physical type or of a hypothetical Nordic division of the Caucasian race **3** : a member of the peoples of Scandinavia
Nordic combined *n* : a competitive ski event consisting of cross-country skiing and ski jumping
nor·epi·neph·rine \ˈnȯ(ə)r-ˌep-ə-ˈnef-rən\ *n* [*nor*mal + *epinephrine*] : a crystalline compound $C_8H_{11}NO_3$ that occurs with epinephrine, has a strong vasoconstrictor action, and mediates transmission of sympathetic nerve impulses
Norf *abbr* Norfolk
Nor·folk jacket \ˌnȯr-fək, -ˌfȯk-\ *n* [*Norfolk*, England] : a loose-fitting belted single-breasted jacket with box pleats
no·ria \ˈnōr-ē-ə, ˈnȯr-\ *n* [Sp, fr. Ar *nāʿūrah*] : an undershot waterwheel of the bucket type used esp. in primitive irrigation systems
nor·land \ˈnȯ(ə)r-lənd\ *n, chiefly dial* : NORTHLAND
¹norm \ˈnȯ(ə)rm\ *n* [L *norma*, lit., carpenter's square] **1** : an authoritative standard : MODEL **2** : a principle of right action binding upon the members of a group and serving to guide, control or regulate proper and acceptable behavior **3** : AVERAGE: as **a** : a set standard of development or achievment usu. derived from the average or median achievement of a large group **b** : a pattern or trait taken to be typical in the behavior of a social group **4 a** : a real-valued nonnegative function defined on a vector space and satisfying the conditions that the function is zero if and only if the vector is zero, the function of the product of a scalar and a vector is equal to the product of the absolute value of the scalar and the function of the vector, and the function of the sum of two vectors is less than or equal to the sum of the functions of the two vectors; *specif* : the square root of the sum of the squares of the absolute values of the elements of a matrix or of the components of a vector **b** : the greatest distance between two successive points of a set of points that partition an interval into smaller intervals ***syn*** see AVERAGE
²norm *abbr* normal
¹nor·mal \ˈnȯr-məl\ *adj* [L *normalis*, fr. *norma* carpenter's square] **1** : PERPENDICULAR; *esp* : perpendicular to a tangent at a point of tangency **2** : according with, constituting, or not deviating from a norm, rule, or principle : REGULAR **3** : occurring naturally ⟨~ immunity⟩ **4 a** : of, relating to, or characterized by average intelligence or development **b** : free from mental disorder : SANE **5 a** *of a solution* : having a concentration of one gram equivalent of solute per liter **b** : containing neither basic hydroxyl nor acid hydrogen ⟨~ silver phosphate⟩ **c** : not associated ⟨~ molecules⟩ **d** : having a straight-chain structure ⟨~ pentane⟩ ⟨~ butyl alcohol⟩ **6** *of a subgroup* : having the property that every coset produced by operating on the left by a given element is equal to the coset produced by operating on the right by the same element **7** : relating to, involving, or being a normal curve or normal distribution ⟨~ approximation to the binomial distribution⟩ **8** *of a matrix* : having the property of commutativity under multiplication by the transpose of the matrix each of whose elements is a conjugate complex number with respect to the corresponding element of the given matrix ***syn*** see REGULAR ***ant*** abnormal — **nor·mal·i·ty** \nȯr-ˈmal-ət-ē\ *n* — **nor·mal·ly** \ˈnȯr-mə-lē\ *adv*
²normal *n* **1 a** : a normal line **b** : the portion of a normal line to a plane curve between the curve and the x-axis **2** : one that is normal **3** : a form or state regarded as the norm : STANDARD
normal curve *n* : the symmetrical bell-shaped curve of a normal distribution
nor·mal·cy \ˈnȯr-məl-sē\ *n* : the state or fact of being normal
normal distribution *n* : a probability density function that approximates the distribution of many random variables (as the proportion of outcomes of a particular sort in a large number of independent repetitions of an experiment in which the probabilities remain constant from trial to trial) and that has the form

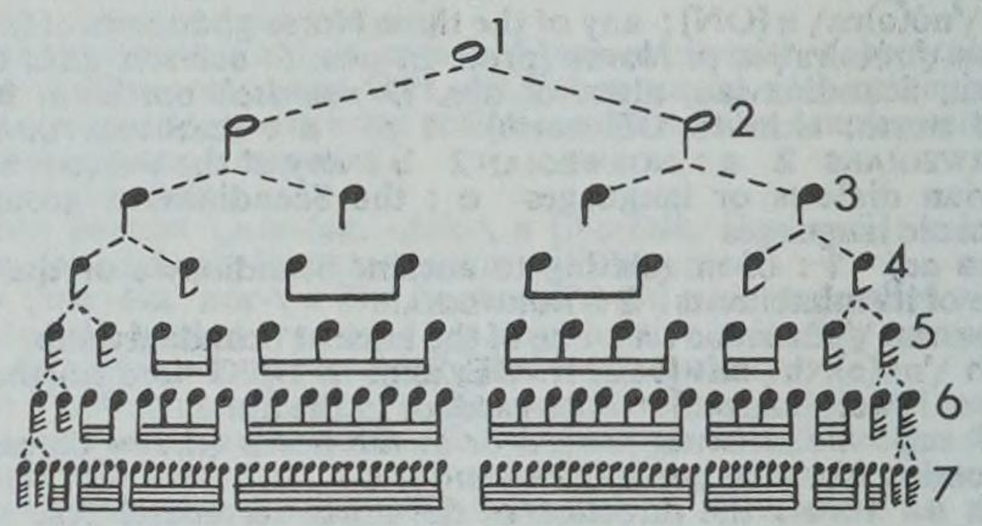
$$f(x) = \frac{1}{\sigma\sqrt{2\pi}}\, e^{-\frac{1}{2}\left(\frac{x-\mu}{\sigma}\right)^2}$$

where μ is the mean and σ is the standard deviation — compare NORMAL CURVE
normal divisor *n* : a normal subgroup
nor·mal·ize \ˈnȯr-mə-ˌlīz\ *vt* **ized; -iz·ing** **1** : to make conform to or reduce to a norm or standard **2** : to make normal (as by a transformation of variables) — **nor·mal·iz·able** \-ˌlī-zə-bəl\ *adj* — **nor·mal·iza·tion** \ˌnȯr-mə-lə-ˈzā-shən\ *n*
nor·mal·iz·er \ˈnȯr-mə-ˌlī-zər\ *n* **1** : one that normalizes **2 a** : a subgroup consisting of those elements of a group for which the group operation with regard to a given element is commutative **b** : the set of elements of a group for which the group operation with regard to every element of a given subgroup is commutative
normal orthogonal *adj* : ORTHONORMAL
normal school *n* [trans. of F *école normale*; fr. the fact that the first French school so named was intended to serve as a model] : a usu. two-year school for training chiefly elementary teachers
Nor·man \ˈnȯr-mən\ *n* [ME, fr. OF *Normant*, fr. ON *Northmann-*, *Northmathr* Norseman, fr. *northr* north + *mann-*, *mathr* man; akin to OE *north* and to OE *man*] **1** : a native or inhabitant of Normandy: **a** : one of the Scandinavian conquerors of Normandy in the 10th century **b** : one of the Norman-French conquerors of England in 1066 **2** : NORMAN-FRENCH — **Norman** *adj*

Norman architecture *n* : a Romanesque style first appearing in and near Normandy about A.D. 950; *also* : architecture resembling or imitating this style
Norman–French *n* **1** : the French language of the medieval Normans **2** : the modern dialect of Normandy
nor·ma·tive \'nȯr-mət-iv\ *adj* [F *normatif*, fr. *norme* norm, fr. L *norma*] : of, relating or conforming to, or prescribing norms — **nor·ma·tive·ly** *adv* — **nor·ma·tive·ness** *n*
normed \'nȯ(ə)rmd\ *adj* : being a mathematical entity upon which a norm is defined ⟨a ~ vector space⟩
nor·mo·ten·sive \ˌnȯr-mō-'ten(t)-siv\ *adj* [*normal* + *-o-* + *tension* + *-ive*] : having blood pressure typical of the age group and community to which one belongs — **normotensive** *n*
nor·mo·ther·mia \-'thər-mē-ə\ *n* [NL, fr. *normalis* normal + *-o-* + *-thermia* -thermy] : normal body temperature — **nor·mo·ther·mic** \-mik\ *adj*
Norn \'nȯ(ə)rn\ *n* [ON] : any of the three Norse goddesses of fate
¹Norse \'nȯ(ə)rs\ *n, pl* **Norse** [prob. fr. obs. D *noorsch*, adj., Norwegian, Scandinavian, alter. of obs. D *noordsch* northern, fr. D *noord* north; akin to OE *north*] **1** *pl* **a** : SCANDINAVIANS **b** : NORWEGIANS **2 a** : NORWEGIAN 2 **b** : any of the western Scandinavian dialects or languages **c** : the Scandinavian group of Germanic languages
²Norse *adj* **1** : of or relating to ancient Scandinavia or the language of its inhabitants **2** : NORWEGIAN
Norse·man \'nȯr-smən\ *n* : one of the ancient Scandinavians
¹north \'nȯ(ə)rth\ *adv* [ME, fr. OE; akin to OHG *nord* north, Gk *nerteros* lower, infernal] : to, toward, or in the north
²north *adj* **1** : situated toward or at the north ⟨the ~ entrance⟩ **2** : coming from the north ⟨a ~ wind⟩
³north *n* **1 a** : the direction of the north terrestrial pole : the direction to the left of one facing east **b** : the compass point directly opposite to south **2** *cap* : regions or countries lying to the north of a specified or implied point of orientation **3** *often cap* **a** : the one of four positions at 90-degree intervals that lies to the north or opposite south **b** : a person (as a bridge player) occupying this position in the course of a specified activity
Northants *or* **Nthptn** *abbr* Northamptonshire
north·bound \'nȯrth-ˌbau̇nd\ *adj* : traveling or heading north
north by east : a compass point that is one point east of due north : N11°15′E
north by west : a compass point that is one point west of due north : N11°15′W
¹north·east \nȯr-'thēst, *naut* nȯ-'rēst\ *adv* : to, toward, or in the northeast
²northeast *n* **1 a** : the general direction between north and east **b** : the point midway between the north and east compass points **2** *cap* : regions or countries lying to the northeast of a specified or implied point of orientation
³northeast *adj* **1** : coming from the northeast ⟨a ~ wind⟩ **2** : situated toward or at the northeast ⟨the ~ corner⟩
northeast by east : a compass point that is one point east of due northeast : N56°15′E
northeast by north : a compass point that is one point north of due northeast : N33°45′E
north·east·er \nȯr-'thē-stər, nȯ-'rē-\ *n* **1** : a strong northeast wind **2** : a storm with northeast winds
north·east·er·ly \-stər-lē\ *adv or adj* [²*northeast* + *-erly* (as in *easterly*)] **1** : from the northeast **2** : toward the northeast
north·east·ern \-stərn\ *adj* [²*northeast* + *-ern* (as in *eastern*)] **1** *often cap* : of, relating to, or characteristic of a region conventionally designated Northeast **2** : lying toward or coming from the northeast — **north·east·ern·most** \-stərn-ˌmōst\ *adj*
North·east·ern·er \-stə(r)-nər\ *n* : a native or inhabitant of a northeastern region (as of the U.S.)
¹north·east·ward \nȯr-'thēs-twərd, nȯ-'rēs-\ *adv or adj* : toward the northeast — **north·east·wards** \-wərdz\ *adv*
²northeastward *n* : NORTHEAST
north·er \'nȯr-thər\ *n* **1** : a strong north wind **2** : a storm with north winds
¹north·er·ly \-lē\ *adj or adv* [³*north* + *-erly* (as in *easterly*)] **1** : situated toward or belonging to the north ⟨the ~ border⟩ **2** : coming from the north ⟨a ~ wind⟩
²northerly *n, pl* **-lies** : a wind from the north
¹north·ern \'nȯr-thə(r)n\ *adj* [ME *northerne*, fr. OE; akin to OHG *nordrōni* northern, OE *north* north] **1** *cap* **a** : of, relating to, or characteristic of a region conventionally designated North **b** : of, relating to, or constituting the northern dialect **2 a** : lying toward the north **b** : coming from the north ⟨a ~ storm⟩ — **north·ern·most** \-ˌmōst\ *adj*
²northern *n* : the dialect of English spoken in the part of the U.S. north of a line running northwest from central New Jersey across the northern tier of counties in Pennsylvania and through northern Ohio, Indiana, and Illinois
northern corn rootworm *n* : a corn rootworm (*Diabrotica longicornis*) often destructive to maize in the northern parts of the central and eastern U.S.
Northern Cross *n* : a cross formed by six stars in Cygnus
Northern Crown *n* : CORONA BOREALIS
North·ern·er \'nȯr-thə(r)-nər\ *n* : a native or inhabitant of the North; *esp* : a native or resident of the northern part of the U.S.
northern lights *n pl* : AURORA BOREALIS
northern white cedar *n* : an arborvitae (*Thuja occidentalis*) of eastern No. America that has branchlets in horizontal planes; *also* : its wood — called also *white cedar*
North Germanic *n* : a subdivision of the Germanic languages including Icelandic, Norwegian, Swedish, and Danish — see INDO-EUROPEAN LANGUAGES table
north·ing \'nȯr-thiŋ, -thiŋ\ *n* **1** : difference in latitude to the north from the last preceding point of reckoning **2** : northerly progress
north·land \'nȯrth-ˌland, -lənd\ *n, often cap* : land in the north : the north of a country
North·man \'nȯrth-mən\ *n* : NORSEMAN
north–north·east \'nȯrth-ˌnȯr-'thēst, -ˌnȯ-'rēst\ *n* : a compass point that is two points east of due north : N22°30′E
north–north·west \'nȯrth-ˌnȯr(th)-'west\ *n* : a compass point that is two points west of due north : N22°30′W
north pole *n* **1 a** *often cap N&P* : the northernmost point of the earth; *broadly* : the corresponding point of a celestial body (as a planet) **b** : the zenith of the heavens as viewed from the north terrestrial pole **2** *of a magnet* : the pole that points toward the north
North Star *n* : the star of the northern hemisphere toward which the axis of the earth points — called also *polestar*
¹North·um·bri·an \nȯr-'thəm-brē-ən\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or characteristic of ancient Northumbria, its people, or its language **2** : of, relating to, or characteristic of Northumberland, its people, or its language
²Northumbrian *n* **1** : a native or inhabitant of ancient Northumbria **2** : a native or inhabitant of Northumberland **3 a** : the Old English dialect of Northumbria **b** : the Modern English dialect of Northumberland
¹north·ward \'nȯrth-wərd\ *adv or adj* : toward the north — **north·wards** \-wərdz\ *adv*
²northward *n* : northward direction or part
¹north·west \nȯrth-'west, *naut* nȯr-'west\ *adv* : to, toward, or in the northwest
²northwest *n* **1 a** : the general direction between north and west **b** : the point midway between the north and west compass points **2** *cap* : regions or countries lying to the northwest of a specified or implied point of orientation
³northwest *adj* **1** : coming from the northwest **2** : situated toward or at the northwest
northwest by north : a compass point that is one point north of due northwest : N33°45′W
northwest by west : a compass point that is one point west of due northwest : N56°15′W
north·west·er \nȯr(th)-'wes-tər\ *n* : a strong northwest wind
north·west·er·ly \-lē\ *adv or adj* [²*northwest* + *-erly* (as in *westerly*)] **1** : from the northwest **2** : toward the northwest
north·west·ern \-'wes-tərn\ *adj* [²*northwest* + *-ern* (as in *western*)] **1** *often cap* : of, relating to, or characteristic of a region conventionally designated Northwest **2** : lying toward or coming from the northwest
North·west·ern·er \-tə(r)-nər\ *n* : a native or inhabitant of the Northwest and esp. of the northwestern part of the U.S.
¹north·west·ward \-'wes-twərd\ *adv or adj* : toward the northwest — **north·west·wards** \-twərdz\ *adv*
²northwestward *n* : NORTHWEST
nor·trip·ty·line \nȯr-'trip-tə-ˌlēn\ *n* [*normal* + *-triptylene* (of unknown origin)] : a tricyclic drug $C_{19}H_{21}N$ that is used as an antidepressant
Norw *abbr* Norway; Norwegian
Nor·way maple \ˌnȯ(ə)r-ˌwā-\ *n* : a European maple (*Acer platanoides*) with dark green or often reddish or red veined leaves that is much planted for shade in the U.S.
Norway spruce *n* : a widely cultivated spruce (*Picea abies*) that is native to northern Europe and has a pyramidal shape, spreading branches and pendulous branchlets, dark foliage, and long pendulous cones
Nor·we·gian \nȯr-'wē-jən\ *n* [ML *Norwegia* Norway] **1 a** : a native or inhabitant of Norway **b** : a person of Norwegian descent **2** : the Germanic language of the Norwegian people — **Norwegian** *adj*
Norwegian elkhound *n* : any of a Norwegian breed of medium-sized compact short-bodied dogs with a very heavy gray coat tipped with black
Nor·wich terrier \ˌnȯr(ˌ)wich-, *Brit* ˌnär-ich- *or* ˌnär-ij-\ *n* [*Norwich*, England] : any of an English breed of small active low-set terriers that have a rather long straight wiry coat of red, black and tan, or grizzle
nos *abbr* numbers
NOS *abbr* not otherwise specified
nos- *or* **noso-** *comb form* [Gk, fr. *nosos*] : disease ⟨*nos*ology⟩
¹nose \'nōz\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *nosu*; akin to OHG *nasa* nose, L *nasus*] **1 a** : the part of the face that bears the nostrils and covers the anterior part of the nasal cavity; *broadly* : this part together with the nasal cavity **b** : the anterior part of the head above or projecting beyond the muzzle : SNOUT, PROBOSCIS, MUZZLE **2 a** : the sense of smell : OLFACTION **b** : AROMA, BOUQUET **3** : the vertebrate olfactory organ **4 a** : the forward end or projection of something **b** : the projecting or working end of a tool **5** : the stem of a boat or its protective metal covering **6 a** : the nose as a symbol of prying or meddling curiosity or interference **b** : a knack for discovery or understanding : FLAIR ⟨a keen ~ for absurdity⟩ — **on the nose** **1** : at or to a target point ⟨the bombs landed right *on the nose*⟩ **2** : to win — used of horse or dog racing bets
²nose *vb* **nosed; nos·ing** *vt* **1** : to detect by or as if by smell : SCENT **2 a** : to push or move with the nose **b** : to advance the nose into **3** : to touch or rub with the nose : NUZZLE **4** : to defeat by a narrow margin in a sport or contest ~ *vi* **1** : to use the nose in examining, smelling, or showing affection **2** : to search impertinently : PRY **3** : to move ahead slowly or cautiously ⟨the car *nosed* out into traffic⟩
nose·band \'nōz-ˌband\ *n* : the part of a headstall that passes over a horse's nose
nose·bleed \-ˌblēd\ *n* : an attack of bleeding from the nose

nose cone *n* : a protective cone constituting the forward end of a rocket or missile
nosed \'nōzd\ *adj* : having a nose esp. of a specified kind — usu. used in combination ⟨snub-*nosed*⟩
nose dive *n* **1** : the downward nose-first plunge of a flying object (as an airplane) **2** : a sudden extreme drop — **nose-dive** *vi*
no-see-um \nō-'sē-əm\ *n* [fr. the words (as supposedly spoken by American Indians) *no see um* you don't see them] : BITING MIDGE
nose·gay \'nōz-ˌgā\ *n* [¹*nose* + E dial. *gay* (ornament)] : a small bunch of flowers : POSY
nose·piece \-ˌpēs\ *n* **1** : a piece of armor for protecting the nose **2** : the end piece of a microscope body to which an objective is attached **3** : the bridge of a pair of eyeglasses
¹nosh \'näsh\ *vb* [Yiddish *nashn*, fr. MHG *naschen* to eat on the sly] *vi* : to eat a snack ~ *vt* : CHEW, MUNCH — **nosh·er** *n*
²nosh *n* : a light snack
no-show \(')nō-'shō\ *n* [¹*no* + *show*, v. (as in *show up*)] : a person who reserves space on a train, ship, or airplane but neither uses nor cancels the reservation
nos·ing \'nō-ziŋ\ *n* : the usu. rounded edge of a stair tread that projects over the riser; *also* : any of various similar rounded projections
no·sol·o·gy \nō-'säl-ə-jē, -'zäl-\ *n* [prob. fr. NL *nosologia*, fr. *nos-* + *-logia* -logy] **1** : a branch of medical science that deals with classification of diseases **2** : a classification or list of diseases — **no·so·log·i·cal** \ˌnō-sə-'läj-i-kəl\ *or* **no·so·log·ic** \-ik\ *adj* — **no·so·log·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
nos·tal·gia \nä-'stal-jə, nə- *also* nō- & -'stäl-\ *n* [NL, fr. Gk *nostos* return home + NL *-algia*; akin to OE *genesan* to survive, Skt *nasate* he approaches] **1** : the state of being homesick : HOMESICKNESS **2** : a wistful or excessively sentimental sometimes abnormal yearning for return to or of some past period or irrecoverable condition — **nos·tal·gic** \-jik\ *adj* — **nos·tal·gi·cal·ly** \-ji-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
nos·toc \'näs-ˌtäk\ *n* [NL, genus name] : any of a genus (*Nostoc*) of blue-green algae that are able to use atmospheric nitrogen
nos·tril \'näs-trəl\ *n* [ME *nosethirl*, fr. OE *nosthyrl*, fr. *nosu* nose + *thyrel* hole; akin to OE *thurh* through] **1** : an external naris; *broadly* : a naris with the adjoining passage on the same side of the nasal septum **2** : either fleshy lateral wall of the nose
nos·trum \'näs-trəm\ *n* [L, neut. of *noster* our, ours, fr. *nos* we — more at US] **1** : a medicine of secret composition recommended by its preparer but usu. without scientific proof of its effectiveness **2** : a questionable remedy or scheme : PANACEA
nosy *or* **nos·ey** \'nō-zē\ *adj* **nos·i·er; -est** [¹*nose*] : of prying or inquisitive disposition or quality : INTRUSIVE — **nos·i·ly** \'nō-zə-lē\ *adv* — **nos·i·ness** \-zē-nəs\ *n*
not \(')nät\ *adv* [ME, alter. of *nought*, fr. *nought*, pron. — more at NAUGHT] **1** — used as a function word to make negative a group of words or a word **2** — used as a function word to stand for the negative of a preceding group of words ⟨is sometimes hard to see and sometimes ~⟩
NOT \'nät\ *n* [*not*] : a logical operator that produces a statement that is the inverse of an input statement
not- *or* **noto-** *comb form* [NL, fr. Gk *nōt-*, *nōto-*, fr. *nōton*, *nōtos* back — more at NATES] : back : back part ⟨*noto*chord⟩
nota *pl of* NOTUM
no·ta be·ne \ˌnōt-ə-'bē-nē, -'ben-ē\ [L, mark well] — used to call attention to something important
no·ta·bil·i·ty \ˌnōt-ə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n, pl* **-ties** : a notable or prominent person
¹no·ta·ble \'nōt-ə-bəl, *for 2 also* 'nät-\ *adj* **1 a** : worthy of note : REMARKABLE **b** : DISTINGUISHED, PROMINENT **2** *archaic* : efficient or capable in performance of housewifely duties ***syn*** see NOTEWORTHY — **no·ta·ble·ness** *n* — **no·ta·bly** \-blē\ *adv*
²no·ta·ble \'nōt-ə-bəl\ *n* **1** : a person of note : NOTABILITY **2** *pl, often cap* : a group of persons summoned esp. in monarchical France to act as a deliberative body
no·tar·i·al \nō-'ter-ē-əl\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or characteristic of a notary **2** : done or executed by a notary — **no·tar·i·al·ly** \-ə-lē\ *adv*
no·ta·ri·za·tion \ˌnōt-ə-rə-'zā-shən\ *n* **1** : the act, process, or an instance of notarizing **2** : the notarial certificate appended to a document
no·ta·rize \'nōt-ə-ˌrīz\ *vt* **-rized; -riz·ing** : to acknowledge or attest as a notary public
no·ta·ry public \ˌnōt-ə-rē-\ *n, pl* **notaries public** *or* **notary publics** [ME *notary* clerk, notary public, fr. L *notarius* clerk, secretary, fr. *notarius* of shorthand, fr. *nota* note, shorthand character] : a public officer who attests or certifies writings (as a deed) to make them authentic and takes affidavits, depositions, and protests of negotiable paper
no·tate \'nō-ˌtāt\ *vt* **no·tat·ed; no·tat·ing** [back-formation fr. *notation*] : to put into notation
no·ta·tion \nō-'tā-shən\ *n* [L *notation-*, *notatio*, fr. *notatus*, pp. of *notare* to note] **1** : ANNOTATION, NOTE **2 a** : the act, process, method, or an instance of representing by a system or set of marks, signs, figures, or characters **b** : a system of characters, symbols, or abbreviated expressions used in an art or science to express technical facts or quantities — **no·ta·tion·al** \-shnəl, -shən-ᵊl\ *adj*
¹notch \'näch\ *n* [perh. alter. (fr. incorrect division of *an otch*) of (assumed) *otch*, fr. MF *oche*] **1 a** : a V-shaped indentation **b** : a slit made to serve as a record **c** : a rounded indentation cut on the fore edge of a book **2** : a deep close pass : GAP **3** : DEGREE, STEP — **notched** \'nächt\ *adj*
²notch *vt* **1** : to cut or make a notch in **2 a** : to mark or record by a notch **b** : SCORE, ACHIEVE
notch·back \'näch-ˌbak\ *n* **1** : a back on a closed passenger automobile having a distinct deck as opposed to a fastback **2** : an automobile having a notchback
¹note \'nōt\ *vt* **not·ed; not·ing** [ME *noten*, fr. OF *noter*, fr. L *notare* to mark, note, fr. *nota*] **1 a** : to notice or observe with care **b** : to record or preserve in writing **2 a** : to make special mention of : REMARK **b** : INDICATE, SHOW — **not·er** *n*

²note *n* [L *nota* mark, character, written note] **1 a** (1) *obs* : MELODY, SONG (2) : TONE 2a (3) : CALL, SOUND; *esp* : the musical call of a bird **b** : a written symbol used to indicate duration and pitch of a tone by its shape and position on the staff **2 a** : a characteristic feature (as of odor or flavor) **b** : MOOD, QUALITY **c** : an element which reveals an emotion ⟨a ~ of sadness in her voice⟩ **3 a** (1) : MEMORANDUM (2) : a condensed or informal record **b** (1) : a brief comment or explanation (2) : a printed comment or reference set apart from the text **c** (1) : a written promise to pay a debt (2) : a piece of paper money **d** (1) : a short informal letter (2) : a formal diplomatic communication **e** : a scholarly or technical essay shorter than an article and restricted in scope **f** : a sheet of notepaper **4 a** : DISTINCTION, REPUTATION ⟨a figure of international ~⟩ **b** : OBSERVATION, NOTICE ⟨took full ~ of the proceedings⟩ **c** : KNOWLEDGE, INFORMATION



relative duration of notes 1b: *1* whole, *2* half, *3* quarter, *4* eighth, *5* sixteenth, *6* thirty-second, *7* sixty-fourth

note·book \'nōt-ˌbůk\ *n* : a book for notes or memoranda
note·case \-ˌkās\ *n, Brit* : BILLFOLD
not·ed \'nōt-əd\ *adj* : widely and favorably known by reputation ***syn*** see FAMOUS — **not·ed·ly** *adv* — **not·ed·ness** *n*
note·less \'nōt-ləs\ *adj* : not noticed : UNDISTINGUISHED
note of hand : PROMISSORY NOTE
note·pa·per \'nōt-ˌpā-pər\ *n* : writing paper suitable for notes
note·wor·thy \-ˌwər-thē\ *adj* : worthy of or attracting attention esp. because of some special excellence — **note·wor·thi·ly** \-thə-lē\ *adv* — **note·wor·thi·ness** \-thē-nəs\ *n*
syn NOTEWORTHY, NOTABLE, MEMORABLE *shared meaning element* : having a quality that demands attention
¹noth·ing \'nəth-iŋ\ *pron* [ME, fr. OE *nān thing*, *nāthing*, fr. *nān* no + *thing* — more at NONE] **1** : not any thing : no thing ⟨leaves ~ to the imagination⟩ **2** : no part **3** : one of no interest, value, or consequence ⟨she means ~ to me⟩ — **nothing doing** : by no means : definitely no — **nothing short of** : nothing less than : something which is ⟨the plan is *nothing short of* revolutionary⟩
²nothing *adv* : not at all : in no degree
³nothing *n* **1 a** : something that does not exist **b** : the absence of all magnitude or quantity; *also* : ZERO 1a **c** : NOTHINGNESS 3b **2** : someone or something of no or slight value or size
⁴nothing *adj* : of no account : WORTHLESS
noth·ing·ness \-nəs\ *n* **1** : the quality or state of being nothing: as **a** : NONEXISTENCE **b** : utter insignificance **c** : DEATH **2** : something insignificant or valueless **3 a** : VOID, EMPTINESS **b** : a metaphysical entity opposed to and devoid of being and regarded by some existentialists as the ground of anxiety
¹no·tice \'nōt-əs\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, acquaintance, fr. L *notitia* knowledge, acquaintance, fr. *notus* known, fr. pp. of *noscere* to come to know — more at KNOW] **1 a** (1) : warning or intimation of something : ANNOUNCEMENT (2) : notification by one of the parties to an agreement or relation of intention of terminating it at a specified time (3) : the condition of being warned or notified — usu. used in the phrase *on notice* **b** : INFORMATION, INTELLIGENCE **2 a** : ATTENTION, HEED **b** : polite or favorable attention : CIVILITY **3** : a written or printed announcement **4** : a short critical account or examination
²notice *vt* **no·ticed; no·tic·ing** **1** : to give notice of **2 a** : to comment upon **b** : REVIEW **3 a** : to treat with attention or civility **b** : to take notice of : MARK **4** : to give a formal notice to
no·tice·able \'nōt-ə-sə-bəl\ *adj* **1** : worthy of notice **2** : capable of being noticed — **no·tice·ably** \-blē\ *adv*
syn NOTICEABLE, REMARKABLE, PROMINENT, OUTSTANDING, CONSPICUOUS, SALIENT, SIGNAL, STRIKING *shared meaning element* : attracting notice or attention
no·ti·fi·ca·tion \ˌnōt-ə-fə-'kā-shən\ *n* **1** : the act or an instance of notifying **2** : a written or printed matter that gives notice
no·ti·fy \'nōt-ə-ˌfī\ *vt* **-fied; -fy·ing** [ME *notifien*, fr. MF *notifier* to make known, fr. LL *notificare*, fr. L *notus* known] **1** *obs* : to point out **2** : to give notice of or report the occurrence of ⟨he *notified* his intention to sue⟩ **3** : to give formal notice to ⟨~ a family of the death of a relation⟩ ***syn*** see INFORM — **no·ti·fi·er** \-ˌfī(-ə)r\ *n*
no-till \(')nō-'til\ *n* : NO-TILLAGE
no-till·age \-ij\ *n* : a system of farming that consists of planting a narrow slit trench without tillage and with the use of herbicides to suppress weeds
no·tion \'nō-shən\ *n* [L *notion-*, *notio*, fr. *notus*, pp. of *noscere*] **1 a** (1) : an inclusive general concept (2) : an individual's conception or impression of something known, experienced, or imagined (3) : a theory or belief held by a person or group **b** : a personal inclination : WHIM **2** *obs* : MIND, INTELLECT **3** *pl* : small useful items : SUNDRIES ***syn*** see IDEA
no·tion·al \'nō-shnəl, -shən-ᵊl\ *adj* **1** : THEORETICAL, SPECULATIVE **2** : existing in the mind only : IMAGINARY **3** : given to foolish or fanciful moods or ideas **4 a** : of, relating to, or being a notion or idea : CONCEPTUAL **b** (1) : presenting an idea of a thing, action, or quality ⟨*has* is ~ in *he has luck*, relational in *he has gone*⟩ (2) : of or representing what exists or occurs in the world of things —

no·tion·al·i·ty \ˌnō-shə-ˈnal-ət-ē\ *n* — **no·tion·al·ly** \ˈnō-shnə-lē, -shən-ᵊl-ē\ *adv*
noto- — see NOT-
no·to·chord \ˈnōt-ə-ˌkȯ(ə)rd\ *n* [*not-* + L *chorda* cord — more at CORD] : a longitudinal flexible rod of cells that in the lowest chordates (as a lancelet or a lamprey) and in the embryos of the higher vertebrates forms the supporting axis of the body — **no·to·chor·dal** \ˌnōt-ə-ˈkȯrd-ᵊl\ *adj*
no·to·ri·ety \ˌnōt-ə-ˈrī-ət-ē\ *n, pl* **-eties** [MF or ML; MF *notorieté*, fr. ML *notorietat-, notorietas*, fr. *notorius*] **1** : the quality or state of being notorious **2** : a notorious person
no·to·ri·ous \nō-ˈtōr-ē-əs, nə-, -ˈtȯr-\ *adj* [ML *notorius*, fr. LL *notorium* information, indictment, fr. neut. of (assumed) LL *notorius* making known, fr. L *notus*, pp. of *noscere* to come to know — more at KNOW] : generally known and talked of; *esp* : widely and unfavorably known — **no·to·ri·ous·ly** *adv* — **no·to·ri·ous·ness** *n*
not·or·nis \nō-ˈtȯr-nəs\ *n, pl* **notornis** [NL, genus name, fr. Gk *notos* south + *ornis* bird; akin to Gk *noteros* damp — more at NOURISH, ERNE] : any of a genus (*Notornis*) of flightless New Zealand birds that are related to the gallinules
no–trump \(ˈ)nō-ˈtrəmp\ *adj* : being a bid, contract, or hand suitable to play without any suit being trumps — **no–trump** *n*
Notts *abbr* Nottinghamshire
no·tum \ˈnōt-əm\ *n, pl* **no·ta** \ˈnōt-ə\ [NL, fr. Gk *nōton* back — more at NATES] : the dorsal surface of a thoracic segment of an insect
¹not·with·stand·ing \ˌnät-with-ˈstan-diŋ, -with-\ *prep* [ME *notwithstonding*, fr. *not* + *withstonding*, prp. of *withstonden* to withstand] : in spite of
²notwithstanding *adv* : NEVERTHELESS, HOWEVER
³notwithstanding *conj* : ALTHOUGH
nou·gat \ˈnü-gət, *esp Brit* -ˌgä\ *n* [F, fr. Prov, fr. OProv *nogat*, fr. *noga* nut, fr. L *nuc-, nux* — more at NUT] : a confection of nuts or fruit pieces in a sugar paste
nought \ˈnȯt, ˈnät\ *var of* NAUGHT
nou·me·non \ˈnü-mə-ˌnän\ *n, pl* **-na** \-nə, -ˌnä\ [G, fr. Gk *nooumenon* that which is apprehended by thought, fr. neut. of pres. pass. part. of *noein* to think, conceive, fr. *nous* mind] : a ground of phenomena that according to Kant cannot be experienced, can be known to exist, but to which no properties can be intelligibly ascribed — **nou·men·al** \-mən-ᵊl\ *adj*
noun \ˈnaůn\ *n* [ME *nowne*, fr. AF *noun* name, noun, fr. OF *nom*, fr. L *nomen* — more at NAME] **1** : a word that is the name of something (as a person, animal, plant, place, thing, substance, quality, idea, action, or state) and that in languages with grammatical number, case, and gender is inflected for number and case but has inherent gender **2** : a word except a pronoun used in a sentence as subject or object of a verb, as object of a preposition, as the predicate after a copula, or as a name in an absolute construction
nour·ish \ˈnər-ish, ˈnə-rish\ *vt* [ME *nurishen*, fr. OF *noriss-*, stem of *norrir*, fr. L *nutrire* to suckle, nourish; akin to Gk *nan* to flow, *noteros* damp, L *nare* to swim, Gk *nein*] **1** : NURTURE, REAR **2** : to promote the growth of ⟨no occasions to exercise the feelings nor ~ passion —L. O. Coxe⟩ **3 a** : to furnish or sustain with nutriment : FEED **b** : MAINTAIN, SUPPORT ⟨their profits flow into the underworld and ~ other criminal activities —Beverly Smith⟩ — **nour·ish·er** *n*
nour·ish·ing *adj* : giving nourishment : NUTRITIOUS
nour·ish·ment \ˈnər-ish-mənt, ˈnə-rish-\ *n* **1** : FOOD, NUTRIMENT **2** : the act of nourishing or the state of being nourished
nous \ˈnüs\ *n* [Gk *noos, nous* mind] : MIND, REASON: as **a** : an intelligent purposive principle of the world **b** : the divine reason regarded in Neoplatonism as the first emanation of God
nou·veau riche \ˌnü-ˌvō-ˈrēsh\ *n, pl* **nou·veaux riches** *same*\ [F, lit., new rich] : a person newly rich : PARVENU
nou·velle vague \ˌnü-ˌvel-ˈväg, -ˈvåg\ *n* [F] : NEW WAVE
nov *abbr* novelist
Nov *abbr* November
no·va \ˈnō-və\ *n, pl* **novas** *or* **no·vae** \-(ˌ)vē, -ˌvī\ [NL, fem. of L *novus* new] : a star that suddenly increases its light output tremendously and then fades away to its former obscurity in a few months or years — **no·va·like** \-və-ˌlīk\ *adj*
no·vac·u·lite \nō-ˈvak-yə-ˌlīt\ *n* [L *novacula* razor] : a very hard fine-grained siliceous rock used for whetstones and possibly of sedimentary origin
no·va·tion \nō-ˈvā-shən\ *n* [LL *novation-, novatio* renewal, legal novation, fr. L *novatus*, pp. of *novare* to make new, fr. *novus*] : the substitution of a new legal obligation for an old one
¹nov·el \ˈnäv-əl\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF, new, fr. L *novellus*, fr. dim. of *novus* new — more at NEW] **1** : new and not resembling something formerly known or used **2** : original or striking esp. in conception or style ⟨a ~ scheme to collect money⟩ ***syn*** see NEW
²novel *n* [It *novella*] **1** : an invented prose narrative that is usu. long and complex and deals esp. with human experience through a usu. connected sequence of events **2** : the literary type constituted by novels — **nov·el·is·tic** \ˌnäv-ə-ˈlis-tik\ *adj*
nov·el·ette \ˌnäv-ə-ˈlet\ *n* **1** : a brief novel **2** : a long short story
nov·el·ett·ish \-ˈet-ish\ *adj* : of, relating to, or characteristic of a novelette; *esp* : SENTIMENTAL
nov·el·ist \ˈnäv-(ə-)ləst\ *n* : a writer of novels
nov·el·ize \ˈnäv-ə-ˌlīz\ *vt* **-ized; -iz·ing** : to convert into the form of a novel ⟨~ a play⟩ — **nov·el·iza·tion** \ˌnäv-ə-lə-ˈzā-shən\ *n*
no·vel·la \nō-ˈvel-ə\ *n, pl* **novellas** *or* **no·vel·le** \-ˈvel-ē\ [It, fr. fem. of *novello* new, fr. L *novellus*] **1** *pl* ***novelle*** : a story with a compact and pointed plot **2** *pl usu* ***novellas*** : a short novel
nov·el·ty \ˈnäv-əl-tē\ *n, pl* **-ties** [ME *novelte*, fr. MF *noveleté*, fr. *novel*] **1** : something new or unusual **2** : the quality or state of being novel : NEWNESS **3** : a small manufactured article intended mainly for personal or household adornment — usu. used in pl.
¹No·vem·ber \nō-ˈvem-bər, nə-\ *n* [ME *Novembre*, fr. OF, fr. L *November* (ninth month), fr. *novem* nine — more at NINE] : the 11th month of the Gregorian calendar
²November — a communications code word for the letter *n*
no·vem·de·cil·lion \ˌnō-ˌvem-di-ˈsil-yən\ *n, often attrib* [L *novemdecim* nineteen (fr. *novem* + *decem* ten) + E *-illion* (as in *million*) — more at TEN] — see NUMBER table
no·ve·na \nō-ˈvē-nə\ *n* [ML, fr. L, fem. of *novenus* nine each, fr. *novem*] : a Roman Catholic nine days' devotion
nov·ice \ˈnäv-əs\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. ML *novicius*, fr. L, new, inexperienced, fr. *novus* — more at NEW] **1** : a person admitted to probationary membership in a religious community **2** : BEGINNER, TYRO
no·vi·lle·ro \ˌnō-vē-ˈe(ə)r-(ˌ)ō, -vəl-ˈye(ə)r-\ *n, pl* **-ros** [Sp, fr. *novillo* young bull, fr. L *novellus* new — more at NOVEL] : an aspiring bullfighter who has not yet attained the rank of matador
no·vi·tiate \nō-ˈvish-ət, nə-\ *n* [F *noviciat*, fr. ML *noviciatus*, fr. *novicius*] **1** : the period or state of being a novice **2** : NOVICE **3** : a house where novices are trained
no·vo·bi·o·cin \ˌnō-və-ˈbī-ə-sən\ *n* [prob. fr. *novo-* (fr. L *novus* new) + E anti*biotic* + streptomy*cin*] : a weak dibasic acid $C_{31}H_{36}N_2O_{11}$ that is highly toxic to man and is used as an antimicrobial drug in some serious cases of staphylococcic and urinary tract infection
No·vo·cain \ˈnō-və-ˌkān\ *trademark* — used for a preparation containing procaine hydrochloride
no·vo·caine \-ˌkān\ *n* [ISV *novo-* (fr. L *novus* new) + *cocaine*] : PROCAINE; *also* : its hydrochloride
¹now \(ˈ)naů\ *adv* [ME, fr. OE *nū*; akin to OHG *nū* now, L *nunc*, Gk *nyn*] **1 a** : at the present time or moment **b** : in the time immediately before the present ⟨thought of him just ~⟩ **c** : in the time immediately to follow : FORTHWITH ⟨come in ~⟩ **2** — used with the sense of present time weakened or lost to express command, request, or admonition ⟨~ hear this⟩ **3** — used with the sense of present time weakened or lost to introduce an important point or indicate a transition **4** : SOMETIMES ⟨~ one and ~ another⟩ **5** : under the present circumstances **6** : at the time referred to ⟨~ the trouble began⟩
²now *conj* : in view of the fact that : SINCE — often followed by *that* ⟨~ that we are here⟩
³now \ˈnaů\ *n* : the present time or moment ⟨been ill up to ~⟩
⁴now \ˈnaů\ *adj* **1** : of or relating to the present time : EXISTING ⟨the ~ president⟩ **2 a** : excitingly new ⟨~ clothes⟩ **b** : constantly aware of what is new ⟨~ people⟩
now·a·days \ˈnaů-(ə-)ˌdāz\ *adv* [ME *now a dayes*, fr. *¹now* + *a dayes* during the day] : at the present time
no·way \ˈnō-ˌwā\ *or* **no·ways** \-ˌwāz\ *adv* : NOWISE
¹no·where \ˈnō-ˌ(h)we(ə)r, -ˌ(h)wa(ə)r, -(h)wər\ *adv* **1** : not in or at any place **2** : to no place
²nowhere *n* **1** : a nonexistent place **2** : an unknown, distant, or obscure place or state ⟨rose to fame out of ~⟩ — **miles from nowhere** : in an extremely remote place
nowhere near *adv* : not nearly
no·wheres \ˈnō-ˌ(h)we(ə)rz, -ˌ(h)wa(ə)rz, -(ˌ)(h)wərz\ *adv, chiefly dial* : NOWHERE
no·whith·er \nō-ˈ(h)with-ər, ˈnō-ˌ\ *adv* : to or toward no place
no·wise \ˈnō-ˌwīz\ *adv* : not at all
nox·ious \ˈnäk-shəs\ *adj* [L *noxius*, fr. *noxa* harm; akin to L *nocēre* to harm, *nec-, nex* violent death, Gk *nekros* dead body] **1 a** : physically harmful or destructive to living beings ⟨~ wastes that turn our streams into sewers⟩ **b** : constituting a harmful influence on mind or behavior : morally corrupting ⟨~ doctrines⟩ **2** : DISTASTEFUL, OBNOXIOUS ***syn*** see PERNICIOUS ***ant*** wholesome — **nox·ious·ly** *adv* — **nox·ious·ness** *n*
noz·zle \ˈnäz-əl\ *n* [dim. of *nose*] **1 a** : a projecting vent of something **b** : a short tube with a taper or constriction used (as on a hose) to speed up or direct a flow of fluid **c** : a part in a rocket engine that accelerates the exhaust gases from the combustion chamber to a high velocity **2** *slang* : NOSE
np *abbr* **1** no pagination **2** no place (of publication)
Np *symbol* neptunium
NP *abbr* **1** neuropsychiatric; neuropsychiatry **2** no protest **3** notary public **4** noun phrase
NPCF *abbr* National Pollution Control Foundation
NPF *abbr* not provided for
NPN *abbr* nonprotein nitrogen
NRA *abbr* **1** National Recovery Administration **2** National Rifle Association
NRC *abbr* National Research Council
Ns *abbr* nimbostratus
NS *abbr* **1** national special **2** new series **3** new style **4** not specified **5** not sufficient **6** Nova Scotia **7** nuclear ship
NSA *abbr* **1** National Security Agency **2** National Shipping Authority **3** National Students Association
NSC *abbr* National Security Council
NSE *abbr* National Stock Exchange
nsec *also* **ns** *abbr* nanosecond
NSF *abbr* **1** National Science Foundation **2** not sufficient funds
NSW *abbr* New South Wales
NT *abbr* **1** New Testament **2** Northern Territory
-n't \(ᵊ)nt\ *vb comb form* : not ⟨isn't⟩
NTE *abbr* National Teacher Examination
nth \ˈen(t)th\ *adj* [*n* + *-th*] **1** : numbered with an unspecified or indefinitely large ordinal number **2** : EXTREME, UTMOST ⟨to the ~ degree⟩
Nthmb *abbr* Northumberland
NTP *abbr* normal temperature and pressure
nt wt *or* **n wt** *abbr* net weight
nu \ˈn(y)ü\ *n* [Gk *ny*, of Sem origin; akin to Heb *nūn* nun] : the 13th letter of the Greek alphabet — see ALPHABET table
NU *abbr* name unknown

nu·ance \'n(y)ü-ˌän(t)s, -ˌäⁿs, n(y)ù-'\ *n* [F, fr. MF, shade of color, fr. *nuer* to make shades of color, fr. *nue* cloud, fr. L *nubes;* akin to Gk *nythos* dark] **1** : a subtle distinction or variation **2** : a subtle quality : NICETY — **nu·anced** \-ˌän(t)st, -'än(t)st\ *adj*

nub \'nəb\ *n* [alter. of E dial. *knub,* prob. fr. LG *knubbe*] **1** : KNOB, LUMP **2** : NUBBIN **3** : GIST, POINT

nub·bin \'nəb-ən\ *n* [perh. dim. of *nub*] **1** : something (as an ear of Indian corn) that is small for its kind, stunted, undeveloped, or imperfect **2** : a small usu. projecting part or bit **3** : NUB 3

nub·ble \'nəb-əl\ *n* [dim. of *nub*] : a small knob or lump — **nub·bly** \-(ə-)lē\ *adj*

nub·by \'nəb-ē\ *adj* **nub·bi·er; -est** [*nub* + *-y*] **1** : having or being like nubbles **2** : having nubs ⟨a ~ knit fabric⟩

Nu·bi·an \'n(y)ü-bē-ən\ *n* **1 a** : a native or inhabitant of Nubia **b** : a member of one of the group of Negroid tribes that formed a powerful empire between Egypt and Ethiopia from the 6th to the 14th centuries **2** : any of several languages spoken in central and northern Sudan — **Nubian** *adj*

nu·bile \'n(y)ü-bəl, -ˌbīl\ *adj* [F, fr. L *nubilis,* fr. *nubere* to marry — more at NUPTIAL] **1** : of marriageable condition or age **2** : sexually attractive — used of young women — **nu·bil·i·ty** \n(y)ü-'bil-ət-ē\ *n*

nu·cel·lus \n(y)ü-'sel-əs\ *n, pl* **nu·cel·li** \-'sel-ˌī\ [NL, fr. L *nucella* small nut, fr. *nuc-, nux* nut — more at NUT] : the central and chief part of a plant ovule that contains the embryo sac — **nu·cel·lar** \-'sel-ər\ *adj*

¹nu·chal \'n(y)ü-kəl\ *adj* [ML *nucha* nape, fr. Ar *nukhā'* spinal marrow] : of, relating to, or lying in the region of the nape

²nuchal *n* : a nuchal anatomical part (as a scale or bone)

nucle- *or* **nucleo-** *comb form* [F *nuclé-, nucléo-,* fr. NL *nucleus*] **1** : nucleus ⟨*nucle*on⟩ **2** : nucleic acid ⟨*nucleo*protein⟩

nu·cle·ar \'n(y)ü-klē-ər, *nonstand* -kyə-lər\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or constituting a nucleus ⟨~ civilizations of the New World —R. W. Ehrich⟩ **2** : of, relating to, or utilizing the atomic nucleus, atomic energy, the atom bomb, or atomic power

nuclear family *n* : a family group that consists only of father, mother, and children

nuclear magnetic resonance *n* : the magnetic resonance of an atomic nucleus

nuclear membrane *n* : the boundary of a cell nucleus

nuclear resonance *n* : the resonance absorption of a gamma ray by a nucleus identical to the nucleus that emitted the gamma ray

nuclear sap *n* : the clear homogeneous ground substance of a cell nucleus — called also *karyolymph*

nu·cle·ase \'n(y)ü-klē-ˌās, -ˌāz\ *n* : any of various enzymes that promote hydrolysis of nucleic acids

nu·cle·ate \'n(y)ü-klē-ˌāt\ *vb* **-at·ed; -at·ing** [LL *nucleatus,* pp. of *nucleare* to become stony, fr. L *nucleus*] *vt* **1** : to form into a nucleus : CLUSTER **2** : to act as a nucleus for **3** : to supply nuclei to ~ *vi* **1** : to form a nucleus : CLUSTER **2** : to act as a nucleus **3** : to begin to form — **nu·cle·ation** \ˌn(y)ü-klē-'ā-shən\ *n* — **nu·cle·a·tor** \'n(y)ü-klē-ˌāt-ər\ *n*

nu·cle·at·ed \'n(y)ü-klē-ˌāt-əd\ *or* **nu·cle·ate** \-klē-ət\ *adj* [L *nucleatus,* fr. *nucleus* kernel] **1** : having a nucleus or nuclei ⟨~ cells⟩ **2** *usu nucleate* : originating or occurring at nuclei ⟨*nucleate* boiling⟩

nu·cle·ic acid \n(y)ü-ˌklē-ik-, -ˌklā-\ *n* : any of various acids (as an RNA or a DNA) composed of a sugar or derivative of a sugar, phosphoric acid, and a base and found esp. in cell nuclei

nu·cle·in \'n(y)ü-klē-ən\ *n* **1** : NUCLEOPROTEIN **2** : NUCLEIC ACID

nu·cleo·cap·sid \ˌn(y)ü-klē-ō-'kap-səd\ *n* : the nucleic acid and surrounding protein coat in a virus

nu·cle·o·lus \n(y)ü-'klē-ə-ləs\ *n, pl* **-li** \-ˌlī\ [NL, fr. L, dim. of *nucleus*] : a spherical body of the metabolic nucleus that is associated with a specific part of a chromosome and contains much ribosomal RNA — see CELL illustration — **nu·cle·o·lar** \-lər\ *adj*

nucleolus organizer *n* : the specific part of a chromosome with which a nucleolus is associated esp. during its reorganization after nuclear division — called also *nucleolar organizer*

nu·cle·on \'n(y)ü-klē-ˌän\ *n* [ISV] : a proton or neutron esp. in the atomic nucleus — **nu·cle·on·ic** \ˌn(y)ü-klē-'än-ik\ *adj*

nu·cle·on·ics \ˌn(y)ü-klē-'än-iks\ *n pl but sing or pl in constr* : a branch of physical science that deals with nucleons or with all phenomena of the atomic nucleus

nu·cleo·phile \'n(y)ü-klē-ə-ˌfīl\ *n* : a nucleophilic substance (as an electron-donating reagent)

nu·cleo·phil·ic \ˌn(y)ü-klē-ə-'fil-ik\ *adj* : having an affinity for atomic nuclei : electron-donating — **nu·cleo·phil·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **nu·cleo·phi·lic·i·ty** \-klē-ō-fil-'is-ət-ē\ *n*

nu·cleo·plasm \'n(y)ü-klē-ə-ˌplaz-əm\ *n* [ISV] : the protoplasm of a nucleus; *esp* : NUCLEAR SAP — **nu·cleo·plas·mat·ic** \ˌn(y)ü-klē-ō-ˌplaz-'mat-ik\ *or* **nu·cleo·plas·mic** \-klē-ə-'plaz-mik\ *adj*

nu·cleo·pro·tein \ˌn(y)ü-klē-ō-'prō-ˌtēn, -'prōt-ē-ən\ *n* [ISV] : a compound that consists of a protein (as a histone) conjugated with a nucleic acid (as a DNA) and that is the principal constituent of the hereditary material in chromosomes

nu·cle·o·side \'n(y)ü-klē-ə-ˌsīd\ *n* [ISV *nucle-* + *-ose* + *-ide*] : a compound (as guanosine or adenosine) that consists of a purine or pyrimidine base combined with deoxyribose or ribose and is found esp. in DNA or RNA

nu·cleo·syn·the·sis \ˌn(y)ü-klē-ō-'sin(t)-thə-səs\ *n* [NL] : the production of a chemical element from hydrogen nuclei or protons (as in stellar evolution)

nu·cle·o·tid·ase \ˌn(y)ü-klē-ə-'tīd-ˌās, -ˌāz\ *n* : a phosphatase that promotes hydrolysis of a nucleotide (as into a nucleoside and phosphoric acid)

nu·cle·o·tide \'n(y)ü-klē-ə-ˌtīd\ *n* [ISV, irreg. fr. *nucle-* + *-ide*] : any of several compounds that consist of a ribose or deoxyribose sugar joined to a purine or pyrimidine base and to a phosphate group and that are the basic structural units of RNA and DNA — compare NUCLEOSIDE

nu·cle·us \'n(y)ü-klē-əs\ *n, pl* **nu·clei** \-klē-ˌī\ *also* **nu·cle·us·es** [NL, fr. L, kernel, dim. of *nuc-, nux* nut — more at NUT] **1** : the small, brighter, and denser portion of a galaxy or of the head of a comet **2** : a central point, group, or mass about which gathering, concentration, or accretion takes place: as **a** : a cellular organelle that is essential to cell functions (as reproduction and protein synthesis), is composed of nuclear sap and a nucleoprotein-rich network from which chromosomes and nucleoli arise, and is enclosed in a definite membrane — see CELL illustration **b** : a mass of gray matter or group of nerve cells in the central nervous system **c** : a characteristic and stable complex of atoms or groups in a molecule; *esp* : RING ⟨the naphthalene ~⟩ **d** : the positively charged central portion of an atom that comprises nearly all of the atomic mass and that consists of protons and neutrons except in hydrogen which consists of one proton only **3** : the peak of energy in the utterance of a syllable

nu·clide \'n(y)ü-ˌklīd\ *n* [*nucle*us + Gk *eidos* form, species — more at IDOL] : a species of atom characterized by the constitution of its nucleus and hence by the number of protons, the number of neutrons, and the energy content — **nu·clid·ic** \n(y)ü-'klid-ik\ *adj*

¹nude \'n(y)üd\ *adj* **nud·er; nud·est** [L *nudus* naked — more at NAKED] **1** : lacking something essential esp. to legal validity ⟨a ~ contract⟩ **2 a** : devoid of covering : NAKED; *esp* : UNCLOTHED **b** (1) : of the color of Caucasian flesh (2) : giving the appearance of nudity ⟨a ~ dress⟩ **c** : featuring nudes ⟨a ~ movie⟩ ***syn*** see BARE ***ant*** clothed — **nude** *adv* — **nude·ly** *adv* — **nude·ness** *n* — **nu·di·ty** \'n(y)üd-ət-ē\ *n*

²nude *n* **1 a** : a representation of a nude human figure **b** : a nude person **2** : the condition of being nude ⟨in the ~⟩

nudge \'nəj\ *vt* **nudged; nudg·ing** [perh. of Scand origin; akin to ON *gnaga* to gnaw; akin to OE *gnagan* to gnaw] **1** : to touch or push gently; *esp* : to seek the attention of by a push of the elbow **2** : APPROACH ⟨its circulation is *nudging* the four million mark — Bennett Cerf⟩ — **nudge** *n* — **nudg·er** *n*

nu·di·branch \'n(y)üd-ə-ˌbraŋk\ *n, pl* **-branchs** [deriv. of L *nudus* + *branchia* gill — more at BRANCHIA] : any of a suborder (Nudibranchia) of marine gastropod mollusks without a shell in the adult state and without true gills — **nudibranch** *adj* — **nu·di·bran·chi·ate** \ˌn(y)üd-ə-'braŋ-kē-ət\ *adj or n*

nud·ism \'n(y)üd-ˌiz-əm\ *n* : the practice of going nude esp. in sexually mixed groups and during periods of time spent at specially secluded places — **nud·ist** \'n(y)üd-əst\ *adj or n*

nu·ga·to·ry \'n(y)ü-gə-ˌtōr-ē, -ˌtȯr-\ *adj* [L *nugatorius,* fr. *nugatus,* pp. of *nugari* to trifle, fr. *nugae* trifles] **1** : of little or no consequence : TRIFLING, INCONSEQUENTIAL **2** : having no force : INOPERATIVE ***syn*** see VAIN

nug·get \'nəg-ət\ *n* [origin unknown] : a solid lump; *esp* : a native lump of precious metal

nui·sance \'n(y)üs-ᵊn(t)s\ *n* [ME *nusaunce,* fr. AF, fr. OF *nuisir* to harm, fr. L *nocēre* — more at NOXIOUS] **1** : HARM, INJURY **2** : one that is annoying, unpleasant, or obnoxious

nuisance tax *n* : an excise tax collected in small amounts directly from the consumer

¹null \'nəl\ *adj* [MF *nul,* lit., not any, fr. L *nullus,* fr. *ne-* not + *ullus* any; akin to L *unus* one — more at NO, ONE] **1** : having no legal or binding force : INVALID **2** : amounting to nothing : NIL **3** : having no value : INSIGNIFICANT **4 a** : having no elements ⟨~ set⟩ **b** : having zero as a limit ⟨~ sequence⟩ **c** *of a matrix* : having all elements equal to zero **5 a** : indicating usu. by a zero reading on a scale when current or voltage is zero — used of an instrument **b** : being or relating to a method of measurement in which an unknown quantity (as of electric current) is compared with a known quantity of the same kind and found equal by a null detector **6** : of, being, or relating to zero

²null *n* **1** : ZERO 3a(1) **2 a** : a condition of a radio receiver when minimum or zero signal is received **b** : a minimum or zero value of an electric current or of a radio signal **3** : a meaningless letter or code group included in a cryptogram to impede cryptanalysis

³null *vt* : to make null

nul·lah \'nəl-ə\ *n* [Hindi *nālā*] : GULLY, RAVINE

null and void *adj* : having no force, binding power, or validity

null hypothesis *n* : a statistical hypothesis to be tested and accepted or rejected in favor of an alternative; *specif* : the hypothesis that an observed difference (as between the means of two samples) is due to chance alone and not due to a systematic cause

nul·li·fi·ca·tion \ˌnəl-ə-fə-'kā-shən\ *n* **1** : the act of nullifying : the state of being nullified **2** : the action of a state impeding or attempting to prevent the operation and enforcement within its territory of a law of the U.S. — **nul·li·fi·ca·tion·ist** \-sh(ə-)nəst\ *n*

nul·li·fi·er \'nəl-ə-ˌfī(-ə)r\ *n* : one that nullifies; *specif* : one maintaining the right of nullification against the U.S. government

nul·li·fy \'nəl-ə-ˌfī\ *vt* **-fied; -fy·ing** [LL *nullificare,* fr. L *nullus*] **1** : to make null; *esp* : to make legally null and void **2** : to make of no value or consequence

syn NULLIFY, NEGATE, ANNUL, ABROGATE, INVALIDATE *shared meaning element* : to deprive of effective or continued existence

nul·lip·a·rous \ˌnə-'lip-ə-rəs\ *adj* [NL *nullipara* one who has never borne an offspring, fr. L *nullus* not any + *-para*] : of, relating to, or being a female that has not borne offspring

nul·li·ty \'nəl-ət-ē\ *n, pl* **-ties** **1** : the quality or state of being null; *esp* : legal invalidity **2** : one that is null; *specif* : an act void of legal effect **3** : the number of elements in a basis of a null-space

null–space \'nəl-ˌspās\ *n* : a subspace of a vector space consisting of vectors that under a given linear transformation are equal to zero

num *abbr* numeral

Num *or* **Numb** *abbr* Numbers

numb \'nəm\ *adj* [ME *nomen,* fr. pp. of *nimen* to take — more at NIM] **1** : devoid of sensation esp. as a result of cold or anesthesia **2** : devoid of emotion : INDIFFERENT — **numb** *vt* — **numb·ing·ly** \'nəm-iŋ-lē\ *adv* — **numb·ly** \'nəm-lē\ *adv* — **numb·ness** *n*

¹num·ber \'nəm-bər\ *n* [ME *nombre,* fr. OF, fr. L *numerus* — more at NIMBLE] **1 a** (1) : a sum of units : TOTAL (2) : COMPLEMENT 1b (3) : an indefinite usu. large total ⟨a ~ of members were absent⟩ (4) *pl* : a numerous group : MANY; *also* : a numerical preponderance **b** : the characteristic of an individual by which it is treated as a unit or of a collection by which it is treated in terms of

a determinate unit of units **c** (1) : a unit belonging to an abstract mathematical system and subject to specified laws of succession, addition, and multiplication; *esp* : NATURAL NUMBER (2) : an element (as π) of any of many mathematical systems obtained by extension of or analogy with the natural number system (3) *pl* : ARITHMETIC **2** : a distinction of word form to denote reference to one or more than one; *also* : a form or group of forms so distinguished **3** *pl* **a** (1) : metrical structure : METER **3** (2) : metrical lines : VERSES **b** *archaic* : musical sounds : NOTES **4** **a** : a word, symbol, letter, or combination of symbols representing a number **b** : a numeral or combination of numerals or other symbols used to identify or designate **c** (1) : a member of a sequence or collection designated by esp. consecutive numbers; *also* : an individual or item (as a single act in a variety show or an issue of a periodical) singled out from a group (2) : a position in a numbered sequence **d** : a group of one kind ⟨not of their ~⟩ **5** : insight into a person's ability or character ⟨had his ~⟩ **6** *pl but sing or pl in constr* **a** : a form of lottery in which an individual bets that a certain 3= digit combination will appear in numbers regularly published in newspapers (as for stock market receipts or pari-mutuel payoffs) — called also *numbers game* **b** : ²POLICY 2a — **by the numbers** **1** : in unison to a specific count or cadence **2** : in a systematic, routine, or mechanical manner

²number *vb* **num·bered; num·ber·ing** \-b(ə-)riŋ\ *vt* **1** : COUNT, ENUMERATE **2** : to claim as part of a total : INCLUDE **3** : to restrict to a definite number **4** : to assign a number to **5** : to comprise in number : TOTAL ~ *vi* **1** : to comprise a total number **2** : to call off numbers in sequence — **num·ber·able** \-b(ə-)rə-bəl\ *adj* — **num·ber·er** \-bər-ər\ *n*

num·ber·less \'nəm-bər-ləs\ *adj* : INNUMERABLE, COUNTLESS

number line *n* : a line of infinite extent whose points correspond to the real numbers according to their distance in a positive or negative direction from a point arbitrarily taken as zero

Num·bers \'nəm-bərz\ *n pl but sing in constr* : the mainly narrative fourth book of canonical Jewish and Christian Scripture — see BIBLE table

number theory *n* : the study of the properties of integers

numb·fish \'nəm-ˌfish\ *n* : ELECTRIC RAY

numb·skull \'nəm-ˌskəl\ *var of* NUMSKULL

nu·men \'n(y)ü-mən\ *n, pl* **nu·mi·na** \-mə-nə\ [L, nod, divine will, numen; akin to L *nuere* to nod, Gk *neuein*] : a spiritual force or influence often identified with a natural object, phenomenon, or locality

nu·mer·a·ble \'n(y)üm-(ə-)rə-bəl\ *adj* : capable of being counted

¹nu·mer·al \'n(y)üm-(ə-)rəl\ *adj* [MF, fr. LL *numeralis*, fr. L *numerus*] **1** : of, relating to, or expressing numbers **2** : consisting of numbers or numerals — **nu·mer·al·ly** \-ē\ *adv*

²numeral *n* **1** : a conventional symbol that represents a number **2** *pl* : numbers that designate by year a school or college class and that are awarded for distinction in an extracurricular activity

¹nu·mer·ate \'n(y)ü-mə-ˌrāt\ *vt* **-at·ed; -at·ing** [L *numeratus*, pp. of *numerare* to count, fr. *numerus*] : ENUMERATE

²nu·mer·ate \'n(y)üm-(ə-)rət\ *adj* [L *numerus* number + E *-ate* (as in *literate*)] *Brit* : marked by an understanding of the scientific approach and by the ability to think quantitatively

nu·mer·a·tion \ˌn(y)ü-mə-'rā-shən\ *n* **1** **a** : the act or process or an instance of enumeration : a system of enumeration **b** : an act or instance of designating by a number **2** : the art of reading in words numbers expressed by numerals

nu·mer·a·tor \'n(y)ü-mə-ˌrāt-ər\ *n* **1** : the part of a fraction that is above the line and signifies the number of parts of the denominator taken **2** : one that numbers

¹nu·mer·ic \n(y)ü-'mer-ik\ *adj* : NUMERICAL; *esp* : denoting a number or a system of numbers ⟨~ code⟩ ⟨a ~ sign⟩

²numeric *n* : NUMBER, NUMERAL

nu·mer·i·cal \n(y)ü-'mer-i-kəl\ *adj* [L *numerus*] **1** : of or relating to numbers ⟨the ~ superiority of the enemy⟩ **2** : expressed in or involving numbers or a number system ⟨~ standing in a class⟩ ⟨a ~ code⟩ — **nu·mer·i·cal·ly** \-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

numerical analysis *n* : the study of quantitative approximations to the solutions of mathematical problems including consideration of the errors and bounds to the errors involved

numerical taxonomy *n* : taxonomy that applies the quantitative measurement of many characters to the determination of taxa and to the construction of diagrams indicating systematic relationships — **numerical taxonomic** *adj* — **numerical taxonomist** *n*

nu·mer·ol·o·gy \ˌn(y)ü-mə-'räl-ə-jē\ *n* [L *numerus* + E *-o-* + *-logy*] : the study of the occult significance of numbers — **nu·mer·o·log·i·cal** \-mə-rə-'läj-i-kəl\ *adj* — **nu·mer·ol·o·gist** \-mə-'räl-ə-jəst\ *n*

nu·mer·ous \'n(y)üm-(ə-)rəs\ *adj* [MF *numereux*, fr. L *numerosus*, fr. *numerus*] : consisting of great numbers of units or individuals — **nu·mer·ous·ly** *adv* — **nu·mer·ous·ness** *n*

nu·mi·nous \'n(y)ü-mə-nəs\ *adj* [L *numin-, numen* numen] **1** : SUPERNATURAL, MYSTERIOUS **2** : filled with a sense of the presence of divinity : HOLY **3** : appealing to the higher emotions or to the aesthetic sense : SPIRITUAL

numis *abbr* numismatic; numismatical; numismatics

nu·mis·mat·ic \ˌn(y)ü-məz-'mat-ik, -məs-\ *adj* [F *numismatique*, fr. L *nomismat-, nomisma* coin, fr. Gk, custom, coin; akin to Gk *nomos* custom, law — more at NIMBLE] **1** : of or relating to numismatics **2** : of or relating to currency : MONETARY — **nu·mis·mat·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

nu·mis·mat·ics \-iks\ *n pl but sing in constr* : the study or collection of coins, tokens, and paper money and sometimes related objects (as medals) — **nu·mis·ma·tist** \n(y)ü-'miz-mət-əst\ *n*

num·mu·lar \'nəm-yə-lər\ *adj* [F *nummulaire*, fr. L *nummulus*, dim. of *nummus* coin, fr. Gk *nomimos* customary; akin to Gk *nomos*] **1** : circular or oval in shape ⟨~ lesions⟩ **2** : characterized by circular or oval lesions or drops ⟨~ dermatitis⟩ ⟨~ sputum⟩

num·mu·lit·ic limestone \ˌnəm-yə-ˌlit-ik-\ *n* [NL *Nummulites*, genus of foraminifers, fr. L *nummulus*] : the most widely distributed and distinctive formation of the Eocene in Europe, Asia, and northern Africa

num·skull \'nəm-ˌskəl\ *n* [*numb* + *skull*] **1** : a dull or stupid person : DUNCE **2** : a thick or muddled head

¹nun \'nən\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *nunne*, fr. LL *nonna*] : a woman belonging to a religious order; *esp* : one under solemn vows of poverty, chastity, and obedience

²nun \'nün\ *n* [Heb *nūn*] : the 14th letter of the Hebrew alphabet — see ALPHABET table

Nunc Di·mit·tis \ˌnəŋk-də-'mit-əs, ˌnüŋk-\ *n* [L, now lettest thou depart; fr. the first words of the canticle] : the prayer of Simeon in Luke 2:29–32 used as a canticle

nun·ci·a·ture \'nən(t)-sē-ə-ˌchu̇(ə)r, 'nün(t)-, -chər, -ˌt(y)u̇(ə)r\ *n* [It *nunciatura*, fr. *nuncio*] **1** : the office or period of office of a nuncio **2** : a papal diplomatic mission headed by a nuncio

nun·cio \'nən(t)-sē-ˌō, 'nün(t)-\ *n, pl* **-ci·os** [It, fr. L *nuntius* messenger, message] : a papal legate of the highest rank permanently accredited to a civil government

nun·cle \'nəŋ-kəl\ *n* [by alter. (resulting fr. incorrect division of *an uncle*] *chiefly dial* : UNCLE

nun·cu·pa·tive \'nən-kyu̇-ˌpāt-iv, 'nəŋ-; ˌnən-'kyü-pət-\ *adj* [ML *nuncupativus*, fr. LL, so-called, fr. L *nuncupatus*, pp. of *nuncupare* to name, contr. of *nomen capere*, fr. *nomen* name + *capere* to take — more at NAME, HEAVE] : not written : ORAL ⟨a ~ will⟩

nun·nery \'nən-(ə-)rē\ *n, pl* **-ner·ies** : a convent of nuns

Nu·pe \'nü-(ˌ)pā\ *n, pl* **Nupe** *or* **Nupes** **1** : a member of a Negro people of west central Nigeria **2** : a Kwa language of the Nupe people

¹nup·tial \'nəp-shəl, -chəl, *nonstand* -chə-wəl\ *adj* [L *nuptialis*, fr. *nuptiae*, pl., wedding, fr. *nuptus*, pp. of *nubere* to marry; akin to Gk *nymphē* bride, nymph] **1** : of or relating to marriage or the marriage ceremony **2** : characteristic of or occurring in the breeding season ⟨~ flight⟩ ***syn*** see MATRIMONIAL

²nuptial *n* : MARRIAGE, WEDDING — usu. used in pl.

nuptial plumage *n* : the brilliantly colored plumage assumed by the males of many birds prior to the start of the annual breeding period — compare ECLIPSE PLUMAGE

¹nurse \'nərs\ *n* [ME, fr. OF *nurice*, fr. LL *nutricia*, fr. L, fem. of *nutricius* nourishing — more at NUTRITIOUS] **1** **a** : a woman who suckles an infant not her own **b** : a woman who takes care of a young child **2** : one that looks after, fosters, or advises **3** : a person who is skilled or trained in caring for the sick or infirm esp. under the supervision of a physician **4** **a** : a worker of a social insect that cares for the young **b** : a female mammal used to suckle the young of another

²nurse *vb* **nursed; nurs·ing** [ME *nurshen* to nourish, contr. of *nurishen*] *vt* **1** **a** : to nourish at the breast : SUCKLE **b** : to take nourishment from the breast of **2** : REAR, EDUCATE **3** **a** : to promote the development or progress of **b** : to manage with care or economy **c** : to take charge of and watch over **4** **a** : to care for and wait on (as a sick person) **b** : to attempt to cure by care and treatment **5** : to hold in one's memory or consideration ⟨~ a grievance⟩ **6** **a** : to use, handle, or operate carefully so as to conserve energy or avoid injury or pain ⟨~ a sprained ankle⟩ **b** : to use sparingly ~ *vi* **1** **a** : to feed an offspring from the breast **b** : to feed at the breast : SUCK **2** : to act or serve as a nurse — **nurs·er** *n*

nurse·maid \'nər-ˌsmād\ *n* : a girl or woman who is regularly employed to look after children

nurs·ery \'nərs-(ə-)rē\ *n, pl* **-er·ies** **1** *obs* : attentive care : FOSTERAGE **2** **a** : a child's bedroom **b** : a place where children are temporarily cared for in their parents' absence **c** : DAY NURSERY **3** **a** : something that fosters, develops, or promotes **b** : a place in which persons are trained or educated **4** : an area where plants (as trees and shrubs) are grown for transplanting, for use as stocks for budding and grafting, or for sale **5** : a place where young animals (as fish) grow or are cared for

nurs·ery·maid \-(ə-)rē-ˌmād\ *n* : NURSEMAID

nurs·ery·man \-mən\ *n* : one whose occupation is the cultivation of plants (as trees and shrubs) esp. for sale

nursery rhyme *n* : a short rhyme for children that often tells a story

nursery school *n* : a school for children usu. under five years

nurse's aide *n* : a worker who assists trained nurses in a hospital by performing nonspecialized services (as giving baths)

nurse shark *n* [alter. of ME *nusse*] : any of various sharks of a widely distributed family (Orectolobidae); *esp* : a shark (*Ginglymostoma cirratum*) of the warmer parts of the Atlantic ocean

nurs·ing *n* **1** : the profession of a nurse ⟨schools of ~⟩ **2** : the duties of a nurse ⟨proper ~ is difficult work⟩

nursing bottle *n* : a bottle with a rubber nipple used in supplying food to infants

nursing home *n* : a privately operated establishment where maintenance and personal or nursing care are provided for persons (as the aged or the chronically ill) who are unable to care for themselves properly

nurs·ling \'nər-sliŋ\ *n* **1** : one that is solicitously cared for **2** : a nursing child

nur·tur·ance \'nər-chə-rən(t)s\ *n* [²*nurture* + *-ance*] : affectionate care and attention — **nur·tur·ant** \-rənt\ *adj*

¹nur·ture \'nər-chər\ *n* [ME, fr. MF *norriture*, fr. LL *nutritura* act of nursing, fr. L *nutritus*, pp. of *nutrire* to suckle, nourish — more at NOURISH] **1** : TRAINING, UPBRINGING **2** : something that nourishes : FOOD **3** : the sum of the influences modifying the expression of the genetic potentialities of an organism

TABLE OF NUMBERS

CARDINAL NUMBERS[1]

NAME[2]	SYMBOL	
	Arabic	*Roman*[3]
zero *or* naught *or* cipher	0	
one	1	I
two	2	II
three	3	III
four	4	IV
five	5	V
six	6	VI
seven	7	VII
eight	8	VIII
nine	9	IX
ten	10	X
eleven	11	XI
twelve	12	XII
thirteen	13	XIII
fourteen	14	XIV
fifteen	15	XV
sixteen	16	XVI
seventeen	17	XVII
eighteen	18	XVIII
nineteen	19	XIX
twenty	20	XX
twenty-one	21	XXI
twenty-two	22	XXII
twenty-three	23	XXIII
twenty-four	24	XXIV
twenty-five	25	XXV
twenty-six	26	XXVI
twenty-seven	27	XXVII
twenty-eight	28	XXVIII
twenty-nine	29	XXIX
thirty	30	XXX
thirty-one	31	XXXI
thirty-two *etc*	32	XXXII
forty	40	XL
forty-one *etc*	41	XLI
fifty	50	L
sixty	60	LX
seventy	70	LXX
eighty	80	LXXX
ninety	90	XC
one hundred	100	C
one hundred and one *or* one hundred one	101	CI
one hundred and two *etc*	102	CII
two hundred	200	CC
three hundred	300	CCC
four hundred	400	CD
five hundred	500	D
six hundred	600	DC
seven hundred	700	DCC
eight hundred	800	DCCC
nine hundred	900	CM
one thousand *or* ten hundred *etc*	1,000	M
two thousand *etc*	2,000	MM
five thousand	5,000	$\overline{V}$
ten thousand	10,000	$\overline{X}$
one hundred thousand	100,000	$\overline{C}$
one million	1,000,000	$\overline{M}$

ORDINAL NUMBERS[4]

NAME[5]	SYMBOL[6]
first	1st
second	2d *or* 2nd
third	3d *or* 3rd
fourth	4th
fifth	5th
sixth	6th
seventh	7th
eighth	8th
ninth	9th
tenth	10th
eleventh	11th
twelfth	12th
thirteenth	13th
fourteenth	14th
fifteenth	15th
sixteenth	16th
seventeenth	17th
eighteenth	18th
nineteenth	19th
twentieth	20th
twenty-first	21st
twenty-second	22d *or* 22nd
twenty-third	23d *or* 23rd
twenty-fourth	24th
twenty-fifth	25th
twenty-sixth	26th
twenty-seventh	27th
twenty-eighth	28th
twenty-ninth	29th
thirtieth	30th
thirty-first	31st
thirty-second *etc*	32d *or* 32nd
fortieth	40th
forty-first	41st
forty-second *etc*	42d *or* 42nd
fiftieth	50th
sixtieth	60th
seventieth	70th
eightieth	80th
ninetieth	90th
hundredth *or* one hundredth	100th
hundred and first *or* one hundred and first	101st
hundred and second *etc*	102d *or* 102nd
two hundredth	200th
three hundredth	300th
four hundredth	400th
five hundredth	500th
six hundredth	600th
seven hundredth	700th
eight hundredth	800th
nine hundredth	900th
thousandth *or* one thousandth	1,000th
two thousandth *etc*	2,000th
ten thousandth	10,000th
hundred thousandth *or* one hundred thousandth	100,000th
millionth *or* one millionth	1,000,000th

[1] The cardinal numbers are used in simple counting or in answer to "how many?" The words for these numbers may be used as nouns (he counted to *twelve*), as pronouns (*twelve* were found), or as adjectives (*twelve* boys).
[2] In formal contexts the numbers one to one hundred and in less formal contexts the numbers one to nine are commonly written out, while larger numbers are given in numerals. In nearly all contexts a number occurring at the beginning of a sentence is usually written out. Except in very formal contexts numerals are invariably used for dates. Arabic numerals from 1,000 to 9,999 are often written without commas (1000, 9999). Year numbers are always written without commas (1783).
[3] The Roman numerals are written either in capitals or in lowercase letters.
[4] The ordinal numbers are used to show the order or succession in which such items as names, objects, and periods of time are considered (the *twelfth* month; the *fourth* row of seats; the *18th* century).
[5] Each of the terms for the ordinal numbers excepting *first* and *second* is used in designating one of a number of parts into which a whole may be divided (a *fourth*; a *sixth*; a *tenth*) and as the denominator in fractions designating the number of such parts constituting a certain portion of a whole (*one fourth*; *three fifths*). When used as nouns the fractions are usually written as two words, although they are regularly hyphenated as adjectives (a *two-thirds* majority). When fractions are written in numerals, the cardinal symbols are used ($\frac{1}{4}$, $\frac{3}{5}$, $\frac{5}{6}$).
[6] The Arabic symbols for the cardinal numbers may be read as ordinals in certain contexts (January 1 = January first; 2 Samuel = Second Samuel). The Roman numerals are sometimes read as ordinals (Henry IV = Henry the Fourth); sometimes they are written with the ordinal suffixes (XIXth Dynasty).

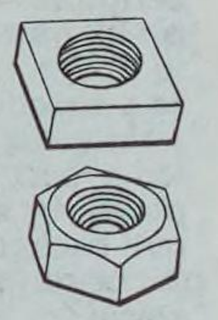
DENOMINATIONS ABOVE ONE MILLION

American system[1]				*British system*[1]			
NAME	VALUE IN POWERS OF TEN	NUMBER OF ZEROS[2]	NUMBER OF GROUPS OF THREE 0's AFTER 1,000	NAME	VALUE IN POWERS OF TEN	NUMBER OF ZEROS[2]	POWERS OF 1,000,000
billion	10^{9}	9	2	milliard	10^{9}	9	—
trillion	10^{12}	12	3	billion	10^{12}	12	2
quadrillion	10^{15}	15	4	trillion	10^{18}	18	3
quintillion	10^{18}	18	5	quadrillion	10^{24}	24	4
sextillion	10^{21}	21	6	quintillion	10^{30}	30	5
septillion	10^{24}	24	7	sextillion	10^{36}	36	6
octillion	10^{27}	27	8	septillion	10^{42}	42	7
nonillion	10^{30}	30	9	octillion	10^{48}	48	8
decillion	10^{33}	33	10	nonillion	10^{54}	54	9
undecillion	10^{36}	36	11	decillion	10^{60}	60	10
duodecillion	10^{39}	39	12	undecillion	10^{66}	66	11
tredecillion	10^{42}	42	13	duodecillion	10^{72}	72	12
quattuordecillion	10^{45}	45	14	tredecillion	10^{78}	78	13
quindecillion	10^{48}	48	15	quattuordecillion	10^{84}	84	14
sexdecillion	10^{51}	51	16	quindecillion	10^{90}	90	15
septendecillion	10^{54}	54	17	sexdecillion	10^{96}	96	16
octodecillion	10^{57}	57	18	septendecillion	10^{102}	102	17
novemdecillion	10^{60}	60	19	octodecillion	10^{108}	108	18
vigintillion	10^{63}	63	20	novemdecillion	10^{114}	114	19
centillion	10^{303}	303	100	vigintillion	10^{120}	120	20
				centillion	10^{600}	600	100

[1] The American system of numeration for denominations above one million was modeled on the French system but more recently the French system has been changed to correspond to the German and British systems. In the American system each of the denominations above 1,000 millions (the American *billion*) is 1,000 times the one preceding (one trillion=1,000 billions; one quadrillion=1,000 trillions). In the British system the first denomination above 1,000 millions (the British *milliard*) is 1,000 times the preceding one, but each of the denominations above 1,000 milliards (the British *billion*) is 1,000,000 times the preceding one (one trillion=1,000,000 billions; one quadrillion=1,000,000 trillions).
[2] For convenience in reading large numerals the thousands, millions, etc., are usually separated by commas (21,530; 1,155,465) or by half spaces (1 155 465). Serial numbers (as a social security number or the engine number of a car) are often written with hyphens (583-695-20).

²nurture *vt* **nur·tured; nur·tur·ing** \'nərch-(ə-)riŋ\ **1** : to supply with nourishment **2** : EDUCATE **3** : to further the development of : FOSTER — **nur·tur·er** \'nər-chər-ər\ *n*

¹nut \'nət\ *n* [ME *nute, note,* fr. OE *hnutu;* akin to OHG *nuz* nut, L *nux*] **1 a** (1) : a hard-shelled dry fruit or seed with a separable rind or shell and interior kernel (2) : the kernel of a nut **b** : a dry indehiscent one-seeded fruit with a woody pericarp **2** : a hard problem or undertaking **3** : a perforated block usu. of metal that has an internal screw thread and is used on a bolt or screw for tightening or holding something **4** : the ridge in a stringed instrument (as a violin) over which the strings pass on the upper end of the fingerboard **5** *pl* : NONSENSE — often used interjectionally **6** *pl* : TESTES — usu. considered vulgar **7** *slang* : a person's head **8 a** : a foolish, eccentric, or crazy person **b** : ENTHUSIAST **9** : EN 2 — **nut·like** \-ˌlīk\ *adj*



nuts 3

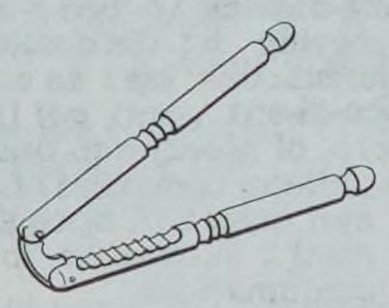
²nut *vi* **nut·ted; nut·ting** : to gather or seek nuts

nu·tate \'n(y)ü-ˌtāt\ *vi* **nu·tat·ed; nu·tat·ing** : to exhibit or undergo nutation

nu·ta·tion \n(y)ü-'tā-shən\ *n* [L *nutation-, nutatio,* fr. *nutatus,* pp. of *nutare* to nod, rock, freq. of *nuere* to nod — more at NUMEN] **1** : the act of nodding the head **2 a** : a libratory motion of the earth's axis like the nodding of a top **b** : oscillatory movement of the axis of a rotating body : WOBBLE **3** : a spontaneous usu. spiral movement of a growing plant part — **nu·ta·tion·al** \-shnəl, -shən-ᵊl\ *adj*

nut-brown \'nət-'braůn\ *adj* : of the color of a brown nut

nut·crack·er \-ˌkrak-ər\ *n* : an implement for cracking nuts



nutcracker

nut·gall \-ˌgȯl\ *n* : a gall that resembles a nut; *esp* : a gall produced on oak

nut grass *n* : a perennial sedge (*Cyperus rotundus*) of wide distribution that has slender rootstocks bearing small edible tubers resembling nuts; *also* : a related sedge (*C. esculentus*)

nut·hatch \'nət-ˌhach\ *n* [ME *notehache,* fr. *note* nut + *hache* ax, fr. OF, battle-ax — more at HASH] : any of various small tree-climbing birds (family Sittidae) that have a compact body, a long bill, a short tail, and sometimes a black cap and a ring around the eye



nuthatch

nut·house \'nət-ˌhaůs\ *n, slang* : an insane asylum

nut·let \'nət-lət\ *n* **1 a** : a small nut **b** : a small fruit similar to a nut **2** : the stone of a drupelet

nut·meg \'nət-ˌmeg, -ˌmāg\ *n* [ME *notemuge,* deriv. of OProv. *noz muscada,* fr. *noz* nut (fr. L *nuc-, nux*) + *muscada,* fem. of *muscat* musky — more at MUSCAT] : an aromatic seed that is used as a spice and is produced by a tree (*Myristica fragrans* of the family Myristicaceae, the nutmeg family) native to the Moluccas; *also* : this tree

nut·pick \'nət-ˌpik\ *n* : a small sharp-pointed implement for extracting the kernels from nuts

nu·tria \'n(y)ü-trē-ə\ *n* [Sp, modif. of L *lutra* otter; akin to OE *oter* otter] **1** : COYPU 1 **2** : the durable usu. light brown fur of the coypu

¹nu·tri·ent \'n(y)ü-trē-ənt\ *adj* [L *nutrient-, nutriens,* prp. of *nutrire* to nourish — more at NOURISH] : furnishing nourishment

²nutrient *n* : a nutritive substance or ingredient

nu·tri·ment \'n(y)ü-trə-mənt\ *n* [L *nutrimentum,* fr. *nutrire*] : something that nourishes or promotes growth and repairs the natural wastage of organic life

nu·tri·tion \n(y)ù-'trish-ən\ *n* [MF, fr. LL *nutrition-, nutritio,* fr. L *nutritus,* pp. of *nutrire*] : the act or process of nourishing or being nourished; *specif* : the sum of the processes by which an animal or plant takes in and utilizes food substances — **nu·tri·tion·al** \-'trish-nəl, -ən-ᵊl\ *adj* — **nu·tri·tion·al·ly** \-ē\ *adv*

nu·tri·tion·ist \-'trish-(ə-)nəst\ *n* : a specialist in the study of nutrition

nu·tri·tious \n(y)ù-trish-əs\ *adj* [L *nutricius,* fr. *nutric-, nutrix* nurse; akin to L *nutrire* to nourish — more at NOURISH] : NOURISHING — **nu·tri·tious·ly** *adv* — **nu·tri·tious·ness** *n*

nu·tri·tive \'n(y)ü-trət-iv\ *adj* **1** : of or relating to nutrition **2** : NOURISHING — **nu·tri·tive·ly** *adv*

nutritive ratio *n* : the ratio of digestible protein to other nutrients in a foodstuff or ration

nuts \'nəts\ *adj* **1** : ENTHUSIASTIC, KEEN ⟨everyone seems ~ about it —Lois Long⟩ **2** : CRAZY, DEMENTED ⟨thought I would go ~ waiting around —Polly Adler⟩

nuts and bolts *n* **1** : the working parts or elements **2** : the practical workings of a machine or enterprise as opposed to theoretical considerations or speculative possibilities

nut·sedge \'nət-ˌsej\ *n* : NUT GRASS

nut·shell \'nət-ˌshel\ *n* **1** : the hard external covering in which the kernel of a nut is enclosed **2** : something of small size, amount, or scope — **in a nutshell** : in a very brief statement

nut·ty \'nət-ē\ *adj* **nut·ti·er; -est** **1** : having or producing nuts **2** : ECCENTRIC, SILLY; *also* : mentally unbalanced **3** : having a flavor like that of nuts — **nut·ti·ness** *n*

nux vom·i·ca \'nəks-'väm-i-kə\ *n, pl* **nux vomica** [NL, lit., emetic nut] : the poisonous seed of an Asiatic tree (*Strychnos nux-vomica* of the family Longaniaceae) that contains several alkaloids and esp. strychnine and brucine; *also* : the tree yielding nux vomica

nuz·zle \'nəz-əl\ *vb* **nuz·zled; nuz·zling** \-(ə-)liŋ\ [ME *noselen,* to bring the nose towards the ground, fr. *nose*] *vi* **1** : to work with or as if with the nose; *esp* : to root, rub, or snuff something **2** : to lie close or snug : NESTLE ~ *vt* : to root, rub, or touch with or as if with the nose : NUDGE

NV *abbr* **1** Nevada **2** nonvoting

NW *abbr* northwest

NWT *abbr* Northwest Territories

NY *abbr* New York

NYA *abbr* National Youth Administration

ny·a·la \nē-'äl-ə\ *n, pl* **nyalas** *or* **nyala** [of Bantu origin; akin to Venda *nyala* nyala, Zulu *inxala*] : an antelope (*Tragelaphus angasi*) of southeastern Africa with vertical white stripes on the sides of the body and with shaggy black hair along the male underside; *also* : a related antelope (*T. buxtoni*)

NYC *abbr* New York City

nyc·ta·lo·pia \ˌnik-tə-'lō-pē-ə\ *n* [LL] : NIGHT BLINDNESS

ny·lon \'nī-ˌlän\ *n* [coined word] **1** : any of numerous strong tough elastic synthetic polyamide materials that are fashioned into fibers, filaments, bristles, or sheets, and used esp. in textiles and plastics **2** *pl* : stockings made of nylon

nymph \'nim(p)f\ *n* [ME *nimphe,* fr. MF, fr. L *nympha* bride, nymph, fr. Gk *nymphē* — more at NUPTIAL] **1** : one of the minor divinities of nature in ancient mythology represented as beautiful maidens dwelling in the mountains, forests, trees, and waters **2** : GIRL **3** : any of various immature insects; *esp* : a larva of an insect (as a dragonfly or mayfly) with incomplete metamorphosis that differs from the imago esp. in size and in its incompletely developed wings and genitalia — **nymph·al** \'nim(p)-fəl\ *adj*

nym·pha·lid \nim-'fal-əd, 'nim-fə-ləd\ *n* [NL *Nymphalidae,* group name, deriv. of L *nympha* nymph] : any of a family (Nymphalidae) of butterflies (as a mourning cloak or fritillary) with the first pair of legs reduced in size in both sexes and useless for walking — **nymphalid** *adj*

nym·phet *also* **nym·phette** \nim-'fet, 'nim(p)-fət\ *n* [obs. *nymphet* young nymph, fr. MF *nymphette,* dim. of *nymphe* nymph] : a sexually precocious girl barely in her teens

nym·pho·lep·sy \'nim(p)-fə-ˌlep-sē\ *n* [*nympholept,* fr. Gk *nympholēptos* frenzied, lit., caught by nymphs, fr. *nymphē* + *lambanein* to seize — more at CATCH] **1** : a demoniac enthusiasm held by the ancients to seize one bewitched by a nymph **2** : a frenzy of emotion — **nym·pho·lept** \-ˌlept\ *n* — **nym·pho·lep·tic** \ˌnim(p)-fə-'lep-tik\ *adj*

nym·pho·ma·nia \ˌnim(p)-fə-'mā-nē-ə, -nyə\ *n* [NL, fr. *nymphae* inner lips of the vulva (fr. L, pl. of *nympha*) + LL *mania*] : excessive sexual desire by a female — **nym·pho·ma·ni·ac** \-nē-ˌak\ *n or adj* — **nym·pho·ma·ni·a·cal** \-mə-'nī-ə-kəl\ *adj*

Ny·norsk \n(y)ü-'nȯ(ə)rsk, nūē-\ *n* [Norw, lit., new Norwegian] : a literary form of Norwegian based on the spoken dialects of Norway — compare BOKMÅL

NYSE *abbr* New York Stock Exchange

nys·tag·mus \nis-'tag-məs\ *n* [NL, fr. Gk *nystagmos* drowsiness, fr. *nystazein* to doze; akin to Lith *snusti* to doze] : a rapid involuntary oscillation of the eyeballs (as from dizziness) — **nys·tag·mic** \-mik\ *adj*

NZ *abbr* New Zealand



[1]o \'ō\ *n, pl* **o's** *or* **os** \'ōz\ *often cap, often attrib* **1 a** : the 15th letter of the English alphabet **b** : a graphic representation of this letter **c** : a speech counterpart of orthographic *o* **2** : a graphic device for reproducing the letter *o* **3** : one designated *o* esp. as the 15th in order or class **4** : something shaped like the letter O; *esp* : ZERO
[2]o *abbr, often cap* **1** ocean **2** Ohio **3** ohm **4** old **5** order **6** oriental **7** over
[1]O \'ō\ *var of* OH
[2]O *symbol* **1** oxygen **2** [NL *octarius*] pint
[1]o- *or* **oo-** *comb form* [Gk *ōi-, ōio-*, fr. *ōion* — more at EGG] : egg ⟨*oo*logy⟩; *specif* : ovum ⟨*oo*gonium⟩
[2]o- *abbr* ortho-
-o- [ME, fr. OF, fr. L, fr. Gk, thematic vowel of many nouns and adjectives in combination] — used as a connective vowel orig. to join word elements of Greek origin and now also to join word elements of Latin or other origin ⟨drunk*o*meter⟩ ⟨elast*o*mer⟩
[1]-o \(ˌ)ō\ *n suffix* [perh. fr. [1]*oh*] : one that is, has the qualities of, or is associated with ⟨buck*o*⟩
[2]-o \(ˌ)ō, ˈō\ *interj suffix* [prob. fr. [1]*oh*] — in interjections formed from other parts of speech ⟨cheer*io*⟩ ⟨right*o*⟩
o' *also* **o** \ə\ *prep* [ME *o, o-*, contr. of *on & of*] **1** *chiefly dial* : ON **2** : OF ⟨one *o'*clock⟩
o/a *abbr* on or about
oaf \'ōf\ *n* [of Scand origin; akin to ON *alfr* elf — more at ELF] **1** : a stupid person : BOOB **2** : a big clumsy slow-witted person — **oaf·ish** \'ō-fish\ *adj* — **oaf·ish·ly** *adv* — **oaf·ish·ness** *n*
oak \'ōk\ *n, pl* **oaks** *or* **oak** *often attrib* [ME *ook*, fr. OE *āc;* akin to OHG *eih* oak, Gk *aigilōps*, a kind of oak] **1 a** : a tree or shrub (genera *Quercus* or *Lithocarpus*) of the beech family that produces a rounded one-seeded thin-shelled nut surrounded at the base by an indurated cup **b** : the tough hard durable wood of an oak tree **2** : the leaves of an oak used as decoration — **oak·en** \'ō-kən\ *adj*

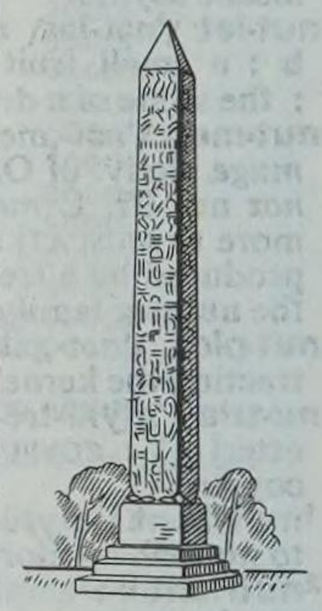


oak tree with *1* leaf and *2* acorns

oak apple *n* : a large round gall produced on oak leaves by a gall wasp (esp. *Amphibolips concluentus* or *Andricus californicus*)
oak–leaf cluster *n* : a bronze or silver cluster of oak leaves and acorns added to various military decorations to signify a second or subsequent award of the basic decoration
oak·moss \'ōk-ˌmȯs\ *n* : any of several lichens that grow on oak trees and yield a resin used in perfumery
oa·kum \'ō-kəm\ *n* [ME *okum*, fr. OE *ācumba* tow, fr. *ā-* (separative & perfective prefix) + *-cumba* (akin to OE *camb* comb) — more at ABIDE] : loosely twisted hemp or jute fiber impregnated with tar or a tar derivative and used in caulking seams (as of wooden ships) and packing joints (as of pipes)
oak wilt *n* : a destructive disease of oak trees that is caused by a fungus (*Chalara quercina*) and is characterized by wilting, discoloration, and defoliation
[1]oar \'ō(ə)r, 'ȯ(ə)r\ *n* [ME *oor*, fr. OE *ār;* akin to ON *ār* oar] **1** : a long pole with a broad blade at one end used for propelling or steering a boat **2** : OARSMAN — **oared** \'ō(ə)rd, 'ȯ(ə)rd\ *adj*
[2]oar *vt* : to propel with or as if with oars : ROW ~ *vi* : to progress by or as if by using oars
oar·fish \'ō(ə)r-ˌfish, 'ȯ(ə)r-\ *n* : any of several sea fishes (genus *Regalecus*) with narrow soft bodies from 20 to 30 feet long, a dorsal fin running the entire length of the body, and red-tipped anterior rays rising above the head
oar·lock \-ˌläk\ *n* : a U-shaped device for holding an oar in place
oars·man \'ō(ə)rz-mən, 'ȯ(ə)rz-\ *n* : one who rows esp. in a racing crew — **oars·man·ship** \-ˌship\ *n*
OAS *abbr* Organization of American States
oa·sis \ō-'ā-səs\ *n, pl* **oa·ses** \-ˌsēz\ [LL, fr. Gk] **1** : a fertile or green area in an arid region **2** : something providing relief from boring or dreary routine : REFUGE
oat \'ōt\ *n, often attrib* [ME *ote*, fr. OE *āte*] **1 a** : any of several grasses (genus *Avena*); *esp* : a widely cultivated cereal grass (*Avena sativa*) **b** : a crop or plot of the oat; *also* : oat seed — usu. used in pl. but sing. or pl. in constr. **2** *archaic* : a reed instrument made of an oat straw


oat 1a

oat·cake \'ōt-ˌkāk\ *n* : a thin flat oatmeal cake
oat·en \'ōt-ᵊn\ *adj* : of or relating to oats, oat straw, or oatmeal
oat·er \'ōt-ər\ *n* : WESTERN 2
oat grass *n* : WILD OAT 1a; *broadly* : one of several grasses resembling the oat
oath \'ōth\ *n, pl* **oaths** \'ōthz, 'ōths\ [ME *ooth*, fr. OE *āth;* akin to OHG *eid* oath] **1 a** (1) : a solemn usu. formal calling upon God or a god to witness to the truth of what one says or to witness that one sincerely intends to do what one says (2) : a solemn attestation of the truth or inviolability of one's words **b** : something (as a promise) corroborated by an oath **c** : a form of expression used in taking an oath **2** : an irreverent or careless use of a sacred name; *broadly* : SWEARWORD
oat·meal \'ōt-ˌmēl, ōt-'mē(ə)l\ *n* **1 a** : meal made from oats **b** : rolled oats **2** : porridge made from ground or rolled oats
ob *abbr* **1** [L *obiit*] he died **2** observation **3** obstetrical; obstetrician
Ob *or* **Obad** *abbr* Obadiah
ob- *prefix* [NL, fr. L, in the way, against, toward, fr. *ob* in the way of, on account of — more at EPI-] : inversely ⟨*ob*ovate⟩
Oba·di·ah \ˌō-bə-'dī-ə\ *n* [Heb *'Ōbhadhyāh*] **1** : a minor Hebrew prophet **2** : a prophetic book of canonical Jewish and Christian Scripture — see BIBLE table
[1]ob·bli·ga·to \ˌäb-lə-'gät-(ˌ)ō\ *adj* [It, obligatory, fr. pp. of *obbligare* to oblige, fr. L *obligare*] : not to be omitted : OBLIGATORY — used as a direction in music
[2]obbligato *n, pl* **-tos** *also* **-ti** \-'gät-ē\ **1** : an elaborate esp. melodic part accompanying a solo or principal melody and usu. played by a single instrument ⟨a song with violin ~⟩ **2** : a persistent background sound
ob·cor·date \(ˌ)äb-'kȯ(ə)r-ˌdāt\ *adj* : heart-shaped with the notch apical ⟨~ leaf⟩
ob·du·ra·cy \'äb-d(y)ə-rə-sē; äb-'d(y)u̇r-ə-, əb-\ *n, pl* **-cies** : the quality or state of being obdurate
ob·du·rate \'äb-d(y)ə-rət; äb-'d(y)u̇r-ət, əb-\ *adj* [ME, fr. L *obduratus*, pp. of *obdurare* to harden, fr. *ob-* against + *durus* hard — more at DURING] **1 a** : hardened in feelings **b** : stubbornly persistent in wrongdoing **2** : resistant to persuasion or softening influences : UNYIELDING ***syn*** see INFLEXIBLE — **ob·du·rate·ly** *adv* — **ob·du·rate·ness** *n*
OBE *abbr* Officer of the Order of the British Empire
obe·ah \'ō-bē-ə\ *also* **obi** \'ō-bē\ *n, often cap* [of African origin; akin to Twi *a[1]bi[2]a[3]*, a creeper used in making charms] : a system of belief among Negroes chiefly of the British West Indies, the Guianas, and the southeastern U.S. that is characterized by the use of sorcery and magic ritual
obe·di·ence \ō-'bēd-ē-ən(t)s, ə-\ *n* **1 a** : an act or instance of obeying **b** : the quality or state of being obedient **2** : a sphere of jurisdiction; *esp* : an ecclesiastical or sometimes secular dominion
obe·di·ent \-ənt\ *adj* [ME, fr. OF, fr. L *oboedient-, oboediens*, fr. prp. of *oboedire* to obey — more at OBEY] : submissive to the restraint or command of authority — **obe·di·ent·ly** *adv*
syn OBEDIENT, DOCILE, TRACTABLE, AMENABLE *shared meaning element* : submissive to the control of another ***ant*** disobedient, contumacious
obei·sance \ō-'bās-ᵊn(t)s, ə-, -'bēs-\ *n* [ME *obeisaunce* obedience, obeisance, fr. MF *obeissance*, fr. *obeissant*, prp. of *obeir* to obey] **1** : a movement of the body made in token of respect or submission : BOW **2** : DEFERENCE, HOMAGE — **obei·sant** \-ᵊnt\ *adj* — **obei·sant·ly** *adv*
obe·lia \ō-'bēl-yə\ *n* [NL, genus name] : any of a genus (*Obelia*) of small colonial marine hydroids with colonies branched like trees
obe·lisk \'äb-ə-ˌlisk *also* 'ō-bə-\ *n* [MF *obelisque*, fr. L *obeliscus*, fr. Gk *obeliskos*, fr. dim. of *obelos*] **1** : an upright 4-sided usu. monolithic pillar that gradually tapers as it rises and terminates in a pyramid **2 a** : OBELUS **b** : DAGGER 2b


obelisk 1

obe·lize \-ˌlīz\ *vt* **-lized; -liz·ing** : to designate or annotate with an obelus
obe·lus \-ləs\ *n, pl* **ob·e·li** \-ˌlī, -ˌlē\ [LL, fr. Gk *obelos* spit, pointed pillar, obelus] : a symbol — or ÷ used in ancient manuscripts to mark a questionable passage
Ober·on \'ō-bə-ˌrän, -rən\ *n* [F, fr. OF *Auberon*] : king of the fairies in medieval folklore
obese \ō-'bēs\ *adj* [L *obesus*, fr. pp. of *obedere* to eat up, fr. *ob-* against + *edere* to eat — more at OB-, EAT] : excessively fat
obe·si·ty \ō-'bē-sət-ē\ *n* : a condition characterized by excessive bodily fat
obey \ō-'bā, ə-\ *vb* **obeyed; obey·ing** [ME *obeien*, fr. OF *obeir*, fr. L *oboedire*, fr. *ob-* toward + *-oedire* (akin to *audire* to hear) — more at OB-, AUDIBLE] *vt* **1** : to follow the commands or guidance of **2** : to comply with : EXECUTE ⟨~ an order⟩ ~ *vi* : to behave obediently — **obey·er** *n*
syn OBEY, COMPLY, MIND *shared meaning element* : to follow the direction of another
ob·fus·cate \'äb-fə-ˌskāt; äb-'fəs-ˌkāt, əb-\ *vt* **-cat·ed; -cat·ing** [LL *obfuscatus*, pp. of *obfuscare*, fr. L *ob-* in the way + *fuscus* dark brown — more at OB-, DUSK] **1 a** : DARKEN **b** : to make obscure **2** : CONFUSE — **ob·fus·ca·tion** \ˌäb-(ˌ)fəs-'kā-shən\ *n* — **ob·fus·ca·to·ry** \äb-'fəs-kə-ˌtōr-ē, əb-, -ˌtȯr-\ *adj*
obi \'ō-bē\ *n* [Jap] : a broad sash worn with a Japanese kimono
Obie \'ō-bē\ *n* [*O.B.*, abbr. for *off Broadway*] : an award presented annually by a professional organization for notable achievement in plays performed off Broadway
obit \ō-'bit, 'ō-bət, *esp Brit* 'äb-it\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *obitus* decease, fr. *obitus*, pp. of *obire* to go to meet, die, fr. *ob-* in the way + *ire* to go — more at ISSUE] : OBITUARY
obi·ter dic·tum \ˌō-bət-ər-'dik-təm, ˌäb-ət-\ *n, pl* **obiter dic·ta** \-tə\ [LL, lit., something said in passing] **1** : an incidental and collateral opinion that is uttered by a judge but is not binding **2** : an incidental remark or observation
obit·u·ary \ə-'bich-ə-ˌwer-ē, ō-, -'bich-ə-rē\ *n, pl* **-ar·ies** [ML *obituarium*, fr. L *obitus* decease] : a notice of a person's death usu. with a short biographical account — **obituary** *adj*
obj *abbr* object; objective
[1]ob·ject \'äb-jikt\ *n* [ME, fr. ML *objectum*, fr. L, neut. of *obicere* to throw in the way, present, hinder, fr. *ob-* in the way + *jacere* to throw — more at OB-, JET] **1 a** : something that is or is capable of being seen, touched, or otherwise sensed **b** : something physical or mental of which a subject is cognitively aware **2** : something that arouses an emotion in an observer **3 a** : an end toward which effort or action or emotion is directed : GOAL **b** : MOTIVE **4** : a thing that forms an element of or constitutes the subject matter of an investigation or science **5 a** : a noun or noun equivalent denoting in verb constructions that on or toward which the action of a verb is directed **b** : a noun or noun equivalent in a prepositional phrase ***syn*** see INTENTION — **ob·ject·less** \-jik-tləs\ *adj* — **ob·ject·less·ness** *n*

²ob·ject \əb-'jekt\ *vb* [ME *objecten*, fr. L *objectus*, pp. of *obicere* to throw in the way, object] *vt* : to offer in opposition : cite as an objection ~ *vi* **1** : to oppose something firmly and usu. with words or arguments **2** : to feel distaste for something : DISAPPROVE — **ob·jec·tor** \-'jek-tər\ *n*

syn OBJECT, PROTEST, REMONSTRATE, EXPOSTULATE, KICK *shared meaning element* : to oppose by arguing against. OBJECT stresses dislike or aversion ⟨*object* vociferously to a new zoning ordinance⟩ PROTEST suggests an orderly presentation of objections in speech or in writing ⟨professors . . . who signed an open letter . . . *protesting* the construction of fallout shelters —*Current Biog.*⟩ or, sometimes, activity designed to focus attention on what is felt as wrong ⟨marched with the pickets, *protesting* atmospheric testing —Dick Kleiner⟩ REMONSTRATE implies protestation but stresses so strongly an intent to persuade or convince that it is more appropriate in intimate than in official or impersonal situations ⟨*remonstrated* with her son over his untruthfulness⟩ EXPOSTULATE carries a strong implication of firm, earnest, but usually friendly reasoning or insistence on the merits of one's stand ⟨reporters at his press conference *expostulated* against playing favorites —*New Republic*⟩ KICK implies strenuous protestation and, usually, an exhibition of recalcitrancy ⟨wherefore *kick* ye, at my sacrifice and at mine offering —1 Sam 2:29 (AV)⟩ ***ant*** acquiesce

object ball \'äb-jik(t)-\ *n* : the ball first struck by the cue ball in pool or billiards; *also* : a ball hit by the cue ball

ob·jec·ti·fy \əb-'jek-tə-,fī\ *vt* **-fied; -fy·ing** **1** **a** : to cause to become an object **b** : to make objective **2** : EXTERNALIZE 2 — **ob·jec·ti·fi·ca·tion** \-,jek-tə-fə-'kā-shən\ *n*

ob·jec·tion \əb-'jek-shən\ *n* **1** : an act of objecting **2** **a** : a reason or argument presented in opposition **b** : a feeling of disapproval

ob·jec·tion·able \-sh(ə-)nə-bəl\ *adj* : arousing objection : OFFENSIVE — **ob·jec·tion·able·ness** *n* — **ob·jec·tion·ably** \-blē\ *adv*

¹ob·jec·tive \əb-'jek-tiv, äb-\ *adj* **1** **a** : of or relating to an object of action or feeling **b** : having the status of or constituting an object: as (1) : existing only in relation to a knowing subject or willing agent (2) : existing independent of mind (3) : belonging to the sensible world and being observable or verifiable esp. by scientific methods (4) *of a symptom of disease* : perceptible to persons other than an affected individual **c** : emphasizing or expressing the nature of reality as it is apart from personal reflections or feelings **d** (1) : expressing or involving the use of facts without distortion by personal feelings or prejudices (2) : relating to or being methods that eliminate the subjective by limiting choices to fixed alternatives requiring a minimum of creative interpretation ⟨~ tests of personality⟩ **2** : derived from sense perception **3** : belonging or relating to an object to be delineated **4** : relating to, characteristic of, or constituting the case that follows a preposition or a transitive verb ***syn*** **1** see MATERIAL ***ant*** subjective **2** see FAIR ***ant*** subjective — **ob·jec·tive·ly** *adv* — **ob·jec·tive·ness** *n* — **ob·jec·tiv·i·ty** \(')äb-,jek-'tiv-ət-ē, əb-\ *n*

²objective *n* **1** : something toward which effort is directed : an aim or end of action : GOAL, OBJECT **2** : something that is objective; *specif* : something external to the mind **3** **a** : the objective case **b** : a word in the objective case **4** : a strategic position to be attained or purpose to be achieved by a military operation **5** : a lens or system of lenses that forms an image of an object ***syn*** see INTENTION

objective complement *n* : a noun, adjective, or pronoun used in the predicate as complement to a verb and as qualifier of its direct object ⟨*chairman* in "we elected him chairman" is an *objective complement*⟩

objective correlative *n* : a situation or chain of events that symbolizes or objectifies a particular emotion and that may be used in creative writing to evoke a desired emotional response in the reader

objective test *n* [fr. the fact that subjective judgment by the grader is eliminated] : a test made up of factual questions to be answered in a word or two or by a check mark — compare ESSAY TEST

ob·jec·tiv·ism \əb-'jek-tiv-,iz-əm, äb-\ *n* **1** : any of various theories stressing objective reality esp. as distinguished from subjective experience or appearance **2** : an ethical theory that moral good is objectively real or that moral precepts are objectively valid **3** : the theory or practice of objective art or literature — **ob·jec·tiv·ist** \-əst\ *n* — **ob·jec·tiv·is·tic** \-,jek-tiv-'is-tik\ *adj*

ob·ject language \'äb-jikt-\ *n* : TARGET LANGUAGE

object lesson \'äb-jikt-\ *n* **1** : a lesson having a material object as the basis of instruction **2** : something that teaches by exemplifying a principle in concrete form

ob·jet d'art \,ȯb-,zhā-'där\ *n, pl* **ob·jets d'art** *same*\ [F, lit., art object] **1** : an article of some artistic value **2** : CURIO

ob·jet trou·vé \'ȯb-,zhā-trü-'vā\ *n* [F, lit., found object] : a natural object (as a piece of driftwood) found by chance and held to have aesthetic value esp. through the working of natural forces on it; *also* : an artifact not orig. intended as art but held to have aesthetic value esp. when displayed as a work of art

ob·jur·gate \'äb-jər-,gāt\ *vt* **-gat·ed; -gat·ing** [L *objurgatus*, pp. of *objurgare*, fr. *ob-* against + *jurgare* to quarrel, lit., to take to law, fr. *jur-, jus* law + *-igare* (fr. *agere* to lead) — more at OB-, JUST, AGENT] : to denounce harshly : CASTIGATE — **ob·jur·ga·tion** \,äb-jər-'gā-shən\ *n* — **ob·jur·ga·to·ry** \əb-'jər-gə-,tōr-ē, -,tȯr-\ *adj*

obl *abbr* **1** oblique **2** oblong

ob·lan·ceo·late \(')äb-'lan(t)-sē-ə-,lāt\ *adj* : inversely lanceolate ⟨an ~ leaf⟩

ob·last \'äb-,last, 'ȯb-ləst\ *n, pl* **oblasts** *also* **ob·las·ti** \-,las-tē, -ləs-\ [Russ *oblast'*] : a political subdivision of a republic in the U.S.S.R.

¹ob·late \äb-'lāt, 'äb-,\ *adj* [prob. fr. NL *oblatus*, fr. *ob-* + *-latus* (as in *prolatus* prolate)] : flattened or depressed at the poles ⟨an ~ spheroid⟩ — **ob·late·ness** *n*

²ob·late \'äb-,lāt\ *n* [ML *oblatus*, lit., one offered up, fr. L, pp. of *offerre*] **1** : a layman living in a monastery under a modified rule and without vows **2** : a member of one of several Roman Catholic communities of men or women

ob·la·tion \ə-'blā-shən, ō-\ *n* [ME *oblacioun*, fr. MF *oblation*, fr. LL *oblation-, oblatio*, fr. L *oblatus*, pp. of *offerre* to offer] **1** : the act of making a religious offering; *specif, cap* : the act of offering the eucharistic elements to God **2** : something offered in worship or devotion : a holy gift offered usu. at an altar or shrine

¹ob·li·gate \'äb-li-gət, -lə-,gāt\ *adj* **1** : restricted to one particularly characteristic mode of life ⟨an ~ parasite⟩ **2** : ESSENTIAL, NECESSARY ⟨~ parasitism⟩ — **ob·li·gate·ly** *adv*

²ob·li·gate \'äb-lə-,gāt\ *vt* **-gat·ed; -gat·ing** [L *obligatus*, pp. of *obligare*] **1** **a** : to bind legally or morally : CONSTRAIN **b** : OBLIGE 2a **2** : to commit (as funds) to meet an obligation

ob·li·ga·tion \,äb-lə-'gā-shən\ *n* **1** : the action of obligating oneself to a course of action **2** **a** : something (as a formal contract, a promise, or the demands of conscience or custom) that obligates one to a course of action **b** : a debt security (as a mortgage or corporate bond) **c** : a commitment (as by a government) to pay a particular sum of money; *also* : an amount owed under such an obligation : LIABILITY ⟨unable to meet its ~*s* the company went into bankruptcy⟩ **3** : something that one is bound to do or forbear (as by law, conscience, or social pressure) : DUTY **4** : a condition or feeling of being indebted esp. legally, ethically, or socially ⟨felt her ~ to these kind friends very deeply⟩

oblig·a·to·ry \ə-'blig-ə-,tōr-ē, ä-, -,tȯr- *also* 'äb-li-gə-\ *adj* **1** : binding in law or conscience **2** : relating to or enforcing an obligation ⟨a writ ~⟩ **3** : MANDATORY, REQUIRED **4** : OBLIGATE 1 — **oblig·a·to·ri·ly** \ə-,blig-ə-'tōr-ə-lē, ä-, -'tȯr- *also* ,äb-li-gə-\ *adv*

oblige \ə-'blīj\ *vb* **obliged; oblig·ing** [ME *obligen*, fr. OF *obliger*, fr. L *obligare*, lit., to bind to, fr. *ob-* toward + *ligare* to bind — more at LIGATURE] *vt* **1** : to constrain by physical, moral, or legal force or by the exigencies of circumstance ⟨*obliged* to find money for his taxes⟩ **2** **a** : to put in one's debt by a favor or service ⟨you will ~ us if you get there early⟩ **b** : to do a favor for ⟨always ready to ~ a friend⟩ ~ *vi* : to do something as a favor — **oblig·er** *n*

syn **1** see FORCE
2 OBLIGE, ACCOMMODATE, FAVOR *shared meaning element* : to do a service or courtesy ***ant*** disoblige

ob·li·gee \,äb-lə-'jē\ *n* **1** : one to whom another is obligated **2** : one who is obliged

oblig·ing \ə-'blī-jiŋ\ *adj* : willing to do favors : ACCOMMODATING ***syn*** see AMIABLE ***ant*** disobliging, inconsiderate — **oblig·ing·ly** \-jiŋ-lē\ *adv* — **oblig·ing·ness** *n*

ob·li·gor \,äb-lə-'gȯ(ə)r, -'jȯ(ə)r\ *n* : one that places himself under a legal obligation

¹oblique \ō-'blēk, ə-, -'blīk; *military usu* ī\ *adj* [ME *oblike*, fr. L *obliquus*, fr. *ob-* toward + *-liquus* (akin to *ulna* elbow) — more at ELL] **1** **a** : neither perpendicular nor parallel : INCLINED **b** : having the axis not perpendicular to the base ⟨an ~ cone⟩ **c** : having no right angle ⟨an ~ triangle⟩ **2** **a** : not straightforward : INDIRECT **b** : DEVIOUS, UNDERHAND **3** : situated obliquely and having one end not inserted on bone ⟨~ muscles⟩ **4** : taken from an airplane with the camera directed horizontally or diagonally downward ⟨an ~ photograph⟩ ***syn*** see CROOKED — **oblique·ly** *adv* — **oblique·ness** *n*

²oblique *n* **1** : something (as a line) that is oblique **2** : any of several oblique muscles; *esp* : one of the thin flat muscles forming the middle and outer layers of the lateral walls of the abdomen

³oblique *adv* : at a 45 degree angle ⟨to the right ~, march⟩

oblique angle *n* : an acute or obtuse angle

oblique case *n* : a grammatical case other than the nominative or vocative

obliq·ui·ty \ō-'blik-wət-ē, ə-\ *n, pl* **-ties** **1** : deviation from moral rectitude or sound thinking **2** **a** : deviation from parallelism or perpendicularity; *also* : the amount of such deviation : DIVERGENCE **b** : the angle between the planes of the earth's equator and orbit having a mean value of 23°26′34″.52 in 1972 and diminishing 0″.47 per year ⟨~ of the ecliptic⟩ **3** **a** : indirectness or deliberate obscurity of speech or conduct **b** : an obscure or confusing statement

oblit·er·ate \ə-'blit-ə-,rāt, ō-\ *vt* **-at·ed; -at·ing** [L *oblitteratus*, pp. of *oblitterare*, fr. *ob* in the way of + *littera* letter — more at EPI-] **1** : to make undecipherable or imperceptible by obscuring or wearing away **2** **a** : to remove utterly from recognition or memory **b** : to destroy utterly all trace, indication, or significance of **c** : to cause to disappear (as a bodily part or a scar) or collapse (as the lumen of a duct) : REMOVE ⟨a blood vessel *obliterated* by inflammation⟩ **3** : CANCEL 4 ***syn*** see ERASE — **oblit·er·a·tion** \-,blit-ə-'rā-shən\ *n* — **oblit·er·a·tor** \-'blit-ə-,rāt-ər\ *n*

oblit·er·a·tive \ə-'blit-ə-,rāt-iv, ō-, -ə-rət-\ *adj* : inducing or characterized by obliteration: as **a** : causing or accompanied by closure or collapse of a lumen ⟨~ arterial disease⟩ **b** : tending to make inconspicuous ⟨~ behavior⟩

obliv·i·on \ə-'bliv-ē-ən, ō-, ä-\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *oblivion-, oblivio*, fr. *oblivisci* to forget, perh. fr. *ob-* in the way + *levis* smooth — more at OB-, LIME] **1** : an act or instance of forgetting : FORGETFULNESS **2** : the quality or state of being forgotten ⟨contentedly accepted his own political ~⟩ **3** : official ignoring of offenses

obliv·i·ous \-ē-əs\ *adj* **1** : lacking remembrance, memory, or mindful attention **2** : lacking active conscious knowledge : UNAWARE — usu. used with *of* or *to* ***syn*** see FORGETFUL — **obliv·i·ous·ly** *adv* — **obliv·i·ous·ness** *n*

ob·long \'äb-,lȯŋ\ *adj* [ME, fr. L *oblongus*, fr. *ob-* toward + *longus* long] : deviating from a square or circular form through elongation ⟨the ~ fruit of a lemon tree⟩: **a** : rectangular with adjacent sides unequal **b** : rectangular with the normally horizontal dimension the greater — **oblong** *n*

ob·lo·quy \'äb-lə-kwē\ *n, pl* **-quies** [LL *obloquium,* fr. *obloqui* to speak against, fr. *ob-* against + *loqui* to speak — more at OB-] **1** : a strongly condemnatory utterance : abusive language **2** : the condition of one that is discredited : bad repute ***syn*** see ABUSE

ob·nox·ious \äb-'näk-shəs, əb-\ *adj* [L *obnoxius,* fr. *ob* in the way of, exposed to + *noxa* harm — more at EPI-, NOXIOUS] **1** : liable esp. to a hurtful influence — used with *to* **2** *archaic* : deserving of censure **3** : odiously or disgustingly objectionable : highly offensive ***syn*** see REPUGNANT ***ant*** grateful — **ob·nox·ious·ly** *adv* — **ob·nox·ious·ness** *n*

ob·nu·bi·late \äb-'n(y)ü-bə-ˌlāt\ *vt* **-lat·ed; -lat·ing** [L *obnubilatus,* pp. of *obnubilare,* fr. *ob-* in the way + *nubilare* to be cloudy, fr. *nubilus* cloudy, fr. *nubes* cloud — more at OB-, NUANCE] : BECLOUD — **ob·nu·bi·la·tion** \-ˌn(y)ü-bə-'lā-shən\ *n*

oboe \'ō-(ˌ)bō\ *n* [It, fr. F *hautbois* — more at HAUTBOIS] : a double-reed woodwind instrument having a conical tube, a nasal tone, and a usual range from B flat below middle C upward for over 2½ octaves — **obo·ist** \'ō-ˌbō-əst\ *n*



oboe

obol \'äb-əl, 'ō-bəl\ *n* [L *obolus,* fr. Gk *obolos;* akin to Gk *obelos* spit] : an ancient Greek coin or weight equal to ⅙ drachma

ob·ovate \(')äb-'ō-ˌvāt\ *adj* : ovate with the narrower end basal ⟨~ leaves⟩

ob·ovoid \-ˌvȯid\ *adj* : ovoid with the broad end toward the apex ⟨an ~ fruit⟩

ob·scene \äb-'sēn, əb-\ *adj* [MF, fr. L *obscenus, obscaenus*] **1** : disgusting to the senses : REPULSIVE **2** : abhorrent to morality or virtue; *specif* : designed to incite to lust or depravity ***syn*** see COARSE ***ant*** decent — **ob·scene·ly** *adv*

ob·scen·i·ty \-'sen-ət-ē *also* -'sēn-\ *n, pl* **-ties** **1** : the quality or state of being obscene **2** : something (as an utterance or act) that is obscene

ob·scur·ant \äb-'skyůr-ənt, əb-\ *or* **ob·scu·ran·tic** \ˌäb-skyə-'rant-ik\ *adj* : tending to make obscure — **obscurant** *n*

ob·scu·ran·tism \äb-'skyůr-ən-ˌtiz-əm, əb-; ˌäb-skyů-'ran-\ *n* **1** : opposition to the spread of knowledge : a policy of withholding knowledge from the general public **2 a** : a style (as in literature or art) characterized by deliberate vagueness or abstruseness **b** : an act or instance of obscurantism — **ob·scu·ran·tist** \-ən-təst, -'rant-əst\ *n or adj*

¹ob·scure \äb-'skyů(ə)r, əb-\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF *obscur,* fr. L *obscurus,* fr. *ob-* in the way + *-scurus* (akin to Gk *keuthein* to conceal) — more at HIDE] **1** : lacking or inadequately supplied with light : DARK, DUSKY **2 a** : withdrawn from the centers of human activity : REMOTE ⟨an ~ country village⟩ **b** : not readily understood or not clearly expressed : ABSTRUSE **c** : lacking showiness or prominence : INCONSPICUOUS, HUMBLE ⟨an ~ Roman poet⟩ **d** : not distinct : FAINT ⟨an ~ stain⟩ **3** : constituting the unstressed vowel \ə\ or having unstressed \ə\ as its value — **ob·scure·ly** *adv* — **ob·scure·ness** *n*

syn OBSCURE, DARK, VAGUE, ENIGMATIC, CRYPTIC, AMBIGUOUS, EQUIVOCAL *shared meaning element* : not clearly understandable ***ant*** distinct, obvious

²obscure *vt* **ob·scured; ob·scur·ing** **1** : to make dark, dim, or indistinct **2** : to conceal or hide by or as if by covering **3** : to reduce (a vowel) to the value \ə\ — **ob·scu·ra·tion** \ˌäb-skyů-'rā-shən\ *n*

³obscure *n* : OBSCURITY

ob·scu·ri·ty \äb-'skyůr-ət-ē, əb-\ *n, pl* **-ties** **1** : the quality or state of being obscure **2** : one that is obscure

ob·se·qui·ous \əb-'sē-kwē-əs, äb-\ *adj* [ME, fr. L *obsequiosus* compliant, fr. *obsequium* compliance, fr. *obsequi* to comply, fr. *ob-* toward + *sequi* to follow — more at OB-, SUE] : exhibiting a servile attentiveness or complaisance ***syn*** see SUBSERVIENT ***ant*** contumelious — **ob·se·qui·ous·ly** *adv* — **ob·se·qui·ous·ness** *n*

ob·se·quy \'äb-sə-kwē\ *n, pl* **-quies** [ME *obsequie,* fr. MF, fr. ML *obsequiae* (pl.), alter. of L *exsequiae,* fr. *exsequi* to follow out, execute] : a funeral or burial rite — usu. used in pl.

ob·serv·able \əb-'zər-və-bəl\ *adj* **1** : NOTEWORTHY **2** : capable of being observed : DISCERNIBLE — **observable** *n* — **ob·serv·ably** \-blē\ *adv*

ob·ser·vance \əb-'zər-vən(t)s\ *n* **1 a** : a customary practice, rite, or ceremony ⟨Sabbath ~s⟩ **b** : a rule governing members of a religious order **2** : an act or instance of following a custom, rule, or law ⟨~ of the speed limits⟩ **3** : an act or instance of watching

¹ob·ser·vant \-vənt\ *n, obs* : an assiduous or obsequious servant or attendant

²observant *adj* **1** : paying strict attention : WATCHFUL ⟨~ spectators⟩ **2** : careful in observing : MINDFUL ⟨always ~ of the amenities⟩ **3** : quick to observe : KEEN — **ob·ser·vant·ly** *adv*

ob·ser·va·tion \ˌäb-sər-'vā-shən, -zər-\ *n* [MF, fr. L *observation-, observatio,* fr. *observatus,* pp. of *observare*] **1** : an act or the faculty of observing **2 a** : an act of recognizing and noting a fact or occurrence often involving measurement with instruments ⟨weather ~s⟩ **b** : a record so obtained **3** : a judgment on or inference from what one has observed; *broadly* : REMARK, STATEMENT **4** *obs* : HEED **5** : the condition of one that is observed ⟨under ~ at the hospital⟩ — **ob·ser·va·tion·al** \-shnəl, -shən-ᵊl\ *adj*

ob·ser·va·to·ry \əb-'zər-və-ˌtōr-ē, -ˌtȯr-\ *n, pl* **-ries** [prob. fr. NL *observatorium,* fr. L *observatus*] **1** : a building or place given over to or equipped for observation of natural phenomena (as in astronomy); *also* : an institution whose primary purpose is making such observations **2** : a situation or structure commanding a wide view : LOOKOUT

ob·serve \əb-'zərv\ *vb* **ob·served; ob·serv·ing** [ME *observen,* fr. MF *observer,* fr. L *observare* to guard, watch, observe, fr. *ob-* in the way, toward + *servare* to keep — more at CONSERVE] *vt* **1** : to conform one's action or practice to ⟨~ rules⟩ **2** : to inspect or take note of as an augury, omen, or presage **3** : to celebrate or solemnize (as a ceremony or festival) after a customary or accepted form **4** : to see or sense esp. through directed careful analytic attention **5** : to come to realize or know esp. through consideration of noted facts **6** : to utter as a remark **7** : to make a scientific observation on or of ~ *vi* **1 a** : to take notice **b** : to make observations : WATCH **2** : REMARK, COMMENT ***syn*** see KEEP ***ant*** violate — **ob·serv·ing·ly** \-'zər-viŋ-lē\ *adv*

ob·serv·er \əb-'zər-vər\ *n* : one that observes: as **a** : a representative sent to observe but not participate officially in a gathering **b** : one who accompanies the pilot of an airplane to make observations

ob·sess \əb-'ses, äb-\ *vt* [L *obsessus,* pp. of *obsidēre* to besiege, beset, fr. *ob-* against + *sedēre* to sit — more at OB-, SIT] **1** *archaic* : HARASS, BESET **2** : to preoccupy intensely or abnormally

ob·ses·sion \äb-'sesh-ən, əb-\ *n* **1** : a persistent disturbing preoccupation with an often unreasonable idea or feeling **2** : an emotion or idea causing an obsession — **ob·ses·sion·al** \-'sesh-nəl, -ən-ᵊl\ *adj* — **ob·ses·sion·al·ly** \-ē\ *adv*

ob·ses·sive \äb-'ses-iv, əb-\ *adj* **1 a** : tending to cause obsession **b** : excessive often to an abnormal degree ⟨our ~ need for quick solutions —A. E. Stevenson †1965⟩ **2** : of, relating to, or characterized by obsession — **obsessive** *n* — **ob·ses·sive·ly** *adv* — **ob·ses·sive·ness** *n*

ob·sid·i·an \əb-'sid-ē-ən\ *n* [NL *obsidianus,* fr. L *obsidianus lapis,* false MS reading for *obsianus lapis,* lit., stone of Obsius, fr. *Obsius,* its supposed discoverer] : volcanic glass that is generally black, banded, or spherulitic and has a marked conchoidal fracture and a composition similar to rhyolite

ob·so·lesce \ˌäb-sə-'les\ *vi* **-lesced; -lesc·ing** [L *obsolescere*] : to be or become obsolescent

ob·so·les·cence \-'les-ᵊn(t)s\ *n* : the process of becoming obsolete or the condition of being nearly obsolete ⟨the gradual ~ of machinery⟩ ⟨reduced to ~⟩

ob·so·les·cent \-ᵊnt\ *adj* : going out of use : becoming obsolete — **ob·so·les·cent·ly** *adv*

¹ob·so·lete \ˌäb-sə-'lēt, 'äb-sə-ˌ\ *adj* [L *obsoletus,* fr. pp. of *obsolescere* to grow old, become disused] **1 a** : no longer in use : DISUSED **b** : of a kind or style no longer current : OUTMODED **2** *of a plant or animal part* : indistinct or imperfect as compared with a corresponding part in related organisms : VESTIGIAL ***syn*** see OLD ***ant*** current — **ob·so·lete·ly** *adv* — **ob·so·lete·ness** *n*

²obsolete *vt* **-let·ed; -let·ing** : to make obsolete ⟨newer media are *obsoleting* the book —Daniel Melcher⟩

ob·sta·cle \'äb-sti-kəl, -ˌstik-əl\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *obstaculum,* fr. *obstare* to stand in the way, fr. *ob-* in the way + *stare* to stand — more at OB-, STAND] : something that stands in the way or opposes : OBSTRUCTION

obstacle course *n* : a military training course filled with obstacles (as hurdles, fences, walls, and ditches) that must be negotiated; *broadly* : a series of obstacles that must be negotiated

obstet *abbr* obstetrical; obstetrics

ob·stet·ric \əb-'ste-trik, äb-\ *or* **ob·stet·ri·cal** \-tri-kəl\ *adj* [prob. fr. (assumed) NL *obstetricus,* fr. L *obstetric-, obstetrix* midwife, fr. *obstare* to stand in the way, stand in front of] : of, relating to, or associated with childbirth or obstetrics — **ob·stet·ri·cal·ly** \-tri-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

ob·ste·tri·cian \ˌäb-stə-'trish-ən\ *n* : a physician specializing in obstetrics

ob·stet·rics \əb-'ste-triks, äb-\ *n pl but sing or pl in constr* : a branch of medical science that deals with birth and with its antecedents and sequels

ob·sti·na·cy \'äb-stə-nə-sē\ *n* **1 a** : the quality or state of being obstinate : STUBBORNNESS **b** : the quality or state of being difficult to remedy, relieve, or subdue ⟨the ~ of tuberculosis⟩ **2** : an instance of being obstinate

ob·sti·nate \'äb-stə-nət\ *adj* [ME, fr. L *obstinatus,* pp. of *obstinare* to be resolved, fr. *ob-* in the way + *-stinare* (akin to *stare* to stand)] **1** : perversely adhering to an opinion, purpose, or course in spite of reason, arguments, or persuasion **2** : not easily subdued, remedied, or removed ⟨~ fever⟩ — **ob·sti·nate·ly** *adv* — **ob·sti·nate·ness** *n*

syn OBSTINATE, DOGGED, STUBBORN, PERTINACIOUS, MULISH *shared meaning element* : fixed and unyielding in course or purpose ***ant*** pliant, pliable

ob·strep·er·ous \əb-'strep-(ə-)rəs, äb-\ *adj* [L *obstreperus,* fr. *obstrepere* to clamor against, fr. *ob-* against + *strepere* to make a noise; akin to OE *thræft* discord — more at OB-] **1** : marked by unruly or aggressive noisiness : CLAMOROUS ⟨~ merriment⟩ **2** : stubbornly defiant : UNRULY ***syn*** see VOCIFEROUS — **ob·strep·er·ous·ly** *adv* — **ob·strep·er·ous·ness** *n*

ob·struct \əb-'strəkt, äb-\ *vt* [L *obstructus,* pp. of *obstruere,* fr. *ob-* in the way + *struere* to build — more at OB-, STRUCTURE] **1** : to block or close up by an obstacle **2** : to hinder from passage, action, or operation : IMPEDE **3** : to cut off from sight ⟨a wall ~s the view⟩ ***syn*** see HINDER — **ob·struc·tive** \-'strək-tiv\ *adj or n* — **ob·struc·tive·ness** *n* — **ob·struc·tor** \-tər\ *n*

ob·struc·tion \əb-'strək-shən, äb-\ *n* **1** : an act of obstructing : the state of being obstructed: as **a** : a condition of being clogged or blocked **b** : a delay or attempted delay of business in a deliberative body (as a legislature) **2** : something that obstructs

ob·struc·tion·ism \-shə-ˌniz-əm\ *n* : deliberate interference with the progress or business esp. of a legislative body — **ob·struc·tion·ist** \-sh(ə-)nəst\ *n* — **ob·struc·tion·is·tic** \-ˌstrək-shə-'nis-tik\ *adj*

ob·tain \əb-'tān, äb-\ *vb* [ME *obteinen,* fr. MF & L; MF *obtenir,* fr. L *obtinēre* to hold on to, possess, obtain, fr. *ob-* in the way + *tenēre* to hold — more at THIN] *vt* : to gain or attain usu. by planned action or effort ~ *vi* **1** *archaic* : SUCCEED **2** : to be generally recognized or established : PREVAIL ***syn*** see GET — **ob·tain·abil·i·ty** \-ˌtā-nə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* — **ob·tain·able** \-'tā-nə-bəl\ *adj* — **ob·tain·er** *n* — **ob·tain·ment** \-'tān-mənt\ *n*

ob·tect \əb-'tekt, äb-\ *also* **ob·tect·ed** \-'tek-təd\ *adj* [L *obtectus,* pp. of *obtegere* to cover over, fr. *ob-* in the way + *tegere* to cover —

more at THATCH] : enclosed in or characterized by enclosure in a firm chitinous case or covering ⟨an ~ pupa⟩

ob·test \äb-'test\ *vb* [MF *obtester*, fr. L *obtestari* to call to witness, beseech, fr. *ob-* toward + *testis* witness — more at OB-, TESTAMENT] : BESEECH, SUPPLICATE — **ob·tes·ta·tion** \ˌäb-ˌtes-'tā-shən\ *n*

ob·trude \əb-'trüd, äb-\ *vb* **ob·trud·ed; ob·trud·ing** [L *obtrudere* to thrust at, fr. *ob-* in the way + *trudere* to thrust — more at OB-, THREAT] *vt* **1** : to thrust out : EXTRUDE **2** : to thrust forward or call to notice without warrant or request ⟨not a man to ~ his beliefs casually⟩ ~ *vi* : to thrust oneself forward so as to call attention to oneself ⟨do what we may, our childhood background will ~⟩ — **ob·trud·er** *n* — **ob·tru·sion** \-'trü-zhən\ *n*

ob·tru·sive \-'trü-siv, -ziv\ *adj* [L *obtrusus*, pp. of *obtrudere*] **1** : thrust out : PROTRUDING **2 a** : forward in manner or conduct : PUSHING ⟨~ behavior⟩ **b** : undesirably noticeable or showy ***syn*** see IMPERTINENT ***ant*** unobtrusive, shy — **ob·tru·sive·ly** *adv* — **ob·tru·sive·ness** *n*

ob·tund \äb-'tənd\ *vt* [ME *obtunden*, fr. L *obtundere* — more at OBTUSE] : to reduce the edge or violence of : DULL ⟨~*ed* reflexes⟩

ob·tu·rate \'äb-t(y)ə-ˌrāt\ *vt* **-rat·ed; -rat·ing** [L *obturatus*, pp. of *obturare*, fr. *ob-* in the way + *-turare* (akin to *tumēre* to swell) — more at THUMB] : OBSTRUCT, CLOSE — **ob·tu·ra·tion** \ˌäb-t(y)ə-'rā-shən\ *n*

ob·tu·ra·tor \'äb-t(y)ə-ˌrāt-ər\ *n* [NL, fr. L *obturatus*, pp.] : one that closes: as **a** : either of two muscles that cover part of the interior or exterior wall of the pelvis **b** : one (as a prosthetic device) that closes or blocks up an opening (as a fissure in the palate) **c** : a hooded swelling of the placenta that fits over the nucellus in some plants

ob·tuse \äb-'t(y)üs, əb-\ *adj* **ob·tus·er; -est** [L *obtusus* blunt, dull, fr. pp. of *obtundere* to beat against, blunt, fr. *ob-* against + *tundere* to beat — more at OB-, STUTTER] **1** : lacking sharpness or quickness of sensibility : INSENSITIVE **2 a** (1) *of an angle* : exceeding 90 degrees but less than 180 degrees (2) : having an obtuse angle **b** : not pointed or acute : BLUNT **c** *of a leaf* : rounded at the free end ***syn*** see DULL ***ant*** acute — **ob·tuse·ly** *adv* — **ob·tuse·ness** *n*

obv *abbr* obverse

[1]ob·verse \äb-'vərs, əb-, 'äb-ˌ\ *adj* [L *obversus*, fr. pp. of *obvertere* to turn toward, fr. *ob-* toward + *vertere* to turn — more at OB-, WORTH] **1** : facing the observer or opponent **2** : having the base narrower than the top ⟨an ~ leaf⟩ **3** : constituting a counterpart or complement — **ob·verse·ly** *adv*

[2]ob·verse \'äb-ˌvərs, äb-', əb-'\ *n* **1 a** : the side of a coin or currency note that bears the principal device and lettering; *broadly* : a front or principal surface **b** : the more conspicuous of two possible sides, things, or cases ⟨the ~ of this situation⟩ **2 a** : a counterpart necessarily involved in or answering to a fact or truth **b** : a proposition inferred immediately from another by denying the opposite of that which the given proposition affirms ⟨the ~ of "all *A* is *B*" is "no *A* is not *B*"⟩

ob·vert \äb-'vərt, əb-\ *vt* [L *obvertere* to turn toward] **1** : to turn so as to present a different surface to view **2** : to change the appearance of

ob·vi·ate \'äb-vē-ˌāt\ *vt* **-at·ed; -at·ing** [LL *obviatus*, pp. of *obviare* to meet, withstand, fr. L *obviam* in the way] : to see beforehand and dispose of : make unnecessary ***syn*** see PREVENT — **ob·vi·a·tion** \ˌäb-vē-'ā-shən\ *n*

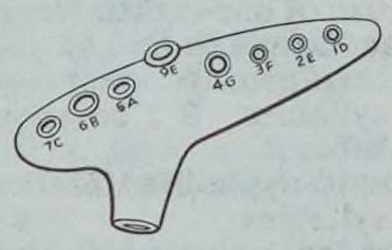
ob·vi·ous \'äb-vē-əs\ *adj* [L *obvius*, fr. *obviam* in the way, fr. *ob* in the way of + *viam*, acc. of *via* way — more at EPI-, VIA] **1** *archaic* : being in the way or in front : OPPOSITE **2** : easily discovered, seen, or understood ***syn*** see EVIDENT ***ant*** obscure, abstruse — **ob·vi·ous·ly** *adv* — **ob·vi·ous·ness** *n*

oc *abbr* ocean

OC *abbr* **1** off center **2** officer candidate **3** on center **4** on course

oca \'ō-kə\ *n* [Sp, fr. Quechua *ókka*] : either of two So. American wood sorrels (*Oxalis crenata* and *O. tuberosa*) cultivated for their edible tubers

oc·a·ri·na \ˌäk-ə-'rē-nə\ *n* [It, fr. *oca* goose, fr. LL *auca*, deriv. of L *avis* bird — more at AVIARY] : a simple wind instrument having an oval body with finger holes and a projecting mouthpiece



ocarina

Oc·cam's razor \ˌäk-əmz-\ *n* [William of *Ockham*] : a scientific and philosophic rule that entities should not be multiplied unnecessarily which is interpreted as requiring that the simplest of competing theories be preferred to the more complex or that explanations of unknown phenomena be sought first in terms of known quantities

occas *abbr* occasionally

[1]oc·ca·sion \ə-'kā-zhən\ *n* [ME, fr. MF or L; MF, fr. L *occasion-*, *occasio*, fr. *occasus*, pp. of *occidere* to fall, fall down, fr. *ob-* toward + *cadere* to fall — more at OB-, CHANCE] **1** : a favorable opportunity or circumstance **2** : a state of affairs that provides a ground or reason ⟨the ~ of the discord was their mutual intolerance⟩ **3** : an occurrence or condition that brings something about; *esp* : the immediate inciting circumstance as distinguished from the fundamental cause ⟨his insulting remark was the ~ of a bitter quarrel⟩ **4 a** : HAPPENING, INCIDENT **b** : a time at which something happens **5 a** : a need arising from a particular circumstance **b** *archaic* : a personal want or need — usu. used in pl. **6** *pl* : AFFAIRS, BUSINESS **7** : a special event or ceremony : CELEBRATION ***syn*** see CAUSE — **on occasion** : from time to time

[2]occasion *vt* **oc·ca·sioned; oc·ca·sion·ing** \-'kāzh-(ə-)niŋ\ : to bring about : CAUSE

oc·ca·sion·al \-'kāzh-nəl, -ən-ᵊl\ *adj* **1** : of or relating to a particular occasion ⟨a budget able to meet ~ demands as well as regular ones⟩ **2** : acting as the occasion or contributing cause of something **3** : composed for a particular occasion ⟨~ verse⟩ **4** : met with, appearing, or occurring at irregular or infrequent intervals ⟨~ visitors⟩ ⟨takes an ~ vacation⟩ **5** : acting in a specified capacity from time to time **6** : designed or constructed to be used as the occasion demands ⟨~ furniture⟩

oc·ca·sion·al·ly \-ē\ *adv* : now and then : SOMETIMES

Oc·ci·dent \'äk-səd-ənt, -sə-ˌdent\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *occident-*, *occidens*, fr. prp. of *occidere* to fall, set (of the sun)] : WEST 2a

oc·ci·den·tal \ˌäk-sə-'dent-ᵊl\ *adj, often cap* **1** : of, relating to, or situated in the Occident : WESTERN **2** : of or relating to Occidentals — **oc·ci·den·tal·ly** \-ᵊl-ē\ *adv*

Occidental *n* : a member of one of the occidental peoples; *esp* : a person of European ancestry

Oc·ci·den·tal·ism \ˌäk-sə-'dent-ᵊl-ˌiz-əm\ *n* : the characteristic features of occidental peoples or culture

oc·ci·den·tal·ize \-ᵊl-ˌīz\ *vt* **-ized; -iz·ing** *often cap* : to make occidental (as in culture)

oc·cip·i·tal \äk-'sip-ət-ᵊl\ *adj* : of or relating to the occiput or the occipital bone — **occipital** *n* — **oc·cip·i·tal·ly** \-ᵊl-ē\ *adv*

occipital bone *n* : a compound bone that forms the posterior part of the skull and bears a condyle by which the skull articulates with the atlas

occipital condyle *n* : an articular surface on the occipital bone by which the skull articulates with the atlas

occipital lobe *n* : the posterior lobe of the cerebral hemisphere that bears the visual areas and has the form of a 3-sided pyramid

oc·ci·put \'äk-sə-(ˌ)pət\ *n, pl* **occiputs** *or* **oc·cip·i·ta** \äk-'sip-ət-ə\ [L *occipit-*, *occiput*, fr. *ob-* against + *capit-*, *caput* head — more at OB-, HEAD] : the back part of the head or skull

oc·clude \ə-'klüd, ä-\ *vb* **oc·clud·ed; oc·clud·ing** [L *occludere*, fr. *ob-* in the way + *claudere* to shut, close — more at CLOSE] *vt* **1** : to stop up : OBSTRUCT ⟨a thrombus *occluding* a coronary artery⟩ **2** : PREVENT, HINDER **3** : SORB **4** : to cut off from contact with the surface of the earth and force aloft by the convergence of a cold front on a warm front ⟨*occluded* warm air⟩ ~ *vi* **1** : to close with the cusps fitting together ⟨his teeth do not ~ properly⟩ **2** : to become occluded — **oc·clud·ent** \-'klüd-ᵊnt\ *adj* — **oc·clu·sive** \-'klü-siv, -ziv\ *adj*

occluded front *n* : OCCLUSION 2

oc·clu·sal \ə-'klü-səl, ä-, -zəl\ *adj* : of or relating to the grinding or biting surface of a tooth or to occlusion of the teeth

oc·clu·sion \ə-'klü-zhən\ *n* [prob. fr. (assumed) NL *occlusion-*, *occlusio*, fr. L *occlusus*, pp. of *occludere*] **1** : the act of occluding : the state of being occluded: as **a** : the complete obstruction of the breath passage in the articulation of a speech sound **b** : the bringing of the opposing surfaces of the teeth of the two jaws into contact; *also* : the relation between the surfaces when in contact **c** : the inclusion or sorption of gas trapped during solidification of a material **2** : the front formed by a cold front overtaking a warm front and lifting the warm air above the earth's surface

[1]oc·cult \ə-'kəlt, ä-\ *vb* [L *occultare*, fr. *occultus*, pp.] *vt* **1** : to hide from sight : CONCEAL **2** : to conceal by occultation ~ *vi* : to become concealed or extinguished — **oc·cult·er** *n*

[2]oc·cult \ə-'kəlt, ä-; 'äk-ˌəlt\ *adj* [L *occultus*, fr. pp. of *occulere* to cover up, fr. *ob-* in the way + *-culere* (akin to *celare* to conceal) — more at OB-, HELL] **1** : not revealed : SECRET **2** : not easily apprehended or understood : ABSTRUSE **3** : not able to be seen or detected : CONCEALED **4** : of or relating to the occult **5** : not manifest or detectable by clinical methods alone ⟨~ carcinoma⟩; *esp* : not present in macroscopic amounts — **oc·cult·ly** *adv*

[3]occult *like*[2]\ *n* : matters regarded as involving the action or influence of supernatural agencies or some secret knowledge of them — used with *the*

oc·cul·ta·tion \ˌäk-(ˌ)əl-'tā-shən\ *n* **1** : the state of being hidden from view or lost to notice : ECLIPSE **2** : the shutting off of the light of one celestial body by the intervention of another; *esp* : an eclipse of a star or planet by the moon

oc·cult·ism \ə-'kəl-ˌtiz-əm, ä-; 'äk-ˌəl-\ *n* : occult theory or practice : belief in or study of the action or influence of supernatural powers — **oc·cult·ist** \-təst\ *n*

oc·cu·pan·cy \'äk-yə-pən-sē\ *n, pl* **-cies** **1** : the act of taking and holding possession **2 a** : the act of becoming an occupant : the state of being an occupant **b** : the condition of being occupied **3** : the use to which property is put ⟨industrial ~⟩ **4** : an occupied building or part of a building (as an apartment or office)

oc·cu·pant \-pənt\ *n* **1** : one who acquires title by occupancy **2** : one who occupies a particular place; *esp* : RESIDENT

oc·cu·pa·tion \ˌäk-yə-'pā-shən\ *n* [ME *occupacioun*, fr. MF *occupation*, fr. L *occupation-*, *occupatio*, fr. *occupatus*, pp. of *occupare*] **1 a** : an activity in which one engages ⟨in the first three grades learning to read is perhaps the major ~ of the pupil —J. B. Conant⟩ **b** : the principal business of one's life : VOCATION **2 a** : the possession, use, or settlement of land : OCCUPANCY **b** : the holding of an office or position **3 a** : the act or process of taking possession of a place or area : SEIZURE **b** : the holding and control of an area by a foreign military force **c** : the military force occupying a country or the policies carried out by it

oc·cu·pa·tion·al \-shnəl, -shən-ᵊl\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or resulting from a particular occupation ⟨~ hazards⟩ **2** : of or relating to a military occupation — **oc·cu·pa·tion·al·ly** \-ē\ *adv*

occupational therapy *n* : therapy by means of activity; *esp* : creative activity prescribed for its effect in promoting recovery or rehabilitation — **occupational therapist** *n*

oc·cu·py \'äk-yə-ˌpī\ *vt* **-pied; -py·ing** [ME *occupien* to take possession of, occupy, modif. of MF *occuper*, fr. L *occupare*, fr. ob- toward + *-cupare* (akin to *capere* to seize) — more at OB-, HEAVE] **1** : to engage the attention or energies of **2** : to fill up (an extent in space or time) **3** : to take or hold possession of **4** : to reside in as an owner or tenant — **oc·cu·pi·er** \-ˌpī(-ə)r\ *n*

oc·cur \ə-'kər\ *vi* **oc·curred; oc·cur·ring** \-'kər-iŋ\ [L *occurrere*, fr. *ob-* in the way + *currere* to run — more at OB-, CURRENT] **1** : to be found or met with : APPEAR **2** : to take place **3** : to come to mind ***syn*** see HAPPEN

oc·cur·rence \ə-'kər-ən(t)s, -'kə-rən(t)s\ *n* **1** : something that takes place usu. unexpectedly and without design ⟨a startling ~⟩ **2** : the action or process of happening ⟨the repeated ~ of petty theft in the locker room⟩

syn OCCURRENCE, EVENT, INCIDENT, EPISODE, CIRCUMSTANCE, HAPPENING *shared meaning element* : something that happens or takes place

[1]oc·cur·rent \ə-'kər-ənt, -'kə-rənt\ *adj* [MF, fr. L *occurrent-*, *occurrens*, prp. of *occurrere*] **1** : occurring at present : CURRENT **2** : INCIDENTAL

[2]occurrent *n* : something that occurs as distinguished from something that continues to exist

OCDM *abbr* Office of Civil and Defense Mobilization

ocean \'ō-shən\ *n* [ME *occean*, fr. L *oceanus*, fr. Gk *Ōkeanos*, a river thought of as encircling the earth, ocean] **1** : the whole body of salt water that covers nearly three fourths of the surface of the globe **2** : one of the large bodies of water into which the great ocean is divided **3** : an unlimited space or quantity

ocean·ar·i·um \ˌō-shə-'nar-ē-əm, -'ner-\ *n, pl* **-iums** *or* **-ia** : a large marine aquarium

ocean·front \'ō-shən-ˌfrənt\ *n* : an area that fronts on the ocean

ocean·go·ing \-ˌgō-iŋ\ *adj* : of, relating to, or designed for travel on the ocean

oce·an·ic \ˌō-shē-'an-ik\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, produced by, or frequenting the ocean and esp. the open sea as distinguished from littoral or neritic waters **2** : VAST, GREAT

Oce·anid \ō-'sē-ə-nəd\ *n* [Gk *ōkeanid-*, *ōkeanis*, fr. *Ōkeanos* Oceanus] : any of the ocean nymphs that are daughters of Oceanus and Tethys according to Greek myth

oceanog *abbr* oceanography

ocean·og·ra·phy \ˌō-shə-'näg-rə-fē\ *n* [ISV] : a science that deals with the oceans and includes the delimitation of their extent and depth, the physics and chemistry of their waters, marine biology, and the exploitation of their resources — **ocean·og·ra·pher** \-fər\ *n* — **ocean·o·graph·ic** \-nə-'graf-ik\ *also* **ocean·o·graph·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj* — **ocean·o·graph·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

ocean·ol·o·gy \ˌō-shə-'näl-ə-jē\ *n* : OCEANOGRAPHY; *specif* : the science of marine resources and technology — **ocean·o·log·ic** \-nə-'läj-ik\ *or* **ocean·o·log·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj* — **ocean·o·log·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **ocean·ol·o·gist** \-'näl-ə-jəst\ *n*

ocean sunfish *n* : a large deep-bodied truncated marine fish (*Mola mola*) of warm and temperate seas

Oce·anus \ō-'sē-ə-nəs\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *Ōkeanos*] : a river in Greek mythology that encircles the earth and is personified as a Titan who is the progenitor with Tethys of the gods

ocel·lat·ed \'ō-sə-ˌlāt-əd, ō-'sel-ˌāt-\ *or* **ocel·late** \'ō-sə-ˌlāt, ō-'sel-ət\ *adj* **1** : having ocelli **2** : resembling an ocellus — **ocel·la·tion** \ˌō-sə-'lā-shən\ *n*

ocel·lus \ō-'sel-əs\ *n, pl* **ocel·li** \-'sel-ˌī, -(ˌ)ē\ [NL, fr. L, dim. of *oculus* eye — more at EYE] **1** : a minute simple eye or eyespot of an invertebrate **2** : a spot of color encircled by a band of another color — **ocel·lar** \ō-'sel-ər\ *adj*

oce·lot \'äs-ə-ˌlät, 'ō-sə-\ *n* [F, fr. Nahuatl *ocelotl* jaguar] : a medium-sized American wildcat (*Felis pardalis*) that ranges from Texas to Patagonia and has a tawny yellow or grayish coat dotted and striped with black

ocher *or* **ochre** \'ō-kər\ *n* [ME *oker*, fr. MF *ocre*, fr. L *ochra*, fr. Gk *ōchra*, fr. fem. of *ōchros* yellow] **1** : an earthy usu. red or yellow and often impure iron ore used as a pigment **2** : the color of ocher; *esp* : the color of yellow ocher — **ocher·ous** \'ō-k(ə-)rəs\ *or* **ochre·ous** \'ō-k(ə-)rəs, -krē-əs\ *adj*

och·loc·ra·cy \ä-'kläk-rə-sē\ *n* [Gk & MF; MF *ochlocratie*, fr. Gk *ochlokratia*, fr. *ochlos* mob + *-kratia* -cracy] : government by the mob : mob rule — **och·lo·crat** \'äk-lə-ˌkrat\ *n* — **och·lo·crat·ic** \ˌäk-lə-'krat-ik\ *or* **och·lo·crat·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj*

-ock \ək, ik, ˌäk\ *n suffix* [ME *-oc*, fr. OE] : small one ⟨hill*ock*⟩

Ock·ham's razor \ˌäk-əmz-\ *n* : OCCAM'S RAZOR

o'·clock \ə-'kläk\ *adv* [contr. of *of the clock*] **1** : according to the clock ⟨the time is three ~⟩ **2** — used for indicating position or direction as if on a clock dial that is oriented vertically or horizontally ⟨an airplane approaching at six ~⟩

oco·ti·llo \ˌō-kə-'tē-(ˌ)(y)ō\ *n, pl* **-llos** [MexSp] : a thorny scarlet-flowered candlewood (*Fouquieria splendens*) of the southwestern U.S. and Mexico

OCR *abbr* optical character reader; optical character recognition

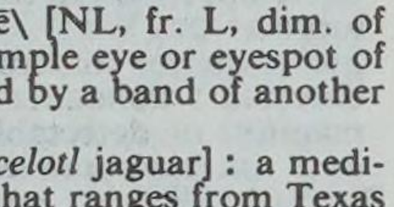
OCS *abbr* officer candidate school

oct *abbr* octavo

Oct *abbr* October

octa- *or* **octo-** *also* **oct-** *comb form* [Gk *okta-*, *oktō-*, *okt-* (fr. *oktō*) & L *octo-*, *oct-*, fr. *octo* — more at EIGHT] : eight ⟨*octa*merous⟩ ⟨*oc*tane⟩ ⟨*octo*roon⟩

oc·ta·gon \'äk-tə-ˌgän\ *n* [L *octagonum*, fr. Gk *oktagōnon*, fr. *okta-* + *-gōnon* -gon] : a polygon of eight angles and eight sides — **oc·tag·o·nal** \äk-'tag-ən-ᵊl\ *adj* — **oc·tag·o·nal·ly** \-ᵊl-ē\ *adv*



octagons: *1* regular, *2* irregular

oc·ta·he·dral \ˌäk-tə-'hē-drəl\ *adj* **1** : having eight plane faces **2** : of, relating to, or formed in octahedrons — **oc·ta·he·dral·ly** \-drə-lē\ *adv*

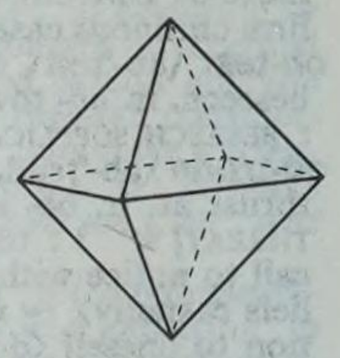
oc·ta·he·dron \-drən\ *n, pl* **-drons** *or* **-dra** \-drə\ [Gk *oktaedron*, fr. *okta-* + *-edron* -hedron] : a solid bounded by eight plane faces

oc·tal \'äk-tᵊl\ *adj* : of, relating to, or being a number system with a base of eight

oc·tam·e·ter \äk-'tam-ət-ər\ *n* [LL, having eight feet, fr. LGk *oktametros*, fr. *okta-* + *metron* measure — more at MEASURE] : a line of verse consisting of eight metrical feet

oct·an·dri·ous \äk-'tan-drē-əs\ *adj* [deriv. of NL *octa-* + *andr-*] : having eight stamens or flowers with eight stamens

oc·tane \'äk-ˌtān\ *n* [ISV] **1** : any of several isomeric liquid paraffin hydrocarbons C_8H_{18} **2** : OCTANE NUMBER

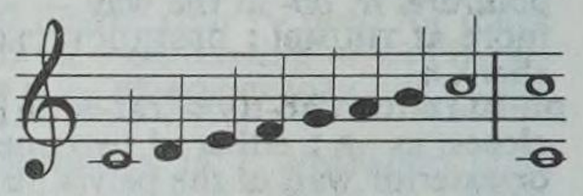

octahedron

octane number *n* : a number that is used to measure the antiknock properties of a liquid motor fuel and that represents the percentage by volume of isooctane in a reference fuel consisting of a mixture of isooctane and normal heptane and matching in knocking properties the fuel being tested — called also *octane rating*; compare CETANE NUMBER

oc·tant \'äk-tənt\ *n* [L *octant-*, *octans* eighth of a circle, fr. *octo*] **1 a** : the position or aspect of a celestial body when distant from another body by 45 degrees **b** : an instrument for observing altitudes of a celestial body from a moving ship or aircraft **2** : any of the eight parts into which a space is divided by three coordinate planes

oc·ta·pep·tide \ˌäk-tə-'pep-ˌtīd\ *n* : a protein fragment or molecule (as oxytocin or vasopressin) that consists of eight amino acids linked in a polypeptide chain

oc·tave \'äk-tiv, -təv, -ˌtāv\ *n* [ME, fr. ML *octava*, fr. L, fem. of *octavus* eighth, fr. *octo* eight — more at EIGHT] **1** : an eight-day period of observances beginning with a festival day **2 a** : a stanza of eight lines : OTTAVA RIMA **b** : the first eight lines of an Italian sonnet **3 a** : a musical interval embracing eight diatonic degrees **b** : a tone or note at this interval **c** : the harmonic combination of two tones an octave apart **d** : the whole series of notes, tones, or digitals comprised within this interval and forming the unit of the modern scale **e** : an organ stop giving tones an octave above those corresponding to the digitals **4** : a group of eight


octave 3a

oc·ta·vo \äk-'tā-(ˌ)vō, -'täv-(ˌ)ō\ *n, pl* **-vos** [L, abl. of *octavus* eighth] : the size of a piece of paper cut eight from a sheet; *also* : a book, a page, or paper of this size

oc·tet \äk-'tet\ *n* **1** : a musical composition for eight instruments or voices **2** : a group or set of eight: as **a** : the performers of an octet **b** : OCTAVE 2b

oc·til·lion \äk-'til-yən\ *n* [F, fr. MF, fr. *oct-* octa- + *-illion* (as in *million*)] — see NUMBER table

Oc·to·ber \äk-'tō-bər\ *n* [ME *Octobre*, fr. OF, fr. L *October* (eighth month), fr. *octo*] **1** : the 10th month of the Gregorian calendar **2** *Brit* : ale brewed in October

oc·to·de·cil·lion \ˌäk-tō-di-'sil-yən\ *n* [L *octodecim* eighteen + E *-illion* (as in *million*)] — see NUMBER table

oc·to·dec·i·mo \ˌäk-tə-'des-ə-ˌmō\ *n* [L, abl. of *octodecimus* eighteenth, fr. *octodecim* eighteen, fr. *octo* eight + *decem* ten — more at TEN] : EIGHTEENMO

oc·to·ge·nar·i·an \ˌäk-tə-jə-'ner-ē-ən\ *n* [L *octogenarius* containing eighty, fr. *octogeni* eighty each, fr. *octoginta* eighty, fr. *octo* eight + *-ginta* (akin to *viginti* twenty) — more at VIGESIMAL] : a person who is in his eighties — **octogenarian** *adj*

oc·to·ploid *also* **oc·ta·ploid** \'äk-tə-ˌplȯid\ *adj* [ISV] : having a chromosome number eight times the basic haploid chromosome number — **octoploid** *n* — **oc·to·ploi·dy** \-ˌplȯid-ē\ *n*

oc·to·pod \'äk-tə-ˌpäd\ *n* [deriv. of Gk *oktōpod-*, *oktōpous* scorpion, fr. *oktō* octa- + *pod-*, *pous* foot — more at FOOT] : any of an order (Octopoda) of cephalopod mollusks (as an octopus or argonaut) that have eight arms bearing sessile suckers — **octopod** *adj* — **oc·top·o·dan** \äk-'täp-əd-ən\ *adj or n* — **oc·top·o·dous** \-əd-əs\ *adj*

oc·to·pus \'äk-tə-pəs *also* -ˌpüs\ *n, pl* **-pus·es** *or* **-pi** \-ˌpī\ [NL *Octopod-*, *Octopus*, genus name, fr. Gk *oktōpous*] **1** : any of a genus (*Octopus*) of cephalopod mollusks that have eight muscular arms equipped with two rows of suckers; *broadly* : any octopod excepting the paper nautilus **2** : something that resembles an octopus esp. in having many centrally directed branches

oc·to·roon \ˌäk-tə-'rün\ *n* [*octa-* + *-roon* (as in *quadroon*)] : a person of one-eighth Negro ancestry

oc·to·syl·lab·ic \ˌäk-tə-sə-'lab-ik\ *adj* [LL *octosyllabus*, fr. Gk *oktasyllabos*, fr. *okta-* + *-syllabē* syllable] **1** : consisting of eight syllables **2** : composed of verses of eight syllables — **octosyllabic** *n*

oc·to·syl·la·ble \'äk-tə-ˌsil-ə-bəl, ˌäk-tə-'\ *n* : a word or line of eight syllables

oc·troi \ˌäk-trə-'wä, äk-'trwä, 'äk-ˌtrȯi\ *n* [F] : a tax on commodities brought into a town esp. in certain European countries

OCTV *abbr* open-circuit television

ocul- *or* **oculo-** *comb form* [L *ocul-*, fr. *oculus* — more at EYE] **1** : eye ⟨*oculo*motor⟩ **2** : ocular and ⟨*oculo*cardiac⟩

[1]oc·u·lar \'äk-yə-lər\ *adj* [LL *ocularis* of eyes, fr. L *oculus* eye] **1 a** : done or perceived by the eye ⟨~ inspection⟩ **b** : based on what has been seen ⟨~ testimony⟩ **2 a** : of or relating to the eye ⟨~ muscles⟩ **b** : resembling an eye in form or function

[2]ocular *n* : EYEPIECE

oc·u·list \'äk-yə-ləst\ *n* [F *oculiste*, fr. L *oculus*] **1** : OPHTHALMOLOGIST **2** : OPTOMETRIST

oc·u·lo·mo·tor \ˌäk-yə-lə-'mōt-ər\ *adj* **1** : moving or tending to move the eyeball **2** : of or relating to the oculomotor nerve

oculomotor nerve *n* : either of the pair of chiefly motor nerves that comprise the 3d pair of cranial nerves, arise from the midbrain, and supply most muscles of the eye

od *or* **odd** \'äd\ *interj, often cap* [euphemism for *God*] *archaic* — used as a mild oath

[1]OD \(')ō-'dē\ *n* [overdose] : an overdose of a narcotic

[2]OD *abbr* **1** doctor of optometry **2** [L *oculus dexter*] right eye **3** officer of the day **4** olive drab **5** on demand **6** outside diameter **7** outside dimension **8** overdraft **9** overdrawn

oda·lisque \'ōd-ᵊl-ˌisk\ *n* [F, fr. Turk *odalık*] : a female slave or concubine in a harem

odd \'äd\ *adj* [ME *odde*, fr. ON *oddi* point of land, triangle, odd number; akin to OE *ord* point of a weapon] **1 a** : being without

a corresponding mate ⟨an ~ shoe⟩ **b** (1) : left over after others are paired or grouped (2) : separated from a set or series **2 a** : somewhat more than the indicated approximate quantity, extent, or degree — usu. used in combination ⟨300-*odd* pages⟩ **b** (1) : left over as a remainder ⟨had a few ~ dollars for entertainment after paying his bills⟩ (2) : constituting a small amount ⟨had some ~ change in her pocket⟩ **3 a** : being one of the sequence of natural numbers beginning with one and counting by twos that are not divisible by two **b** : marked by an odd number of units **4** : not regular, expected, or planned ⟨worked at ~ jobs⟩ **5** : having an out-of-the-way location : REMOTE **6** : differing markedly from the usual or ordinary or accepted : PECULIAR — **odd·ness** *n*

odd·ball \'äd-ˌbȯl\ *n* : one whose behavior is eccentric — **oddball** *adj*

Odd Fellow *n* [Independent Order of *Odd Fellows*] : a member of a major benevolent and fraternal order

odd function *n* : a function such that $f(-x) = -f(x)$ where the sign is reversed but the absolute value remains the same if the sign of the independent variable is reversed

odd·i·ty \'äd-ət-ē\ *n, pl* **-ties** **1** : an odd person, thing, event, or trait **2** : the quality or state of being odd

odd lot *n* : a number or quantity other than the usual unit in transactions; *esp* : a quantity of less than 100 shares of stock

odd·ly \'äd-lē\ *adv* : in an odd manner ⟨behaved ~⟩

odd man out *n* : a person who is eccentric or unorthodox

odd·ment \'äd-mənt\ *n* **1 a** : something left over : REMNANT **b** *pl* : ODDS AND ENDS **2** : something odd : ODDITY

odd permutation *n* : a permutation that is produced by the successive application of an odd number of interchanges of pairs of elements

odd–pin·nate \'äd-'pin-ˌāt\ *adj* : having leaflets on each side of the petiole and having a single leaflet at the tip of the petiole — **odd–pin·nate·ly** *adv*

odds \'ädz\ *n pl but sing or pl in constr* **1 a** *archaic* : INEQUALITIES **b** *obs* : degree of unlikeness **2 a** : an amount by which one thing exceeds or falls short of another ⟨won the election by considerable ~⟩ **b** (1) : a difference favoring one of two opposed things ⟨the overwhelming ~ it affords the sportsman over bird and animal — Richard Jefferies⟩ (2) : a difference in terms of advantage or disadvantage ⟨what's the ~, if thinking so makes them happy —Flora Thompson⟩ **c** (1) : the probability that one thing is so or will happen rather than another : CHANCES ⟨the ~ are against it⟩ (2) : the ratio of the probability of one event to that of an alternative event ⟨it is even ~ which makes the more noise —Claudia Cassidy⟩ **3** : DISAGREEMENT, VARIANCE — usu. used with *at* ⟨faculty and administration often are at ~ on everything —W. E. Brock *b*1930⟩ **4 a** : special favor : PARTIALITY **b** : an allowance granted by one making a bet to one accepting the bet and designed to equalize the chances favoring one of the bettors **c** : the ratio between the amount to be paid off for a winning bet and the amount of the bet — **by all odds** : in every way : without question ⟨*by all odds* the best book of the year⟩

odds and ends *n pl* **1 a** : miscellaneous articles **b** : miscellaneous small matters (as of business) to be attended to **2** : miscellaneous remnants or leftovers ⟨*odds and ends* of food⟩

odds–on \('ä)äd-'zȯn, -'zän\ *adj* **1** : having or viewed as having a better than even chance to win ⟨the ~ favorite⟩ **2** : not involving much risk : pretty sure ⟨an ~ bet⟩

odd trick *n* : each trick in excess of six won by declarer's side at bridge — compare BOOK 9

ode \'ōd\ *n* [MF or LL; MF, fr. LL, fr. Gk *ōidē*, lit., song, fr. *aeidein, aidein* to sing; akin to Gk *audē* voice, OHG far*wāzan* to deny] : a lyric poem usu. marked by exaltation of feeling and style, varying length of line, and complexity of stanza forms

-ode \ˌōd\ *n comb form* [Gk *-odos*, fr. *hodos* — more at CEDE] **1** : way : path ⟨electr*ode*⟩ **2** : electrode ⟨di*ode*⟩

ode·um \ō-'dē-əm, 'ōd-ē-\ *n, pl* **odea** \-ə\ [L & Gk; L, fr. Gk *ōideion*, fr. *ōidē* song] **1** : a small roofed theater of ancient Greece and Rome used chiefly for competitions in music and poetry **2** : a theater or concert hall

od·ic \'ōd-ik\ *adj* : of, relating to, or forming an ode

Odin \'ōd-ᵊn\ *n* [Dan, fr. ON *Óthinn;* akin to OE *Wōden* Odin] : the supreme god and creator in Norse mythology who reigned in Asgard with his wife Frigga

odi·ous \'ōd-ē-əs\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF *odieus*, fr. L *odiosus*, fr. *odium*] : exciting or deserving hatred or repugnance ⟨~ associates⟩ ⟨an ~ business⟩ — **odi·ous·ly** *adv* — **odi·ous·ness** *n*

odi·um \'ōd-ē-əm\ *n* [L, hatred, fr. *odisse* to hate; akin to OE *atol* terrible, Gk *odyssasthai* to be angry] **1** : the state or fact of being subjected to hatred and contempt as a result of a despicable act or blameworthy situation **2** : hatred and condemnation accompanied by loathing or contempt : DETESTATION **3** : something (as a despicable act) that excites hatred or condemnation **4** : disrepute or infamy attached to something : OPPROBRIUM

odo·graph \'ōd-ə-ˌgraf, 'äd-\ *n* [*odo-* (as in *odometer*) + *-graph*] : an instrument for automatically plotting (as on a map) the course and distance traveled by a vehicle

odom·e·ter \ō-'däm-ət-ər\ *n* [F *odomètre*, fr. Gk *hodometron*, fr. *hodos* way, road + *metron* measure — more at CEDE, MEASURE] : an instrument for measuring the distance traveled (as by a vehicle)

odo·nate \'ōd-ᵊn-ˌāt, ō-'dān-\ *n* [irreg. deriv. of Gk *odous, odōn* tooth] : any of an order (Odonata) of predacious insects comprising the dragonflies and damselflies — **odonate** *adj*

odont- *or* **odonto-** *comb form* [F, fr. Gk, *odont-, odous* — more at TOOTH] : tooth ⟨*odont*itis⟩ ⟨*odonto*blast⟩

-odont \ə-ˌdänt\ *adj comb form* [Gk *odont-, odous* tooth] : having teeth of a (specified) nature ⟨meso*dont*⟩

-odon·tia \ə-'dän-ch(ē-)ə\ *n comb form* [NL, fr. Gk *odont-, odous*] : form, condition, or mode of treatment of the teeth ⟨ortho*dontia*⟩

odon·to·blast \ō-'dänt-ə-ˌblast\ *n* [ISV] : one of the elongated radially arranged outer cells of the dental pulp that secrete dentin — **odon·to·blas·tic** \-ˌdänt-ə-'blas-tik\ *adj*

odon·to·glos·sum \ō-ˌdänt-ə-'gläs-əm\ *n* [NL, genus name, fr. *odont-* + Gk *glōssa* tongue — more at GLOSS] : any of a genus (*Odontoglossum*) of widely cultivated tropical American epiphytic orchids

odon·toid process \ō-ˌdän-ˌtȯid-\ *n* : a toothlike process projecting from the anterior end of the centrum of the axis vertebra on which the atlas vertebra rotates

odon·tol·o·gy \(ˌ)ō-ˌdän-'täl-ə-jē\ *n* [F *odontologie*, fr. *odont-* + *-logie* -logy] : a science dealing with the teeth, their structure and development, and their diseases — **odon·to·log·i·cal** \-ˌdänt-ᵊl-'äj-i-kəl\ *adj* — **odon·tol·o·gist** \-ˌdän-'täl-ə-jəst\ *n*

odor \'ōd-ər\ *n* [ME *odour*, fr. OF, fr. L *odor;* akin to L *olēre* to smell, Gk *ozein* to smell, *osmē* smell, odor] **1 a** : a quality of something that stimulates the olfactory organ **b** : a sensation resulting from adequate stimulation of the olfactory organ : SMELL **2 a** : a characteristic or predominant quality : FLAVOR ⟨the ~ of sanctity⟩ **b** : REPUTE, ESTIMATION ⟨in bad ~⟩ **3** *archaic* : something that emits a sweet or pleasing scent : PERFUME ***syn*** see SMELL — **odored** \'ōd-ərd\ *adj*

odor·ant \'ōd-ə-rənt\ *n* : an odorous substance; *esp* : one added to a dangerous odorless substance to warn of its presence

odor·if·er·ous \ˌōd-ə-'rif-(ə-)rəs\ *adj* **1** : yielding an odor : ODOROUS **2** : morally offensive — **odor·if·er·ous·ly** *adv* — **odor·if·er·ous·ness** *n*

odor·ize \ˌōd-ə-ˌrīz\ *vt* **-ized; -iz·ing** : to make odorous : SCENT

odor·less \'ōd-ər-ləs\ *adj* : free of odor

odor·ous \'ōd-ə-rəs\ *adj* : having an odor: as **a** : FRAGRANT **b** : MALODOROUS — **odor·ous·ly** *adv* — **odor·ous·ness** *n*

odour *chiefly Brit var of* ODOR

Odys·se·an \ō-'dis-ē-ən ("*Odysseus*"), ˌäd-ə-'sē-ən ("*journey*")\ *adj* : of, relating to, or characteristic of Odysseus or his journey

Odys·seus \ō-'dish-ˌüs, -'dis-ˌyüs, -'dis-ē-əs\ *n* [Gk] : a king of Ithaca and Greek leader in the Trojan War who after the war wandered 10 years before reaching home

od·ys·sey \'äd-ə-sē\ *n, pl* **-seys** [the *Odyssey*, epic poem attributed to Homer recounting the long wanderings of Odysseus] **1** : a long wandering or voyage usu. marked by many changes of fortune **2** : an intellectual or spiritual wandering or quest

Oe *abbr* oersted

OE *abbr* Old English

OECD *abbr* Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development

oe·cu·men·i·cal *esp Brit* ˌēk-\ *var of* ECUMENICAL

OED *abbr* Oxford English Dictionary

oe·de·ma *var of* EDEMA

oe·di·pal \'ed-ə-pəl, 'ēd-\ *adj, often cap* : of or relating to the Oedipus complex — **oe·di·pal·ly** \-pə-lē\ *adv, often cap*

[1]Oe·di·pus \-pəs\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *Oidipous*] : a son of Laius and Jocasta who in fulfillment of an oracle kills his father and marries his mother

[2]Oedipus *adj* : OEDIPAL

Oedipus complex *n* : the positive libidinal feelings that a child develops toward the parent of the opposite sex and that may be a source of adult personality disorder when unresolved

oeil–de–boeuf \ˌə(r)d-ə-'bəf, ˌəid-\ *n, pl* **oeils–de–boeuf** *same*\ [F, lit., ox's eye] : a circular or oval window

oeil·lade \ˌə(r)-'yäd, œ-yȧd\ *n* [F, fr. MF, fr. *oeil* eye, fr. L *oculus* — more at EYE] : a glance of the eye; *esp* : OGLE

oe·nol·o·gy *var of* ENOLOGY

oe·no·mel \'ē-nə-ˌmel\ *n* [LL *oenomeli*, fr. Gk *oinomeli*, fr. *oinos* wine + *meli* honey — more at WINE, MELLIFLUOUS] : an ancient Greek beverage of wine and honey

Oe·no·ne \ē-'nō-nē\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *Oinōnē*] : a nymph who loves Paris and is deserted by him for Helen

OEO *abbr* Office of Economic Opportunity

[1]o'er \'ō(ə)r, 'ȯ(ə)r\ *adv* : OVER

[2]o'er \(')ō(ə)r, (')ȯ(ə)r\ *prep* : OVER

Oer·li·kon \'ər-li-ˌkän\ *n* [*Oerlikon*, Switzerland] : any of several 20 mm. automatic aircraft or antiaircraft cannon

oer·sted \'ər-stəd\ *n* [Hans Christian *Oersted* †1851 Dan physicist] : the cgs electromagnetic unit of magnetic intensity equal to the intensity of a magnetic field in a vacuum in which a unit magnetic pole experiences a mechanical force of one dyne in the direction of the field

OES *abbr* Order of the Eastern Star

oe·soph·a·gus *var of* ESOPHAGUS

oestr- *or* **oestro-** — see ESTR-

oeu·vre \œvrᵊ\ *n, pl* **oeuvres** *same*\ [F *œuvre*, lit., work, fr. L *opera* — more at OPERA] : a substantial body of work constituting the lifework of a writer, an artist, or a composer

of \əv, *before consonants also* ə; 'əv, 'äv\ *prep* [ME, off, of, fr. OE, adv. & prep.; akin to OHG *aba* off, away, L *ab* from, away, Gk *apo*] **1** — used as a function word to indicate a point of reckoning ⟨north ~ the lake⟩ **2 a** — used as a function word to indicate origin or derivation ⟨a man ~ noble birth⟩ **b** — used as a function word to indicate the cause, motive, or reason ⟨died ~ flu⟩ **c** : BY ⟨plays ~ Shakespeare⟩ **d** : on the part of ⟨very kind ~ him⟩ **3** — used as a function word to indicate the component material, parts, or elements or the contents ⟨throne ~ gold⟩ ⟨cup ~ water⟩ **4 a** — used as a function word to indicate the whole that includes the part denoted by the preceding word ⟨most ~ the army⟩ **b** — used as a function word to indicate a whole or quantity from which a part is removed or expended ⟨gave ~ his time⟩ **5 a** : relating to : ABOUT ⟨stories ~ his travels⟩ **b** : in respect to ⟨slow ~ speech⟩ **6** — used as a function word to indicate belonging or a possessive relationship ⟨king ~ England⟩ **7** — used as a function word to indicate separation ⟨eased ~ pain⟩ **8 a** — used as a function word to indicate a particular example belonging to the

class denoted by the preceding noun ⟨the city ~ Rome⟩ **b** — used as a function word to indicate apposition ⟨that fool ~ a husband⟩ **9 a** — used as a function word to indicate the object of an action denoted or implied by the preceding noun ⟨love ~ nature⟩ **b** — used as a function word to indicate the application of a verb ⟨cheats him ~ a dollar⟩ or of an adjective ⟨fond ~ candy⟩ **10** — used as a function word to indicate a characteristic or distinctive quality or possession ⟨a man ~ courage⟩ **11 a** — used as a function word to indicate the position in time of an action or occurrence ⟨died ~ a Monday⟩ **b** : BEFORE ⟨quarter ~ ten⟩ **12** *archaic* : ON ⟨a plague ~ all cowards —Shak.⟩

OF *abbr* outfield

ofay \'ō-ˌfā, ō-'\ *n* [origin unknown] : a white person — usu. used disparagingly

[1]off \'ȯf\ *adv* [ME *of*, fr. OE — more at OF] **1 a** (1) : from a place or position ⟨march ~⟩; *specif* : away from land ⟨ship stood ~ to sea⟩ (2) : at a distance in space or time ⟨stood 10 paces ~⟩ ⟨a long way ~⟩ **b** : from a course : ASIDE ⟨turned ~ into a bypath⟩; *specif* : away from the wind **c** : into an unconscious state ⟨dozed ~⟩ **2 a** : so as to be separated from support ⟨rolled to the edge of the table and ~⟩ or close contact ⟨blew the lid ~⟩ ⟨the handle came ~⟩ **b** : so as to be divided ⟨surface marked ~ into squares⟩ **3 a** : to a state of discontinuance or suspension ⟨shut ~ an engine⟩ **b** — used as an intensifier ⟨drink ~ a glass⟩ ⟨finish it ~⟩ **4** : in absence from or suspension of regular work or service ⟨take time ~ for lunch⟩ **5** : OFFSTAGE **6** : to a state of relief resulting from or as if from orgasm

[2]off \(')ȯf\ *prep* **1 a** — used as a function word to indicate physical separation or distance from a position of rest, attachment, or union ⟨take it ~ the table⟩ ⟨a path ~ the main walk⟩ ⟨a shop just ~ the main street⟩ **b** : to seaward of ⟨two miles ~ shore⟩ **2 a** — used as a function word to indicate the object of an action ⟨borrowed a dollar ~ him⟩ ⟨dined ~ oysters⟩ **3 a** — used as a function word to indicate the suspension of an occupation or activity ⟨~ duty⟩ ⟨~ liquor⟩ **b** : below the usual standard or level of ⟨~ his game⟩

[3]off \(')ȯf\ *adj* **1 a** : more removed or distant ⟨the ~ side of the building⟩ **b** : SEAWARD **c** : RIGHT **2 a** : started on the way ⟨~ on a spree⟩ **b** : not taking place or staying in effect : CANCELED **c** : not operating **d** : not placed so as to permit operation **3 a** : not corresponding to fact : INCORRECT ⟨~ in his reckoning⟩ **b** : POOR, SUBNORMAL **c** : not entirely sane : ECCENTRIC **d** : REMOTE, SLIGHT ⟨an ~ chance⟩ **4 a** : spent off duty ⟨reading on his ~ days⟩ **b** : SLACK ⟨~ season⟩ **5 a** : OFF-COLOR **b** : INFERIOR ⟨~ grade of oil⟩; *also* : affected with putrefaction **c** : DOWN ⟨stocks were ~⟩ **6** : CIRCUMSTANCED ⟨well ~⟩

[4]off \'ȯf\ *vi* : to go away : DEPART — used chiefly as an imperative ⟨~, or I'll shoot⟩

[5]off *abbr* office; officer; official

off-al \'ȯ-fəl, 'äf-əl\ *n* [ME, fr. *of* off + *fall*] **1** : the waste or by-product of a process: as **a** : trimmings of a hide **b** : the by-products of milling used esp. for stock feeds **c** : the viscera and trimmings of a butchered animal removed in dressing **2** : RUBBISH

off and on *adv* : with periodic cessation : INTERMITTENTLY ⟨rained *off and on* all day⟩

[1]off-beat \'ȯf-ˌbēt\ *n* : the unaccented beat of a musical measure

[2]offbeat *adj* : ECCENTRIC, UNCONVENTIONAL

off Broadway *n, often cap O* [fr. its usu. being produced in smaller theaters outside of the Broadway theatrical district] : a part of the New York professional theater stressing fundamental and artistic values and formerly engaging in experimentation

off-cast \'ȯf-ˌkast\ *adj* : cast off : DISCARDED — **offcast** *n*

off-col-or \'ȯf-'kəl-ər\ *or* **off-col-ored** \-ərd\ *adj* **1 a** : not having the right or standard color **b** : being out of sorts **2 a** : of doubtful propriety : DUBIOUS **b** : verging on the indecent

of-fend \ə-'fend\ *vb* [ME *offenden*, fr. MF *offendre*, fr. L *offendere* to strike against, offend, fr. *ob-* against + *-fendere* to strike — more at OB-, DEFEND] *vi* **1 a** : to transgress the moral or divine law : SIN ⟨if it be a sin to covet honor, I am the most ~*ing* soul alive —Shak.⟩ **b** : to violate a law or rule : do wrong ⟨~ against the law⟩ **2 a** : to cause difficulty, discomfort, or injury ⟨took off his shoe and removed the ~*ing* pebble⟩ **b** : to cause dislike, anger, or vexation ⟨thoughtless words that ~ needlessly⟩ ~ *vt* **1 a** : VIOLATE, TRANSGRESS **b** : to cause pain to : HURT **2** *obs* : to cause to sin or fall **3** : to cause to feel vexation or resentment usu. by violation of what is proper or fitting ⟨she was ~*ed* by their failure to introduce her to their new friend⟩ — **of-fend-er** *n*

syn OFFEND, OUTRAGE, AFFRONT, INSULT *shared meaning element* : to cause hurt feelings or deep resentment

of-fense *or* **of-fence** \ə-'fen(t)s, *esp for 3* 'äf-ˌen(t)s\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *offensa*, fr. *offensus*, pp. of *offendere*] **1 a** *obs* : an act of stumbling **b** *archaic* : a cause or occasion of sin : STUMBLING BLOCK **2** : something that outrages the moral or physical senses ⟨corruption in high places that was an ~ to the public conscience⟩ **3 a** : the act of attacking : ASSAULT **b** : the means or method of attacking or of attempting to score **c** : the offensive team or members of a team playing offensive positions **d** : scoring ability **4 a** : the act of displeasing or affronting **b** : the state of being insulted or morally outraged ⟨he takes ~ at the slightest criticism⟩ **5 a** : a breach of a moral or social code : SIN, MISDEED **b** : an infraction of law; *esp* : MISDEMEANOR — **of-fense-less** \-ləs\ *adj*

syn **1** OFFENSE, RESENTMENT, UMBRAGE, PIQUE, DUDGEON, HUFF *shared meaning element* : an emotional response to a slight or indignity

2 OFFENSE, SIN, VICE, CRIME, SCANDAL *shared meaning element* : a transgression of law or custom

[1]of-fen-sive \ə-'fen(t)-siv *esp for 1* 'äf-ˌen(t)-\ *adj* **1 a** : making attack : AGGRESSIVE **b** : of, relating to, or designed for attack ⟨~ weapons⟩ **c** : of or relating to an attempt to score in a game or contest; *also* : of or relating to a team in possession of the ball or puck **2** : giving painful or unpleasant sensations : NAUSEOUS, OBNOXIOUS ⟨~ odor of garbage⟩ **3** : causing displeasure or resentment — **of-fen-sive-ly** *adv* — **of-fen-sive-ness** *n*

[2]offensive *n* **1** : the act of an attacking party **2** : ATTACK

[1]of-fer \'ȯf-ər, 'äf-\ *vb* **of-fered; of-fer-ing** \-(ə-)riŋ\ [ME *offren*, in sense 1, fr. OE *offrian*, fr. LL *offerre*, fr. L, to present, tender, fr. *ob-* toward + *ferre* to carry; in other senses, fr. OF *offrir*, fr. L *offerre* — more at OB-, BEAR] *vt* **1 a** : to present as an act of worship or devotion : SACRIFICE **b** : to utter (as a prayer) in devotion **2 a** : to present for acceptance or rejection : TENDER ⟨was ~*ed* a job⟩ **b** : to present in order to satisfy a requirement ⟨candidates for degrees may ~ French as one of their foreign languages⟩ **3 a** : PROPOSE, SUGGEST ⟨~ a solution to a problem⟩ **b** : to declare one's readiness or willingness ⟨~*ed* to help me⟩ **4 a** : to put up ⟨~*ed* stubborn resistance⟩ **b** : THREATEN ⟨~*ed* to strike him with his cane⟩ **5** : to make available : AFFORD; *esp* : to place (merchandise) on sale **6** : to present in performance or exhibition **7** : to propose as payment : BID ~ *vi* **1** : to present something as an act of worship or devotion : SACRIFICE **2** *archaic* : to make an attempt **3** : to present itself **4** : to make a proposal (as of marriage)

[2]offer *n* **1 a** : PROPOSAL ⟨considering job ~*s* from several firms⟩; *specif* : a proposal of marriage **b** : an undertaking to do an act or give something on condition that the party to whom the proposal is made do some specified act or make a return promise **2** *obs* : OFFERING **3** : a price named by one proposing to buy : BID **4 a** : ATTEMPT, TRY **b** : an action or movement indicating a purpose or intention

of-fer-ing \'ȯf-(ə-)riŋ, 'äf-\ *n* **1 a** : the act of one who offers **b** : something offered; *esp* : a sacrifice ceremonially offered as a part of worship **c** : a contribution to the support of a church **2** : something offered for sale or patronage ⟨latest ~*s* of the leading novelists⟩ **3** : a course of instruction or study

of-fer-to-ry \'ȯf-ə(r)-ˌtōr-ē, 'äf-, -ˌtȯr-\ *n, pl* **-ries** [ML *offertorium*, fr. *offertus*, pp. of LL *offerre*] **1** *often cap* **a** : the eucharistic offering of bread and wine to God before they are consecrated at Communion **b** : a verse from a Psalm said or sung at the beginning of the offertory **2 a** : the period of collection and presentation of the offerings of the congregation at public worship **b** : a musical composition played or sung during an offertory

off-hand \'ȯf-'hand\ *adv or adj* **1** : without premeditation or preparation : EXTEMPORE ⟨couldn't give the figures ~⟩ **2** : from a standing position without a support or rest ⟨~ shooting⟩

off-hand-ed \-'han-dəd\ *adj* : OFFHAND — **off-hand-ed-ly** *adv* — **off-hand-ed-ness** *n*

off-hour \'ȯf-ˌau̇(-ə)r\ *n* **1** : a period of time other than a rush hour **2** : a period of time other than regular business hours

offic *abbr* official

of-fice \'ȯf-əs, 'äf-\ *n* [ME, fr. OF, fr. L *officium* service, duty, office, fr. *opus* work + *facere* to make, do — more at OPERATE, DO] **1 a** : a special duty, charge, or position conferred by an exercise of governmental authority and for a public purpose : a position of authority to exercise a public function and to receive whatever emoluments may belong to it ⟨hold public ~⟩ **b** : a position of responsibility or some degree of executive authority **2** [ME, fr. OF, fr. LL *officium*, fr. L] : a prescribed form or service of worship; *specif, cap* : DIVINE OFFICE **3** : a religious or social ceremonial observance : RITE **4 a** : something that one ought to do or must do : an assigned or assumed duty, task, or role **b** : the proper or customary action of something : FUNCTION **5** : a place where a particular kind of business is transacted or a service is supplied: as **a** : a place in which the functions (as consulting, record keeping, clerical work) of a public officer are performed **b** : the directing headquarters of an enterprise or organization **c** : the place in which a professional man (as a physician or lawyer) conducts his professional business **6** *pl, chiefly Brit* : the apartments, attached buildings, or outhouses in which the activities attached to the service of a house are carried on **7 a** : a major administrative unit in some governments ⟨British Foreign *Office*⟩ **b** : a subdivision of some government departments ⟨Patent *Office*⟩ ***syn*** see FUNCTION

office boy *n* : a boy employed for odd jobs in a business office

of-fice-hold-er \-ˌhōl-dər\ *n* : one holding a public office esp. in the civil service

[1]of-fi-cer \'ȯf-ə-sər, 'äf-\ *n* [ME, fr. MF *officier*, fr. ML *officiarius*, fr. L *officium*] **1 a** *obs* : AGENT **b** : one charged with police duties **2** : one who holds an office of trust, authority, or command ⟨the ~*s* of the bank⟩ **3 a** : one who holds a position of authority or command in the armed forces; *specif* : COMMISSIONED OFFICER **b** : the master or any of the mates of a merchant or passenger ship

[2]officer *vt* **1** : to furnish with officers **2** : to command or direct as an officer

officer of arms : any of the officers (as king of arms, herald, or pursuivant) of a monarch or government responsible for devising and granting armorial bearings

[1]of-fi-cial \ə-'fish-əl\ *n* **1** : one who holds or is invested with an office : OFFICER ⟨government ~*s*⟩ **2** : one who administers the rules of a game or sport esp. as a referee or umpire

[2]official *adj* **1** : of or relating to an office, position, or trust ⟨~ duties⟩ **2** : holding an office **3 a** : AUTHORITATIVE, AUTHORIZED ⟨~ statement⟩ **b** : prescribed or recognized as authorized; *specif* : described by the U.S. Pharmacopeia or the National Formulary **4** : befitting or characteristic of a person in office : FORMAL ⟨was extended an ~ greeting⟩ — **of-fi-cial-ly** \-'fish-(ə-)lē\ *adv*

of-fi-cial-dom \ə-'fish-əl-dəm\ *n* : officials as a class

of-fi-cial-ese \ə-ˌfish-ə-'lēz, -'lēs\ *n* : the characteristic language of official statements : wordy, pompous, or obscure language

official family *n* : a group of top officials (as a cabinet) in an organization or government : STAFF

of-fi-cial-ism \ə-'fish-ə-ˌliz-əm\ *n* : lack of flexibility and initiative combined with excessive adherence to regulations in the behavior of usu. government officials

of-fi-ci-ant \ə-'fish-ē-ənt\ *n* : one (as a priest) that officiates at a religious rite

[1]of-fi-ci-ary \ə-'fish-ē-ˌer-ē, ȯ-, ä-\ *n, pl* **-ar-ies** [ML *officiarius*] **1** : OFFICER, OFFICIAL **2** : a body of officers or officials

[2]officiary *adj* : connected with, derived from, or having a title or rank by virtue of holding an office ⟨~ earl⟩

of·fi·ci·ate \ə-'fish-ē-ˌāt\ *vb* **-at·ed; -at·ing** *vi* **1** : to perform a ceremony, function, or duty ⟨~ at a wedding⟩ **2** : to act in an official capacity : act as an official (as at a sports contest) ~ *vt* **1** : to carry out (an official duty or function) **2** : to serve as a leader or celebrant of (a ceremony) **3** : to administer the rules of (a game or sport) esp. as a referee or umpire — **of·fi·ci·a·tion** \-ˌfish-ē-'ā-shən\ *n*

of·fi·ci·nal \ə-'fis-ᵊn-əl, ȯ-, ä-; ˌȯf-ə-'sīn-ᵊl, ˌäf-\ *adj* [ML *officinalis* of a storeroom, fr. *officina* storeroom, fr. L, workshop, fr. *opific-*, *opifex* workman, fr. *opus* work + *facere* to do] **1** : available without special preparation or compounding ⟨~ medicine⟩; *also* : OFFICIAL 3b **2** : MEDICINAL ⟨~ herbs⟩ — **officinal** *n* — **of·fi·ci·nal·ly** \-ē\ *adv*

of·fi·cious \ə-'fish-əs\ *adj* [L *officiosus*, fr. *officium* service, office] **1** *archaic* **a** : KIND, OBLIGING **b** : DUTIFUL **2** : volunteering one's services where they are neither asked nor needed : MEDDLESOME **3** : INFORMAL, UNOFFICIAL ***syn*** see IMPERTINENT — **of·fi·cious·ly** *adv* — **of·fi·cious·ness** *n*

off·ing \'ȯf-iŋ, 'äf-\ *n* [¹*off*] **1** : the part of the deep sea seen from the shore **2** : the near or foreseeable future

off·ish \'ȯf-ish\ *adj* [¹*off*] : inclined to stand aloof — **off·ish·ly** *adv* — **off·ish·ness** *n*

off–key \'ȯf-'kē\ *adj* **1** : varying in pitch from the proper tone of a melody **2** : IRREGULAR, ANOMALOUS

off limits *adj* : not to be entered or patronized by a designated class (as military personnel, students, or athletes in training)

off–line \'ȯ-'flīn\ *adj* **1** : not controlled directly by a computer ⟨~ equipment⟩ **2** : of, relating to, or being a cryptographic system in which encryption and decryption are accomplished independently of telecommunication machines — compare ON-LINE

off–load \ȯ-'flōd\ *vb* : UNLOAD

off of *prep* : OFF

off–off–Broadway *n, often cap both Os* [fr. its relation to off Broadway being analogous to the relation of off Broadway to Broadway] : an avant-garde theatrical movement in New York that stresses untraditional techniques and radical experimentation — called also *OOB*

off·print \'ȯf-ˌprint\ *n* : a separately printed excerpt (as a magazine article) — **offprint** *vt*

off·scour·ing \-ˌskau̇(ə)r-iŋ\ *n* **1** : something that is scoured off : REFUSE **2** : someone rejected by society : OUTCAST

off·screen \'ȯf-'skrēn\ *adv or adj* **1** : out of sight of the motion-picture or television viewer **2** : in private life

off–sea·son \'ȯf-ˌsēz-ᵊn\ *n* : a time of suspended or reduced activity

¹off·set \'ȯf-ˌset\ *n* **1 a** *archaic* : OUTSET, START **b** : CESSATION **2 a** (1) : a short prostrate lateral shoot arising from the base of a plant (2) : a small bulb arising from the base of another bulb **b** : a lateral or collateral branch (as of a family or race) : OFFSHOOT **c** : a spur from a range of hills **3 a** : a horizontal ledge on the face of a wall formed by a diminution of its thickness above **b** : DISPLACEMENT **c** : an abrupt change in the dimension or profile of an object or the part set off by such change **4** : something that sets off to advantage or embellishes something else : FOIL **5** : an abrupt bend in an object by which one part is turned aside out of line **6** : something that serves to counterbalance or to compensate for something else; *specif* : either of two balancing ledger items **7 a** : unintentional transfer of ink (as from a freshly printed sheet) **b** : a printing process in which an inked impression from a plate is first made on a rubber-blanketed cylinder and then transferred to the paper being printed — **offset** *adj or adv*

²off·set \'ȯf-ˌset, *vt senses are also* ȯf-'\ *vb* **-set; -set·ting** *vt* **1 a** : to place over against : BALANCE ⟨credits ~ debits⟩ **b** : to serve as a counterbalance for : COMPENSATE ⟨his speed ~ his opponent's greater weight⟩ **2** : to form an offset in ⟨~ a wall⟩ ~ *vi* : to become marked by offset ***syn*** see COMPENSATE

off·shoot \'ȯf-ˌshüt\ *n* **1** : a branch of a main stem esp. of a plant **2 a** : a lateral branch (as of a mountain range) **b** : a collateral or derived branch, descendant, or member : OUTGROWTH

¹off·shore \'ȯf-'shō(ə)r, -'shȯ(ə)r\ *adv* : from the shore : at a distance from the shore

²off·shore \'ȯf-ˌ\ *adj* **1** : coming or moving away from the shore ⟨an ~ breeze⟩ **2 a** : situated off the shore within a zone extending three miles from low-water line ⟨~ fisheries⟩ **b** : distant from the shore

off·side \'ȯf-'sīd\ *adv or adj* : illegally in advance of the ball or puck

off–speed \-'spēd\ *adj* : being slower than usual or expected ⟨throwing ~ pitches⟩

off·spring \'ȯf-ˌspriŋ\ *n, pl* **offspring** *also* **offsprings** [ME *offspring*, fr. OE, fr. *of* off + *springan* to spring] **1** : the progeny of an animal or plant : YOUNG **2** : PRODUCT, RESULT

off·stage \'ȯf-'stāj, -ˌstāj\ *adv or adj* **1** : on a part of the stage not visible to the audience **2** : in private life ⟨known ~ as a kindly man⟩ **3** : behind the scenes : out of the public view ⟨much of the important work of the conference was done ~⟩

off–the–record *adj* : given or made in confidence and not for publication ⟨~ comments⟩

off–the–shelf *adj* : available as a stock item : not specially designed or custom-made

off–white \'ȯf-'hwīt, -'wīt\ *n* : a yellowish or grayish white

off year *n* **1** : a year in which no major election is held **2** : a year of diminished activity or production ⟨an *off year* for auto sales⟩

OFM *abbr* Order of Friars Minor

OFS *abbr* Orange Free State

oft \'ȯft\ *adv* [ME, fr. OE; akin to OHG *ofto* often] : OFTEN

of·ten \'ȯf-(t)ən\ *adv* [ME, alter. of *oft*] : many times

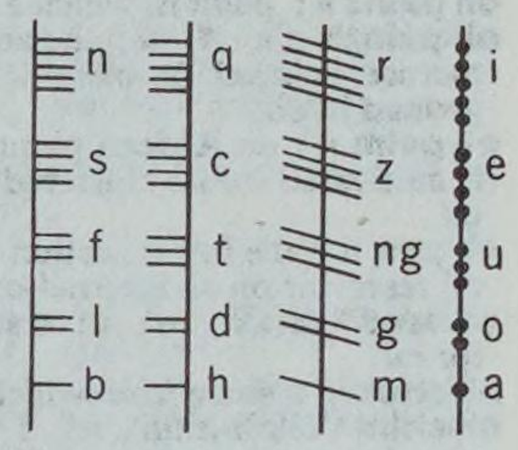
of·ten·times \-ˌtīmz\ *or* **oft·times** \'ȯf(t)-ˌtīmz\ *adv* : time and again : OFTEN

OG *abbr* **1** officer of the guard **2** original gum

O gauge \'ō-\ *n* [²*oh*] : a gauge of track in model railroading in which the rails are approximately 1¼ inches apart

ogee *also* **OG** \'ō-ˌjē\ *n* [obs. E *ogee* (ogive); fr. the use of such moldings in ogives] **1** : a molding with an S-shaped profile **2** : a pointed arch having on each side a reversed curve near the apex — see ARCH illustration

ogham *or* **ogam** \'ō(-ə)m; 'äg-əm, 'ōg-\ *n* [IrGael *ogham*, fr. MIr *ogom, ogum*] : the alphabetic system of 5th and 6th century Old Irish in which an alphabet of 20 letters is represented by notches for vowels and lines for consonants and which is known principally from inscriptions cut on the edges of rough standing tombstones — **ogham·ic** \'ō-(ə-)mik; ä-'gäm-ik, ō-\ *adj* — **ogham·ist** \'ō-(ə-)məst; 'äg-ə-məst, 'ōg-\ *n*



ogham

ogi·val \ō-'jī-vəl\ *adj* : of, relating to, or having the form of an ogive or an ogee

ogive \'ō-ˌjīv\ *n* [F] **1 a** : a diagonal arch or rib across a Gothic vault **b** : a pointed arch **2** : a graph each of whose ordinates represents the sum of all the frequencies up to and including a corresponding frequency in a frequency distribution **3** : OGEE 1

¹ogle \'ōg-əl *also* 'äg-\ *vb* **ogled; ogling** \-(ə-)liŋ\ [prob. fr. LG *oegeln*, fr. *oog* eye; akin to OHG *ouga* eye — more at EYE] *vi* : to glance with amorous invitation or challenge ~ *vt* : to eye amorously or provocatively — **ogler** \-(ə-)lər\ *n*

²ogle *n* : an amorous or coquettish glance

ogre \'ō-gər\ *n* [F] **1** : a hideous giant of fairy tales and folklore that feeds on human beings : MONSTER **2** : a dreaded person or object — **ogre·ish** \'ō-g(ə-)rish\ *adj* — **ogress** \'ō-g(ə-)rəs\ *n*

¹oh \(')ō\ *interj* [ME *o*] **1** — used to express an emotion (as astonishment, pain, or desire) **2** — used in direct address ⟨*Oh*, porter! Will you come here, please?⟩ **3** — used to express acknowledgment or understanding of a statement

²oh \'ō\ *n* [*o*; fr. the similarity of the symbol for zero (0) to the letter *O*] : ZERO

OH *abbr* Ohio

ohia \ō-'hē-ə\ *n* [Hawaiian *'ōhi'a*] : LEHUA

ohia lehua *n* [Hawaiian *'ōhi'a-lehua*] : LEHUA

ohm \'ōm\ *n* [Georg Simon *Ohm*] : the practical mks unit of electric resistance equal to the resistance of a circuit in which a potential difference of one volt produces a current of one ampere — **ohm·ic** \'ō-mik\ *adj* — **ohm·i·cal·ly** \-mi-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

ohm·age \'ō-mij\ *n* : the ohmic resistance of a conductor

ohm·me·ter \'ō(m)-ˌmēt-ər\ *n* [ISV] : an instrument for indicating resistance in ohms directly

OHMS *abbr* on her majesty's service; on his majesty's service

-o·ic \'ō-ik\ *adj suffix* [*-o-* + *-ic*] : containing carboxyl or a derivative ⟨decan*oic* acid⟩

¹-oid \ˌȯid\ *n suffix* : something resembling a (specified) object or having a (specified) quality ⟨glob*oid*⟩

²-oid *adj suffix* [MF & L; MF *-oïde*, fr. L *-oïdes*, fr. Gk *-oeidēs*, fr. *-o-* + *eidos* appearance, form — more at WISE] : resembling : having the form or appearance of ⟨petal*oid*⟩

oid·i·um \ō-'id-ē-əm\ *n, pl* **-ia** \-ē-ə\ [NL, fr. *o-* + *-idium*] **1 a** : any of a genus (*Oidium* of the family Moniliaceae) of imperfect fungi many of which are now considered to be conidial stages of various powdery mildews **b** : one of the small conidia borne in chains by various fungi (as an oidium) — called also *arthrospore* **2** : a powdery mildew caused by an oidium esp. in the grape

¹oil \'ȯi(ə)l\ *n* [ME *oile*, fr. OF, fr. L *oleum* olive oil, fr. Gk *elaion*, fr. *elaia* olive] **1 a** : any of numerous unctuous combustible substances that are liquid or at least easily liquefiable on warming, are soluble in ether but not in water, and leave a greasy stain on paper or cloth **b** : PETROLEUM **2** : a substance (as a cosmetic preparation) of oily consistency ⟨bath ~⟩ **3 a** : an oil color used by an artist **b** : a painting done in oil colors **4** : unctuous or flattering speech — **oil** *adj*

²oil *vt* : to smear, rub over, furnish, or lubricate with oil ~ *vi* : to take on fuel oil — **oil the hand** *or* **oil the palm** : BRIBE, TIP

oil beetle *n* : a blister beetle (*Meloe* or a related genus) that emits a yellowish liquid from the leg joints when disturbed

oil·bird \'ȯi(ə)l-ˌbərd\ *n* : a nocturnal bird (*Steatornis caripensis*) of northern So. America and Trinidad that is related to the goatsuckers, feeds chiefly on the fatty fruits of various palms, and has fatty young from which oil is extracted for use instead of butter — called also *guacharo*

oil cake *n* : the solid residue after extracting the oil from seeds (as of cotton)

oil·can \'ȯi(ə)l-ˌkan\ *n* : a can for oil; *esp* : a spouted can designed to release oil drop by drop (as for lubricating machinery)

oil·cloth \-ˌklȯth\ *n* : cloth treated with oil or paint and used for table and shelf coverings

oil color *n* **1** : a pigment used for oil paint **2** : OIL PAINT

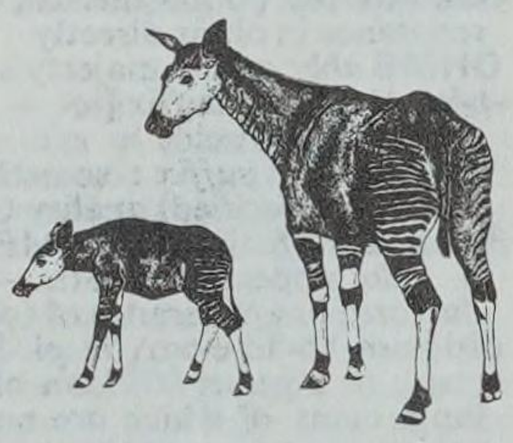
oiled \'ȯi(ə)ld\ *adj* **1** : lubricated or treated with or as if with oil ⟨~ paper⟩ **2** *slang* : DRUNK

oil·er \'ȯi-lər\ *n* **1** : one (as a workman) that oils something **2** : a receptacle or device for applying oil **3** : a producing oil well **4 a** : a ship using oil as fuel **b** : an oil-cargo ship : TANKER **5** *pl* : OILSKINS

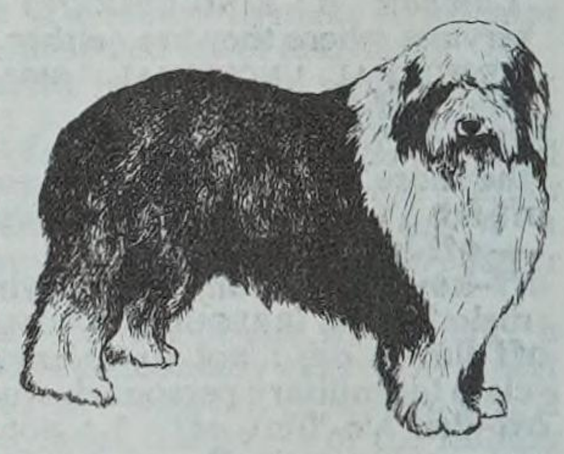
oil field *n* : a region rich in petroleum deposits; *esp* : one that has been brought into production

oil gland *n* : a gland (as of the skin) that produces an oily secretion; *specif* : UROPYGIAL GLAND

oil of turpentine : TURPENTINE 2a
oil of vitriol : concentrated sulfuric acid
oil of wintergreen : the methyl ester of salicylic acid that is used as a flavoring and as a counterirritant
oil paint *n* : paint in which a drying oil is the vehicle
oil painting *n* **1 a** : the act or art of painting in oil colors **b** : a picture painted in oils **2** : painting that uses pigments orig. ground in oil
oil palm *n* : an African pinnate-leaved palm (*Elaeis guineensis*) that is cultivated for its clustered fruit whose flesh and seeds yield palm oil
oil pan *n* : the lower section of the crankcase used as a lubricating-oil reservoir on an internal-combustion engine
oil·seed \'ȯi(ə)l-ˌsēd\ *n* : a seed or crop (as linseed) grown largely for oil
oil shale *n* : shale from which oil can be recovered by distillation
oil·skin \'ȯi(ə)l-ˌskin\ *n* **1** : an oiled waterproof cloth used for coverings and garments **2** : an oilskin raincoat **3** *pl* : an oilskin suit of coat and trousers
oil slick *n* : a film of oil floating on water
oil·stone \'ȯi(ə)l-ˌstōn\ *n* : a whetstone for use with oil
oil well *n* : a well from which petroleum is obtained
oily \'ȯi-lē\ *adj* **oil·i·er; -est** **1** : of, relating to, or consisting of oil **2** : covered or impregnated with oil : GREASY ⟨~ rags⟩ **3** : excessively smooth or suave in manner : UNCTUOUS, INGRATIATING — **oil·i·ly** \'ȯi-lə-lē\ *adv* — **oil·i·ness** \-lē-nəs\ *n*
oink \'ȯiŋk\ *n* [imit.] : the natural noise of a hog — **oink** *vi*
oint·ment \'ȯint-mənt\ *n* [ME, alter. of *oignement*, fr. OF, modif. of L *unguentum*, fr. *unguere* to anoint; akin to OHG *ancho* butter, Skt *añjati* he salves] : a salve or unguent for application to the skin
OIT *abbr* Office of International Trade
oi·ti·ci·ca \ˌȯit-ə-'sē-kə\ *n* [Pg, fr. Tupi] : any of several So. American trees; *esp* : a Brazilian tree (*Licania rigida*) with seeds that yield a drying oil similar to tung oil
Ojib·wa *or* **Ojib·way** \ō-'jib-(ˌ)wā\ *n, pl* **Ojibwa** *or* **Ojibwas** *or* **Ojibway** *or* **Ojibways** [Ojibwa *ojib-ubway*, a kind of moccasin worn by the Ojibwa] **1** : a member of an Amerindian people orig. of Michigan **2** : an Algonquian language of the Ojibwa people
OJT *abbr* on-the-job training
[1]OK *or* **okay** \ō-'kā, *in assenting or agreeing also* 'ō-ˌkā *or* 'ȯ-ˌkā\ *adv or adj* [abbr. of *oll korrect*, alter. of *all correct*] : all right
[2]OK *or* **okay** \ō-'kā\ *vt* **OK'd** *or* **okayed; OK'·ing** *or* **okay·ing** : APPROVE, AUTHORIZE
[3]OK *or* **okay** \ō-'kā\ *n* : APPROVAL, ENDORSEMENT
[4]OK *abbr* **1** Oklahoma **2** outer keel
oka *var of* OCA
oka·pi \ō-'käp-ē\ *n* [native name in Africa] : an African mammal (*Okapia johnstoni*) that is closely related to the giraffe but has a relatively short neck, a coat of solid reddish chestnut on the trunk, yellowish white on the cheeks, and purplish black and cream rings on the upper parts of the legs


okapis

oke \'ōk, 'ȯk\ *or* **oka** \ō-'kä\ *n* [F, NGk & Turk; F *ocque*, fr. NGk & Turk; NGk *oka*, fr. Turk *okka*, fr. Ar *ūqīyah*] : any of three units of weight varying around 2.8 pounds and used respectively in Greece, Turkey, and Egypt
okey-doke \ˌō-kē-'dōk\ *or* **okey-do-key** \-'dō-kē\ *adv* [redupl. of *OK*] — used as a function word to express assent
Okie \'ō-kē\ *n* [*Ok*lahoma + *-ie*] : a migrant agricultural worker; *esp* : one from Oklahoma in the 1930s
Okla *abbr* Oklahoma
okra \'ō-krə, *South also* -krē\ *n* [of African origin; akin to Twi *ŋ¹ku¹rũ¹mã³* okra] **1** : a tall annual (*Hibiscus esculentus*) of the mallow family that is cultivated for its mucilaginous green pods used esp. in soups or stews; *also* : the pods of this plant **2** : GUMBO 2
[1]-ol \ˌȯl, ˌōl\ *n suffix* [ISV, fr. *alcohol*] : chemical compound (as an alcohol or phenol) containing hydroxyl ⟨glycer*ol*⟩ ⟨creos*ol*⟩
[2]-ol — see -OLE
[3]-ol *n comb form* [ISV, fr. L *oleum* oil — more at OIL] : hydrocarbon chemically related to benzene ⟨xyl*ol*⟩
[1]old \'ōld\ *adj* [ME, fr. OE *eald;* akin to OHG *alt* old, L *alere* to nourish, *alescere* to grow, *altus* high, deep] **1 a** : dating from the remote past : ANCIENT ⟨~ traditions⟩ **b** : persisting from an earlier time ⟨an ~ ailment⟩ ⟨they brought up the same ~ argument⟩ **c** : of long standing ⟨an ~ friend⟩ **2 a** : distinguished from an object of the same kind by being of an earlier date ⟨many still used the ~ name⟩ **b** *cap* : belonging to an early period in the development of a language or literature ⟨*Old* Irish⟩ **3** : having existed for a specified period of time ⟨a girl three years ~⟩ **4** : of, relating to, or originating in a past era ⟨~ chronicles record the event⟩ **5 a** : advanced in years or age ⟨an ~ man⟩ **b** : showing the characteristics of age ⟨looked ~ at 20⟩ **6** : EXPERIENCED ⟨an ~ trooper speaking of the last war⟩ **7** : FORMER ⟨his ~ students⟩ **8 a** : showing the effects of time or use : WORN, AGED ⟨~ shoes⟩ **b** : well advanced toward reduction to baselevel — used of topographic features **c** : no longer in use : DISCARDED ⟨~ rags⟩ **d** : of a grayish or dusty color ⟨~ mauve⟩ **9 a** : long familiar ⟨same ~ story⟩ ⟨good ~ Joe⟩ **b** — used as an intensive ⟨a high ~ time⟩ ⟨any ~ time⟩
syn OLD, ANCIENT, VENERABLE, ANTIQUE, ANTIQUATED, ARCHAIC, OBSOLETE *shared meaning element* : having come into existence or use in the more or less distant past ***ant*** new
[2]old *n* **1** : old or earlier time — used in the phrase *of old* ⟨mighty men of ~⟩ **2** : one of a specified age — usu. used in combination ⟨a 3-year-*old*⟩
Old Bulgarian *n* : OLD CHURCH SLAVONIC
Old Catholic *n* : a member of one of various hierarchical and liturgical churches separating from the Roman Catholic Church at various times since the 18th century
Old Christmas *n, chiefly Midland* : EPIPHANY 1
Old Church Slavonic *n* : the Slavic language used in the Bible translation of Cyril and Methodius and as the liturgical language of several Eastern churches — called also *Old Church Slavic;* see INDO-EUROPEAN LANGUAGES table
old country *n* : an emigrant's country of origin; *esp* : EUROPE
old·en \'ōl-dən\ *adj* : of or relating to a bygone era
Old English *n* **1 a** : the language of the English people from the time of the earliest documents in the 7th century to about 1100 — see INDO-EUROPEAN LANGUAGES table **b** : English of any period before Modern English **2** : BLACK LETTER
Old English sheepdog *n* : any of an English breed of medium-sized sheep and cattle dogs with a profuse, shaggy, blue-gray and white coat that hangs almost to the ground


Old English sheepdog

old·fan·gled \'ōl(d)-'faŋ-gəld\ *adj* [*old* + *-fangled* (as in *newfangled*)] : OLD-FASHIONED
[1]old–fash·ioned \-'fash-ənd\ *adj* **1 a** : of, relating to, or characteristic of a past era ⟨wears an ~ black bow tie —Green Peyton⟩ **b** : adhering to customs of a past era **2** : out of date — **old–fash·ioned·ly** \-ən-dlē\ *adv*
[2]old–fashioned *n* : a cocktail usu. made with whiskey, bitters, sugar, a twist of lemon peel, and a small amount of water or soda
Old French *n* : the French language from the 9th to the 16th century; *esp* : French from the 9th to the 13th century — see INDO-EUROPEAN LANGUAGES table
Old Glory *n* : the flag of the U.S.
old gold *n* : a variable color averaging a dark yellow
old guard *n, often cap O & G* : the conservative members (as of a political party) who are unwilling to accept new ideas, practices, or conditions
old hand *n* : VETERAN
old hat *adj* **1** : OLD-FASHIONED **2** : lacking in freshness : TRITE
Old High German *n* : High German exemplified in documents prior to the 12th century — see INDO-EUROPEAN LANGUAGES table
old·ie \'ōl-dē\ *n* : something that is old; *esp* : a popular song of an earlier day
Old Ionic *n* : the Greek dialect of the Homeric epics
Old Irish *n* : the Irish in use between the 7th and 11th centuries — see INDO-EUROPEAN LANGUAGES table
old·ish \'ōl-dish\ *adj* : somewhat old or elderly
old lady *n* **1** : WIFE **2** : MOTHER
Old Latin *n* : Latin used in the early inscriptions and in literature prior to the classical period
old–line \'ōl-'(d)līn\ *adj* **1** : having a reputation or authority based on seniority : ESTABLISHED **2** : adhering to traditional policies or practices : CONSERVATIVE
old maid *n* **1** : SPINSTER 3 **2** : a prim fussy person ⟨he was a real *old maid* about burning rubbish —R. C. Ruark⟩ **3** : a simple card game in which the player holding a designated card (as an odd queen) at the end is an "old maid" — **old–maid·ish** \(')ōl(d)-'mād-ish\ *adj*
old man *n* **1 a** : HUSBAND **b** : FATHER **2** *cap* : one in authority; *esp* : COMMANDING OFFICER
old–man's beard \ˌōl(d)-ˌmanz-\ *n* **1** : any of several clematises (esp. *Clematis vitalba* in England and *C. virginiana* in the U.S.) having plumose styles **2** : a greenish gray pendulous lichen (*Usnea barbata*) growing on trees
old master *n* **1** : a superior artist or craftsman of established reputation; *esp* : a distinguished painter of the 16th, 17th, or early 18th century **2** : a work by an old master
Old Nick \(')ōl(d)-'nik\ *n* — used as a name of the devil
Old Norse *n* : the North Germanic language of the Scandinavian peoples prior to about 1350 — see INDO-EUROPEAN LANGUAGES table
Old North French *n* : the northern dialects of Old French including esp. those of Normandy and Picardy
Old Prussian *n* : a Baltic language used in East Prussia until the 17th century — see INDO-EUROPEAN LANGUAGES table
old rose *n* : a variable color averaging a grayish red
Old Saxon *n* : the language of the Saxons of northwest Germany until about the 12th century — see INDO-EUROPEAN LANGUAGES table
old school *n* : adherents of traditional policies and practices
old school tie *n* **1 a** : a necktie displaying the colors of an English public school **b** : an attitude of conservatism, aplomb, and upper-class solidarity associated with English public school graduates **2** : clannishness among members of an established clique
old sledge *n* : SEVEN-UP
old–squaw \'ōl(d)-'skwȯ\ *n* : a common sea duck (*Clangula hyemalis*) of the more northern parts of the northern hemisphere
old·ster \'ōl(d)-stər\ *n* : an old or elderly person
old style *n* **1** *cap O&S* : a style of reckoning time used before the adoption of the Gregorian calendar **2** : a style of type distinguished by graceful irregularity among individual letters, bracketed serifs, and but slight contrast between light and heavy strokes

old style

Old Style *adj* : using or according to the Julian calendar
Old Testament *n* : the first part of the Christian Bible containing the books of the Jewish canon of Scripture — see BIBLE table
old–time \ˌōl(d)-ˌtīm\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or characteristic of an earlier period **2** : of long standing
old–tim·er \ōl(d)-'tī-mər\ *n* **1 a** : VETERAN **b** : OLDSTER **2** : something that is old-fashioned : ANTIQUE

Old Welsh *n* : the Welsh language exemplified in documents prior to about 1150 — see INDO-EUROPEAN LANGUAGES table
old·wife \'ōl-ˌ(d)wīf\ *n* **1** : any of several marine fishes (as an alewife, menhaden, or triggerfish) **2** : OLD-SQUAW
old wives' tale *n* : a traditional tale or bit of lore; *esp* : a traditional superstitious notion
old–world \'ōl-'(d)wərə(-ə)ld\ *adj* : of, relating to, or characteristic of the Old World; *esp* : having the charm or picturesque qualities of the Old World ⟨narrow ~ streets⟩
Old World *n* : EASTERN HEMISPHERE; *specif* : Europe
ole- *or* **oleo-** *comb form* [F *olé-, oléo-*, fr. L *ole-*, fr. *oleum* — more at OIL] : oil ⟨*oleic*⟩ ⟨*oleo*graph⟩
-ole \ˌōl\ *also* **-ol** \ˌȯl, ˌōl\ *n comb form* [ISV, fr. L *oleum*] **1** : chemical compound containing a five-membered usu. heterocyclic ring ⟨diaz*ole*⟩ ⟨pyrr*ole*⟩ **2** : chemical compound not containing hydroxyl ⟨eucalypt*ol*⟩ — esp. in names of ethers ⟨phenet*ole*⟩
olé \ō-'lā\ *n* : ²BRAVO
ole·ag·i·nous \ˌō-lē-'aj-ə-nəs\ *adj* [MF *oleagineux*, fr. L *oleagineus* of an olive tree, fr. *olea* olive tree, fr. Gk *elaia*] **1** : resembling or having the properties of oil; *also* : containing or producing oil : OILY ⟨~ seeds⟩ **2** : UNCTUOUS — **ole·ag·i·nous·ly** *adv* — **ole·ag·i·nous·ness** *n*
ole·an·der \'ō-lē-ˌan-dər, ˌō-lē-'\ *n* [ML] : a poisonous evergreen shrub (*Nerium oleander*) of the dogbane family with fragrant white to red flowers
ole·an·do·my·cin \ˌō-lē-ˌan-də-'mīs-ᵊn\ *n* [prob. fr. *oleander* + *-o-* + *-mycin*] : an antibiotic $C_{35}H_{61}NO_{12}$ produced by a streptomyces (*Streptomyces antibioticus*)
ole·as·ter \'ō-lē-ˌas-tər, ˌō-lē-'\ *n* [L, fr. *olea*] : any of several plants (genus *Elaeagnus* of the family Elaeagnaceae, the oleaster family) having alternate leaves and perfect flowers with four stamens; *esp* : RUSSIAN OLIVE
ole·ate \'ō-lē-ˌāt\ *n* : a salt or ester of oleic acid
olec·ra·non \ō-'lek-rə-ˌnän\ *n* [NL, fr. Gk *ōlekranon*, fr. *ōlenē* elbow + *kranion* skull — more at ELL, CRANIUM] : the process of the ulna projecting behind the elbow joint
ole·fin \'ō-lə-fən\ *n* [ISV, fr. F (*gaz*) *oléfiant* ethylene, fr. L *oleum*] : an unsaturated open-chain hydrocarbon containing at least one double bond; *esp* : any of various long-chain synthetic polymers (as of ethylene or propylene) used esp. as textile fibers and in cordage — **ole·fin·ic** \ˌō-lə-'fin-ik\ *adj*
ole·ic \ō-'lē-ik, -'lā-\ *adj* **1** : relating to, derived from, or contained in oil **2** : of or relating to oleic acid
oleic acid *n* : an unsaturated fatty acid $C_{18}H_{34}O_2$ found as glycerides in natural fats and oils
ole·in \'ō-lē-ən\ *n* [F *oléine*, fr. L *oleum*] **1** : an ester of glycerol and oleic acid **2** *also* **ole·ine** \-ən, -ˌēn\ : the liquid portion of a fat
oleo \'ō-lē-ˌō\ *n, pl* **ole·os** **1** [short for *oleomargarine*] : MARGARINE **2** : OLEOGRAPH
oleo·graph \'ō-lē-ə-ˌgraf\ *n* [ISV *ole-* + *-graph*] : a chromolithograph printed on cloth to imitate an oil painting — **oleo·graph·ic** \ˌō-lē-ə-'graf-ik\ *adj* — **ole·og·ra·phy** \ˌō-lē-'äg-rə-fē\ *n*
oleo·mar·ga·rine \ˌō-lē-ō-'märj-(ə-)rən, -'märj-ə-ˌrēn\ *n* [F *oléomargarine*, fr. *olé-* + *margarine*] : MARGARINE
oleo·res·in \ˌō-lē-ō-'rez-ᵊn\ *n* [ISV] **1** : a plant product (as copaiba) containing chiefly essential oil and resin; *esp* : TURPENTINE 1b **2** : a preparation consisting essentially of oil holding resin in solution — **oleo·res·in·ous** \-'rez-ᵊn-əs, -'rez-nəs\ *adj*
oleri·cul·ture \ə-'ler-ə-ˌkəl-chər, ä-; 'äl-ə-ri-\ *n* [L *holer-, holus* vegetables + E *-i-* + *culture*; akin to L *helvus* light bay — more at YELLOW] : a branch of horticulture that deals with the production, storage, processing, and marketing of vegetables — **oleri·cul·tur·ist** \ə-ˌler-ə-'kəlch-(ə-)rəst, ä-; ˌäl-ə-ri-\ *n*
ole·um \'ō-lē-əm\ *n* [L — more at OIL] **1** *pl* **olea** \-lē-ə\ : OIL **2** *pl* **oleums** : a heavy oily strongly corrosive solution of sulfur trioxide in anhydrous sulfuric acid
ol·fac·tion \äl-'fak-shən, ōl-\ *n* **1** : the sense of smell **2** : the act or process of smelling
ol·fac·tive \-'fak-tiv\ *adj* : OLFACTORY
ol·fac·tom·e·ter \ˌäl-ˌfak-'täm-ət-ər, ˌōl-\ *n* : an instrument for measuring the sensitivity of the sense of smell
ol·fac·to·ry \äl-'fak-t(ə-)rē, ōl-\ *adj* [L *olfactorius*, fr. *olfactus*, pp. of *olfacere* to smell, fr. *olēre* to smell + *facere* to do — more at ODOR, DO] : of, relating to, or connected with the sense of smell
olfactory bulb *n* : a bulbous anterior projection of the olfactory lobe that is the place of termination of the olfactory nerves and is esp. well developed in lower vertebrates (as fishes)
olfactory lobe *n* : an anterior projection of each cerebral hemisphere that is continuous anteriorly with the olfactory nerve
olfactory nerve *n* : either of the pair of nerves that are the first cranial nerves and that arise in the olfactory organ, pass to the anterior part of the cerebrum, and conduct stimuli from the olfactory organ to the brain
olfactory organ *n* : a membranous organ of chemical sense in the nasal cavity that receives stimuli interpreted as odors from volatile and soluble substances in low dilution
olig- *or* **oligo-** *comb form* [ML, fr. Gk, fr. *oligos*; akin to Arm *ałkat* scant] : few ⟨*oligo*phagous⟩
oli·garch \'äl-ə-ˌgärk, 'ō-lə-\ *n* [Gk *oligarchēs*, fr. *olig-* + *-archēs* -arch] : a member or supporter of an oligarchy
oli·gar·chic \ˌäl-ə-'gär-kik, ˌō-lə-\ *or* **oli·gar·chi·cal** \-ki-kəl\ *adj* : of, relating to, or based on an oligarchy
oli·gar·chy \'äl-ə-ˌgär-kē, 'ō-lə-\ *n, pl* **-chies** **1** : government by the few **2** : a government in which a small group exercises control esp. for corrupt and selfish purposes; *also* : a group exercising such control **3** : an organization under oligarchic control
Oli·go·cene \'äl-i-gō-ˌsēn, 'ō-li-; ə-'lig-ə-\ *adj* [ISV] : of, relating to, or being an epoch of the Tertiary between the Eocene and Miocene or the corresponding system of rocks — **Oligocene** *n*
oli·go·chaete \-ˌkēt\ *n* [deriv. of Gk *olig-* + *chaitē* long hair — more at CHAETA] : any of a class or order (Oligochaeta) of hermaphroditic terrestrial or aquatic annelids (as an earthworm) that lack a specialized head — **oligochaete** *or* **oli·go·chae·tous** \ˌäl-i-gō-'kēt-əs, ˌō-li-\ *adj*
oli·go·clase \'äl-i-gō-ˌklās, 'ō-li-, -ˌklāz; ə-'lig-ə-\ *n* [G *oligoklas*, fr. *olig-* + Gk *klasis* breaking, fr. *klan* to break — more at HALT] : a mineral of the plagioclase series
oligo·mer \ə-'lig-ə-mər\ *n* [*olig-* + *-mer* (as in *polymer*)] : a polymer or polymer intermediate containing relatively few structural units — **oligo·mer·ic** \-ˌlig-ə-'mer-ik\ *adj* — **oligo·mer·iza·tion** \-mə-rə-'zā-shən\ *n*
oli·go·my·cin \ˌäl-i-gō-'mīs-ᵊn, ˌō-li-\ *n* : any of several antibiotic substances produced by an actinomycete
oli·go·nu·cle·o·tide \-'n(y)ü-klē-ə-ˌtīd\ *n* : a chain of usu. from 2 to 10 nucleotides
oli·goph·a·gous \ˌäl-ə-'gäf-ə-gəs, ˌō-lə-\ *adj* : eating only a few specific kinds of food — **oli·goph·a·gy** \-'gäf-ə-jē\ *n*
oli·gop·o·ly \-'gäp-ə-lē\ *n* [*olig-* + mono*poly*] : a market situation in which each of a few producers affects but does not control the market — **oli·gop·o·lis·tic** \-ˌgäp-ə-'lis-tik\ *adj*
oli·gop·so·ny \-'gäp-sə-nē\ *n* [*olig-* + Gk *opsōnia* purchase of victuals, fr. *opsōnein* to purchase victuals, fr. *opson* food + *ōneisthai* to buy — more at VENAL] : a market situation in which each of a few buyers exerts a disproportionate influence on the market
oli·go·sac·cha·ride \ˌäl-i-gō-'sak-ə-ˌrīd, ˌō-li-\ *n* [ISV] : a saccharide (as a disaccharide) that contains a known small number of monosaccharide units
oli·go·tro·phic \-'trō-fik\ *adj* [ISV] : deficient in plant nutrients ⟨~ boggy acid soils⟩; *esp* : having abundant dissolved oxygen with no marked stratification ⟨an ~ body of water⟩ — compare EUTROPHIC
olio \'ō-lē-ˌō\ *n, pl* **oli·os** [modif. of Sp *olla*] **1** : OLLA PODRIDA 1 **2** **a** : a miscellaneous mixture : HODGEPODGE **b** : a miscellaneous collection (as of literary or musical selections)
ol·i·va·ceous \ˌäl-ə-'vā-shəs\ *adj* : OLIVE 1
¹olive \'äl-iv, -əv\ *n* [ME, fr. OF, fr. L *oliva*, fr. Gk *elaia*] **1** **a** : an Old World evergreen tree (*Olea europaea* of the family Oleaceae, the olive family) cultivated for its drupaceous fruit that is an important food and source of oil; *also* : the fruit **b** : any of various shrubs and trees resembling the olive **2** : any of several colors resembling that of the unripe fruit of the olive tree that are yellow to yellow green in hue, of medium to low lightness, and of moderate to low saturation


olive 1a: *1* fruit, *2* flowering branch

²olive *adj* **1** : of the color olive or olive green **2** : approaching olive in color or complexion
olive branch *n* **1** : a branch of the olive tree esp. when used as a symbol of peace **2** : an offer or gesture of conciliation or goodwill
olive drab *n* **1** : a variable color averaging a grayish olive **2** **a** : a wool or cotton fabric of an olive drab color **b** : a uniform of this fabric
olive green *n* : a variable color that is greener, lighter, and stronger than average olive color
oliv·enite \ō-'liv-ə-ˌnīt\ *n* [G *olivenit*, fr. *oliven-, olive* olive] : a mineral $Cu_2(AsO_4)(OH)$ that is a basic olive green, dull brown, or yellowish arsenate of copper
Ol·i·ver \'äl-ə-vər\ *n* [F *Olivier*] : the close friend of Roland in the Charlemagne legends
ol·iv·ine \'äl-ə-ˌvēn\ *n* [G *olivin*, fr. L *oliva*] : a usu. greenish mineral $(Mg,Fe)_2SiO_4$ that is a complex silicate of magnesium and iron used esp. in refractories — compare PERIDOT — **ol·iv·in·ic** \ˌäl-ə-'vin-ik\ *or* **ol·iv·in·it·ic** \-və-'nit-ik\ *adj*
ol·la \'äl-ə, 'ȯi-ə\ *n* [Sp, fr. L, pot — more at OVEN] : a large bulging widemouthed earthenware vessel often with looped handles used (as in Latin America) esp. as a pot for stewing or as a container for water
ol·la po·dri·da \ˌäl-ə-pə-'drēd-ə, ˌȯi-ə-\ *n, pl* **olla podridas** \-'drēd-əz\ *also* **ollas podridas** \ˌäl-ə(z)-, ˌȯi-ə(z)-pə\ [Sp, lit., rotten pot] **1** : a rich highly seasoned stew of meat and vegetables usu. including sausage and chick-peas that is slowly simmered and is a traditional Spanish and Latin American dish **2** : HODGEPODGE
olo·li·u·qui \ˌō-ˌlō-lē-'ü-kē\ *n* [Sp *ololiuque*, fr. Nahuatl *ololiuhqui*, lit., one that covers] : a woody stemmed Mexican vine (*Rivea corymbosa*) of the morning glory family having small fleshy fruits with single seeds that are used esp. by the Indians for medicinal, narcotic, and religious purposes
olym·pi·ad \ə-'lim-pē-ˌad, ō-\ *n, often cap* [MF *Olympiade*, fr. L *Olympiad-, Olympias*, fr. Gk, fr. *Olympia*, site of ancient Olympian games] **1** : one of the four-year intervals between Olympian games by which time was reckoned in ancient Greece **2** : a quadrennial celebration of the modern Olympic Games
¹Olym·pi·an \-pē-ən\ *adj* **1** : of or relating to the ancient Greek region of Olympia **2** : of, relating to, or constituting the Olympian games
²Olympian *n* : a participant in Olympic Games
³Olympian *adj* **1** : of or relating to Mount Olympus in Thessaly **2** : befitting or characteristic of an Olympian; *esp* : LOFTY ⟨his . . . formula of glib simplicity and ~ arrogance —Richard Pollak⟩
⁴Olympian *n* **1** : one of the ancient Greek deities dwelling on Olympus **2** : a being of lofty detachment or superior attainments

Olympian Games *n pl* : an ancient Panhellenic festival held every 4th year and made up of contests of sports, music, and literature with the victor's prize a crown of wild olive
Olym·pic \ə-'lim-pik, ō-\ *adj* **1** : ³OLYMPIAN **2** : of or relating to the Olympic Games
Olympic Games *n pl* **1** : OLYMPIAN GAMES **2** : a modified revival of the Olympian games held once every four years and made up of international athletic contests — called also *Olympics*
Olym·pus \ə-'lim-pəs, ō-\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *Olympos*] : a mountain in Thessaly that is the abode of the gods in Greek mythical narratives
om \'ōm\ *n* [Skt] : a mantra consisting of the sound \'ōm\ and used in contemplation of ultimate reality
OM *abbr* order of merit
-o·ma \'ō-mə\ *n suffix, pl* **-o·mas** \-məz\ *or* **-o·ma·ta** \-mət-ə\ [L *-omat-, -oma*, fr. Gk *-ōmat-, -ōma*, fr. *-ō-* (stem of causative verbs in *-oun*) + *-mat-, -ma*, suffix denoting result — more at -MENT] : tumor ⟨adeno*ma*⟩ ⟨fibro*ma*⟩
Oma·ha \'ō-mə-ˌhȯ, -ˌhä\ *n, pl* **Omaha** *or* **Omahas** [Omaha, lit., those going upstream or against the wind] : a member of an Amerindian people of northeastern Nebraska
Omar stanza \ˌō-ˌmär-\ *n* : RUBAIYAT STANZA
oma·sum \ō-'mā-səm\ *n, pl* **oma·sa** \-sə\ [NL, fr. L, tripe of a bullock] : the division between the reticulum and the abomasum in the stomach of a ruminant
om·bre \'äm-bər; 'äm-brē, 'əm-, -ˌbrā\ *n* [F or Sp; F *hombre*, fr. Sp, lit., man] : an old three-handed card game popular in Europe esp. in the 17th and 18th centuries
om·bré \'äm-ˌbrā\ *adj* [F, pp. of *ombrer* to shade, fr. It *ombrare*, fr. *ombra* shade, fr. L *umbra* — more at UMBRAGE] : having colors or tones that shade into each other — used esp. of fabrics in which the color is graduated from light to dark — **ombré** *n*
om·buds·man \'äm-ˌbůdz-mən, 'ȯm-, -bədz-, -ˌman; äm-'bůdz-, ȯm-\ *n, pl* **-men** \-mən\ [Sw, lit., representative, fr. ON *umboths-mathr*, fr. *umboth* commission + *mathr* man] **1** : a government official (as in Sweden or New Zealand) appointed to receive and investigate complaints made by individuals against abuses or capricious acts of public officials **2** : one that investigates reported complaints (as from students or consumers), reports findings, and helps to achieve equitable settlements
-ome \ˌōm\ *n suffix* [NL *-oma*, fr. L, -oma] : mass ⟨phyll*ome*⟩
ome·ga \ō-'meg-ə, -'mē-gə, -'mā-gə\ *n* [Gk *ō mega*, lit., large o] **1** : the 24th and last letter of the Greek alphabet — see ALPHABET table **2** : LAST, ENDING **3 a** : a negatively charged elementary particle that has a mass 3280 times the mass of an electron and that decays into a xi and a pion — called also *omega particle* **b** : a very short-lived unstable meson with mass 1532 times the mass of an electron — called also *omega meson*
om·elet *or* **om·elette** \'äm-(ə-)lət\ *n* [F *omelette*, alter. of MF *alumelle*, lit., knife blade, modif. of L *lamella*, dim. of *lamina* thin plate] : beaten eggs cooked without stirring until set and served folded in half
omen \'ō-mən\ *n* [L *omin-, omen*] : an occurrence or phenomenon believed to portend a future event : AUGURY
omen·tum \ō-'ment-əm\ *n, pl* **-ta** \-ə\ *or* **-tums** [L, fr. *o-* (akin to *-uere* to put on) — more at EXUVIAE] : a free fold of peritoneum or one connecting or supporting abdominal structures (as the viscera) — **omen·tal** \-'ment-ᵊl\ *adj*
omer \'ō-mər\ *n* [Heb *'ōmer*] **1** : an ancient Hebrew unit of dry capacity equal to $^1/_{10}$ ephah **2** *often cap* : the sheaf of barley traditionally offered in Jewish Temple worship on a day that marks the start of a 7-week liturgical period of expectancy between Passover and Shabuoth
om·i·cron \'äm-ə-ˌkrän, *Brit* ō-'mī-krən\ *n* [Gk *o mikron*, lit., small o] : the 15th letter of the Greek alphabet — see ALPHABET table
om·i·nous \'äm-ə-nəs\ *adj* : being or exhibiting an omen : PORTENTOUS; *esp* : foreboding or foreshowing evil : INAUSPICIOUS — **om·i·nous·ly** *adv* — **om·i·nous·ness** *n*
syn OMINOUS, PORTENTOUS, FATEFUL *shared meaning element* : having a menacing or threatening aspect
omis·si·ble \ō-'mis-ə-bəl\ *adj* : that may be omitted
omis·sion \ō-'mish-ən, ə-\ *n* [ME *omissioun*, fr. LL *omission-, omissio*, fr. L *omissus*, pp. of *omittere*] **1 a** : apathy toward or neglect of duty **b** : something neglected or left undone **2** : the act of omitting : the state of being omitted
omit \ō-'mit, ə-\ *vt* **omit·ted; omit·ting** [ME *omitten*, fr. L *omittere*, fr. *ob-* toward + *mittere* to let go, send — more at OB-, SMITE] **1** : to leave out or leave unmentioned **2** : to fail to perform or make use of : FORBEAR **3** *obs* : DISREGARD **4** *obs* : to give up ***syn*** see NEGLECT
om·ma·tid·i·um \ˌäm-ə-'tid-ē-əm\ *n, pl* **-tid·ia** \-ē-ə\ [NL, fr. Gk *ommat-, omma* eye] : one of the elements corresponding to a small simple eye that make up the compound eye of an arthropod — **om·ma·tid·i·al** \-ē-əl\ *adj*
omni- *comb form* [L, fr. *omnis*] : all : universally ⟨*omni*directional⟩
¹om·ni·bus \'äm-ni-(ˌ)bəs\ *n* [F, fr. L, for all, dat. pl. of *omnis*] **1** : a usu. automotive public vehicle designed to carry a comparatively large number of passengers : BUS **2** : a book containing reprints of a number of works
²omnibus *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or providing for many things at once **2** : containing or including many items
om·ni·di·rec·tion·al \ˌäm-ni-də-'rek-shnəl, -ˌnī-də-, -ni-(ˌ)dī-, -shən-ᵊl\ *adj* : being in or involving all directions; *esp* : receiving or sending radio waves equally well in all directions ⟨~ antenna⟩
om·ni·far·i·ous \ˌäm-nə-'far-ē-əs, -'fer-\ *adj* [LL *omnifarius*, fr. L *omni-* + *-farius* (as in *multifarius* having great diversity) — more at MULTIFARIOUS] : of all varieties, forms, or kinds
om·nif·i·cent \äm-'nif-ə-sənt\ *adj* [L *omni-* + E *-ficent* (as in *magnificent*)] : unlimited in creative power
om·nip·o·tence \äm-'nip-ət-ən(t)s\ *n* **1** : the quality or state of being omnipotent **2** : an agency or force of unlimited power
¹om·nip·o·tent \-ət-ənt\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *omnipotent-, omnipotens*, fr. *omni-* + *potent-, potens* potent] **1** *often cap* : ALMIGHTY 1 **2** : having virtually unlimited authority or influence **3** *obs* : ARRANT — **om·nip·o·tent·ly** *adv*
²omnipotent *n* **1** : one who is omnipotent **2** *cap* : GOD 1
om·ni·pres·ence \ˌäm-ni-'prez-ᵊn(t)s\ *n* : the quality or state of being omnipresent : UBIQUITY
om·ni·pres·ent \-ᵊnt\ *adj* : present in all places at all times
om·ni·range \'äm-ni-ˌrānj\ *n* : a system of radio navigation in which any bearing relative to a special radio transmitter on the ground may be chosen and flown by an airplane pilot — called also *omnidirectional range*
om·ni·science \äm-'nish-ən(t)s\ *n* [ML *omniscientia*, fr. L *omni-* + *scientia* science] : the quality or state of being omniscient
om·ni·scient \-ənt\ *adj* [NL *omniscient-, omnisciens*, back-formation fr. ML *omniscientia*] **1** : having infinite awareness, understanding, and insight **2** : possessed of universal or complete knowledge — **om·ni·scient·ly** *adv*
om·ni·um–gath·er·um \ˌäm-nē-əm-'gath-ə-rəm\ *n, pl* **omnium–gatherums** [L *omnium* (gen. pl. of *omnis*) + E *gather* + L *-um*, noun ending] : a miscellaneous collection (as of things or persons)
om·niv·o·ra \äm-'niv-ə-rə\ *n pl* [NL, fr. L, neut. pl. of *omnivorus*] : omnivorous animals
om·ni·vore \'äm-ni-ˌvō(ə)r, -ˌvȯ(ə)r\ *n* [NL *omnivora*] : one that is omnivorous
om·niv·o·rous \äm-'niv-(ə-)rəs\ *adj* [L *omnivorus*, fr. *omni-* + *-vorus* -vorous] **1** : feeding on both animal and vegetable substances **2** : avidly taking in everything as if devouring or consuming — **om·niv·o·rous·ly** *adv* — **om·niv·o·rous·ness** *n*
¹on \(')ȯn, (')än\ *prep* [ME *an, on*, prep. & adv., fr. OE; akin to OHG *ana* on, Gk *ana* up, on] **1 a** (1) — used as a function word to indicate a position over and in contact with ⟨the book is ~ the table⟩ (2) — used as a function word to indicate a position in contact or juxtaposition with ⟨a fly ~ the ceiling⟩ (3) — used as a function word to indicate a means of conveyance ⟨left ~ the early train⟩ (4) — used as a function word to indicate a part (as of the body) that supports and is in contact with something underneath ⟨stand ~ one foot⟩ (5) — used as a function word to indicate movement in the direction or area of ⟨~ the right⟩ **b** (1) — used as a function word to indicate movement to a position over and in contact with ⟨jumped ~ the horse⟩ (2) — used as a function word to indicate movement to a position in contact with ⟨put the notice ~ the bulletin board⟩ **2 a** — used as a function word to indicate the object of actual or implied action of a preceding noun, verb, or adjective directed against or toward the object ⟨crept up ~ him⟩ ⟨a satire ~ society⟩ ⟨keen ~ sports⟩ **b** : to the disadvantage of ⟨have some evidence ~ him⟩ **3** — used as a function word to indicate the basis or source (as of an action, opinion, or computation) ⟨know it ~ good authority⟩ ⟨ten cents ~ the dollar⟩ **4** *archaic* : OF **5 a** — used as a function word to indicate connection, association, or activity with or with regard to ⟨~ a committee⟩ ⟨~ tour⟩ **b** — used as a function word to indicate a state or process of ⟨~ fire⟩ ⟨~ the increase⟩ **6** — used as a function word to indicate occurrence within the limits of a specified day, at a set time, or under specified circumstances ⟨came ~ Monday⟩ ⟨every hour ~ the hour⟩ ⟨cash ~ delivery⟩ **7** — used as a function word to indicate means or agency ⟨cut ~ a knife⟩ ⟨talking ~ the telephone⟩ **8** — used as a function word to indicate reduplication or succession in a series ⟨loss ~ loss⟩
²on \'ȯn, 'än\ *adv* **1 a** : in or into a position of contact with an upper surface ⟨put the plates ~⟩ **b** : in or into a position of being attached to or covering a surface ⟨has new shoes ~⟩ **2 a** : forward in space, time, or action : ONWARD ⟨went ~ home⟩ **b** : in continuance or succession ⟨and so ~⟩ **3** : into operation or a position permitting operation ⟨turn the light ~⟩
³on \'ȯn, 'än\ *adj* **1** : engaged in an activity or function (as a dramatic role) **2 a** (1) : being in operation ⟨the radio is ~⟩ (2) : placed so as to permit operation ⟨the switch is ~⟩ **b** : taking place ⟨the game is ~⟩ **3** : INTENDED, PLANNED ⟨has nothing ~ for tonight⟩
¹-on \ˌän, ən\ *n suffix* [ISV, alter. of *-one*] : chemical compound not a ketone or other oxo compound ⟨parathi*on*⟩
²-on \ˌän\ *n suffix* [fr. *-on* (in *ion*)] **1** : elementary particle ⟨nucle*on*⟩ **2 a** : unit : quantum ⟨phot*on*⟩ ⟨magnet*on*⟩ **b** : basic hereditary component ⟨cistr*on*⟩ ⟨oper*on*⟩
³-on \ˌän\ *n suffix* [NL, fr. *-on* (in *argon*)] : noble gas ⟨rad*on*⟩
on–again, off–again *adj* : existing briefly and then disappearing in an intermittent unpredictable way ⟨*on-again, off-again* fads⟩
on·a·ger \'än-i-jər\ *n* [ME, wild ass, fr. L, fr. Gk *onagros*, fr. *onos* ass + *agros* field — more at ACRE] **1** : a small pale-colored kiang with a broad dorsal stripe **2** [LL, fr. L] : a heavy catapult used in ancient and medieval times
on and off *adv* : off and on
onan·ism \'ō-nə-ˌniz-əm\ *n* [prob. fr. NL *onanismus*, fr. *Onan*, son of Judah (Gen 38:9)] **1** : coitus deliberately interrupted to prevent insemination **2** : MASTURBATION **3** : SELF-GRATIFICATION — **onan·is·tic** \ˌō-nə-'nis-tik\ *adj*
¹once \'wən(t)s\ *adv* [ME *ones*, fr. gen. of *on* one] **1** : one time and no more **2** : at any one time : under any circumstances : EVER **3** : at some indefinite time in the past : FORMERLY **4** : by one degree of relationship
²once *adj* : that once was : FORMER
³once *n* : one single time : one time at least — **at once** **1** : at the same time : SIMULTANEOUSLY **2** : IMMEDIATELY **3** : ³BOTH
⁴once *conj* : at the moment when : as soon as
once–over \'wən(t)-ˌsō-vər\ *n* : a swift examination or survey; *esp* : a swift comprehensive appraising glance
once that *conj* : ONCE
on·cho·cer·ci·a·sis \ˌäŋ-kō-ˌsər-'kī-ə-səs\ *n, pl* **-a·ses** \-ˌsēz\ [NL, fr. *Onchocerca*, genus of worms] : infestation with or disease caused by filarial worms (genus *Onchocerca*); *esp* : a disease of man caused by a worm (*O. volvulus*) that is native to Africa but now present in parts of tropical America and is transmitted by several biting flies
on·cho·cer·co·sis \-'kō-səs\ *n, pl* **-co·ses** \-ˌsēz\ [NL, fr. *Onchocerca*] : ONCHOCERCIASIS
on·cid·i·um \än-'sid-ē-əm, äŋ-'kid-\ *n* [NL, genus name, fr. Gk *onkos* barbed hook — more at ANGLE] : any of a genus (*Oncidium*) of showy tropical American epiphytic or terrestrial orchids

on·co·gen·e·sis \ˌäŋ-kō-ˈjen-ə-səs\ *n* [NL, fr. Gk *onkos* mass] : the induction or formation of tumors
on·co·gen·ic \-ˈjen-ik\ *adj* **1** : relating to tumor formation **2** : tending to cause tumors
on·co·ge·nic·i·ty \-jə-ˈnis-ət-ē\ *n* : the capacity to induce or form tumors
on·col·o·gy \än-ˈkäl-ə-jē, äŋ-\ *n* [Gk *onkos* mass + ISV *-logy;* akin to Gk *enenkein* to carry — more at ENOUGH] : the study of tumors — **on·co·log·i·cal** \ˌäŋ-kə-ˈläj-i-kəl\ *also* **on·co·log·ic** \-ik\ *adj* — **on·col·o·gist** \än-ˈkäl-ə-jəst, äŋ-\ *n*
on·com·ing \ˈȯn-ˌkəm-iŋ, ˈän-\ *adj* **1 a** : coming nearer in time or space ⟨the ~ year⟩ ⟨an ~ car⟩ **b** : FUTURE ⟨looked forward to his ~ visit⟩ **2** : EMERGENT, RISING ⟨the ~ generation⟩
¹one \ˈwən, ˌwən\ *adj* [ME *on,* fr. OE *ān;* akin to OHG *ein* one, L *unus* (OL *oinos*), Skt *eka*] **1** : being a single unit or thing ⟨~ day at a time⟩ **2 a** : being one in particular ⟨early ~ morning⟩ **b** : being preeminently what is indicated ⟨~ fine person⟩ **3 a** : being the same in kind or quality ⟨both of ~ species⟩ **b** (1) : constituting a unified entity of two or more components ⟨the combined elements form ~ substance⟩ (2) : UNITED **4** : existing or occurring as something not definitely fixed or placed ⟨will see you again ~ day⟩ **5** : being the only individual of an indicated or implied kind ⟨the ~ person she wanted to marry⟩ — **at one** : at harmony : in a state of agreement
²one *pron* **1** : a certain indefinitely indicated person or thing ⟨saw ~ of his friends⟩ **2 a** : an individual of a vaguely indicated group : anyone at all ⟨~ never knows⟩ **b** — sometimes used as a third person substitute for a first person pronoun ⟨I'd like to read more but ~ doesn't have the time⟩
³one \ˈwən\ *n* **1** — see NUMBER table **2** : the number denoting unity **3** : the first in a set or series ⟨wears a ~⟩ **4** : a single person or thing ⟨has the ~ but needs the other⟩ **5** : a one-dollar bill
-one \ˌōn\ *n suffix* [ISV, alter. of *-ene*] : ketone or related or analogous compound or class of compounds ⟨lact*one*⟩ ⟨quin*one*⟩
one another *pron* : EACH OTHER
one–armed bandit \ˌwən-ˌärm(d)-\ *also* **one–arm bandit** *n* : SLOT MACHINE 2
one–bagger \ˈwən-ˈbag-ər\ *n* : SINGLE 2
one–dimensional *adj* : lacking depth : SUPERFICIAL ⟨~ stereotype characters⟩ — **one–dimensionality** *n*
one–egg *adj* : MONOZYGOTIC
one·fold \ˈwən-ˌfōld, -ˈfōld\ *adj* : constituting a single undivided whole
one–hand·ed \-ˈhan-dəd\ *adj* **1** : having or using only one hand ⟨could beat him up ~⟩ **2 a** : designed for or requiring the use of only one hand **b** : effected by the use of only one hand
one–horse *adj* **1** : drawn or operated by one horse **2** : of little real importance or consequence ⟨a ~ town⟩
Onei·da \ō-ˈnīd-ə\ *n, pl* **Oneida** *or* **Oneidas** [Iroquois *Onẽyóde',* lit., standing rock] **1 a** : an Amerindian people orig. of New York **b** : a member of this people **2** : the language of the Oneida people
onei·ric \ō-ˈnī-rik\ *adj* [Gk *oneiros* dream; akin to Arm *anurǰ* dream] : of or relating to dreams : DREAMY
onei·ro·crit·i·cal \ō-ˌnī-rō-ˈkrit-i-kəl\ *adj* [Gk *oneirokritikos,* fr. *oneiros* + *kritikos* able to discern — more at CRITIC] : of, relating to, or specializing in the interpretation of dreams — **onei·ro·crit·i·cal·ly** \-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
onei·ro·man·cy \ō-ˈnī-rə-ˌman(t)-sē\ *n* [Gk *oneiros* + E *-mancy*] : divination by means of dreams
one–line octave *n* : the musical octave that begins on middle C — see PITCH illustration
one–man *adj* : of or relating to just one individual: as **a** : consisting of only one individual ⟨a ~ committee⟩ **b** (1) : done, presented, or produced by only one individual ⟨a ~ stage play⟩ **b** (2) : featuring the work of a single artist (as a painter) ⟨a ~ show of oils⟩ **c** : designed for or limited to one individual
one·ness \ˈwən-nəs\ *n* : the quality or state or fact of being one: as **a** : SINGLENESS **b** : INTEGRITY, WHOLENESS **c** : HARMONY **d** : SAMENESS, IDENTITY **e** : UNITY, UNION
one–night stand *n* **1** : a performance (as of a play or concert) given (as by a traveling group of actors or musicians) only once in each of a series of localities **2 a** : a locality used for one-night stands **b** : a stopover for a one-night stand
one–on–one \ˌwən-ȯn-ˈwən, ˌwən-än-\ *adj* : MAN-TO-MAN 2
one–piece *adj* : consisting of or made in a single undivided piece ⟨a ~ bathing suit⟩ — **one–piec·er** \ˈwən-ˈpē-sər\ *n*
oner·ous \ˈän-ə-rəs, ˈō-nə-\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF *onereus,* fr. L *onerosus,* fr. *oner-, onus* burden; akin to Skt *anas* cart] **1** : involving, imposing, or constituting a burden : TROUBLESOME ⟨an ~ task⟩ **2** : having legal obligations that outweigh the advantages ⟨~ contract⟩ — **oner·ous·ly** *adv* — **oner·ous·ness** *n*
syn ONEROUS, BURDENSOME, OPPRESSIVE, EXACTING *shared meaning element* : imposing hardship
one·self \(ˌ)wən-ˈself\ *also* **one's self** \(ˌ)wən-, ˌwənz-\ *pron* **1** : a person's self : one's own self — used reflexively as object of a preposition or verb or for emphasis in various constructions **2** : one's normal, healthy, or sane condition or self — **be oneself** : to conduct oneself in a usual or fitting manner
one–shot \ˈwən-ˌshät\ *adj* **1** : that is complete or effective through being done or used or applied only once ⟨there is no easy ~ answer to the problem⟩ **2** : that is not followed by something else of the same kind ⟨an intensive ~ drive for funds was made⟩
one–sid·ed \ˈwən-ˈsīd-əd\ *adj* **1 a** (1) : having or occurring on one side only (2) : having one side prominent or more developed **b** : limited to one side : PARTIAL ⟨a ~ interpretation⟩ **2** : UNILATERAL ⟨a ~ decision⟩ — **one–sid·ed·ly** *adv* — **one–sid·ed·ness** *n*
one–step \ˈwən-ˌstep\ *n* **1** : a ballroom dance in $^2/_4$ time marked by quick walking steps backward and forward **2** : music used for the one-step — **one–step** *vi*
one–suit·er \ˈwən-ˈsüt-ər\ *n* : a man's traveling bag designed to hold one suit and accessories
one–tailed test \ˌwən-ˌtāl(d)-\ *n* : a statistical test for which the critical region consists of all values of the test statistic greater than a given value or less than a given value but not both — called also *one-sided test, one-tail test;* compare TWO-TAILED TEST
¹one·time \ˌwən-ˌtīm\ *adj* : FORMER, SOMETIME
²onetime *adv* : FORMERLY
one–to–one \ˌwən-tə-ˈwən, -də-\ *adj* : pairing each element of a set uniquely with an element of another set
one–track *adj* : marked by often narrowly restricted attention to or absorption in just one thing ⟨a ~ mind⟩
one–two \ˈwən-ˈtü, -ˌtü\ *n* : a combination of two quick blows in rapid succession in boxing; *esp* : a left jab followed at once by a hard blow with the right hand
one–up \ˌwən-ˈəp, ˈwən-\ *vt* [back-formation fr. *one-upmanship*] : to practice one-upmanship on
one up *adj* : being in a position of advantage — usu. used with *on*
one–up·man·ship \ˌwən-ˈəp-mən-ˌship\ *n* : the art or practice of going a friend or competitor one better or keeping one jump ahead of him
one–way *adj* **1** : that moves in or allows movement in only one direction ⟨~ traffic⟩ **2** : ONE-SIDED, UNILATERAL ⟨a ~ conversation⟩ **3** : that functions in only one of two or more ways
on·go·ing \ˈȯn-ˌgō-iŋ, ˈän-, -ˌgȯ(-)iŋ\ *adj* **1** : being actually in process **2** : continuously moving forward : GROWING
ONI *abbr* Office of Naval Intelligence
on·ion \ˈən-yən\ *n* [ME, fr. MF *oignon,* fr. L *union-, unio*] **1** : a widely cultivated Asiatic herb (*Allium cepa*) of the lily family with pungent edible bulbs; *also* : its bulb **2** : any of various plants of the same genus as the onion
on·ion·skin \-ˌskin\ *n* : a thin strong translucent paper of very light weight
oni·um \ˈō-nē-əm\ *adj* [*-onium*] : being or characterized by a usu. complex cation
-o·ni·um \ˈō-nē-əm\ *n suffix* [NL, fr. *ammonium*] : an ion having a positive charge ⟨ox*onium*⟩ — compare -IUM 1b
on–line *adj* **1** : located at a point served directly by a particular railroad ⟨~ industry⟩ **2** : being controlled directly by or in direct communication with a computer ⟨~ equipment⟩ **3** : of, relating to, or being a cryptographic system whose telecommunication machines automatically encipher, transmit, receive, and decipher messages in a single instantaneous operation — compare OFF-LINE — **on–line** *adv*
on·look·er \ˈȯn-ˌlůk-ər, ˈän-\ *n* : one that looks on; *esp* : a passive spectator — **on·look·ing** \-iŋ\ *adj*
¹on·ly \ˈōn-lē\ *adj* [ME, fr. OE *ānlīc,* fr. *ān* one — more at ONE] **1** : unquestionably the best : PEERLESS **2** : alone in its class or kind : SOLE ⟨an ~ child⟩
²only *adv* **1 a** : as a single fact or instance and nothing more or different : MERELY ⟨has ~ lost one election —George Orwell⟩ **b** : SOLELY, EXCLUSIVELY ⟨known ~ to him⟩ **2** : at the very least ⟨it was ~ too true⟩ **3 a** : in the final outcome ⟨will ~ make you sick⟩ **b** : with nevertheless the final result ⟨won the battles, ~ to lose the war⟩ **4 a** : as recently as ⟨~ last week⟩ **b** : in the immediate past ⟨~ just talked to her⟩
³only *conj* **1 a** : with the restriction that : BUT ⟨you may go, ~ come back early⟩ **b** : and yet : HOWEVER ⟨they look very nice, ~ we can't use them⟩ **2** : were it not that : EXCEPT
on·o·mas·tic \ˌän-ə-ˈmas-tik\ *adj* [Gk *onomastikos,* fr. *onomazein* to name, fr. *onoma* name — more at NAME] **1** : of, relating to, or consisting of a name or names **2** *of a signature* : written in the handwriting of the author of a letter or document the body of which is in the handwriting of another person
on·o·mas·tics \-tiks\ *n pl but sing or pl in constr* **1 a** : the science or study of the origins and forms of words esp. as used in a specialized field **b** : the science or study of the origin and forms of proper names of persons or places **2** : the system underlying the formation and use of words esp. for proper names or of words used in a specialized field
on·o·ma·tol·o·gy \ˌän-ə-mə-ˈtäl-ə-jē\ *n* [F *onomatologie,* fr. Gk *onomat-, onoma* name + F *-logie* -logy] : ONOMASTICS
on·o·mato·poe·ia \ˌän-ə-ˌmat-ə-ˈpē-(y)ə\ *n* [LL, fr. Gk *onomatopoiia,* fr. *onomat-, onoma* name + *poiein* to make — more at POET] **1** : the naming of a thing or action by a vocal imitation of the sound associated with it (as *buzz, hiss*) **2** : the use of words whose sound suggests the sense — **on·o·mato·poe·ic** \-ˈpē-ik\ *or* **on·o·mato·po·et·ic** \-pō-ˈet-ik\ *adj* — **on·o·mato·poe·i·cal·ly** \-ˈpē-ə-k(ə-)lē\ *or* **on·o·mato·po·et·i·cal·ly** \-pō-ˈet-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
On·on·da·ga \ˌän-ə(n)-ˈdȯ-gə\ *n, pl* **Onondaga** *or* **Onandagas** [Iroquois *Onǫ̃táge,* village of the Onondaga people] **1 a** : an Amerindian people of New York and Canada **b** : a member of this people **2** : the language of the Onondaga people
ONR *abbr* Office of Naval Research
on·rush \ˈȯn-ˌrəsh, ˈän-\ *n* **1** : a rushing forward or onward **2** : ONSET — **on·rush·ing** \-iŋ\ *adj*
on·set \-ˌset\ *n* **1** : ATTACK, ASSAULT ⟨withstand the ~ of the army⟩ **2** : BEGINNING, COMMENCEMENT ⟨the ~ of winter⟩ — **on·set·ting** \-ˌset-iŋ\ *adj*
on·shore \ˈȯn-ˌshō(ə)r, ˈän-, -ˌshȯ(ə)r\ *adj* **1** : coming or moving toward or onto the shore ⟨an ~ wind⟩ **2 a** : situated on or near the shore **b** : DOMESTIC ⟨~ oil production⟩ ⟨~ purchases⟩ — **on·shore** \ˈȯn-, ˈän-\ *adv*
on·side \-ˈsīd\ *adv or adj* : not off side : in a position legally to play or receive the ball or puck
onside kick *n* : a kickoff in football in which the ball travels just far enough to be legally recoverable by the kicking team
on·slaught \ˈän-ˌslȯt, ˈȯn-\ *n* [modif. of D *aanslag* act of striking; akin to OE *an* on and to OE *slēan* to strike — more at SLAY] : an esp. fierce attack

on·stage \'ȯn-'stāj, 'än-, -ˌstāj\ *adv or adj* : on a part of the stage visible to the audience
Ont *abbr* Ontario
ont- *or* **onto-** *comb form* [NL, fr. LGk, fr. Gk *ont-, ōn,* prp. of *einai* to be — more at IS] **1** : being : existence ⟨*ont*ology⟩ **2** : organism ⟨*onto*geny⟩
-ont \ˌänt\ *n comb form* [Gk *ont-, ōn,* prp.] : cell : organism ⟨diplo*nt*⟩
on–the–job *adj* : of or relating to something (as training or experience) learned, gained, or done while working at a job and often under supervision
on–the–scene *adj* : being at the place of an action or occurrence ⟨an ~ witness⟩
on·tic \'änt-ik\ *adj* : of, relating to, or having real being — **on·ti·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
[1]on·to \ˌȯn-tə(-w), ˌän-; 'ȯn-(ˌ)tü, 'än-\ *prep* **1** : to a position on **2** : in or into a state of awareness about ⟨put me ~ your methods⟩ **3** — used as a function word to indicate a set each element of which is the image of at least one element of another set ⟨a function mapping the set *S* ~ the set *T*⟩
[2]on·to \'ȯn-(ˌ)tü, 'än-\ *adj* : mapping in such a way that every element in one set is the image of at least one element in another set ⟨a function that is one-to-one and ~⟩
on·to·gen·e·sis \ˌänt-ə-'jen-ə-səs\ *n* [NL] : ONTOGENY
on·to·ge·net·ic \-jə-'net-ik\ *adj* [ISV] **1** : of, relating to, or appearing in the course of ontogeny **2** : based on visible morphological characters — **on·to·ge·net·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
on·tog·e·ny \än-'täj-ə-nē\ *n* [ISV] : the development or course of development of an individual organism
on·to·log·i·cal \ˌänt-ᵊl-'äj-i-kəl\ *adj* **1** : of or relating to ontology **2** : relating to or based upon being or existence — **on·to·log·i·cal·ly** \-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
ontological argument *n* : an argument for the existence of God based upon the meaning of the term *God*
on·tol·o·gy \än-'täl-ə-jē\ *n* [NL *ontologia,* fr. *ont-* + *-logia* -logy] **1** : a branch of metaphysics concerned with the nature and relations of being **2** : a particular theory about the nature of being or the kinds of existents — **on·tol·o·gist** \-jəst\ *n*
onus \'ō-nəs\ *n* **1** [L — more at ONEROUS] **a** : BURDEN **b** : a disagreeable necessity : OBLIGATION **c** : BLAME **d** : STIGMA **2** [NL] : BURDEN OF PROOF
[1]on·ward \'ȯn-wərd, 'än-\ *also* **on·wards** \-wərdz\ *adv* : toward or at a point lying ahead in space or time : FORWARD
[2]onward *adj* : directed or moving onward : FORWARD
on·y·choph·o·ran \ˌän-i-'käf-ə-rən\ *n* [NL *Onychophora,* group name, fr. Gk *onych-, onyx* claw + *-phoros* -phore] : PERIPATUS — **onychophoran** *adj*
-onym \ə-ˌnim\ *n comb form* [ME, fr. L *-onymum,* fr. Gk *-ōnymon,* fr. *onyma* — more at NAME] : name : word ⟨ant*onym*⟩
on·yx \'än-iks\ *n* [ME *onix,* fr. OF & L; OF, fr. L *onych-, onyx,* fr. Gk, lit., claw, nail — more at NAIL] : a translucent chalcedony in parallel layers of different colors
oo- — see O-
OOB \ˌō-ˌō-'bē\ *n* : OFF-OFF-BROADWAY
oo·cyst \'ō-ə-ˌsist\ *n* [ISV] : ZYGOTE; *specif* : a sporozoan zygote undergoing sporogenous development
oo·cyte \'ō-ə-ˌsīt\ *n* [ISV] : an egg before maturation : a female gametocyte
oo·dles \'üd-ᵊlz\ *also* **ood·lins** \'üd-lənz\ *n pl but sing or pl in constr* [perh. alter. of [2]*huddle*] : a great quantity : LOT
oo·ga·mete \ˌō-ə-gə-'mēt, -'gam-ˌēt\ *n* : a female gamete; *specif* : a relatively large nonmotile gamete containing reserve material
oog·a·mous \ō-'äg-ə-məs\ *adj* : having or involving a small motile male gamete and a large immobile female gamete — **oog·a·my** \-mē\ *n*
O O gauge \ˌdəb-ə-'lō-\ *n* : a gauge of track in model railroading in which the rails are approximately ³/₄ inch apart
oo·gen·e·sis \ˌō-ə-'jen-ə-səs\ *n* [NL] : formation and maturation of the egg — **oo·ge·net·ic** \-jə-'net-ik\ *adj*
oo·go·ni·um \ˌō-ə-'gō-nē-əm\ *n* [NL] **1** : a female sexual organ in various algae and fungi that corresponds to the archegonium of ferns and mosses **2** : a descendant of a primordial germ cell that gives rise to oocytes — **oo·go·ni·al** \-nē-əl\ *adj*
[1]ooh \'ü\ *interj* — used to express amazement, joy, or surprise
[2]ooh *vi* : to exclaim in amazement, joy, or surprise ⟨one finds oneself *~ing* and aahing over the exciting new TV commercials — Walter Goodman⟩ — **ooh** *n*
oo·lite \'ō-ə-ˌlīt\ *n* [prob. fr. F *oolithe,* fr. *o-* + *-lithe* -lite] : a rock consisting of small round grains usu. of calcium carbonate cemented together — **oo·lit·ic** \ˌō-ə-'lit-ik\ *adj*
ool·o·gist \ō-'äl-ə-jəst\ *n* **1** : one specializing in oology **2** : a collector of birds' eggs
ool·o·gy \-jē\ *n* : a branch of ornithology dealing with birds' eggs — **oo·log·i·cal** \ˌō-ə-'läj-i-kəl\ *also* **oo·log·ic** \-ik\ *adj* — **oo·log·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
oo·long \'ü-ˌlȯŋ\ *n* [Chin (Pek) *wu*[1] *lung*[2], lit., black dragon] : a tea that combines the characteristics of black and green teas due to the leaf's being partially fermented before drying
oo·mi·ak *also* **oo·mi·ack** *var of* UMIAK
oomph \'ùm(p)f\ *n* [perh. imit. of an appreciative sound uttered by a man at the sight of an attractive woman] **1** : personal charm or magnetism : GLAMOUR **2** : SEX APPEAL **3** : VITALITY
oops \'(w)ù(ə)ps\ *interj* — used typically to express mild apology, surprise, or dismay
oo·sperm \'ō-ə-ˌspərm\ *n* : ZYGOTE, OOSPORE
oo·sphere \-ˌsfi(ə)r\ *n* [ISV] : OVUM — used esp. of lower plants
oo·spore \-ˌspō(ə)r, -ˌspȯ(ə)r\ *n* [ISV] : ZYGOTE; *esp* : a spore produced by heterogamous fertilization that yields a sporophyte
oo·the·ca \ˌō-ə-'thē-kə\ *n, pl* **oo·the·cae** \-'thē-(ˌ)kē, -(ˌ)sē\ [NL] : a firm-walled and distinctive egg case (as of a cockroach) — **oo·the·cal** \-'thē-kəl\ *adj*
oo·tid \'ō-ə-ˌtid\ *n* [irreg. fr. *o-* + *-id*] : an egg cell after meiosis
[1]ooze \'üz\ *n* [ME *wose,* fr. OE *wāse* mire; akin to L *virus* slime — more at VIRUS] **1** : a soft deposit (as of mud, slime, or shells) on the bottom of a body of water **2** : a piece of soft wet plastic ground (as a marsh or bog)
[2]ooze *n* [ME *wose* sap, juice, fr. OE *wōs;* akin to OHG *waso* damp, Gk *hearon* ewer] **1** : a decoction of vegetable material used for tanning leather **2** : the act of oozing **3** : something that oozes
[3]ooze *vb* **oozed; ooz·ing** *vi* **1** : to pass or flow slowly through or as if through small openings or interstices **2** : to move slowly or imperceptibly ⟨the crowd began to ~ forward —Bruce Marshall⟩ **3 a** : to exude moisture **b** : to exude something in a way suggestive of the emitting of moisture ⟨a woman *oozing* with charm⟩ ~ *vt* **1** : to emit or give out slowly **2** : to exude or give off in a way suggestive of the emitting of moisture
ooze leather *n* : leather that is usu. made from calfskins by a vegetable tanning process and has a soft suede finish on the flesh side
oozy \'ü-zē\ *adj* **ooz·i·er; -est** **1** : containing or composed of ooze : resembling ooze **2** : exuding moisture : SLIMY
[1]op \'äp\ *n* : OPTICAL ART
[2]op *abbr* opus
OP *abbr* **1** observation post **2** Order of Preachers **3** out of print
OPA *abbr* Office of Price Administration
opac·i·ty \ō-'pas-ət-ē\ *n, pl* **-ties** [F *opacité* shadiness, fr. L *opacitat-, opacitas,* fr. *opacus* shaded, dark] **1** : the quality or state of a body that makes it impervious to the rays of light; *broadly* : the relative capacity of matter to obstruct the transmission of radiant energy **2 a** : obscurity of sense : UNINTELLIGIBLENESS ⟨obscurity which on a third reading deepens to ~ —Ellery Sedgwick⟩ **b** : the quality or state of being mentally obtuse : DULLNESS **3** : an opaque spot on a normally transparent structure (as the lens of the eye)
opah \'ō-pə, -ˌpä\ *n* [Ibo *úbà*] : a large elliptical marine fish (*Lampris regius*) with brilliant colors and rich oily red flesh
opal \'ō-pəl\ *n* [L *opalus,* fr. Skt *upala* stone, jewel] : a mineral $SiO_2.nH_2O$ that is a hydrated amorphous silica softer and less dense than quartz and typically with definite and often marked iridescent play of colors
opal·es·cent \ˌō-pə-'les-ᵊnt\ *adj* : reflecting an iridescent light — **opal·es·cence** \-ᵊn(t)s\ *n*
opal·ine \'ō-pə-ˌlīn, -ˌlēn\ *adj* : resembling opal esp. in appearance
[1]opaque \ō-'pāk\ *adj* [L *opacus*] **1** : exhibiting opacity : not pervious to radiant energy and esp. light **2 a** : hard to understand or explain **b** : OBTUSE, STUPID — **opaque·ly** *adv* — **opaque·ness** *n*
[2]opaque *n* : something that is opaque; *esp* : an opaque paint for blocking out portions of a photographic negative or print
opaque projector *n* : a projector using reflected light for projecting an image of an opaque object or matter on an opaque support (as a photograph)
op art \'äp-\ *n* : OPTICAL ART — **op artist** *n*
op cit *abbr* [L *opere citato*] in the work cited
ope \'ōp\ *vb* **oped; op·ing** *archaic* : OPEN
OPEC \'ō-ˌpek\ *abbr* Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries
op ed \'äp-'ed\ *n* [short for *opposite editorial*] : a page of special features usu. opposite the editorial page of a newspaper
[1]open \'ō-pən, 'ōp-ᵊm\ *adj* **open·er** \'ōp-(ə-)nər\; **open·est** \'ōp-(ə-)nəst\ [ME, fr. OE; akin to OHG *offan* open; both fr. a prehistoric NGmc-WGmc word akin to OE *ūp* up] **1** : having no enclosing or confining barrier : accessible on all or nearly all sides ⟨cattle grazing on an ~ range⟩ **2 a** (1) : being in a position or adjustment to permit passage : not shut or locked ⟨an ~ door⟩ (2) : having a barrier (as a door) so adjusted as to allow passage ⟨the house was ~⟩ **b** : having the lips parted ⟨stood there with his mouth wide ~⟩ **3 a** : completely free from concealment : exposed to general view or knowledge ⟨their hostilities eventually erupted with ~ war⟩ **b** : exposed or vulnerable to attack or question : SUBJECT ⟨~ to doubt⟩ **4 a** : not covered with a top, roof, or lid ⟨an ~ car⟩ ⟨her eyes were ~⟩ **b** : having no protective covering ⟨~ wiring⟩ ⟨an ~ wound⟩ **5** : not restricted to a particular group or category of participants ⟨~ to the public⟩ ⟨~ housing⟩: as **a** : enterable by both amateur and professional contestants **b** : enterable by a registered voter regardless of political affiliation ⟨in the ~ primary a Democrat could nominate Republican candidates —H. U. Faulkner & Tyler Kepner⟩ **6** : fit to be traveled over : presenting no obstacle to passage or view ⟨the ~ road⟩ ⟨~ country⟩ **7** : having the parts or surfaces laid out in an expanded position : spread out : UNFOLDED ⟨an ~ book⟩ **8 a** (1) : LOW 13 (2) : formed with the tongue in a lower position ⟨Italian has an ~ and a close *e*⟩ **b** (1) : having clarity and resonance unimpaired by undue tension or constriction of the throat ⟨an ~ vocal tone⟩ (2) *of a tone* : produced by an open string or on a wind instrument by the lip without the use of slides, valves, or keys **9 a** : available to follow or make use of ⟨the only course ~ to us⟩ **b** : not taken up with duties or engagements ⟨keep an hour ~ on Friday⟩ **c** : not finally decided : subject to further consideration ⟨leave the matter ~⟩ ⟨an ~ question⟩ **d** : available for a qualified applicant : VACANT ⟨the job is still ~⟩ **e** : remaining available for use or filling until canceled ⟨an ~ order for more items⟩ **f** : available for future purchase ⟨these items are in ~ stock⟩ ⟨an ~ pattern⟩ **10 a** : characterized by ready accessibility and usu. generous attitude: as (1) : generous in giving (2) : willing to hear and consider or to accept and deal with : RESPONSIVE (3) : free from reserve or pretense : candidly and often artlessly frank **b** : accessible to the influx of new factors (as foreign goods) ⟨an ~ market⟩ **11 a** : having openings, interruptions, or spaces: as (1) : being porous and friable ⟨~ soil⟩ (2) : sparsely distributed : SCATTERED ⟨~ population⟩ (3) : having relatively wide spacing between words or lines ⟨~ type⟩ (4) *of a compound* : having components separated by a space in writing or printing ⟨*Spanish mackerel* is an ~ compound⟩ **b** : not made up of a continuous closed circuit of channels ⟨the insect circulatory system is ~⟩ **12 a** *of an organ pipe* : not stopped at the top **b** *of a string on a musical instrument* : not stopped by the finger **13** : being in operation ⟨the microphone is ~⟩; *esp* : ready for business, patronage, or use ⟨the store is ~ from 9 to 5⟩ ⟨the new highway will be ~ next week⟩ **14 a** (1) : characterized by lack of effective regulation of various commercial enterprises ⟨notorious as an ~ town⟩ (2) : not re-

pressed by legal controls ⟨~ gambling⟩ **b** : free from checking or hampering restraints ⟨an ~ economy⟩ ⟨faced with ~ inflation⟩ **c** : relatively unguarded by opponents ⟨passed to an ~ teammate⟩ **15** : having been opened by a first ante, bet, or bid ⟨the bidding is ~⟩ **16** *of punctuation* : characterized by sparing use esp. of the comma **17 a** : containing none of its endpoints ⟨an ~ interval⟩ **b** : being a set each point of which has a neighborhood all of whose points are contained in the set ⟨the interior of a sphere is an ~ set⟩ ***syn*** see FRANK ***ant*** close, closemouthed — **open** *adv* — **open·ly** \'ō-pən-lē\ *adv* — **open·ness** \-pən-nəs\ *n*

²open \'ō-pən, 'ōp-ᵊm\ *vb* **opened** \'ō-pənd, 'ōp-ᵊmd\; **open·ing** \'ōp-(ə-)niŋ\; **opens** \'ō-pənz, 'ōp-ᵊmz\ *vt* **1 a** : to move (as a door) from closed position **b** : to make available for entry or passage by turning back (as a barrier), removing (as a cover), or clearing away (as an obstruction) **2 a** : to make available for or active in a regular function ⟨~ a new store⟩ **b** : to make accessible for a particular purpose ⟨~*ed* new land for settlement⟩ **3 a** : to disclose or expose to view : REVEAL **b** : to make more discerning or responsive : ENLIGHTEN ⟨must ~ our minds to the needs of minorities⟩ **c** : to bring into view or come in sight of by changing position **4 a** : to make one or more openings in ⟨~*ed* the boil⟩ **b** : to loosen and make less compact ⟨~ the soil⟩ **5** : to spread out : UNFOLD ⟨~*ed* the book⟩ **6 a** : to enter upon : BEGIN ⟨~*ed* the meeting⟩ **b** : to commence action in a card game by making (a first bid), putting a first bet in (the pot), or playing (a card or suit) as first lead **7** : to restore or recall (as an order) from a finally determined state to a state in which the parties are free to prosecute or oppose ~ *vi* **1** : to become open ⟨the office ~*ed* early⟩ **2 a** : to spread out : EXPAND ⟨the wound ~*ed* under the strain⟩ **b** : to become disclosed ⟨his grief ~*ed* then and he wept on his daughter's shoulder —Lorene Forshee⟩ **3** : to become enlightened or responsive **4** : to give access ⟨the rooms ~ onto a hall⟩ **5** : to speak out ⟨finally he ~*ed* freely on the subject⟩ **6 a** : to begin a course or activity ⟨the play ~*s* on Tuesday⟩ **b** : to make a bet, bid, or lead in commencing a round or hand of a card game — **open·abil·i·ty** \ˌōp-(ə-)nə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* — **open·able** \'ōp-(ə-)nə-bəl\ *adj*

³open *n* **1** : OPENING **2** : open and unobstructed space: as **a** : OPEN AIR **b** : open water **3** : an open contest, competition, or tournament

open–air *adj* : OUTDOOR

open air *n* : the space where air is unconfined; *esp* : OUTDOORS

open–and–shut \ˌōp-(ə-)nən-'shət\ *adj* **1** : perfectly simple : OBVIOUS **2** : easily settled ⟨an ~ case⟩

open chain *n* : an arrangement of atoms represented in a structural formula by a chain whose ends are not joined so as to form a ring

open–circuit *adj* : of or relating to an open circuit; *esp* : being or relating to television in which programs are broadcast so that they are available to all receivers within range

open city *n* : a city that is not occupied or defended by military forces and that is immune from enemy bombardment under international law

open couplet *n* : a rhymed couplet in which the sense is incomplete

open door *n* **1** : a recognized right of admittance : freedom of access **2** : a policy giving opportunity for commercial relations with a country to all nations on equal terms — **open–door** *adj*

open–end *adj* : organized to allow for contingencies: as **a** : permitting additional debt to be incurred under the original indenture subject to specified conditions ⟨an ~ mortgage⟩ **b** : having a fluctuating capitalization of shares that are issued or redeemed at the current net asset value or at a figure in fixed ratio to this ⟨an ~ investment company⟩ — compare CLOSED-END

open–end·ed \ˌō-pə-'nen-dəd\ *adj* : not rigorously fixed: as **a** : adaptable to the developing needs of a situation **b** : permitting or designed to permit spontaneous and unguided responses

open·er \'ōp-(ə-)nər\ *n* : one that opens ⟨a bottle ~⟩: as **a** *archaic* : an aperient substance **b** *pl* : cards of sufficient value for a player to open the betting in a poker game **c** : the first item, contest, or event of a series **d** *pl* : START, BEGINNING

open–eyed \ˌō-pə-'nīd\ *adj* **1** : having the eyes open **2** : WATCHFUL, DISCERNING

open·hand·ed \ˌō-pən-'han-dəd\ *adj* : generous in giving : MUNIFICENT — **open·hand·ed·ly** *adv* — **open·hand·ed·ness** *n*

open–heart *adj* : of, relating to, or performed on a heart temporarily relieved of circulatory function and surgically opened for inspection and treatment ⟨~ surgery⟩

open·heart·ed \ˌō-pən-'härt-əd\ *adj* : candidly straightforward : FRANK — **open·heart·ed·ly** *adv* — **open·heart·ed·ness** *n*

open–hearth *adj* : of, relating to, involving, or produced by an open hearth ⟨~ steel⟩

open–hearth process *n* : a process of making steel from pig iron in a furnace of the regenerative reverberatory type

open house *n* : ready and usu. informal hospitality or entertainment for all comers

open·ing \'ōp-(ə-)niŋ\ *n* **1 a** : an act or instance of making or becoming open **b** : an act or instance of beginning : COMMENCEMENT; *esp* : a formal and usu. public event by which something new is put officially into operation **2** : something that is open: as **a** (1) : BREACH, APERTURE (2) : an open width : SPAN **b** : an area without trees or with scattered usu. mature trees that occurs as a break in a forest **c** : two pages that face one another in a book **3** : something that constitutes a beginning: as **a** : a planned series of moves made at the beginning of a game of chess or checkers — compare END GAME, MIDDLE GAME **b** : a first performance **4 a** : OCCASION, CHANCE **b** : an opportunity for employment

open letter *n* : a letter of protest or appeal usu. addressed to an individual but intended for the general public and printed in a newspaper or periodical

open loop *n* : a control system for an operation or process in which there is no self-correcting action as there is in a closed loop

open–mind·ed \ˌō-pən-'mīn-dəd\ *adj* : receptive to arguments or ideas : UNPREJUDICED — **open–mind·ed·ly** *adv* — **open–mind·ed·ness** *n*

open·mouthed \ˌō-pən-'maůthd, -'maůtht\ *adj* **1** : having the mouth widely open **2** : struck with amazement or wonder **3** : CLAMOROUS, VOCIFEROUS — **open·mouth·ed·ly** \-'maů-thəd-lē, -thəd-\ *adv* — **open·mouth·ed·ness** \-'maů-thəd-nəs, -thəd-\ *n*

open order *n* : a military formation in which the units are separated by considerable intervals

open–pol·li·nat·ed \ˌō-pən-'päl-ə-ˌnāt-əd\ *adj* : pollinated by natural agencies without human intervention

open season *n* : a period during which it is legal to kill or catch game or fish protected at other times by law

open secret *n* : an ostensibly secret but generally known matter

open sentence *n* : a statement (as in mathematics) that contains at least one blank or unknown and that becomes true or false when the blank is filled or a quantity is substituted for the unknown

open ses·a·me \-'ses-ə-mē\ *n* [fr. *open sesame*, the magical command used by Ali Baba to open the door of the robbers' den in *Ali Baba and the Forty Thieves*] : something that unfailingly brings about a desired end

open shop *n* : an establishment in which eligibility for employment and retention on the payroll are not determined by membership or nonmembership in a labor union though there may be an agreement by which a union is recognized as sole bargaining agent

open sight *n* : a firearm rear sight having an open notch instead of a peephole or a telescope

open stance *n* : a preparatory position (as in baseball batting or golf) in which the forward foot (as the left foot of a right-handed person) is farther from the line of play than the back foot — compare CLOSED STANCE

open syllable *n* : a syllable ended by a vowel or diphthong

open up *vi* **1** : to commence firing **2** : to become communicative ⟨*open up* and tell these guys what they want to know —*Sat. Eve. Post*⟩ **3** : to spread out or come into view ⟨the road *opens up* ahead⟩ **4** : to turn toward an audience or a camera ~ *vt* **1** : to open by cutting into **2** : to make plain or visible : DISCLOSE **3** : to make available

open·work \'ō-pən-ˌwərk\ *n* : work constructed so as to show openings through its substance : work that is perforated or pierced ⟨wrought-iron ~⟩ — **open–worked** \-ˌwərkt\ *adj*

¹opera *pl of* OPUS

²op·era \'äp-(ə-)rə, *South also* 'äp-rē\ *n* [It, work, opera, fr. L, work, pains; akin to L *oper-, opus*] **1** : a drama set to music and made up of vocal pieces with orchestral accompaniment and orchestral overtures and interludes; *specif* : GRAND OPERA **2** : the score of a musical drama **3** : the performance of an opera; *also* : a house where operas are performed — **op·er·at·ic** \ˌäp-ə-'rat-ik\ *adj* — **op·er·at·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

op·er·a·ble \'äp-(ə-)rə-bəl\ *adj* **1** : fit, possible, or desirable to use : PRACTICABLE **2** : suitable for surgical treatment ⟨an ~ cancer⟩ — **op·er·a·bil·i·ty** \ˌäp-(ə-)rə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* — **op·er·a·bly** \'äp-ə-rə-blē\ *adv*

opé·ra bouffe \ˌäp-(ə-)rə-'büf\ *n* [F, fr. It *opera buffa*] : satirical comic opera

op·era buf·fa \ˌäp-(ə-)rə-'bü-fə\ *n* [It, lit., comic opera] : an 18th century farcical comic opera with dialogue in recitative

opé·ra co·mique \ˌäp-(ə-)rə-käm-'ēk, -kō-'mēk\ *n* [F] : COMIC OPERA

opera glass *n* : a small binocular optical instrument that is similar to the field glass and suitable for use at the opera or theater — often used in pl.

op·era·go·er \'äp-(ə-)rə-ˌgō(-ə)r\ *n* : a person who frequently goes to operas

opera hat *n* : a man's collapsible top hat consisting usu. of a dull silky fabric stretched over a steel frame

opera house *n* : a theater devoted principally to the performance of operas; *broadly* : THEATER

op·er·and \ˌäp-ə-'rand\ *n* [L *operandum*, neut. of gerundive of *operarī*] : something (as a quantity or data) that is operated on (as in a mathematical operation); *also* : the address in a computer instruction of data to be operated on

¹op·er·ant \'äp-ə-rənt\ *adj* **1** : functioning or tending to produce effects : EFFECTIVE ⟨an ~ conscience⟩ **2** : of or relating to the observable or measurable **3** : of, relating to, or being an operant ⟨~ conditioning⟩ ⟨~ behavior⟩ — **op·er·ant·ly** *adv*

²operant *n* : behavior or responses (as bar pressing by a rat to obtain food) that operate on the environment to produce rewarding and reinforcing effects

op·era se·ria \ˌäp-ə-rə-'ser-ē-ə, -'sir-\ *n* [It, lit., serious opera] : an 18th century opera with a heroic or legendary subject

op·er·ate \'äp-(ə-)ˌrāt\ *vb* **-at·ed; -at·ing** [L *operatus*, pp. of *operari* to work, fr. *oper-, opus* work; akin to OE *efnan* to perform, Skt *apas* work] *vi* **1** : to perform a function : exert power or influence ⟨factors *operating* against our success⟩ **2** : to produce an appropriate effect ⟨the drug *operated* quickly⟩ **3 a** : to perform an operation or a series of operations **b** : to perform surgery **c** : to carry on a military or naval action or mission **4** : to follow a course of conduct that is often irregular ⟨crooked gamblers *operating* in the club⟩ ~ *vt* **1** : to bring about : EFFECT **2 a** : to cause to function : WORK **b** : to put or keep in operation **3** : to perform an operation on; *esp* : to perform surgery on

op·er·at·ing \'äp-(ə-)ˌrāt-iŋ\ *adj* : of, relating to, or used for or in operations ⟨~ expenses⟩ ⟨a hospital ~ room⟩

operating system *n* : software that supports or complements the hardware of a computer system (as by keeping track of the different programs in multiprogramming)

op·er·a·tion \ˌäp-ə-'rā-shən\ *n* **1** : performance of a practical work or of something involving the practical application of princi-

ples or processes **2 a :** an exertion of power or influence ⟨the ~ of a drug⟩ **b :** the quality or state of being functional or operative ⟨the plant is now in ~⟩ **c :** a method or manner of functioning ⟨a machine of very simple ~⟩ **3 :** EFFICACY, POTENCY — archaic except in legal usage **4 :** a procedure carried out on a living body usu. with instruments esp. for the repair of damage or the restoration of health **5 :** any of various mathematical or logical processes (as addition) of deriving one expression from others according to a rule **6 a :** a usu. military action, mission, or maneuver including its planning and execution **b** *pl* **:** the office on the flight line of an airfield where pilots file clearance for flights and where flying from the field is controlled **c** *pl* **:** the agency of an organization charged with carrying on the principal planning and operating functions of a headquarters and its subordinate units **7 :** a business transaction esp. when speculative **8 :** a single step performed by a computer in the execution of a program

op·er·a·tion·al \-shnəl, -shən-ᵊl\ *adj* **1 :** of or relating to operation or to an operation ⟨the ~ gap between planning and production⟩ **2 :** of, relating to, or based on operations **3 a :** of, engaged in, or connected with execution of military or naval operations in campaign or battle **b :** ready for or in condition to undertake a destined function — **op·er·a·tion·al·ly** \-ē\ *adv*

op·er·a·tion·al·ism \-ˌiz-əm\ *n* **:** a view that the concepts or terms used in nonanalytic scientific statements must be definable in terms of identifiable and repeatable operations — **op·er·a·tion·al·ist** \-əst\ *n* — **op·er·a·tion·al·is·tic** \-ˌrā-shnəl-ˈis-tik, -shən-ᵊl-\ *adj*

op·er·a·tion·ism \ˌäp-ə-ˈrā-shə-ˌniz-əm\ *n* **:** OPERATIONALISM — **op·er·a·tion·ist** \-sh(ə-)nəst\ *n*

operations research *n* **:** the application of scientific and esp. mathematical methods to the study and analysis of problems involving complex systems (as firm management, economic planning, and the waging of war)

¹op·er·a·tive \ˈäp-(ə-)rət-iv, ˈäp-ə-ˌrāt-\ *adj* **1 :** producing an appropriate effect **:** EFFICACIOUS **2 :** exerting force or influence **:** OPERATING **3 a :** having to do with physical operations (as of machines) **b :** WORKING ⟨an ~ craftsman⟩ **4 :** based upon or consisting of an operation ⟨~ dentistry⟩ — **op·er·a·tive·ly** *adv* — **op·er·a·tive·ness** *n*

²operative *n* **:** OPERATOR: as **a :** ARTISAN, MECHANIC **b :** a secret agent **c :** PRIVATE DETECTIVE

op·er·a·tor \ˈäp-(ə-)ˌrāt-ər\ *n* **1 :** one that operates: as **a :** one that operates a machine or device **b :** one that operates a business **c :** one that performs surgical operations **d :** one that deals in stocks or commodities **2 a :** MOUNTEBANK, FRAUD **b :** a shrewd and skillful person who knows how to circumvent restrictions or difficulties **3 a :** a mathematical or logical symbol denoting an operation to be performed **b :** a mathematical function **4 :** a chromosomal region that triggers formation of messenger RNA by one or more nearby structural genes and is itself subject to inhibition by a genetic repressor — called also *operator gene;* compare OPERON

¹oper·cu·lar \ō-ˈpər-kyə-lər\ *adj* **:** of, relating to, or constituting an operculum

²opercular *n* **:** an opercular part (as a bone or scale)

oper·cu·late \ō-ˈpər-kyə-lət\ *also* **oper·cu·lat·ed** \-ˌlāt-əd\ *adj* **:** having an operculum

oper·cu·lum \ō-ˈpər-kyə-ləm\ *n, pl* **-la** \-lə\ *also* **-lums** [NL, fr. L, cover, fr. *operire* to shut, cover — more at WEIR] **1 :** a lid or covering flap (as of a moss capsule or a pyxidium in a seed plant) **2 :** a body process or part that suggests a lid: as **a :** a horny or shelly plate on the posterior dorsal surface of the foot in many gastropod mollusks that closes the shell when the animal is retracted **b :** the covering of the gills of a fish — see FISH illustration

op·er·et·ta \ˌäp-ə-ˈret-ə\ *n* [It, dim. of *opera*] **:** a usu. romantic comic opera that includes songs and dancing — **op·er·et·tist** \-ˈret-əst\ *n*

op·er·on \ˈäp-ə-ˌrän\ *n* [*oper*ator + ²*-on*] **:** the closely linked combination of an operator and the structural genes it regulates

op·er·ose \ˈäp-ə-ˌrōs\ *adj* [L *operosus*, fr. *oper-*, *opus* work — more at OPERATE] **:** TEDIOUS, WEARISOME — **op·er·ose·ly** *adv* — **op·er·ose·ness** *n*

Ophe·lia \ō-ˈfēl-yə\ *n* **:** the daughter of Polonius in Shakespeare's *Hamlet*

ophid·i·an \ō-ˈfid-ē-ən\ *adj* [deriv. of Gk *ophis*] **:** of, relating to, or resembling snakes — **ophidian** *n*

ophi·ol·o·gy \ˌō-fē-ˈäl-ə-jē, ˌäf-ē-\ *n* [Gk *ophis* + E *-logy*] **:** a branch of herpetology dealing with snakes

ophi·oph·a·gous \ˌō-fē-ˈäf-ə-gəs, ˌäf-ē-\ *adj* [Gk *ophiophagos*, fr. *ophis* + *-phagos* -phagous] **:** feeding on snakes

Ophir \ˈō-fər\ *n* [Heb *Ōphīr*] **:** a biblical land of uncertain location but reputedly rich in gold

ophite \ˈäf-ˌīt, ˈō-ˌfīt\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *ophitēs* (*lithos*), lit., serpentine (stone), fr. *ophitēs* snakelike, fr. *ophis* snake; akin to L *anguis* snake, *anguilla* eel, Gk *enchelys* eel, *echidna* viper, *echinos* hedgehog, OE *igil*] **:** any of various usu. green and often mottled or blotched rocks

ophit·ic \ä-ˈfit-ik, ō-\ *adj* **:** having or being a rock fabric in which lath-shaped plagioclase crystals are enclosed in later formed augite

ophi·u·roid \ˌō-fē-ˈyu̇(ə)r-ˌȯid, ˌäf-ē-\ *n* [NL *Ophiuroidea*, group name, fr. *Ophiura*, genus name, fr. Gk *ophis* + *oura* tail — more at SQUIRREL] **:** BRITTLE STAR — **ophiuroid** *adj*

ophthalm- *or* **ophthalmo-** *comb form* [Gk, fr. *ophthalmos*] **:** eye ⟨*ophthalmo*logy⟩ **:** eyeball ⟨*ophthalm*itis⟩

oph·thal·mia \äf-ˈthal-mē-ə, äp-\ *n* [ME *obtalmia*, fr. LL *ophthalmia*, fr. Gk, fr. *ophthalmos* eye; akin to Gk *ōps* eye — more at EYE] **:** inflammation of the conjunctiva or the eyeball

oph·thal·mic \-mik\ *adj* **:** of, relating to, or situated near the eye

oph·thal·mol·o·gist \ˌäf-ˌthal-ˈmäl-ə-jəst, ˌäp-, -thə(l)-ˈmäl-\ *n* **:** a physician that specializes in ophthalmology — compare OPTICIAN, OPTOMETRIST

oph·thal·mol·o·gy \-ˈmäl-ə-jē\ *n* **:** a branch of medical science dealing with the structure, functions, and diseases of the eye — **oph·thal·mo·log·ic** \-mə-ˈläj-ik\ *adj* — **oph·thal·mo·log·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

oph·thal·mo·scope \äf-ˈthal-mə-ˌskōp, äp-\ *n* [ISV] **:** an instrument with a mirror centrally perforated for use in viewing the interior of the eye and esp. the retina — **oph·thal·mo·scop·ic** \(ˌ)äf-ˌthal-mə-ˈskäp-ik, (ˌ)äp-\ *or* **oph·thal·mo·scop·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj* — **oph·thal·mos·co·py** \ˌäf-ˌthal-ˈmäs-kə-pē, ˌäp-\ *n*

-opia \ˈō-pē-ə\ *n comb form* [NL, fr. Gk *-ōpia*, fr. *ōps*] **1 :** condition of having (such) vision ⟨diplo*pia*⟩ **2 :** condition of having (such) a visual defect ⟨hyper*opia*⟩

¹opi·ate \ˈō-pē-ət, -ˌāt\ *adj* **1 :** containing or mixed with opium **2 a :** inducing sleep **:** NARCOTIC **b :** causing dullness or inaction

²opiate *n* **1 :** a preparation or derivative of opium; *broadly* **:** NARCOTIC 1a **2 :** something that induces rest or inaction or quiets uneasiness

opine \ō-ˈpīn\ *vb* **opined; opin·ing** [MF *opiner*, fr. L *opinari* to have an opinion] *vt* **:** to state as an opinion ~ *vi* **:** to express opinions

opin·ion \ə-ˈpin-yən\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *opinion-*, *opinio;* akin to L *opinari*] **1 a :** a view, judgment, or appraisal formed in the mind about a particular matter **b :** APPROVAL, ESTEEM **2 a :** belief stronger than impression and less strong than positive knowledge **b :** a generally held view **3 a :** a formal expression by an expert of his judgment or advice **b :** the formal expression (as by a judge, court, or referee) of the legal reasons and principles upon which a legal decision is based

syn OPINION, VIEW, BELIEF, CONVICTION, PERSUASION, SENTIMENT *shared meaning element* **:** a judgment one holds to be true

opin·ion·at·ed \-yə-ˌnāt-əd\ *adj* **:** unduly adhering to one's own opinion or to preconceived notions — **opin·ion·at·ed·ly** *adv* — **opin·ion·at·ed·ness** *n*

opin·ion·ative \-ˌnāt-iv\ *adj* **1 :** of, relating to, or consisting of opinion **:** DOCTRINAL **2 :** OPINIONATED — **opin·ion·ative·ly** *adv* — **opin·ion·ative·ness** *n*

opis·tho·branch \ə-ˈpis-thə-ˌbraŋk\ *n, pl* **-branchs** [NL *Opisthobranchia*, group name, fr. Gk *opisthen* behind + *branchion* gill — more at BRANCHIA] **:** any of a large order (*Opisthobranchia*) of marine gastropod mollusks that have the gills when present posterior to the heart and have no operculum — **opisthobranch** *adj*

op·is·thog·na·thous \ˌäp-əs-ˈthäg-nə-thəs\ *adj* [Gk *opisthen* behind + E *-gnathous;* akin to Gk *epi-* on — more at EPI-] **1 :** having retreating jaws **2 :** having the mouthparts ventral and posterior to the cranium — used esp. of insects

opi·um \ˈō-pē-əm\ *n* [ME, fr. L, fr. Gk *opion*, fr. dim. of *opos* sap] **1 :** a bitter brownish addictive narcotic drug that consists of the dried juice of the opium poppy **2 :** something having an effect like that of opium **:** STUPEFIER

opium poppy *n* **:** an annual Eurasian poppy (*Papaver somniferum*) cultivated since antiquity as the source of opium, for its edible oily seeds, or for its showy flowers

opos·sum \(ə-)ˈpäs-əm\ *n, pl* **opossums** *also* **opossum** [fr. *âpäsûm*, lit., white animal (in some Algonquian language of Virginia)] **1 :** any of various American marsupials (family Didelphidae); *esp* **:** a common omnivorous largely nocturnal and arboreal mammal (*Didelphis virginiana*) of the eastern U.S. **2 :** any of several Australian phalangers



opossum 1

opp *abbr* opposite

¹op·po·nent \ə-ˈpō-nənt\ *n* [L *opponent-*, *opponens*, prp. of *opponere*] **1 :** one that takes an opposite position (as in a debate, contest, or conflict) **2 :** a muscle that opposes or counteracts and limits the action of another

syn OPPONENT, ANTAGONIST, ADVERSARY *shared meaning element* **:** one who expresses or manifests opposition

²opponent *adj* **1 :** ANTAGONISTIC, OPPOSING **2 :** situated in front

op·por·tune \ˌäp-ər-ˈt(y)ün\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF *opportun*, fr. L *opportunus*, fr. *ob-* toward + *portus* port, harbor — more at OB-] **1 :** suitable or convenient for a particular occurrence ⟨an ~ moment⟩ **2 :** occurring at an appropriate time ⟨an ~ offer of assistance⟩ ***syn*** see SEASONABLE ***ant*** inopportune — **op·por·tune·ly** *adv* — **op·por·tune·ness** \-ˈt(y)ün-nəs\ *n*

op·por·tun·ism \-ˈt(y)ü-ˌniz-əm\ *n* **:** the art, policy, or practice of taking advantage of opportunities or circumstances esp. with little regard for principles or consequences — **op·por·tun·ist** \-nəst\ *n or adj* — **op·por·tu·nis·tic** \-t(y)ü-ˈnis-tik\ *adj* — **op·por·tu·nis·ti·cal·ly** \-ti-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

op·por·tu·ni·ty \ˌäp-ər-ˈt(y)ü-nət-ē\ *n, pl* **-ties** **1 :** a favorable juncture of circumstances ⟨the halt provided an ~ for rest and refreshment⟩ **2 :** a good chance for advancement or progress

op·pos·able \ə-ˈpō-zə-bəl\ *adj* **1 :** capable of being opposed or resisted **2 :** capable of being placed against one or more of the remaining digits ⟨man's ~ thumb⟩ — **op·pos·abil·i·ty** \-ˌpō-zə-ˈbil-ət-ē\ *n*

op·pose \ə-ˈpōz\ *vt* **op·posed; op·pos·ing** [F *opposer*, fr. L *opponere* (perf. indic. *opposui*), fr. *ob-* against + *ponere* to place — more at OB-, POSITION] **1 :** to place opposite or against something **2 :** to place over against something so as to provide resistance, counterbalance, or contrast **3 :** to offer resistance to — **op·pos·er** *n*

syn OPPOSE, COMBAT, RESIST, WITHSTAND, ANTAGONIZE *shared meaning element* **:** to set oneself against someone or something

op·posed \-ˈpōzd\ *adj* **:** set or placed in opposition **:** CONTRARY

op·pose·less \ə-ˈpōz-ləs\ *adj* **:** IRRESISTIBLE

¹op·po·site \ˈäp-ə-zət, ˈäp-sət\ *n* **1 :** something that is opposed or contrary **2 :** ANTONYM

²opposite *adj* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *oppositus*, pp. of *opponere*] **1 a :** set over against something that is at the other end or side of an intervening line or space ⟨~ interior angles⟩ ⟨~ ends of a diameter⟩ **b :** situated in pairs on an axis each being separated from the other by half the circumference of the axis ⟨~ leaves⟩ — compare ALTERNATE **2 a :** occupying an opposing and often antagonistic

position ⟨~ sides of the question⟩ **b** : diametrically different (as in nature or character) ⟨~ meanings⟩ **3** : contrary to one another or to a thing specified : REVERSE ⟨gave them ~ directions⟩ **4** : being the other of a matching or contrasting pair : COMPLEMENTARY ⟨members of the ~ sex⟩ **5** : of, relating to, or being the side of a baseball field that is near the first base line for a right-handed batter and near the third base line for a left-handed batter ⟨hit a single to the ~ field⟩ — **op·po·site·ly** *adv* — **op·po·site·ness** *n*

syn OPPOSITE, CONTRADICTORY, CONTRARY, ANTITHETICAL *shared meaning element* : being so far apart as to be or seem irreconcilable. OPPOSITE, the inclusive term, may replace any of the others but finds its typical application in description of abstract things that stand in sharp contrast or complete antagonism ⟨held *opposite* views on the solution of the problem⟩ ⟨the boys went in *opposite* directions⟩ CONTRADICTORY applies to things that so completely negate each other that if one is true or valid the other must be false or invalid ⟨the suspects made *contradictory* statements to the police⟩ CONTRARY can imply extreme divergence (as of opinions or motives) or, especially as used in formal logic, diametrical opposition ⟨his conclusion was *contrary* to mine⟩ ⟨they drifted off in a *contrary* direction⟩ ANTITHETICAL stresses clear and unequivocal diametric opposition ⟨the essential interests of men and women are eternally *antithetical* —H. L. Mencken⟩

³opposite *adv* : on or to an opposite side

⁴opposite *prep* **1** : across from and usu. facing or on the same level with ⟨sat ~ each other⟩ **2** : in a role complementary to ⟨played ~ the leading man in the comedy⟩

opposite number *n* : a member of a system or class who holds relatively the same position as a particular member in a corresponding system or class ⟨union executives met with their *opposite numbers* in industry⟩

op·po·si·tion \ˌäp-ə-ˈzish-ən\ *n* **1** : a configuration in which one celestial body is opposite another in the sky or in which the elongation is near or equal to 180 degrees **2** : the relation between two propositions having the same subject and predicate but differing in quantity or quality or both **3** : an act of setting opposite or over against : the condition of being so set **4** : hostile or contrary action or condition **5 a** : something that opposes; *specif* : a body of persons opposing something **b** *often cap* : a political party opposing and prepared to replace the party in power — **op·po·si·tion·al** \-ˈzish-nəl, -ən-ᵊl\ *adj*

op·press \ə-ˈpres\ *vt* [ME *oppressen*, fr. MF *oppresser*, fr. L *oppressus*, pp. of *opprimere*, fr. *ob-* against + *premere* to press — more at OB-, PRESS] **1 a** *archaic* : SUPPRESS **b** : to crush or burden by abuse of power or authority **2** : to burden spiritually or mentally : weigh heavily upon — **op·pres·sor** \-ˈpres-ər\ *n*

op·pres·sion \ə-ˈpresh-ən\ *n* **1 a** : unjust or cruel exercise of authority or power **b** : something that oppresses esp. in being an unjust or excessive exercise of power **2** : a sense of being weighed down in body or mind : DEPRESSION

op·pres·sive \ə-ˈpres-iv\ *adj* **1** : unreasonably burdensome or severe ⟨~ legislation⟩ **2** : TYRANNICAL **3** : overwhelming or depressing to the spirit or senses ⟨an ~ climate⟩ ***syn*** see ONEROUS — **op·pres·sive·ly** *adv* — **op·pres·sive·ness** *n*

op·pro·bri·ous \ə-ˈprō-brē-əs\ *adj* **1** : expressive of opprobrium : SCURRILOUS ⟨~ language⟩ **2** : deserving of opprobrium : INFAMOUS — **op·pro·bri·ous·ly** *adv* — **op·pro·bri·ous·ness** *n*

op·pro·bri·um \-brē-əm\ *n* [L, fr. *opprobrare* to reproach, fr. *ob* in the way of + *probrum* reproach; akin to L *pro* forward and to L *ferre* to carry, bring — more at EPI-, FOR, BEAR] **1** : something that brings disgrace **2 a** : public disgrace or ill fame that follows from conduct considered grossly wrong or vicious : INFAMY **b** : CONTEMPT, REPROACH ***syn*** see DISGRACE

op·pugn \ə-ˈpyün, ä-\ *vt* [ME *oppugnen*, fr. L *oppugnare*, fr. *ob-* against + *pugnare* to fight — more at OB-, PUNGENT] **1** : to fight against : ASSAIL **2** : to call in question — **op·pugn·er** *n*

Ops \ˈäps\ *n* [L] : the Roman goddess of fertility and plenty and the wife of Saturn

op·sin \ˈäp-sən\ *n* [prob. back-formation fr. *rhodopsin*] : any of various colorless proteins that are formed with retinal by the action of light on a visual pigment (as rhodopsin)

-op·sis \ˈäp-səs\ *n comb form, pl* **-op·ses** \-ˌsēz\ *or* **-op·si·des** \-sə-ˌdēz\ [NL, fr. Gk, fr. *opsis* appearance, vision] : structure resembling a (specified) thing ⟨caryo*psis*⟩

op·son·ic \äp-ˈsän-ik\ *adj* : of, relating to, or involving opsonin

op·so·nin \ˈäp-sə-nən\ *n* [L *opsonium* relish (fr. Gk *opsōnion* victuals, fr. *opsōnein* to purchase victuals) + E *-in* — more at OLIGOPSONY] : an antibody of blood serum that makes foreign cells more susceptible to the action of the phagocytes

-op·sy \ˌäp-sē, əp-\ *n comb form* [Gk *-opsia*, fr. *opsis*] : examination ⟨necro*psy*⟩

¹opt \ˈäpt\ *vi* [F *opter*, fr. L *optare* — more at OPTION] : to make a choice; *esp* : to decide in favor of something ⟨~*ed* for a tax increase —Tom Wicker⟩

²opt *abbr* **1** optical; optician; optics **2** optional

op·ta·tive \ˈäp-tət-iv\ *adj* **1 a** : of, relating to, or constituting a verbal mood that is expressive of wish or desire **b** : of, relating to, or constituting a sentence that is expressive of wish or hope **2** : expressing desire or wish — **optative** *n* — **op·ta·tive·ly** *adv*

¹op·tic \ˈäp-tik\ *adj* [MF *optique*, fr. ML *opticus*, fr. Gk *optikos*, fr. *opsesthai* to be going to see; akin to Gk *opsis* appearance, *ōps* eye — more at EYE] **1** : of or relating to vision or the eye **2** : dependent chiefly on vision for orientation

²optic *n* **1** : EYE **2** : any of the lenses, prisms, or mirrors of an optical instrument; *also* : an optical instrument

op·ti·cal \ˈäp-ti-kəl\ *adj* **1** : of or relating to the science of optics **2 a** : of or relating to vision : VISUAL ⟨an ~ illusion⟩ **b** : VISIBLE ⟨an ~ galaxy⟩ **c** : designed to aid vision ⟨an ~ instrument⟩ **3 a** : of, relating to, or utilizing light ⟨an ~ emission⟩ ⟨an ~ telescope⟩ ⟨~ microscopy⟩ **b** : involving the use of light-sensitive devices to acquire information for a computer ⟨~ character recognition⟩ **4** : of or relating to optical art — **op·ti·cal·ly** \-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

optical activity *n* : ability to rotate the plane of vibration of polarized light to the right or left

optical art *n* : nonobjective art characterized by the use of straight or curved lines or geometric patterns often for an illusory effect (as of motion)

optical bench *n* : an apparatus that is fitted for the convenient location and adjustment of light sources and optical devices and that is used for the observation and measurement of optical phenomena

optical glass *n* : flint or crown glass of well-defined characteristics used esp. for making lenses

optical illusion *n* : ILLUSION 2a(1)

optical rotation *n* : the angle through which the plane of vibration of polarized light that traverses an optically active substance is rotated

optic axis *n* : a line in a doubly refracting medium that is parallel to the direction in which all components of plane-polarized light travel with the same speed

optic chiasma *n* [NL *chiasma* X-shaped configuration — more at CHIASMA] : the X-shaped partial decussation on the undersurface of the hypothalamus through which the optic nerves are continuous with the brain — called also *optic chiasm*

optic disk *n* : the nearly circular light-colored area at the back of the retina where the optic nerve enters the eyeball

op·ti·cian \äp-ˈtish-ən\ *n* **1** : a maker of or dealer in optical items and instruments **2** : one that grinds spectacle lenses to prescription and dispenses spectacles — compare OPHTHALMOLOGIST, OPTOMETRIST

optic nerve *n* : either of the pair of nerves that comprise the second pair of cranial nerves, arise from the ventral part of the diencephalon, supply the retina, and conduct visual stimuli to the brain — see EYE illustration

op·tics \ˈäp-tiks\ *n pl but sing or pl in constr* **1** : a science that deals with the genesis and propagation of light, the changes that it undergoes and produces, and other phenomena closely associated with it **2** : optical properties

op·ti·mal \ˈäp-tə-məl\ *adj* : most desirable or satisfactory : OPTIMUM — **op·ti·mal·i·ty** \ˌäp-tə-ˈmal-ət-ē\ *n* — **op·ti·mal·ly** \-mə-lē\ *adv*

op·ti·mism \ˈäp-tə-ˌmiz-əm\ *n* [F *optimisme*, fr. L *optimum*, n., best, fr. neut. of *optimus* best; akin to L *ops* power — more at OPULENT] **1** : a doctrine that this world is the best possible world **2** : an inclination to put the most favorable construction upon actions and events or to anticipate the best possible outcome — **op·ti·mist** \-məst\ *n* — **optimist** *or* **op·ti·mis·tic** \ˌäp-tə-ˈmis-tik\ *or* **op·ti·mis·ti·cal** \-ti-kəl\ *adj* — **op·ti·mis·ti·cal·ly** \-ti-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

Op·ti·mist \ˈäp-tə-məst\ *n* [*Optimist* (*club*)] : a member of a major international service club

op·ti·mize \ˈäp-tə-ˌmīz\ *vt* **-mized; -miz·ing** : to make as perfect, effective, or functional as possible — **op·ti·mi·za·tion** \ˌäp-tə-mə-ˈzā-shən\ *n* — **op·ti·miz·er** \ˈäp-tə-ˌmī-zər\ *n*

op·ti·mum \ˈäp-tə-məm\ *n, pl* **-ma** \-mə\ *also* **-mums** [L] **1** : the amount or degree of something that is most favorable to some end; *esp* : the most favorable condition for the growth and reproduction of an organism **2** : greatest degree attained or attainable under implied or specified conditions — **optimum** *adj*

¹op·tion \ˈäp-shən\ *n* [F, fr. L *option-*, *optio* free choice; akin to L *optare* to choose, Gk epi*opsesthai* to be going to choose] **1** : an act of choosing **2 a** : the power or right to choose : freedom of choice **b** : a privilege of demanding fulfillment of a contract on any day within a specified time **c** : a contract conveying a right to buy or sell designated securities or commodities at a specified price during a stipulated period; *also* : the right conveyed by an option **d** : a right of an insured person to choose the form in which payments due him on a policy shall be made or applied **3** : something that may be chosen: as **a** : an alternative course of action ⟨didn't have many ~*s* open to him in choosing a career⟩ **b** : an item that is offered in addition to or in place of standard equipment ⟨a car that includes air-conditioning and a V-8 engine among its ~*s*⟩ **4** : an offensive football play in which a back may choose whether to pass or run with the ball — called also *option pass, option play* ***syn*** see CHOICE

²option *vt* : to grant or take an option on

op·tion·al \ˈäp-shnəl, -shən-ᵊl\ *adj* : involving an option : not compulsory — **op·tion·al·ly** \-ē\ *adv*

op·to·ki·net·ic \ˌäp-tō-kə-ˈnet-ik, -kī-\ *adj* [Gk *optos* + *kinetic*] : of, relating to, or involving movements of the eyes

op·tom·e·trist \äp-ˈtäm-ə-trəst\ *n* : a specialist in optometry — compare OPHTHALMOLOGIST, OPTICIAN

op·tom·e·try \-trē\ *n* [Gk *optos* (verbal of *opsesthai* to be going to see) + ISV *-metry* — more at OPTIC] : the art or profession of examining the eye for defects and faults of refraction and prescribing correctional lenses or exercises but not drugs or surgery — **op·to·met·ric** \ˌäp-tə-ˈme-trik\ *also* **op·to·met·ri·cal** \-tri-kəl\ *adj*

opt out *vi* : to choose not to participate in something — often used with *of* ⟨impossible for anybody to *opt out* of politics —Brian Crozier⟩

op·u·lence \ˈäp-yə-lən(t)s\ *n* **1** : WEALTH, AFFLUENCE **2** : ABUNDANCE, PROFUSION

op·u·lent \-lənt\ *adj* [L *opulentus*, fr. *ops* power, help; akin to L *opus* work] : exhibiting or characterized by opulence: as **a** : having a large estate or property : WEALTHY ⟨hoping to marry an ~ widow⟩ **b** : amply or plentifully provided or fashioned often to the point of ostentation ⟨living in ~ comfort⟩ ***syn*** **1** see RICH ***ant*** destitute, indigent **2** see LUXURIOUS — **op·u·lent·ly** *adv*

opun·tia \ō-ˈpən-ch(ē-)ə\ *n* [L, a plant, fr. fem. of *opuntius* of Opus, fr. *Opunt-*, *Opus* Opus, ancient city in Greece] : PRICKLY PEAR

opus \'ō-pəs\ *n, pl* **opera** \'ō-pə-rə, 'äp-ə-\ *also* **opus·es** \'ō-pə-səz\ [L *oper-, opus* — more at OPERATE] : WORK; *esp* : a musical composition or set of compositions usu. numbered in the order of its issue — abbr. *op*

opus·cule \ō-'pəs-(ˌ)kyü(ə)l\ *n* [F, fr. L *opusculum*, dim. of *opus*] : a small or petty work : OPUSCULUM

opus·cu·lum \ō-'pəs-kyə-ləm\ *n, pl* **-la** \-lə\ [L] : a minor work (as of literature) — usu. used in pl.

1or \ər, (ˌ)ȯ(ə)r\ *conj* [ME *other, or*, fr. OE *oththe;* akin to OHG *eddo* or] **1** — used as a function word to indicate an alternative ⟨coffee ~ tea⟩ ⟨sink ~ swim⟩, the equivalent or substitutive character of two words or phrases ⟨lessen ~ abate⟩, or approximation or uncertainty ⟨in five ~ six days⟩ **2** *archaic* : EITHER **3** *archaic* : WHETHER **4** — used in logic as a sentential connective that forms a complex sentence which is true when at least one of its constituent sentences is true — compare DISJUNCTION

2or *prep* [ME, fr. *or*, adv., early, before, fr. ON *ār;* akin to OE *ǣr* early — more at ERE] *archaic* : BEFORE

3or *conj, archaic* : BEFORE

4or \'ȯ(ə)r\ *n* [MF, gold, fr. L *aurum* — more at ORIOLE] : the heraldic color gold or yellow

1OR \'ȯ(ə)r\ *n* [*or*] : a logical operator equivalent to the sentential connective *or* ⟨~ gate in a computer⟩

2OR *abbr* **1** operating room **2** Oregon **3** owner's risk

1-or \ər, ˌȯ(ə)r, 'ȯ(ə)r\ *n suffix* [ME, fr. OF *-eur, -eor* & L *-or;* OF *-eur*, fr. L *-or;* OF *-eor*, fr. L *-ator* -or, fr. *-atus*, pp. suffix + *-or* — more at -ATE] : one that does a (specified) thing ⟨grantor⟩

2-or \ər\ *n suffix* [ME, fr. OF *-eur*, fr. L *-or*] : condition : activity ⟨demeanor⟩

ora *pl of* OS

or·ache *or* **or·ach** \'ȯr-ich, 'är-\ *n* [ME *orage*, fr. MF *arrache*, fr. (assumed) VL *atrapic-, atrapex*, fr. Gk *atraphaxys*] : any of a genus (*Atriplex*) of herbs of the goosefoot family that have small diclinous flowers and a utricular fruit enclosed in two bracts

or·a·cle \'ȯr-ə-kəl, 'är-\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *oraculum*, fr. *orare* to speak — more at ORATION] **1 a** : a person (as a priestess of ancient Greece) through whom a deity is believed to speak **b** : a shrine in which a deity reveals hidden knowledge or the divine purpose through such a person **c** : an answer or decision given by an oracle **2 a** : a person giving wise or authoritative decisions or opinions **b** : an authoritative or wise expression or answer

orac·u·lar \ȯ-'rak-yə-lər, ə-\ *adj* [L *oraculum*] **1** : of, relating to, or being an oracle **2** : resembling an oracle (as in solemnity of delivery) ***syn*** see DICTATORIAL — **orac·u·lar·i·ty** \-ˌrak-yə-'lar-ət-ē\ *n* — **orac·u·lar·ly** \-'rak-yə-lər-lē\ *adv*

1oral \'ōr-əl, 'ȯr-, 'är-\ *adj* [L *or-, os* mouth; akin to OE *ōra* border, L *ora*] **1 a** : uttered by the mouth or in words : SPOKEN **b** : using speech or the lips esp. in teaching the deaf **2 a** : of, given through, or affecting the mouth **b** : being on or relating to the same surface as the mouth **3 a** : of, relating to, or characterized by the first stage of psychosexual development in which libidinal gratification is derived from intake (as of food), by sucking, and later by biting **b** : of, relating to, or characterized by personality traits of passive dependency and aggressiveness — **oral·i·ty** \ȯ-'ral-ət-ē, ō-\ *n* — **oral·ly** \'ōr-ə-lē, 'ȯr-, 'är-\ *adv*

2oral *n* : an oral examination — usu. used in pl. ⟨passed his ~*s* and was awarded the doctorate⟩

oral history *n* : historical information that is obtained in interviews with persons who have led significant lives and that is usu. tape-recorded — **oral historian** *n*

1or·ange \'ȯr-inj, 'är-, -ənj\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. OProv *auranja*, fr. Ar *nāranj*, fr. Per *nārang*, fr. Skt *nāraṅga* orange tree, of Dravidian origin; akin to Tamil *naṟu* fragrant] **1 a** : a globose berry with a reddish yellow rind and a sweet edible pulp **b** : any of various rather small evergreen trees (genus *Citrus*) with ovate unifoliolate leaves, hard yellow wood, fragrant white flowers, and fruits that are oranges **2** : any of several trees or fruits resembling the orange **3** : any of a group of colors that lie midway between red and yellow in hue and are of medium lightness and moderate to high saturation

2orange *adj* **1** : of or relating to the orange **2** : of the color orange

Orange *adj* : of, relating to, or sympathizing with Orangemen — **Or·ange·ism** \-ˌiz-əm\ *n*

or·ange·ade \ˌȯr-in-'jād, ˌär-, -ən-\ *n* [F, fr. *orange* + *-ade*] : a beverage of sweetened orange juice mixed with plain or carbonated water

orange chromide *n* : a brilliant orange or yellow red-spotted fish (*Etroplus maculatus*) often kept in tropical aquariums

orange hawkweed *n* : a European hawkweed (*Hieracium aurantiacum*) that has flower heads with bright orange-red rays and is a troublesome weed esp. in northeastern No. America — called also *Indian paintbrush*

Or·ange·man \'ȯr-inj-mən, 'är-, -ənj-\ *n* [William III of England, prince of *Orange*] **1** : a member of a secret society organized in the north of Ireland in 1795 to defend the British sovereign and to support the Protestant religion **2** : a Protestant Irishman esp. of Ulster

orange peel *n* : a rough surface (as on porcelain) like that of an orange

orange pekoe *n* : a tea formerly made from the tiny leaf and end bud of the spray; *broadly* : India or Ceylon tea of good quality

or·ange·ry \'ȯr-inj-(ə-)rē, 'är-, -ənj-\ *n, pl* **-ries** : a greenhouse or other protected place for raising oranges in cool climates

or·ange·wood \'ȯr-inj-ˌwůd, 'är-, -ənj-\ *n* : the wood of the orange tree used esp. in turnery and carving

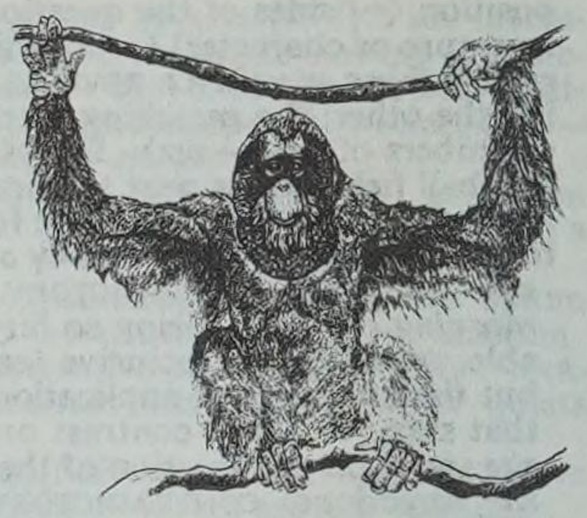
or·ang·ish \-in-jish, -ən-\ *adj* : somewhat orange

orang·utan *or* **orang·ou·tan** \ə-'raŋ-ə-ˌtaŋ, -ˌtan\ *n* [Malay *orang hutan*, fr. *orang* man + *hutan* forest] : a largely herbivorous arboreal anthropoid ape (*Pongo pygmaeus*) of Borneo and Sumatra that is about two thirds as large as the gorilla and has brown skin, long sparse reddish brown hair, and very long arms

or·angy *or* **or·ang·ey** \'ȯr-in-jē, 'är-, -ən-\ *adj* : having an orange color or tinge

orate \ȯ-'rāt\ *vi* **orat·ed; orating** [back-formation fr. *oration*] : to speak in an elevated and often pompous manner

ora·tion \ə-'rā-shən, ȯ-\ *n* [L *oration-, oratio* speech, oration, fr. *oratus*, pp. of *orare* to plead, speak, pray; akin to Russ *orat'* to yell] : an elaborate discourse delivered in a formal and dignified manner



orangutan

or·a·tor \'ȯr-ət-ər, 'är-\ *n* **1** : one who delivers an oration **2** : one distinguished for his skill and power as a public speaker

Or·a·to·ri·an \ˌȯr-ə-'tōr-ē-ən, ˌär-, -'tȯr-\ *n* : a member of the Congregation of the Oratory of St. Philip Neri founded in Rome in 1575 and comprising independent communities of secular priests under obedience but without vows — **Oratorian** *adj*

or·a·tor·i·cal \ˌȯr-ə-'tȯr-i-kəl, ˌär-ə-'tär-\ *adj* : of, relating to, or characteristic of an orator or oratory — **or·a·tor·i·cal·ly** \-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

or·a·to·rio \ˌȯr-ə-'tōr-ē-ˌō, ˌär-, -'tȯr-\ *n, pl* **-ri·os** [It, fr. the *Oratorio* di San Filippo Neri (Oratory of St. Philip Neri) in Rome] : a choral work usu. on a scriptural subject consisting chiefly of recitatives, arias, and choruses without action or scenery

1or·a·to·ry \'ȯr-ə-ˌtōr-ē, 'är-, -ˌtȯr-\ *n, pl* **-ries** [ME *oratorie*, fr. LL *oratorium*, fr. L *oratus*, pp.] **1** : a place of prayer; *esp* : a private or institutional chapel **2** *cap* : an Oratorian congregation, house, or church

2oratory *n* [L *oratoria*, fr. fem. of *oratorius* oratorical, fr. *oratus*, pp.] **1** : the art of speaking in public eloquently or effectively ⟨a student of ~⟩ **2 a** : public speaking that employs oratory **b** : public speaking that is characterized by the use of stock phrases and that appeals chiefly to the emotions

1orb \'ȯ(ə)rb\ *n* [MF *orbe*, fr. L *orbis* circle, disk, orb; akin to L *orbita* track, rut] **1** : any of the concentric spheres in old astronomy surrounding the earth and carrying the celestial bodies in their revolutions **2** *archaic* : something circular : CIRCLE, ORBIT **3** : a spherical body; *esp* : a celestial sphere **4** : EYE **5** : a sphere surmounted by a cross symbolizing kingly power and justice

2orb *vt* **1** : to form into a disk or circle **2** *archaic* : ENCIRCLE, SURROUND, ENCLOSE ~ *vi, archaic* : to move in an orbit

or·bic·u·lar \ȯr-'bik-yə-lər\ *adj* [ME *orbiculer*, fr. MF or LL; MF *orbiculaire*, fr. LL *orbicularis*, fr. L *orbiculus*, dim. of *orbis*] : SPHERICAL, CIRCULAR — **or·bic·u·lar·i·ty** \-ˌbik-yə-'lar-ət-ē\ *n* — **or·bic·u·lar·ly** \-'bik-yə-lər-lē\ *adv*

or·bic·u·late \ȯr-'bik-yə-lət\ *adj* : circular or nearly circular in outline ⟨an ~ leaf⟩

1or·bit \'ȯr-bət\ *n* [L *orbita*] **1** [ML *orbita*, fr. L] : the bony socket of the eye **2** : a path described by one body in its revolution about another (as by the earth about the sun or by an electron about an atomic nucleus); *also* : one complete revolution of a body describing such a path **3** : a range or sphere of activity or influence ⟨countries that are in the communist ~⟩ — **or·bit·al** \-ᵊl\ *adj*

2orbit *vt* **1** : to revolve in an orbit around : CIRCLE **2** : to send up and make revolve in an orbit ⟨~ a satellite⟩ ~ *vi* : to travel in circles

or·bit·al \'ȯr-bət-ᵊl\ *n* [*orbital*, adj.] : a subdivision of a nuclear shell containing one or two electrons or none

or·bit·er \-bət-ər\ *n* : one that orbits; *esp* : a spacecraft designed to orbit a celestial body without landing on its surface

ORC *abbr* Organized Reserve Corps

Or·ca·di·an \ȯr-'kād-ē-ən\ *n* [L *Orcades* Orkney islands] : a native or inhabitant of the Orkney islands — **Orcadian** *adj*

orch *abbr* orchestra

or·chard \'ȯr-chərd\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *ortgeard*, fr. L *hortus* garden + OE *geard* yard — more at YARD] : a planting of fruit trees or nut trees; *also* : the trees of such a planting

orchard grass *n* : a widely grown tall stout hay and pasture grass (*Dactylis glomerata*) that grows in tufts with loose open panicles

or·chard·ist \'ȯr-chərd-əst\ *n* : an owner or supervisor of orchards

or·chard·man \-mən, -ˌman\ *n* : ORCHARDIST

or·ches·tra \'ȯr-kə-strə, -ˌkes-trə\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *orchēstra*, fr. *orcheisthai* to dance; akin to Skt *ṛghāyati* he raves] **1 a** : the circular space used by the chorus in front of the proscenium in an ancient Greek theater **b** : a corresponding semicircular space in a Roman theater used for seating important persons **2 a** : the space in front of the stage in a modern theater that is used by an orchestra **b** : the forward section of seats on the main floor of a theater **c** : the main floor of a theater **3** : a group of musicians including esp. string players organized to perform ensemble music — compare BAND

or·ches·tral \ȯr-'kes-trəl\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or composed for an orchestra **2** : suggestive of an orchestra or its musical qualities — **or·ches·tral·ly** \-trə-lē\ *adv*

or·ches·trate \'ȯr-kə-ˌstrāt\ *vt* **-trat·ed; -trat·ing** **1 a** : to compose or arrange (music) for an orchestra **b** : to provide with orchestration ⟨~ a ballet⟩ **2** : to arrange or combine so as to achieve a maximum effect ⟨~*s* the elements of his art⟩ — **or·ches·tra·tor** *also* **or·ches·trat·er** \-ˌstrāt-ər\ *n*

or·ches·tra·tion \ˌȯr-kə-'strā-shən\ *n* **1** : the arrangement of a musical composition for performance by an orchestra; *also* : orchestral treatment of a musical composition **2** : harmonious organization ⟨develop a world community through ~ of cultural diversities —L. K. Frank⟩ — **or·ches·tra·tion·al** \-shnəl, -shən-ᵊl\ *adj*

or·chid \'ȯr-kəd\ *n* [irreg. fr. NL *Orchis*] **1** : a plant or flower of a large family (Orchidaceae, the orchid family) of perennial epiphytic or terrestrial plants that usu. have showy 3-petaled flowers with the middle petal enlarged into a lip and differing from the others in shape and color **2** : a variable color averaging a light purple

or·chis \'ȯr-kəs\ *n* [NL, genus name, fr. L, orchid, fr. Gk, testicle, orchid; akin to MIr *uirgge* testicle] : ORCHID; *esp* : one of a genus (*Orchis*) with fleshy roots and a spurred lip



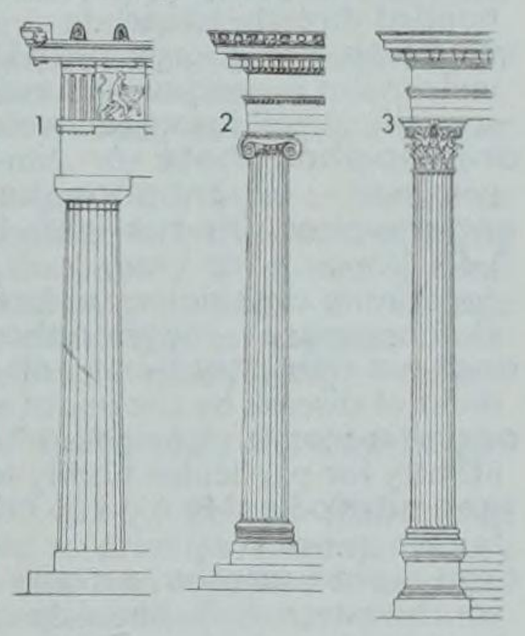
orchid 1

ord *abbr* **1** order **2** ordnance

or·dain \ȯr-'dān\ *vb* [ME *ordeinen*, fr. OF *ordener*, fr. LL *ordinare*, fr. L, to put in order, appoint, fr. *ordin-*, *ordo* order] *vt* **1** : to invest officially (as by the laying on of hands) with ministerial or priestly authority **2 a** : to establish or order by appointment, decree, or law : ENACT **b** : DESTINE, FOREORDAIN ~ *vi* : to issue an order — **or·dain·er** *n* — **or·dain·ment** \-'dān-mənt\ *n*

or·deal \ȯr-'dē(-ə)l, 'ȯr-ˌ\ *n* [ME *ordal*, fr. OE *ordāl*; akin to OHG *urteil* judgment; both from a prehistoric WGmc compound derived fr. a compound verb represented by OHG *irteilen* to judge, distribute, fr. *ir-*, perfective prefix + *teilen* to divide, render a verdict; akin to OHG *teil* part — more at ABIDE, DEAL] **1** : a primitive means used to determine guilt or innocence by submitting the accused to dangerous or painful tests believed to be under supernatural control ⟨~ by fire⟩ **2** : a severe trial or experience

¹or·der \'ȯrd-ər\ *n* [MF *ordre*, fr. ML & L; ML *ordin-*, *ordo* ecclesiastical order, fr. L, arrangement, group, class; akin to L *ordiri* to lay the warp, begin] **1 a** : a group of people united in a formal way: as (1) : a fraternal society ⟨the Masonic *Order*⟩ (2) : a community under a religious rule; *esp* : one requiring members to take solemn vows **b** : a badge or medal of such a society; *also* : a military decoration **2 a** : any of the several grades of the Christian ministry **b** *pl* : the office of a person in the Christian ministry **c** *pl* : ORDINATION **3 a** : a rank, class, or special group in a community or society **b** : a class of persons or things grouped according to quality, value, or natural characteristics: as (1) : a category of taxonomic classification ranking above the family and below the class (2) : the broadest category in soil classification **4 a** (1) : RANK, LEVEL ⟨a statesman of the first ~⟩ (2) : CATEGORY, CLASS ⟨in emergencies of this ~ —R. B. Westerfield⟩ **b** (1) : the arrangement or sequence of objects or of events in time ⟨listed the items in ~ of importance⟩ (2) : a sequential arrangement of mathematical elements **c** : DEGREE 11a, 11b **d** (1) : the number of times differentiation is applied successively ⟨derivatives of higher ~⟩ (2) : the order of the highest order derivative in a differential equation **e** : the number of columns or rows in a square matrix **f** : the number of elements in a finite mathematical group **5 a** (1) : a sociopolitical system ⟨was opposed to changes in the established ~⟩ (2) : a particular sphere or aspect of a sociopolitical system ⟨the present economic ~⟩ **b** : a regular or harmonious arrangement ⟨the ~ of nature⟩ **6 a** : the customary mode of procedure esp. in debate ⟨point of ~⟩ **b** : a prescribed form of a religious service : RITE **7 a** : the rule of law or proper authority ⟨promised to restore law and ~⟩ **b** : a specific rule, regulation, or authoritative direction : COMMAND **8 a** : a style of building **b** : a type of column and entablature forming the unit of a style **9 a** : state or condition esp. with regard to functioning or repair ⟨things were in terrible ~⟩ **b** : a proper or orderly condition ⟨their passports were in ~⟩ **10 a** : a written direction to pay money to someone **b** : a commission to purchase, sell, or supply goods or to perform work **c** : goods or items bought or sold **d** : an assigned or requested undertaking ⟨landing men on the moon was a large ~⟩ **11** : order of the day ⟨flat roofs were the ~ in the small villages⟩ — **or·der·less** \-ləs\ *n* — **in order** : APPROPRIATE, DESIRABLE ⟨an apology is *in order*⟩ — **in order that** : so that — **in order to** : for the purpose of — **on order** : in the process of being ordered — **on the order of 1** : after the fashion of : LIKE ⟨much *on the order of* Great Lakes bulk carriers —*Ships and the Sea*⟩ **2** : ABOUT, APPROXIMATELY ⟨spent *on the order of* two million dollars⟩ — **to order** : according to the specifications of an order ⟨shoes made *to order*⟩



orders 8b: *1* Doric, *2* Ionic, *3* Corinthian

²order *vb* **or·dered; or·der·ing** \'ȯrd-(ə-)riŋ\ *vt* **1** : to put in order : ARRANGE **2 a** : to give an order to : COMMAND **b** : DESTINE, ORDAIN **c** : to command to go or come to a specified place **d** : to give an order for ⟨~ a meal⟩ ~ *vi* **1** : to bring about order : REGULATE **2 a** : to issue orders : COMMAND **b** : to give or place an order — **or·der·er** \-ər-ər\ *n*

syn **1** ORDER, ARRANGE, MARSHAL, ORGANIZE, SYSTEMATIZE, METHODIZE *shared meaning element* : to put persons or things into their proper places in relation to each other ***ant*** disorder **2** see COMMAND

order arms *n* [fr. the command *order arms*!] **1** : a position in the manual of arms in which the rifle is held vertically beside the right leg with the butt resting on the ground **2** : a command to return the rifle to order arms from present arms or to drop the hand from a hand salute

or·dered \'ȯrd-ərd\ *adj* : characterized by order: as **a** : marked by regularity or discipline ⟨led an ~ life⟩ **b** : marked by regular or harmonious arrangement or disposition ⟨an ~ landscape⟩ **c** (1) : having elements succeeding according to rule; *specif* : having the property that every pair of different elements is related by a transitive relationship that is not symmetric **c** (2) : having a specified first element ⟨a set of ~ pairs⟩

¹or·der·ly \'ȯrd-ər-lē\ *adj* **1 a** (1) : arranged or disposed in some order or pattern : REGULAR ⟨~ rows of houses⟩ (2) : not marked by disorder : TIDY ⟨keeps an ~ desk⟩ **b** : governed by law : REGULATED ⟨an ~ universe⟩ **c** : METHODICAL ⟨an ~ mind⟩ **2** : well behaved : PEACEFUL ⟨an ~ crowd⟩ — **or·der·li·ness** *n* — **orderly** *adv*

²orderly *n*, *pl* **-lies** **1** : a soldier assigned to perform various services (as carrying messages) for a superior officer **2** : a hospital attendant who does routine or heavy work (as cleaning, carrying supplies, or moving patients)

order of business [*order of business* (predetermined sequence of matters to be dealt with by an assembly)] : a matter which must be dealt with : TASK ⟨the discipline problem was the first *order of business* at the meeting of the school board⟩

order of magnitude : a range of magnitude extending from some value to ten times that value

order of the day **1** : the business or tasks appointed for an assembly for a given day **2** : the characteristic or dominant feature or activity ⟨growth and change are the *order of the day* in every field —Ruth G. Strickland⟩

order up *vt* : to summon for active military duty

¹or·di·nal \'ȯrd-nəl, -ᵊn-əl\ *n* **1** [ME, fr. ML *ordinale*, fr. LL, neut. of *ordinalis*] *cap* : a collection of forms to be used in ordination **2** [LL *ordinalis*, fr. *ordinalis*, adj.] : ORDINAL NUMBER

²ordinal *adj* [LL *ordinalis*, fr. L *ordin-*, *ordo*] **1** : of a specified order or rank in a series **2** : of or relating to an order (as of fishes)

ordinal number *n* **1** : a number designating the place (as first, second, or third) occupied by an item in an ordered sequence — see NUMBER table **2** : a number that designates both the order of the elements of an ordered set and the cardinal number of the set

or·di·nance \'ȯrd-nən(t)s, 'ȯrd-ᵊn-ən(t)s\ *n* [ME, fr. MF & ML; MF *ordenance*, lit., act of arranging, fr. ML *ordinantia*, fr. L *ordinant-*, *ordinans*, prp. of *ordinare* to put in order — more at ORDAIN] **1 a** : an authoritative decree or direction : ORDER **b** : a law set forth by a governmental authority; *specif* : a municipal regulation **2** : something ordained or decreed by fate or a deity **3** : a prescribed usage, practice, or ceremony

or·di·nand \ˌȯrd-ᵊn-'and\ *n* [LL *ordinandus*, gerundive of *ordinare* to ordain] : a candidate for ordination

¹or·di·nary \'ȯrd-ᵊn-ˌer-ē\ *n*, *pl* **-nar·ies** [ME *ordinarie*, fr. AF & ML; AF, fr. ML *ordinarius*, fr. L *ordinarius*, adj.] **1 a** (1) : a prelate exercising original jurisdiction over a specified territory or group (2) : a clergyman appointed formerly in England to attend condemned criminals **b** : a judge of probate in some states of the U.S. **2** *often cap* : the parts of the Mass that do not vary from day to day **3** : the regular or customary condition or course of things — usu. used in the phrase *out of the ordinary* **4 a** *Brit* : a meal served to all comers at a fixed price **b** *chiefly Brit* : a tavern or eating house serving regular meals **5** : a common heraldic charge (as the bend or chevron) of simple form

²ordinary *adj* [ME *ordinarie*, fr. L *ordinarius*, fr. *ordin-*, *ordo* order] **1** : of a kind to be expected in the normal order of events : ROUTINE, USUAL **2** : having or constituting immediate or original jurisdiction; *also* : belonging to such jurisdiction **3 a** : of common quality, rank, or ability **b** : deficient in quality : POOR, INFERIOR **c** : lacking in refinement ***syn*** see COMMON ***ant*** extraordinary — **or·di·nari·ly** \ˌȯrd-ᵊn-'er-ə-lē\ *adv* — **or·di·nari·ness** \'ȯrd-ᵊn-ˌer-ē-nəs\ *n*

ordinary–language philosophy *n* : a trend in philosophical analysis that seeks to resolve philosophical perplexity by revealing sources of puzzlement in the misunderstanding of ordinary language

ordinary seaman *n* : a seaman of some experience but not as skilled as an able seaman

or·di·nate \'ȯrd-nət, -ᵊn-ət, -ᵊn-ˌāt\ *n* [NL (*linea*) *ordinate* (*applicata*), lit., line applied in an orderly manner] : the Cartesian coordinate obtained by measuring parallel to the y-axis — compare ABSCISSA

or·di·na·tion \ˌȯrd-ᵊn-'ā-shən\ *n* : the act or an instance of ordaining : the state of being ordained

ord·nance \'ȯrd-nən(t)s\ *n* [ME *ordinaunce*, fr. MF *ordenance*, lit., act of arranging] **1 a** : military supplies including weapons, ammunition, combat vehicles, and maintenance tools and equipment **b** : a service of the army charged with the procuring, distributing, and safekeeping of ordnance **2** : CANNON, ARTILLERY

or·do \'ȯ(ə)rd-(ˌ)ō\ *n*, *pl* **ordos** *or* **or·di·nes** \'ȯrd-ᵊn-ˌēz\ [ML, fr. L, order] : a list of offices and feasts of the Roman Catholic Church for each day of the year

or·don·nance \ˌȯrd-ᵊn-'ä⁽ⁿ⁾s\ *n* [F, alter. of MF *ordenance*] : disposition of the parts (as of a literary composition) with regard to one another and the whole : ARRANGEMENT

Or·do·vi·cian \ˌȯrd-ə-'vish-ən\ *adj* [L *Ordovices*, ancient people in northern Wales] : of, relating to, or being the period between the Cambrian and the Silurian or the corresponding system of rocks — **Ordovician** *n*

or·dure \'ȯr-jər\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. *ord* filthy, fr. L *horridus* horrid] **1** : EXCREMENT **2** : something that is morally degrading

ore \'ō(ə)r, 'ȯ(ə)r\ *n*, *often attrib* [ME *or*, fr. OE *ār*; akin to OHG *ēr* bronze, L *aes* copper, bronze] **1** : a mineral containing a valuable constituent (as metal) for which it is mined and worked **2** : a source from which valuable matter is extracted

öre \'ər-ə\ *n*, *pl* **öre** [Sw *öre* & Dan & Norw *øre*] — see *krona, krone* at MONEY table

ore·ad \'ōr-ē-ˌad, 'ȯr-, -ē-əd\ *n* [L *oread-*, *oreas*, fr. Gk *oreiad-*, *oreias*, fr. *oreios* of a mountain, fr. *oros* mountain — more at RISE] : one of the nymphs of mountains and hills in Greek mythology

ore dressing *n* : mechanical preparation (as by crushing) and concentration (as by flotation) of ore

Oreg *or* **Ore** *abbr* Oregon

oreg·a·no \ə-'reg-ə-ˌnō\ *n* [AmerSp *orégano*, fr. Sp, wild marjoram, fr. L *origanum* — more at ORIGANUM] **1** : a bushy perennial mint (*Origanum vulgare*) that is used as a seasoning and a source of aromatic oil — called also *origanum, wild marjoram* **2** : any of several plants (genera *Lippia* and *Coleus*) other than oregano of the vervain or mint families

Or·e·gon grape \ˌȯr-i-gən-, ˌär-, -ˌgän-\ *n* [*Oregon*, U.S.A.] : an evergreen shrub (*Mahonia aquifolium*) of the barberry family that has yellow flowers, bears bluish black berries, and is native to the Pacific coast — called also *hollygrape*

Ores·tes \ə-'res-(ˌ)tēz, ȯ-\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *Orestēs*] : the son of Agamemnon and Clytemnestra who with his sister Electra avenges his father by killing his mother and her lover Aegisthus

org *abbr* **1** organic **2** organization; organized

or·gan \'ȯr-gən\ *n* [ME, partly fr. OE *organa*, fr. L *organum*, fr. Gk *organon*, lit., tool, instrument; partly fr. OF *organe*, fr. L *organum*; akin to Gk *ergon* work — more at WORK] **1 a** *archaic* : any of various musical instruments; *esp* : WIND INSTRUMENT **b** (1) : a wind instrument consisting of sets of pipes made to sound by compressed air and controlled by keyboards and producing a variety of musical effects — called also *pipe organ* (2) : REED ORGAN (3) : an instrument in which the sound and resources of the pipe organ are approximated by means of electronic devices (4) : any of various similar cruder instruments **2 a** : a differentiated structure (as a heart, kidney, leaf, or stem) consisting of cells and tissues and performing some specific function in an organism **b** : bodily parts performing a function or cooperating in an activity ⟨the eyes and related structures that make up the visual ~*s*⟩ **3** : a subordinate group or organization that performs specialized functions ⟨the various ~*s* of government⟩ **4** : PERIODICAL

organ- *or* **organo-** *comb form* [ME, fr. ML, fr. L *organum*] **1** : organ ⟨*organo*genesis⟩ **2** : organic ⟨*organo*mercurial⟩

or·gan·dy *also* **or·gan·die** \'ȯr-gən-dē\ *n, pl* **-dies** [F *organdi*] : a very fine transparent muslin with a stiff finish

or·gan·elle \ˌȯr-gə-'nel\ *n* [NL *organella*, fr. L *organum*] : a specialized cellular part (as a mitochondrion) that is analogous to an organ

or·gan–grind·er \'ȯr-gən-ˌgrīn-dər\ *n* : one that cranks a hand organ; *esp* : an itinerant street musician who operates a barrel organ

[1]or·gan·ic \ȯr-'gan-ik\ *adj* **1** *archiac* : INSTRUMENTAL **2 a** : of, relating to, or arising in a bodily organ **b** : affecting the structure of the organism **3 a** (1) : of, relating to, or derived from living organisms (2) : relating to, produced with, or based on the use of fertilizer of plant or animal origin without employment of chemically formulated fertilizers or pesticides ⟨~ farming⟩ ⟨~ foods⟩ **b** (1) : of, relating to, or containing carbon compounds (2) : of, relating to, or dealt with by a branch of chemistry concerned with the carbon compounds of living beings and most other carbon compounds **4 a** : forming an integral element of a whole : FUNDAMENTAL ⟨incidental music rather than ~ parts of the action — Francis Fergusson⟩ **b** : having systematic coordination of parts : ORGANIZED ⟨an ~ whole⟩ **c** : having the characteristics of an organism : developing in the manner of a living plant or animal ⟨society is ~⟩ **5** : of, relating to, or constituting the law by which a government or organization exists — **or·gan·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

[2]organic *n* : an organic substance: as **a** : a fertilizer of plant or animal origin **b** : a pesticide whose active component is an organic compound or a mixture of organic compounds

or·gan·i·cism \ȯr-'gan-ə-ˌsiz-əm\ *n* [ISV] **1 a** : a doctrine that the independent organization of a living system rather than its components separately constitutes life and living processes **b** : VITALISM **2** : any of various theories that society or the universe as a whole is organic — **or·gan·i·cist** \-səst\ *n*

or·gan·ism \'ȯr-gə-ˌniz-əm\ *n* **1** : a complex structure of interdependent and subordinate elements whose relations and properties are largely determined by their function in the whole **2** : an individual constituted to carry on the activities of life by means of organs separate in function but mutually dependent : a living being — **or·gan·is·mic** \ˌȯr-gə-'niz-mik\ *also* **or·gan·is·mal** \-məl\ *adj* — **or·gan·is·mi·cal·ly** \-mi-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

or·gan·ist \'ȯr-gə-nəst\ *n* : one who plays the organ

[1]or·ga·ni·za·tion \ˌȯrg-(ə-)nə-'zā-shən\ *n* **1 a** : the act or process of organizing or of being organized ⟨~ was his one talent⟩ **b** : the condition or manner of being organized ⟨a high degree of ~⟩ **2 a** : ASSOCIATION, SOCIETY ⟨tax exemptions for charitable ~*s*⟩ **b** : an administrative and functional structure (as a business or a political party); *also* : the personnel of such a structure

[2]organization *adj* : characterized by complete conformity to the standards and requirements of an organization ⟨an ~ man⟩

or·ga·ni·za·tion·al \-shnəl, -shən-ᵊl\ *adj* **1** : of or relating to an organization : involving organization ⟨the ~ state of a crystal⟩ **2** : ORGANIZATION — **or·ga·ni·za·tion·al·ly** \-ē\ *adv*

or·ga·nize \'ȯr-gə-ˌnīz\ *vb* **-nized; -niz·ing** *vt* **1** : to cause to develop an organic structure **2** : to arrange or form into a coherent unity or functioning whole : INTEGRATE ⟨trying to ~ her thoughts⟩ **3 a** : to set up an administrative structure for **b** : to persuade to associate in an organization; *esp* : UNIONIZE **4** : to arrange by systematic planning and united effort ⟨*organized* a field trip⟩ ~ *vi* **1** : to undergo physical or organic organization **2** : to arrange elements into a whole of interdependent parts **3** : to form an organization; *specif* : to form or persuade workers to join a union ***syn*** see ORDER ***ant*** disorganize — **or·gan·iz·able** \-ˌnī-zə-bəl\ *adj*

or·ga·nized *adj* **1** : having a formal organization to coordinate and carry out activities ⟨~ baseball⟩ ⟨~ crime⟩ **2** : affiliated by membership in an organization ⟨~ steelworkers⟩

or·ga·niz·er \-ˌnī-zər\ *n* **1** : one that organizes **2** : a substance capable of inducing a specific type of development in undifferentiated tissue — called also *inductor*

or·gano·chlo·rine \ȯr-ˌgan-ə-'klō(ə)r-ˌēn, -'klȯ(ə)r-, -ən\ *adj* : of, relating to, or belonging to the chlorinated hydrocarbon pesticides (as aldrin, DDT, or dieldrin) — **organochlorine** *n*

organ of Cor·ti \-'kȯrt-ē\ [Alfonso *Corti* †1876 It anatomist] : a complex epithelial structure in the cochlea that rests on the internal surface of the basilar membrane and in mammals is the chief part of the ear by which sound is directly perceived

or·gan·o·gen·e·sis \ˌȯr-gə-nō-'jen-ə-səs, ȯr-ˌgan-ə-\ *n* [NL] : the origin and development of bodily organs — compare MORPHOGENESIS — **or·gan·o·ge·net·ic** \-jə-'net-ik\ *adj* — **or·gan·o·ge·net·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

or·gan·og·ra·phy \ˌȯr-gə-'näg-rə-fē\ *n* : a descriptive study of the organs of plants or animals

or·gan·o·lep·tic \ˌȯr-gə-nō-'lep-tik, ȯr-ˌgan-ə-\ *adj* [F *organoleptique*, fr. *organ-* + Gk *lēptikos* disposed to take, fr. *lambanein* to take — more at LATCH] **1** : affecting or employing one or more of the organs of special sense **2** : determined by organoleptic examination ⟨~ evaluation of foods⟩ — **or·gan·o·lep·ti·cal·ly** \-ti-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

or·gan·ol·o·gy \ˌȯr-gə-'näl-ə-jē\ *n* [ISV] : the study of the organs of plants and animals — **or·gan·o·log·ic** \ˌȯr-gən-ᵊl-'äj-ik, ȯr-ˌgan-\ *or* **or·gan·o·log·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj*

or·gano·mer·cu·ri·al \ȯr-ˌgan-ō-(ˌ)mər-'kyůr-ē-əl\ *n* : an organic compound or a pharmaceutical preparation containing mercury

or·gano·me·tal·lic \-mə-'tal-ik\ *adj* [ISV] : of, relating to, or being an organic compound that usu. contains a metal or metalloid bonded directly to carbon — **organometallic** *n*

or·ga·non \'ȯr-gə-ˌnän\ *n* [Gk, lit., tool — more at ORGAN] : an instrument for acquiring knowledge; *specif* : a body of principles of scientific or philosophic investigation

or·gano·phos·phate \ȯr-ˌgan-ə-'fäs-ˌfāt\ *n* : an organophosphorus pesticide — **organophosphate** *adj*

or·gano·phos·pho·rus \-'fäs-f(ə-)rəs\ *also* **or·gano·phos·pho·rous** \-fäs-'fōr-əs, -'fȯr-\ *adj* : of, relating to, or being a phosphorus-containing organic pesticide (as malathion) that acts by inhibiting cholinesterase — **organophosphorus** *n*

or·gan·o·ther·a·py \ˌȯr-gə-nō-'ther-ə-pē, ȯr-ˌgan-ə-\ *n* [ISV] : treatment of disease by the use of animal organs or their extracts

or·gan·o·trop·ic \ˌȯr-gə-nō-'träp-ik, ȯr-ˌgan-ə-\ *adj* : having an affinity for particular bodily tissues or organs (as the viscera) — **or·gan·o·trop·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **or·gan·ot·ro·pism** \ˌȯr-gə-'nä-trə-ˌpiz-əm\ *n*

organ–pipe cactus *n* : any of several tall upright cacti of the southwestern U.S. and adjacent Mexico: as **a** : SAGUARO **b** : a cactus (*Lemnaireocereus marginatus* or *Pachycereus marginatus*) that branches at the base to form several ridged upright stems and bears 2-inch red and greenish white flowers

or·ga·num \'ȯr-gə-nəm\ *n* [ML, fr. L, organ] **1** : ORGANON **2** : early polyphony of the late Middle Ages that consists of one or more voice parts accompanying the cantus firmus in parallel motion usu. at a fourth, fifth, or octave above or below; *also* : a composition in this style

or·gan·za \ȯr-'gan-zə\ *n* [prob. alter. of *Lorganza*, a trademark] : a sheer dress fabric resembling organdy and usu. made of silk, rayon, or nylon

or·gan·zine \'ȯr-gən-ˌzēn\ *n* [F or It; F *organsin*, fr. It *organzino*] : a raw silk yarn used for warp threads in fine fabrics

or·gasm \'ȯr-ˌgaz-əm\ *n* [NL *orgasmus*, fr. Gk *orgasmos*, fr. *organ* to grow ripe, be lustful; akin to Skt *ūrjā* sap, strength] **1** : intense or paroxysmal emotional excitement; *esp* : the climax of sexual excitement typically occurring toward the end of coitus **2** : an instance of orgasm — **or·gas·mic** \ȯr-'gaz-mik\ *or* **or·gas·tic** \-'gas-tik\ *adj*

or·geat \'ȯ(ə)r-ˌzhä(t)\ *n* [F, fr. MF, fr. *orge* barley, fr. L *hordeum*; akin to OHG *gersta* barley, Gk *krī*] : a sweet almond-flavored nonalcoholic syrup used as a cocktail ingredient or food flavoring

or·gi·as·tic \ˌȯr-jē-'as-tik\ *adj* [Gk *orgiastikos*, fr. *orgiazein* to celebrate orgies, fr. *orgia*] **1** : of, relating to, or marked by orgies **2** : characterized by unrestrained emotion — **or·gi·as·ti·cal·ly** \-ti-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

or·gu·lous \'ȯr-g(y)ə-ləs\ *adj* [ME, fr. OF *orgueilleus*, fr. *orgueil* pride, of Gmc origin; akin to OHG *urguol* distinguished] : PROUD

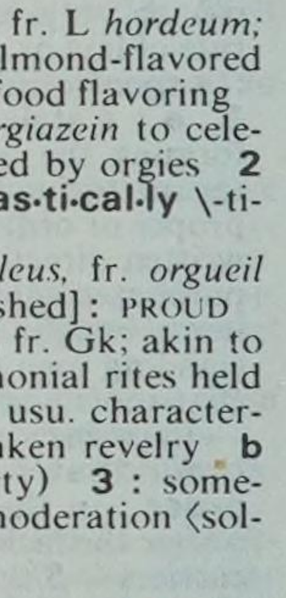
or·gy \'ȯr-jē\ *n, pl* **orgies** [MF *orgie*, fr. L *orgia*, pl., fr. Gk; akin to Gk *ergon* work — more at WORK] **1** : secret ceremonial rites held in honor of an ancient Greek or Roman deity and usu. characterized by ecstatic singing and dancing **2 a** : drunken revelry **b** : an excessive sexual indulgence (as at a wild party) **3** : something that resembles an orgy in lack of control or moderation ⟨soldiers engaging in an ~ of destruction⟩

-oria *pl of* -ORIUM

-o·ri·al \'ōr-ē-əl, 'ȯr-\ *adj suffix* [ME, fr. L *-orius* -ory + ME *-al*] : of, belonging to, or connected with ⟨insess*orial*⟩

orib·a·tid \ȯ-'rib-ət-əd, ˌȯr-ə-'bat-əd\ *n* [NL *Oribatidae*, group name (coextensive with *Oribatoidea*), fr. *Oribata*, genus name, fr. Gk *oribatēs* walking the mountains] : any of a superfamily (Oribatoidea) of small oval eyeless nonparasitic mites having a heavily sclerotized integument with a leathery appearance — **oribatid** *adj*

ori·el \'ōr-ē-əl, 'ȯr-\ *n* [ME, porch, oriel, fr. MF *oriol* porch] : a large bay window projecting from a wall and supported by a corbel or bracket



oriel

[1]ori·ent \'ōr-ē-ənt, 'ȯr-, -ē-ˌent\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *orient-, oriens*, fr. prp. of *oriri* to rise — more at RISE] **1** *archaic* : EAST 1b **2** *cap* : EAST 2 **3 a** : a pearl of great luster **b** : the luster or sheen of a pearl

[2]orient *adj* **1** *archaic* : ORIENTAL 1 **2 a** : LUSTROUS, SPARKLING ⟨~ gems⟩ **b** *archaic* : RADIANT, GLOWING **3** *archaic* : rising in the sky

[3]ori·ent \'ōr-ē-ˌent, 'ȯr-\ *vt* [F *orienter*, fr. MF, fr. *orient*] **1 a** : to cause to face or point toward the east; *specif* : to build (a church or temple) with the longitudinal axis pointing eastward and the chief altar at the eastern end **b** : to set or arrange in any determinate position esp. in relation to the points of the compass **c** : to ascertain the bearings of **2 a** : to set right by adjusting to facts or principles **b** : to acquaint with the existing situa-

tion or environment **3** : to cause the axes of the molecules of to assume the same direction

ori·en·tal \ˌōr-ē-ˈent-ᵊl, ˌȯr-\ *adj* **1** *often cap* : of, relating to, or situated in the Orient **2 a** : of superior grade, luster, or value **b** : being corundum or sapphire but simulating another gem in color **3** *often cap* : of, relating to, or having the characteristics of Orientals **4** *cap* : of, relating to, or constituting the biogeographic region that includes Asia south and southeast of the Himalayas and the Malay archipelago west of Wallace's line — **ori·en·tal·ly** \-ᵊl-ē\ *adv*

Oriental *n* : a member of one of the indigenous peoples of the Orient

oriental fruit moth *n* : a small nearly cosmopolitan moth (*Grapolitha molesta*) prob. of Japanese origin whose larva is injurious to the twigs and fruit of orchard trees and esp. the peach — called also *oriental peach moth*

ori·en·tal·ism \ˌōr-ē-ˈent-ᵊl-ˌiz-əm\ *n, often cap* **1** : a trait, custom, or habit of expression characteristic of oriental peoples **2** : scholarship or learning in oriental subjects — **ori·en·tal·ist** \-ᵊl-əst\ *n, often cap*

ori·en·tal·ize \-ᵊl-ˌīz\ *vb* **-ized; -iz·ing** *vt, often cap* : to make oriental ~ *vi, often cap* : to become oriental

Oriental poppy *n* : an Asiatic perennial poppy (*Papaver orientale*) that is commonly cultivated for its large showy flowers

Oriental rug *n* : a handwoven or hand-knotted one-piece rug or carpet made in the Orient — called also *Oriental carpet*

ori·en·tate \ˈōr-ē-ən-ˌtāt, ˈȯr-, -ˌen-\ *vb* **-tat·ed; -tat·ing** *vt* : ORIENT ~ *vi* : to face or turn to the east

ori·en·ta·tion \ˌōr-ē-ən-ˈtā-shən, ˌȯr-, -ˌen-\ *n* **1 a** : the act or process of orienting or of being oriented **b** : the state of being oriented; *broadly* : ARRANGEMENT, ALIGNMENT **2** : a usu. general or lasting direction of thought, inclination, or interest **3** : change of position by organs, organelles, or organisms in response to external stimulus — **ori·en·ta·tion·al** \-shnəl, -shən-ᵊl\ *adj* — **ori·en·ta·tion·al·ly** \-ē\ *adv*

ori·ent·ed \ˈōr-ē-ˌent-əd, ˈȯr-\ *adj* : intellectually or emotionally directed ⟨humanistically ~ scholars⟩

ori·en·teer·ing \ˌōr-ē-ən-ˈti(ə)r-iŋ, ˌȯr-, -ˌen-\ *n* [modif. (influenced by *-eer*) of Sw *orientering*, fr. *orientera* to orient] : a cross-country race in which each participant uses a map and compass to navigate his way between checkpoints along an unfamiliar course

or·i·fice \ˈȯr-ə-fəs, ˈär-\ *n* [MF, fr. LL *orificium*, fr. L *or-, os* mouth — more at ORAL] : an opening (as a vent, mouth, or hole) through which something may pass ***syn*** see APERTURE — **or·i·fi·cial** \ˌȯr-ə-ˈfish-əl, ˌär-\ *adj*

ori·flamme \ˈȯr-ə-ˌflam, ˈär-\ *n* [ME *oriflamble*, fr. MF, fr. ML *aurea flamma*, lit., golden flame] : a banner, symbol, or ideal inspiring devotion or courage

orig *abbr* original; originally; originator

ori·ga·mi \ˌȯr-ə-ˈgäm-ē\ *n* [Jap] : the art or process of Japanese paper folding

orig·a·num \ə-ˈrig-ə-nəm\ *n* [ME, fr. L, wild marjoram, fr. Gk *origanon*] : any of various fragrant aromatic plants of the mint or vervain families used as seasonings; *esp* : OREGANO 1

or·i·gin \ˈȯr-ə-jən, ˈär-\ *n* [ME *origine*, prob. fr. MF, fr. L *origin-, origo*, fr. *oriri* to rise — more at RISE] **1** : ANCESTRY, PARENTAGE **2 a** : rise, beginning, or derivation from a source **b** : the point at which something begins or rises or from which it derives ⟨the ~ of the custom is lost in the mist of time⟩ ⟨this spring is the ~ of the brook⟩ **3** : the more fixed, central, or larger attachment of a muscle **4** : the intersection of coordinate axes

syn ORIGIN, SOURCE, INCEPTION, ROOT *shared meaning element* : the point at which something begins its course or existence

¹orig·i·nal \ə-ˈrij-ən-ᵊl, -ˈrij-nəl\ *n* **1** *archaic* : the source or cause from which something arises; *specif* : ORIGINATOR **2 a** : that from which a copy, reproduction, or translation is made **b** : a work composed firsthand **3 a** : a person of fresh initiative or inventive capacity **b** : an eccentric person

²original *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or constituting an origin or beginning : INITIAL ⟨the ~ part of the house⟩ **2 a** : not secondary, derivative, or imitative **b** : being the first instance or source from which a copy, reproduction, or translation is or can be made **3** : independent and creative in thought or action : INVENTIVE ***syn*** see NEW ***ant*** banal, trite — **orig·i·nal·ly** \-ē\ *adv*

orig·i·nal·i·ty \ə-ˌrij-ə-ˈnal-ət-ē\ *n* **1** : the quality or state of being original **2** : freshness of aspect, design, or style **3** : the power of independent thought or constructive imagination

original sin *n* : the state of sin that according to Christian theology characterizes all human beings as a result of Adam's fall

orig·i·nate \ə-ˈrij-ə-ˌnāt\ *vb* **-nat·ed; -nat·ing** *vt* : to give rise to : INITIATE ~ *vi* : to take or have origin : BEGIN ***syn*** see SPRING — **orig·i·na·tion** \-ˌrij-ə-ˈnā-shən\ *n* — **orig·i·na·tor** \-ˈrij-ə-ˌnāt-ər\ *n*

orig·i·na·tive \ə-ˈrij-ə-ˌnāt-iv, -nət-\ *adj* : having ability to originate : CREATIVE — **orig·i·na·tive·ly** *adv*

O-ring \ˈō-ˌriŋ\ *n* : a ring (as of synthetic rubber) used as a gasket

ori·ole \ˈōr-ē-ˌōl, ˈȯr-, -ē-əl\ *n* [F *oriol*, fr. L *aureolus*, dim. of *aureus* golden, fr. *aurum* gold; akin to Lith *auksas* gold] **1** : any of a family (Oriolidae) of usu. brightly colored Old World passerine birds related to the crows **2** : any of a family (Icteridae) of New World passerine birds of which the males are usu. bright black and yellow or orange and the females are chiefly greenish or yellowish

Ori·on \ə-ˈrī-ən, ȯ-\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *Ōriōn*] **1** : a giant and hunter of Boeotia who was placed after his death among the stars **2** [L (gen. *Orionis*)] : a constellation on the equator east of Taurus represented on charts by the figure of a hunter with belt and sword

or·is·mol·o·gy \ˌȯr-əz-ˈmäl-ə-jē, ˌär-\ *n* [Gk *horismos* definition (fr. *horizein* to define) + E *-logy* — more at HORIZON] : the science of defining technical terms : TERMINOLOGY — **or·is·mo·log·i·cal** \ˌȯr-əz-mə-ˈläj-i-kəl, ˌär-; ȯ-ˌriz-\ *adj*

or·i·son \ˈȯr-ə-sən, ˈär-, -zən\ *n* [ME, fr. OF, fr. LL *oration-, oratio*, fr. L, oration] : PRAYER

-o·ri·um \ˈōr-ē-əm, ˈȯr-\ *n suffix, pl* **-oriums** *or* **-o·ria** \-ē-ə\ [L, fr. neut. of *-orius* -ory] : ¹-ORY ⟨haust*orium*⟩

Ori·ya \ȯ-ˈrē-(y)ə\ *n* : the Indic language of Orissa, India

Ork *abbr* Orkney

Or·lean·ist \ˈȯr-lē-ə-nəst, ȯr-ˈlē-(ə-)nəst\ *n* : a supporter of the Orleans family in its claim to the throne of France by descent from a younger brother of Louis XIV

Or·lon \ˈȯ(ə)r-ˌlän\ *trademark* — used for an acrylic fiber

or·lop deck \ˌȯr-ˌläp-\ *n* [ME *overlop* deck of a single decker, fr. MLG *overlōp*, lit., something that overleaps] : the lowest deck in a ship having four or more decks

Or·mazd \ˈȯ(ə)r-(ˌ)məzd, -ˌmazd\ *n* [Per *Urmazd*, fr. OPer *Auramazdāh-*, fr. Av *Ahuramazdāh-*] : AHURA MAZDA

or·mo·lu \ˈȯr-mə-ˌlü\ *n, often attrib* [F *or moulu*, lit., ground gold] : golden or gilded brass or bronze used for decorative purposes (as in mounts for furniture)

¹or·na·ment \ˈȯr-nə-mənt\ *n* [ME, fr. OF *ornement*, fr. L *ornamentum*, fr. *ornare*] **1** *archaic* : a useful accessory **2 a** : something that lends grace or beauty **b** : a manner or quality that adorns **3** : one whose virtues or graces add luster to his place or society **4** : the act of adorning or being adorned **5** : an embellishing note not belonging to the essential harmony or melody — called also *embellishment, fioritura*

²or·na·ment \-ˌment\ *vt* : to provide with ornament : EMBELLISH ***syn*** see ADORN

¹or·na·men·tal \ˌȯr-nə-ˈment-ᵊl\ *adj* : of, relating to, or serving as ornament; *specif* : grown as an ornamental — **or·na·men·tal·ly** \-ᵊl-ē\ *adv*

²ornamental *n* : a decorative object; *esp* : a plant cultivated for its beauty rather than for use

or·na·men·ta·tion \ˌȯr-nə-mən-ˈtā-shən, -ˌmen-\ *n* **1** : the act or process of ornamenting : the state of being ornamented **2** : something that ornaments : EMBELLISHMENT

or·nate \ȯr-ˈnāt\ *adj* [ME *ornat*, fr. L *ornatus*, pp. of *ornare* to furnish, embellish; akin to L *ordinare* to order — more at ORDAIN] **1** : marked by elaborate rhetoric or florid style **2** : elaborately or excessively decorated — **or·nate·ly** *adv* — **or·nate·ness** *n*

or·nery \ˈȯrn-(ə-)rē, ˈän-\ *adj* [alter. of *ordinary*] : having an irritable disposition : CANTANKEROUS — **or·neri·ness** *n*

ornith *abbr* ornithology

ornith- *or* **ornitho-** *comb form* [L, fr. Gk, fr. *ornith-, ornis* — more at ERNE] : bird ⟨*ornith*ology⟩

or·nith·ic \ȯr-ˈnith-ik\ *adj* [Gk *ornithikos*, fr. *ornith-, ornis*] : of, relating to, or characteristic of birds

or·ni·thine \ˈȯr-nə-ˌthēn\ *n* [ISV *ornith*uric acid (an acid of which it is a component, found in the urine of birds) + *-ine*] : a crystalline amino acid $C_5H_{12}N_2O_2$ that functions esp. in urea production as a carrier by undergoing conversion to citrulline and then arginine in reaction with ammonia and carbon dioxide followed by recovery along with urea by enzymatic hydrolysis of arginine

or·nith·is·chi·an \ˌȯr-nə-ˈthis-kē-ən\ *n* [NL *Ornithischia*, group name, fr. *ornith-* + *ischium*] : any of an order (Ornithischia) of herbivorous dinosaurs (as a stegosaurus) that have a pelvis with four axes of symmetry — **ornithischian** *adj*

or·ni·thol·o·gy \ˌȯr-nə-ˈthäl-ə-jē\ *n, pl* **-gies** [NL *ornithologia*, fr. *ornith-* + *-logia* -logy] **1** : a branch of zoology dealing with birds **2** : a treatise on ornithology — **or·ni·tho·log·i·cal** \-thə-ˈläj-i-kəl\ *also* **or·ni·tho·log·ic** \-ik\ *adj* — **or·ni·tho·log·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **or·ni·thol·o·gist** \-ˈthäl-ə-jəst\ *n*

or·ni·thop·ter \ˈȯr-nə-ˌthäp-tər\ *n* [ISV *ornith-* + *-pter* (as in *helicopter*)] : an aircraft designed to derive its chief support and propulsion from flapping wings

or·ni·tho·sis \ˌȯr-nə-ˈthō-səs\ *n, pl* **-tho·ses** \-ˌsēz\ [NL] : PSITTACOSIS — **or·ni·thot·ic** \-ˈthät-ik\ *adj*

¹oro- *comb form* [Gk *oros* — more at RISE] : mountain ⟨*oro*logy⟩

²oro- *comb form* [L *or-, os* — more at ORAL] : mouth ⟨*oro*pharynx⟩ : oral and ⟨*oro*facial⟩

oro·gen·e·sis \ˌōr-ə-ˈjen-ə-səs, ˌȯr-\ *n* [NL] : OROGENY — **oro·ge·net·ic** \-jə-ˈnet-ik\ *adj*

orog·e·ny \ȯ-ˈräj-ə-nē\ *n* [ISV] : the process of mountain formation esp. by folding of the earth's crust — **oro·gen·ic** \ˌōr-ə-ˈjen-ik, ˌȯr-\ *adj*

oro·graph·ic \ˌōr-ə-ˈgraf-ik, ˌȯr-\ *also* **oro·graph·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj* : of or relating to mountains; *esp* : associated with or induced by the presence of mountains ⟨~ rainfall⟩ — **oro·graph·i·cal·ly** \-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

orog·ra·phy \ȯ-ˈräg-rə-fē\ *n* [ISV ¹*oro-* + *geography*] : a branch of physical geography that deals with mountains

oro·tund \ˈȯr-ə-ˌtənd, ˈär-, ˈōr-\ *adj* [modif. of L *ore rotundo*, lit., with round mouth] **1** : marked by fullness, strength, and clarity of sound : SONOROUS **2** : POMPOUS, BOMBASTIC — **oro·tun·di·ty** \ˌȯr-ə-ˈtən-dət-ē, ˌär-, ˌōr-\ *n*

¹or·phan \ˈȯr-fən\ *n* [LL *orphanus*, fr. Gk *orphanos*; akin to OHG *erbi* inheritance, L *orbus* orphaned] **1** : a child deprived by death of one or usu. both parents **2** : a young animal that has lost its mother — **orphan** *adj* — **or·phan·hood** \-ˌhůd\ *n*

²orphan *vt* **or·phaned; or·phan·ing** \ˈȯrf-(ə-)niŋ\ : to cause to become an orphan

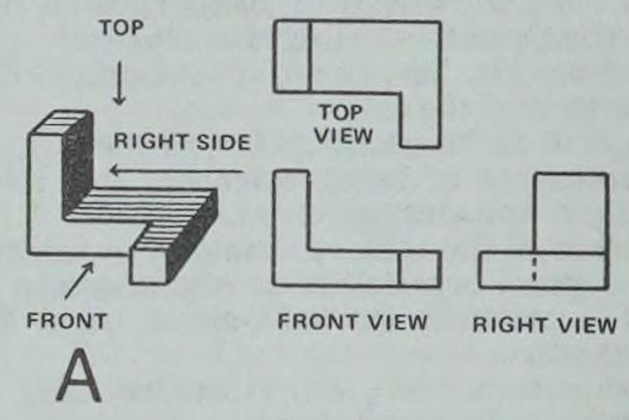
or·phan·age \ˈȯrf-(ə-)nij\ *n* **1** : the state of being an orphan **2** : an institution for the care of orphans

orphan's court *n* : a probate court which in some states has jurisdiction over the affairs of minors and the administration of estates

Or·pheus \ˈȯr-ˌfyüs, -fē-əs\ *n* [L, fr. Gk] : a poet and musician of Greek myth who almost rescued his wife Eurydice from Hades by charming Pluto and Persephone with his lyre

or·phic \ˈȯr-fik\ *adj* **1** *cap* : of or relating to Orpheus or the rites or doctrines ascribed to him **2** : MYSTIC, ORACULAR **3** : FASCINATING, ENTRANCING — **or·phi·cal·ly** \-fi-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

Or·phism \'ȯr-ˌfiz-əm\ *n* [*Orpheus*, its reputed founder] : a mystic Greek religion offering initiates purification of the soul from innate evil and release from the cycle of reincarnation
or·phrey \'ȯr-frē\ *n, pl* **orphreys** [ME *orfrey*, fr. MF *orfreis*, fr. ML *aurifrigium*, fr. L *aurum* gold + *Phrygius* Phrygian — more at ORIOLE] **1 a** : elaborate embroidery **b** : a piece of such embroidery **2** : an ornamental border or band esp. on an ecclesiastical vestment
or·pi·ment \'ȯr-pə-mənt\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *auripigmentum*, fr. *aurum* + *pigmentum* pigment] : native orange to lemon yellow arsenic trisulfide
or·pine \'ȯr-pən\ *n* [ME *orpin*, fr. MF, fr. *orpiment*] : an herb (*Sedum telephium* of the family Crassulaceae, the orpine family) that has fleshy leaves and pink or purple flowers and was formerly used in folk medicine; *broadly* : SEDUM
Or·ping·ton \'ȯr-piŋ-tən\ *n* [*Orpington*, England] : any of an English breed of large deep-chested domestic fowls
or·rery \'ȯr-ər-ē, 'är-\ *n, pl* **or·rer·ies** [Charles Boyle †1731 4th Earl of *Orrery*] : an apparatus showing the relative positions and motions of bodies in the solar system by balls moved by wheelwork
or·ris \'ȯr-əs, 'är-\ *n* [prob. alter. of ME *ireos*, fr. ML, alter. of L *iris*] : a European iris (*Iris florentina*) with a fragrant rootstock that is used esp. in perfume and sachet powder; *also* : its rootstock
or·ris·root \-ˌrüt, -ˌrůt\ *n* : the fragrant rootstock of any of several European irises used esp. in perfumery
ort \'ȯ(ə)rt\ *n* [ME] : a morsel left at a meal : SCRAP
orth- *or* **ortho-** *comb form* [ME, fr. MF, straight, right, true, fr. L, fr. Gk, fr. *orthos* — more at ARDUOUS] **1** : straight : upright : vertical ⟨*ortho*tropic⟩ **2** : perpendicular ⟨*ortho*rhombic⟩ **3** : correct : corrective ⟨*ortho*dontia⟩ **4 a** : hydrated or hydroxylated to the highest degree ⟨*ortho*phosphoric acid⟩ **b** : involving substitution at or characterized by or having the relationship of two neighboring positions in the benzene ring ⟨*ortho*-xylene⟩
or·thi·con \'ȯr-thi-ˌkän\ *n* [ISV *orth-* + *icon*oscope] : a camera tube similar to but more sensitive than an iconoscope in which the charges are scanned by a low-velocity beam
or·tho \'ȯr-(ˌ)thō\ *adj* : ORTHOCHROMATIC
or·tho·cen·ter \'ȯr-thə-ˌsent-ər\ *n* [ISV] : the common intersection of the three altitudes of a triangle or their extensions or of the several altitudes of a polyhedron provided these latter exist and meet in a point
or·tho·ce·phal·ic \ˌȯr-thō-sə-'fal-ik\ *or* **or·tho·ceph·a·lous** \-thə-'sef-ə-ləs\ *adj* [NL *orthocephalus* orthocephalic person, fr. *orth-* + Gk *kephalē* head — more at CEPHALIC] : having a medium ratio of the height to the length or breadth of the skull — **or·tho·ceph·a·ly** \-thə-'sef-ə-lē\ *n*
or·tho·chro·mat·ic \ˌȯr-thə-krō-'mat-ik\ *adj* [ISV] **1** : of, relating to, or producing tone values of light and shade in a photograph that correspond to the tones in nature **2** : sensitive to all colors except red
or·tho·clase \'ȯr-thə-ˌklās, -ˌklāz\ *n* [G *orthoklas*, fr. *orth-* + Gk *klasis* breaking, fr. *klan* to break — more at HALT] : a mineral $KAlSi_3O_8$ consisting of a monoclinic polymorph of common potassic feldspar often with sodium in place of some of the potassium
or·tho·clas·tic \ˌȯr-thə-'klas-tik\ *adj* [G *orthoklastisch*, fr. *orth-* + Gk *klastos* broken — more at CLASTIC] : cleaving in directions at right angles to each other ⟨an ~ feldspar⟩
orth·odon·tia \ˌȯr-thə-'dän-ch(ē-)ə\ *n* [NL] : ORTHODONTICS
orth·odon·tics \-'dänt-iks\ *n pl but sing in constr* : a branch of dentistry dealing with irregularities of the teeth and their correction (as by means of braces) — **orth·odon·tic** \-ik\ *adj* — **orth·odon·tist** \-'dänt-əst\ *n*
[1]or·tho·dox \'ȯr-thə-ˌdäks\ *adj* [MF or LL; MF *orthodoxe*, fr. LL *orthodoxus*, fr. LGk *orthodoxos*, fr. Gk *orth-* + *doxa* opinion — more at DOXOLOGY] **1 a** : conforming to established doctrine esp. in religion **b** : CONVENTIONAL **2** *cap* : of, relating to, or constituting any of various conservative religious or political groups: as **a** : Eastern Orthodox **b** : of or relating to Orthodox Judaism — **or·tho·dox·ly** *adv*
[2]orthodox *n, pl* **orthodox** *also* **or·tho·dox·es** **1** : one that is orthodox **2** *cap* : a member of an Eastern Orthodox church
Orthodox Judaism *n* : Judaism that adheres to the Torah and Talmud as interpreted in an authoritative rabbinic law code and applies their principles and regulations to modern living — compare CONSERVATIVE JUDAISM
or·tho·doxy \'ȯr-thə-ˌdäk-sē\ *n, pl* **-dox·ies** **1** : the quality or state of being orthodox **2** : an orthodox belief or practice **3** *cap* **a** : Eastern Orthodox Christianity **b** : ORTHODOX JUDAISM
or·tho·epist \'ȯr-thə-ˌwep-əst, ȯr-'thō-ə-pəst\ *n* : a person who is skilled in orthoepy
or·tho·epy \'ȯr-thə-ˌwep-ē, ȯr-'thō-ə-pē\ *n* [NL *orthoepia*, fr. Gk *orthoepeia*, fr. *orth-* + *epos* word — more at VOICE] **1** : the customary pronunciation of a language **2** : the study of the pronunciation of a language — **or·tho·ep·ic** \ˌȯr-thə-'wep-ik\ *also* **or·tho·ep·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj* — **or·tho·ep·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
or·tho·gen·e·sis \ˌȯr-thə-'jen-ə-səs\ *n* [NL] **1** : variation of organisms in successive generations that in some evolutionary theories takes place in some predestined direction and results in progressive evolutionary trends independent of external factors **2** : the theory that social evolution takes place in the same direction and through the same stages in every culture despite differing external conditions — **or·tho·ge·net·ic** \-jə-'net-ik\ *adj* — **or·tho·ge·net·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
or·tho·gen·ic \-'jen-ik\ *adj* [*orth-* + *-genic*] : of, relating to, or devoted to the rehabilitation of emotionally disturbed or mentally retarded children
or·thog·na·thous \ȯr-'thäg-nə-thəs\ *adj* [ISV] : having straight jaws : not having the lower parts of the face projecting — **or·thog·na·thy** \-thē\ *or* **or·thog·na·thism** \-ˌthiz-əm\ *n*
or·thog·o·nal \ȯr-'thäg-ən-ᵊl\ *adj* [MF, fr. L *orthogonius*, fr. Gk *orthogōnios*, fr. *orth-* + *gōnia* angle — more at -GON] **1** : mutually perpendicular **2** : having a sum of products or an integral that is zero or sometimes one under specified conditions: as **a** *of real-valued functions* : having the integral of the product over a specific interval equal to zero **b** *of vectors* : having the scalar product equal to zero **c** *of a square matrix* : having the sum of products of corresponding elements in any two rows or any two columns equal to one if the rows or columns are the same and equal to zero otherwise : having a transpose with which the product equals the identity matrix **3** *of a linear transformation* : having a matrix that is orthogonal : preserving length and distance **4** : composed of mutually orthogonal elements ⟨an ~ basis of a vector space⟩ **5** : statistically independent — **or·thog·o·nal·i·ty** \-ˌthäg-ə-'nal-ət-ē\ *n* — **or·thog·o·nal·ly** \-'thäg-ən-ᵊl-ē\ *adv*
or·thog·o·nal·ize \ȯr-'thäg-ən-ᵊl-ˌīz\ *vt* **-ized; -iz·ing** : to make orthogonal — **or·thog·o·nal·iza·tion** \-ˌthäg-ən-ᵊl-ə-'zā-shən\ *n*
or·tho·grade \'ȯr-thə-ˌgrād\ *adj* : walking with the body upright or vertical
or·tho·graph·ic \ˌȯr-thə-'graf-ik\ *also* **or·tho·graph·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj* **1** : characterized by perpendicular lines or right angles **2 a** : of or relating to orthography **b** : correct in spelling — **or·tho·graph·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
orthographic projection *n* **1** : projection of a single view of an object in which the view is projected along lines perpendicular to both the view and the drawing surface **2** : the representation of related views of an object as if they were all in the same plane and projected by orthographic projection



object *A* with top view, front view, and right view in orthographic projection

or·thog·ra·phy \ȯr-'thäg-rə-fē\ *n* [ME *ortografie*, fr. MF, fr. L *orthographia*, fr. Gk, fr. *orth-* + *graphein* to write — more at CARVE] **1 a** : the art of writing words with the proper letters according to standard usage **b** : the representation of the sounds of a language by written or printed symbols **2** : a part of language study that deals with letters and spelling
or·tho·nor·mal \ˌȯr-thə-'nȯr-məl\ *adj* **1** : being normal and orthogonal ⟨~ functions⟩ **2** : being or composed of orthogonal elements of unit length ⟨~ basis of a vector space⟩
or·tho·pe·dic *also* **or·tho·pae·dic** \ˌȯr-thə-'pēd-ik\ *adj* [F *orthopédique*, fr. *orthopédie* orthopedics, fr. *orth-* + Gk *paid-*, *pais* child — more at FEW] **1** : of, relating to, or employed in orthopedics **2** : marked by deformities or crippling
or·tho·pe·di·cal·ly \-'pēd-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* : by reason or means of or in respect to an orthopedic state or orthopedics
or·tho·pe·dics *also* **or·tho·pae·dics** \-'pēd-iks\ *n pl but sing or pl in constr* : the correction or prevention of skeletal deformities — **or·tho·pe·dist** \-'pēd-əst\ *n*
or·tho·phos·phate \ˌȯr-thə-'fäs-ˌfāt\ *n* : a salt or ester of orthophosphoric acid
or·tho·phos·pho·ric acid \ˌȯr-thə-ˌfäs-ˌfȯr-ik-, -ˌfär-; -ˌfäs-f(ə-)rik-\ *n* [ISV] : phosphoric acid in its unhydrated form
or·tho·psy·chi·a·try \-sə-'kī-ə-trē, -(ˌ)sī-\ *n* : prophylactic psychiatry concerned esp. with incipient mental and behavioral disorders in youth — **or·tho·psy·chi·at·ric** \-ˌsī-kē-'a-trik\ *adj* — **or·tho·psy·chi·a·trist** \-sə-'kī-ə-trəst, -(ˌ)sī-\ *n*
or·thop·ter·an \ȯr-'thäp-tə-rən\ *n* [NL *Orthoptera*, group name] : any of an order (Orthoptera) of insects (as crickets, grasshoppers, and sometimes mantises) that are characterized by biting mouthparts, two pairs of wings or none, and an incomplete metamorphosis — **orthopteran** *adj* — **or·thop·ter·ist** \-rəst\ *n* — **or·thop·ter·oid** \-ˌrȯid\ *n or adj*
or·thop·ter·on \ȯr-'thäp-tə-rən, -ˌrän\ *n, pl* **-tera** \-tə-rə\ [NL, sing. of *Orthoptera*, group name, fr. *orth-* + Gk *pteron* wing — more at FEATHER] : ORTHOPTERAN
or·tho·rhom·bic \ˌȯr-thə-'räm-bik\ *adj* [ISV] : of, relating to, or constituting a system of crystallization characterized by three unequal axes at right angles to each other
or·tho·scop·ic \-'skäp-ik\ *adj* [ISV *orth-* + *-scopic* (as in *microscopic*)] **1** : giving an image in correct and normal proportions **2** : giving a flat field of view
or·thot·ics \ȯr-'thät-iks\ *n pl but sing in constr* [NL *orthosis* straightening (fr. Gk *orthōsis*, fr. *orthoun* to straighten, fr. *orthos*), after such pairs as NL *prosthesis:* E *prosthetics*] : a branch of mechanical and medical science that deals with the support and bracing of weak or ineffective joints or muscles — **or·thot·ic** \-ik\ *adj* — **or·tho·tist** \ȯr-'thät-əst, 'ȯr-thət-əst\ *n*
or·tho·tro·pic \ˌȯr-thə-'trōp-ik, -'träp-\ *adj* : having the longer axis more or less vertical ⟨~ plant stems⟩ — **or·tho·tro·pi·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **or·thot·ro·pism** \ȯr-'thä-trə-ˌpiz-əm\ *n*
or·thot·ro·pous \ȯr-'thä-trə-pəs\ *adj* [ISV] : having the ovule straight so that the chalaza, hilum, and micropyle are in the same axial line
or·to·lan \'ȯrt-ᵊl-ən\ *n* [F or It; F, fr. It *ortolano*, lit., gardener, fr. L *hortulanus*, fr. *hortulus*, dim. of *hortus* garden — more at YARD] : a European bunting (*Emberiza hortulana*) that is about six inches long and is valued as a table delicacy
[1]-o·ry \ˌōr-ē, ˌȯr-ē, (ə-)rē\ *n suffix* [ME *-orie*, fr. L *-orium*, fr. neut. of *-orius*, adj. suffix] **1** : place of or for ⟨observat*ory*⟩ **2** : something that serves for ⟨cremat*ory*⟩
[2]-ory *adj suffix* [ME *-orie*, fr. MF & L; MF, fr. L *-orius*] **1** : of, relating to, or characterized by ⟨gustat*ory*⟩ **2** : serving for, producing, or maintaining ⟨justificat*ory*⟩

oryx \'ōr-iks, 'ȯr-, 'är-\ *n, pl* **oryx** *or* **oryx·es** [NL, genus name, fr. L, a gazelle, fr. Gk, pickax, antelope, fr. *oryssein* to dig — more at ROUGH] : any of a genus (*Oryx*) of large straight-horned African antelopes



oryx

[1]os \'äs\ *n, pl* **os·sa** \'äs-ə\ [L *oss-, os* — more at OSSEOUS] : BONE

[2]os \'ōs\ *n, pl* **ora** \'ōr-ə, 'ȯr-ə\ [L *or-, os* — more at ORAL] : MOUTH, ORIFICE

[3]os \'ōs\ *n, pl* **osar** \'ō-ˌsär\ [Sw *ås* mountain ridge, fr. ON *āss;* akin to Gk *ōmos* shoulder — more at HUMERUS] : ESKER

Os *symbol* osmium

OS *abbr* **1** [L *oculus sinister*] left eye **2** old series **3** old style **4** ordinary seaman **5** out of stock

OSA *abbr* Order of St. Augustine

Osage \ō-'sāj\ *n, pl* **Osag·es** *or* **Osage** **1** : a member of an Amerindian people orig. of Missouri **2** : the language of the Osage people

Osage orange *n* : an ornamental American tree (*Maclura pomifera*) of the mulberry family with shiny ovate leaves and hard bright orange wood; *also* : its yellowish fruit

OSB *abbr* Order of St. Benedict

Os·can \'äs-kən\ *n* [L *Oscus*] **1** : a member of a people of ancient Italy occupying Campania **2** : the language of the Oscan people — see INDO-EUROPEAN LANGUAGES table

[1]Os·car \'äs-kər\ *n* [*Oscar* Pierce, 20th cent. Am wheat and fruit grower] : a statuette awarded annually by a professional organization for notable achievement in motion pictures

[2]Oscar — a communications code word for the letter *o*

os·cil·late \'äs-ə-ˌlāt\ *vi* **-lat·ed; -lat·ing** [L *oscillatus,* pp. of *oscillare* to swing, fr. *oscillum* swing] **1 a** : to swing backward and forward like a pendulum : VIBRATE **b** : to move or travel back and forth between two points **2** : to vary between opposing beliefs, feelings, or theories **3** : to vary above and below a mean value ***syn*** see SWING — **os·cil·la·to·ry** \'äs-ə-lə-ˌtōr-ē, -ˌtȯr-\ *adj*

os·cil·la·tion \ˌäs-ə-'lā-shən\ *n* **1** : the action or fact of oscillating : VIBRATION **2** : VARIATION, FLUCTUATION **3** : a flow of electricity changing periodically from a maximum to a minimum; *esp* : a flow periodically changing direction **4** : a single swing (as of an oscillating body) from one extreme limit to the other — **os·cil·la·tion·al** \-shnəl, -shən-ᵊl\ *adj*

os·cil·la·tor \'äs-ə-ˌlāt-ər\ *n* **1** : one that oscillates **2** : a device for producing alternating current; *esp* : a radio-frequency or audio-frequency generator

os·cil·lo·gram \ä-'sil-ə-ˌgram, ə-\ *n* [L *oscillare* + ISV *-gram*] : a record made by an oscillograph or oscilloscope

os·cil·lo·graph \-ˌgraf\ *n* [F *oscillographe,* fr. L *oscillare* + F *-graphe* -graph] : an instrument for recording alternating current wave forms or other electrical oscillations — **os·cil·lo·graph·ic** \ä-ˌsil-ə-'graf-ik, ˌäs-ə-lə-\ *adj* — **os·cil·lo·graph·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **os·cil·log·ra·phy** \ˌäs-ə-'läg-rə-fē\ *n*

os·cil·lo·scope \ä-'sil-ə-ˌskōp, ə-\ *n* [L *oscillare* + ISV *-scope*] : an instrument in which the variations in a fluctuating electrical quantity appear temporarily as a visible wave form on the fluorescent screen of a cathode-ray tube; *broadly* : OSCILLOGRAPH — **os·cil·lo·scop·ic** \ä-ˌsil-ə-'skäp-ik, ˌäs-ə-lə-\ *adj* — **os·cil·lo·scop·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

os·cine \'äs-ˌīn\ *adj* [deriv. of L *oscin-, oscen* bird used in divination, fr. *obs-* in front of + *canere* to sing — more at OSTENSIBLE, CHANT] : PASSERINE 2 — **oscine** *n*

Os·co–Um·bri·an \ˌäs-kō-'əm-brē-ən\ *n* [L *Oscus* + E *Umbrian*] : a subdivision of the Italic branch of the Indo-European language family containing Oscan and Umbrian — see INDO-EUROPEAN LANGUAGES table

os·cu·late \'äs-kyə-ˌlāt\ *vt* **-lat·ed; -lat·ing** [L *osculatus,* pp. of *osculari,* fr. *osculum* kiss, fr. dim. of *os* mouth — more at ORAL] : KISS

osculating circle *n* : a circle whose center lies on the concave side of a curve on the normal to a given point of the curve and whose radius is equal to the radius of curvature at that point

os·cu·la·tion \ˌäs-kyə-'lā-shən\ *n* : the act of kissing; *also* : KISS — **os·cu·la·to·ry** \'äs-kyə-lə-ˌtōr-ē, -ˌtȯr-\ *adj*

os·cu·lum \'äs-kyə-ləm\ *n* [NL, fr. L, dim. of *os* mouth] : an excurrent opening of a sponge

[1]-ose \ˌōs, 'ōs *sometimes* ˌōz, 'ōz\ *adj suffix* [ME, fr. L *-osus*] : full of : having : possessing the qualities of ⟨cym*ose*⟩

[2]-ose \ˌōs, ˌōz\ *n suffix* [F, fr. *glucose*] **1** : carbohydrate ⟨amyl*ose*⟩; *esp* : sugar ⟨pent*ose*⟩ **2** : primary hydrolysis product ⟨prote*ose*⟩

Osee \'ō-ˌzē, ō-'zā-ə\ *n* [LL, fr. Heb *Hōshēa'*] : HOSEA

OSF *abbr* Order of St. Francis

osier \'ō-zhər\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. ML *auseria* osier bed] **1** : any of various willows (esp. *Salix viminalis*) whose pliable twigs are used for furniture and basketry **2** : a willow rod used in basketry **3** : any of several American dogwoods

Osi·ris \ō-'sī-rəs\ *n* [L, fr. Gk, fr. Egypt *Ws'r*] : a mythical Egyptian hero who was king and educator of his people and was regarded as god of the dead

-o·sis \'ō-səs\ *n suffix, pl* **-o·ses** \-ˌsēz\ *or* **-o·sis·es** [ME, fr. L, fr. Gk *-ōsis,* fr. *-ō-* (stem of causative verbs in *-oun*) + *-sis*] **1 a** : action : process : condition ⟨hypn*osis*⟩ **b** : abnormal or diseased condition ⟨leuk*osis*⟩ **2** : increase : formation ⟨leukocyt*osis*⟩

Os·man·li \äz-'man-lē\ *n* [Turk *osmanlı,* fr. *Osman,* founder of the Ottoman Empire] **1** : a Turk of the western branch of the Turkish peoples **2** : TURKISH

os·mat·ic \äz-'mat-ik\ *or* **os·mic** \'äz-mik\ *adj* [Gk *osmē* odor + E *-atic* (as in *aquatic*) — more at ODOR] : depending chiefly on the sense of smell for orientation ⟨the dog is a highly ~ animal⟩

os·me·te·ri·um \ˌäz-mə-'tir-ē-əm\ *n, pl* **-ria** \-ē-ə\ [NL, fr. Gk *osmē* odor + *-tērion,* suffix denoting an instrument] : a protrusible forked process that emits a disagreeable odor, is borne on the first thoracic segment of the larvae of many swallowtail butterflies and their relatives, and is prob. a defensive organ

os·mic \'äz-mik\ *adj* [ISV] : of, relating to, or derived from osmium esp. with a relatively high valence

osmic acid *n* : OSMIUM TETROXIDE

os·mi·rid·i·um \ˌäz-mə-'rid-ē-əm\ *n* [Gk *osmē* + NL *iridium*] : IRIDOSMINE

os·mi·um \'äz-mē-əm\ *n* [NL, fr. Gk *osmē* odor] : a hard brittle blue-gray or blue-black polyvalent metallic element of the platinum group with a high melting point that is the heaviest metal known and that is used esp. as a catalyst and in hard alloys — see ELEMENT table

osmium tetroxide *n* : a crystalline compound OsO_4 that is an oxide of osmium, has a poisonous irritating vapor, and is used as a catalyst, oxidizing agent, and biological stain

os·mol \'äz-ˌmōl, 'äs-\ *n* [blend of *osmosis* and *mol*] : a standard unit of osmotic pressure based on the concentration of an ion in a solution — **os·mol·al** \äz-'mō-ləl, äs-\ *adj* — **os·mo·lal·i·ty** \ˌäz-mō-'lal-ət-ē, ˌäs-\ *n*

os·mo·lar \äz-'mō-lər, äs-\ *adj* [*osmol*] : OSMOTIC — used chiefly of biological fluids — **os·mo·lar·i·ty** \ˌäz-mō-'lar-ət-ē, ˌäs-\ *n*

os·mom·e·ter \äz-'mäm-ət-ər, äs-\ *n* [*osmo*sis + *-meter*] : an apparatus for measuring osmotic pressure — **os·mo·met·ric** \ˌäz-mə-'me-trik, ˌäs-\ *adj* — **os·mom·e·try** \äz-'mäm-ə-trē\ *n*

os·mo·reg·u·la·tion \'äz-mō-ˌreg-yə-'lā-shən, 'äs-\ *n* [*osmo*sis + *regulation*] : regulation of osmotic pressure esp. in the body of a living organism

os·mo·reg·u·la·to·ry \-'reg-yə-lə-ˌtōr-ē, -ˌtȯr-\ *adj* : of, relating to, or concerned with the maintenance of constant osmotic pressure

os·mose \'äz-ˌmōs, 'äs-, äz-', äs-'\ *vi* **os·mosed; os·mos·ing** [back-formation fr. *osmosis*] : to diffuse by osmosis

os·mo·sis \äz-'mō-səs, äs-\ *n* [NL, short for *endosmosis*] **1** : diffusion through a semipermeable membrane (as of a living cell) typically separating a solvent and a solution that tends to equalize their concentrations; *esp* : the passage of solvent in distinction from the passage of solute **2** : a process of absorption or diffusion suggestive of the flow of osmotic action

os·mot·ic \-'mät-ik\ *adj* : of, relating to, or having the properties of osmosis — **os·mot·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

osmotic pressure *n* : the pressure produced by or associated with osmosis and dependent on molar concentration and absolute temperature: as **a** : the maximum pressure that develops in a solution separated from a solvent by a membrane permeable only to the solvent **b** : the pressure that must be applied to a solution to just prevent osmosis

osmotic shock *n* : a rapid change in the osmotic pressure (as by transfer to a medium of different concentration) affecting a living system

os·mous \'äz-məs\ *adj* : of, relating to, or derived from osmium esp. with a relatively low valence

os·mun·da \äz-'mən-də\ *n* [NL, genus name, fr. ML, osmunda, fr. OF *osmonde*] : any of a genus (*Osmunda*) of rather large ferns with fibrous creeping rhizomes

os·prey \'äs-prē, -ˌprā\ *n, pl* **ospreys** [ME *ospray,* fr. (assumed) MF *osfraie,* fr. L *ossifraga*] **1** : a large fish-eating hawk (*Pandion haliaetus*) that is a dark brown color above and mostly pure white below **2** : a feather trimming used for millinery

ossa *pl of* OS

os·se·in \'äs-ē-ən\ *n* [ISV, fr. L *oss-, os*] : the collagen of bones

os·se·ous \'äs-ē-əs\ *adj* [L *osseus,* fr. *oss-, os* bone; akin to Gk *osteon* bone] : BONY 1 — **os·se·ous·ly** *adv*

Os·set \'äs-ət, -ˌet\ *or* **Os·sete** \'äs-ˌēt\ *n* [Russ *Osetin*] : a member of an Aryan people of central Caucasia — **Os·se·tian** \ä-'sē-shən\ *adj or n*

Os·set·ic \ä-'set-ik\ *n* : the Iranian language of the Ossets

Os·si·an·ic \ˌäs(h)-ē-'an-ik\ *adj* : of, relating to, or resembling the legendary Irish bard Ossian, the poems ascribed to him, or the rhythmic prose style used by James Macpherson in his alleged translations

os·si·cle \'äs-i-kəl\ *n* [L *ossiculum,* dim. of *oss-, os*] : a small bone or bony structure (as the malleus, incus, or stapes) — **os·sic·u·lar** \ä-'sik-yə-lər\ *adj* — **os·sic·u·late** \-lət\ *adj*

os·si·fi·ca·tion \ˌäs-ə-fə-'kā-shən\ *n* **1 a** : the natural process of bone formation **b** : the hardening (as of muscular tissue) into a bony substance **2** : a mass or particle of ossified tissue **3** : a tendency toward or state of being molded into a rigid, conventional, sterile, or unimaginative condition ⟨a revolt against the ~*s* of institutions —Amos Vogel⟩ — **os·sif·i·ca·to·ry** \ä-'sif-i-kə-ˌtōr-ē, -ˌtȯr-\ *adj*

os·si·frage \'äs-ə-frij, -ˌfrāj\ *n* [L *ossifraga* sea eagle, fr. fem. of *ossifragus* bone-breaking, fr. *oss-, os* + *frangere* to break — more at BREAK] : LAMMERGEIER

os·si·fy \'äs-ə-ˌfī\ *vb* **-fied; -fy·ing** [prob. fr. (assumed) NL *ossificare,* fr. L *oss-, os*] *vi* **1** : to change into bone **2** : to become callous or conventional ~ *vt* **1** : to change (as cartilage) into bone **2** : to make rigidly conventional and opposed to change

os·su·ary \'äsh-ə-ˌwer-ē, 'äs-(y)ə-\ *n, pl* **-ar·ies** [LL *ossuarium,* fr. L, neut. of *ossuarius* of bones, fr. OL *ossua,* pl. of *oss-, os*] : a depository for the bones of the dead

oste- *or* **osteo-** *comb form* [NL, fr. Gk, fr. *osteon* — more at OSSEOUS] : bone ⟨*oste*al⟩ ⟨*osteo*myelitis⟩

os·te·al \'äs-tē-əl\ *adj* [ISV] : of, relating to, or resembling bone; *also* : affecting or involving bone or the skeleton

os·te·itis \ˌäs-tē-'īt-əs\ *n* [NL] : inflammation of bone

os·ten·si·ble \ä-'sten(t)-sə-bəl, ə-\ *adj* [F, fr. L *ostensus,* pp. of *ostendere* to show, fr. *obs-* in front of (akin to *ob-* in the way) + *tendere*

to stretch — more at OB-, THIN] **1** : intended for display : open to view **2** : being such in appearance : plausible rather than demonstrably true or real ⟨his ~ frankness covered a devious scheme⟩ ***syn*** see APPARENT — **os·ten·si·bly** \-blē\ *adv*

os·ten·sive \ä-'sten(t)-siv\ *adj* **1** : OSTENSIBLE 2 **2** : of, relating to, or constituting definition by exhibiting the thing or quality being defined — **os·ten·sive·ly** *adv*

os·ten·so·ri·um \ˌäs-tən-'sōr-ē-əm, -ˌten-, -'sȯr-\ *n* [ML, fr. L *ostensus*] : MONSTRANCE

os·ten·ta·tion \ˌäs-tən-'tā-shən\ *n* [ME *ostentacion*, fr. MF *ostentation*, fr. L *ostentation-*, *ostentatio*, fr. *ostentatus*, pp. of *ostentare* to display ostentatiously, fr. *ostentus*, pp. of *ostendere*] **1** : excessive display : PRETENTIOUSNESS **2** *archaic* : an act of displaying

os·ten·ta·tious \-shəs\ *adj* : marked by or indulging in conspicuous or vainglorious and sometimes pretentious display ***syn*** see SHOWY — **os·ten·ta·tious·ly** *adv* — **os·ten·ta·tious·ness** *n*

os·teo·ar·thri·tis \ˌäs-tē-ō-är-'thrīt-əs\ *n* [NL] : degenerative arthritis — **os·teo·ar·thrit·ic** \-'thrit-ik\ *adj*

os·teo·blast \'äs-tē-ə-ˌblast\ *n* [ISV] : a bone-forming cell — **os·teo·blas·tic** \ˌäs-tē-ə-'blas-tik\ *adj*

os·teo·clast \'äs-tē-ə-ˌklast\ *n* [ISV *oste-* + Gk *klastos* broken — more at CLASTIC] : one of the large multinucleate cells in developing bone that are associated with the dissolution of unwanted bone — **os·teo·clas·tic** \ˌäs-tē-ə-'klas-tik\ *adj*

os·teo·cyte \'äs-tē-ə-ˌsīt\ *n* : a cell that is characteristic of adult bone and is isolated in a lacuna of the bone substance

[1]os·te·oid \'äs-tē-ˌȯid\ *adj* [ISV] : resembling bone

[2]osteoid *n* : uncalcified bone matrix

os·te·ol·o·gy \ˌäs-tē-'äl-ə-jē\ *n* [NL *osteologia*, fr. Gk, description of bones, fr. *oste-* + *-logia* -logy] **1** : a branch of anatomy dealing with the bones **2** : the bony structure of an organism — **os·te·o·log·i·cal** \-tē-ə-'läj-i-kəl\ *adj* — **os·te·o·log·i·cal·ly** \-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **os·te·ol·o·gist** \-tē-'äl-ə-jəst\ *n*

os·te·o·ma \ˌäs-tē-'ō-mə\ *n, pl* **-mas** *or* **-ma·ta** \-mət-ə\ [NL] : a benign tumor composed of bone tissue

os·teo·ma·la·cia \ˌäs-tē-ō-mə-'lā-sh(ē-)ə\ *n* [NL, fr. *oste-* + Gk *malakia* softness, fr. *malakos* soft — more at MALAC-] : a disease characterized by softening of the bones in the adult and equivalent to rickets in the immature

os·teo·my·eli·tis \-ˌmī-ə-'līt-əs\ *n* [NL] : an infectious inflammatory disease of bone marked by local death and separation of tissue

os·teo·path \'äs-tē-ə-ˌpath\ *n* : a practitioner of osteopathy

os·te·op·a·thy \ˌäs-tē-'äp-ə-thē\ *n* [NL *osteopathia*, fr. *oste-* + L *-pathia* -pathy] : a system of medical practice based on a theory that diseases are due chiefly to loss of structural integrity which can be restored by manipulation of the parts supplemented by therapeutic measures (as use of medicine or surgery) — **os·teo·path·ic** \ˌäs-tē-ə-'path-ik\ *adj* — **os·teo·path·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

os·teo·phyte \'äs-tē-ə-ˌfīt\ *n* [ISV] : a pathological bony outgrowth — **os·teo·phyt·ic** \ˌäs-tē-ə-'fit-ik\ *adj*

os·teo·plas·tic \ˌäs-tē-ə-'plas-tik\ *adj* : of or relating to the surgical replacement of bone — **os·teo·plas·ty** \'äs-tē-ə-ˌplas-tē\ *n*

osti·na·to \ˌäs-tə-'nät-(ˌ)ō, ˌȯ-stə-\ *n, pl* **-tos** [It, obstinate, fr. L *obstinatus*] : a musical figure repeated persistently at the same pitch throughout a composition — compare IMITATION, SEQUENCE

os·ti·ole \'äs-tē-ˌōl\ *n* [NL *ostiolum*, fr. L, dim. of *ostium*] : a small bodily aperture, orifice, or pore

os·ti·um \'äs-tē-əm\ *n, pl* **os·tia** \-tē-ə\ [NL, fr. L, door, mouth of a river; akin to L *os* mouth — more at ORAL] : a mouthlike opening in a bodily organ

ostler *var of* HOSTLER

ost·mark \'ōst-ˌmärk, 'ȯst-\ *n* [G, lit., East mark] — see MONEY table

os·to·my \'äs-tə-mē\ *n, pl* **-mies** [*colostomy*] : an operation (as a colostomy) to create an artificial anus

-os·to·sis \äs-'tō-səs\ *n comb form, pl* **-os·to·ses** \-ˌsēz\ *or* **-os·to·sis·es** \-'tō-sə-səz\ [NL, fr. Gk *-ostōsis*, fr. *osteon* bone — more at OSSEOUS] : ossification of a (specified) part or to a (specified) degree ⟨hyper*ostosis*⟩ ⟨ect*ostosis*⟩

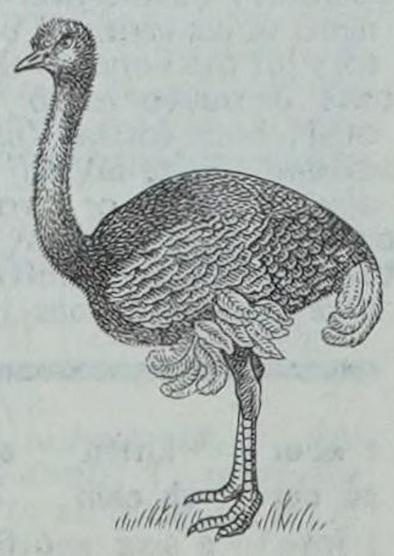
os·tra·cism \'äs-trə-ˌsiz-əm\ *n* **1** : a method of temporary banishment by popular vote without trial or special accusation practiced in ancient Greece **2** : exclusion by general consent from common privileges or social acceptance

os·tra·cize \-ˌsīz\ *vt* **-cized; -ciz·ing** [Gk *ostrakizein* to banish by voting with potsherds, fr. *ostrakon* shell, potsherd — more at OYSTER] **1** : to exile by ostracism **2** : to exclude from a group by common consent

os·tra·cod \'äs-trə-ˌkäd\ *also* **os·tra·code** \-ˌkōd\ *n* [deriv. of Gk *ostrakon*] : any of a subclass (Ostracoda) of small active mostly freshwater crustaceans that have the body enclosed in a bivalve shell, the body segmentation obscured, the abdomen rudimentary, and only seven pairs of appendages

os·tra·co·derm \'äs-trə-kō-ˌdərm, äs-'trak-ə-\ *n* [deriv. of Gk *ostrakon* + *derma* skin — more at DERM-] : any of an order (Ostracodermi) of primitive fossil armored fishes — **ostracoderm** *adj*

os·trich \'äs-trich, 'ös- *also* -trij\ *n* [ME, fr. OF *ostrusce*, fr. (assumed) VL *avis struthio*, fr. L *avis* bird + LL *struthio* ostrich — more at STRUTHIOUS] **1 a** : a swift-footed 2-toed flightless ratite bird (genus *Struthio*, esp. *S. camelus* of northern Africa) that has valuable wing and tail plumes, is the largest of existing birds, and often weighs 300 pounds **b** : RHEA **2** [fr. the belief that the ostrich when pursued hides his head in the sand and believes himself to be unseen] : one who attempts to avoid danger by refusing to face it



ostrich 1a

Os·tro·goth \'äs-trə-ˌgäth\ *n* [LL *Ostrogothi*, pl.] : a member of the eastern division of the Goths — **Os·tro·goth·ic** \ˌäs-trə-'gäth-ik\ *adj*

Os·we·go tea \ä-ˌswē-gō-\ *n* [*Oswego* river, N. Y.] : a No. American mint (*Monarda didyma*) with showy scarlet irregular flowers

OT *abbr* **1** occupational therapy **2** Old Testament **3** overtime

ot- *or* **oto-** *comb form* [Gk *ōt-*, *ōto-*, fr. *ōt-*, *ous* — more at EAR] : ear ⟨*ot*itis⟩ : ear and ⟨*oto*laryngology⟩

Othel·lo \ə-'thel-(ˌ)ō, ō-\ *n* : a Moor in the military service of Venice, husband of Desdemona, and protagonist of Shakespeare's tragedy *Othello*

[1]oth·er \'əth-ər\ *adj* [ME, fr. OE *ōther*; akin to OHG *andar* other, Skt *antara*] **1 a** : being the one (as of two or more) left ⟨held on with one hand and waved with the ~ one⟩ **b** : being the ones distinct from those first mentioned ⟨taller than the ~ boys⟩ **c** : SECOND ⟨every ~ day⟩ **2** : not the same : DIFFERENT ⟨schools ~ than his own⟩ **3** : ADDITIONAL **4 a** : recently past ⟨the ~ evening⟩ **b** : FORMER ⟨in ~ times⟩

[2]other *n* **1 a** : one that remains of two or more **b** : a thing opposite to or excluded by something else ⟨went from one side to the ~⟩ **2** : a different or additional one ⟨the ~*s* came later⟩

[3]other *pron, sometimes pl in constr* **1** *obs* **a** : one of two that remains **b** : each preceding one **2** : a different or additional one ⟨something or ~⟩ ⟨some left, but many ~*s* stayed⟩

[4]other *adv* : OTHERWISE — used with *than*

oth·er–di·rect·ed \ˌəth-ər-də-'rek-təd, -dī-\ *adj* : directed in thought and action primarily by external norms as opposed to one's own scale of values — **oth·er–di·rect·ed·ness** *n*

oth·er·guess \'əth-ər-ˌges\ *adj* [alter. of E dial. *othergates*] *archaic* : DIFFERENT

oth·er·ness \'əth-ər-nəs\ *n* **1** : the quality or state of being other or different **2** : something that is other or different

oth·er·where \-ˌ(h)we(ə)r, -ˌ(h)wa(ə)r\ *adv* : ELSEWHERE

oth·er·while \-ˌhwīl, -ˌwīl\ *also* **oth·er·whiles** \-ˌhwīlz, -ˌwīlz\ *adv, chiefly dial* : at another time

[1]oth·er·wise \-ˌwīz\ *adv* [ME, fr. OE (*on*) *ōthre wīsan* in another manner] **1** : in a different way or manner ⟨glossed over or ~ handled —*Playboy*⟩ **2** : in different circumstances ⟨might ~ have left⟩ **3** : in other respects ⟨an ~ flimsy farce —*Current Biog.*⟩ **4** : if not ⟨do what I tell you, ~ you'll be sorry⟩

[2]otherwise *adj* : DIFFERENT

oth·er·world \'əth-ər-ˌwərld\ *n* : a world beyond death or beyond present reality

oth·er·world·ly \-ˌwərl-(d)lē\ *adj* **1 a** : of or relating to a world other than the actual world : TRANSCENDENTAL **b** : devoted to preparing for a world to come **2** : devoted to intellectual or imaginative pursuits — **oth·er·world·li·ness** *n*

otic \'ōt-ik\ *adj* [Gk *ōtikos*, fr. *ōt-*, *ous* ear — more at EAR] : of, relating to, or located in the region of the ear

[1]-ot·ic \'ät-ik\ *adj suffix* [Gk *-ōtikos*, fr. *-ōtos*, ending of verbals, fr. *-o-* (stem of causative verbs in *-oun*) + *-tos*, suffix forming verbals — more at -ED] **1 a** : of, relating to, or characterized by a (specified) action, process, or condition ⟨symbi*otic*⟩ **b** : having an abnormal or diseased condition of a (specified) kind ⟨epizo*otic*⟩ **2** : showing an increase or a formation of ⟨leukocyt*otic*⟩

[2]-otic \'ōt-ik\ *adj comb form* [Gk *ōtikos*] : having (such) a relationship to the ear ⟨perio*tic*⟩

oti·ose \'ō-shē-ˌōs, 'ōt-ē-\ *adj* [L *otiosus*, fr. *otium* leisure] **1** : being at leisure : IDLE **2** : producing no useful result : FUTILE **3** : lacking use or effect : FUNCTIONLESS ***syn*** see VAIN — **oti·ose·ly** *adv* — **oti·ose·ness** *n* — **oti·os·i·ty** \ˌō-shē-'äs-ət-ē, ˌōt-ē-\ *n*

oti·tis \ō-'tīt-əs\ *n* [NL] : inflammation of the ear

oto·cyst \'ōt-ə-ˌsist\ *n* [ISV, fr. its probable auditory function] : a fluid-containing organ of many invertebrates that contains an otolith : STATOCYST — **oto·cys·tic** \ˌōt-ə-'sis-tik\ *adj*

oto·lar·yn·gol·o·gy \'ōt-ō-ˌlar-ən-'gäl-ə-jē\ *n* [*ot-* + *laryng-* + *-logy*] : a branch of medicine dealing with the ear, nose, and throat — **oto·lar·yn·go·log·i·cal** \-ˌlar-ən-gə-'läj-i-kəl\ *adj* — **oto·lar·yn·gol·o·gist** \-'gäl-ə-jəst\ *n*

oto·lith \'ōt-ᵊl-ˌith\ *n* [F *otolithe*, fr. *ot-* + *-lithe* -lith] : a calcareous concretion in the internal ear of a vertebrate or in the otocyst of an invertebrate — **oto·lith·ic** \ˌōt-ᵊl-'ith-ik\ *adj*

Oto·mac \ˌōt-ə-'mäk, -'mak\ *n* **1** : a member of an extinct aboriginal people of southern Venezuela **2** : the language of the Otomac people

OTS *abbr* officers' training school

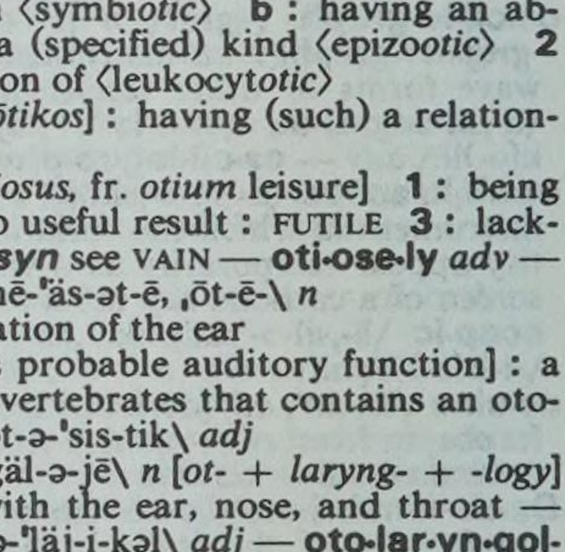
ot·ta·va \ō-'täv-ə\ *adv or adj* [It, octave, fr. ML *octava*] : at an octave higher or lower than written — used as a direction in music

ot·ta·va ri·ma \ō-ˌtäv-ə-'rē-mə\ *n, pl* **ottava rimas** [It, lit., eighth rhyme] : a stanza of eight lines of heroic verse with a rhyme scheme of *abababcc*

Ot·ta·wa \'ät-ə-wə, -ˌwä, -ˌwȯ\ *n, pl* **Ottawas** *or* **Ottawa** : a member of an Amerindian people of Michigan and southern Ontario

ot·ter \'ät-ər\ *n, pl* **otters** *also* **otter** [ME *oter*, fr. OE *otor*; akin to OHG *ottar* otter, Gk *hydōr* water — more at WATER] **1** : any of several aquatic fish-eating mammals (genus *Lutra*) that are related to the weasels and minks and have webbed and clawed feet and dark brown fur **2** : the fur or pelt of an otter

otter hound *n* [fr. its use in hunting otters] : a British hound of complex ancestry that in many respects resembles the bloodhound, that has a wiry shaggy coat, long pendulous ears, and a scowling expression, and that is a good but slow water dog with a keen scent



otter 1

ot·to \'ät-(ˌ)ō\ *var of* ATTAR

ot·to·man \'ät-ə-mən\ *n* **1** *cap* : TURK **2** [F *ottomane*, fr. fem. of *ottoman*, adj.] **a** : an upholstered often overstuffed seat or couch usu. without a back **b** : an overstuffed footstool
Ot·to·man \'ät-ə-mən\ *adj* [F, adj. & n., prob. fr. It *ottomano*, fr. Ar *'othmānī*, fr. *'Othmān* Othman, founder of the Ottoman Empire] : of or relating to the Turks or Turkey : TURKISH
oua·bain \wä-'bā-ən, 'wä-ˌbān\ *n* [ISV, fr. F *ouabaïo*, an African tree, fr. Somali *waba yo*] : a poisonous glycoside $C_{29}H_{44}O_{12}$ obtained from several African shrubs or trees of the dogbane family and used medically like digitalis and in Africa as an arrow poison
ou·bli·ette \ˌü-blē-'et\ *n* [F, fr. MF, fr. *oublier* to forget, fr. L *oblitus*, pp. of *oblivisci* — more at OBLIVION] : a dungeon with an opening only at the top
¹ouch \'aůch\ *n* [ME, alter. (resulting fr. incorrect division of *a nouche*) of *nouche*, fr. MF, of Gmc origin; akin to OHG *nusca* clasp; akin to OE *nett* net] **1** *obs* : CLASP, BROOCH **2** **a** : a setting for a precious stone **b** : JEWEL, ORNAMENT; *esp* : a buckle or brooch set with precious stones
²ouch *interj* [origin unknown] — used esp. to express sudden pain
oud \'üd\ *n* [Ar *'ūd*, lit., wood] : a musical instrument of the lute family used in southwest Asia and northern Africa
¹ought \'ȯt\ *verbal auxiliary* [ME *oughte* (1st & 3d sing. pres. indic.), fr. *oughte*, 1st & 3d sing. past indic. & subj. of *owen* to own, owe — more at OWE] — used to express obligation ⟨~ to pay our debts⟩, advisability ⟨~ to take care of yourself⟩, natural expectation ⟨~ to be here by now⟩, or logical consequence ⟨the result ~ to be infinity⟩
²ought \'ȯ(k)t\ *vt* [ME *oughte*, 1st & 3d sing. past indic. of *owen*] **1** *chiefly Scot* : OWE **2** *chiefly Scot* : POSSESS
³ought \'ȯt\ *n* : moral obligation : DUTY
⁴ought \'ȯt, 'ät\ *var of* AUGHT
oughtn't \'ȯt-ᵊnt\ : ought not
Oui·ja \'wē-jə, -jē\ *trademark* — used for a board with the alphabet and other signs on it that is used with a planchette to seek spiritualistic or telepathic messages
¹ounce \'aůn(t)s\ *n* [ME, fr. MF *unce*, fr. L *uncia* twelfth part, ounce, fr. *unus* one — more at ONE] **1** **a** : any of various units of weight based on the ancient Roman unit equal to $^1/_{12}$ Roman pound — see WEIGHT table **b** : a small portion ⟨an ~ of common sense⟩ **2** : FLUIDOUNCE
²ounce *n* [ME *once*, fr. OF, alter. (by incorrect division, as if *l'once* the ounce) of *lonce*, fr. (assumed) VL *lyncea*, fr. L *lync-*, *lynx* lynx] : SNOW LEOPARD
ouph *or* **ouphe** \'aůf\ *n* [prob. alter. of earlier *auf*, prob. fr. ON *alfr*] : ELF
our \är, (')aů(ə)r\ *adj* [ME *oure*, fr. OE *ūre*; akin to OHG *unsēr* our, OE *ūs* us] : of or relating to us or ourselves or ourself esp. as possessors or possessor, agents or agent, or objects or object of an action ⟨~ throne⟩ ⟨~ actions⟩ ⟨~ being chosen⟩
Our Father *n* : LORD'S PRAYER
ours \(')aů(ə)rz, ärz\ *pron, sing or pl in constr* : that which belongs to us — used without a following noun as a pronoun equivalent in meaning to the adjective *our*
our·self \är-'self, aů(ə)r-\ *pron* : MYSELF — used to refer to the single-person subject when *we* is used instead of *I* (as by a sovereign) ⟨will keep ~ till supper time alone —Shak.⟩
our·selves \-'selvz\ *pron pl* **1** : those identical ones that are we — compare WE 1; used reflexively ⟨we're doing it solely for ~⟩, for emphasis ⟨we ~ will never go ⟩, or in absolute constructions ⟨~ no longer young, we can sympathize with those who are old⟩ **2** : our normal, healthy, or sane condition
-ous \əs\ *adj suffix* [ME, partly fr. OF *-ous*, *-eus*, *-eux*, fr. L *-osus*; partly fr. L *-us*, nom. sing. masc. ending of many adjectives] **1** : full of : abounding in : having : possessing the qualities of ⟨clamor*ous*⟩ ⟨poison*ous*⟩ **2** : having a valence lower than in compounds or ions named with an adjective ending in *-ic* ⟨mercur*ous*⟩
ou·sel \'ü-zəl\ *var of* OUZEL
oust \'aůst\ *vt* [AF *ouster*, fr. OF *oster*, fr. LL *obstare* to ward off, fr. L, to stand against, fr. *ob-* against + *stare* to stand — more at OB-, STAND] **1** **a** : to remove from or dispossess of property or position by legal action, by force, or by the compulsion of necessity **b** : to take away (as a right or authority) : BAR, REMOVE **2** : to take the place of : SUPPLANT ***syn*** see EJECT
oust·er \'aůs-tər\ *n* [AF, to oust] **1** **a** : a wrongful dispossession **b** : a judgment removing an officer or depriving a corporation of a franchise **2** : EXPULSION
¹out \'aůt\ *adv* [ME, fr. OE *ūt*; akin to OHG *ūz* out, Gk *hysteros* later, *hybris* arrogance, Skt *ud* up, out] **1** **a** : in a direction away from the inside or center ⟨went ~ into the garden⟩ **b** : from among others **c** : away from the shore **d** : away from home or business ⟨~ to lunch⟩ **2** **a** : out of the usual or proper place ⟨left a word ~⟩ ⟨threw his shoulder ~⟩ **b** : beyond possession, control, or occupation ⟨lent ~ money⟩ **c** : into a state of loss or deprivation ⟨voted him ~⟩ **d** : into a state of vexation or disagreement ⟨they do not mark me, and that brings me ~ —Shak.⟩ **e** : into portions, shares, or allotments ⟨parceled ~ the farm⟩ **3** **a** : beyond the limits of existence, continuance, or supply ⟨the food ran ~⟩ **b** : to extinction, exhaustion, or completion ⟨burn ~⟩ ⟨hear me ~⟩ ⟨before the year runs ~⟩ **c** : to the fullest extent or degree ⟨all decked ~⟩ **d** : in or into competition or determined effort ⟨went ~ for the football team⟩ **4** **a** : in or into the open ⟨the sun came ~⟩ **b** : ALOUD ⟨cried ~⟩ **c** : in or into public circulation ⟨the evening paper came ~ late⟩ **5** **a** : so as to put out a batter, batsman, or base runner **b** : so as to be put out **6** — used on a two-way radio circuit to indicate that a message is complete and no reply is expected
²out *vt* : to put out : EJECT ⟨did their best to ~ him —F. T. Wood⟩ ~ *vi* : to become publicly known ⟨the truth will ~⟩
³out *adj* **1** : situated outside : EXTERNAL **2** : situated at a distance : OUTLYING ⟨the ~ islands⟩ **3** : not being in power **4** : ABSENT **5** **a** : not allowed to continue batting, to occupy a base, or to score — used of a player in baseball **b** : not allowed to continue as a batsman — used of a player in cricket **6** : directed outward or serving to direct something outward : OUTGOING ⟨put the letter in the ~ basket⟩ **7** : not being in vogue or fashion : not up-to-date **8** : out of the question : IMPOSSIBLE ⟨these last two proposals seem definitely ~ —Tom Fitzsimmons⟩
⁴out \(ˌ)aůt\ *prep* — used as a function word to indicate an outward movement ⟨ran ~ the door⟩ ⟨looked ~ the window⟩
⁵out \'aůt\ *n* **1** : OUTSIDE ⟨the width of the building from ~ to ~⟩ **2** : one who is out of office or power or on the outside ⟨a matter of ~s versus ins⟩ **3** : copy matter inadvertently omitted in typesetting **4** **a** : an act or instance of putting out a player in baseball **b** : an act or instance of being put out **c** : a player that is put out **d** : a situation in which a player has been put out **5** : a ball hit out-of-bounds in tennis or squash **6** : an item that is out of stock **7** : a way of escaping from an embarrassing or difficult situation — **on the outs** : on unfriendly terms : at variance
out- *prefix* [¹*out*] : in a manner that goes beyond, surpasses, or excels ⟨*out*maneuver⟩
out·age \'aůt-ij\ *n* **1** : a quantity or bulk of something lost in transportation or storage **2** **a** : a failure or interruption in use or functioning **b** : a period of interruption esp. of electric current
out–and–out \ˌaůt-ᵊn-'(d)aůt\ *adj* : being completely as described at all times, in every part, or from every point of view ⟨this is an ~ fraud⟩ ***syn*** see OUTRIGHT
out–and–out·er \-ər\ *n* : one who goes to extremes ⟨~s for devotion to the Truth —W. W. Comfort †1955⟩
out·back \'aůt-'bak\ *n* : isolated rural country esp. of Australia
out·bal·ance \(')aůt-'bal-ən(t)s\ *vt* : OUTWEIGH
out·bid \-'bid\ *vt* : to make a higher bid than
¹out·board \'aůt-ˌbō(ə)rd, -ˌbȯ(ə)rd\ *adj* **1** : situated outboard **2** : being a machine bearing, center, or other support used in conjunction with and outside of a main bearing **3** : having, using, or limited to the use of an outboard motor
²outboard *adv* **1** : outside a ship's bulwarks : in a lateral direction from the hull **2** : in a position closer or closest to either of the wing tips of an airplane or of the sides of an automobile
³outboard *n* **1** : OUTBOARD MOTOR **2** : a boat with an outboard motor
outboard motor *n* : a small internal-combustion engine with propeller integrally attached for mounting at the stern of a small boat
out·bound \'aůt-ˌbaůnd\ *adj* : outward bound ⟨~ traffic⟩
out·brave \(')aůt-'brāv\ *vt* **1** : to face or resist defiantly **2** : to exceed in courage
out·break \'aůt-ˌbrāk\ *n* **1** **a** : a sudden or violent increase in activity or currency ⟨the ~ of war⟩ **b** : a sudden rise in the incidence of a disease ⟨an ~ of measles⟩ **c** : a sudden increase in numbers of a harmful organism and esp. an insect within a particular area ⟨an ~ of locusts⟩ **2** : INSURRECTION, REVOLT
out·breed *vt* **-bred** \-ˌbred, -'bred\; **-breed·ing** **1** \'aůt-ˌbrēd\ : to subject to outbreeding **2** \(')aůt-'\ : to breed faster than
out·breed·ing \'aůt-ˌbrēd-iŋ\ *n* : the interbreeding of individuals or stocks that are relatively unrelated
out·build·ing \'aůt-ˌbil-diŋ\ *n* : a building (as a stable or a woodshed) separate from but accessory to a main house
out·burst \-ˌbərst\ *n* **1** : a violent expression of feeling ⟨an ~ of anger⟩ **2** : a surge of activity or growth ⟨new ~s of creative power —C. E. Montague⟩ **3** : ERUPTION ⟨volcanic ~s⟩
out·bye *or* **out·by** \üt-'bī\ *adv* [ME (Sc) *out-by*, fr. *out* + *by*] *chiefly Scot* **1** : a short distance away **2** : OUTDOORS
out·cast \'aůt-ˌkast\ *n* **1** : one who is cast out by society : PARIAH **2** [Sc *cast out* to quarrel] *Scot* : QUARREL — **outcast** *adj*
out·caste \-ˌkast\ *n* **1** : a Hindu who has been ejected from his caste for violation of its customs or rules **2** : one who has no caste
out·class \(')aůt-'klas\ *vt* : to excel or surpass so decisively as to appear of a higher class
out·come \'aůt-ˌkəm\ *n* : something that follows as a result or consequence
¹out·crop \'aůt-ˌkräp\ *n* **1** **a** : a coming out of bedrock or of an unconsolidated deposit to the surface of the ground **b** : the part of a rock formation that appears at the surface of the ground **2** : OUTBREAK ⟨the recent ~ of unofficial strikes —*Economist*⟩
²out·crop \'aůt-ˌkräp, (')aůt-'\ *vi* **1** : to project from the surrounding soil ⟨ledges *outcropping* from the eroded slope⟩ **2** : to come to the surface : APPEAR ⟨originality ~s in the course of planning — *Psychiatry*⟩
¹out·cross \'aůt-ˌkrȯs\ *n* **1** : a cross between relatively unrelated individuals **2** : the progeny of an outcross
²outcross *vt* : to cross with a relatively unrelated individual or strain
out·cry \'aůt-ˌkrī\ *n* **1** **a** : a loud cry : CLAMOR **b** : a vehement protest **2** : AUCTION ⟨sold it at public ~ —W. M. Thackeray⟩
out·dat·ed \(')aůt-'dāt-əd\ *adj* : OUTMODED — **out·dat·ed·ness** *n*
out·dis·tance \(')aůt-'dis-tən(t)s\ *vt* : to go far ahead of (as in a race) : OUTSTRIP
out·do \-'dü\ *vt* **-did** \-'did\; **-done** \-'dən\; **-do·ing** \-'dü-iŋ\; **-does** \-'dəz\ **1** : to go beyond in action or performance **2** : DEFEAT, OVERCOME ***syn*** see EXCEED
out·door \ˌaůt-ˌdō(ə)r, -ˌdȯ(ə)r\ *also* **out·doors** \-ˌdō(ə)rz, -ˌdȯ(ə)rz\ *adj* [*out (of) door*, *out (of) doors*] **1** : of or relating to the outdoors **2** : performed outdoors ⟨~ sports⟩ **3** : not enclosed : having no roof ⟨an ~ restaurant⟩
¹out·doors \(')aůt-'dō(ə)rz, -'dȯ(ə)rz\ *adv* : outside a building : in or into the open air
²outdoors *n pl but sing in constr* **1** : the open air **2** : the world away from human habitations

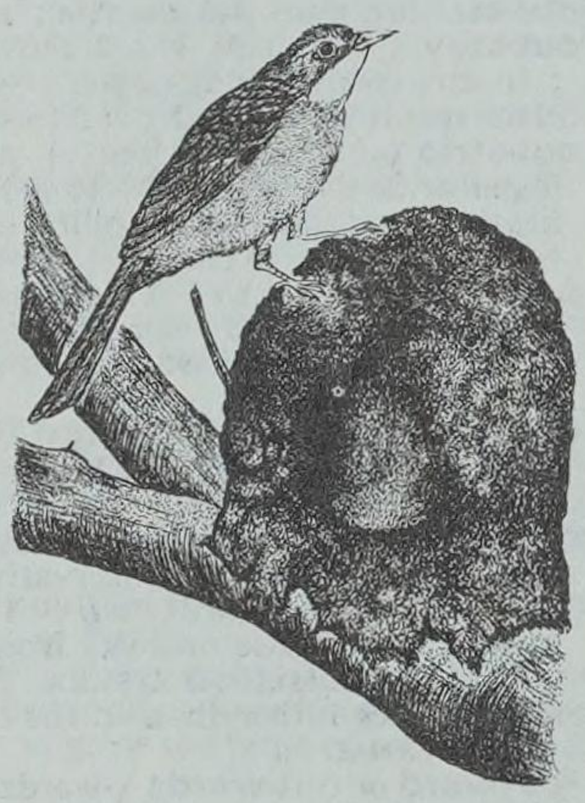
out·doors·man \-mən\ *n* **1** : one who lives or spends much time in the outdoors **2** : one who frequently engages in outdoor activities (as hunting or fishing) — **out·doors·man·ship** \-ˌship\ *n*
out·doorsy \(ˈ)aůt-ˈdōr-zē, -ˈdȯr-\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or characteristic of the outdoors ⟨an ~ dress⟩ **2** : fond of outdoor activities ⟨sounded rugged and ~ —*N.Y. Times*⟩
out·draw \(ˈ)aůt-ˈdrȯ\ *vt* **-drew** \-ˈdrü\; **-drawn** \-ˈdrȯn\; **-draw·ing** **1** : to surpass in drawing power : attract a larger audience or following than ⟨basketball ~*s* football here⟩ **2** : to draw a handgun more quickly than
out·er \ˈaůt-ər\ *adj* [ME, fr. ³*out* + *-er*, compar. suffix] **1** : existing independent of mind : OBJECTIVE **2** **a** : situated farther out ⟨the ~ limits⟩ **b** : being away from a center **c** : situated or belonging on the outside ⟨the ~ covering⟩
out·er·coat \ˈaůt-ər-ˌkōt\ *n* : COAT 1a
outer ear *n* : the outer visible portion of the ear that collects and directs sound waves toward the eardrum by way of a canal which extends inward through the temporal bone
out·er·most \ˈaůt-ər-ˌmōst\ *adj* : farthest out
outer planet *n* : any of the planets Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, Neptune, and Pluto that as a group have orbits farther from the sun than the inner planets
outer space *n* : space immediately outside the earth's atmosphere; *broadly* : interplanetary or interstellar space
out·face \(ˈ)aůt-ˈfās\ *vt* **1** : to cause to waver or submit by or as if by staring **2** : to confront unflinchingly : DEFY ⟨people who have *outfaced* the terrors of a total war —H. V. Gregory⟩
out·fall \ˈaůt-ˌfȯl\ *n* : the outlet of a body of water (as a river or lake); *esp* : the mouth of a drain or sewer
out·field \-ˌfēld\ *n* **1** : the part of a baseball field beyond the infield and between the foul lines **2** : the baseball defensive positions comprising right field, center field, and left field; *also* : the players who occupy these positions — **out·field·er** \-ˌfēl-dər\ *n*
out·fight \(ˈ)aůt-ˈfīt\ *vt* : to surpass in fighting : DEFEAT
out·fight·ing \ˈaůt-ˌfīt-iŋ\ *n* : fighting at long range
¹out·fit \ˈaůt-ˌfit\ *n* **1** : the act of fitting out or equipping (as for a voyage or expedition) **2** **a** : the tools or equipment for the practice of a trade **b** : wearing apparel with accessories usu. for a special occasion or activity **c** : physical, mental, or moral endowments or resources ⟨perception is only part of our mental ~ —A. S. Eddington⟩ **3** : a group that works as a team : ORGANIZATION; *esp* : a military unit
²outfit *vb* **out·fit·ted; out·fit·ting** *vt* **1** : to furnish with an outfit **2** : SUPPLY ⟨*outfitting* every family with shoes —*Amer. Guide Series: Vt.*⟩ ~ *vi* : to acquire an outfit ***syn*** see FURNISH
out·fit·ter \-ˌfit-ər\ *n* : one who outfits: as **a** : HABERDASHER **b** : a dealer in equipment and supplies (as for camping trips)
out·flank \(ˈ)aůt-ˈflaŋk\ *vt* **1** : to get around the flank of (an opposing force) **2** : to get around : CIRCUMVENT — **out·flank·er** *n*
¹out·flow \ˈaůt-ˌflō, (ˈ)aůt-ˈ\ *vi* : to flow out
²out·flow \ˈaůt-ˌflō\ *n* **1** : a flowing out ⟨the ~ of gold from the country —E. W. Kemmerer⟩ **2** : something that flows out
out·foot \(ˈ)aůt-ˈfůt\ *vt* : to outdo in speed : OUTSTRIP
out·fox \-ˈfäks\ *vt* : OUTSMART
out·gas \ˈaůt-ˌgas, (ˈ)aůt-ˈ\ *vt* **1** : to remove occluded gases from usu. by heating; *broadly* : to remove gases from **2** : to remove (gases) from a material or a space ~ *vi* : to lose gases
out·gen·er·al \(ˈ)aůt-ˈjen-(ə-)rəl\ *vt* : to surpass in generalship : OUTMANEUVER
¹out·giv·ing \ˈaůt-ˌgiv-iŋ\ *n* : something that is given out; *esp* : a public statement or utterance
²outgiving *adj* : socially responsive and demonstrative
¹out·go \(ˈ)aůt-ˈgō\ *vt* : to go beyond : OUTDO
²out·go \ˈaůt-ˌgō\ *n, pl* **outgoes** **1** : something that goes out; *specif* : EXPENDITURE **2** **a** : the act of going out **b** : DEPARTURE **3** : OUTLET
out·go·ing \ˈaůt-ˌgō-iŋ, -ˌgȯ(-)iŋ\ *adj* **1** **a** : going away : DEPARTING ⟨an ~ ship⟩ **b** : retiring or withdrawing from a place or position ⟨the ~ president⟩ **c** : directed to an intended recipient ⟨~ mail⟩ **2** : FRIENDLY, RESPONSIVE ⟨an ~ person⟩ — **out·go·ing·ness** *n*
out–group \ˈaůt-ˌgrüp\ *n* : a group that is distinct from one's own and so usu. an object of hostility or dislike — compare IN-GROUP
out·grow \(ˈ)aůt-ˈgrō\ *vt* **-grew** \-ˈgrü\; **-grown** \-ˈgrōn\; **-grow·ing** **1** : to grow or increase faster than ⟨mankind is ~*ing* food supplies —R. C. Murphy⟩ **2** : to grow too large or too mature for ⟨*outgrew* his clothes⟩
out·growth \ˈaůt-ˌgrōth\ *n* **1** : a process or product of growing out ⟨an ~ of hair⟩ **2** : CONSEQUENCE, BY-PRODUCT ⟨crime is often an ~ of poverty⟩
out·guess \(ˈ)aůt-ˈges\ *vt* : to anticipate the expectations, intentions, or actions of : OUTWIT
out·gun \-ˈgən\ *vt* : to surpass in firepower; *broadly* : DEFEAT
out·haul \ˈaůt-ˌhȯl\ *n* : a rope used to haul a sail taut along a spar
out–Her·od \(ˈ)aůt-ˈher-əd\ *vt* [*out-* + *Herod* Antipas, depicted in medieval mystery plays as a blustering tyrant] : to exceed in violence or extravagance — usu. used in the phrase *out-Herod Herod*
out·house \ˈaůt-ˌhaůs\ *n* : OUTBUILDING; *esp* : PRIVY 2a
out·ing \ˈaůt-iŋ\ *n* : a brief usu. outdoor pleasure trip
outing flannel *n* : a flannelette sometimes having an admixture of wool
out·land \ˈaůt-ˌland, -lənd\ *n* **1** : a foreign land **2** *pl* : the outlying regions of a country : PROVINCES — **outland** *adj*
out·land·er \-ˌlan-dər, -lən-\ *n* : FOREIGNER, STRANGER
out·land·ish \(ˈ)aůt-ˈlan-dish\ *adj* **1** : of or relating to another country : FOREIGN **2** : strikingly out of the ordinary : BIZARRE ⟨an ~ costume⟩ **3** : remote from civilization — **out·land·ish·ly** *adv* — **out·land·ish·ness** *n*
out·last \(ˈ)aůt-ˈlast\ *vt* : to last longer than ⟨customs that have long ~*ed* their usefulness —W. R. Inge⟩
¹out·law \ˈaůt-ˌlȯ\ *n* [ME *outlawe*, fr. OE *ūtlaga*, fr. ON *ūtlagi*, fr. *ūt* out (akin to OE *ūt* out) + *lag-*, *lög* law — more at OUT, LAW] **1** : a person excluded from the benefit or protection of the law **2** **a** : a lawless person or a fugitive from the law **b** : a person or organization under a ban or restriction **3** : an animal (as a horse) that is wild and unmanageable — **outlaw** *adj*
²outlaw *vt* **1** **a** : to deprive of the benefit and protection of law : declare to be an outlaw **b** : to make illegal ⟨the type of legislation which ~*ed* dueling —Margaret Mead⟩ **2** : to place under a ban or restriction **3** : to remove from legal jurisdiction or enforcement — **out·law·ry** \ˈaůt-ˌlȯ(ə)r-ē\ *n*
¹out·lay \ˈaůt-ˌlā, (ˈ)aůt-ˈ\ *vt* **-laid** \-ˌlād, -ˈlād\; **-lay·ing** : to lay out (money) : EXPEND
²out·lay \ˈaůt-ˌlā\ *n* **1** : the act of expending **2** : EXPENDITURE, PAYMENT ⟨~*s* for national defense⟩
out·let \ˈaůt-ˌlet, -lət\ *n* [¹*out* + *let*, v.] **1** **a** : a place or opening through which something is let out : EXIT, VENT **b** : a means of release or satisfaction for an emotion or impulse ⟨sexual ~*s*⟩ **2** : a stream flowing out of a lake or pond **3** **a** : a market for a commodity **b** : an agency (as a store or dealer) through which a product is marketed ⟨retail ~*s*⟩ **4** : a set of mounted and insulated electric-service terminals (as in a receptacle or an electric socket) to which electric appliances may be connected
out·li·er \-ˌlī(-ə)r\ *n* **1** : one that does not live where his office, business, or estate is **2** : something (as a geological feature) that lies or is situated or classed away from a main or related body
¹out·line \ˈaůt-ˌlīn\ *n* **1** **a** : a line that marks the outer limits of an object or figure : BOUNDARY **b** : SHAPE **2** **a** : a style of drawing in which contours are marked without shading **b** : a sketch in outline **3** **a** : a condensed treatment of a particular subject ⟨an ~ of world history⟩ **b** : a summary of a written work : SYNOPSIS **4** : a preliminary account of a project : PLAN **5** : a fishing line set out overnight : TROTLINE
syn OUTLINE, CONTOUR, PROFILE, SILHOUETTE *shared meaning element* : the line that bounds and gives form to something
²outline *vt* **1** : to draw the outline of **2** : to indicate the principal features or different parts of ⟨*outlined* their responsibilities⟩
out·live \(ˈ)aůt-ˈliv\ *vt* **1** : to live longer than ⟨*outlived* most of his friends⟩ **2** : to survive the effects of ⟨universities . . . ~ many political and social changes —J. B. Conant⟩
out·look \ˈaůt-ˌlůk\ *n* **1** **a** : a place offering a view **b** : a view from a particular place **2** : POINT OF VIEW ⟨his ~ on life⟩ **3** : the act of looking out **4** : the prospect for the future ⟨the ~ for steel demand in the U.S. —*Wall Street Jour.*⟩ ***syn*** see PROSPECT
out loud *adv* : ALOUD
out·ly·ing \ˈaůt-ˌlī-iŋ\ *adj* : remote from a center or main body ⟨~ areas⟩
out·ma·neu·ver \ˌaůt-mə-ˈn(y)ü-vər\ *vt* **1** : to defeat by more skillful maneuvering **2** : to surpass in maneuverability
out·match \(ˈ)aůt-ˈmach\ *vt* : to prove superior to : OUTDO
out–mi·grant \ˈaůt-ˌmī-grənt\ *n* : one that out-migrates
out–mi·grate \-ˌgrāt\ *vi* : to leave one region or community in order to settle in another esp. as part of a large-scale and continuing movement of population — compare IN-MIGRATE — **out–mi·gra·tion** \ˌaůt-mī-ˈgrā-shən\ *n*
out·mode \(ˈ)aůt-ˈmōd\ *vt* **out·mod·ed; out·mod·ing** [*out* (*of*) *mode*] : to make unfashionable or obsolete
out·mod·ed \-ˈmōd-əd\ *adj* **1** : not being in style **2** : no longer acceptable or usable ⟨~ beliefs⟩
out·most \ˈaůt-ˌmōst\ *adj* : farthest out : OUTERMOST
out·num·ber \(ˈ)aůt-ˈnəm-bər\ *vt* : to exceed in number
out of *prep* **1** **a** (1) — used as a function word to indicate direction or movement from within to the outside of ⟨walked *out of* the room⟩ (2) — used as a function word to indicate a change in quality, state, or form ⟨woke up *out of* a deep sleep⟩ **b** (1) — used as a function word to indicate a position or situation beyond the range, limits, or sphere of ⟨*out of* sight⟩ (2) — used as a function word to indicate a position or state away from the usual or expected ⟨*out of* practice⟩ **2** — used as a function word to indicate origin, source, or cause ⟨a colt *out of* an ordinary mare⟩ ⟨built *out of* old lumber⟩ ⟨came *out of* fear⟩ **3** — used as a function word to indicate exclusion from or deprivation of ⟨cheated him *out of* his savings⟩ **4** — used as a function word to indicate choice or selection from a group ⟨one *out of* four survived⟩ — **out of it** : not part of a group, activity, or fashion
out–of–bounds \ˌaůt-ə(v)-ˈbaůn(d)z\ *adv or adj* : outside the prescribed boundaries or limits
out–of–date \-ˈdāt\ *adj* : OUTMODED, OBSOLETE — **out–of–date·ness** *n*
out–of–door \-ˈdō(ə)r, -ˈdȯ(ə)r\ *or* **out–of–doors** \-ˈdō(ə)rz, -ˈdȯ(ə)rz\ *adj* : OUTDOOR
out–of–doors *n pl but sing in constr* : OUTDOORS
out–of–pock·et \-ˈpäk-ət\ *adj* : requiring an outlay of cash ⟨~ expenses⟩
out–of–the–way \-thə-ˈwā\ *adj* **1** : being off the beaten track ⟨an ~ restaurant⟩ **2** : UNUSUAL ⟨~ information . . . not found in any other book —John Morris⟩
out·pace \(ˈ)aůt-ˈpās\ *vt* **1** : to surpass in speed **2** : OUTDO
out·pa·tient \ˈaůt-ˌpā-shənt\ *n* : a patient who is not an inmate of a hospital but who visits a clinic or dispensary connected with it for diagnosis or treatment — compare INPATIENT
out·per·form \ˌaůt-pər-ˈfȯ(ə)rm\ *vt* : to do better than ⟨a sports car that ~*s* them all⟩
out·play \(ˈ)aůt-ˈplā\ *vt* : to excel or defeat in a game
out·point \-ˈpȯint\ *vt* **1** : to sail closer to the wind than **2** : to win more points than
out·port \ˈaůt-ˌpō(ə)rt, -ˌpȯ(ə)rt\ *n* **1** : a port other than the main port of a country **2** : a port of export or departure **3** : a small fishing village in Newfoundland
out·post \ˈaůt-ˌpōst\ *n* **1** **a** : a security detachment thrown out by a main body of troops to protect it from enemy surprise **b** : a military base established by treaty or agreement in another country **2** **a** : an outlying or frontier settlement **b** : an outlying branch or position of a main organization or group
¹out·pour \aůt-ˈpō(ə)r, -ˈpȯ(ə)r, ˈaůt-ˌ\ *vt* : to pour out
²out·pour \ˈaůt-ˌpō(ə)r, -ˈpȯ(ə)r\ *n* : OUTPOURING
out·pour·ing \ˈaůt-ˌpōr-iŋ, -ˌpȯr-\ *n* **1** : the act of pouring out **2** : something that pours out or is poured out : OUTFLOW

out·pull \(')aůt-'půl\ *vt* : OUTDRAW 1
[1]out·put \'aůt-ˌpůt\ *n* **1** : something produced: as **a** : mineral, agricultural, or industrial production ⟨steel ~⟩ **b** : mental or artistic production ⟨literary ~⟩ **c** : the amount produced by a person in a given time **d** : power or energy produced or delivered by a machine or system (as for storage or for conversion in kind or in characteristics) ⟨solar x-ray ~⟩ **e** : the terminal for the output on an electrical device **f** : the information fed out by a computer or accounting machine **2** : the act, process, or an instance of producing
[2]output *vt* **out·put·ted** *or* **output; out·put·ting** : to produce as output
out·race \(')aůt-'rās\ *vt* : OUTPACE
[1]out·rage \'aůt-ˌrāj\ *n* [ME, fr. OF, excess, outrage, fr. *outre* beyond, in excess, fr. L *ultra* — more at ULTRA-] **1** : an act of violence or brutality **2 a** : INJURY, INSULT ⟨do no ~*s* on silly women or poor passengers —Shak.⟩ **b** : an act that violates accepted standards of behavior or taste ⟨an ~ alike against decency and dignity —John Buchan⟩ **3** : the anger and resentment aroused by injury or insult
[2]outrage *vt* **out·raged; out·rag·ing** **1 a** : RAPE **b** : to violate the standards or principles of ⟨he has *outraged* respectability past endurance —John Braine⟩ **2** : to arouse anger or resentment in usu. by some grave offense ***syn*** see OFFEND
out·ra·geous \aůt-'rā-jəs\ *adj* **1 a** : exceeding the limits of what is usual **b** : not conventional or matter-of-fact : FANTASTIC **2** : VIOLENT, UNRESTRAINED **3 a** : going beyond all standards of what is right or decent ⟨an ~ disregard of human rights⟩ **b** : deficient in propriety or good taste ⟨~ language⟩ ⟨~ manners⟩ — **out·ra·geous·ly** *adv* — **out·ra·geous·ness** *n*
syn OUTRAGEOUS, MONSTROUS, HEINOUS, ATROCIOUS *shared meaning element* : exceedingly bad or horrible
ou·trance \ü-'trän^{n}s\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. *outrer* to pass beyond, carry to excess, fr. *outre*] : the last extremity
out·range \(')aůt-'rānj\ *vt* : to surpass in range
out·rank \-'raŋk\ *vt* **1** : to rank higher than **2** : to exceed in importance
ou·tré \ü-'trā\ *adj* [F, fr. pp. of *outrer* to carry to excess] : violating convention or propriety : BIZARRE
[1]out·reach \(')aůt-'rēch\ *vt* **1 a** : to surpass in reach **b** : EXCEED ⟨the demand ~*es* the supply⟩ **2** : to get the better of by trickery ~ *vi* **1** : to go too far **2** : to reach out
[2]out·reach \'aůt-ˌrēch\ *n* **1** : the act of reaching out **2** : the extent or limit of reach ⟨the ~ of the Ohio floods —Clifton Johnson⟩ **3** : the extending of services or activities beyond current or usual limits; *also* : the extent of such services or activities
[1]out·ride \(')aůt-'rīd\ *vt* **-rode** \-'rōd\; **-rid·den** \-'rid-ᵊn\; **-rid·ing** \-'rīd-iŋ\ **1** : to ride better, faster, or farther than : OUTSTRIP **2** : to ride out (a storm)
[2]out·ride \'aůt-ˌrīd\ *n* : an unstressed syllable or group of syllables added to a foot in sprung rhythm but not counted in the scansion
out·rid·er \-ˌrīd-ər\ *n* **1** : a mounted attendant **2** : FORERUNNER, HARBINGER
out·rig·ger \'aůt-ˌrig-ər\ *n* **1 a** : a projecting spar with a shaped log at the end attached to a canoe to prevent upsetting **b** : a spar or projecting beam run out from a ship's side to help secure the masts or from a mast to extend a rope or sail **c** : a projecting support for an oarlock; *also* : a boat so equipped **2** : a projecting member run out from a main structure to provide additional stability or to support something; *esp* : a projecting frame to support the elevator or tail planes of an airplane or the rotor of a helicopter


outrigger 1a

[1]out·right \(')aůt-'rīt\ *adv* **1** *archaic* : straight ahead : DIRECTLY **2** : in entirety : COMPLETELY ⟨rejected the proposal ~⟩ **3** : on the spot : INSTANTANEOUSLY ⟨was killed ~⟩ **4** : without lien or encumbrance ⟨purchased the property ~ for cash⟩
[2]out·right \'aůt-ˌrīt\ *adj* **1 a** : being completely or exactly what is stated ⟨an ~ lie⟩ **b** : given without reservation ⟨~ grants for research⟩ **c** : made without encumbrance or lien ⟨~ purchases⟩ **2** *archaic* : proceeding directly onward **3** : COMPLETE, ENTIRE — **out·right·ly** *adv*
syn OUTRIGHT, OUT-AND-OUT, UNMITIGATED, ARRANT *shared meaning element* : being what is stated without limit or qualification
out·ri·val \(')aůt-'rī-vəl\ *vt* : to outdo in a competition or rivalry
out·run \(')aůt-'rən\ *vt* **-ran** \-'ran\; **-run; -run·ning** **1** : to run faster than **2** : EXCEED, SURPASS ⟨his ambitions ~ his abilities⟩
out·sell \-'sel\ *vt* **-sold** \-'sōld\; **-sell·ing** **1** *archaic* : to exceed in value **2** : to exceed in number of items sold **3** : to surpass in selling or salesmanship
out·sert \'aůt-ˌsərt\ *n* [*[3]out* + *-sert* (as in *insert*)] : a usu. 4-page section (as of a magazine) so imposed and printed that it can be placed outside another signature
out·set \'aůt-ˌset\ *n* : BEGINNING, START
out·shine \(')aůt-'shīn\ *vb* **-shone** \-'shōn, *esp Brit* -'shän\ *or* **-shined; -shin·ing** *vt* **1 a** : to shine brighter than **b** : to excel in splendor or showiness **2** : OUTDO, SURPASS ⟨*outshone* most of the other films in quality —Kathleen Karr⟩ ~ *vi* : to shine out
[1]out·shoot \(')aůt-'shůt\ *vt* **-shot** \-'shät\; **-shoot·ing** **1** : to surpass in shooting or making shots **2** : to shoot or go beyond
[2]out·shoot \'aůt-ˌshůt\ *n* : something that shoots out
out·shout \(')aůt-'shaůt\ *vt* : to shout louder than
[1]out·side \(')aůt-'sīd, 'aůt-ˌ\ *n* **1 a** : a place or region beyond an enclosure or boundary **b** : the area farthest from a specified point of reference: as (1) : the side of home plate farthest from the batter (2) : the section of a playing area toward the sidelines; *also* : CORNER **2** : an outer side or surface **3** : an outer manifestation : APPEARANCE **4** : the extreme limit of a guess : MAXIMUM ⟨the crowd numbered 10,000 at the ~⟩
[2]outside *adj* **1 a** : of, relating to, or being on or toward the outer side or surface ⟨the ~ edge⟩ **b** : of, relating to, or being on or toward the outer side of a curve or turn **c** : of, relating to, or being on or near the outside ⟨an ~ pitch⟩ **2 a** : situated or performed outside a particular place **b** : connected with or giving access to the outside ⟨~ telephone line⟩ **3** : MAXIMUM **4 a** : not included or originating in a particular group or organization ⟨blamed the riot on ~ agitators⟩ **b** : not belonging to one's regular occupation or duties ⟨~ interests⟩ **5** : barely possible : REMOTE ⟨an ~ chance⟩ **6** : made or done from the outside or from a distance ⟨borrowed a basketball and practiced his ~ shot⟩
[3]outside *adv* **1** : on or to the outside **2** : OUTDOORS
[4]outside *prep* **1** — used as a function word to indicate movement to or position on the outer side of **2** : beyond the limits of ⟨~ the law⟩ **3** : EXCEPT
outside of *prep* : OUTSIDE
out·sid·er \(')aůt-'sīd-ər\ *n* **1** : a person who does not belong to a particular group **2** : a contender not expected to win — **out·sider·ness** *n*
out·sight \'aůt-ˌsīt\ *n* : the power or act of perceiving external things ⟨the clear-eyed insight and ~ of the born writer —*New Yorker*⟩
out·sit \(')aůt-'sit\ *vt* **-sat** \-'sat\; **-sit·ting** : to remain sitting or in session longer than or beyond the duration of ⟨caverns, wherein one or two might . . . ~ a shower —C. F. Saunders⟩
[1]out·size \'aůt-ˌsīz\ *n* : an unusual size; *esp* : a size larger than the standard
[2]outsize *also* **out·sized** \-ˌsīzd\ *adj* : unusually large or heavy
out·skirt \'aůt-ˌskərt\ *n* : a part remote from the center : BORDER — usu. used in pl. ⟨on the ~*s* of town⟩
out·smart \(')aůt-'smärt\ *vt* : to get the better of; *esp* : OUTWIT
out·soar \-'sō(ə)r, -'sȯ(ə)r\ *vt* : to soar beyond or above
out·sole \'aůt-ˌsōl\ *n* : the outside sole of a boot or shoe
out·speak \(')aůt-'spēk\ *vt* **-spoke** \-'spōk\; **-spo·ken** \-'spō-kən\; **-speak·ing** **1** : to excel in speaking **2** : to declare openly or boldly
out·spend \-'spend\ *vt* **1** : to exceed the limits of in spending ⟨~*s* his income⟩ **2** : to outdo in spending ⟨he *outspent* the other candidates⟩
out·spent \-'spent\ *adj* : completely worn out : EXHAUSTED ⟨spurred him, like an ~ horse, to death —P. B. Shelley⟩
out·spo·ken \aůt-'spō-kən\ *adj* **1** : direct and open in speech or expression : FRANK ⟨candidly ~ in his criticism —*Current Biog.*⟩ **2** : spoken or expressed without reserve ⟨his ~ advocacy of gun control⟩ — **out·spo·ken·ly** *adv* — **out·spo·ken·ness** \-kən-nəs\ *n*
out·spread \aůt-'spred\ *vt* **-spread; -spread·ing** : to spread out : EXTEND
out·stand \(')aůt-'stand\ *vb* **-stood; -stand·ing** *vt* : to endure beyond ⟨I have *outstood* my time —Shak.⟩ ~ *vi* : to stand out
out·stand·ing \aůt-'stan-diŋ, 'aůt-ˌ\ *adj* **1** : standing out : PROJECTING **2 a** : UNPAID ⟨left several bills ~⟩ **b** : CONTINUING, UNRESOLVED ⟨a long ~ problem⟩ **c** *of stocks and bonds* : publicly issued and sold **3 a** : standing out from a group : CONSPICUOUS **b** : marked by eminence and distinction ***syn*** see NOTICEABLE ***ant*** commonplace — **out·stand·ing·ly** \-diŋ-lē\ *adv*
out·stare \(')aůt-'sta(ə)r, -'ste(ə)r\ *vt* : OUTFACE 1
out·sta·tion \'aůt-ˌstā-shən\ *n* : a remote or outlying station
out·stay \(')aůt-'stā\ *vt* **1** : OVERSTAY 1 ⟨~*ed* his welcome⟩ **2** : to surpass in staying power ⟨~*ed* his competitors⟩
out·stretch \aůt-'strech\ *vt* : to stretch out : EXTEND
out·strip \aůt-'strip\ *vt* [*out-* + obs. *strip* (to move fast)] **1** : to go faster or farther than **2** : to get ahead of : leave behind ⟨has civilization *outstripped* the ability of its users to use it? —Margaret Mead⟩ ***syn*** see EXCEED
out·take \'aůt-ˌtāk\ *n* **1** : a passage outwards : FLUE, VENT **2** : an unused film take **3** : something that is taken out
out·talk \(')aůt-'tȯk\ *vt* **1** : to surpass in talking **2** : to get the better of by talking
out·think \-'thiŋk\ *vt* **-thought** \-'thȯt\; **-think·ing** **1** : to surpass in thinking **2** : to get the better of by thinking
out·turn \'aůt-ˌtərn\ *n* : a quantity produced : OUTPUT
out·vote \(')aůt-'vōt\ *vt* : to cast more votes than : defeat by a majority of votes ⟨the conservatives can ~ the radicals⟩
[1]out·ward \'aůt-wərd\ *adj* **1** : moving, directed, or turned toward the outside or away from a center ⟨an ~ flow⟩ **2** : situated on the outside : EXTERIOR **3** : of or relating to the body or to appearances rather than to the mind or the inner life ⟨~ beauty⟩ **4** : EXTERNAL
[2]outward *or* **out·wards** \-wərdz\ *adv* **1** : toward the outside **2** *obs* : on the outside : EXTERNALLY
[3]outward *n* : external form, appearance, or reality
out·ward–bound \ˌaůt-wərd-'baůnd\ *adj* : bound in an outward direction or to foreign parts ⟨an ~ ship⟩
out·ward·ly \'aůt-wərd-lē\ *adv* **1 a** : on the outside : EXTERNALLY **b** : toward the outside **2** : in outward state, behavior, or appearance ⟨was ~ friendly⟩
out·ward·ness \-nəs\ *n* **1** : the quality or state of being external **2** : concern with or responsiveness to outward things
out·wear \(')aůt-'wa(ə)r, -'we(ə)r\ *vt* **-wore** \-'wō(ə)r, -'wȯ(ə)r\; **-worn** \-'wō(ə)rn, -'wȯ(ə)rn\; **-wear·ing** **1** : to wear out : EXHAUST **2** : to last longer than ⟨a fabric that ~*s* others⟩
out·weigh \-'wā\ *vt* : to exceed in weight, value, or importance ⟨the advantages ~ the disadvantages⟩
out·wit \aůt-'wit\ *vt* **1** : to get the better of by superior cleverness : OUTSMART **2** *archaic* : to surpass in wisdom ***syn*** see FRUSTRATE
[1]out·work *vt* **1** \aůt-'wərk\ : to work out : COMPLETE **2** \(')aůt-\ : to work harder, faster, or better than
[2]out·work \'aůt-ˌwərk\ *n* : a minor defensive position constructed outside a fortified area

out·worn \aůt-'wō(ə)rn, -'wȯ(ə)rn\ *adj* : no longer useful or acceptable : OUTMODED ⟨an ~ social system⟩
ou·zel \'ü-zəl\ *n* [ME *ousel*, fr. OE *ōsle* — more at MERL] **1** : BLACKBIRD 1a; *also* : a related bird **2** : WATER OUZEL
ou·zo \'ü-(ˌ)zō, -(ˌ)zȯ\ *n* [NGk *ouzon, ouzo*] : a colorless anise-flavored unsweetened Greek liqueur
ov- *or* **ovi-** *or* **ovo-** *comb form* [L *ov-, ovi-*, fr. *ovum* — more at EGG] : egg ⟨*ovi*form⟩ : ovum ⟨*ovi*duct⟩ ⟨*ovo*cyte⟩ ⟨*ovo*genesis⟩
ova *pl of* OVUM
[1]oval \'ō-vəl\ *adj* [ML *ovalis*, fr. LL, of an egg, fr. L *ovum*] : having the shape of an egg; *also* : broadly elliptical — **oval·ly** \-və-lē\ *adv* — **oval·ness** *n*
[2]oval *n* **1** : an oval figure or object **2** : a racetrack in the shape of an oval or a rectangle having rounded corners
ov·al·bu·min \ˌäv-al-'byü-mən, ˌōv-\ *n* **1** : the principal albumin of white of egg; *esp* : the crystalline part of egg albumins **2** : dried whites of eggs
ovals of Cas·si·ni \-kə-'sē-nē\ [G. D. *Cassini* †1712 F astronomer] : a curve that is the locus of points of the vertex of a triangle whose opposite side is fixed and the product of whose adjacent sides is a constant and that has the equation $[(x + a)^2 + y^2][(x - a)^2 + y^2] - k^4 = 0$ where k is the constant and a is one half the length of the fixed side
oval window *n* : the oval fenestra of the ear
ovar·i·an \ō-'var-ē-ən, -'ver-\ *also* **ovar·i·al** \-ē-əl\ *adj* : of, relating to, or involving an ovary
ovari·ec·to·my \ō-ˌvar-ē-'ek-tə-mē, -ˌver-\ *n, pl* **-mies** : the surgical removal of an ovary — **ovari·ec·to·mized** \-ˌmīzd\ *adj*
ovar·i·ole \ō-'var-ē-ˌōl, -'ver-\ *n* [(assumed) NL *ovariolum*, dim. of *ovarium*] : one of the tubes of which the ovaries of most insects are composed
ovar·i·ot·o·my \ō-ˌvar-ē-'ät-ə-mē, -ˌver-\ *n, pl* **-mies** **1** : surgical incision of an ovary **2** : OVARIECTOMY
ova·ri·tis \ˌō-və-'rīt-əs\ *n, pl* **-rit·i·des** \-'rit-ə-ˌdēz\ [NL, fr. *ovarium*] : inflammation of an ovary
ova·ry \'ōv-(ə-)rē\ *n, pl* **-ries** [NL *ovarium*, fr. L *ovum* egg] **1** : the typically paired essential female reproductive organ that produces eggs and in vertebrates female sex hormones **2** : the enlarged rounded usu. basal portion of the pistil or gynoecium of an angiospermous plant that bears the ovules and consists of one or more carpels — see FLOWER illustration
ovate \'ō-ˌvāt\ *adj* **1** : shaped like an egg **2** : having an outline like a longitudinal section of an egg with the basal end broader ⟨~ leaves⟩
ova·tion \ō-'vā-shən\ *n* [L *ovation-, ovatio*, fr. *ovatus*, pp. of *ovare* to exult; akin to Gk *euoi*, interjection used in bacchic revels] **1** : a ceremony attending the entering of Rome by a general who had won a victory of less importance than that for which a triumph was granted **2** : an expression or demonstration of popular acclaim ⟨received a standing ~⟩
ov·en \'əv-ən\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *ofen;* akin to OHG *ofan* oven, Gk *ipnos*, L *aulla, olla* pot] : a chamber used for baking, heating, or drying
oven·bird \-ˌbərd\ *n* [fr. the shape of its nest] **1** : any of various So. American small brown passerine birds (genus *Furnarius*) **2** : an American warbler (*Seiurus aurocapillus*) that builds a dome-shaped nest on the ground


ovenbird 1

[1]over \'ō-vər\ *adv* [ME, adv. & prep., fr. OE *ofer;* akin to OHG *ubar* (prep.) above, beyond, over, L *super*, Gk *hyper*] **1 a** : across a barrier or intervening space; *esp* : across the goal line in football **b** : down or forward and down ⟨fell ~⟩ **c** : across the brim ⟨soup boiled ~⟩ **d** : so as to bring the underside up ⟨turned his cards ~⟩ **e** : from a vertical to a prone or inclined position ⟨knocked him ~⟩ **f** : from one person or side to another ⟨hand it ~⟩ **g** : ACROSS ⟨got his point ~⟩ **h** : to agreement or concord ⟨won them ~⟩ **2 a** (1) : beyond some quantity, limit, or norm often by a specified amount or to a specified degree ⟨show ran a minute ~⟩ (2) : in an excessive manner : INORDINATELY — often used in combination ⟨an *over*-optimistic view⟩ **b** : till a later time **3 a** : ABOVE **b** : so as to cover the whole surface ⟨windows boarded ~⟩ **4 a** : at an end ⟨the day is ~⟩ **b** — used on a two-way radio circuit to indicate that a message is complete and a reply is expected **5 a** : THROUGH ⟨read it ~⟩; *also* : in an intensive or comprehensive manner **b** : once more ⟨do it ~⟩
[2]over \ˌō-vər, 'ō-\ *prep* **1** — used as a function word to indicate motion or situation in a position higher than or above another ⟨towered ~ his mother⟩ ⟨flew ~ the lake⟩ ⟨rode ~ the old Roman road⟩ **2 a** — used as a function word to indicate the possession of authority, power, or jurisdiction in regard to some thing or person ⟨respected those ~ him⟩ **b** — used as a function word to indicate superiority, advantage, or preference ⟨a big lead ~ the others⟩ **3** : more than ⟨cost ~ $5⟩ **4 a** — used as a function word to indicate position upon or movement down upon ⟨laid a blanket ~ the child⟩ ⟨hit him ~ the head⟩ **b** : all through or throughout ⟨showed me ~ the house⟩ ⟨went ~ his notes⟩ **c** — used as a function word to indicate a particular medium or channel of communication ⟨~ the radio⟩ **5** — used as a function word to indicate position on the other side or beyond ⟨lives ~ the way⟩ **6 a** : THROUGHOUT, DURING ⟨~ the past 25 years⟩ **b** : until the end of ⟨stay ~ Sunday⟩ **7 a** — used as a function word to indicate an object of solicitude, interest, consideration, or reference ⟨the Lord watches ~ his own⟩ **b** — used as a function word to indicate the object of an expressed or implied occupation, activity, or concern ⟨spent an hour ~ cards⟩ ⟨trouble ~ money⟩
[3]over \'ō-vər, ˌō-\ *adj* **1 a** : UPPER, HIGHER **b** : OUTER, COVERING **c** : EXCESSIVE ⟨~ imagination⟩ **2 a** : not used up : REMAINING ⟨something ~ to provide for unusual requirements —J. A. Todd⟩ **b** : having or showing an excess or surplus
[4]over \'ō-vər\ *vt* **overed; over·ing** \'ōv-(ə-)riŋ\ : to leap over
over- *prefix* **1** : so as to exceed or surpass **2** : EXCESSIVE **3** : EXCESSIVELY
over·abun·dance \ˌō-və-rə-'bən-dən(t)s\ *n* : EXCESS, SURFEIT — **over·abun·dant** \-dənt\ *adj*
over·achiev·er \ˌō-və-rə-'chē-vər\ *n* : one who achieves success over and above the standard or expected level
over·act \ˌō-və-'rakt\ *vt* : to exaggerate in acting ~ *vi* **1** : to act more than is necessary **2** : to overact a part — **over·ac·tion** \-'rak-shən\ *n*
over·ac·tive \-'rak-tiv\ *adj* : excessively or abnormally active
over against *prep* : as opposed to : in contrast with
[1]over·age \ˌō-və-'rāj\ *adj* [*[2]over + age*] **1** : too old to be useful **2** : older than is normal for one's position, function, or grade
[2]over·age \'ōv-(ə-)rij\ *n* [*[3]over + -age*] : SURPLUS, EXCESS
over·ag·gres·sive \ˌō-və-rə-'gres-iv\ *adj* : excessively aggressive
[1]over·all \ˌō-və-'rȯl\ *adv* **1** : as a whole : GENERALLY ⟨~, prices are still rising —*Forbes*⟩ **2** : from the extreme forward point to the extreme after point of a ship's deck including overhangs
[2]over·all \'ō-və-ˌrȯl\ *n* **1** *pl* **a** *archaic* : loose protective trousers worn over regular clothes **b** : trousers of strong material usu. with a bib and shoulder straps **2** *chiefly Brit* : a loose-fitting protective smock worn over regular clothing
[3]over·all \ˌō-və-'rȯl, 'ō-və-ˌ\ *adj* : including everything
over and above *prep* : BESIDES
over and over *adv* : REPEATEDLY
over·arch·ing \ˌō-və-'rär-chiŋ\ *adj* **1** : forming an arch overhead **2** : dominating or embracing all else
over·arm \'ō-və-ˌrärm\ *adj* **1** : OVERHAND **2** *of a swimming stroke* : made with the arm lifted out of the water and stretched forward over the shoulder to begin the stroke
over·awe \ˌō-və-'rȯ\ *vt* : to restrain or subdue by awe
[1]over·bal·ance \ˌō-vər-'bal-ən(t)s\ *vt* **1** : OUTWEIGH **2** : to cause to lose balance
[2]over·bal·ance \'ō-vər-ˌ\ *n* : something more than an equivalent
over·bear \ˌō-vər-'ba(ə)r, -'be(ə)r\ *vb* **-bore** \-'bō(ə)r, -'bȯ(ə)r\; **-borne** \-'bō(ə)rn, -'bȯ(ə)rn\ *also* **-born** \-'bȯ(ə)rn\; **-bear·ing** *vt* **1** : to bring down by superior weight or force : OVERWHELM **2 a** : to domineer over **b** : to surpass in importance or cogency : OUTWEIGH ~ *vi* : to bear fruit or offspring to excess
over·bear·ing *adj* **1 a** : tending to overwhelm : OVERPOWERING **b** : decisively important : DOMINANT **2** : harshly and haughtily arrogant ***syn*** see PROUD ***ant*** subservient — **over·bear·ing·ly** \-iŋ-lē\ *adv*
over·bid \ˌō-vər-'bid\ *vb* **-bid; -bid·ding** *vi* **1** : to bid in excess of value **2 a** : to bid more than the scoring capacity of a hand at cards **b** *Brit* : to make a higher bid than the preceding one ~ *vt* : to bid beyond or in excess of; *esp* : to bid more than the value of (one's hand at cards) — **over·bid** \'ō-vər-ˌbid\ *n*
over·bite \'ō-vər-ˌbīt\ *n* : the projection of the upper anterior teeth over the lower in the normal occlusal position of the jaws
[1]over·blown \ˌō-vər-'blōn\ *adj* [*[1]blow*] **1** : excessively large of girth : PORTLY **2** : INFLATED, PRETENTIOUS
[2]overblown *adj* [*[3]blow*] : past the prime of bloom ⟨~ roses⟩
over·board \'ō-vər-ˌbō(ə)rd, -ˌbȯ(ə)rd\ *adv* **1** : over the side of a ship or boat into the water **2** : to extremes of enthusiasm **3** : into discard : ASIDE
over·book \ˌō-vər-'bůk\ *vt* : to issue reservations for (as an airplane flight) in excess of the space available ~ *vi* : to issue reservations in excess of the space available
over·bought \-'bȯt\ *adj* : not likely to show an immediate rise in price because of prior heavy buying and accompanying price rises ⟨an ~ market⟩
over·build \-'bild\ *vb* **-built** \-'bilt\; **-build·ing** *vt* : to build beyond the actual demand of ~ *vi* : to build houses in excess of demand
[1]over·bur·den \-'bərd-ᵊn\ *vt* : to place an excessive burden on
[2]over·bur·den \'ō-vər-ˌbərd-ᵊn\ *n* : material overlying a deposit of useful geological materials
over·buy \ˌō-vər-'bī\ *vb* **-bought** \-'bȯt\; **-buy·ing** *vt* : to buy in excess of needs or demand ~ *vi* : to make purchases beyond one's needs or in excess of one's ability to pay
over·call \-'kȯl\ *vt* : to make a higher bid than (the previous bid or player) in a card game ~ *vi* : to bid over an opponent's bid in bridge when one's partner has not bid or doubled — **over·call** \'ō-vər-ˌkȯl\ *n*
over·ca·pac·i·ty \ˌō-vər-kə-'pas-ət-ē, -'pas-tē\ *n* : excessive capacity for production or services in relation to demand
over·cap·i·tal·ize \-'kap-ət-ᵊl-ˌīz, -'kap-tᵊl-\ *vt* **1** : to put a nominal value on the capital of (a corporation) higher than actual cost or fair market value **2** : to capitalize beyond what the business or the profit-making prospects warrant — **over·cap·i·tal·iza·tion** \-ˌkap-ət-ᵊl-ə-'zā-shən, -ˌkap-tᵊl-\ *n*
[1]over·cast *vt* **-cast; -cast·ing** **1** \ˌō-vər-'kast, 'ō-vər-ˌ\ : DARKEN, OVERSHADOW **2** \'ō-vər-ˌ\ : to sew (raw edges of a seam) with long slanting widely spaced stitches to prevent raveling
[2]over·cast \'ō-vər-ˌkast, ˌō-vər-'\ *adj* : clouded over ⟨an ~ day⟩
[3]over·cast \'ō-vər-ˌkast\ *n* : COVERING; *esp* : a covering of clouds over the sky
over·cast·ing \'ō-vər-ˌkas-tiŋ\ *n* : the act of stitching raw edges of fabric to prevent raveling; *also* : the stitching so done
overcast stitch *n* : a small close embroidery stitch sometimes done over a foundation thread and used to form outlines
over·cau·tious \ˌō-vər-'kȯ-shəs\ *adj* : too cautious
over·charge \-'chärj\ *vt* **1** : to charge too much or too fully **2** : to fill too full **3** : EXAGGERATE, OVERDRAW ~ *vi* : to make an excessive charge — **over·charge** \'ō-vər-ˌ\ *n*

over·cloud \ˌō-vər-ˈklaůd\ *vt* : to overspread with clouds
over·coat \ˈō-vər-ˌkōt\ *n* **1** : a warm coat worn over indoor clothing **2** : a protective coating (as of paint)
over·coat·ing \-iŋ\ *n* : OVERCOAT 2
over·come \ˌō-vər-ˈkəm\ *vb* **-came** \-ˈkām\; **-come; -com·ing** [ME *overcomen*, fr. OE *ofercuman*, fr. *ofer* over + *cuman* to come] *vt* **1** : to get the better of : SURMOUNT ⟨~ difficulties⟩ **2** : OVERPOWER, OVERWHELM ~ *vi* : to gain the superiority : WIN — **over·com·er** *n*
over·com·mit \-kə-ˈmit\ *vt* : to commit excessively: as **a** : to obligate (as oneself) beyond the ability for fulfilment **b** : to allocate (resources) in excess of the capacity for replenishment — **over·com·mit·ment** \-mənt\ *n*
over·com·pen·sa·tion \-ˌkäm-pən-ˈsā-shən, -ˌpen-\ *n* : excessive compensation; *specif* : excessive reaction to a feeling of inferiority, guilt, or inadequacy leading to an exaggerated attempt to overcome the feeling — **over·com·pen·sa·to·ry** \-kəm-ˈpen(t)-sə-ˌtōr-ē, -ˌtȯr-\ *adj*
over·con·fi·dence \-ˈkän-fəd-ən(t)s, -fə-ˌden(t)s\ *n* : excess of confidence — **over·con·fi·dent** \-fəd-ənt, -fə-ˌdent\ *adj* — **over·con·fi·dent·ly** *adv*
over·crowd \ˌō-vər-ˈkraůd\ *vt* : to cause to be too crowded ~ *vi* : to crowd together too much
over·de·ter·mined \-di-ˈtər-mənd\ *adj* **1** : excessively determined **2** : having more than one determining psychological factor
over·de·vel·op \-di-ˈvel-əp\ *vt* : to develop excessively; *esp* : to subject (exposed photographic material) to a developing solution for excessive time or at excessive temperature, agitation, or concentration — **over·de·vel·op·ment** \-mənt\ *n*
over·do \ˌō-vər-ˈdü\ *vb* **-did** \-ˈdid\; **-done** \-ˈdən\; **-do·ing** \-ˈdü-iŋ\; **-does** \-ˈdəz\ *vt* **1 a** : to do in excess **b** : to use to excess **c** : EXAGGERATE **2** : to cook too long **3** : EXHAUST ~ *vi* : to go to extremes
over·dom·i·nance \-ˈdäm(-ə)-nən(t)s\ *n* : the property of having a heterozygote that produces a phenotype more extreme or better adapted than that of the homozygote — **over·dom·i·nant** \-nənt\ *adj*
1over·dose \ˈō-vər-ˌdōs\ *n* : too great a dose
2over·dose \ˌō-vər-ˈdōs\ *vt* : to give an overdose or too many doses to
over·draft \ˈō-vər-ˌdraft\ *n* **1** : an act of overdrawing at a bank : the state of being overdrawn; *also* : the sum overdrawn **2** : a draft or current of air passing over a fire in a furnace
over·draw \ˌō-vər-ˈdrȯ\ *vb* **-drew** \-ˈdrü\; **-drawn** \-ˈdrȯn\; **-draw·ing** *vt* **1** : to draw checks on (a bank account) for more than the balance ⟨his account was *overdrawn*⟩ **2** : EXAGGERATE, OVERSTATE ~ *vi* : to make an overdraft
over·drawn *adj* : having an overdrawn account ⟨the bank informed him that he was ~⟩
1over·dress \ˌō-vər-ˈdres\ *vt* : to dress or adorn to excess ~ *vi* : to dress oneself to excess
2over·dress \ˈō-vər-ˌdres\ *n* : a dress worn over another
over·drive \ˈō-vər-ˌdrīv\ *n* : an automotive transmission gear that transmits to the drive shaft a speed greater than engine speed
over·due \ˌō-vər-ˈd(y)ü\ *adj* **1 a** : unpaid when due **b** : delayed beyond an appointed time **2** : too great : EXCESSIVE **3** : more than ready ***syn*** see TARDY
over·eat \ˌō-və-ˈrēt\ *vi* **over·ate** \-ˈrāt\; **over·eat·en** \-ˈrēt-ᵊn\; **over·eat·ing** : to eat to excess — **over·eat·er** *n*
over·em·pha·sis \ˌō-və-ˈrem(p)-fə-səs\ *n* : excessive emphasis
over·em·pha·size \-ˌsīz\ *vt* : to give excessive emphasis to ~ *vi* : to use too much emphasis
over·es·ti·mate \ˌō-və-ˈres-tə-ˌmāt\ *vt* : to estimate too highly — **over·es·ti·mate** \-mət\ *n* — **over·es·ti·ma·tion** \-ˌres-tə-ˈmā-shən\ *n*
over·ex·pose \ˌō-və-rik-ˈspōz\ *vt* : to expose excessively; *esp* : to expose (as film) to excessive radiation (as light) — **over·ex·po·sure** \-ˈspō-zhər\ *n*
over·ex·tend \ˌō-və-rik-ˈstend\ *vt* : to extend or expand beyond a safe or reasonable point; *esp* : to commit (oneself) financially beyond what can be paid
over·fa·tigue \ˌō-vər-fə-ˈtēg\ *n* : excessive fatigue esp. when carried beyond the recuperative capacity of the individual — **over·fatigued** \-ˈtēgd\ *adj*
over·fill \ˌō-vər-ˈfil\ *vt* : to fill to overflowing ~ *vi* : to become full to overflowing
over·fish \-ˈfish\ *vt* : to fish to the detriment of (a fishing ground) or to the depletion of (a kind of organism)
over·flight \ˈō-vər-ˌflīt\ *n* : a passage over an area in an airplane
1over·flow \ˌō-vər-ˈflō\ *vt* **1** : to cover with or as if with water : INUNDATE **2** : to flow over the brim of **3** : to cause to overflow ~ *vi* : to flow over bounds
2over·flow \ˈō-vər-ˌflō\ *n* **1** : a flowing over : INUNDATION **2** : something that flows over : SURPLUS **3** : an outlet or receptacle for surplus liquid
over·fly \ˌō-vər-ˈflī\ *vt* **-flew** \-ˈflü\; **-flown** \-ˈflōn\; **-fly·ing** : to fly over; *esp* : to pass over in an airplane
over·gar·ment \ˈō-vər-ˌgär-mənt\ *n* : an outer garment
over·glaze \-ˌglāz\ *adj* : applied or suitable for applying on top of a fired glaze ⟨~ enamels⟩ — **overglaze** *n*
over·graze \ˌō-vər-ˈgrāz\ *vt* : to allow animals to graze to the point of damaging vegetational cover
over·grow \ˌō-vər-ˈgrō\ *vb* **-grew** \-ˈgrü\; **-grown** \-ˈgrōn\; **-grow·ing** *vt* **1** : to grow over so as to cover with herbage **2** : to grow beyond or rise above : OUTGROW ~ *vi* **1** : to grow excessively **2** : to become grown over — **over·growth** \ˈō-vər-ˌgrōth\ *n*
1over·hand \ˈō-vər-ˌhand\ *adj* : made with the hand brought forward and down from above shoulder level — **overhand** *adv* — **over·hand·ed** \ˌō-vər-ˈhan-dəd\ *adv*
2over·hand \ˈō-vər-ˌhand\ *n* : an overhand stroke (as in tennis)
3over·hand \ˈō-vər-ˌ\ *vt* : to sew with short vertical stitches
overhand knot \ˌō-vər-ˌhan(d)-\ *n* : a small knot often used to prevent the end of a cord from fraying — see KNOT illustration

1over·hang \ˈō-vər-ˌhaŋ, ˌō-vər-ˈ\ *vb* **-hung** \-ˌhəŋ, -ˈhəŋ\; **-hang·ing** *vt* **1** : to project over **2** : to impend over : THREATEN ~ *vi* : to project so as to be over something
2over·hang \ˈō-vər-ˌhaŋ\ *n* **1** : something that overhangs; *also* : the extent of the overhanging **2** : the part of the bow or stern of a ship that projects over the water above the waterline **3** : a projection of the roof or upper story of a building beyond the wall of the lower part
over·haul \ˌō-vər-ˈhȯl\ *vt* **1** : to haul or drag over **2 a** : to examine thoroughly **b** (1) : REPAIR (2) : to renovate, revise, or renew thoroughly **3** : OVERTAKE — **over·haul** \ˈō-vər-ˌhȯl\ *n*
1over·head \ˌō-vər-ˈhed\ *adv* : above one's head : ALOFT
2over·head \ˈō-vər-ˌhed\ *adj* **1** : operating, lying, or coming from above **2** : of or relating to overhead expense
3over·head \ˈō-vər-ˌhed\ *n* **1** : business expenses (as rent, insurance, or heating) not chargeable to a particular part of the work or product **2** : CEILING; *esp* : the ceiling of a ship's compartment **3** : a stroke in a racket game made above head height : SMASH
overhead projector *n* : a projector for projecting onto a vertical screen magnified images of graphic material on a horizontal transparency illuminated from below — called also *overhead*
over·hear \ˌō-vər-ˈhi(ə)r\ *vb* **-heard** \-ˈhərd\; **-hear·ing** \-ˈhi(ə)r-iŋ\ *vt* : to hear without the speaker's knowledge or intention ~ *vi* : to overhear something
over·heat \-ˈhēt\ *vt* **1** : to heat to excess **2** : to stimulate unduly ⟨~*ing* the economy⟩ ~ *vi* : to become overheated
over·in·dulge \ˌō-və-rin-ˈdəlj\ *vt* **1** : to indulge in to an excessive degree **2** : to indulge (someone) to an excessive degree ~ *vi* : to indulge in something to an excessive degree — **over·in·dul·gence** \-ˈdəl-jən(t)s\ *n* — **over·in·dul·gent** \-jənt\ *adj*
over·is·sue \ˌō-və-ˈrish-(ˌ)ü, -ˈrish-ə(-w)\ *n* : an issue exceeding the limit of capital, credit, or authority — **overissue** *vt*
over·joy \ˌō-vər-ˈjȯi\ *vt* : to fill with great joy
1over·kill \ˌō-vər-ˈkil\ *vt* : to obliterate (a target) with more nuclear force than required
2over·kill \ˈō-vər-ˌkil\ *n* **1** : the capability of destroying an enemy or target with a nuclear force larger than is required **2** : an excess of something (as a quantity or an action) beyond what is required or suitable for a particular purpose ⟨a propaganda ~⟩ ⟨an ~ in weaponry⟩ **3** : killing in excess of what is intended or required
1over·land \ˈō-vər-ˌland, -lənd\ *adv* : by, upon, or across land
2overland *adj* : going or accomplished over the land instead of by sea ⟨an ~ route⟩
over·lap \ˌō-vər-ˈlap\ *vt* **1** : to extend over and cover a part of **2** : to have something in common with ~ *vi* **1** : to lap over **2** : to have something in common — **over·lap** \ˈō-vər-ˌlap\ *n*
1over·lay \ˌō-vər-ˈlā\ *vt* **-laid** \-ˈlād\; **-lay·ing** **1 a** : to lay or spread over or across : SUPERIMPOSE **b** : to prepare an overlay for **2** : OVERLIE 2
2over·lay \ˈō-vər-ˌlā\ *n* : a covering either permanent or temporary: as **a** : an ornamental veneer **b** : paper patches added to the packing on a printing press to make a stronger impression **c** : a decorative and contrasting design or article placed on top of a plain one **d** : a transparent sheet containing graphic matter to be superimposed on another sheet
over·leap \ˌō-vər-ˈlēp\ *vt* **-leaped** *or* **-leapt** \-ˈlēpt *also* -ˈlept\; **-leap·ing** \-ˈlē-piŋ\ **1** : to leap over or across **2** : to defeat (oneself) by going too far
over·learn \-ˈlərn\ *vt* : to continue to study or practice after attaining proficiency
over·lie \-ˈlī\ *vt* **-lay** \-ˈlā\; **-lain** \-ˈlān\; **-ly·ing** \-ˈlī-iŋ\ **1** : to lie over or upon **2** : to cause the death of by lying upon
over·load \-ˈlōd\ *vt* : to load to excess — **over·load** \ˈō-vər-ˌlōd\ *n*
1over·long \ˌō-vər-ˈlȯŋ\ *adj* : too long
2overlong *adv* : for too long a time
1over·look \-ˈlůk\ *vt* **1** : to look over : INSPECT **2 a** : to look down upon from above **b** : to rise above or afford a view of **3 a** : to look past : MISS **b** : IGNORE **c** : EXCUSE **4** : SUPERVISE **5** : to look on with the evil eye : BEWITCH ***syn*** see NEGLECT
2over·look \ˈō-vər-ˌlůk\ *n* : a place from which one may look down upon a scene below ⟨plenty of ~*s* and trails —Thelma H. Bell⟩
over·lord \ˈō-vər-ˌlȯ(ə)rd\ *n* **1** : a lord who is lord over other lords : a lord paramount **2** : an absolute or supreme ruler — **over·lord·ship** \-ˌship, ˌō-vər-ˈ\ *n*
over·ly \ˈō-vər-lē\ *adv* : to an excessive degree
1over·man \-mən, -ˌman\ *n* **1** : a man in authority over others; *specif* : FOREMAN **2** \-ˌman\ [trans. of G *übermensch*] : SUPERMAN 1
2over·man \ˌō-vər-ˈman\ *vt* : to have or get too many men for the needs of ⟨~ a ship⟩
over·mas·ter \-ˈmas-tər\ *vt* : OVERPOWER, SUBDUE
over·match \-ˈmach\ *vt* **1** : to be more than a match for : DEFEAT **2** : to match with a superior opponent
1over·much \-ˈməch\ *adj* : too much
2overmuch *adv* : in too great a degree
3over·much \ˈō-vər-ˌməch, ˌō-vər-ˈ\ *n* : too great an amount
1over·night \ˌō-vər-ˈnīt\ *adv* **1** : on or during the evening or night ⟨stayed away ~⟩ **2** : SUDDENLY ⟨became famous ~⟩
2overnight *adj* **1** : of or lasting the night **2** : SUDDEN, RAPID
overnight bag *n* : a traveling bag of a size to carry clothing and personal articles for an overnight trip — called also *overnight case, overnighter*
over·op·ti·mism \ˌō-və-ˈräp-tə-ˌmiz-əm\ *n* : excessive optimism — **over·op·ti·mist** \-məst\ *n* — **over·op·ti·mis·tic** \-ˌräp-tə-ˈmis-tik\ *adj* — **over·op·ti·mis·ti·cal·ly** \-ti-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

[1]over·pass \ˌō-vər-ˈpas\ *vt* **1** : to pass across, over, or beyond : CROSS; *also* : SURPASS **2** : TRANSGRESS **3** : DISREGARD, IGNORE
[2]over·pass \ˈō-vər-ˌpas\ *n* : a crossing of two highways or of a highway and pedestrian path or railroad at different levels where clearance to traffic on the lower level is obtained by elevating the higher level; *also* : the upper level of such a crossing
over·per·suade \ˌō-vər-pər-ˈswād\ *vt* : to persuade to act contrary to one's conviction or preference — **over·per·sua·sion** \-ˈswā-zhən\ *n*
over·play \ˌō-vər-ˈplā\ *vt* **1 a** : to present (as a dramatic role) extravagantly : EXAGGERATE **b** : OVEREMPHASIZE **2** : to rely too much upon the strength of — usu. used in the phrase *overplay one's hand* **3** : to strike a golf ball beyond (a putting green)
over·plus \ˈō-vər-ˌpləs\ *n* [ME, part trans. of MF *surplus*] : SURPLUS
over·pop·u·la·tion \ˌō-vər-ˌpäp-yə-ˈlā-shən\ *n* : the condition of having a population so dense as to cause environmental deterioration, a reduced quality of life, or a population crash — **over·pop·u·lat·ed** \-ˈpäp-yə-ˌlāt-əd\ *adj*
over·pow·er \ˌō-vər-ˈpaù(-ə)r\ *vt* **1** : to overcome by superior force : DEFEAT **2** : OVERWHELM **3** : to provide with more power than is needed or desirable ⟨a dangerously ~*ed* car⟩ — **over·pow·er·ing·ly** \-ˈpaùr-iŋ-lē\ *adv*
over·praise \-ˈprāz\ *vt* : to praise excessively
over·pres·sure \ˈō-vər-ˌpresh-ər\ *n* : pressure significantly above what is usual or normal
over·price \ˌō-vər-ˈprīs\ *vt* : to price too high
[1]over·print \-ˈprint\ *vt* : to print over with something additional
[2]over·print \ˈō-vər-ˌprint\ *n* : something added by or as if by overprinting; *esp* : a printed marking added to a postage or revenue stamp esp. to alter the original or to commemorate a special event
over·prize \ˌō-vər-ˈprīz\ *vt* : to prize excessively
over·pro·duce \-prə-ˈd(y)üs\ *vt* : to produce beyond demand, need, or allotment — **over·pro·duc·tion** \-prə-ˈdək-shən\ *n*
over·proof \ˌō-vər-ˈprüf\ *adj* : containing more alcohol than proof spirit
over·pro·por·tion \-prə-ˈpōr-shən, -ˈpȯr-\ *vt* : to make disproportionately large — **overproportion** *n* — **over·pro·por·tion·ate** \-sh(ə-)nət\ *adj* — **over·pro·por·tion·ate·ly** *adv*
over·pro·tect \ˌ-prə-ˈtekt\ *vt* : to protect unduly — **over·pro·tec·tion** \-ˈtek-shən\ *n* — **over·pro·tec·tive** \-ˈtek-tiv\ *adj*
over·qual·i·fied \-ˈkwäl-ə-ˌfīd\ *adj* : having more education, training, or experience than a job calls for
over·rate \ˌō-və(r)-ˈrāt\ *vt* : to rate too highly
over·reach \-ˈrēch\ *vt* **1** : to reach above or beyond : OVERTOP **2** : to defeat (oneself) by seeking to do or gain too much **3** : to get the better of esp. in dealing and bargaining and typically by unscrupulous or crafty methods ~ *vi* **1** *of a horse* : to strike the toe of the hind foot against the heel or quarter of the forefoot **2 a** : to go to excess **b** : EXAGGERATE **3** : to overreach oneself ***syn*** see CHEAT — **over·reach·er** *n*
over·re·act \-rē-ˈakt\ *vi* : to react excessively — **over·re·ac·tion** \-ˈak-shən\ *n*
over·re·fine·ment \-ri-ˈfīn-mənt\ *n* : excessive refinement
over·rep·re·sent·ed \ˈō-və(r)-ˌrep-ri-ˈzent-əd\ *adj* : represented excessively; *esp* : having representatives in a proportion higher than the average
[1]over·ride \-ˈrīd\ *vt* **-rode** \-ˈrōd\; **-rid·den** \-ˈrid-ᵊn\; **-rid·ing** \-ˈrīd-iŋ\ **1** : to ride over or across : TRAMPLE **2** : to ride (as a horse) too much or too hard **3 a** : to prevail over : DOMINATE **b** : to set aside : ANNUL; *esp* : to neutralize the action of (as an automatic control) **4** : to extend or pass over; *esp* : OVERLAP
[2]over·ride \ˈo-və(r)-ˌrīd\ *n* **1** : a commission paid to managerial personnel on sales made by subordinates **2** : a device or system used to override a control
over·ripe \ˌō-və(r)-ˈrīp\ *adj* **1** : passed beyond maturity or ripeness toward decay **2** : DECADENT
over·rule \-ˈrül\ *vt* **1** : to rule over : GOVERN **2** : to prevail over : OVERCOME **3 a** : to rule against **b** : to set aside : REVERSE
[1]over·run \-ˈrən\ *vt* **-ran** \-ˈran\; **-run·ning** **1 a** : to defeat decisively and occupy the positions of **b** : to swarm over : INFEST **2 a** : to run or go beyond or past ⟨the plane *overran* the runway⟩ **b** : EXCEED **c** (1) : to readjust (set type) by shifting letters or words from one line into another (2) : OVERSET **3** : to flow over
[2]over·run \ˈō-və(r)-ˌrən\ *n* **1** : an act or instance of overrunning; *esp* : an exceeding of the costs estimated in a contract for development and manufacture of new equipment **2** : the amount by which something overruns
over·sea \ˌo-vər-ˈsē, ˈō-vər-ˌ\ *adj or adv* : OVERSEAS
over·seas \-ˈsēz, -ˌsēz\ *adv or adj* : beyond or across the sea
over·see \ˌō-vər-ˈsē\ *vt* **-saw** \-ˈsȯ\; **-seen** \-ˈsēn\; **-see·ing** **1** : SURVEY, WATCH **2 a** : INSPECT, EXAMINE **b** : SUPERVISE
over·seer \ˈō-və(r)-ˌsi(ə)r, -ˌsē-ər, ˌō-və(r)-ˈ\ *n* : SUPERINTENDENT, SUPERVISOR
over·sell \ˌō-vər-ˈsel\ *vt* **-sold** \-ˈsōld\; **-sell·ing** **1 a** : to sell too much to **b** : to sell too much of **2** : to make excessive claims for : OVERPRAISE — **over·sell** \ˈō-vər-ˌsel\ *n*
over·sen·si·tive \ˌō-vər-ˈsen(t)-sət-iv, -stiv\ *adj* : unduly or extremely sensitive — **over·sen·si·tive·ness** *n*
over·set \-ˈset\ *vt* **-set; -set·ting** **1 a** : to disturb mentally or physically : UPSET **b** : to turn or tip over : OVERTURN **2** : to set too much type matter for — **over·set** \ˈō-vər-ˌset\ *n*
over·sexed \ˌō-vər-ˈsekst\ *adj* : exhibiting an excessive sexual drive or interest
over·shad·ow \-ˈshad-(ˌ)ō, -ə(-w)\ *vt* **1** : to cast a shadow over : DARKEN **2** : to exceed in importance : OUTWEIGH
over·shoe \ˈō-vər-ˌshü\ *n* : an outer shoe; *esp* : GALOSH
over·shoot \ˌō-vər-ˈshüt\ *vt* **-shot** \-ˈshät\; **-shoot·ing** **1** : to pass swiftly beyond **2** : to shoot or pass over or beyond so as to miss **3** : to excel in shooting — **over·shoot** \ˈō-vər-ˌshüt\ *n*
[1]over·shot \ˈō-vər-ˌshät\ *adj* **1 a** : having the upper jaw extending beyond the lower **b** : projecting beyond the lower jaw **2** : actuated by the weight of water passing over and flowing from above ⟨an ~ waterwheel⟩
[2]overshot *n* : a pattern or weave featuring filling threads which pass two or more warp yarns before reentering the fabric
over·sight \ˈō-vər-ˌsīt\ *n* **1** : watchful and responsible care **2** : an inadvertent omission or error
syn OVERSIGHT, SUPERVISION, SURVEILLANCE *shared meaning element* : a careful watching
over·sim·ple \ˌō-vər-ˈsim-pəl\ *adj* : too simple : not thoroughgoing or exhaustive ⟨~ theories of personality⟩
over·sim·pli·fy \-ˈsim-plə-ˌfī\ *vt* : to simplify to such an extent as to bring about distortion, misunderstanding, or error ~ *vi* : to engage in undue or extreme simplification — **over·sim·pli·fi·ca·tion** \-ˌsim-plə-fə-ˈkā-shən\ *n*
over·size \ˌō-vər-ˈsīz\ *or* **over·sized** \-ˈsīzd\ *adj* : being of more than ordinary size
over·skirt \ˈō-vər-ˌskərt\ *n* : a skirt worn over another skirt
over·slaugh \ˌō-vər-ˈslȯ\ *vt* [D *overslaan* to pass over, omit] : to pass over for appointment or promotion in favor of another
over·sleep \ˌō-vər-ˈslēp\ *vi* **-slept** \-ˈslept\; **-sleep·ing** : to sleep beyond the time for waking
over·slip \ˌō-vər-ˈslip\ *vt* **1** *archaic* : to let pass by unawares : MISS **2** *obs* : ESCAPE
over·sold \ˌō-vər-ˈsōld\ *adj* : likely to show a rise in price because of prior heavy selling and accompanying decline in price ⟨an ~ stock⟩
over·soul \ˈō-vər-ˌsōl\ *n* : the absolute reality and ground of existences conceived as a spiritual being in which the ideal nature manifested in human beings is perfectly realized
over·spe·cial·iza·tion \ˌō-vər-ˌspesh-(ə-)lə-ˈzā-shən\ *n* : excessive specialization
over·spec·u·late \-ˈspek-yə-ˌlāt\ *vi* : to speculate to excess and esp. beyond one's means — **over·spec·u·la·tion** \-ˌspek-yə-ˈlā-shən\ *n*
over·spend \-ˈspend\ *vb* **-spent** \-ˈspent\; **-spend·ing** *vt* **1** : to spend or use to excess : EXHAUST **2** : to exceed in expenditure ~ *vi* : to spend beyond one's means — **over·spend·er** *n*
over·spill \ˈō-vər-ˌspil\ *n, chiefly Brit* : the movement of excess urban population into less crowded areas
over·spread \ˌō-vər-ˈspred\ *vt* **-spread; -spread·ing** : to spread over or above — **over·spread** \ˈō-vər-ˌspred\ *n*
over·state \-ˈstāt\ *vt* : to state in too strong terms : EXAGGERATE — **over·state·ment** \-mənt\ *n*
over·stay \-ˈstā\ *vt* : to stay beyond the time or the limits of
over·steer \ˈō-vər-ˌsti(ə)r\ *n* : the tendency of an automobile to steer into a sharper turn than the driver intends sometimes with a thrusting of the rear to the outside
over·step \ˌō-vər-ˈstep\ *vt* : EXCEED, TRANSGRESS
over·stock \-ˈstäk\ *vt* : to stock beyond requirements or facilities
over·sto·ry \ˈō-vər-ˌstōr-ē, -ˌstȯr-\ *n* **1** : the layer of foliage in a forest canopy **2** : the trees contributing to an overstory
over·strew \ˌō-vər-ˈstrü\ *vt* **-strewed; -strewed** *or* **-strewn** \-ˈstrün\; **-strew·ing** **1** : to strew or scatter about **2** : to cover here and there
over·stride \-ˈstrīd\ *vt* **-strode** \-ˈstrōd\; **-strid·den** \-ˈstrid-ᵊn\; **-strid·ing** \-ˈstrīd-iŋ\ **1 a** : to stride over, across, or beyond **b** : BESTRIDE **2** : to stride faster than or beyond
over·strung \-ˈstrəŋ\ *adj* : too highly strung : too sensitive
over·stuff \-ˈstəf\ *vt* **1** : to stuff too full **2** : to cover (as a chair or sofa) completely and deeply with upholstery
over·sub·scribe \-səb-ˈskrīb\ *vt* : to subscribe for more of than is offered for sale — **over·sub·scrip·tion** \-ˈskrip-shən\ *n*
over·sub·tle \-ˈsət-ᵊl\ *adj* : excessively or impracticably subtle
over·sup·ply \-sə-ˈplī\ *n* : an excessive supply — **oversupply** *vt*
overt \ō-ˈvərt, ˈō-ˌvərt *also* ˈō-vərt\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF *ouvert, overt*, fr. pp. of *ouvrir* to open, fr. (assumed) VL *operire*, alter. of L *aperire* — more at WEIR] : open to view : MANIFEST — **overt·ly** *adv* — **overt·ness** *n*
over·take \ˌō-vər-ˈtāk\ *vt* **-took** \-ˈtůk\; **-tak·en** \-ˈtā-kən\; **-tak·ing** [ME *overtaken*, fr [1]*over* + *taken* to take] **1 a** : to catch up with **b** : to catch up with and pass by **2** : to come upon suddenly
over·tax \ˌō-vər-ˈtaks\ *vt* **1** : to tax too heavily **2** : to put too great a burden or strain on
over–the–count·er *adj* **1** : not traded or effected on an organized securities exchange ⟨~ transactions⟩; *esp* : traded by negotiation between buyers and sellers or their representatives ⟨~ securities⟩ **2** : sold lawfully without prescription
over·throw \ˌō-vər-ˈthrō\ *vt* **-threw** \-ˈthrü\; **-thrown** \-ˈthrōn\; **-throw·ing** **1** : OVERTURN, UPSET **2** : to bring down : DEFEAT **3** : to throw a baseball over or past (as a base) — **over·throw** \ˈō-vər-ˌthrō\ *n*
over·time \ˈō-vər-ˌtīm\ *n* **1** : time in excess of a set limit; *esp* : working time in excess of a standard day or week **2** : the wage paid for overtime — **overtime** *adv*
over·tone \-ˌtōn\ *n* **1 a** : one of the higher tones produced simultaneously with the fundamental and that with the fundamental comprise a complex musical tone : HARMONIC 1a **b** : HARMONIC 2 **2** : the color of the light reflected (as by a paint) **3** : a secondary effect, quality, or meaning : SUGGESTION
over·top \ˌō-vər-ˈtäp\ *vt* **1** : to rise above the top of **2** : to be superior to **3** : SURPASS
over·trade \-ˈtrād\ *vi* **1** : to trade beyond one's capital **2** : CHURN 3
over·train \-ˈtrān\ *vt* : to train more than is necessary or desirable ~ *vi* : to engage in training to an excessive degree
over·trick \ˈō-vər-ˌtrik\ *n* : a card trick won in excess of the number bid
over·trump \ˌō-vər-ˈtrəmp\ *vt* : to trump with a higher trump card than the highest previously played on the same trick ~ *vi* : to play a higher trump card than the highest previously played on the same trick
[1]over·ture \ˈō-və(r)-ˌchù(ə)r, -chər, -ˌt(y)ù(ə)r\ *n* [ME, lit., opening, fr. MF, fr. (assumed) VL *opertura*, alter. of L *apertura* — more at APERTURE] **1 a** : an initiative toward agreement or action : PROPOSAL **b** : something introductory : PRELUDE **2 a** : the orchestral introduction to a musical dramatic work **b** : an orchestral concert piece written esp. as a single movement in sonata form

²overture *vt* **-tured; -tur·ing** **1** : to put forward as an overture **2** : to make or present an overture to
¹over·turn \ˌō-vər-ˈtərn\ *vt* **1** : to cause to turn over : UPSET **2** : OVERTHROW, DESTROY ~ *vi* : to turn over
²over·turn \ˈō-vər-ˌtərn\ *n* **1** : the act of overturning : the state of being overturned **2** : the sinking of surface water and rise of bottom water in a lake or sea that results from changes in temperature that commonly occur in spring and fall wherever lakes are icebound in winter
over·use \ˌō-vər-ˈyüs\ *n* : excessive use — **over·use** \-ˈyüz\ *vt*
over·val·ue \-ˈval-(ˌ)yü, -yə(-w)\ *vt* : to assign an excessive or fictitious value to — **over·valu·ation** \-ˌval-yə-ˈwā-shən\ *n*
over·view \ˈō-vər-ˌvyü\ *n* : a usu. brief general survey : SUMMARY
over·volt·age \ˌō-vər-ˈvōl-tij\ *n* **1** : voltage in excess of the normal operating voltage of a device or circuit **2** : the excess potential required for the discharge of an ion at an electrode over and above the equilibrium potential of the electrode
over·watch \-ˈwäch\ *vt* **1** *archaic* : to weary or exhaust by keeping awake **2** : to watch over
over·wear \-ˈwa(ə)r, -ˈwe(ə)r\ *vt* **-wore** \-ˈwō(ə)r, -ˈwȯ(ə)r\; **-worn** \-ˈwō(ə)rn, -ˈwȯ(ə)rn\; **-wear·ing** : to wear out : EXHAUST
¹over·wea·ry \-ˈwi(ə)r-ē\ *vt* : to tire out
²overweary *adj* : wearied to excess
over·ween·ing \-ˈwē-niŋ\ *adj* [ME *overwening*, prp. of *overwenen* to be arrogant, fr. *over* + *wenen* to ween] **1** : ARROGANT, PRESUMPTUOUS **2** : IMMODERATE, EXAGGERATED
over·weigh \-ˈwā\ *vt* **1** : OVERWEIGHT 3 **2** : OPPRESS
¹over·weight \ˈō-vər-ˌwāt, *2 is usu* ˌō-vər-ˈ\ *n* **1** : weight over and above what is required or allowed **2** : excessive or burdensome weight
²over·weight \ˌō-vər-ˈwāt\ *vt* **1** : to give too much weight or consideration to **2** : to weight excessively **3** : to exceed in weight
³over·weight \ˌō-vər-ˈwāt\ *adj* : exceeding expected, normal, or proper weight; *esp* : exceeding the bodily weight normal for one's age, height, and build
over·whelm \ˌō-vər-ˈhwelm, -ˈwelm\ *vt* [ME *overwhelmen*, fr. ¹*over* + *whelmen* to turn over, cover up] **1** : OVERTHROW, UPSET **2 a** : to cover over completely : SUBMERGE **b** : to overcome by superior force or numbers : CRUSH — **over·whelm·ing·ly** \-ˈhwel-miŋ-lē, -ˈwel-\ *adv*
over·wind \-ˈwīnd\ *vt* **-wound** \-ˈwau̇nd\; **-wind·ing** : to wind too much
¹over·win·ter \-ˈwint-ər\ *vi* : to survive the winter
²overwinter *adj* : occurring during the period spanning the winter
over with *adj* : FINISHED, COMPLETED
over·word \ˈō-vər-ˌwərd\ *n* : the refrain of a song
over·work \ˌō-vər-ˈwərk\ *vt* **1** : to cause to work too hard, too long, or to exhaustion **2** : to decorate all over **3 a** : to work too much on : OVERDO **b** : to make excessive use of ~ *vi* : to work too much or too long : OVERDO — **overwork** *n*
over·write \ˌō-və(r)-ˈrīt\ *vb* **-wrote** \-ˈrōt\; **-writ·ten** \-ˈrit-ᵊn\; **-writ·ing** \-ˈrīt-iŋ\ *vt* **1** : to write over the surface of **2** : to write in inflated or pretentious style ~ *vi* : to write too much
over·wrought \-ˈrȯt\ *adj* [pp. of *overwork*] **1** : extremely excited : AGITATED **2** : elaborated to excess : OVERDONE
ovi- *or* **ovo-** — see OV-
ovi·cid·al \ˌō-və-ˈsīd-ᵊl\ *adj* : capable of killing eggs
ovi·cide \ˈō-və-ˌsīd\ *n* [ISV] : an agent that kills eggs; *esp* : an insecticide effective against the egg stage
ovi·duct \ˈō-və-ˌdəkt\ *n* [NL *oviductus*, fr. *ov-* + *ductus* duct] : a tube that serves exclusively or esp. for the passage of eggs from an ovary — **ovi·duc·tal** \ˌō-və-ˈdək-tᵊl\ *adj*
ovine \ˈō-ˌvīn\ *adj* [LL *ovinus*, fr. L *ovis* sheep — more at EWE] : of, relating to, or resembling sheep — **ovine** *n*
ovip·a·rous \ō-ˈvip-(ə-)rəs\ *adj* [L *oviparus*, fr. *ov-* + *-parus* -parous] : producing eggs that develop and hatch outside the maternal body; *also* : involving the production of such eggs — **ovip·a·rous·ly** *adv* — **ovip·a·rous·ness** *n*
ovi·pos·it \ˈō-və-ˌpäz-ət, ˌō-və-ˈ\ *vi* [prob. back-formation fr. *oviposition*] : to lay eggs — used esp. of insects — **ovi·po·si·tion** \ˌō-və-pə-ˈzish-ən\ *n* — **ovi·po·si·tion·al** \-ˈzish-nəl, -ən-ᵊl\ *adj*
ovi·pos·i·tor \ˈō-və-ˌpäz-ət-ər, ˌō-və-ˈ\ *n* [NL, fr. L *ov-* + *positor* one that places, fr. *positus*, pp. of *ponere* to place — more at POSITION] : a specialized organ (as of an insect) for depositing eggs — see INSECT illustration
ovoid \ˈō-ˌvȯid\ *or* **ovoi·dal** \ō-ˈvȯid-ᵊl\ *adj* [F *ovoïde*, fr. L *ovum* egg — more at EGG] : shaped like an egg : OVATE — **ovoid** *n*
ovo·lo \ˈō-və-ˌlō\ *n, pl* **-los** [It, dim. of *uovo, ovo* egg, fr. L *ovum*] : a rounded convex molding
Ovon·ics \ō-ˈvän-iks\ *n pl but usu sing in constr* [Stanford R. *Ovshinsky b*1923 Am inventor + electr*onics*] : a branch of electronics that deals with applications of the change from an electrically nonconducting state to a semiconducting state shown by glasses of special composition upon application of a certain minimum voltage — **ovon·ic** \-ik\ *adj*
ovo·tes·tis \ˌō-vō-ˈtes-təs\ *n* [NL] : a hermaphrodite gonad (as in some scale insects)
ovo·vi·vip·a·rous \ˈō-vō-ˌvī-ˈvip-(ə-)rəs\ *adj* [prob. fr. (assumed) NL *ovoviviparus*, fr. L *ov-* + *viviparus* viviparous] : producing eggs that develop within the maternal body and hatch within or immediately after extrusion from the parent — **ovo·vi·vip·a·rous·ly** *adv* — **ovo·vi·vip·a·rous·ness** *n*
¹ovu·late \ˈäv-yə-ˌlāt, ˈōv-, -lət\ *adj* : bearing an ovule
²ovu·late \-ˌlāt\ *vi* **-lat·ed; -lat·ing** : to produce eggs or discharge them from an ovary — **ovu·la·tion** \ˌäv-yə-ˈlā-shən, ˌōv-\ *n*
ovu·la·to·ry \ˈäv-yə-lə-ˌtōr-ē, ˈōv-, -ˌtȯr-\ *adj* : of, relating to, or involving ovulation
ovule \ˈäv-(ˌ)yü(ə)l, ˈōv-\ *n* [NL *ovulum*, dim. of L *ovum*] **1** : an outgrowth of the ovary of a seed plant that is a megasporangium and encloses an embryo sac within a nucellus **2** : a small egg; *esp* : one in an early stage of growth — **ovu·lar** \-yə-lər\ *adj*
ovum \ˈō-vəm\ *n, pl* **ova** \-və\ [NL, fr. L, egg — more at EGG] : a female gamete : MACROGAMETE
owe \ˈō\ *vb* **owed; ow·ing** [ME *owen* to possess, own, owe, fr. OE *āgan;* akin to OHG *eigun* (1st & 3d pl. pres. indic.) possess, Skt *īśe* he possesses] *vt* **1 a** *archaic* : POSSESS, OWN **b** : to have or bear (an emotion or attitude) to someone or something ⟨~*s* the boss a grudge⟩ **2 a** (1) : to be under obligation to pay or repay in return for something received : be indebted in the sum of ⟨~*s* me five dollars⟩ (2) : to be under obligation to render (as duty or service) **b** : to be indebted to ⟨~*s* the grocer for supplies⟩ **3** : to be indebted for ⟨*owed* his wealth to his father⟩ ~ *vi* : to be in debt ⟨~*s* for his house⟩
owing to *prep* : because of ⟨delayed *owing to* a crash⟩
owl \ˈau̇(ə)l\ *n* [ME *owle*, fr. OE *ūle;* akin to OHG *uwila* owl] : any of an order (Strigiformes) of birds of prey with large head and eyes, short hooked bill, strong talons, and more or less nocturnal habits
owl·et \ˈau̇-lət\ *n* : a small or young owl
owl·ish \ˈau̇-lish\ *adj* : resembling or suggesting an owl — **owl·ish·ly** *adv* — **owl·ish·ness** *n*
¹own \ˈōn\ *adj* [ME *owen*, fr. OE *āgen;* akin to OHG *eigan* own, ON *eiginn*, OE *āgan* to possess — more at OWE] : belonging to oneself or itself — usu. used following a possessive case or pronoun ⟨cooked his ~ dinner⟩
²own *vt* **1** : to have or hold as property : POSSESS **2** : to acknowledge to be true, valid, or as claimed : ADMIT ⟨~ a debt⟩ ~ *vi* : to acknowledge something to be true, valid, or as claimed — used with *to* or *up* ***syn*** **1** see HAVE **2** see ACKNOWLEDGE ***ant*** disown, repudiate — **own·er** \ˈō-nər\ *n* — **own·er·ship** \-ˌship\ *n*
³own *pron, sing or pl in constr* : one or ones belonging to oneself — used after a possessive and without a following noun as a pronoun equivalent in meaning to the adjective *own* ⟨gave out books so that each student had his ~⟩ — **on one's own** : for or by oneself : independently of assistance or control
ox \ˈäks\ *n, pl* **ox·en** \ˈäk-sən\ *also* **ox** [ME, fr. OE *oxa;* akin to OHG *ohso* ox, Gk *hygros* wet — more at HUMOR] **1** : a domestic bovine mammal (*Bos taurus*); *broadly* : a bovine mammal **2** : an adult castrated male domestic ox
ox- *or* **oxo-** *comb form* [F, fr. *oxygène*] : oxygen ⟨*oxazine*⟩
ox·a·cil·lin \ˌäk-sə-ˈsil-ən\ *n* [*ox-* + *azole* + peni*cillin*] : a semisynthetic penicillin that is esp. effective in the control of infections caused by penicillin-resistant staphylococci
ox·al·ac·e·tate \ˌäk-sə-ˈlas-ə-ˌtāt\ *or* **ox·a·lo·ac·e·tate** \ˌäk-sə-lō-ˈas-\ *n* : a salt or ester of oxalacetic acid
ox·al·ace·tic \ˌäk-sə-lə-ˈsēt-ik\ *or* **ox·a·lo·ace·tic** \ˌäk-sə-lō-ə-ˈsēt-\ *adj* : involving oxalacetic acid or its production
oxalacetic acid *n* [*oxal*ic + *acetic acid*] : a crystalline acid $C_4H_4O_5$ that is formed by reversible oxidation of malic acid (as in carbohydrate metabolism via the citric acid cycle) and in reversible transamination reactions (as from aspartic acid) — called also *oxaloacetic acid*
ox·a·late \ˈäk-sə-ˌlāt\ *n* : a salt or ester of oxalic acid
ox·al·ic acid \(ˌ)äk-ˌsal-ik-\ *n* [F (*acide*) *oxalique*, fr. L *oxalis* wood sorrel] : a poisonous strong acid $(COOH)_2$ or $H_2C_2O_4$ that occurs in various plants as oxalates and is used esp. as a bleaching or cleaning agent and in making dyes
ox·al·is \äk-ˈsal-əs\ *n* [NL, genus name, fr. L, wood sorrel, fr. Gk, fr. *oxys* sharp — more at OXYGEN] : WOOD SORREL 1
ox·a·lo·suc·cin·ic acid \ˈäk-sə-lō-sək-ˌsin-ik-, äk-ˈsal-ō-\ *n* [*oxal*ic + *succinic acid*] : a tricarboxylic acid $C_6H_6O_7$ that is formed as an intermediate in the metabolism of fats and carbohydrates
ox·a·zine \ˈäk-sə-ˌzēn\ *n* [ISV *ox-* + *azine*] : any of several parent compounds C_4H_5NO containing a ring composed of four carbon atoms, one oxygen atom, and one nitrogen atom
ox·blood \ˈäks-ˌbləd\ *n* : a moderate reddish brown
ox·bow \ˈäks-ˌbō\ *n* **1** : a U-shaped frame forming a collar about an ox's neck and supporting the yoke **2** : something (as a bend in a river) resembling an oxbow — **oxbow** *adj*
ox-eye \ˈäk-ˌsī\ *n* : any of several composite plants (as of the genera *Chrysanthemum, Heliopsis,* or *Buphthalmum*) having heads with both disk and ray flowers; *esp* : DAISY 1b
oxeye daisy *n* : DAISY 1b
ox·ford \ˈäks-fərd\ *n* [*Oxford*, England] : a low shoe laced or tied over the instep
Oxford down *n, often cap D* [*Oxfordshire*, England] : any of a Down breed of large hornless sheep developed by crossing Cotswolds and Hampshires
Oxford movement *n* : a High Church movement within the Church of England begun at Oxford in 1833
ox·heart \ˈäks-ˌhärt\ *n* : any of various large sweet cherries
ox·i·dant \ˈäk-səd-ənt\ *n* : OXIDIZING AGENT — **oxidant** *adj*
ox·i·dase \ˈäk-sə-ˌdās, -ˌdāz\ *n* [ISV] : any of various enzymes that catalyze oxidations; *esp* : one able to react directly with molecular oxygen — **ox·i·da·sic** \ˌäk-sə-ˈdā-sik, -zik\ *adj*
ox·i·da·tion \ˌäk-sə-ˈdā-shən\ *n* [F, fr. *oxider, oxyder* to oxidize, fr. *oxide*] **1** : the act or process of oxidizing **2** : the state or result of being oxidized — **ox·i·da·tive** \ˈäk-sə-ˌdāt-iv\ *adj* — **ox·i·da·tive·ly** *adv*
oxidation number *n* : the degree of or potential for oxidation of an element or atom which is usu. expressed as a positive or negative number representing the ionic or effective charge : VALENCE — called also *oxidation state*
oxidation–reduction *n* : a chemical reaction in which one or more electrons are transferred from one atom or molecule to another
oxidative phosphorylation *n* : the synthesis of ATP by phosphorylation of ADP for which energy is obtained by electron transfer from reduced carbon compounds to oxygen

ox·ide \'äk-ˌsīd\ *n* [F *oxide, oxyde,* fr. *ox-* (fr. *oxygène* oxygen) + *-ide* (fr. *acide* acid)] : a binary compound of oxygen with an element or radical — **ox·id·ic** \äk-'sid-ik\ *adj*

ox·i·dize \'äk-sə-ˌdīz\ *vb* **-dized; -diz·ing** [*oxide* + *-ize*] *vt* **1** : to combine with oxygen **2** : to dehydrogenate esp. by the action of oxygen **3** : to change (a compound) by increasing the proportion of the electronegative part or change (an element or ion) from a lower to a higher positive valence : remove one or more electrons from (an atom, ion, or molecule) ~ *vi* : to become oxidized — **ox·i·diz·able** \-ˌdī-zə-bəl\ *adj*

ox·i·diz·er \-ˌdī-zər\ *n* : OXIDIZING AGENT; *esp* : one used to support the combustion of a rocket propellant

oxidizing agent *n* : a substance that oxidizes something esp. chemically (as by accepting electrons)

ox·i·do·re·duc·tase \'äk-səd-ō-ri-'dək-ˌtās, -ˌtāz\ *n* [*oxid*ation + *-o-* + *reduct*ion + *-ase*] : an enzyme that catalyzes an oxidation-reduction reaction

ox·ime \'äk-ˌsēm\ *n* [ISV *ox-* + *-ime* (fr. *imide*)] : any of various compounds obtained chiefly by the action of hydroxylamine on aldehydes and ketones and characterized by the bivalent grouping C=NOH

ox·lip \'äk-ˌslip\ *n* [(assumed) ME *oxeslippe,* fr. OE *oxanslyppe,* lit., ox dung, fr. *oxa* ox + *slypa, slyppe* paste — more at SLIP] : a Eurasian primula (*Primula elatior*) differing from the cowslip chiefly in the flat corolla limb

Ox·on \'äk-ˌsän, -sən\ *abbr* [L *Oxonia*] **1** Oxford **2** Oxfordshire **3** [L *Oxoniensis*] of Oxford

Ox·o·ni·an \äk-'sō-nē-ən\ *n* [ML *Oxonia* Oxford] : a student or graduate of Oxford University — **Oxonian** *adj*

ox·tail \'äk-ˌstāl\ *n* : the tail of cattle; *esp* : the skinned tail used for food (as in soup)

ox·ter \'äk-stər\ *n* [(assumed) ME, alter. of OE *ōxta;* akin to L *axilla* armpit — more at AXIS] **1** *chiefly Scot & Irish* : ARMPIT **2** *chiefly Scot & Irish* : ARM

ox·tongue \'äk-ˌstəŋ\ *n* : any of several plants having rough tongue-shaped leaves: as **a** : a bugloss (genus *Anchusa*) **b** : a European hawkweed (*Picris echioides*) that has yellow flowers and is now naturalized in the eastern U.S.

oxy \'äk-sē\ *adj* [F, fr. *oxygène* oxygen] : OXYGENIC; *esp* : containing oxygen or additional oxygen — often used in combination ⟨*oxy*hemoglobin⟩ ⟨*oxy*hydrogen⟩

oxy·acet·y·lene \ˌäk-sē-ə-'set-ᵊl-ən, -ᵊl-ˌēn\ *adj* [ISV] : of, relating to, or utilizing a mixture of oxygen and acetylene ⟨an ~ torch⟩

oxy·ac·id \'äk-sē-ˌas-əd\ *n* : an acid (as sulfuric acid) that contains oxygen — called also *oxygen acid*

ox·y·gen \'äk-si-jən\ *n, often attrib* [F *oxygène,* fr. Gk *oxys,* adj., acid, lit., sharp + F *-gène* -gen; akin to L *acer* sharp — more at EDGE] : an element that is found free as a colorless tasteless odorless gas in the atmosphere of which it forms about 21 percent or combined in water, in most rocks and minerals, and in numerous organic compounds, that is capable of combining with all elements except the inert gases, is active in physiological processes, and is involved esp. in combustion processes — see ELEMENT table — **ox·y·gen·ic** \ˌäk-si-'jen-ik\ *adj* — **ox·y·gen·ic·i·ty** \-jə-'nis-ət-ē\ *n* — **ox·y·gen·less** \'äk-si-jən-ləs\ *adj*

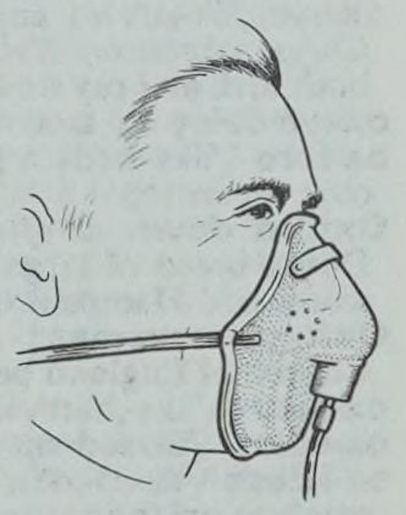
ox·y·gen·ate \'äk-si-jə-ˌnāt, äk-'sij-ə-\ *vt* **-at·ed; -at·ing** : to impregnate, combine, or supply (as blood) with oxygen — **ox·y·gen·ation** \ˌäk-si-jə-'nā-shən, äk-ˌsij-ə-\ *n*

ox·y·gen·ator \'äk-si-jə-ˌnāt-ər, äk-'sij-ə-\ *n* : one (as an apparatus for perfusing an organ or tissue) that oxygenates

oxygen cycle *n* : the cycle whereby atmospheric oxygen is converted to carbon dioxide in animal respiration and regenerated by green plants in photosynthesis

oxygen debt *n* : a cumulative oxygen deficit that develops during periods of intense bodily activity and must be made good when the body returns to rest

oxygen mask *n* : a device worn over the nose and mouth (as by airmen at high altitudes) through which oxygen is supplied from a storage tank



oxygen mask

oxygen tent *n* : a canopy which can be placed over a bedridden person and within which a flow of oxygen can be maintained

oxy·he·mo·glo·bin \ˌäk-si-'hē-mə-ˌglō-bən\ *n* [ISV] : hemoglobin loosely combined with oxygen that it releases to the tissues

oxy·hy·dro·gen \-'hī-drə-jən\ *adj* : of, relating to, or utilizing a mixture of oxygen and hydrogen ⟨~ torch⟩

oxy·mo·ron \ˌäk-si-'mō(ə)r-ˌän, -'mȯ(ə)r-\ *n, pl* **-mo·ra** \-'mōr-ə, -'mȯr-\ [LGk *oxymōron,* fr. neut. of *oxymōros* pointedly foolish, fr. Gk *oxys* sharp, keen + *mōros* foolish — more at MORON] : a combination of contradictory or incongruous words (as *cruel kindness*)

oxy·phil·ic \ˌäk-si-'fil-ik\ *also* **oxy·phile** \'äk-si-ˌfīl\ *or* **oxy·phil** \-ˌfil\ *adj* [Gk *oxys* acid + E *-phil* — more at OXYGEN] : ACIDOPHILIC — **oxyphile** *also* **oxyphil** *n*

oxy·some \'äk-si-ˌsōm\ *n* : one of the structural units of mitochondrial cristae that are observable by the electron microscope usu. as spheres or stalked spheres and are prob. the seat of fundamental energy-producing reactions

oxy·sul·fide \ˌäk-si-'səl-ˌfīd\ *n* [ISV] : a compound of oxygen and sulfur with an element or radical that may be regarded as a sulfide in which part of the sulfur is replaced by oxygen

oxy·tet·ra·cy·cline \-ˌte-trə-'sī-ˌklēn\ *n* : a yellow crystalline broad-spectrum antibiotic $C_{22}H_{24}N_2O_9$ produced by a soil actinomycete (*Streptomyces rimosus*)

oxy·to·cic \ˌäk-si-'tō-sik\ *adj* [ISV, fr. Gk *oxys* sharp, quick + *tokos* childbirth, fr. *tiktein* to bear — more at THANE] : hastening parturition; *also* : inducing contraction of uterine smooth muscle — **oxytocic** *n*

oxy·to·cin \-'tōs-ᵊn\ *n* [ISV, fr. *oxytocic*] : a postpituitary octapeptide hormone $C_{43}H_{66}N_{12}O_{12}S_2$ that stimulates esp. the contraction of uterine muscle and the ejection of milk

oxy·tone \'äk-si-ˌtōn\ *adj* [F *oxyton,* fr. Gk *oxytonos,* fr. *oxys* sharp, acute in pitch + *tonos* tone] **1** *of a Greek word* : having an acute accent on the last syllable **2** : having heavy stress on the last syllable — **oxytone** *n*

oxy·uri·a·sis \ˌäk-si-yù-'rī-ə-səs\ *n* [NL, fr. *Oxyuris,* genus of worms + *-iasis*] : infestation with or disease caused by pinworms (family Oxyuridae)

oy·er and ter·mi·ner \ˌȯi-ə-rən-'tər-mə-nər\ *n* [ME, part trans. of AF *oyer et terminer,* lit., to hear and determine] **1** : a commission authorizing a British judge to hear and determine a criminal case at the assizes **2** : a high criminal court in some U.S. states

¹oyez \ō-'yā, -'yes\ *vb imper* [ME, fr. AF, hear ye, imper. pl. of *oir* to hear, fr. L *audire* — more at AUDIBLE] — used by a court or public crier to gain attention before a proclamation

²oyez *n, pl* **oyes·ses** \-'yes-əz\ : a cry of oyez

oys·ter \'ȯi-stər\ *n, often attrib* [ME, *oistre,* fr. MF, fr. L *ostrea,* fr. Gk *ostreon;* akin to Gk *ostrakon* shell, *osteon* bone — more at OSSEOUS] **1 a** : any of various marine bivalve mollusks (family Ostreidae) that have a rough irregular shell closed by a single adductor muscle and include important shellfish **b** : any of various mollusks resembling or related to the oysters **2** : something valuable or deserved and won by skill **3** : a small mass of muscle contained in a concavity of the pelvic bone on each side of the back of a fowl **4** : an extremely taciturn person

oyster bed *n* : a place where oysters grow or are cultivated

oyster catcher *n* : any of a genus (*Haematopus*) of wading birds that have stout legs, a heavy wedge-shaped bill, and often black and white plumage

oyster crab *n* : a crab (*Pinnotheres ostreum*) that lives as a commensal in the gill cavity of the oyster

oyster cracker *n* : a small salted usu. round cracker

oyster drill *n* : DRILL 4a

oys·ter·ing \'ȯi-st(ə-)riŋ\ *n* : the act or business of taking oysters for the market or for food

oys·ter·man \'ȯi-stər-mən\ *n* : one who gathers, opens, breeds, or sells oysters

oyster plant *n* : SALSIFY

oz *abbr* [It *onza*] ounce; ounces

ozo·ke·rite \ˌō-zō-'ki(ə)r-ˌīt\ *also* **ozo·ce·rite** \-'si(ə)r-\ *n* [G *ozokerit,* fr. Gk *ozein* to smell + *kēros* wax — more at CERUMEN] : a waxy mineral mixture of hydrocarbons that is colorless or white when pure and often of unpleasant odor and is used esp. in making candles and in electrotyping

ozon- *or* **ozono-** *comb form* [ISV, fr. *ozone*] : ozone ⟨*ozonize*⟩

ozone \'ō-ˌzōn\ *n* [G *ozon,* fr. Gk *ozōn,* prp. of *ozein* to smell — more at ODOR] **1** : a triatomic form of oxygen that is a bluish irritating gas of pungent odor, is formed naturally in the upper atmosphere by a photochemical reaction with solar ultraviolet radiation or generated commercially by a silent electric discharge in ordinary oxygen or air, is a major agent in the formation of smogs, and is used esp. in disinfection and deodorization and in oxidation and bleaching **2** : pure and refreshing air — **ozo·nic** \ō-'zō-nik, -'zän-ik\ *adj* — **ozo·nif·er·ous** \ˌō-zō-'nif-(ə-)rəs\ *adj* — **ozon·ous** \'ō-ˌzō-nəs, ō-'\ *adj*

ozon·ide \'ō-(ˌ)zō-ˌnīd\ *n* : a compound of ozone; *specif* : a compound formed by the addition of ozone to the double or triple bond of an unsaturated organic compound

ozon·ize \-ˌnīz\ *vt* **-ized; -iz·ing** **1** : to convert (oxygen) into ozone **2** : to treat, impregnate, or combine with ozone — **ozon·iza·tion** \ˌō-(ˌ)zō-nə-'zā-shən\ *n* — **ozon·iz·er** \'ō-(ˌ)zō-ˌnī-zər\ *n*

ozo·no·sphere \ō-'zō-nə-ˌsfi(ə)r\ *n* : an atmospheric layer at heights of approximately 20 to 30 miles characterized by high ozone content



[1]p \'pē\ *n, pl* **p's** *or* **ps** \'pēz\ *often cap, often attrib* **1 a** : the 16th letter of the English alphabet **b** : a graphic representation of this letter **c** : a speech counterpart of orthographic *p* **2** : a graphic device for reproducing the letter *p* **3** : one designated *p* esp. as the 16th in order or class **4** [abbr. for *pass*] **a** : a grade rating a student's work as passing **b** : one graded or rated with a P **5** : something shaped like the letter P

[2]p *abbr, often cap* **1** page **2** parental generation **3** part **4** participle **5** past **6** pater **7** pawn **8** pence; penny **9** per **10** peseta **11** peso **12** piano **13** pico- **14** pint **15** pipe **16** pitch **17** pole **18** port **19** power **20** pressure **21** pro **22** purl

[3]p *symbol* **1** momentum of a particle **2** proton **3** *often cap* the probability of obtaining a result as great as or greater than the observed result in a statistical test if the null hypothesis is true

P *symbol* **1** phosphorus **2** [F *poids*] weight

p- *abbr* para-

pa \'pä, 'pȯ\ *n* [short for *papa*] : FATHER

[1]Pa *abbr* Pennsylvania

[2]Pa *symbol* protactinium

PA *abbr* **1** particular average **2** passenger agent **3** Pennsylvania **4** per annum **5** personal appearance **6** power amplifier **7** power of attorney **8** press agent **9** private account **10** protonotary apostolic **11** public address **12** purchasing agent

pa'anga \pä-'äŋ-(g)ə\ *n* [Tongan, lit., seed] — see MONEY table

PABA \'pab-ə, ˌpē-ˌā-'bē-ˌā\ *n* [*para-amino-benzoic acid*] : PARA-AMINOBENZOIC ACID

pabulum \'pab-yə-ləm\ *n* [L, food, fodder; akin to L *pascere* to feed — more at FOOD] **1** : FOOD; *esp* : a suspension or solution of nutrients in a state suitable for absorption **2** : intellectual sustenance **3** : an insipid piece of writing

Pac *abbr* Pacific

PAC *abbr* Political Action Committee

paca \'päk-ə, 'pak-\ *n* [Pg & Sp, fr. Tupi *páca*] : any of a genus (*Cuniculus*) of large So. and Central American rodents; *esp* : a common edible rodent (*C. paca*) of northern So. America that has a brown coat spotted with white and a hide used locally for leather

[1]pace \'pās\ *n* [ME *pas*, fr. OF, step, fr. L *passus*, fr. *passus*, pp. of *pandere* to spread — more at FATHOM] **1 a** : rate of movement; *esp* : an established rate of locomotion **b** : rate of progress; *specif* : parallel rate of growth or development **c** : an example to be emulated; *specif* : first place in a competition ⟨three strokes off the ~ —*Time*⟩ **d** (1) : rate of performance or delivery : TEMPO (2) : rhythmic animation : FLUENCY ⟨writes with color, with zest, and with ~ —Amy Loveman⟩ **e** : ROUTINE ⟨the circus is change of ~ — beauty against our daily ugliness —John Steinbeck⟩ **2** : a manner of walking : TREAD **3 a** : STEP 2a(1) **b** : any of various units of distance based on the length of a human step **4 a** *pl* : an exhibition of skills or capacities ⟨the trainer put the tiger through its ~*s*⟩ **b** : GAIT; *esp* : a fast 2-beat gait (as of the horse) in which the legs move in lateral pairs and support the animal alternately on the right and left legs

[2]pace *vb* **paced; pacing** *vi* **1 a** : to walk with slow or measured tread **b** : to move along : PROCEED **2** : to go at a pace — used esp. of a horse ~ *vt* **1 a** : to measure by pacing — often used with *off* ⟨*paced* off a 10-yard penalty⟩ **b** : to cover at a walk ⟨could hear him *pacing* the floor⟩ **2** : to cover (a course) by pacing — used of a horse **3 a** : to set or regulate the pace of ⟨~*s* his teaching to his students' abilities⟩ **b** (1) : to go before : PRECEDE (2) : to set an example for : LEAD **c** : to keep pace with

[3]pace \'pā-(ˌ)sē\ *prep* [L, abl. of *pac-, pax* peace, permission] : with due respect to ⟨I do not, ~ . . . the correspondents, claim to have made any "discovery" —E. M. Almedingen⟩

pace car *n* : an automobile that leads the field of competitors through a pace lap but does not participate in the race

pace lap *n* : a lap of an auto racecourse by the entire field of competitors before the start of a race to allow the engines to warm up and to permit a flying start

pacemaker \'pā-ˌsmā-kər\ *n* **1 a** : one that sets the pace for another **b** : one that takes the lead or sets an example **2 a** : a body part (as the sinoatrial node of the heart) that serves to establish and maintain a rhythmic activity **b** : an electrical device for stimulating or steadying the heartbeat or reestablishing the rhythm of an arrested heart — **pacemaking** \-kiŋ\ *n*

pacer \'pā-sər\ *n* **1** : one that paces; *specif* : a horse whose gait is the pace **2** : PACEMAKER

pacesetter \'pās-ˌset-ər\ *n* : PACEMAKER 1a

pachisi \pə-'chē-zē\ *n* [Hindi *pacīsī*] : an ancient board game played with dice and counters on a cruciform board in which players attempt to be the first to reach the home square

pachuco \pə-'chü-(ˌ)kō\ *n, pl* **-cos** [MexSp] : a young usu. underprivileged Mexican-American having a taste for flashy clothes and a special jargon, usu. belonging to a neighborhood gang, and often identified by a small tattoo

pachyderm \'pak-i-ˌdərm\ *n* [F *pachyderme*, fr. Gk *pachydermos* thick-skinned, fr. *pachys* thick + *derma* skin; akin to ON *bingr* heap, Skt *bahu* dense, much — more at DERM-] : any of various nonruminant hoofed mammals (as an elephant, a rhinoceros, or a pig) most of which have a thick skin — **pachyderm·al** \ˌpak-i-'dər-məl\ *adj*

pachydermatous \ˌpak-i-'dər-mət-əs\ *adj* [deriv. of Gk *pachys* + *dermat-, derma* skin] **1** : of or relating to the pachyderms **2 a** : THICK, THICKENED ⟨~ skin⟩ **b** : CALLOUS, INSENSITIVE — **pachydermatously** *adv*

pachysandra \ˌpak-i-'san-drə\ *n* [NL, genus name, fr. Gk *pachys* + NL *-andrus* -androus] : any of a genus (*Pachysandra*) of the box family of evergreen woody trailing plants often used as a ground cover

pachytene \'pak-i-ˌtēn\ *n* [ISV *pachy-* (fr. Gk *pachys*) + *-tene*] : the stage of meiotic prophase which immediately follows the zygotene and in which the paired chromosomes are thickened and visibly divided into chromatids

pacific \pə-'sif-ik\ *adj* [ME *pacifique*, fr. L *pacificus*, fr. *pac-, pax* peace + *-i-* + *-ficus* -fic — more at PEACE] **1 a** : tending to lessen conflict : CONCILIATORY **b** : rejecting the use of force as an instrument of policy **2 a** : having a soothing appearance or effect ⟨mild ~ breezes⟩ **b** : mild of temper : PEACEABLE **3** *cap* : of or relating to the Pacific ocean — **pacifically** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

syn PACIFIC, PEACEABLE, PEACEFUL, IRENIC, PACIFIST, PACIFISTIC *shared meaning element* : affording or promoting peace. PACIFIC applies chiefly to persons or to utterances, acts, influences, or ideas that tend to maintain peace or to conciliate strife ⟨a naturally *pacific*, sociable man —Glenway Wescott⟩ ⟨a *pacific* policy⟩ PEACEABLE stresses enjoyment of peace as a way of life and often implies absence of all aggressive intent ⟨the police descended on the *peaceable* . . . middle-class assemblage as if they were invading a black ghetto in revolt —Nat Hentoff⟩ PEACEFUL implies freedom not only from strife or contention but from all disturbing influences ⟨and may at last my weary age find out the *peaceful* hermitage —John Milton⟩ IRENIC may describe attitudes and measures likely to allay dispute ⟨the book . . . is written in an *irenic* rather than polemic style —*Times Lit. Supp.*⟩ PACIFIST and PACIFISTIC both stress opposition, and especially active opposition, to war or violence, usually on moral or conscientious grounds. The former is more general in application, being equally applicable to persons or organizations or things (as attitudes, writings, or arguments), while the latter is ordinarily restricted to things ⟨a *pacifist* group on the campus⟩ ⟨*pacifist* critics of the State Department⟩ ⟨a *pacifist* philosophy⟩ ⟨a determinedly *pacifistic* outlook⟩ ***ant*** bellicose

pacification \ˌpas-ə-fə-'kā-shən\ *n* **1** : the act or process of pacifying : the state of being pacified **2** : a treaty of peace

pacificator \pə-'sif-ə-ˌkāt-ər\ *n* : PACIFIER 1

pacificatory \pə-'sif-i-kə-ˌtōr-ē, -ˌtȯr-\ *adj* : tending to promote peace : CONCILIATORY

pacificism \pə-'sif-ə-ˌsiz-əm\ *n* : PACIFISM — **pacificist** \-səst\ *n*

Pacific time \pə-'sif-ik-\ *n* [*Pacific* ocean] : the time of the 8th time zone west of Greenwich that includes the Pacific coastal region of the U.S. — see TIME ZONE illustration

pacifier \'pas-ə-ˌfī(-ə)r\ *n* **1** : one that pacifies **2** : a usu. nipple-shaped device for babies to suck or bite upon

pacifism \'pas-ə-ˌfiz-əm\ *n* [F *pacifisme*, fr. *pacifique* pacific] **1** : opposition to war or violence as a means of settling disputes; *specif* : refusal to bear arms on moral or religious grounds **2** : an attitude or policy of nonresistance — **pacifist** \-fəst\ *n*

pacifist \'pas-ə-fəst\ *or* **pacifistic** \ˌpas-ə-'fis-tik\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or characteristic of pacifism or pacifists **2** : strongly and actively opposed to conflict and esp. war ***syn*** see PACIFIC — **pacifistically** \ˌpas-ə-'fis-ti-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

pacify \'pas-ə-ˌfī\ *vt* **-fied; -fying** [ME *pacifien*, fr. L *pacificare*, fr. *pac-, pax* peace] **1 a** : to allay the anger or agitation of : SOOTHE ⟨~ a crying child⟩ **b** : APPEASE, PROPITIATE **2 a** : to restore to a tranquil state : SETTLE ⟨made an attempt to ~ the commotion⟩ **b** : to reduce to a submissive state : SUBDUE ⟨forces moved in to ~ the country⟩ — **pacifiable** \-ˌfī-ə-bəl\ *adj*

Pacinian corpuscle \pə-ˌsin-ē-ən-\ *n* [Filippo *Pacini* †1883 It anatomist] : an oval capsule that terminates some sensory nerve fibers esp. in the skin of the hands and feet

[1]pack \'pak\ *n, often attrib* [ME, of LG or D origin; akin to MLG & MD *pak* pack, MFlem *pac*] **1 a** : a bundle arranged for convenience in carrying esp. on the back **b** : a group or pile of related objects: as (1) : a number of separate photographic films packed so as to be inserted together into a camera (2) : a set of two or three color films or plates for simultaneous exposure (3) : a stack of theatrical flats arranged in sequence **c** (1) : PACKET (2) : CONTAINER (3) : a compact unitized assembly to perform a specific function **2 a** : the contents of a bundle **b** : a large amount or number : HEAP **c** : a full set of playing cards **3 a** : an act or instance of packing **b** : a method of packing **4 a** : a set of persons with a common interest : CLIQUE **b** : an organized troop (as of cub scouts) **5 a** (1) : a group of domesticated animals trained to hunt or run together (2) : a group of often predatory animals of the same kind ⟨a wolf ~⟩ **b** : an organized group of combat craft ⟨a submarine ~⟩ **6** : a concentrated mass (as of snow) **7** : wet absorbent material for therapeutic application to the body **8 a** : a cosmetic paste for the face **b** : an application or treatment of oils or creams for conditioning the scalp and hair **9** : material used in packing

[2]pack *vt* **1 a** : to make into a compact bundle **b** : to fill completely **c** : to fill with packing ⟨~ a joint in a pipe⟩ **d** : to load with a pack ⟨~ a mule⟩ **e** : to put in a protective container ⟨goods ~*ed* for shipment⟩ **2 a** : to crowd together **b** : to increase the density of : COMPRESS **3 a** : to cause or command to go without ceremony ⟨~*ed* him off to school⟩ **b** : to bring to an end : FINISH — used with *up* or *in* ⟨~ up the assignment⟩ ⟨he's ~*ing* it all in — to lead a life of his own —Peter Oakes⟩ **4** : to gather into tight formation : make a pack of (as hounds) **5** : to cover or surround with a pack **6 a** : to transport on foot or on the back of an animal ⟨~ a canoe overland⟩ **b** : to wear or carry as equipment ⟨~ a gun⟩ **c** : to be supplied or equipped with : POSSESS ⟨a storm ~*ing* hurricane winds⟩ **d** : to cause or be capable of making (an impact) ⟨a book that ~*s* a man-sized punch —C. J. Rolo⟩ ~ *vi* **1 a** : to go away without ceremony : DEPART ⟨simply ~*ed* up and left⟩ **b** : QUIT, STOP — used with *up* or *in* ⟨why don't you ~ in, before you kill yourself —Millard Lampell⟩

2 **a** : to stow goods and equipment for transportation **b** : to be suitable for packing ⟨a knit dress ~*s* well⟩ **3** **a** : to assemble in a group : CONGREGATE **b** : to crowd together **4** : to become built up or compacted in a layer or mass ⟨the ore ~*ed* into a stony mass⟩ **5** **a** : to carry goods or equipment **b** : to travel with one's baggage (as by horse) — **pack·abil·i·ty** \ˌpak-ə-ˈbil-ət-ē\ *n* — **pack·able** \ˈpak-ə-bəl\ *adj*

³pack *vt* [obs. *pack* (to make a secret agreement)] **1** : to influence the composition of (as a political agency) so as to bring about a desired result ⟨~ a jury⟩ **2** *archaic* : to arrange (the cards in a pack) so as to cheat **3** : to add a pack to (as an automobile) ⟨try to ~ the final price with phony or unordered extras —*Consumer Reports*⟩

⁴pack *n* [perh. fr. obs. *pack* (secret compact)] : an unjustified surcharge or markup added to a price by a dealer

⁵pack *adj* [perh. fr. obs. *pack* (to make a secret agreement)] *chiefly Scot* : INTIMATE

¹pack·age \ˈpak-ij\ *n* **1** *archaic* : the act or process of packing **2** **a** : a small or moderate-sized pack : PARCEL **b** : a commodity or a unit of a product uniformly wrapped or sealed **c** : a preassembled unit **3** : a covering wrapper or container **4** : something that suggests a package: as **a** : PACKAGE DEAL **b** : a radio or television series offered for sale at a lump sum **c** : contract benefits gained through collective bargaining **d** (1) : a ready-made computer program (2) : an assembly or apparatus essentially complete and ready for installation or use

²package *vt* **pack·aged; pack·ag·ing** **1** : to make into a package **2** : to enclose in a package or covering — **pack·ag·er** *n*

package deal *n* **1** : an offer or agreement involving a number of related items or one making acceptance of one item dependent on the acceptance of another **2** : the items offered in a package deal

package store *n* : a store that sells alcoholic beverages only in sealed containers whose contents may not lawfully be drunk on the premises

pack animal *n* : an animal (as a donkey) used for carrying packs

pack·board \ˈpak-ˌbō(ə)rd, -ˌbȯ(ə)rd\ *n* : a usu. canvas-covered light wood or metal frame with shoulder straps used for carrying goods and equipment

packed \ˈpakt\ *adj* **1** **a** : that is crowded or stuffed — often used in combination ⟨an action-*packed* story⟩ **b** : COMPRESSED ⟨hard-*packed* snow⟩ **2** : filled to capacity ⟨played to a ~ house⟩

pack·er \ˈpak-ər\ *n* **1** : one that packs: as **a** : a wholesale dealer **b** : an automotive vehicle with a closed body and a compressing device (as for compacting rubbish) in the rear **2** **a** : ²PORTER 1 **b** : one who conveys goods on pack animals

pack·et \ˈpak-ət\ *n* [MF *pacquet*, of Gmc origin; akin to MD *pak* pack] **1** **a** : a number of letters dispatched at one time **b** : a small group, cluster, or mass **2** : a passenger boat carrying mail and cargo on a regular schedule **3** **a** : a small bundle or parcel **b** : a small thin package **c** *Brit* : PAY ENVELOPE

pack·horse \ˈpak-ˌhȯrs\ *n* : a horse used as a pack animal

pack ice *n* : sea ice formed into a mass by the crushing together of pans, floes, and brash

pack·ing \ˈpak-iŋ\ *n* **1** **a** : the action or process of packing something; *also* : a method of packing **b** : the processing of food and esp. meat for future sale **2** : material used to pack

pack·ing·house \-ˌhau̇s\ *n* : an establishment for slaughtering, processing, and packing livestock into meat, meat products, and by-products; *also* : one for processing and packing other foodstuffs — called also *packing plant*

pack·man \ˈpak-mən\ *n* : PEDDLER

pack rat *n* **1** : WOOD RAT; *esp* : a large bushy-tailed rodent (*Neotoma cinerea*) of the Rocky Mountain area that has well-developed cheek pouches and hoards food and miscellaneous objects **2** : one who collects or hoards esp. unneeded items



pack rat 1

pack·sack \ˈpak-ˌsak\ *n* : a canvas or leather case held on the back by shoulder straps and used to carry gear when traveling on foot

pack·sad·dle \-ˌsad-ᵊl\ *n* : a saddle designed to support loads on the backs of pack animals

pack·thread \-ˌthred\ *n* : strong thread or small twine used for sewing or tying packs or parcels

pact \ˈpakt\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *pactum*, fr. neut. of *pactus*, pp. of *pacisci* to agree, contract; akin to OE *fōn* to seize, L *pangere* to fix, fasten, Gk *pēgnynai*] : ⁴COMPACT; *esp* : an international treaty

¹pad \ˈpad\ *n* [origin unknown] **1** **a** : a thin flat mat or cushion: as (1) : a piece of soft stuffed material used as or under a saddle (2) : padding used to shape an article of clothing (3) : a guard worn to shield body parts against impact (4) : a piece of usu. folded absorbent material (as gauze) used as a surgical dressing or protective covering **b** : a piece of material saturated with ink for inking the surface of a rubber stamp **2** **a** : the foot of an animal **b** : the cushioned thickening of the underside of the toes of an animal **3** : a floating leaf of a water plant **4** : TABLET **5** **a** : a section of an airstrip used for warm-ups, takeoffs, or landings **b** : LAUNCHPAD **6** **a** : living quarters **b** : BED

²pad *vt* **pad·ded; pad·ding** **1** **a** : to furnish with a pad or padding **b** : MUTE, MUFFLE **2** : to expand or increase with needless or fraudulent matter ⟨~ a short speech⟩ ⟨~ an expense account⟩

³pad *vb* **pad·ded; pad·ding** [perh. fr. MD *paden* to follow a path, fr. *pad* path — more at PATH] *vt* : to traverse on foot ~ *vi* **1** : to go on foot : WALK **2** : to move along with a muffled step

⁴pad *n* [MD *pad*] **1** *dial Brit* : PATH **2** : a horse that moves along at an easy pace **3** *archaic* : FOOTPAD

⁵pad *n* [imit.] : a soft muffled or slapping sound

pad·ding \ˈpad-iŋ\ *n* : material with which something is padded

¹pad·dle \ˈpad-ᵊl\ *n* [ME *padell*] **1** **a** : a usu. wooden implement that has a long handle and a broad flattened blade and that is used to propel and steer a small craft (as a canoe) **b** : an implement often with a short handle and a broad flat blade that is used for stirring, mixing, or hitting; *esp* : a small wooden or plastic implement used to hit a ball in any of various games (as table tennis) **2** **a** : one of the broad boards at the circumference of a paddle wheel or waterwheel **b** : one of a series of broad blades attached to a shaft (as in an ice cream machine) and used for stirring

²paddle *vb* **pad·dled; pad·dling** \ˈpad-liŋ, -ᵊl-iŋ\ *vi* : to go on or through water by or as if by means of a paddle or paddle wheel ~ *vt* **1** **a** : to propel by a paddle **b** : to transport in a paddled craft ⟨*paddled* us to shore in his canoe⟩ **2** **a** : to punish with or as if with a paddle (as in washing or dyeing) **b** : to punish by or as if by a paddle — **pad·dler** \ˈpad-lər, -ᵊl-ər\ *n*

³paddle *vi* **pad·dled; pad·dling** \ˈpad-liŋ, -ᵊl-iŋ\ [origin unknown] **1** : to move the hands or feet about in shallow water **2** *archaic* : to use the hands or fingers in toying or caressing **3** : TODDLE — **pad·dler** \ˈpad-lər, -ᵊl-ər\ *n*

pad·dle·ball \ˈpad-ᵊl-ˌbȯl\ *n* : a game for 2, 3, or 4 players played on a 1-, 3-, or 4-walled court with a wood or plastic paddle and a ball similar to a tennis ball; *also* : the ball used in this game

pad·dle·board \-ˌbō(ə)rd, -ˌbȯ(ə)rd\ *n* : a long narrow buoyant board used for riding the surf or in rescuing swimmers

pad·dle·boat \-ˌbōt\ *n* : a boat propelled by a paddle wheel

pad·dle·fish \-ˌfish\ *n* : any of a family (Polyodontidae) of ganoid fishes; *esp* : one (*Polyodon spathula*) of the Mississippi valley that is about four feet long and has a spatula-shaped snout

paddle tennis *n* : a game that resembles tennis and is played with a wooden paddle and sponge rubber ball over a low net on a court one half the size of a tennis court

paddle wheel *n* : a wheel with paddles, floats, or boards around its circumference used to propel a boat

pad·dock \ˈpad-ək, -ik\ *n* [alter. of ME *parrok*, fr. OE *pearroc*; akin to OHG *pfarrih* enclosure; both fr. a prehistoric Gmc word borrowed fr. (assumed) VL *parricus*] **1** : a usu. enclosed area used esp. for pasturing or exercising animals; *esp* : an enclosure where racehorses are saddled and paraded before a race **2** : an area at an automobile racecourse where racing cars are parked and often worked on before a race

pad·dy \ˈpad-ē\ *n, pl* **paddies** [Malay *padi*] **1** : RICE; *esp* : threshed unmilled rice **2** : wet land in which rice is grown

pad·dy wagon \ˈpad-ē-\ *n* [prob. fr. E slang *Paddy* (Irishman, policeman)] : PATROL WAGON

padi·shah \ˈpäd-(i-)ˌshä, -(i-)ˌshȯ\ *n* [Per *pādshāh*] : a chief ruler : SOVEREIGN; *esp* : the shah of Iran

pad·lock \ˈpad-ˌläk\ *n* [ME *padlok*, fr. *pad-* (of unknown origin) + *lok* lock] : a removable lock with a shackle that can be passed through a staple or link and then secured — **padlock** *vt*

pa·dre \ˈpäd-(ˌ)rā, -rē\ *n* [Sp or It or Pg, lit., father, fr. L *pater* — more at FATHER] **1** : a Christian clergyman; *esp* : PRIEST **2** : a military chaplain

pa·dro·ne \pə-ˈdrō-nē\ *n, pl* **-nes** *or* **-ni** \-nē\ [It, protector, owner, fr. L *patronus* patron] **1** : an Italian innkeeper **2** : one that secures employment for immigrants esp. of Italian extraction

pad·u·a·soy \ˈpaj-(ə-)wə-ˌsȯi\ *n* [alter. of earlier *poudesoy*, fr. F *pou-de-soie*] : a corded silk fabric; *also* : a garment made of it

pae·an \ˈpē-ən\ *n* [L, hymn of thanksgiving esp. addressed to Apollo, fr. Gk *paian*, *paiōn*, fr. *Paian*, *Paiōn*, epithet of Apollo in the hymn] : a joyously exultant song or hymn of praise, tribute, thanksgiving, or triumph

paed- *or* **paedo-** *or* **ped-** *or* **pedo-** *comb form* [Gk *paid-*, *paido-*, fr. *paid-*, *pais* child, boy — more at FEW] : child ⟨*ped*iatric⟩ : childhood ⟨*paedo*genesis⟩

pae·do·gen·e·sis \ˌpēd-ō-ˈjen-ə-səs\ *n* [NL] : reproduction by young or larval animals : NEOTENY — **pae·do·ge·net·ic** \-jə-ˈnet-ik\ *or* **pae·do·gen·ic** \-ˈjen-ik\ *adj*

pae·do·mor·phic \ˌpēd-ə-ˈmȯr-fik\ *adj* : of, relating to, or involving paedomorphosis or paedomorphism

pae·do·mor·phism \-ˌfiz-əm\ *n* : retention in the adult of infantile or juvenile characters

pae·do·mor·pho·sis \-ˈmȯr-fə-səs\ *n* [NL] : phylogenetic change that involves retention of juvenile characters by the adult

pa·el·la \pä-ˈel-ə, -ˈā(l)-yə\ *n* [Catal, lit., pot, pan, fr. MF *paelle*, fr. L *patella* small pan — more at PATELLA] : a saffron-flavored dish containing rice, meat, seafood, and vegetables

pae·on \ˈpē-ən, -ˌän\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *paiōn*, fr. *paian*, *paiōn* paean] : a metrical foot of four syllables with one long and three short syllables (as in classical prosody) or with one stressed and three unstressed syllables (as in English prosody)

pa·gan \ˈpā-gən\ *n* [ME, fr. LL *paganus*, fr. L, country dweller, fr. *pagus* country district; akin to L *pangere* to fix — more at PACT] **1** : HEATHEN 1; *esp* : a follower of a polytheistic religion (as in ancient Rome) **2** : one who has little or no religion and who delights in sensual pleasures and material goods : an irreligious or hedonistic person — **pagan** *adj* — **pa·gan·ish** \-gə-nish\ *adj*

pa·gan·ism \ˈpā-gə-ˌniz-əm\ *n* **1** **a** : pagan beliefs or practices **b** : a pagan religion **2** : the quality or state of being a pagan

pa·gan·ize \-ˌnīz\ *vb* **-ized; -iz·ing** *vt* : to make pagan ~ *vi* : to become pagan — **pa·gan·iz·er** *n*

¹page \ˈpāj\ *n* [ME, fr. OF, fr. It *paggio*] **1** **a** (1) : a youth being trained for the medieval rank of knight and in the personal service of a knight (2) : a youth attendant on a person of rank esp. in the medieval period **b** : a boy serving as an honorary attendant at a formal function (as a wedding) **2** : one employed to deliver messages, assist patrons, serve as a guide, or attend to similar duties

²page *vt* **paged; pag·ing** **1** : to wait on or serve in the capacity of a page **2** : to summon by repeatedly calling out the name of

³page *n* [MF, fr. L *pagina*; akin to L *pangere* to fix, fasten] **1** : one of the leaves of a publication or manuscript; *also* : a single side of one of these leaves **2** **a** : a written record **b** : something (as an event) worth being recorded in writing ⟨one of the brightest ~*s* of his life⟩ **3** : a sizable subdivision of computer memory; *also* : a block of information that fills a page and can be transferred as a unit between the internal and external storage of a computer

⁴page *vb* **paged; pag·ing** *vt* : to number or mark the pages of ~ *vi* : to turn the pages (as of a book or magazine) esp. in a steady or haphazard manner — usu. used with *through*

pag·eant \'paj-ənt\ *n* [ME *pagyn, padgeant,* lit., scene of a play, fr. ML *pagina,* fr. L, page] **1 a** : a mere show : PRETENSE **b** : an ostentatious display **2** : SHOW, EXHIBITION; *esp* : an elaborate colorful exhibition or spectacle often with music that consists of a series of tableaux, of a loosely unified drama, or of a procession usu. with floats **3** : PAGEANTRY 1

pag·eant·ry \'paj-ən-trē\ *n* **1** : pageants and the presentation of pageants **2** : colorful, rich, or splendid display : SPECTACLE **3** : mere show : empty display

page boy *n* [¹*page*] **1** : a boy serving as a page **2** *usu* **page·boy** : an often shoulder-length hairdo with the ends of the hair turned under in a smooth roll

pag·i·nal \'paj-ən-ᵊl\ *adj* [LL *paginalis,* fr. L *pagina* page] : of, relating to, or consisting of pages

pag·i·nate \'paj-ə-ˌnāt\ *vt* **-nat·ed; -nat·ing** [L *pagina* page] : ⁴PAGE

pag·i·na·tion \ˌpaj-ə-'nā-shən\ *n* **1** : the action of paging : the condition of being paged **2 a** : the numbers or marks used to indicate the sequence of pages (as of a book) **b** : the number and arrangement of pages or an indication of these

pa·go·da \pə-'gōd-ə\ *n* [Pg *pagode* oriental idol, temple] : a Far Eastern tower usu. with roofs curving upward at the division of each of several stories and erected as a temple or memorial



pagoda

pah·la·vi \'pal-ə-(ˌ)vē, 'päl-\ *n, pl* **pahlavi** *or* **pah·lavis** [Per *pahlawī,* fr. Riza Shah *Pahlawī* †1944 Shah of Iran] **1** : a monetary unit of Iran equal to 100 rials **2** : a coin representing one pahlavi

Pah·la·vi \'pal-ə-(ˌ)vē, 'päl-\ *n* [Per *pahlawī,* fr. *Pahlav* Parthia, fr. OPer *Parthava-*] **1** : the Iranian language of Sassanian Persia — see INDO-EUROPEAN LANGUAGES table **2** : a script used for writing Pahlavi

paid *past of* PAY

pai-hua \'bī-'hwä\ *n* [Chin (Pek) *pai²* *hua⁴,* lit., plain speech] : a form of written Chinese based on modern colloquial

pail \'pā(ə)l\ *n* [ME *payle, paille*] **1** : a usu. cylindrical container with a handle : BUCKET **2** : the quantity that a pail contains — **pail·ful** \-ˌfu̇l\ *n*

pail·lette \pī-'(y)et, pā-'yet, pə-'let\ *n* [F, fr. *paille* straw — more at PALLET] **1** : a small shiny object (as a spangle) applied in clusters as a decorative trimming (as on women's clothing) **2** : a trimming made of paillettes

¹pain \'pān\ *n* [ME, fr. OF *peine,* fr. L *poena,* fr. Gk *poinē* payment, penalty; akin to Gk *tinein* to pay, *tinesthai* to punish, *timē* price, value, honor] **1** : PUNISHMENT **2 a** : usu. localized physical suffering associated with bodily disorder (as a disease or an injury) ⟨the ~ of a boil⟩; *also* : a basic bodily sensation induced by a noxious stimulus, received by naked nerve endings, characterized by physical discomfort (as pricking, throbbing, or aching), and typically leading to evasive action **b** : acute mental or emotional distress or suffering : GRIEF **3** *pl* : the throes of childbirth **4** *pl* : trouble, care, or effort taken for the accomplishment of something **5** : one that irks or annoys or is otherwise troublesome ⟨she's a real ~⟩ ***syn*** see EFFORT — **pain·less** \-ləs\ *adj* — **pain·less·ly** *adv* — **pain·less·ness** *n* — **on pain of** *or* **under pain of** : subject to penalty or punishment of ⟨ordered not to leave the country *on pain of* death⟩ — **pain in the neck** : a source of annoyance : NUISANCE

²pain *vt* **1** : to make suffer or cause distress to : HURT **2** *archaic* : to put (oneself) to trouble or exertion ~ *vi* **1** *archaic* : SUFFER **2** : to give or have a sensation of pain

pain·ful \'pān-fəl\ *adj* **pain·ful·ler** \-fə-lər\; **pain·ful·lest** **1 a** : feeling or giving pain **b** : IRKSOME, ANNOYING **2** : requiring effort or exertion ⟨a long ~ trip⟩ **3** *archaic* : CAREFUL, DILIGENT — **pain·ful·ly** \-f(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **pain·ful·ness** \-fəl-nəs\ *n*

pain·kill·er \-ˌkil-ər\ *n* : something (as a drug) that relieves pain — **pain·kill·ing** \-iŋ\ *adj*

¹pains·tak·ing \'pān-ˌstā-kiŋ\ *n* : the action of taking pains : diligent care and effort

²painstaking *adj* : taking pains : expending or showing diligent care and effort — **pains·tak·ing·ly** \-kiŋ-lē\ *adv*

¹paint \'pānt\ *vb* [ME *painten,* fr. OF *peint,* pp. of *peindre,* fr. L *pingere* to tattoo, embroider, paint; akin to OE *fāh* variegated, Gk *poikilos* variegated, *pikros* sharp, bitter] *vt* **1 a** (1) : to apply color, pigment, or paint to (2) : to color with a cosmetic **b** (1) : to apply with a movement resembling that used in painting (2) : to treat with a liquid by brushing or swabbing ⟨~ the wound with iodine⟩ **2 a** (1) : to produce in lines and colors on a surface by applying pigments (2) : to depict by such lines and colors **b** : to decorate, adorn, or variegate by applying lines and colors **c** : to produce or evoke as if by painting ⟨~*s* glowing pictures of the farm⟩ **3** : to touch up or cover over by or as if by painting **4** : to depict as having specified or implied characteristics ⟨~*s* them whiter than the evidence justifies —Oliver La Farge⟩ ~ *vi* **1** : to practice the art of painting **2** : to use cosmetics

²paint *n* **1** : the action of painting : something produced by painting **2** : MAKEUP; *esp* : a cosmetic to add color **3 a** (1) : a mixture of a pigment and a suitable liquid to form a closely adherent coating when spread on a surface in a thin coat (2) : the pigment used in this mixture esp. when in the form of a cake ⟨a box of ~*s*⟩ **b** : an applied coating of paint

paint·brush \'pānt-ˌbrəsh\ *n* **1** : a brush for applying paint **2 a** : INDIAN PAINTBRUSH 1 **b** : ORANGE HAWKWEED

painted bunting *n* : a brightly colored finch (*Passerina ciris*) of the southern U.S.

painted cup *n* : INDIAN PAINTBRUSH 1

painted lady *n* : a migratory nymphalid butterfly (*Vanessa cardui*) with wings mottled in brown, orange, red, and white

painted trillium *n* : a trillium (*Trillium undulatum*) of northeastern No. America that has a solitary flower with white petals streaked with purple

¹paint·er \'pānt-ər\ *n* : one that paints: as **a** : an artist who paints **b** : one who applies paint (as to a building) esp. as an occupation

²paint·er \'pānt-ər\ *n* [ME *paynter,* prob. fr. MF *pendoir, pentoir* clothesline, fr. *pendre* to hang — more at PENDANT] : a line used for securing or towing a boat

³pain·ter *n* [alter. of *panther*] *chiefly South & Midland* : COUGAR

paint·er·ly \'pānt-ər-lē\ *adj* : of, relating to, or typical of a painter : ARTISTIC — **paint·er·li·ness** *n*

painter's colic *n* : LEAD COLIC

paint·ing *n* **1** : a product of painting; *esp* : a work produced through the art of painting **2** : the art or occupation of painting

¹pair \'pa(ə)r, 'pe(ə)r\ *n, pl* **pairs** *also* **pair** [ME *paire,* fr. OF, fr. L *paria* equal things, fr. neut. pl. of *par* equal] **1 a** (1) : two corresponding things designed for use together ⟨a ~ of shoes⟩ (2) : two corresponding bodily parts or members ⟨a ~ of hands⟩ **b** : something made up of two corresponding pieces ⟨a ~ of trousers⟩ **2 a** : two similar or associated things: as (1) : two mated animals (2) : a couple in love, engaged, or married ⟨were a devoted ~⟩ (3) : two playing cards of the same value or denomination ⟨held a ~⟩ (4) : two horses harnessed side by side (5) : two members of a deliberative body that agree not to vote on a specific issue during a time agreed on; *also* : an agreement not to vote made by the two members **b** : a partnership esp. of two players in a contest against another partnership **3** *chiefly dial* : a set or series of small objects (as beads)

²pair *vt* **1 a** : to make a pair of — often used with *off* or *up* ⟨~*ed* off the animals⟩ **b** : to arrange a voting pair between **2** : to arrange in pairs ~ *vi* **1** : to constitute a member of a pair ⟨a sock that didn't ~⟩ **2 a** : to become associated with another — often used with *off* or *up* ⟨~*ed* up with an old friend⟩ **b** : to become grouped or separated into pairs — often used with *off* ⟨~*ed* off for the next dance⟩

paired-associate learning *n* : the learning of syllables, digits, or words in pairs (as in the study of a foreign language) so that one member of the pair evokes recall of the other

pair of compasses : COMPASS 3c

pair of virginals : VIRGINAL

pair production *n* : the simultaneous and complete transformation of a quantum of radiant energy into an electron and a positron when the quantum interacts with the intense electric field near a nucleus

pai·sa \pī-'sä\ *n, pl* **pai·se** \-'sā\ *or* **paisa** *or* **paisas** [Hindi *paisā*] — see *rupee, taka* at MONEY table

pais·ley \'pāz-lē\ *adj, often cap* [*Paisley,* Scotland] **1** : made typically of soft wool and woven or printed with colorful curved abstract figures **2** : marked by designs, patterns, or figures typically used in paisley fabrics ⟨a ~ print⟩ — **paisley** *n*

Pai·ute \'pī-ˌ(y)üt\ *n* **1** : a member of an Amerindian people orig. of Utah, Arizona, Nevada, and California **2** : the language of the Paiute people

pa·ja·ma \pə-'jäm-ə, -'jam-\ *n* [Hindi *pājāma,* fr. Per *pā* leg + *jāma* garment] : PAJAMAS

pa·ja·mas \pə-'jäm-əz, -'jam-\ *n pl* [pl. of *pajama*] **1** : loose lightweight trousers formerly much worn in the Near East **2** : a loose usu. two-piece lightweight suit designed for sleeping or lounging

¹pal \'pal\ *n* [Romany *phral, phal* brother, friend, fr. Skt *bhrātṛ* brother; akin to OE *brōthor* brother] : a close friend

²pal *vi* **palled; pal·ling** : to be or become pals : associate as pals

¹pal·ace \'pal-əs\ *n* [ME *palais,* fr. OF, fr. L *palatium,* fr. *Palatium,* the Palatine Hill in Rome where the emperors' residences were built] **1 a** : the official residence of a sovereign **b** *chiefly Brit* : the official residence of an archbishop or bishop **2 a** : a large stately house **b** : a large public building **c** : a gaudy place for public amusement or refreshment ⟨a movie ~⟩

²palace *adj* **1** : of or relating to a palace **2** : of, relating to, or involving the intimates of a chief executive ⟨a ~ revolution⟩ ⟨~ politics⟩ **3** : LUXURIOUS, DELUXE

pal·a·din \'pal-əd-ən\ *n* [F, fr. It *paladino,* fr. ML *palatinus* courtier, fr. L, palace official — more at PALATINE] **1** : a champion of a medieval prince **2** : an outstanding protagonist of a cause

Pa·lae·arc·tic *or* **Pa·le·arc·tic** \ˌpā-lē-'ärk-tik, -'ärt-ik, *esp Brit* ˌpal-ē-\ *adj* [*pale-*] : of, relating to, or being a biogeographic region or subregion that includes Europe, Asia north of the Himalayas, northern Arabia, and Africa north of the Sahara

pa·laeo·an·throp·ic \ˌpā-lē-(ˌ)ō-an-'thräp-ik, *esp Brit* ˌpal-ē-\ *adj* [*pale-* + Gk *anthrōpos* man] : of or relating to hominids more primitive than those included in the species (*Homo sapiens*) that includes recent man

pa·laes·tra \pə-'les-trə\ *n, pl* **-trae** \-(ˌ)trē\ [L, fr. Gk *palaistra,* fr. *palaiein* to wrestle; akin to Gk *pallein* to brandish — more at POLEMIC] **1** : a school in ancient Greece or Rome for sports (as wrestling) **2** : GYMNASIUM

pa·lan·quin \ˌpal-ən-'kēn, -'k(w)in; pə-'laŋ-kwən\ *n* [Pg *palanquim,* fr. Jav *pëlaṅki*] : a conveyance formerly used in eastern Asia esp. for one person that consists of an enclosed litter borne on the shoulders of men by means of poles

pal·at·able \'pal-ət-ə-bəl\ *adj* **1** : agreeable to the palate or taste **2** : agreeable to the mind — **pal·at·abil·i·ty** \ˌpal-ət-ə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* — **pal·at·able·ness** *n* — **pal·at·ably** \-blē\ *adv*

syn PALATABLE, APPETIZING, SAVORY, TASTY, TOOTHSOME *shared meaning element* : agreeable or pleasant esp. to the sense of taste ***ant*** unpalatable, distasteful

pal·a·tal \'pal-ət-ᵊl\ *adj* **1** : of or relating to the palate **2 a** : formed with the front of the tongue behind the tip near or touching the hard palate ⟨the \k̲\ in German \ik̲\ *ich* and the \y\ in English *yeast* are ~ sounds⟩ **b** (1) : formed with the blade of the tongue near the hard palate ⟨the ~ sounds represented by *sh* in *she* and *si* in *vision*⟩ (2) *of a vowel* : FRONT 2 — **palatal** *n* — **pal·a·tal·ly** \-ᵊl-ē\ *adv*

pal·a·tal·iza·tion \ˌpal-ət-ᵊl-ə-ˈzā-shən\ *n* **1** : the quality or state of being palatalized **2** : an act or instance of palatalizing an utterance

pal·a·tal·ize \'pal-ət-ᵊl-ˌīz\ *vt* **-ized; -iz·ing** : to pronounce as or change into a palatal sound

pal·ate \'pal-ət\ *n* [ME, fr. L *palatum*] **1** : the roof of the mouth separating the mouth from the nasal cavity **2 a** : a usu. intellectual relish **b** : the seat of the sense of taste **3** : a projection from the base of the lower lip into the throat of a personate corolla ***syn*** see TASTE

pa·la·tial \pə-ˈlā-shəl\ *adj* [L *palatium* palace] **1** : of, relating to, or being a palace **2** : suitable to a palace : MAGNIFICENT — **pa·la·tial·ly** \-shə-lē\ *adv* — **pa·la·tial·ness** *n*

pa·lat·i·nate \pə-ˈlat-ᵊn-ət\ *n* : the territory of a palatine

¹pal·a·tine \'pal-ə-ˌtīn\ *adj* [L *palatinus*, fr. *palatium*] **1 a** : of or relating to a palace esp. of a Roman or Holy Roman emperor **b** : PALATIAL **2 a** : possessing royal privileges **b** : of or relating to a palatine or a palatinate

²palatine \-ˌtīn, *3 is also* -ˌtēn\ *n* [L *palatinus*, fr. *palatinus*, adj.] **1 a** : a high officer of an imperial palace **b** : a feudal lord having sovereign power within his domains **2** *cap* : a native or inhabitant of the Palatinate **3** [F, fr. Elisabeth Charlotte of Bavaria †1722 Princess *Palatine*] : a fur cape or stole covering the neck and shoulders

³palatine \-ˌtīn\ *adj* : of, relating to, or lying near the palate

⁴palatine \-ˌtīn\ *n* : either of a pair of bones that are situated behind and between the maxillae and in man are of extremely irregular form

¹pa·la·ver \pə-ˈlav-ər, -ˈläv-\ *n* [Pg *palavra* word, speech, fr. LL *parabola* parable, speech] **1 a** : a long parley usu. between persons of different levels of culture or sophistication **b** : CONFERENCE, DISCUSSION **2 a** : idle talk **b** : misleading or beguiling speech

²palaver *vb* **pa·la·vered; pa·la·ver·ing** \-(ə-)riŋ\ *vi* **1** : to talk profusely or idly **2** : PARLEY ~ *vt* : to use palaver to : CAJOLE

pa·laz·zo \pə-ˈlät-(ˌ)sō\ *n, pl* **pa·laz·zi** \-(ˌ)sē\ [It, fr. L *palatium* palace] : a large imposing building (as a museum or a place of residence) esp. in Italy

¹pale \'pā(ə)l\ *adj* **pal·er; pal·est** [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *pallidus*, fr. *pallēre* to be pale — more at FALLOW] **1** : deficient in color or intensity of color : PALLID ⟨a ~ face⟩ **2** : not bright or brilliant : DIM ⟨a ~ sun shining through the fog⟩ **3** : FEEBLE, FAINT ⟨a ~ imitation⟩ **4** : deficient in chroma ⟨a ~ pink⟩ — **pale·ly** \'pā(ə)l-lē\ *adv* — **pale·ness** \-nəs\ *n*

²pale *vb* **paled; pal·ing** *vi* : to become pale ~ *vt* : to make pale

³pale *vt* **paled; pal·ing** [ME *palen*, fr. MF *paler*, fr. *pal*] : to enclose with pales : FENCE

⁴pale *n* [ME, fr. MF *pal* stake, fr. L *palus* — more at POLE] **1** *archaic* : PALISADE, PALING **2 a** : one of the stakes of a palisade **b** : PICKET **3 a** : a space or field having bounds : ENCLOSURE **b** : a territory or district within certain bounds or under a particular jurisdiction **4** : an area or the limits within which one is privileged or protected (as from censure) ⟨conduct that was beyond the ~⟩ **5** : a perpendicular stripe on a heraldic shield

pale- *or* **paleo-** *or* **palae-** *or* **palaeo-** *comb form* [Gk *palai-, palaio-* ancient, fr. *palaios*, fr. *palai* long ago; akin to Gk *tēle* far off, Skt *carama* last] **1** : involving or dealing with ancient forms or conditions ⟨*paleo*botany⟩ **2** : early : primitive : archaic ⟨*Paleo*lithic⟩

pa·lea \'pā-lē-ə\ *n, pl* **pa·le·ae** \-lē-ˌē\ [NL, fr. L, chaff — more at PALLET] **1** : one of the chaffy scales on the receptacle of many composite plants **2** : the upper bract that with the lemma encloses the flower in grasses — **pa·le·al** \-lē-əl\ *adj*

pale dry *adj* : dry and light colored ⟨*pale dry* ginger ale⟩

pale·face \'pā(ə)l-ˌfās\ *n* : a white person : CAUCASIAN

pa·leo·bot·a·ny \ˌpā-lē-ō-ˈbät-ᵊn-ē, -ˈbät-nē, *esp Brit* ˌpal-ē-\ *n* [ISV] : a branch of botany dealing with fossil plants — **pa·leo·bo·tan·i·cal** \-bə-ˈtan-i-kəl\ *or* **pa·leo·bo·tan·ic** \-ˈtan-ik\ *adj* — **pa·leo·bo·tan·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

Pa·leo·cene \'pā-lē-ə-ˌsēn, *esp Brit* 'pal-ē-\ *adj* [ISV *pale-* + *-cene*] : of, relating to, or being the earliest epoch of the Tertiary or the corresponding system of rocks — **Paleocene** *n*

pa·leo·cli·ma·tol·o·gy \ˈpā-lē-ō-ˌklī-mə-ˈtäl-ə-jē, *esp Brit* 'pal-ē-\ *n* [ISV] : a science dealing with the climate of past ages

pa·leo·ecol·o·gy \-i-ˈkäl-ə-jē, -e-\ *n* : a branch of ecology that is concerned with the characteristics of ancient environments and with their relationships to ancient plants and animals — **paleo·eco·log·i·cal** \-ˌē-kə-ˈläj-i-kəl, -ˌek-ə-\ *or* **paleo·eco·log·ic** \-ik\ *adj* — **paleo·ecol·o·gist** \-i-ˈkäl-ə-jəst, -e-\ *n*

pa·leo·ge·og·ra·phy \-jē-ˈäg-rə-fē\ *n* [ISV] : the geography of ancient times or of a particular past geological epoch — **pa·leo·geo·graph·ic** \-ˌjē-ə-ˈgraf-ik\ *or* **pa·leo·geo·graph·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj* — **pa·leo·geo·graph·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

pa·le·og·ra·pher \ˌpā-lē-ˈäg-rə-fər, *esp Brit* ˌpal-ē-\ *n* : a specialist in paleography

pa·le·og·ra·phy \-ˈäg-rə-fē\ *n* [NL *palaeographia*, fr. Gk *palai-* pale- + *-graphia* -graphy] **1 a** : an ancient manner of writing **b** : ancient writings **2** : the study of ancient writings and inscriptions — **pa·leo·graph·ic** \-ə-ˈgraf-ik\ *or* **pa·leo·graph·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj* — **pa·leo·graph·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

pa·leo·lith \'pā-lē-ə-ˌlith, *esp Brit* 'pal-ē-\ *n* : a Paleolithic stone implement

Pa·leo·lith·ic \ˌpā-lē-ə-ˈlith-ik, *esp Brit* ˌpal-ē-\ *adj* [ISV] : of or relating to the second period of the Stone Age characterized by rough or chipped stone implements

pa·leo·mag·ne·tism \ˌpā-lē-ō-ˈmag-nə-ˌtiz-əm, *chiefly Brit* ˌpal-ē-\ *n* **1** : the intensity and direction of residual magnetization in ancient rocks **2** : a study that deals with paleomagnetism — **pa·leo·mag·net·ic** \-mag-ˈnet-ik\ *adj* — **pa·leo·mag·net·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **pa·leo·mag·ne·tist** \-nət-əst\ *n*

paleon *abbr* paleontology

pa·le·on·tol·o·gy \ˌpā-lē-ˌän-ˈtäl-ə-jē, -ən-, *esp Brit* ˌpal-ē-\ *n* [F *paléontologie*, fr. *palé-* pale- + Gk *onta* existing things (fr. neut. pl. of *ont-, ōn*, prp. of *einai* to be) + F *-logie* -logy — more at IS] : a science dealing with the life of past geological periods as known from fossil remains — **pa·le·on·to·log·i·cal** \-ˌänt-ᵊl-ˈäj-i-kəl\ *or* **pa·le·on·to·log·ic** \-ik\ *adj* — **pa·le·on·to·lo·gist** \-ˌän-ˈtäl-ə-jəst, -ən-\ *n*

Pa·leo·zo·ic \ˌpā-lē-ə-ˈzō-ik, *esp Brit* ˌpal-ē-\ *adj* : of, relating to, or being an era of geological history which extends from the beginning of the Cambrian to the close of the Permian and is marked by the culmination of nearly all classes of invertebrates except the insects and in the later epochs of which seed-bearing plants, amphibians, and reptiles first appeared; *also* : relating to the system of rocks formed in this era — see GEOLOGIC TIME table — **Paleozoic** *n*

pa·leo·zo·ol·o·gy \-zō-ˈäl-ə-jē, -zə-ˈwäl-\ *n* [F *paléozoologie*, fr. *palé-* pale- + *zoologie* zoology, fr. NL *zoologia*] : a branch of paleontology dealing with ancient and fossil animals — **pa·leo·zoo·log·i·cal** \-ˌzō-ə-ˈläj-i-kəl\ *adj*

pal·et \'pā-ˈlet, 'pā-lət\ *n* [*pale* (palea) + *-et*] : PALEA

pal·ette \'pal-ət\ *n* [F, fr. MF, dim. of *pale* spade, shovel, fr. L *pala*] **1** : a thin oval or rectangular board or tablet which a painter holds and on which he mixes pigments **2 a** : the set of colors put on the palette **b** (1) : a particular range, quality, or use of color (2) : a comparable range, quality, or use of available elements esp. in another art (as music)

palette knife *n* : a knife with a flexible steel blade and no cutting edge used to mix colors or to apply colors (as to a painting)

pale western cutworm *n* : a noctuid moth (*Agrotis orthogonia*) whose larva is a serious pest on grains in the central U.S.

pal·frey \'pȯl-frē\ *n, pl* **palfreys** [ME, fr. OF *palefrei*, fr. ML *palafredus*, fr. LL *paraveredus* post-horse for secondary roads, fr. Gk *para-* beside, subsidiary + L *veredus* post-horse, fr. a Gaulish word akin to W *gorwydd* horse; akin to OIr *rīadaim* I ride — more at PARA-, RIDE] *archaic* : a saddle horse other than a war-horse; *esp* : a light easy-gaited horse suitable for a woman

Pa·li \'päl-ē\ *n* [Skt *pāli* row, series of Buddhist sacred texts] : an Indic language used as the liturgical and scholarly language of Theravada Buddhism — see INDO-EUROPEAN LANGUAGES table

pa·limp·sest \'pal-əm(p)-ˌsest, pə-ˈlim(p)-\ *n* [L *palimpsestus*, fr. Gk *palimpsēstos* scraped again, fr. *palin* + *psēn* to rub, scrape — more at SAND] : writing material (as a parchment or tablet) used one or more times after earlier writing has been erased

pal·in·drome \'pal-ən-ˌdrōm\ *n* [Gk *palindromos* running back again, fr. *palin* back, again + *dramein* to run; akin to Gk *polos* axis, pole — more at POLE, DROMEDARY] : a word, verse, or sentence (as "Able was I ere I saw Elba") or a number (as 1881) that reads the same backward or forward — **pal·in·drom·ic** \ˌpal-ən-ˈdrō-mik\ *adj*

pal·ing \'pā-liŋ\ *n* **1** : a fence of pales or pickets **2** : wood for making pales **3** : a pale or picket for a fence

pal·in·gen·e·sis \ˌpal-ən-ˈjen-ə-səs\ *n* [NL, fr. Gk *palin* again + L *genesis*] : METEMPSYCHOSIS

pal·in·ge·net·ic \-jə-ˈnet-ik\ *adj* **1** : of or relating to palingenesis **2** : of, relating to, or being biological characters (as the gill slits in a human embryo) that are derivations from distant ancestral forms rather than adaptations of recent origin

pal·in·ode \'pal-ə-ˌnōd\ *n* [Gk *palinōidia*, fr. *palin* back + *aeidein* to sing — more at ODE] **1** : an ode or song recanting or retracting something in an earlier poem **2** : a formal retraction

¹pal·i·sade \ˌpal-ə-ˈsād\ *n* [F *palissade*, deriv. of L *palus* stake — more at POLE] **1 a** : a fence of stakes esp. for defense **b** : a long strong stake pointed at the top and set close with others as a defense **2** : a line of bold cliffs

²palisade *vt* **-sad·ed; -sad·ing** : to surround or fortify with palisades

palisade cell *n* : a cell of palisade parenchyma

palisade parenchyma *n* : a layer of columnar cells rich in chloroplasts found beneath the upper epidermis of foliage leaves — called also *palisade layer, palisade mesophyll, palisade tissue*; compare SPONGY PARENCHYMA

pal·ish \'pā-lish\ *adj* : somewhat pale

¹pall \'pȯl\ *n* [ME, cloak, mantle, fr. OE *pæll*, fr. L *pallium*] **1** : PALLIUM 1b **2 a** : a square of linen usu. stiffened with cardboard that is used to cover the chalice **b** (1) : a heavy cloth draped over a coffin (2) : a coffin esp. when holding a body **3** : something that covers or conceals; *esp* : an overspreading element that produces an effect of gloom ⟨a ~ of thick black smoke⟩

²pall *vt* : to cover with a pall : DRAPE

³pall *vb* [ME *pallen*, short for *appallen* to become pale — more at APPALL] *vi* **1** : to lose strength or effectiveness **2** : to lose interest or attraction **3** : to become tired of something ~ *vt* **1** : to cause to become insipid **2** : to deprive of pleasure in something by satiating ***syn*** see SATIATE

Pal·la·di·an \pə-ˈlād-ē-ən, -ˈläd-\ *adj* : of or relating to a revived classic style in architecture based on the works of Andrea Palladio — **Pal·la·di·an·ism** \-ˌiz-əm\ *n*

¹pal·la·di·um \pə-ˈlād-ē-əm\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *palladion*, fr. *Pallad-, Pallas*] **1** *cap* : a statue of Pallas Athena whose preservation was believed to ensure the safety of Troy **2** *pl* **pal·la·dia** \-ē-ə\ : SAFEGUARD

²palladium *n* [NL, fr. *Pallad-, Pallas*, an asteroid] : a silver-white ductile malleable metallic element of the platinum group that is used esp. in electrical contacts, as a catalyst, and in alloys — see ELEMENT table — **pal·la·dous** \pə-ˈlād-əs\ *adj*

Pal·las \'pal-əs\ *n* [L *Pallad-, Pallas*, fr. Gk] : ATHENE

pall·bear·er \'pȯl-ˌbar-ər, -ˌber-\ *n* [¹*pall*] **1** : a person who helps to carry the coffin at a funeral **2** : a member of the immediate escort or honor guard of the coffin who does not actually help to carry it

[1]pal·let \'pal-ət\ *n* [ME *pailet*, fr. (assumed) MF *paillet*, fr. *paille* straw, fr. L *palea* chaff, straw; akin to Skt *palāva* chaff] **1** : a straw-filled tick or mattress **2** : a small, hard, or temporary bed

[2]pallet *n* [ME *palette*, lit., small shovel — more at PALETTE] **1** : a wooden flat-bladed instrument **2** : a lever or surface in a timepiece that receives an impulse from the escapement wheel and imparts motion to a balance or pendulum **3** : a portable platform for handling, storing, or moving materials and packages (as in warehouses, factories, or vehicles)

pal·let·ize \'pal-ət-ˌīz\ *vt* **-ized; -iz·ing** : to place on, transport, or store by means of pallets — **pal·let·iza·tion** \ˌpal-ət-ə-'zā-shən\ *n* — **pal·let·iz·er** \'pal-ət-ˌī-zər\ *n*

pal·lette \pa-'let\ *n* [alter. of *palette*] : one of the plates at the armpits of a suit of armor — see ARMOR illustration

pal·li·al \'pal-ē-əl\ *adj* [NL *pallium*] **1** : of or relating to the cerebral cortex **2** : of, relating to, or produced by a mantle of a mollusk

pal·liasse \pal-'yas\ *n* [modif. of F *paillasse*, fr. *paille* straw] : a thin straw mattress used as a pallet

pal·li·ate \'pal-ē-ˌāt\ *vt* **-at·ed; -at·ing** [LL *palliatus*, pp. of *palliare* to cloak, conceal, fr. *pallium* cloak] **1** : to reduce the violence of (a disease) : ABATE **2** : to cover by excuses and apologies **3** : to moderate the intensity of ⟨trying to ~ the boredom⟩ — **pal·li·a·tion** \ˌpal-ē-'ā-shən\ *n* — **pal·li·a·tor** \'pal-ē-ˌāt-ər\ *n*

[1]pal·lia·tive \'pal-ē-ˌāt-iv, 'pal-yət-\ *adj* : serving to palliate ⟨~ surgery⟩ — **pal·lia·tive·ly** *adv*

[2]palliative *n* : something that palliates

pal·lid \'pal-əd\ *adj* [L *pallidus* — more at PALE] **1** : deficient in color : WAN ⟨a ~ countenance⟩ **2** : lacking sparkle or liveliness : DULL ⟨a ~ entertainment⟩ — **pal·lid·ly** *adv* — **pal·lid·ness** *n*

pal·li·um \'pal-ē-əm\ *n, pl* **-lia** \-ē-ə\ *or* **-li·ums** [L] **1 a** : a draped rectangular cloth worn as a cloak by men of ancient Greece and Rome **b** : a white woolen band with pendants in front and back worn over the chasuble by a pope or archbishop as a symbol of full episcopal authority — see VESTMENT illustration **2** [NL, fr. L, cloak] **a** : CEREBRAL CORTEX **b** : the mantle of a mollusk, brachiopod, or bird

pall–mall \'pel-'mel, 'pal-'mal, *US often* 'pȯl-'mȯl\ *n* [MF *pallemaille*, fr. It *pallamaglio*, fr. *palla* ball (of Gmc origin; akin to OHG *balla* ball) + *maglio* mallet, fr. L *malleus* — more at BALL, MAUL] : a 17th century game in which each player attempts to drive a wooden ball with a mallet down an alley and through a raised ring in as few strokes as possible; *also* : the alley in which it is played

pal·lor \'pal-ər\ *n* [L, fr. *pallēre* to be pale — more at FALLOW] : deficiency of color esp. of the face : PALENESS

pal·ly \'pal-ē\ *adj* : sharing the relationship of pals : INTIMATE

[1]palm \'päm, 'pälm\ *n* [ME, fr. OE; akin to OHG *palma* palm tree; both fr. a prehistoric NGmc-WGmc word borrowed fr. L *palma* palm of the hand, palm tree; fr. the resemblance of the tree's leaves to the outstretched hand] **1** : any of a family (Palmae, the palm family) of mostly tropical or subtropical monocotyledonous trees, shrubs, or vines with usu. a simple stem and a terminal crown of large pinnate or fan-shaped leaves **2** : a leaf of the palm as a symbol of victory or rejoicing; *also* : a branch (as of laurel) similarly used **3** : a symbol of triumph; *also* : VICTORY, TRIUMPH **4** : an addition to a military decoration in the form of a palm frond esp. to indicate a second award of the basic decoration — **pal·ma·ceous** \pal-'mā-shəs, pä(l)-'mā-\ *adj* — **palm·like** \'pä(l)m-ˌlīk\ *adj*

[2]palm *n* [ME *paume*, fr. MF, fr. L *palma;* akin to OE *flōr* floor] **1** : the somewhat concave part of the human hand between the bases of the fingers and the wrist or the corresponding part of the forefoot of a lower mammal **2** : a flat expanded part esp. at the end of a base or stalk: as **a** : the blade of an oar or paddle **b** (1) : the flat inner face of an anchor fluke (2) : [2]FLUKE 1 **3** [L *palmus*, fr. *palma*] : a unit of length based on the breadth or length of the hand **4** : something (as a part of a glove) that covers the palm of the hand **5** : an act of palming (as of cards)

[3]palm \'päm, 'pälm\ *vt* **1** : to touch with the palm: as **a** : to stroke with the palm or hand **b** : to shake hands with **c** : to allow (a basketball) to come to rest momentarily in the hand while dribbling thus committing a violation **2 a** : to conceal in or with the hand ⟨~ a card⟩ **b** : to pick up stealthily ⟨likely to ~ small merchandise in a store⟩ **3** : to impose by fraud ⟨a second impostor to be ~*ed* upon you —Sir Walter Scott⟩

pal·mar \'pal-mər, 'pä(l)m-ər\ *adj* : of, relating to, or involving the palm of the hand

pal·ma·ry \'pal-mə-rē, 'pä(l)m-ə-\ *adj* [L *palmarius* deserving the palm, fr. *palma*] : OUTSTANDING, BEST

pal·mate \'pal-ˌmāt, 'pä(l)m-ˌāt\ *also* **pal·mat·ed** \-ˌmāt-əd, -ˌāt-\ *adj* : resembling a hand with the fingers spread: **a** : having lobes radiating from a common point ⟨a ~ leaf⟩ **b** (1) *of an aquatic bird* : having the anterior toes united by a web (2) : having the distal portion broad, flat, and lobed ⟨a ~ antler⟩ — **pal·mate·ly** *adv* — **pal·ma·tion** \pal-'mā-shən, pä(l)-'mā-\ *n*

pal·mat·i·fid \pal-'mat-ə-fəd, pä(l)-'mat-, -ˌfid\ *adj* [ISV] : cleft in a palmate manner ⟨a ~ leaf⟩

-palmed \'pämd, 'pälmd\ *adj comb form* : having (such) a palm or palms ⟨leather-*palmed* gloves⟩

palm·er \'päm-ər, 'päl-mər\ *n* : a person wearing two crossed palm leaves as a sign of his pilgrimage to the Holy Land

palm·er·worm \-ˌwərm\ *n* : a caterpillar that suddenly appears in great numbers devouring herbage; *esp* : a No. American moth (*Dichomeris lingulella*) whose larva is destructive to fruit trees

pal·met·to \pal-'met-(ˌ)ō *also* pä(l)-\ *n, pl* **-tos** *or* **-toes** [modif. of Sp. *palmito*, fr. *palma* palm, fr. L] **1** : any of several usu. low-growing fan-leaved palms; *esp* : CABBAGE PALMETTO **2** : strips of the leaf blade of a palmetto used in weaving

palm·ist \'päm-əst, 'päl-məst\ *n* [prob. back-formation fr. *palmistry*] : one who practices palmistry

palm·ist·ry \'päm-ə-strē, 'päl-mə-\ *n* [ME *pawmestry*, prob. fr. *paume* palm + *maistrie* mastery] : the art or practice of reading a person's character or future from the markings on his palms

pal·mi·tate \'pal-mə-ˌtāt, 'pä(l)m-ə-\ *n* : a salt or ester of palmitic acid

pal·mit·ic acid \(ˌ)pal-ˌmit-ik-, (ˌ)pä(l)-\ *n* [ISV, fr. *palmitin*] : a waxy crystalline fatty acid $C_{16}H_{32}O_2$ occurring free or in the form of esters (as glycerides) in most fats and fatty oils and in several essential oils and waxes

pal·mi·tin \'pal-mət-ən, 'pä(l)m-ət-\ *n* [F *palmitine*, prob. fr. *palmite* pith of the palm tree, fr. Sp *palmito*, fr. *palma* palm, fr. L] : an ester of glycerol and palmitic acid; *esp* : a solid ester found with stearin and olein in animal fats

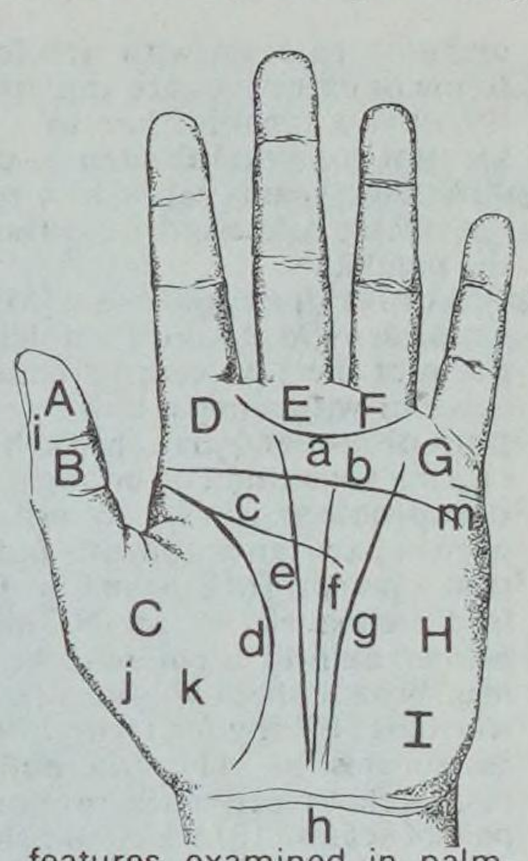
palm off *vt* : to pass off

palm oil *n* : an edible fat obtained from the flesh of the fruit of several palms and used esp. in soap, candles, and lubricating greases

Palm Sunday *n* [fr. the palm branches strewn in Christ's way] : the Sunday before Easter celebrated in commemoration of Christ's triumphal entry into Jerusalem

palmy \'päm-ē, 'päl-mē\ *adj* **palm·i·er; -est** **1** : abounding in or bearing palms **2** : marked by prosperity : FLOURISHING

pal·my·ra \pal-'mī-rə\ *n* [Pg *palmeira*, fr. *palma* palm, fr. L] : a tall African fan-leaved palm (*Borassus flabellifer*) cultivated for its hard resistant wood, fiber, and sugar-rich sap



features examined in palmistry: *A* first phalanx, *B* second phalanx, *C* Mount of Venus, *D* Mount of Jupiter, *E* Mount of Saturn, *F* Mount of Apollo, *G* Mount of Mercury, *H* Mount of Mars, *I* Mount of the Moon, *a* ring of Venus, *b* line of the heart, *c* line of the head, *d* line of life, *e* line of fate, *f* line of fortune, *g* line of health, *h* bracelets, *i* will, *j* reason, *k* love, *m* line of marriage

pal·o·mi·no \ˌpal-ə-'mē-(ˌ)nō, -nə(-w)\ *n, pl* **-nos** [AmerSp, fr. Sp, like a dove, fr. L *palumbinus*, fr. *palumbes* ringdove; akin to Gk *peleia* dove, L *pallēre* to be pale — more at FALLOW] : a slender-legged horse of largely Arabian ancestry and of a light tan or cream color with a short coupling and a flaxen or white mane and tail

palp \'palp\ *n* [NL *palpus*] : PALPUS

pal·pa·ble \'pal-pə-bəl\ *adj* [ME, fr. LL *palpabilis*, fr. L *palpare* to stroke, caress — more at FEEL] **1** : capable of being touched or felt : TANGIBLE **2** : easily perceptible : NOTICEABLE **3** : easily perceptible by the mind : MANIFEST ***syn*** see PERCEPTIBLE ***ant*** impalpable — **pal·pa·bil·i·ty** \ˌpal-pə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* — **pal·pa·bly** \'pal-pə-blē\ *adv*

pal·pal \'pal-pəl\ *adj* : of, relating to, or functioning as a palpus

[1]pal·pate \'pal-ˌpāt\ *vt* **pal·pat·ed; pal·pat·ing** [prob. back-formation fr. *palpation*, fr. L *palpation- palpatio*, fr. *palpatus*, pp. of *palpare*] : to examine by touch esp. medically ***syn*** see TOUCH — **pal·pa·tion** \pal-'pā-shən\ *n*

[2]palpate *adj* [NL *palpatus*, fr. *palpus*] : having a palpus

pal·pe·bral \pal-'pē-brəl\ *adj* [LL *palpebralis*, fr. L *palpebra* eyelid; akin to L *palpare*] : of, relating to, or located on or near the eyelids

pal·pi·tant \'pal-pət-ənt\ *adj* : marked by trembling or throbbing

pal·pi·tate \'pal-pə-ˌtāt\ *vi* **-tat·ed; -tat·ing** [L *palpitatus*, pp. of *palpitare*, freq. of *palpare* to stroke] : to beat rapidly and strongly : THROB — **pal·pi·ta·tion** \ˌpal-pə-'tā-shən\ *n*

pal·pus \'pal-pəs\ *n, pl* **pal·pi** \-ˌpī, -(ˌ)pē\ [NL, fr. L, caress, soft palm of the hand; akin to L *palpare*] : a segmented usu. tactile or gustatory process on an arthropod mouthpart

pals·grave \'pȯlz-ˌgrāv\ *n* [D *paltsgrave*] : COUNT PALATINE 1b

pal·sied \'pȯl-zēd\ *adj* : affected with palsy

[1]pal·sy \'pȯl-zē\ *n, pl* **palsies** [ME *parlesie*, fr. MF *paralisie*, fr. L *paralysis*] **1** : PARALYSIS **2** : a condition marked by uncontrollable tremor of the body or a part

[2]palsy *vt* **pal·sied; pal·sy·ing** : to affect with or as if with palsy

palsy–walsy \ˌpal-zē-'wal-zē\ *adj* [redupl. of *palsy* (pally), fr. *pals*, pl. of *pal*] *slang* : appearing to be very intimate with another

pal·ter \'pȯl-tər\ *vi* **pal·tered; pal·ter·ing** \-t(ə-)riŋ\ [origin unknown] **1** : to act insincerely or deceitfully : EQUIVOCATE **2** : HAGGLE, CHAFFER ***syn*** see LIE — **pal·ter·er** \-tər-ər\ *n*

pal·try \'pȯl-trē\ *adj* **pal·tri·er; -est** [obs. *paltry* (trash)] **1** : INFERIOR, TRASHY **2** : MEAN, DESPICABLE **3** : TRIVIAL — **pal·tri·ness** *n*

pa·lu·dal \pə-'lüd-ᵊl, 'pal-yəd-ᵊl\ *adj* [L *palud-, palus* marsh; akin to Skt *palvala* pond] : of or relating to marshes or fens : MARSHY

pal·u·dism \'pal-yə-ˌdiz-əm\ *n* [ISV, fr. L *palud-, palus*] : MALARIA

paly \'pā-lē\ *adj* : somewhat pale : PALLID

pal·y·nol·o·gy \ˌpal-ə-'näl-ə-jē\ *n* [Gk *palynein* to sprinkle, fr. *palē* fine meal — more at POLLEN] : a branch of science dealing with pollen and spores — **pal·y·no·log·i·cal** \-nə-'läj-i-kəl\ *or* **pal·y·no·log·ic** \-ik\ *adj* — **pal·y·no·log·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **pal·y·nol·o·gist** \-'näl-ə-jəst\ *n*

pam *abbr* pamphlet

pam·pa \'pam-pə\ *n, pl* **pam·pas** \-pəz, -pəs\ [AmerSp, fr. Quechua & Aymara, plain] : an extensive generally grass-covered plain of temperate So. America east of the Andes : PRAIRIE

pam·pe·an \'pam-pē-ən, pam-'\ *adj* : of or relating to the pampas of So. America or their Indian inhabitants

pam·per \'pam-pər\ *vt* **pam·pered; pam·per·ing** \-p(ə-)riŋ\ [ME *pamperen*, prob. of D origin; akin to Flem *pamperen* to pamper] **1**

archaic : to cram with rich food : GLUT **2 a** : to treat with extreme or excessive care and attention ⟨~*ed* their guests⟩ **b** : GRATIFY, HUMOR ⟨enabled him to ~ his wanderlust —*New Yorker*⟩ ***syn*** see INDULGE ***ant*** chasten — **pam·per·er** \-pər-ər\ *n*

pam·pe·ro \pam-'pe(ə)r-(,)ō, päm-\ *n, pl* **-ros** [AmerSp, fr. *pampa*] : a strong cold wind from the west or southwest that sweeps over the pampas

pam·phlet \'pam(p)-flət\ *n* [ME *pamflet* unbound booklet, fr. *Pamphilus seu De Amore* Pamphilus or On Love, popular Latin love poem of the 12th cent.] : an unbound printed publication with no cover or with a paper cover

[1]pam·phle·teer \,pam(p)-flə-'ti(ə)r\ *n* : a writer of pamphlets attacking something or urging a cause

[2]pamphleteer *vi* **1** : to write and publish pamphlets **2** : to engage in partisan arguments indirectly in writings

[1]pan \'pan\ *n* [ME *panne*, fr. OE; akin to OHG *phanna* pan; both fr. a prehistoric WGmc-NGmc word borrowed fr. L *patina*, fr. Gk *patanē*; akin to L *patēre* to be open — more at FATHOM] **1 a** : a usu. broad, shallow, and open container for domestic use (as for warming, baking, or frying) **b** : any of various similar usu. metal receptacles: as (1) : the hollow part of the lock in old guns or pistols that receives the priming (2) : either of the receptacles in a pair of scales (3) : a round shallow metal container for separating metal (as gold) from waste by washing **2 a** (1) : a natural basin or depression in land (2) : a similar artificial basin (as for evaporating brine) **b** : a drifting fragment of the flat thin ice that forms in bays or along the shore **3** : HARDPAN 1 **4** *slang* : FACE **5** : a harsh criticism

[2]pan *vb* **panned; pan·ning** *vi* **1** : to wash earth, gravel, or other materials in a pan in search of metal (as gold) **2** : to yield precious metal in the process of panning ~ *vt* **1 a** : to wash in a pan for the purpose of separating heavy particles **b** : to separate (as gold) by panning **c** : to place in a pan **2** : to criticize severely

[3]pan \'pän\ *n* [Hindi *pān*, fr. Skt *parna* wing, leaf — more at FERN] **1** : a betel leaf **2** : a masticatory of betel nut, lime, and pan

[4]pan \'pan\ *vb* **panned; pan·ning** [*panorama*] *vi* **1** : to rotate a motion-picture or television camera so as to keep an object in the picture or secure a panoramic effect **2** *of a camera* : to undergo panning ~ *vt* : to cause to pan

[5]pan \'pan\ *n* : the process of panning a motion-picture or television camera

[1]Pan \'pan\ *n* [L, fr. Gk] : a Greek god of shepherds and hunters and the traditional inventor of the panpipe

[2]Pan *abbr* Panama

pan- *comb form* [Gk, fr. *pan*, neut. of *pant-*, *pas* all, every; akin to Skt *śaśvat* all, every, *śvayati* he swells] **1** : all : completely ⟨*pan*chromatic⟩ **2 a** : involving all of a (specified) group ⟨*Pan*-American⟩ **b** : advocating or involving the union of a (specified) group ⟨*Pan*-Asian⟩ **3** : whole : general ⟨*pan*leucopenia⟩

pan·a·cea \,pan-ə-'sē-ə\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *panakeia*, fr. *pan-* + *akeisthai* to heal, fr. *akos* remedy — more at AUTACOID] : a remedy for all ills or difficulties : CURE-ALL — **pan·a·ce·an** \-'sē-ən\ *adj*

pa·nache \pə-'nash, -'näsh\ *n* [MF *pennache*, fr. OIt *pennacchio*, fr. LL *pinnaculum* small wing — more at PINNACLE] **1** : an ornamental tuft (as of feathers) esp. on a helmet **2** : dash or flamboyance in style and action : VERVE

pa·na·da \pə-'näd-ə\ *n* [Sp, fr. *pan* bread, fr. L *panis* — more at FOOD] : a paste of flour or bread crumbs and water or stock used as a base for sauce or a binder for forcemeat or stuffing

pan·a·ma \'pan-ə-,mä, -,mȯ\ *n, often cap* [AmerSp *panamá*, fr. *Panama*, Central America] : a lightweight hat of natural-colored straw hand-plaited of narrow strips from the young leaves of the jipijapa; *also* : a machine-made imitation of this

Pan–Amer·i·can \,pan-ə-'mer-ə-kən\ *adj* : of, relating to, or involving the independent republics of No. and So. America

Pan American Day *n* : April 14 observed as the anniversary of the founding of the Pan American Union in 1890

Pan–Amer·i·can·ism \-kə-,niz-əm\ *n* : a movement for greater cooperation among the Pan-American nations

pan·a·tela \,pan-ə-'tel-ə\ *n* [Sp, fr. AmerSp, a long thin biscuit, deriv. of L *panis* bread] : a long slender straight-sided cigar rounded off at the sealed end

[1]pan·cake \'pan-,kāk\ *n* : a flat cake made of thin batter and cooked (as on a griddle) on both sides

[2]pancake *vb* **pan·caked; pan·cak·ing** *vi* : to make a pancake landing ~ *vt* : to cause to pancake

Pan–Cake \'pan-,kāk\ *trademark* — used for a cosmetic in semimoist cake form

pancake landing *n* : a landing in which the airplane is leveled off higher than for a normal landing causing it to stall and drop in an approximately horizontal position with little forward motion

pan·chax \'pan-,kaks\ *n* [NL] : any of numerous small brilliantly colored Old World killifishes (genus *Aplocheilus*) often kept in the tropical aquarium

Pan·chen Lama \,pän-chən-\ *n* [*Panchen* fr. Chin (Pek) *pan*[1] *ch'an*[2]] : the lama who is the chief spiritual adviser of the Dalai Lama

pan·chro·mat·ic \,pan-krō-'mat-ik\ *adj* [ISV] : sensitive to light of all colors in the visible spectrum ⟨~ film⟩

pan·cra·ti·um \pan-'krā-shē-əm\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *pankration*, fr. *pan-* + *kratos* strength — more at HARD] : an ancient Greek athletic contest involving both boxing and wrestling

pan·cre·as \'paŋ-krē-əs, 'pan-\ *n* [NL, fr. Gk *pankreas*, fr. *pan-* + *kreas* flesh, meat — more at RAW] : a large compound racemose gland of vertebrates that secretes digestive enzymes and the hormone insulin — **pan·cre·at·ic** \,paŋ-krē-'at-ik, ,pan-\ *adj*

pancreat- *or* **pancreato-** *comb form* [NL, fr. Gk *pankreat-*, *pancreas*] : pancreas ⟨*pancreat*ic⟩

pan·cre·atec·to·my \,paŋ-krē-ə-'tek-tə-mē, ,pan-\ *n* : surgical removal of all or part of the pancreas — **pan·cre·atec·to·mized** \-,mīzd\ *adj*

pancreatic juice *n* : a clear alkaline secretion of pancreatic enzymes that is poured into the duodenum and acts on food already acted on by the gastric juice and saliva

pan·cre·atin \pan-'krē-ət-ən; 'paŋ-krē-, 'pan-\ *n* : a mixture of enzymes from the pancreatic juice; *also* : a preparation containing such a mixture

pan·cre·ati·tis \,paŋ-krē-ə-'tīt-əs, ,pan-\ *n, pl* **-atit·i·des** \-'tit-ə-,dēz\ [NL] : inflammation of the pancreas

pan·creo·zy·min \-krē-ō-'zī-mən\ *n* [*pancreas* + *-o-* + *zym-* + *-in*] : CHOLECYSTOKININ



panda 2

pan·da \'pan-də\ *n* [F, fr. native name in Nepal] **1** : a long-tailed Himalayan carnivore (*Ailurus fulgens*) that is related to and closely resembles the American raccoon, has long fur, and is basically rusty or chestnut in color with mottling and barring of black **2** : a large black-and-white mammal (*Ailuropoda melanoleuca*) of western China that suggests a bear but is related to the raccoons

pan·da·nus \pan-'dān-əs, -'dan-əs\ *n, pl* **-ni** \-,ī\ [NL, genus name, fr. Malay *pandan* screw pine] : SCREW PINE

Pan·da·rus \'pan-də-rəs\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *Pandaros*] : a Lycian archer in the Trojan War who in medieval legend procures Cressida for Troilus

pan·dect \'pan-,dekt\ *n* [LL *Pandectae*, the Pandects, digest of Roman civil law (6th cent. A.D.), fr. L, pl. of *pandectes* encyclopedic work, fr. Gk *pandektēs* all-receiving, fr. *pan-* + *dechesthai* to receive; akin to Gk *dokein* to seem, seem good — more at DECENT] **1** : a complete code of the laws of a country or system of law **2** : a treatise covering an entire subject

[1]pan·dem·ic \pan-'dem-ik\ *adj* [LL *pandemus*, fr. Gk *pandēmos* of all the people, fr. *pan-* + *dēmos* people — more at DEMAGOGUE] : occurring over a wide geographic area and affecting an exceptionally high proportion of the population ⟨~ malaria⟩

[2]pandemic *n* : a pandemic outbreak of a disease

Pan·de·mo·ni·um \,pan-də-'mō-nē-əm\ *n* [Gk *pan-* + *daimōn* evil spirit — more at DEMON] **1** : the capital of Hell in Milton's *Paradise Lost* **2** : the infernal regions : HELL **3** *not cap* : a wild uproar : TUMULT

[1]pan·der \'pan-dər\ *n* [ME *Pandare* Pandarus, fr. L *Pandarus*] **1 a** : a go-between in love intrigues **b** : PIMP **2** : someone who caters to or exploits the weaknesses of others

[2]pander *vi* **pan·dered; pan·der·ing** \-d(ə-)riŋ\ : to act as a pander; *esp* : to provide gratification for others' desires ⟨the audience is vulgar and stupid, you've got to ~ to them —Herman Wouk⟩ — **pan·der·er** \-dər-ər\ *n*

pan·dit \'pan-dət, 'pən-\ *n* [Hindi *paṇḍit*, fr. Skt *paṇḍita*] : a wise or learned man in India — often used as an honorary title

P and L *abbr* profit and loss

pan·do·ra \pan-'dōr-ə, -'dȯr-\ *n* [It, fr. LL *pandura* 3-stringed lute] : BANDORE

Pan·do·ra's box \pan-,dōr-əz-, -,dȯr-\ *n* [fr. the box, sent by the gods with Pandora as a gift to Epimetheus, which she was forbidden to open and which loosed a swarm of evils upon mankind when she opened it out of curiosity] : a prolific source of troubles

pan·dow·dy \pan-'daud-ē\ *n, pl* **-dies** [origin unknown] : a deep-dish spiced apple dessert sweetened with sugar, molasses, or maple syrup and covered with a rich crust

pan·dy \'pan-dē\ *vt* **pan·died; pan·dy·ing** [prob. fr. L *pande*, imper. sing. of *pandere* to spread out (the hand); command of the schoolmaster to the boy — more at FATHOM] *Brit* : to punish (a schoolboy) with a blow on the palm of the hand esp. with a ferule ⟨came in today and *pandied* me because I was not writing my theme —James Joyce⟩

pane \'pān\ *n* [ME *pan*, *pane* strip of cloth, pane, fr. MF *pan*, fr. L *pannus* cloth, rag — more at VANE] **1** : a piece, section, or side of something: as **a** : a framed sheet of glass in a window or door **b** : one of the sides of a nut or bolt head **2** : one of the sections into which a sheet of postage stamps is cut for distribution

pan·e·gy·ric \,pan-ə-'jir-ik, -'jī-rik\ *n* [L *panegyricus*, fr. Gk *panēgyrikos*, fr. *panēgyrikos* of or for a festival assembly, fr. *panēgyris* festival assembly, fr. *pan-* + *agyris* assembly; akin to Gk *ageirein* to gather — more at GREGARIOUS] : a eulogistic oration or writing; *also* : formal or elaborate praise ***syn*** see ENCOMIUM — **pan·e·gy·ri·cal** \-'jir-i-kəl, -'jī-ri-\ *adj* — **pan·e·gy·ri·cal·ly** \-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

pan·e·gy·rist \,pan-ə-'jir-əst, -'jī-rəst\ *n* : EULOGIST

[1]pan·el \'pan-ᵊl\ *n* [ME, piece of cloth, slip of parchment, jury schedule, fr. MF, piece of cloth, piece, prob. fr. (assumed) VL *pannellus*, dim. of L *pannus* cloth] **1 a** (1) : a schedule containing names of persons summoned as jurors (2) : the group of persons so summoned (3) : JURY 1 **b** (1) : a group of persons selected for some service (as investigation or arbitration) ⟨a ~ of experts⟩ (2) : a group of persons who discuss before an audience a topic of usu. political or social interest; *also* : PANEL DISCUSSION (3) : a group of entertainers or guests engaged as players in a quiz or guessing game on a radio or television program **2** : a separate or distinct part of a surface: as **a** : a fence section : HURDLE **b** (1) : a thin usu. rectangular board set in a frame (as in a door) (2) : a usu. sunken or raised section of a surface set off by a margin (3) : a flat usu. rectangular piece of construction material (as plywood or precast masonry) made to form part of a surface **c** : a vertical section of fabric (as a gore) **d** : any of several units of construction of an airplane wing surface **3** : a thin flat piece of wood on

which a picture is painted; *also* : a painting on such a surface **4 a** : a section of a switchboard **b** : a flat often insulating support (as for computer hardware or parts of an electrical device) usu. with control handles on one face **c** : a usu. vertical mount for controls or dials (as of instruments of measurement)

²panel *vt* **-eled** *or* **-elled; -el·ing** *or* **-el·ling** : to furnish or decorate with panels ⟨*paneled* the living room⟩

panel discussion *n* : a formal discussion by a panel of a topic of public interest

panel heating *n* : space heating by means of wall, floor, baseboard, or ceiling panels with embedded electric conductors or hot-air or hot-water pipes

pan·el·ing *n* : panels joined in a continuous surface; *esp* : decorative wood panels so joined

pan·el·ist \'pan-ᵊl-əst\ *n* : a member of a discussion or advisory panel or of a radio or television panel

panel truck *n* : a small light motortruck with a fully enclosed body

pan·e·tela *or* **pan·e·tel·la** *var of* PANATELA

pan·fish \'pan-ˌfish\ *n* : a small food fish (as a sunfish) usu. taken with hook and line and not available on the market

pan·ful \'pan-ˌfu̇l\ *n* : as much or as many as a pan will hold

¹pang \'paŋ\ *n* [origin unknown] **1** : a brief piercing spasm of pain **2** : a sharp attack of mental anguish ⟨~s of remorse⟩

²pang *vt* : to cause to have pangs : TORMENT

pan·gen·e·sis \(ˌ)pan-'jen-ə-səs\ *n* [NL] : a hypothetical mechanism of heredity in which the cells throw off particles that circulate freely throughout the system, multiply by subdivision, and collect in the reproductive products or in buds so that the egg or bud contains particles from all parts of the parent — **pan·ge·net·ic** \ˌpan-jə-'net-ik\ *adj*

Pan·gloss·ian \pan-'gläs-ē-ən, paŋ-, -'glȯs-\ *adj* [*Pangloss*, optimistic tutor in Voltaire's *Candide* (1759)] : marked by the view that all is for the best in this best of possible worlds

pan·go·la grass \pan-'gō-lə-, paŋ-\ *n* [*pangola*, fr. native name in So. Africa] : a rapid-growing perennial grass (*Digitaria decumbens*) of southern Africa that has been introduced into the southern U.S. as a pasture grass

pan·go·lin \'paŋ-gə-lən, 'pan-\ *n* [Malay *pĕngguling*] : any of several Asiatic and African edentate mammals (*Manis* or related genera of the order Pholidota) having the body covered with large imbricated horny scales



pangolin

¹pan·han·dle \'pan-ˌhan-dᵊl\ *n* : a narrow projection of a larger territory (as a state) ⟨the Texas ~⟩

²panhandle *vb* **pan·han·dled; pan·han·dling** \-ˌhan-(d)liŋ, -dᵊl-iŋ\ [back-formation fr. *panhandler*, prob. fr. *panhandle*, n.; fr. the extended forearm] *vi* : to stop people on the street and ask for food or money : BEG ~ *vt* **1** : to accost on the street and beg from **2** : to get by panhandling — **pan·han·dler** \-(d)lər, -dᵊl-ər\ *n*

Pan·hel·len·ic \ˌpan-hə-'len-ik\ *adj* **1** : of or relating to all Greece or all the Greeks **2** : of or relating to the Greek-letter sororities or fraternities in American colleges and universities or to an association representing them

pan·hu·man \(ˌ)pan-'hyü-mən, -'yü-\ *adj* : of or relating to all humanity ⟨the ~ problem of evil —R. K. Merton⟩

¹pan·ic \'pan-ik\ *adj* [F *panique*, fr. Gk *panikos*, lit., of Pan, fr. *Pan*] **1** : of, relating to, or resembling the mental or emotional state believed induced by the god Pan ⟨~ fear⟩ **2** : of, relating to, or arising from a panic ⟨a wave of ~ buying⟩ **3** : of or relating to the god Pan

²panic *n* **1** : a sudden overpowering fright; *esp* : a sudden unreasoning terror often accompanied by mass flight **2** : a sudden widespread fright concerning financial affairs and resulting in a depression in values caused by violent measures for protection of property (as securities) **3** *slang* : something very funny **4** : a shortage of narcotics on the market ***syn*** see FEAR — **pan·icky** \'pan-i-kē\ *adj*

³panic *vb* **pan·icked** \-ikt\; **pan·ick·ing** *vt* **1** : to affect with panic **2** : to produce demonstrative appreciation on the part of ⟨~ an audience with a gag⟩ ~ *vi* : to be affected with panic

panic button *n* : something setting off a precipitous emergency response ⟨there was no pushing of *panic buttons* at the White House, no rushing of troops —J. C. Harsch⟩

pan·ic grass \'pan-ik-\ *n* [ME *panik*, fr. MF or L; MF *panic* foxtail millet, fr. L *panicum*, fr. *panus* swelling, ear of millet] : any of various grasses (*Panicum* or related genera) of which some are important forage and cereal grasses

pan·i·cle \'pan-i-kəl\ *n* [L *panicula*, fr. dim. of *panus* swelling] **1** : a compound racemose inflorescence — see INFLORESCENCE illustration **2** : a pyramidal loosely branched flower cluster — **pan·i·cled** \-kəld\ *adj* — **pa·nic·u·late** \pa-'nik-yə-lət, pə-\ *adj*

pan·ic–strick·en \'pan-ik-ˌstrik-ən\ *adj* : overcome with panic

pan·i·cum \'pan-i-kəm\ *n* [NL, genus name, fr. L, panic grass] : any of a large and widely distributed genus (*Panicum*) of grasses that have a very diverse habit and 1- to 2-flowered spikelets disposed in a panicle

Pan·ja·bi \ˌpən-'jäb-ē, -'jab-\ *n* [Hindi *pañjābī*, fr. *pañjābī* of Punjab] **1** : an Indic language of the Punjab **2** : PUNJABI 1

pan·jan·drum \pan-'jan-drəm\ *n, pl* **-drums** *also* **-dra** \-drə\ [Grand *Panjandrum*, burlesque title of an imaginary personage in some nonsense lines by Samuel Foote] : a powerful personage or pretentious official

pan·leu·co·pe·nia \ˌpan-ˌlü-kə-'pē-nē-ə\ *n* [NL] : an acute usu. fatal viral epizootic disease of cats characterized by fever, diarrhea and dehydration, and extensive destruction of white blood cells

pan·mic·tic \(ˌ)pan-'mik-tik\ *adj* [*pan-* + Gk *miktos*, verbal of *mignynai* to mix] : of, relating to, or exhibiting panmixia

pan·mix·ia \-'mik-sē-ə\ *n* [NL, fr. *pan-* + Gk *mixis* act of mingling, mating, fr. *mignynai* to mix — more at MIX] : random mating within a breeding population

panne \'pan\ *n* [F, fr. OF *penne, panne* fur used for lining, fr. L *pinna* feather, wing — more at PEN] **1** : a silk or rayon velvet with lustrous pile flattened in one direction **2** : a heavy silk or rayon satin with high luster and waxy smoothness

pan·nier *or* **pan·ier** \'pan-yər, 'pan-ē-ər\ *n* [ME *panier*, fr. MF, fr. L *panarium*, fr. *panis* bread — more at FOOD] **1** : a large basket; *esp* : one often carried on the back of an animal or the shoulders of a person **2 a** : one of a pair of hoops formerly used to expand women's skirts at the sides **b** : an overskirt draped at the sides of a skirt for an effect of fullness

pan·ni·kin \'pan-i-kən\ *n* [¹*pan* + *-nikin* (as in *cannikin*)] *Brit* : a small pan or cup

pa·no·cha \pə-'nō-chə\ *or* **pa·no·che** \-chē\ *var of* PENUCHE

pan·o·plied \'pan-ə-plēd\ *adj* : dressed in or having a panoply

pan·o·ply \'pan-ə-plē\ *n, pl* **-plies** [Gk *panoplia*, fr. *pan-* + *hopla* arms, armor, pl. of *hoplon* tool, weapon — more at HOPLITE] **1 a** : a full suit of armor **b** : ceremonial attire **2** : something forming a protective covering **3 a** : a magnificent or impressive array ⟨the full ~ of a military funeral⟩ **b** : a display of all appropriate appurtenances ⟨has the ~ of science fiction . . . but it is not true science fiction —Isaac Asimov⟩

pan·ora·ma \ˌpan-ə-'ram-ə, -'räm-\ *n* [*pan-* + Gk *horama* sight, fr. *horan* to see — more at WARY] **1 a** : CYCLORAMA 1 **b** : a picture exhibited a part at a time by being unrolled before the spectator **2 a** : an unobstructed or complete view of a region in every direction **b** : a comprehensive presentation of a subject ⟨a ~ of American history⟩ **c** : RANGE **3** : a mental picture of a series of images or events — **pan·oram·ic** \-'ram-ik\ *adj* — **pan·oram·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

pan out *vi* [²*pan*] : to turn out; *esp* : SUCCEED ⟨the signs revealed that the experiment wasn't *panning out* — Ronald Reagan⟩

pan·pipe \'pan-ˌpīp\ *n* [*Pan*, its traditional inventor] : a primitive wind instrument consisting of a graduated series of short vertical pipes bound together with the mouthpieces in an even row — often used in pl.



panpipe

Pan–Slav·ism \(ˌ)pan-'släv-ˌiz-əm, -'slav-\ *n* : a political and cultural movement orig. emphasizing the cultural ties between the Slavic peoples but later associated with Russian expansionist policies — **Pan–Slav·ic** \-'slav-ik, -'släv-\ *adj* — **Pan–Slav·ist** \-'släv-əst, -'slav-\ *n*

pan·sy \'pan-zē\ *n, pl* **pansies** [MF *pensée*, fr. *pensée* thought, fr. fem. of *pensé*, pp. of *penser* to think, fr. L *pensare* to ponder — more at PENSIVE] **1** : a garden plant (*Viola tricolor hortensis*) derived chiefly from the wild pansy of Europe by hybridizing the latter with other wild violets; *also* : its flower **2 a** : an effeminate youth **b** : a male homosexual

¹pant \'pant\ *vb* [ME *panten*, fr. MF *pantaisier*, fr. (assumed) VL *phantasiare* to have hallucinations, fr. Gk *phantasioun*, fr. *phantasia* appearance, imagination — more at FANCY] *vi* **1 a** : to breathe quickly, spasmodically, or in a labored manner **b** : to run panting ⟨~*ing* along beside the bicycle⟩ **c** : to move with or make a throbbing or puffing sound **2** : to long eagerly : YEARN **3** : THROB, PULSATE ~ *vt* : to utter with panting : GASP

²pant *n* **1 a** : a panting breath **b** : the visible movement of the chest accompanying such a breath **2** : a throbbing or puffing sound

³pant *adj* : of or relating to pants ⟨a ~ leg⟩

pant- *or* **panto-** *comb form* [MF, fr. L, fr. Gk, fr. *pant-*, *pas* — more at PAN-] : all ⟨*pant*ology⟩

Pan·ta·gru·el \ˌpant-ə-'grü-əl; pan-'tag-rə-wəl, -ˌwel\ *n* [F] : the huge son of Gargantua in Rabelais's *Pantagruel* — **Pan·ta·gru·el·ian** \ˌpant-ə-grü-'el-ē-ən, (ˌ)pan-ˌtag-rə-'wel-\ *adj* — **Pan·ta·gru·el·ism** \ˌpant-ə-'grü-əl-ˌiz-əm; pan-'tag-rə-wəl-ˌiz-əm, -ˌwel-\ *n* — **Pan·ta·gru·el·ist** \-əst\ *n*

pan·ta·lets *or* **pan·ta·lettes** \ˌpant-ᵊl-'ets\ *n pl* [*pantaloons*] : long drawers with a ruffle at the bottom of each leg worn by women and children in the first half of the 19th century

pan·ta·loon \ˌpant-ᵊl-'ün\ *n* [MF & OIt; MF *Pantalon*, fr. OIt *Pantaleone, Pantalone*] **1 a** *or* **pan·ta·lo·ne** \-ᵊl-'ō-nē\ *cap* : a character in the commedia dell'arte that is usu. a skinny old dotard who wears spectacles, slippers, and a tight-fitting combination of trousers and stockings **b** : a buffoon in pantomimes **2** *pl* **a** : wide breeches worn in England during the reign of Charles II **b** : close-fitting trousers usu. having straps passing under the instep and worn esp. in the 19th century

pant·dress \'pant-ˌdres\ *n* : a dress having a divided skirt

pan·tech·ni·con \pan-'tek-ni-kən\ *n* [short for *pantechnicon van*, fr. *pantechnicon* (storage warehouse)] *Brit* : ³VAN 1

pan·the·ism \'pan(t)-thē-ˌiz-əm\ *n* [F *panthéisme*, fr. *panthéiste* pantheist, fr. E *pantheist*, fr. *pan-* + *-theist*] **1** : a doctrine that equates God with the forces and laws of the universe **2** : the worship of all gods of different creeds, cults, or peoples indifferently; *also* : toleration of worship of all gods (as at certain periods of the Roman empire) — **pan·the·ist** \-thē-əst\ *n* — **pan·the·is·tic** \ˌpan(t)-thē-'is-tik\ *or* **pan·the·is·ti·cal** \-ti-kəl\ *adj* — **pan·the·is·ti·cal·ly** \-ti-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

pan·the·on \'pan(t)-thē-ˌän, -ən\ *n* [ME *Panteon*, a temple at Rome, fr. L *Pantheon*, fr. Gk *pantheion* temple of all the gods, fr. neut. of

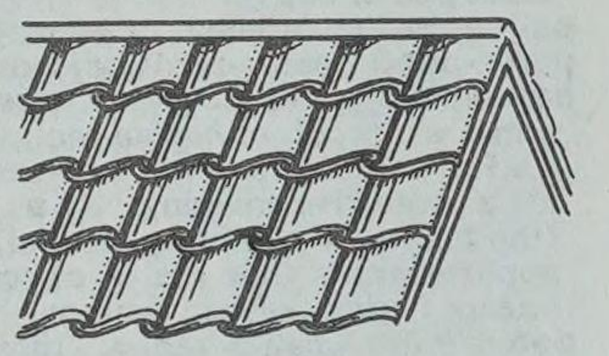
pantheios of all gods, fr. *pan-* + *theos* god] **1** : a temple dedicated to all the gods **2** : a building serving as the burial place of or containing memorials to famous dead **3** : the gods of a people; *esp* : the officially recognized gods **4** : a group of illustrious persons

pan·ther \'pan(t)-thər\ *n, pl* **panthers** *also* **panther** [ME *pantere*, fr. OF, fr. L *panthera*, fr. Gk *panthēr*] **1** : LEOPARD: as **a** : a leopard of a hypothetical exceptionally large fierce variety **b** : a leopard of the black color phase **2** : COUGAR **3** : JAGUAR

pant·ie *or* **panty** \'pant-ē\ *n, pl* **pant·ies** [*pants*] : a woman's or child's undergarment covering the lower trunk and made with closed crotch and very short legs — usu. used in pl.

pantie girdle *n* : a woman's girdle with a sewed-in or detachable crotch made with or without garters and bones

pan·tile \'pan-ˌtīl\ *n* [¹*pan*] **1** : a roofing tile whose cross section is an ogee curve **2** : a roofing tile of which the cross section is an arc of a circle and which is laid with alternate convex and concave surfaces uppermost — **pan·tiled** \-ˌtīld\ *adj*

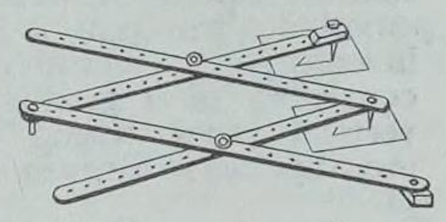


pantiles 1

pant·isoc·ra·cy \ˌpant-ə-'säk-rə-sē, ˌpant-ˌī-\ *n, pl* **-cies** [*pant-* + *isocracy* (equal rule), fr. Gk *isokratia*, fr. *is-* + *-kratia* -cracy] : a utopian community in which all rule equally — **pant·iso·crat·ic** \ˌpant-ˌī-sə-'krat-ik\ *or* **pant·iso·crat·i·cal** \-'krat-i-kəl\ *adj* — **pant·isoc·ra·tist** \ˌpant-ə-'säk-rət-əst, ˌpant-ˌī-\ *n*

pan·to·fle \pan-'tōf-əl, -'täf-, -'tüf-; 'pant-ə-fəl\ *n* [ME *pantufle*, fr. MF *pantoufle*] : SLIPPER

pan·to·graph \'pant-ə-ˌgraf\ *n* [F *pantographe*, fr. *pant-* + *-graphe* -graph] **1** : an instrument for copying (as a map) on a predetermined scale consisting of four light rigid bars jointed in parallelogram form; *also* : any of various extensible devices of similar construction (as for use as brackets or gates) **2** : an electrical trolley carried by a collapsible and adjustable frame — **pan·to·graph·ic** \ˌpant-ə-'graf-ik\ *adj*



pantograph 1

¹pan·to·mime \'pant-ə-ˌmīm\ *n* [L *pantomimus*, fr. *pant-* + *mimus* mime] **1** : PANTOMIMIST **2 a** : an ancient Roman dramatic performance featuring a solo dancer and a narrative chorus **b** : any of various dramatic or dancing performances in which a story is told by expressive bodily or facial movements of the performers **c** : a British theatrical entertainment of the Christmas season based on a nursery tale and featuring topical songs, tableaux, and dances **3** : conveyance of a story by bodily or facial movements esp. in drama or dance **4** : the art or genre of conveying a story by bodily movements only — **pan·to·mim·ic** \ˌpant-ə-'mim-ik\ *adj*

²pantomime *vb* **-mimed; -mim·ing** *vt* : to represent by pantomime ~ *vi* : to engage in pantomime

pan·to·mim·ist \'pant-ə-ˌmim-əst, -ˌmīm-\ *n* **1** : an actor or dancer in pantomimes **2** : a composer of pantomimes

pan·to·the·nate \ˌpant-ə-'then-ˌāt, pan-'täth-ə-ˌnāt\ *n* : a salt or ester of pantothenic acid

pan·to·then·ic acid \ˌpant-ə-ˌthen-ik-\ *n* [Gk *pantothen* from all sides, fr. *pant-*, *pas* all — more at PAN-] : a viscous oily acid $C_9H_{17}NO_5$ of the vitamin B complex found in all living tissues

pan·trop·ic \(')pan-'träp-ik\ *adj* : occurring or distributed throughout the tropical regions of the earth

pan·try \'pan-trē\ *n, pl* **pantries** [ME *panetrie*, fr. MF *paneterie*, fr. OF, fr. *panetier* servant in charge of the pantry, irreg. fr. *pan* bread, fr. L *panis* — more at FOOD] **1** : a room or closet used for storing provisions or glassware and china or from which food is brought to the table **2** : a room (as in a hotel or hospital) for preparation of cold foods on order

pan·try·man \-trē-mən\ *n* : a man in charge of or working in a pantry (as in a hotel or hospital)

pants \'pan(t)s\ *n pl* [short for *pantaloons*] **1** : TROUSERS **2** *chiefly Brit* : men's short underpants **3** : PANTIE — **with one's pants down** : in an embarrassing position (as of being unprepared to act)

pants suit \'pan(t)s-ˌsüt, 'pant-ˌ\ *n* : PANTSUIT

pant·suit \'pant-ˌsüt\ *n* : a woman's ensemble consisting usu. of a long jacket and tailored pants of the same material

panty hose *n pl* : a one-piece undergarment for women that consists of hosiery combined with panties

panty raid *n* : a raid on a women's dormitory by college boys usu. to obtain panties as trophies

panty·waist \'pant-ē-ˌwāst\ *n* **1** : a child's garment consisting of short pants buttoned to a waist **2** : SISSY — **pantywaist** *adj*

Pan·urge \'pan-ˌərj, pa-'nu̇(ə)rzh\ *n* [F] : a witty rascal and companion of Pantagruel in Rabelais's *Pantagruel*

¹pan·zer \'pan-zər, 'pän(t)-sər\ *adj* [G *panzer-*, fr. *panzer* coat of mail, armor, fr. OF *pancière*, fr. *pance* belly — more at PAUNCH] : of or relating to an armored unit and esp. a panzer division

²panzer *n* : TANK 3

panzer division *n* : a German armored division

¹pap \'pap\ *n* [ME *pappe*] **1** *chiefly dial* : NIPPLE, TEAT **2** : something shaped like a nipple

²pap *n* [ME] **1** : a soft food for infants or invalids **2** : political patronage **3** : something lacking solid value or substance

pa·pa \'päp-ə, *chiefly Brit* pə-'pä\ *n* [F (baby talk)] : FATHER

Papa — a communications code word for the letter *p*

pa·pa·cy \'pā-pə-sē\ *n, pl* **-cies** [ME *papacie*, fr. ML *papatia*, fr. LL *papa* pope — more at POPE] **1** : the office of pope **2** : a succession or line of popes **3** : the term of a pope's reign **4** *cap* : the system of government of the Roman Catholic Church of which the pope is the supreme head

pa·pa·in \pə-'pā-ən, -'pī-ən\ *n* [ISV, fr. *papaya*] : a proteinase in the juice of unripe papaya that is used esp. as a tenderizer for meat and in medicine

pa·pal \'pā-pəl\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF, fr. ML *papalis*, fr. LL *papa*] : of or relating to a pope or to the Roman Catholic Church — **pa·pal·ly** \-pə-lē\ *adv*

papal cross *n* : a figure of a cross having a long upright shaft and three crossbars with the longest at or somewhat above its middle and the two other successively shorter crossbars above the longest one — see CROSS illustration

Pa·pa·ni·co·laou test \ˌpäp-ə-'nē-kə-ˌlau̇-, ˌpap-ə-'nik-ə-\ *n* [George N. *Papanicolaou* †1962 Am medical scientist] : PAP SMEAR

pa·pa·raz·zo \ˌpäp-ə-'rät-(ˌ)sō\ *n, pl* **-raz·zi** \-(ˌ)sē\ [It] : a news reporter or photographer who doggedly searches for a story that can be sensationalized

pa·pav·er·ine \pə-'pav-ə-ˌrēn, -(ə-)rən\ *n* [ISV, fr. L *papaver* poppy] : a crystalline alkaloid $C_{20}H_{21}NO_4$ that is found in opium and is used chiefly as an antispasmodic because of its ability to relax smooth muscle

pa·paw *n* [prob. modif. of Sp *papaya*] **1** \pə-'pȯ\ : PAPAYA **2** \'päp-(ˌ)ȯ, 'pȯp-\ : a No. American tree (*Asimina triloba*) of the custard-apple family with purple flowers and a yellow edible fruit; *also* : its fruit

pa·pa·ya \pə-'pī-ə\ *n* [Sp, of AmerInd origin; akin to Otomac *papai*] : a tropical American tree (*Carica papaya* of the family Caricaceae, the papaya family) with large oblong yellow edible fruit; *also* : its fruit

¹pa·per \'pā-pər\ *n* [ME *papir*, fr. MF *papier*, fr. L *papyrus* papyrus, paper, fr. Gk *papyros* papyrus] **1 a** (1) : a felted sheet of usu. vegetable fibers laid down on a fine screen from a water suspension (2) : a similar sheet of other material (as plastic) **b** : a piece of paper **2 a** : a piece of paper containing a written or printed statement : DOCUMENT ⟨pedigree ~s⟩ **b** : a piece of paper containing writing or print **c** : a formal written composition often designed for publication and often intended to be read aloud ⟨presented a scholarly ~ at the meeting⟩ **d** : a piece of written schoolwork ⟨had to write a ~ a week in English class⟩ **3** : a paper container or wrapper **4** : NEWSPAPER **5** : the negotiable notes or instruments of commerce **6** : WALLPAPER **7** : TICKETS; *esp* : free passes — **on paper** **1** : in theory ⟨the plan looks good *on paper*⟩ **2** : figured at face value ⟨*on paper* he was worth nearly a million dollars⟩

²paper *vb* **pa·pered; pa·per·ing** \'pā-p(ə-)riŋ\ *vt* **1** *archaic* : to put down or describe in writing **2** : to fold or enclose in paper **3** : to cover or line with paper; *esp* : to apply wallpaper to **4** : to fill by giving out free passes ⟨~ the theater for opening night⟩ **5** : to cover (an area) with advertising bills, circulars, or posters ~ *vi* : to hang wallpaper — **pa·per·er** \-pər-ər\ *n*

³paper *adj* **1 a** : made of paper, paperboard, or papier-mâché ⟨a ~ bag⟩ **b** : PAPERY **2** : of or relating to clerical work or written communication **3** : existing only in theory : NOMINAL ⟨a ~ blockade⟩ **4** : admitted by free passes ⟨a ~ audience⟩ **5** : issued as paper money **6** : finished with a crisp smooth surface similar to that of paper ⟨~ taffeta⟩

pa·per·back \'pā-pər-ˌbak\ *n* : a book with a flexible paper binding — **paperback** *adj*

paper birch *n* : an American birch (*Betula papyrifera*) with peeling white bark that is often worked into fancy articles

pa·per·board \'pā-pər-ˌbō(ə)rd, -ˌbȯ(ə)rd\ *n* : a material made from cellulose fiber (as wood pulp) like paper but usu. thicker

pa·per·bound \-ˌbau̇nd\ *n* : PAPERBACK — **paperbound** *adj*

pa·per·boy \-ˌbȯi\ *n* : NEWSBOY

paper chase *n* : HARE AND HOUNDS

paper cutter *n* **1** : PAPER KNIFE **2** : a machine or device for cutting or trimming sheets of paper to required dimensions

pa·per·hang·er \'pā-pər-ˌhaŋ-ər\ *n* **1** : one that applies wallpaper **2** *slang* : one who passes worthless checks

pa·per·hang·ing \-ˌhaŋ-iŋ\ *n* : the act of applying wallpaper

paper knife *n* **1** : a knife for slitting envelopes or uncut pages **2** : the knife of a paper cutter

pa·per·mak·er \'pā-pər-ˌmā-kər\ *n* : one that makes paper

pa·per·mak·ing \-kiŋ\ *n* : the making of paper

paper money *n* **1** : money consisting of government notes and bank notes **2** : BANK MONEY

paper mulberry *n* : an Asiatic tree (*Broussonetia papyrifera*) of the mulberry family that is widely grown as a shade tree

paper nautilus *n* : a cephalopod (genus *Argonauta*) whose female has a delicate papery shell

paper over *vt* **1** : to gloss over, explain away, or patch up (as major differences or disparities) esp. in order to maintain a semblance of unity or agreement **2** : HIDE, CONCEAL

paper profit *n* : a profit that can be realized only by selling something (as a security) that has appreciated in market value

paper-thin *adj* : very thin or narrow ⟨~ partitions⟩

paper tiger *n* : one that is outwardly powerful or dangerous but inwardly weak or ineffectual ⟨necessary to show that the . . . military presence was not a *paper tiger* —Kaye Whiteman⟩

pa·per·weight \'pā-pər-ˌwāt\ *n* : a usu. small heavy object used to hold down loose papers (as on a desk)

pa·per·work \-ˌwərk\ *n* : routine clerical or record-keeping work often incidental to a more important task

pa·pery \'pā-p(ə-)rē\ *adj* : resembling paper in thinness or consistency ⟨~ leaves⟩ ⟨~ silk⟩ — **pa·per·i·ness** *n*

pa·pe·terie \'pap-ə-trē, ˌpap-ə-'\ *n* [F] : packaged fancy stationery

¹Pa·phi·an \'pā-fē-ən\ *adj* [L *paphius*, fr. Gk *paphios*, fr. *Paphos*, ancient city of Cyprus that was the center of worship of Aphrodite] **1** : of or relating to Paphos or its people **2** : of or relating to illicit love : WANTON

²Paphian *n* **1** : a native or inhabitant of Paphos **2** *often not cap* : PROSTITUTE

pa·pier col·lé \ˌpäp-ˌyā-(ˌ)kȯ-'lā, ˌpap-\ *n, pl* **papiers collés** \-ˌyā-(ˌ)kȯ-'lā(z)\ [F, glued paper] : COLLAGE

pa·pier–mâ·ché \ˌpā-pər-mə-ˈshā, ˌpap-ˌyā-mə-, -(ˌ)ma-\ *n* [F, lit., chewed paper] : a light strong molding material of wastepaper pulped with glue and other additives — **papier–mâché** *adj*

pa·pil·i·o·na·ceous \pə-ˌpil-ē-ə-ˈnā-shəs\ *adj* [L *papilion-, papilio* butterfly — more at PAVILION] : having a corolla (as in the bean or pea) with usu. five petals that include a large standard enclosing two lateral wings and a lower carina

pa·pil·la \pə-ˈpil-ə\ *n, pl* **pa·pil·lae** \-ˈpil-(ˌ)ē, -ˌī\ [L, nipple; akin to L *papula* pimple, Lith *papas* nipple] : a small projecting body part similar to a nipple in form: **a** : a vascular process of connective tissue extending into and nourishing the root of a hair, feather, or developing tooth — see HAIR illustration **b** : one of the vascular protuberances of the dermal layer of the skin extending into the epidermal layer and often containing tactile corpuscles **c** : one of the small protuberances on the upper surface of the tongue — **pap·il·lary** \ˈpap-ə-ˌler-ē, *esp Brit* pə-ˈpil-ə-rē\ *adj* — **pa·pil·late** \ˈpap-ə-ˌlāt, pə-ˈpil-ət\ *adj* — **pa·pil·lose** \ˈpap-ə-ˌlōs, pə-ˈpil-ˌōs\ *adj*

pap·il·lo·ma \ˌpap-ə-ˈlō-mə\ *n, pl* **-mas** *or* **-ma·ta** \-mət-ə\ **1** : a benign tumor (as a wart) due to overgrowth of epithelial tissue on papillae of vascular connective tissue (as of the skin) **2** : an epithelial tumor caused by a virus — **pap·il·lo·ma·tous** \-ˈlō-mət-əs\ *adj*

pa·pil·lon \ˌpäp-ē-ˈ(y)ōⁿ, ˌpap-\ *n* [F, lit., butterfly, fr. L *papilion-, papilio*] : any of a breed of small slender toy spaniels resembling long-haired Chihuahuas

pa·pil·lote \ˌpäp-ē-ˈ(y)ōt, ˌpap-\ *n* [F, fr. *papillon* butterfly] : a greased paper wrapper in which food (as meat or fish) is cooked

pa·pist \ˈpā-pəst\ *n, often cap* [MF or NL; MF *papiste*, fr. *pape* pope; NL *papista*, fr. LL *papa* pope] : ROMAN CATHOLIC — usu. used disparagingly — **papist** *adj*

pa·pist·ry \ˈpā-pə-strē\ *n* : the Roman Catholic religion — usu. used disparagingly

pa·poose \pa-ˈpüs, pə-\ *n* [Narraganset *papoòs*] : a young child of American Indian parents

pa·po·va·vi·rus \pə-ˈpō-və-ˌvī-rəs\ *n* [*pa*pilloma + *po*lyoma + *va*cuolation + *virus*] : any of a group of viruses that have a capsid with 42 protuberances resembling knobs and that are associated with or responsible for various neoplasms (as some warts) of mammals

pap·pose \ˈpap-ˌōs\ *adj* : having or being a pappus

pap·pus \ˈpap-əs\ *n, pl* **pap·pi** \ˈpap-ˌī, -ˌē\ [L, fr. Gk *pappos*] : an appendage or tuft of appendages that crowns the ovary or fruit in various seed plants and functions in dispersal of the fruit

pap·py \ˈpap-ē\ *n, chiefly South & Midland* : PAPA

pa·pri·ka \pə-ˈprē-kə, pa-\ *n* [Hung, fr. Serb, fr. *papar* pepper, fr. Gk *peperi*] : a mild red condiment consisting of the dried finely ground pods of various cultivated sweet peppers; *also* : a sweet pepper used for making paprika

Pap smear \ˈpap-\ *n* [George N. *Papanicolaou* †1962 Am medical scientist] : a method for the early detection of cancer employing exfoliated cells and a special staining technique that differentiates diseased tissue — called also *Papanicolaou test, Pap test*

Pap·u·an \ˈpap-yə-wən\ *n* **1** : a native or inhabitant of Papua **2** : a member of any of the Negroid native peoples of New Guinea and adjacent areas of Melanesia **3** : any of a heterogeneous group of languages spoken in New Guinea, New Britain, and the Solomon islands — **Papuan** *adj*

pap·u·lar \ˈpap-yə-lər\ *adj* : consisting of or characterized by papules

pap·ule \ˈpap-(ˌ)yü(ə)l\ *n* [L *papula*] : a small solid usu. conical elevation of the skin

pap·y·rol·o·gy \ˌpap-ə-ˈräl-ə-jē\ *n* [ISV] : the study of papyrus manuscripts — **pap·y·rol·o·gist** \-jəst\ *n*

pa·py·rus \pə-ˈpī-rəs\ *n, pl* **pa·py·rus·es** *or* **pa·py·ri** \-ˈpī(ə)r-(ˌ)ē, -ˌī\ [ME, fr. L — more at PAPER] **1** : a tall sedge (*Cyperus papyrus*) of the Nile valley **2** : the pith of the papyrus plant esp. when cut in strips and pressed into a writing material **3 a** : a writing on papyrus **b** : a written scroll made of papyrus



papyrus 1

¹par \ˈpär\ *n* [L, one that is equal, fr. *par* equal] **1 a** : the established value of the monetary unit of one country expressed in terms of the monetary unit of another country using the same metal as the standard of value **b** : the face amount of an instrument of value (as a check or note): as (1) : the monetary value assigned to each share of stock in the charter of a corporation (2) : the principal of a bond **2** : common level : EQUALITY **3 a** : an amount taken as an average or norm **b** : an accepted standard; *specif* : a usual standard of physical condition or health **4** : the score standard for each hole of a golf course; *also* : a score equal to par — **par** *adj*

²par *vt* **parred; par·ring** : to score par on (a hole)

³par *abbr* **1** paragraph **2** parallel **3** parish

pa·ra \ˈpär-ə\ *n, pl* **paras** *or* **para** [Turk, fr. Per *pārah*, lit., piece] **1 a** : any of several monetary units of the Turkish Empire **b** : a coin representing one para **2** — see *dinar* at MONEY table

¹para- \ˌpar-ə, ˈpar-ə\ *or* **par-** *prefix* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L, fr. Gk, fr. *para;* akin to Gk *pro* before — more at FOR] **1** : beside : alongside of : beyond : aside from ⟨*para*thyroid⟩ ⟨*par*enteral⟩ **2 a** : closely related to ⟨*para*ldehyde⟩ **b** : involving substitution at or characterized by two opposite positions in the benzene ring that are separated by two carbon atoms ⟨*para*dichlorobenzene⟩ **3 a** : faulty : abnormal ⟨*par*esthesia⟩ **b** : associated in a subsidiary or accessory capacity ⟨*para*medical⟩ **c** : closely resembling : almost ⟨*para*typhoid⟩

²para- \ˈpar-ə\ *comb form* [*parachute*] **1** : parachute ⟨*para*trooper⟩ **2** : parachutist ⟨*para*spotter⟩

-pa·ra \p-ə-rə\ *n comb form, pl* **-pa·ras** \-ə-rəz\ *or* **-pa·rae** \-ə-ˌrē, -ˌrī\ [L, fr. *parere* to give birth to — more at PARE] : woman delivered of (so many) children ⟨tri*para*⟩

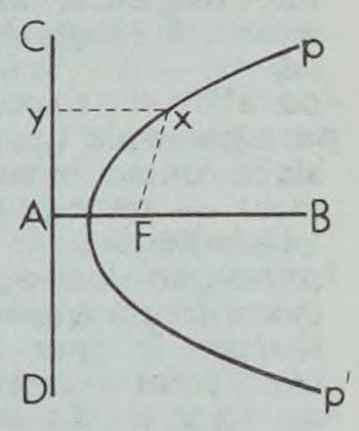
para–ami·no·ben·zo·ic acid \ˈpar-ə-ə-ˌmē-ˌnō-ˌben-ˌzō-ik-, ˈpar-ə-ˌam-ə-(ˌ)nō-\ *n* [ISV] : a colorless para-substituted aminobenzoic acid that is a growth factor of the vitamin B complex — abbr. *PABA*

para–ami·no·sal·i·cyl·ic acid \-ˌsal-ə-ˌsil-ik-\ *n* : the white crystalline para-substituted isomer of aminosalicylic acid that is made synthetically and is used in the treatment of tuberculosis

para·bi·o·sis \ˌpar-ə-(ˌ)bī-ˈō-səs, -bē-\ *n* [NL] **1** : reversible suspension of obvious vital activities **2** : anatomical and physiological union of two organisms — **para·bi·ot·ic** \-ˈät-ik\ *adj* — **para·bi·ot·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

par·a·ble \ˈpar-ə-bəl\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. LL *parabola*, fr. Gk *parabolē*, fr. *paraballein* to compare, fr. *para-* + *ballein* to throw — more at DEVIL] : COMPARISON; *specif* : a usu. short fictitious story that illustrates a moral attitude or a religious principle

pa·rab·o·la \pə-ˈrab-ə-lə\ *n* [NL, fr. Gk *parabolē*, lit., comparison] **1** : a plane curve generated by a point moving so that its distance from a fixed point is equal to its distance from a fixed line : the intersection of a right circular cone with a plane parallel to an element of the cone **2** : something bowl-shaped (as a microphone)



parabola 1: *F* fixed point; *CD* fixed line; *x* moving point; *AB* axis; *xy* distance from *x* to *CD*; *pp'* parabola

par·a·bol·ic \ˌpar-ə-ˈbäl-ik\ *adj* [in sense 1, fr. LL *parabola* parable; in sense 2, fr. NL *parabola*] **1** : expressed by or being a parable : ALLEGORICAL **2** : of, having the form of, or relating to a parabola ⟨motion in a ~ curve⟩ — **par·a·bol·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

pa·rab·o·loid \pə-ˈrab-ə-ˌlȯid\ *n* : a surface all of whose intersections by planes are either parabolas and ellipses or parabolas and hyperbolas — **pa·rab·o·loi·dal** \-ˌrab-ə-ˈlȯid-ᵊl\ *adj*

¹para·chute \ˈpar-ə-ˌshüt\ *n* [F, fr. *para-* (as in *parasol*) + *chute* fall — more at CHUTE] **1** : a folding umbrella-shaped device of light fabric used esp. for making a safe descent from an airplane **2** : PATAGIUM **3** : a device suggestive of a parachute in form, use, or operation — **para·chut·ic** \ˌpar-ə-ˈshüt-ik\ *adj*

²parachute *vb* **-chut·ed; -chut·ing** *vt* : to convey by means of a parachute ~ *vi* : to descend by means of a parachute

parachute spinnaker *n* : an exceptionally large spinnaker used esp. on racing yachts

para·chut·ist \ˈpar-ə-ˌshüt-əst\ *n* : one that parachutes: as **a** : PARATROOPER **b** : a person who parachutes as a sport

Par·a·clete \ˈpar-ə-ˌklēt\ *n* [ME *Paraclit*, fr. MF *Paraclet*, fr. LL *Paracletus*, fr. Gk *Paraklētos*, lit., advocate, intercessor, fr. *parakalein* to invoke, fr. *para-* + *kalein* call — more at LOW] : HOLY SPIRIT

¹pa·rade \pə-ˈrād\ *n* [F, fr. MF, fr. *parer* to prepare — more at PARE] **1** : a pompous show : EXHIBITION **2 a** : the ceremonial formation of a body of troops before a superior officer **b** : a place where troops assemble regularly for parade **3** : a public procession **4 a** : a place for strolling **b** : those who promenade

²parade *vb* **pa·rad·ed; pa·rad·ing** *vt* **1** : to cause to maneuver or march : MARSHAL **2** : PROMENADE **3** : to exhibit ostentatiously ~ *vi* **1** : to march in a procession **2** : PROMENADE **3 a** : to show off **b** : MASQUERADE ⟨myths which ~ as modern science — M. R. Cohen⟩ — **pa·rad·er** *n*

para·di·chlo·ro·ben·zene \ˌpar-ə-ˌdī-ˌklōr-ə-ˈben-ˌzēn, -ˌklȯr-, -ˌben-ˈ\ *n* [ISV] : a white crystalline compound $C_6H_4Cl_2$ made by chlorinating benzene and used chiefly as a fumigant against clothes moths

par·a·digm \ˈpar-ə-ˌdīm, -ˌdim\ *n* [LL *paradigma*, fr. Gk *paradeigma*, fr. *paradeiknynai* to show side by side, fr. *para-* + *deiknynai* to show — more at DICTION] **1** : EXAMPLE, PATTERN; *esp* : an outstandingly clear or typical example or archetype **2** : an example of a conjugation or declension showing a word in all its inflectional forms — **par·a·dig·mat·ic** \ˌpar-ə-dig-ˈmat-ik\ *adj*

par·a·di·sa·ic \ˌpar-ə-ˌdī-ˈsā-ik, -ˈzā-\ *adj* [*paradise* + *-aic* (as in *Hebraic*)] : PARADISIACAL — **par·a·di·sa·ical** \-ˈsā-ə-kəl, -ˈzā-\ *adj* — **par·a·di·sa·ical·ly** \-ə-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

par·a·dis·al \ˌpar-ə-ˈdī-səl, -ˈdī-zəl\ *adj* : PARADISIACAL

par·a·dise \ˈpar-ə-ˌdīs, -ˌdīz\ *n* [ME *paradis*, fr. OF, fr. LL *paradisus*, fr. Gk *paradeisos*, lit., enclosed park, of Iranian origin; akin to Av *pairi-daēza-* enclosure; akin to Gk *peri* around and to Gk *teichos* wall — more at PERI-, DOUGH] **1 a** : the garden of Eden **b** : an intermediate place or state where the righteous departed await resurrection and judgment **c** : HEAVEN **2** : a place of bliss, felicity, or delight

par·a·di·si·a·cal \ˌpar-ə-də-ˈsī-ə-kəl, -ˌdī-, -ˈzī-\ *or* **par·a·dis·i·ac** \-ˈdiz-ē-ˌak, -ˈdis-\ *adj* [LL *paradisiacus*, fr. *paradisus*] : of, relating to, or resembling paradise — **par·a·di·si·a·cal·ly** \-də-ˈsī-ə-k(ə-)lē, -ˌdī-, -ˈzī-\ *adv*

par·a·dox \ˈpar-ə-ˌdäks\ *n* [L *paradoxum*, fr. Gk *paradoxon*, fr. neut. of *paradoxos* contrary to expectation, fr. *para-* + *dokein* to think — more at DECENT] **1** : a tenet contrary to received opinion **2 a** : a statement that is seemingly contradictory or opposed to common sense and yet is perhaps true **b** : a self-contradictory statement that at first seems true **c** : an argument that apparently derives self-contradictory conclusions by valid deduction from acceptable premises **3** : something (as a person, condition, or act) with seemingly contradictory qualities or phases

syn PARADOX, ANTINOMY, ANOMALY *shared meaning element* : something involving an inherent contradiction

par·a·dox·i·cal \ˌpar-ə-ˈdäk-si-kəl\ *adj* **1 a** : of the nature of a paradox **b** : inclined to paradoxes **2** : not being the normal or usual kind ⟨~ pulse⟩ — **par·a·dox·i·cal·ly** \-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **par·a·dox·i·cal·ness** \-kəl-nəs\ *n*

paradoxical sleep *n* : a state of sleep that is characterized by increased neuronal activity of the forebrain and midbrain, by depressed muscle tone, and esp. in man by dreaming, rapid eye movements, and vascular congestion of the sex organs — called also *REM sleep*

par·aes·the·sia *var of* PARESTHESIA

¹par·af·fin \'par-ə-fən\ *n* [G, fr. L *parum* too little + *affinis* bordering on; akin to L *paucus* few — more at FEW, AFFINITY] **1 a** : a waxy crystalline flammable substance obtained esp. from distillates of wood, coal, petroleum, or shale oil that is a complex mixture of hydrocarbons and is used chiefly in coating and sealing, in candles, in rubber compounding, and in pharmaceuticals and cosmetics **b** : any of various mixtures of similar hydrocarbons including mixtures that are semisolid or oily **2** : a hydrocarbon of the methane series **3** *chiefly Brit* : KEROSENE — **par·af·fin·ic** \ˌpar-ə-'fin-ik\ *adj*

²paraffin *vt* : to coat or saturate with paraffin

para·gen·e·sis \ˌpar-ə-'jen-ə-səs\ *n* [NL] : the formation of minerals in contact in such a manner as to affect one another's development — **para·ge·net·ic** \-jə-'net-ik\ *adj* — **para·ge·net·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

¹par·a·gon \'par-ə-ˌgän, -gən\ *n* [MF, fr. OIt *paragone*, lit., touchstone, fr. *paragonare* to test on a touchstone, fr. Gk *parakonan* to sharpen, fr. *para-* + *akonē* whetstone, fr. *akē* point; akin to Gk *akmē* point — more at EDGE] : a model of excellence or perfection

²paragon *vt* **1** : to compare with : PARALLEL **2** : to put in rivalry : MATCH **3** *obs* : SURPASS

¹para·graph \'par-ə-ˌgraf\ *n* [MF & ML; MF *paragraphe*, fr. ML *paragraphus* sign marking a paragraph, fr. Gk *paragraphos* line used to mark change of persons in a dialogue, fr. *paragraphein* to write alongside, fr. *para-* + *graphein* to write — more at CARVE] **1 a** : a subdivision of a written composition that consists of one or more sentences, deals with one point or gives the words of one speaker, and begins on a new usu. indented line **b** : a short composition or note that is complete in one paragraph **2** : a character (as ¶) used to indicate the beginning of a paragraph and in printing as the sixth in series of the reference marks — **para·graph·ic** \ˌpar-ə-'graf-ik\ *adj*

²paragraph *vt* **1** : to write paragraphs about **2** : to divide into paragraphs ~ *vi* : to write paragraphs

para·graph·er \'par-ə-ˌgraf-ər\ *n* : a writer of paragraphs esp. for the editorial page of a newspaper

para·in·flu·en·za virus \'par-ə-ˌin-flü-ˌen-zə-\ *n* : any of several myxoviruses that are associated with or responsible for some respiratory infections in children — called also *parainfluenza*

par·a·keet \'par-ə-ˌkēt\ *n* [Sp & MF; Sp *periquito*, fr. MF *perroquet* parrot] : any of numerous usu. small slender parrots with a long graduated tail

para·lan·guage \'par-ə-ˌlaŋ-gwij\ *n* : optional vocal effects (as tone of voice) that accompany or modify the phonemes of an utterance and that may communicate meaning

par·al·de·hyde \pa-'ral-də-ˌhīd, pə-\ *n* : a colorless liquid polymeric modification $C_6H_{12}O_3$ of acetaldehyde used as a hypnotic

para·lim·ni·on \ˌpar-ə-'lim-nē-ˌän, -nē-ən\ *n* [NL, fr. *para-* + Gk *limnion*, dim. of *limnē* marshy lake; akin to Gk *limēn* harbor — more at LIMB] : the littoral portion of a lake extending to the limit of rooted vegetation

para·lin·guis·tics \ˌpar-ə-liŋ-'gwis-tiks\ *n* : the study of paralanguage — **para·lin·guis·tic** \-tik\ *adj*

Par·a·li·pom·e·non \ˌpar-ə-lə-'päm-ə-ˌnän, -lī-\ *n* [LL, fr. Gk *Paraleipomenōn*, gen. of *Paraleipomena*, lit., things left out, fr. neut. pl. of prp. passive of *paraleipein* to leave out, fr. *para-* + *leipein* to leave; fr. its forming a supplement to Samuel and Kings — more at LOAN] : CHRONICLES

par·al·lac·tic \ˌpar-ə-'lak-tik\ *adj* [NL *parallacticus*, fr. Gk *parallaktikos*, fr. *parallaxis*] : of, relating to, or due to parallax

par·al·lax \'par-ə-ˌlaks\ *n* [MF *parallaxe*, fr. Gk *parallaxis*, fr. *parallassein* to change, fr. *para-* + *allassein* to change, fr. *allos* other — more at ELSE] : the apparent displacement or the difference in apparent direction of an object as seen from two different points not on a straight line with the object; *specif* : the difference in direction of a celestial body as measured from two points on the earth

¹par·al·lel \'par-ə-ˌlel, -ləl\ *adj* [L *parallelus*, fr. Gk *parallēlos*, fr. *para* beside + *allēlōn* of one another, fr. *allos* . . . *allos* one . . . another, fr. *allos* other — more at PARA-, ELSE] **1 a** : extending in the same direction, everywhere equidistant, and not meeting ⟨~ rows of trees⟩ **b** : everywhere equally distant ⟨concentric spheres are ~⟩ **2 a** : having parallel sides ⟨a ~ reamer⟩ **b** : being or relating to an electrical circuit having a number of conductors in parallel **c** : arranged in parallel ⟨a ~ computer⟩ **3 a** : similar, analogous, or interdependent in tendency or development **b** : readily compared : COMPANION **c** : having identical syntactical elements in corresponding positions **d** (1) : having the same tonic — used of major and minor keys and scales (2) : keeping the same distance apart in musical pitch **4** : performed while keeping one's skis parallel ⟨~ turns⟩ ***syn*** see SIMILAR

²parallel *n* **1 a** : a parallel line, curve, or surface **b** : one of the imaginary circles on the surface of the earth paralleling the equator and marking the latitude; *also* : the corresponding line on a globe or map — see LATITUDE illustration **c** : a character ‖ used in printing as the fifth in series of the reference marks **2 a** : something equal or similar in all essential particulars : COUNTERPART **b** : SIMILARITY, ANALOGUE **3** : a comparison to show resemblance : a tracing of similarity **4 a** : the state of being physically parallel : PARALLELISM **b** : the arrangement of electrical devices in which all positive poles, electrodes, and terminals are joined to one conductor and all negative ones to another conductor so that each unit is in effect on a parallel branch **c** : an arrangement or state that permits several operations or tasks to be performed simultaneously rather than consecutively

syn PARALLEL, COUNTERPART, ANALOGUE, CORRELATE *shared meaning element* : one that corresponds to or closely resembles another

³parallel *vt* **1** : to indicate analogy of : COMPARE **2 a** : to show something equal to : MATCH **b** : to correspond to **3** : to place so as to be parallel in direction with something **4** : to extend, run, or move in a direction parallel to

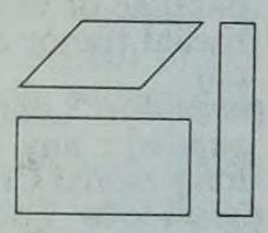
⁴parallel *adv* : in a parallel manner

parallel bars *n pl* **1** : a pair of wooden bars supported horizontally above the floor at the same height or at different heights usu. by a common base and used in gymnastics **2** : an event in gymnastics competition in which even or uneven parallel bars are used

par·al·lel·epi·ped \ˌpar-ə-ˌlel-ə-'pī-pəd, -'pip-əd; -ˌlel-'ep-ə-ˌped\ *n* [Gk *parallēlepipedon*, fr. *parallēlos* + *epipedon* plane surface, fr. neut. of *epipedos* flat, fr. *epi-* + *pedon* ground; akin to L *ped-*, *pes* foot — more at FOOT] : a prism whose bases are parallelograms

par·al·lel·ism \'par-ə-ˌlel-ˌiz-əm, -ləl-\ *n* **1** : the quality or state of being parallel **2** : RESEMBLANCE, CORRESPONDENCE **3** : recurrent syntactical similarities introduced for rhetorical effect **4** : a theory that mind and matter accompany one another but are not causally related **5** : the development of similar new characters by two or more related organisms in response to similarity of environment — called also *parallel evolution*

par·al·lel·o·gram \ˌpar-ə-'lel-ə-ˌgram\ *n* [LL or Gk; LL *parallelogrammum*, fr. Gk *parallēlogrammon*, fr. neut. of *parallēlogrammos* bounded by parallel lines, fr. *parallēlos* + *grammē* line, fr. *graphein* to write — more at CARVE] : a quadrilateral with opposite sides parallel and equal



parallelograms

par·al·lel–veined \ˌpar-ə-ˌlel-'vānd, -ləl-\ *adj, of a leaf* : having veins nearly parallel to one another — compare NET-VEINED

pa·ral·o·gism \pə-'ral-ə-ˌjiz-əm\ *n* [MF *paralogisme*, fr. LL *paralogismus*, fr. Gk *paralogismos*, fr. *paralogos* unreasonable, fr. *para-* + *logos* speech, reason — more at LEGEND] : a fallacious argument

par·a·lyse *Brit var of* PARALYZE

pa·ral·y·sis \pə-'ral-ə-səs\ *n, pl* **-y·ses** \-ˌsēz\ [L, fr. Gk, fr. *paralyein* to loosen, disable, fr. *para-* + *lyein* to loosen — more at LOSE] **1** : complete or partial loss of function esp. when involving the motion or sensation in a part of the body **2** : loss of the ability to move **3** : a state of powerlessness or incapacity to act

paralysis agi·tans \-'aj-ə-ˌtanz\ *n* [NL, lit., shaking palsy] : PARKINSON'S DISEASE

¹par·a·lyt·ic \ˌpar-ə-'lit-ik\ *adj* **1** : affected with or characterized by paralysis **2** : of, relating to, or resembling paralysis

²paralytic *n* : one affected with paralysis

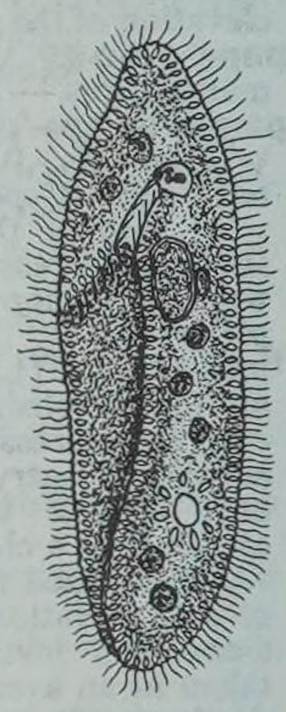
par·a·lyze \'par-ə-ˌlīz\ *vt* **-lyzed; -lyz·ing** [F *paralyser*, back-formation fr. *paralysie* paralysis, fr. L *paralysis*] **1** : to affect with paralysis **2** : to make powerless or ineffective **3** : UNNERVE **4** : STUN, STUPEFY **5** : to bring to an end : PREVENT, DESTROY — **par·a·ly·za·tion** \ˌpar-ə-lə-'zā-shən\ *n* — **par·a·lyz·er** \'par-ə-ˌlī-zər\ *n* — **par·a·lyz·ing·ly** \-ˌlī-ziŋ-lē\ *adv*

para·mag·net \'par-ə-ˌmag-nət\ *n* [back-formation fr. *paramagnetic*] : a paramagnetic substance

para·mag·net·ic \ˌpar-ə-mag-'net-ik\ *adj* [ISV] : being or relating to a magnetizable substance that like aluminum and platinum has small but positive susceptibility varying but little with magnetizing force — **para·mag·net·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **para·mag·ne·tism** \-'mag-nə-ˌtiz-əm\ *n*

par·a·mat·ta \ˌpar-ə-'mat-ə\ *n* [*Parramatta*, Australia] : a fine lightweight dress fabric of silk and wool or cotton and wool

par·a·me·cium \ˌpar-ə-'mē-sh(ē-)əm, -sē-əm\ *n, pl* **-cia** \-sh(ē-)ə, -sē-ə\ *also* **-ci·ums** [NL, genus name, fr. Gk *paramēkēs* oblong, fr. *para-* + *mēkos* length; akin to Gk *makros* long — more at MEAGER] : any of a genus (*Paramecium*) of ciliate protozoans that have an elongate body rounded at the anterior end and an oblique funnel-shaped buccal groove bearing the mouth at the extremity



paramecium

para·med·ic \'par-ə-ˌmed-ik\ *n* : one who assists a physician (as by giving injections and taking X rays)

para·med·i·cal \ˌpar-ə-'med-i-kəl\ *also* **para·med·ic** \-ik\ *adj* : concerned with supplementing the work of highly trained medical professionals ⟨~ aides and technicians⟩

par·a·ment \'par-ə-mənt\ *n* [ME, fr. ML *paramentum*, fr. *parare* to adorn, fr. L, to prepare — more at PARE] : an ornamental ecclesiastical hanging or vestment

pa·ram·e·ter \pə-'ram-ət-ər\ *n* [NL, fr. *para-* + Gk *metron* measure — more at MEASURE] **1** : an arbitrary constant whose value characterizes a member of a system (as a family of curves); *specif* : a quantity (as a mean or variance) that describes a statistical population **2** : any of a set of physical properties whose values determine the characteristics or behavior of something ⟨~s of the atmosphere such as temperature, pressure, and density⟩ **3** : something represented by a parameter : a characteristic element; *broadly* : CHARACTERISTIC, ELEMENT, FACTOR ⟨political dissent as a ~ of modern life⟩ — **para·met·ric** \ˌpar-ə-'me-trik\ *also* **para·met·ri·cal** \-tri-kəl\ *adj* — **para·met·ri·cal·ly** \-tri-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

pa·ram·e·ter·ize \pə-'ram-ət-ə-ˌrīz\ *or* **pa·ram·e·trize** \-'ram-ə-ˌtrīz\ *vt* **-ter·ized** *or* **-trized; -ter·iz·ing** *or* **-triz·ing** : to express in terms of parameters — **pa·ram·e·ter·iza·tion** \-ˌram-ət-ə-rə-'zā-shən, -ə-trə-'zā-\ *or* **pa·ram·e·tri·za·tion** \-ə-trə-'zā-\ *n*

parametric amplifier *n* : a high-frequency amplifier whose operation is based on time variations in a parameter (as reactance) and which converts the energy at the frequency of an alternating current into energy at the input signal frequency in such a way as to amplify the signal

parametric equation *n* : any of a set of equations that express the coordinates of the points of a curve as functions of one parameter or that express the coordinates of the points of a surface as functions of two parameters

para·mil·i·tary \ˌpar-ə-ˈmil-ə-ˌter-ē\ *adj* **1** : formed on a military pattern esp. as a potential auxiliary military force ⟨a ~ border patrol⟩ **2** : of or relating to a paramilitary force ⟨~ training⟩
par·am·ne·sia \ˌpar-ˌam-ˈnē-zhə, -əm-\ *n* [NL, fr. *para-* + *-mnesia* (as in *amnesia*)] : a disorder of memory: as **a** : a condition in which the proper meaning of words cannot be remembered **b** : the illusion of remembering scenes and events when experienced for the first time
¹par·a·mount \ˈpar-ə-ˌmau̇nt\ *adj* [AF *paramont*, fr. OF *par* by (fr. L *per*) + *amont* above, fr. *a* to (fr. L *ad*) + *mont* mountain — more at FOR, AT, MOUNT] : superior to all others : SUPREME ***syn*** see DOMINANT — **par·a·mount·cy** \-ˌmau̇n(t)-sē\ *n*
²paramount *n* : a supreme ruler
par·amour \ˈpar-ə-ˌmu̇(ə)r\ *n* [ME, fr. *par amour* by way of love, fr. OF] : an illicit lover; *esp* : MISTRESS
par·am·y·lum \(ˈ)pa(ə)r-ˈam-ə-ləm\ *n* [NL, fr. *para-* + L *amylum* starch — more at AMYL-] : a reserve carbohydrate of various protozoans and algae that resembles starch
pa·rang \ˈpär-ˌaŋ\ *n* [Malay] : a short sword, cleaver, or machete common in Malaysia and Indonesia
para·noia \ˌpar-ə-ˈnȯi-ə\ *n* [NL, fr. Gk, madness, fr. *paranous* demented, fr. *para-* + *nous* mind] **1** : a psychosis characterized by systematized delusions of persecution or grandeur usu. without hallucinations **2** : a tendency on the part of an individual or group toward excessive or irrational suspiciousness and distrustfulness of others — **para·noi·ac** \-ˈnȯi-ˌak, -ˈnȯi-ik\ *adj or n*
para·noid \ˈpar-ə-ˌnȯid\ *adj* **1** : characterized by or resembling paranoia **2** : characterized by suspiciousness, persecutory trends, or megalomania — **paranoid** *n*
paranoid schizophrenia *n* : a psychosis resembling paranoia but commonly displaying hallucinations and marked behavioral deterioration
para·nor·mal \ˌpar-ə-ˈnȯr-məl\ *adj* : not scientifically explainable : SUPERNATURAL — **para·nor·mal·i·ty** \-ˌnȯr-ˈmal-ət-ē\ *n* — **para·nor·mal·ly** \-ˈnȯr-mə-lē\ *adv*
para·nymph \ˈpar-ə-ˌnim(p)f\ *n* [LL *paranymphus*, fr. Gk *paranymphos*, fr. *para-* + *nymphē* bride — more at NUPTIAL] **1** : a friend going with a bridegroom to fetch home the bride in ancient Greece; *also* : the bridesmaid conducting the bride to the bridegroom **2** **a** : BEST MAN **b** : BRIDESMAID
par·a·pet \ˈpar-ə-pət, -ˌpet\ *n* [It *parapetto*, fr. *parare* to shield (fr. L, to prepare) + *petto* chest, fr. L *pectus* — more at PARE, PECTORAL] **1** : a wall, rampart, or elevation of earth or stone to protect soldiers : BREASTWORK **2** : a low wall or railing to protect the edge of a platform, roof, or bridge — called also *parapet wall* — **par·a·pet·ed** \-ˌpet-əd\ *adj*
pa·raph \ˈpar-əf, pə-ˈraf\ *n* [MF, fr. L *paragraphus* paragraph] : a flourish at the end of a signature
par·a·pher·na·lia \ˌpar-ə-fə(r)-ˈnāl-yə\ *n pl but sing or pl in constr* [ML, deriv. of Gk *parapherna* goods a bride brings over and above the dowry, fr. *para-* + *phernē* dowry, fr. *pherein* to bear — more at BEAR] **1** : the separate real or personal property of a married woman that she can dispose of by will and sometimes according to common law during her life **2** : personal belongings **3** **a** : articles of equipment : FURNISHINGS **b** : accessory items
¹para·phrase \ˈpar-ə-ˌfrāz\ *n* [MF, fr. L *paraphrasis*, fr. Gk, fr. *paraphrazein* to paraphrase, fr. *para-* + *phrazein* to point out] **1** : a restatement of a text, passage, or work giving the meaning in another form **2** : the use or process of paraphrasing in studying or teaching composition
²paraphrase *vb* **-phrased; -phras·ing** *vt* : to make a paraphrase of ~ *vi* : to make a paraphrase — **para·phras·able** \-ˌfrā-zə-bəl\ *adj* — **para·phras·er** *n*
para·phras·tic \ˌpar-ə-ˈfras-tik\ *adj* [F *paraphrastique*, fr. Gk *paraphrastikos*, fr. *paraphrazein*] : explaining or translating more clearly and amply : having the nature of a paraphrase — **para·phras·ti·cal·ly** \-ti-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
pa·raph·y·sis \pə-ˈraf-ə-səs\ *n, pl* **-y·ses** \-ˌsēz\ [NL, fr. Gk, sucker, offshoot, fr. *paraphyein* to produce at the side, fr. *para-* + *phyein* to bring forth — more at PHYSICS] : one of the slender sterile filaments borne among the sporogenous or gametogenous organs in cryptogamic plants
para·ple·gia \ˌpar-ə-ˈplē-j(ē-)ə\ *n* [NL, fr. Gk *paraplēgiē* hemiplegia, fr. *para-* + *-plēgia* -plegia] : paralysis of the lower half of the body with involvement of both legs — **para·ple·gic** \-jik\ *adj or n*
para·po·di·um \-ˈpōd-ē-əm\ *n, pl* **-dia** \-ē-ə\ [NL] : either of a pair of fleshy lateral processes borne by most segments of a polychaete worm — **parapodial** *adj*
para·pro·fes·sion·al \-prə-ˈfesh-nəl, -ən-ᵊl\ *n* : a trained aide who assists a professional person; *esp* : a teacher's aide
para·pro·tein \-ˈprō-ˌtēn, -ˈprōt-ē-ən\ *n* : any of various abnormal serum globulins with unique physical and electrophoretic characteristics
para·psy·chol·o·gy \ˌpar-ə-(ˌ)sī-ˈkäl-ə-jē\ *n* [ISV] : a field of study concerned with the investigation of evidence for telepathy, clairvoyance, and psychokinesis — **para·psy·cho·log·i·cal** \-ˌsī-kə-ˈläj-i-kəl\ *adj* — **para·psy·chol·o·gist** \-(ˌ)sī-ˈkäl-ə-jəst\ *n*
par·a·quat \ˈpar-ə-ˌkwät\ *n* [*para-* + *quat*ernary] : an herbicide $C_{12}H_{14}N_2Cl_2$ used esp. as a weed killer
para·ros·an·i·line \ˌpar-ə-ˌrō-ˈzan-ᵊl-ən\ *n* [ISV] : a white crystalline base $C_{19}H_{19}N_3O$ that is the parent compound of many dyes; *also* : its red chloride used esp. in coloring paper and as a biological stain
Pa·ra rubber \ˌpar-ə-, pə-ˌrä-\ *n* [*Pará*, Brazil] : native rubber from So. American rubber trees (genus *Hevea* and esp. *H. brasiliensis*)
Para rubber tree *n* : a So. American rubber tree (*Hevea brasiliensis*)
par·a·sang \ˈpar-ə-ˌsaŋ\ *n* [L *parasanga*, fr. Gk *parasangēs*, of Iranian origin; akin to Per *farsung* parasang] : any of various Persian units of distance; *esp* : an ancient unit of about four miles
para·se·le·ne \ˌpar-ə-sə-ˈlē-nē\ *n, pl* **-nae** \-(ˌ)nē, -ˌnī\ [NL, fr. *para-* + Gk *selēnē* moon — more at SELENIUM] : a bright spot comparable to a parhelion seen in connection with lunar halos — **para·se·le·nic** \-ˈlēn-ik, -ˈlen-\ *adj*
para·sex·u·al \-ˈseksh-(ə-)wəl, -ˈsek-shəl\ *adj* : relating to or being reproduction that results in recombination of genes from different individuals but does not involve meiosis and formation of a zygote by fertilization as in sexual reproduction ⟨the ~ cycle in some fungi⟩ — **para·sex·u·al·i·ty** \-ˌsek-shə-ˈwal-ət-ē\ *n*
pa·ra·shah \ˈpär-ə-ˌshä\ *n* [Heb *pārāshāh*, lit., explanation] : a passage in Jewish Scripture dealing with a single topic; *specif* : a section of the Torah assigned for weekly reading in synagogue worship
par·a·site \ˈpar-ə-ˌsīt\ *n* [MF, fr. L *parasitus*, fr. Gk *parasitos*, fr. *para-* + *sitos* grain, food] **1** : one frequenting the tables of the rich and earning welcome by flattery : SYCOPHANT **2** : an organism living in or on another organism in parasitism **3** : something that resembles a biological parasite in dependence on something else for existence or support without making a useful or adequate return — **par·a·sit·ic** \ˌpar-ə-ˈsit-ik\ *also* **par·a·sit·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj* — **par·a·sit·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
par·a·sit·i·cid·al \ˌpar-ə-ˌsit-ə-ˈsīd-ᵊl\ *adj* : destructive to parasites
par·a·sit·i·cide \-ˈsit-ə-ˌsīd\ *n* [L *parasitus* + E *-cide*] : a parasiticidal agent
par·a·sit·ism \ˈpar-ə-sə-ˌtiz-əm, -ˌsīt-ˌiz-\ *n* **1** : the behavior of a parasite **2** : an intimate association between organisms of two or more kinds; *esp* : one in which a parasite obtains benefits from a host which it usu. injures **3** : PARASITOSIS
par·a·sit·ize \-sə-ˌtīz, -ˌsīt-ˌīz\ *vt* **-ized; -iz·ing** : to infest or live on or with as a parasite — **par·a·sit·iza·tion** \ˌpar-ə-sət-ə-ˈzā-shən, -ˌsīt-\ *n*
par·a·sit·oid \ˈpar-ə-sə-ˌtȯid, -ˌsīt-ˌȯid\ *n* : an insect and esp. a wasp that develops within the body usu. of another insect and eventually kills it — **parasitoid** *adj*
par·a·si·tol·o·gy \ˌpar-ə-sə-ˈtäl-ə-jē, -ˌsīt-ˈäl-\ *n* [L *parasitus* + ISV *-logy*] : a branch of biology dealing with parasites and parasitism esp. among animals — **par·a·si·to·log·i·cal** \-ˌsit-ᵊl-ˈäj-i-kəl, -ˌsīt-\ *also* **par·a·si·to·log·ic** \-ik\ *adj* — **par·a·si·tol·o·gist** \-sə-ˈtäl-ə-jəst, -ˌsīt-ˈäl-\ *n*
par·a·sit·osis \-sə-ˈtō-səs, -ˌsīt-ˈō-\ *n, pl* **-o·ses** \-ˌsēz\ [NL] : infestation with or disease caused by parasites
para·sol \ˈpar-ə-ˌsȯl, -ˌsäl\ *n* [F, fr. OIt *parasole*, fr. *parare* to shield + *sole* sun, fr. L *sol* — more at PARAPET, SOLAR] : a lightweight umbrella used as a sunshade esp. by women
¹para·sym·pa·thet·ic \ˌpar-ə-ˌsim-pə-ˈthet-ik\ *adj* [ISV] : of, relating to, being, or acting on the parasympathetic nervous system
²parasympathetic *n* **1** : a parasympathetic nerve **2** : PARASYMPATHETIC NERVOUS SYSTEM
parasympathetic nervous system *n* : the part of the autonomic nervous system that contains chiefly cholinergic fibers, that tends to induce secretion, to increase the tone and contractility of smooth muscle, and to cause the dilatation of blood vessels, and that consists of a cranial and a sacral part — compare SYMPATHETIC NERVOUS SYSTEM
para·sym·pa·tho·mi·met·ic \ˌpar-ə-ˈsim-pə-(ˌ)thō-mī-ˈmet-ik, -mə-\ *adj* [ISV] : simulating parasympathetic nervous action in physiological effect
para·syn·the·sis \ˌpar-ə-ˈsin(t)-thə-səs\ *n* [NL] : the formation of words by adding a derivative ending and prefixing a particle (as in *denationalize*) — **para·syn·thet·ic** \-sin-ˈthet-ik\ *adj*
para·tac·tic \ˌpar-ə-ˈtak-tik\ *adj* : of or relating to parataxis — **para·tac·ti·cal** \-ti-kəl\ *adj* — **para·tac·ti·cal·ly** \-ti-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
para·tax·is \ˌpar-ə-ˈtak-səs\ *n* [NL, fr. Gk, act of placing side by side, fr. *paratassein* to place side by side, fr. *para-* + *tassein* to arrange — more at TACTICS] : the placing of clauses or phrases one after another without coordinating or subordinating connectives
para·thi·on \ˌpar-ə-ˈthī-ən, -ˌän\ *n* [*para-* + *thio*phosphate + *-on*] : an extremely toxic thiophosphate insecticide $C_{10}H_{14}NO_5PS$
¹para·thy·roid \-ˈthī-ˌrȯid\ *n* : PARATHYROID GLAND
²parathyroid *adj* [ISV] : of, relating to, or produced by the parathyroid glands
para·thy·roid·ec·to·my \-ˌrȯid-ˈek-tə-mē\ *n, pl* **-mies** : excision of the parathyroid glands — **para·thy·roid·ec·to·mized** \-ˌmīzd\ *adj*
parathyroid gland *n* [ISV] : any of usu. four small endocrine glands that are adjacent to or embedded in the thyroid gland and produce a hormone concerned with calcium metabolism
para·troop·er \ˈpar-ə-ˌtrü-pər\ *n* : a member of the paratroops
para·troops \-ˌtrüps\ *n pl* [²*-para*] : troops trained and equipped to parachute from an airplane — **para·troop** \-ˌtrüp\ *adj*
¹para·ty·phoid \ˌpar-ə-ˈtī-ˌfȯid, -(ˌ)tī-ˈ\ *adj* [ISV] **1** : resembling typhoid fever **2** : of or relating to paratyphoid or its causative organisms ⟨~ infection⟩
²paratyphoid *n* : a salmonellosis that resembles typhoid fever and is commonly contracted by eating contaminated food — called also *paratyphoid fever*
para·vane \ˈpar-ə-ˌvān\ *n* : a torpedo-shaped underwater protective device with serrate teeth in its forward end towed from the bow of a ship in mined areas to sever the moorings of mines
par·boil \ˈpär-ˌbȯil\ *vt* [ME *parboilen*, fr. *parboilen* to boil thoroughly, fr. MF *parboillir*, fr. LL *perbullire*, fr. L *per-* thoroughly (fr. *per* through) + *bullire* to boil, fr. *bulla* bubble — more at FOR] : to boil briefly as a preliminary or incomplete cooking procedure
¹par·buck·le \ˈpär-ˌbək-əl\ *n* [origin unknown] **1** : a purchase for hoisting or lowering a cylindrical object by making fast the middle of a long rope aloft and looping both ends around the object which rests in the loops and rolls in them as the ends are hauled up or paid out **2** : a double sling made of a single rope (as for slinging a cask)
²parbuckle *vb* **par·buck·led; par·buck·ling** \-ˌbək-(ə-)liŋ\ : to hoist or lower by means of a parbuckle

Par·cae \'pär-ˌkī, -ˌsē\ *n pl* [L] : FATE 4
¹par·cel \'pär-səl\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. (assumed) VL *particella*, fr. L *particula* small part — more at PARTICLE] **1** : FRAGMENT, PORTION **2** : a tract or plot of land **3** : a company, collection, or group of persons, animals, or things : LOT ⟨the whole story was a ~ of lies⟩ **4 a** : a wrapped bundle : PACKAGE **b** : a unit of salable merchandise **5** : PARCELING 2 ***syn*** see GROUP
²parcel *adv, archaic* : PARTLY
³parcel *vt* **par·celed** *or* **par·celled; par·cel·ing** *or* **par·cel·ling** \'pär-s(ə-)liŋ\ **1** : to divide into parts : DISTRIBUTE — often used with *out* **2** : to make up into a parcel : WRAP **3** : to cover (as a rope) with strips of canvas
⁴parcel *adj* : PART-TIME, PARTIAL
par·cel·ing *or* **par·cel·ling** *n* **1 a** : the act of dividing and distributing in portions **b** : the act of wrapping into bundles **2 a** : the covering of a caulked seam with canvas and then tarring it **b** : long narrow tarred slips of canvas wound about a rope to exclude moisture
parcel post *n* **1** : a mail service handling parcels **2** : packages handled by parcel post
parcel post zone *n* : ZONE 5b
par·ce·nary \'pärs-ᵊn-ˌer-ē\ *n* [AF *parcenarie*, fr. OF *parçonerie*, fr. *parçon* portion, fr. L *partition-, partitio* partition] : COPARCENARY 1
par·ce·ner \'pärs-nər, -ᵊn-ər\ *n* [AF, fr. OF *parçonier*, fr. *parçon*] : COPARCENER
parch \'pärch\ *vb* [ME *parchen*] *vt* **1** : to toast under dry heat **2** : to shrivel with heat **3** : to dry or shrivel with cold ~ *vi* : to become dry or scorched
Par·chee·si \pär-'chē-zē, pər-, *esp Brit* -sē\ *trademark* — used for a board game adapted from pachisi
parch·ment \'pärch-mənt\ *n* [ME *parchemin*, fr. OF, modif. of L *pergamena*, fr. Gk *pergamēnē*, fr. fem. of *Pergamēnos* of Pergamum, fr. *Pergamon* Pergamum] **1** : the skin of a sheep or goat prepared for writing on **2** : strong, tough, and often somewhat translucent paper made to resemble parchment **3** : a parchment manuscript; *also* : an academic diploma
¹pard \'pärd\ *n* [ME *parde*, fr. OF, fr. L *pardus*, fr. Gk *pardos*] : LEOPARD
²pard *n* [short for *pardner*] *chiefly dial* : PARTNER, CHUM
par·die *or* **par·di** *or* **par·dy** \pər-'dē, pär-\ *interj* [ME *pardee*, fr. OF *par Dé* by God] *archaic* — used as a mild oath
pard·ner \'pärd-nər\ *n, chiefly dial* : PARTNER, CHUM
¹par·don \'pärd-ᵊn\ *n* **1** : the excusing of an offense without exacting a penalty **2** : INDULGENCE 1 **3 a** : a release from the legal penalties of an offense **b** : an official warrant of remission of penalty **4** : excuse or forgiveness for a fault, offense, or discourtesy
²pardon *vt* **par·doned; par·don·ing** \'pärd-niŋ, -ᵊn-iŋ\ [ME *pardonen*, fr. MF *pardoner*, fr. LL *perdonare* to grant freely, fr. L *per-* thoroughly + *donare* to give — more at PARBOIL, DONATION] **1 a** : to absolve from the consequences of a fault or crime **b** : to allow (an offense) to pass without punishment : FORGIVE **c** : to relieve of a penalty improperly assessed **2** : TOLERATE ***syn*** see EXCUSE ***ant*** punish
par·don·able \'pärd-nə-bəl, -ᵊn-ə-bəl\ *adj* : admitting of being pardoned : EXCUSABLE ⟨~ offenses⟩ — **par·don·able·ness** *n* — **par·don·ably** \-blē\ *adv*
par·don·er \'pärd-nər, -ᵊn-ər\ *n* **1** : a medieval preacher delegated to raise money for religious works by soliciting offerings and granting indulgences **2** : one that pardons
pare \'pa(ə)r, 'pe(ə)r\ *vt* **pared; par·ing** [ME *paren*, fr. MF *parer* to prepare, trim, fr. L *parare* to prepare, acquire; akin to OE *fearr* bull, ox, L *parere* to give birth to, produce] **1** : to trim or shave off ⟨~ the skin from an apple⟩ **2** : to diminish gradually by or as if by paring ⟨~ expenses⟩ — **par·er** *n*
par·e·go·ric \ˌpar-ə-'gȯr-ik, -'gōr-, -'gär-\ *n* [F *parégorique* mitigating pain, fr. LL *paregoricus*, fr. Gk *parēgorikos*, fr. *parēgorein* to talk over, soothe, fr. *para-* + *agora* assembly — more at GREGARIOUS] : camphorated tincture of opium used esp. to relieve pain
pa·ren·chy·ma \pə-'reŋ-kə-mə\ *n* [NL, fr. Gk, visceral flesh, fr. *parenchein* to pour in beside, fr. *para-* + *en-* + *chein* to pour — more at FOUND] **1** : a tissue of higher plants that consists of thin-walled living photosynthetic or storage cells capable of division even when mature and that makes up much of the substance of leaves and roots, the pulp of fruits, and parts of stems and supporting structures **2** : the essential and distinctive tissue of an organ or an abnormal growth as distinguished from its supportive framework — **par·en·chy·ma·tous** \ˌpar-ən-'kim-ət-əs, -'kīm-\ *also* **pa·ren·chy·mal** \pə-'reŋ-kə-məl, ˌpar-ən-'kī-\ *adj* — **par·en·chy·ma·tous·ly** *adv*
¹par·ent \'par-ənt, 'per-\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *parent-, parens*, fr. prp. of *parere* to give birth to] **1** : one that begets or brings forth offspring **2 a** : an animal or plant that is regarded in relation to its offspring **b** : the material or source from which something is derived — **parent** *adj* — **pa·ren·tal** \pə-'rent-ᵊl\ *adj* — **pa·ren·tal·ly** \-ᵊl-ē\ *adv*
²parent *vt* : to be or act as the parent of : ORIGINATE, PRODUCE
par·ent·age \'par-ənt-ij, 'per-\ *n* **1 a** : descent from parents or ancestors : LINEAGE ⟨a man of noble ~⟩ **b** : DERIVATION, ORIGIN ⟨the ballads about them are of common ~ —G. B. Johnson⟩ **2** : the standing or position of a parent : PARENTHOOD
parental generation *n* : a generation of individuals of distinctively different genotypes that are crossed to produce hybrids
par·en·ter·al \pə-'rent-ə-rəl\ *adj* [ISV *para-* + *enteral*] : situated or occurring outside the intestine; *esp* : introduced otherwise than by way of the intestines — **par·en·ter·al·ly** \-rə-lē\ *adv*
pa·ren·the·sis \pə-'ren(t)-thə-səs\ *n, pl* **-the·ses** \-ˌsēz\ [LL, fr. Gk, lit., act of inserting, fr. *parentithenai* to insert, fr. *para-* + *en-* + *tithenai* to place — more at DO] **1 a** : an amplifying or explanatory word, phrase, or sentence inserted in a passage from which it is usu. set off by punctuation **b** : a remark or passage that departs from the theme of a discourse : DIGRESSION **2** : INTERLUDE, INTERVAL **3** : one or both of the curved marks ( ) used in writing and printing to enclose a parenthetic expression or to group a symbolic unit in a logical or mathematical expression — **par·en·thet·ic** \ˌpar-ən-'thet-ik\ *or* **par·en·thet·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj* — **par·en·thet·i·cal·ly** \-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
pa·ren·the·size \pə-'ren(t)-thə-ˌsīz\ *vt* **-sized; -siz·ing** : to make a parenthesis of
par·ent·hood \'par-ənt-ˌhůd, 'per-\ *n* : the position, function, or standing of a parent
parent–teacher association *n* : an organization of local groups of teachers and the parents of their pupils that works for the improvement of the schools and the benefit of the pupils
pa·re·sis \pə-'rē-səs, 'par-ə-\ *n, pl* **pa·re·ses** \-ˌsēz\ [NL, fr. Gk, fr. *parienai* to let fall, fr. *para-* + *hienai* to let go, send — more at JET] **1** : slight or partial paralysis **2** : GENERAL PARESIS — **pa·ret·ic** \pə-'ret-ik\ *adj or n*
par·es·the·sia \ˌpar-əs-'thē-zhə\ *n* [NL] : a sensation of pricking, tingling, or creeping on the skin that has no objective cause — **par·es·thet·ic** \-'thet-ik\ *adj*
pa·reu \'pär-ē-ˌü\ *n* [Tahitian] : a wraparound skirt or loincloth of Polynesia
pa·re·ve \'pär-(ə-)və\ *adj* [Yiddish *parev*] : made without milk, meat, or their derivatives ⟨~ margarine⟩ — compare FLEISHIG, MILCHIG
par ex·cel·lence \ˌpär-ˌek-sə-'läⁿs\ *adj* [F, lit., by excellence] : being the best of a kind : PREEMINENT
par·fait \pär-'fā\ *n* [F, lit., something perfect, fr. *parfait* perfect, fr. L *perfectus*] **1** : a flavored custard containing whipped cream and syrup frozen without stirring **2** : a cold dessert made of layers of fruit, syrup, ice cream, and whipped cream
parfait glass *n* : a tall narrow glass with a short stem used for serving a parfait
par·fleche \'pär-ˌflesh\ *n* [CanF *parflèche*] **1** : a raw hide soaked in lye to remove the hair and dried **2** : an article (as a bag or case) made of parfleche
par·fo·cal \(')pär-'fō-kəl\ *adj* [L *par* equal + E *focal*] : being or having lenses or lens sets (as eyepieces) with the corresponding focal points all in the same plane — **par·fo·cal·i·ty** \ˌpär-fō-'kal-ət-ē\ *n* — **par·fo·cal·ize** \(')pär-'fō-kə-ˌlīz\ *vt*
parge \'pärj\ *vt* **parged; parg·ing** : PARGET
¹par·get \'pär-jət\ *vt* **-get·ed** *or* **-get·ted; -get·ing** *or* **-get·ting** [ME *pargetten*, fr. MF *parjeter* to throw on top of, fr. *par-* thoroughly (fr. L *per-*) + *jeter* to throw — more at JET] : to coat with plaster; *esp* : to apply ornamental or waterproofing plaster to
²parget *n* **1** : plaster, whitewash, or roughcast for coating a wall **2** : plasterwork esp. in raised ornamental figures on walls
par·gy·line \'pär-jə-ˌlēn\ *n* [pro*pargyl* (an alcohol) + *-ine*] : a monoamine oxidase inhibitor $C_{11}H_{13}N$ that is used as an antihypertensive and antidepressant agent
parhelic circle *n* : a luminous circle or halo parallel to the horizon at the altitude of the sun — called also *parhelic ring*
par·he·lion \pär-'hēl-yən\ *n, pl* **-lia** \-yə\ [L *parelion*, fr. Gk *parēlion*, fr. *para-* + *hēlios* sun — more at SOLAR] : any one of several bright spots often tinged with color that often appear on the parhelic circle — **par·he·lic** \-'hē-lik\ *adj*
pa·ri·ah \pə-'rī-ə\ *n* [Tamil *paṟaiyan*, lit., drummer] **1** : a member of a low caste of southern India and Burma **2** : OUTCAST
par·i·an \'par-ē-ən, 'per-\ *n* [*Parian;* fr. its suitability for making statuettes] : a porcelaneous ceramic ware composed essentially of kaolin and feldspar and usu. used unglazed in ornamental articles
Par·i·an \'par-ē-ən, 'per-\ *adj* : of or relating to the island of Paros noted for its marble used extensively for sculpture in ancient times
Parian ware *n* **1** : PARIAN **2** : articles made of parian
par·i·es \'par-ē-ˌēz, 'per-\ *n, pl* **pa·ri·etes** \pə-'rī-ə-ˌtēz\ [NL *parietes*, fr. L, wall; akin to L *sparus* spear — more at SPEAR] : the wall of a cavity or hollow organ — usu. used in pl.
¹pa·ri·etal \pə-'rī-ət-ᵊl\ *adj* **1 a** : of or relating to the walls of a part or cavity **b** : of, relating to, or forming the upper posterior wall of the head **2** : attached to the main wall rather than the axis or a cross wall of a plant ovary — used of an ovule or a placenta **3** : of or relating to college living or its regulation; *esp* : of or relating to parietals
²parietal *n* **1** : a parietal part (as a bone, scale, or plate) **2** *pl* : the regulations governing the visiting privileges of members of the opposite sex in campus dormitories
parietal bone *n* : either of a pair of membrane bones of the roof of the skull between the frontal bones and the occipital bones
parietal cell *n* : any of the large oval acid-secreting cells of the gastric mucous membrane
parietal lobe *n* : the middle division of each cerebral hemisphere that contains an area concerned with bodily sensations
pari–mu·tu·el \ˌpar-i-'myüch-(ə-)wəl, -'myü-chəl\ *n* [F *pari mutuel*, lit., mutual stake] **1** : a betting pool in which those who bet on the winners of the first three places share the total amount bet minus a percentage for the management **2** : a machine for registering the bets and computing the payoffs in pari-mutuel betting
par·ing \'pa(ə)r-iŋ, 'pe(ə)r-\ *n* **1** : the act of cutting away an edge or surface **2** : something pared off ⟨apple ~s⟩
paring knife *n* : a small short-bladed knife (as for paring fruit)
pa·ri pas·su \ˌpar-i-'pas-(ˌ)ü\ *adv or adj* [L, with equal step] : at an equal rate or pace
Par·is \'par-əs\ *n* [L, fr. Gk] : a son of Priam whose abduction of Helen leads to the Trojan War according to Homer's *Iliad*
Par·is green \ˌpar-əs-\ *n* [*Paris*, France] **1** : a very poisonous bright green powder that is used as an insecticide and pigment **2** : a variable color averaging a brilliant yellowish green
par·ish \'par-ish\ *n* [ME *parisshe*, fr. MF *parroche*, fr. LL *parochia*, fr. LGk *paroikia*, fr. *paroikos* Christian, fr. Gk, stranger, fr. *para-* + *oikos* house — more at VICINITY] **1 a** (1) : the ecclesiastical unit of area committed to one pastor (2) : the residents of such an area **b** *Brit* : a subdivision of a county often coinciding with an original ecclesiastical parish and constituting the unit of local government **2** : a local church community composed of the members or constituents of a Protestant church **3** : a civil division of the state of Louisiana corresponding to a county in other states

pa·rish·io·ner \pə-'rish-(ə-)nər\ *n* [ME *parisshoner*, prob. modif. of MF *parrochien*, fr. *parroche*] : a member or inhabitant of a parish

¹par·i·ty \'par-ət-ē\ *n, pl* **-ties** [L *paritas*, fr. *par* equal] **1** : the quality or state of being equal or equivalent **2 a** : equivalence of a commodity price expressed in one currency to its price expressed in another **b** : equality of purchasing power established by law between different kinds of money at a given ratio **3** : an equivalence between farmers' current purchasing power and their purchasing power at a selected base period maintained by government support of agricultural commodity prices **4 a** : the property of an integer with respect to being odd or even ⟨3 and 7 have the same ~⟩ **b** : the property of oddness or evenness of an odd or even function (as certain functions in quantum mechanics) **c** (1) : the state of being odd or even used as the basis of a method of detecting errors in binary-coded data (2) : PARITY BIT **5** : the property of an elementary particle or physical system that indicates whether or not its mirror image occurs in nature

²parity *n* [*-parous*] : the state or fact of having borne offspring; *also* : the number of children previously borne

parity bit *n* : a bit added to an array of bits (as on magnetic tape) to provide parity

¹park \'pärk\ *n* [ME, fr. OF *parc* enclosure, fr. (assumed) VL *parricus*] **1 a** : an enclosed piece of ground stocked with game and held by royal prescription or grant **b** : a tract of land that often includes lawns, woodland, and pasture attached to a country house and is used as a game preserve and for recreation **2 a** : a piece of ground in or near a city or town kept for ornament and recreation **b** : an area maintained in its natural state as a public property **3 a** : a level valley between mountain ranges **b** : an open space and esp. a grassland that is often all or partly surrounded by woodland and is suitable for cultivation or grazing **4 a** : a space occupied by military animals, vehicles, or materials **b** : PARKING LOT **5** : an enclosed arena or stadium used esp. for ball games — **park·like** \'pär-ˌklīk\ *adj*

²park *vt* **1** : to enclose in a park **2 a** (1) : to bring to a stop and keep standing at the edge of a public way (2) : to leave temporarily on a public way or in a parking lot or garage **b** : to land or leave (as an airplane) **c** : to establish (as a satellite) in orbit **3** : to set and leave temporarily **4** : to assemble (as equipment or stores) in a military dump or park ~ *vi* : to park a vehicle — **park·er** *n*

par·ka \'pär-kə\ *n* [Aleut, skin, outer garment, fr. Russ, pelt, fr. Yurak] **1** : a hooded fur pullover garment for arctic wear **2** : a fabric pullover or jacket for sports or military wear

parking lot *n* : an area used for the parking of motor vehicles

parking meter *n* : a coin-operated device which registers the purchase of parking time for a motor vehicle

par·kin·so·nian \ˌpär-kən-'sō-nē-ən, -nyən\ *adj* **1** : of or similar to that of parkinsonism **2** : affected with parkinsonism and esp. Parkinson's disease

par·kin·son·ism \'pär-kən-sə-ˌniz-əm\ *n* **1** : PARKINSON'S DISEASE **2** : a chronic nervous disorder that is marked by muscle rigidity but without tremor of resting muscles

Par·kin·son's disease \'pär-kən-sənz-\ *n* [James *Parkinson* †1824 E physician] : a chronic progressive nervous disease of later life that is marked by tremor and weakness of resting muscles and by a peculiar gait — called also *paralysis agitans, parkinsonism, Parkinson's syndrome*

Par·kin·son's Law \ˌpär-\ *n* [C. Northcote *Parkinson b*1909 E historian] **1** : an observation in office organization: the number of subordinates increases at a fixed rate regardless of the amount of work produced **2** : an observation in office organization: work expands so as to fill the time available for its completion

park·land \'pär-ˌkland\ *n* : land with clumps of trees and shrubs in cultivated condition used as or felt to be suitable for use as a park

park·way \'pär-ˌkwā\ *n* : a broad landscaped thoroughfare

par·lance \'pär-lən(t)s\ *n* [MF, fr. OF, fr. *parler*] **1** : SPEECH; *esp* : formal debate or parley **2** : manner or mode of speech : IDIOM

par·lan·do \pär-'län-(ˌ)dō\ *or* **par·lan·te** \-(ˌ)tā\ *adj* [*parlando* fr. It, verbal of *parlare* to speak, fr. ML *parabolare; parlante* fr. It, prp. of *parlare*] : delivered or performed in an unsustained style suggestive of speech — used as a direction in music

¹par·lay \'pär-ˌlā, -lē\ *vt* [F *paroli*, n., parlay, fr. It dial., pl. of *parolo*, fr. *paro* equal, fr. L *par*] **1** : to bet in a parlay **2 a** : to exploit successfully **b** : to increase or otherwise transform into something of much greater value

²parlay *n* : a series of two or more bets so set up in advance that the original stake plus its winnings are risked on the successive wagers; *broadly* : the fresh risking of an original stake together with its winnings

parle \'pär(ə)l\ *vi* **parled; parl·ing** [ME *parlen* to parley, fr. MF *parler*] *archaic* : PARLEY — **parle** *n, archaic*

¹par·ley \'pär-lē\ *vi* [MF *parler* to speak, fr. ML *parabolare*, fr. LL *parabola* speech, parable — more at PARABLE] : to speak with another : CONFER; *specif* : to discuss terms with an enemy

²parley *n, pl* **parleys** **1 a** : a conference for discussion of points in dispute **b** : a conference with an enemy **2** : DISCUSSION

par·lia·ment \'pär-lə-mənt *also* 'pärl-yə-\ *n* [ME, fr. OF *parlement*, fr. *parler*] **1** : a formal conference for the discussion of public affairs; *specif* : a council of state in early medieval England **2 a** : an assemblage of the nobility, clergy, and commons called together by the British sovereign as the supreme legislative body in the United Kingdom **b** : a similar assemblage in another nation or state **3 a** : the supreme legislative body of a usu. major political unit that is a continuing institution comprising a series of individual parliaments **b** : the British House of Commons **4** : one of several principal courts of justice existing in France before the revolution of 1789

par·lia·men·tar·i·an \ˌpär-lə-ˌmen-'ter-ē-ən, -mən- *also* ˌpärl-yə-\ *n* **1** *often cap* : an adherent of the parliament in opposition to the king during the English Civil War **2** : an expert in the rules and usages of a deliberative assembly (as a parliament)

par·lia·men·ta·ry \-'ment-ə-rē, -'men-trē\ *adj* **1 a** : of or relating to a parliament **b** : enacted, done, or ratified by a parliament **2** : of or adhering to the parliament as opposed to the king during the English Civil War **3** : of, based on, or having the characteristics of parliamentary government **4** : of or relating to members of a parliament **5** : of or according to parliamentary law ⟨~ procedure⟩

parliamentary government *n* : a system of government having the real executive power vested in a cabinet composed of members of the legislature who are individually and collectively responsible to the legislature

parliamentary law *n* : the rules and precedents governing the proceedings of deliberative assemblies and other organizations

¹par·lor \'pär-lər\ *n* [ME *parlour*, fr. OF, fr. *parler*] **1** : a room used primarily for conversation or the reception of guests: as **a** : a room in a private dwelling for the entertainment of guests **b** : a conference chamber or private reception room **c** : a room in an inn, hotel, or club for conversation or semiprivate uses **2** : any of various business places ⟨a funeral ~⟩ ⟨a beauty ~⟩

²parlor *adj* **1** : used in or suitable for a parlor ⟨~ furniture⟩ **2 a** : fostered or advocated in comfortable seclusion without consequent action or application to affairs ⟨~ bolshevism⟩ **b** : given to or characterized by fostering or advocating something (as a doctrine) in such a manner ⟨~ socialist⟩

parlor car *n* : an extra-fare railroad passenger car for day travel equipped with individual chairs

parlor game *n* : a game suitable for playing indoors (as in a parlor)

parlor grand *n* : a grand piano intermediate in length between a concert grand and a baby grand

par·lour \'pär-lər\ *chiefly Brit var of* PARLOR

¹par·lous \'pär-ləs\ *adj* [ME, alter. of *perilous*] **1** : full of danger or risk : HAZARDOUS **2** *obs* : dangerously shrewd or cunning — **par·lous·ly** *adv*

²parlous *adv* : to a very great extent : EXCEEDINGLY

Par·me·san \'pär-mə-ˌzän, -ˌzan, -zən\ *n* [*Parmesan* (of Parma)] : a very hard dry sharply flavored cheese that is sold grated or in wedges

par·mi·gia·na \ˌpär-mi-'jän-ə\ *or* **par·mi·gia·no** \-'jän-(ˌ)ō\ *adj* [It *Parmigiana*, fem. of *Parmigiano* of Parma, fr. *Parma*] : made or covered with Parmesan cheese ⟨veal ~⟩

Par·nas·si·an \pär-'nas-ē-ən\ *adj* **1** [L *parnassius* of Parnassus, fr. Gk *parnasios*, fr. *Parnasos* Parnassus, mountain in Greece sacred to Apollo and the Muses] : of or relating to poetry **2** [F *parnassien*, fr. *Parnasse* Parnassus; fr. *Le Parnasse contemporain* (1866) an anthology of poetry] : of or relating to a school of French poets of the second half of the 19th century emphasizing metrical form rather than emotion — **Parnassian** *n*

pa·ro·chi·al \pə-'rō-kē-əl\ *adj* [ME *parochiall*, fr. MF *parochial*, fr. LL *parochialis*, fr. *parochia* parish — more at PARISH] **1** : of or relating to a church parish **2** : of or relating to a parish as a unit of local government **3** : confined or restricted as if within the borders of a parish : limited in range or scope (as to a narrow area or region) : PROVINCIAL, NARROW — **pa·ro·chi·al·ly** \-kē-ə-lē\ *adv*

pa·ro·chi·al·ism \-kē-ə-ˌliz-əm\ *n* : the quality or state of being parochial; *esp* : selfish pettiness or narrowness (as of interests, opinions, or views)

parochial school *n* : a private school maintained by a religious body usu. for elementary and secondary instruction

par·o·dist \'par-əd-əst\ *n* : a writer of parodies

¹par·o·dy \'par-əd-ē\ *n, pl* **-dies** [L *parodia*, fr. Gk *parōidia*, fr. *para-* + *aidein* to sing — more at ODE] **1** : a literary or musical work in which the style of an author or work is closely imitated for comic effect or in ridicule **2** : a feeble or ridiculous imitation ***syn*** see CARICATURE — **pa·rod·ic** \pə-'räd-ik, pa-\ *adj* — **par·o·dis·tic** \ˌpar-ə-'dis-tik\ *adj*

²parody *vt* **-died; -dy·ing** **1** : to compose a parody on ⟨~ a poem⟩ **2** : to imitate in the manner of a parody

par·ol \'par-əl\ *n* [MF *parole*] : WORD OF MOUTH — **parol** *adj*

¹pa·role \pə-'rōl\ *n* [F, speech, parole, fr. MF, fr. LL *parabola* speech — more at PARABLE] **1** : a promise made with or confirmed by a pledge of one's honor; *esp* : the promise of a prisoner of war to fulfill stated conditions in consideration of his release **2** : a watchword given only to officers of the guard and of the day **3** : a conditional release of a prisoner serving an indeterminate or unexpired sentence **4** : a linguistic act : linguistic behavior — compare LANGUE — **parole** *adj*

²parole *vt* **pa·roled; pa·rol·ing** : to release (a prisoner) on parole

pa·rol·ee \pə-ˌrō-'lē, -'rō-(ˌ); ˌpar-ə-'lē\ *n* : one released on parole

par·ono·ma·sia \ˌpar-ə-nō-'mā-zh(ē-)ə, ˌpar-ˌän-ə-'mā-\ *n* [L, fr. Gk, fr. *paronomazein* to call with a slight change of name, fr. *para-* + *onoma* name — more at NAME] : a play on words : PUN — **par·ono·mas·tic** \-'mas-tik\ *adj*

par·onym \'par-ə-ˌnim\ *n* [LL *paronymon*, fr. Gk *parōnymon*, neut. of *parōnymos*] : a paronymous word

par·on·y·mous \pə-'rän-ə-məs, pa-\ *adj* [Gk *parōnymos*, fr. *para-* + *-ōnymos* (as in *homōnymos* homonymous)] **1** : CONJUGATE 4 **2 a** : formed from a word in another language **b** : having a form similar to that of a cognate foreign word

par·ot·id \pə-'rät-əd\ *adj* [NL *parotid-, parotis* parotid gland, fr. L, tumor near the ear, fr. Gk *parōtid-, parōtis*, fr. *para-* + *ōt-, ous* ear — more at EAR] : of or relating to the parotid gland

parotid gland *n* : either of a pair of large serous salivary glands situated below and in front of the ear

par·oti·tis \ˌpar-ō-'tīt-əs\ *n* : inflammation of the parotid glands; *also* : MUMPS

par·ous \'par-əs, 'per-\ *adj* [*-parous*] : having produced offspring

-p·a·rous \p-(ə-)rəs\ *adj comb form* [L *-parus*, fr. *parere* to give birth to, produce] : giving birth to : producing ⟨bi*parous*⟩

Par·ou·sia \ˌpär-ü-ˈsē-ə, pə-ˈrü-zē-ə\ *n* [Gk, lit., presence, fr. *paront-, parōn,* prp. of *pareinai* to be present, fr. *para-* + *einai* to be — more at IS] : SECOND COMING

par·ox·ysm \ˈpar-əkˌsiz-əm *also* pəˈräk-\ *n* [F & ML; F *paroxysme,* fr. ML *paroxysmus,* fr. Gk *paroxysmos,* fr. *paroxynein* to stimulate, fr. *para-* + *oxynein* to provoke, fr. *oxys* sharp — more at OXYGEN] **1** : a fit, attack, or sudden increase or recurrence of symptoms (as of a disease) : CONVULSION ⟨a ~ of coughing⟩ **2** : a sudden violent emotion or action ⟨a ~ of rage⟩ — **par·ox·ys·mal** \ˌpar-əkˈsiz-məl *also* pəˌräk-\ *adj*

par·oxy·tone \(ˈ)pa(ə)rˈäk-siˌtōn\ *adj* [NL *paroxytonus,* fr. Gk *paroxytonos,* fr. *para-* + *oxytonos* oxytone] : having or characterized by an acute accent on the penult — **paroxytone** *n*

¹par·quet \pärˈkā\ *vt* **par·queted** \-ˈkād\; **par·quet·ing** \-ˈkā-iŋ\ **1** : to furnish with a floor of parquet **2** : to make of parquetry

²par·quet \ˈpärˌkā, pärˈ\ *n* [F, fr. MF, small enclosure, fr. *parc* park] **1 a** : a patterned flooring; *esp* : one made of parquetry **b** : PARQUETRY **2** : the main floor of a theater; *specif* : the part from the front of the stage to the parquet circle

parquet circle *n* : the part of the main floor of a theater that is beneath the galleries

par·que·try \ˈpär-kə-trē\ *n, pl* **-tries** : work in the form of usu. geometrically patterned wood laid or inlaid esp. for floors



parquetry

parr \ˈpär\ *n, pl* **parr** *also* **parrs** [origin unknown] : a young salmon actively feeding in fresh water; *also* : the young of any of several other fishes

par·ra·keet *var of* PARAKEET

par·rel *or* **par·ral** \ˈpar-əl\ *n* [ME *perell,* fr. alter. of *parail* apparel, short for *apparail,* fr. MF *apareil,* fr. *apareillier* to prepare — more at APPAREL] : a rope loop or sliding collar by which a yard or spar is held to a mast in such a way that it may be hoisted or lowered

par·ri·cid·al \ˌpar-əˈsīd-ᵊl\ *adj* : of, relating to, or guilty of parricide

par·ri·cide \ˈpar-əˌsīd\ *n* **1** [L *parricida* killer of a close relative, fr. *parri-* (akin to Gk *pēos* kinsman by marriage) + *-cida* -cide] : one that murders his father, mother, or a close relative **2** [L *parricidium* murder of a close relative, fr. *parri-* + *-cidium* -cide] : the act of a parricide

¹par·rot \ˈpar-ət\ *n* [prob. irreg. fr. MF *perroquet*] **1** : any of numerous widely distributed tropical zygodactyl birds (order Psittaciformes) that have a distinctive stout curved hooked bill, are often crested and brightly variegated, and are excellent mimics **2** : a person who sedulously echoes another's words — **parrot** *adj*

²parrot *vt* : to repeat by rote

parrot fever *n* : PSITTACOSIS

parrot fish *n* : any of numerous marine percoid fishes (as of the families Scaridae and Labridae) that have the teeth in each jaw fused into a cutting plate like a beak

par·ry \ˈpar-ē\ *vb* **par·ried; par·ry·ing** [prob. fr. F *parez,* imper. of *parer* to parry, fr. OProv *parar,* fr. L *parare* to prepare — more at PARE] *vi* **1** : to ward off a weapon or blow **2** : to evade or turn aside something ~ *vt* **1** : to ward off (as a blow) **2** : to evade esp. by an adroit answer ⟨~ an embarrassing question⟩ — **parry** *n*

parse \ˈpärs, ˈpärz\ *vb* **parsed; pars·ing** [L *pars orationis* part of speech] *vt* **1** : to resolve (as a sentence) into component parts of speech and describe them grammatically **2** : to describe grammatically by stating the part of speech and explaining the inflection and syntactical relationships ~ *vi* **1** : to give a grammatical description of a word or a group of words **2** : to admit of being parsed

par·sec \ˈpärˌsek\ *n* [*par*allax + *sec*ond] : a unit of measure for interstellar space equal to a distance having a heliocentric parallax of one second or to 206,265 times the radius of the earth's orbit or to 3.26 light-years or to 19.2 trillion miles

Par·si *also* **Par·see** \ˈpärˌ(ˌ)sē\ *n* [Per *pārsī,* fr. *Pārs* Persia] **1** : a Zoroastrian descended from Persian refugees settled principally at Bombay **2** : the Iranian dialect of the Parsi religious literature — **Par·si·ism** \-ˌiz-əm\ *n*

Par·si·fal \ˈpär-ziˌfäl, -səˌfȯl\ *n* [G] : a knight of the Holy Grail in Wagner's *Parsifal*

par·si·mo·ni·ous \ˌpär-səˈmō-nē-əs\ *adj* : frugal to the point of stinginess : NIGGARDLY ***syn*** see STINGY ***ant*** prodigal — **par·si·mo·ni·ous·ly** *adv*

par·si·mo·ny \ˈpär-səˌmō-nē\ *n* [ME *parcimony,* fr. L *parsimonia,* fr. *parsus,* pp. of *parcere* to spare] **1 a** : the quality of being careful with money or resources : THRIFT **b** : the quality or state of being niggardly : STINGINESS **2** : economy in the use of a means to an end

pars·ley \ˈpär-slē\ *n* [ME *persely,* fr. OE *petersilie,* fr. (assumed) VL *petrosilium,* alter. of L *petroselinum,* fr. Gk *petroselinon,* fr. *petros* stone + *selinon* celery] : a southern European annual or biennial herb (*Petroselinum crispum*) of the carrot family widely cultivated for its leaves which are used as a culinary herb or garnish

pars·nip \ˈpär-snəp\ *n* [ME *pasnepe,* modif. of MF *pasnaie,* fr. L *pastinaca,* fr. *pastinum* 2-pronged dibble] : a European biennial herb (*Pastinaca sativa*) of the carrot family with large pinnate leaves and yellow flowers; *also* : its long tapered root of which some cultivated varieties are used as a vegetable

par·son \ˈpärs-ᵊn\ *n* [ME *persone,* fr. OF, fr. ML *persona,* lit., person, fr. L] **1** : RECTOR **2** : CLERGYMAN; *esp* : a Protestant pastor

par·son·age \ˈpär-snij, ˈpärs-ᵊn-ij\ *n* : the house provided by a church for its pastor

¹part \ˈpärt\ *n* [ME, fr. OF & OE, both fr. L *part-, pars;* akin to L *parare* to prepare — more at PARE] **1 a** (1) : one of the often indefinite or unequal subdivisions into which something is or is regarded as divided and which together constitute the whole (2) : an essential portion or integral element **b** : one of several or many equal units of which something is composed or into which it is divisible : an amount equal to another amount ⟨mix one ~ of the powder with three ~*s* of water⟩ **c** (1) : an exact divisor of a quantity : ALIQUOT (2) : PARTIAL FRACTION **d** : one of the constituent elements of a plant or animal body: as (1) : ORGAN, MEMBER (2) *pl* : PRIVATE PARTS **e** : a division of a literary work **f** (1) : a vocal or instrumental line or melody in concerted music or in harmony (2) : a particular voice or instrument in concerted music; *also* : the score for it **g** : a constituent member of a machine or other apparatus; *also* : a spare part **2** : something falling to one in a division or apportionment : SHARE **3** : one's share or allotted task (as in an action) ⟨each must do his ~⟩ **4** : one of the opposing sides in a conflict or dispute **5** : a portion of an unspecified territorial area ⟨took off for ~*s* unknown⟩ **6** : a function or course of action performed **7 a** : an actor's lines in a play **b** : the role of a character in a play **8** : a constituent of character or capacity : TALENT ⟨a man of many ~*s*⟩ **9** : the line where the hair is parted

syn PART, PORTION, PIECE, MEMBER, DIVISION, SECTION, SEGMENT, FRAGMENT *shared meaning element* : something less than the whole to which it belongs. PART is a general and neutral term capable of replacing any of the others and especially appropriate when a notion of indefiniteness is prominent ⟨give me *part* of the paper⟩ ⟨they walked *part* of the way⟩ PORTION is likely to imply an assigned or allotted part ⟨cut the pie into six *portions*⟩ PIECE stresses separateness and applies to a part or portion in some way set apart from an expressed or implied whole; thus, one cuts a *piece* of bread from a loaf; one works a *piece* of iron at the forge with the implication that a larger mass exists; one tells a *piece* of news out of a budget of news one possesses ⟨bought a big *piece* of land⟩ MEMBER applies to any of the functional units comprising a whole ⟨the club has 500 *members*⟩ ⟨the saddle seat is a distinctive *member* of a Windsor chair⟩ *Division* and *section* apply to a part set off by or as if by cutting, DIVISION usually suggesting a larger or more diversified and SECTION a smaller or more uniform part; thus, one would speak of the graduate *division* of the university but of the several *sections* of the freshman English class. SEGMENT applies to a part separated or marked off by or as if by natural lines of cleavage ⟨the *segments* of an orange⟩ ⟨the small Jewish *segment* of this gentile community —Bernard Malamud⟩ FRAGMENT applies to a random bit and especially one remaining after the rest has been used, eaten, worn away, or lost ⟨they took up of the *fragments* . . . twelve baskets full —Mt 14:20 (AV)⟩ ⟨a remembered *fragment* of verse⟩ ***ant*** whole

— **for the most part** : in general : on the whole ⟨*for the most part* the crowd was orderly⟩ — **in part** : in some degree : PARTIALLY — **on the part of** : with regard to the one specified

²part *vb* [ME *parten,* fr. OF *partir,* fr. L *partire* to divide, fr. *part-, pars*] *vi* **1 a** : to separate from or take leave of someone **b** : to take leave of one another **2** : to become separated into parts **3 a** : to go away : DEPART **b** : DIE **4** : to become separated, detached, or broken **5** : to relinquish possession or control ⟨hated to ~ with his money⟩ ~ *vt* **1 a** : to divide into parts **b** : to separate by combing on each side of a line **c** : to break or suffer the breaking of (as a rope or anchor chain) **2** : to divide into shares and distribute : APPORTION **3 a** : to remove from contact or association ⟨if aught but death ~ thee and me —Ruth 1:17(AV)⟩ **b** : to keep separate ⟨the narrow channel that ~*s* England from France⟩ **c** : to hold (as brawlers) apart **d** : to separate by a process of extraction, elimination, or secretion **4 a** *archaic* : LEAVE, QUIT **b** *dial Brit* : to give up : RELINQUISH ***syn*** see SEPARATE ***ant*** cleave

³part *adv* : PARTLY

⁴part *adj* : PARTIAL 3

⁵part *abbr* **1** participial; participle **2** particular

par·take \pärˈtāk, pərˈ\ *vb* **-took** \-ˈtu̇k\; **-tak·en** \-ˈtā-kən\; **-tak·ing** [back-formation fr. *partaker,* alter. of *part taker*] *vi* **1** : to take a part or share : PARTICIPATE **2** : to have some of the qualities or attributes of something ~ *vt* : to take part in ***syn*** see SHARE — **par·tak·er** *n*

par·tan \ˈpärt-ᵊn\ *n* [ME (Sc), of Celt origin; akin to ScGael *partan* crab] : a European edible crab (*Cancer pagurus*)

part·ed \ˈpärt-əd\ *adj* **1 a** : divided into parts **b** : cleft so that the divisions reach nearly but not quite to the base — usu. used in combination ⟨a 3-*parted* corolla⟩ **2** *archaic* : DEAD

par·terre \pärˈte(ə)r\ *n* [F, fr. MF, fr. *par terre* on the ground] **1** : an ornamental garden with paths between the beds **2** : the part of the main floor of a theater that is behind the orchestra; *esp* : PARQUET CIRCLE

par·the·no·car·py \ˈpär-thə-nō-ˈkär-pē\ *n* [ISV, fr. Gk *parthenos* virgin + *karpos* fruit — more at HARVEST] : the production of fruits without fertilization ⟨bananas set fruit by ~ and without pollination⟩ — **par·the·no·car·pic** \ˌpär-thə-nō-ˈkär-pik\ *adj* — **par·the·no·car·pi·cal·ly** \-pi-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

par·the·no·gen·e·sis \ˌpär-thə-nō-ˈjen-ə-səs\ *n* [NL, fr. Gk *parthenos* + L *genesis*] : reproduction by development of an unfertilized gamete that occurs esp. among lower plants and invertebrate animals

par·the·no·ge·net·ic \-jə-ˈnet-ik\ *adj* : of, characterized by, or produced by parthenogenesis — **par·the·no·ge·net·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

Par·the·non \ˈpär-thə-ˌnän\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *Parthenōn*] : a celebrated Doric temple of Athena built on the acropolis at Athens in the 5th century B.C.

Par·thi·an \ˈpär-thē-ən\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or characteristic of ancient Parthia or its people **2** : of or relating to a shot fired while in real or feigned retreat — **Parthian** *n*

¹par·tial \ˈpär-shəl\ *adj* [ME *parcial,* fr. MF *partial,* fr. ML *partialis,* fr. LL, of a part, fr. L *part-, pars* part] **1** : inclined to favor one party more than the other : BIASED **2** : markedly fond of someone or something — used with *to* ⟨~ to beans⟩ **3** : of or relating to a part rather than the whole : not general or total ⟨found a ~ solution to the problem⟩ — **par·tial·ly** \ˈpärsh-(ə-)lē\ *adv*

²partial *n* : OVERTONE 1a

partial denture *n* : an often removable artificial replacement of one or more teeth

partial derivative *n* : the derivative of a function of several variables with respect to one of them and with the remaining variables treated as constants
partial differential equation *n* : a differential equation containing at least one partial derivative
partial differentiation *n* : the process of finding a partial derivative
partial fraction *n* : one of the simpler fractions into the sum of which the quotient of two polynomials may be decomposed
par·tial·i·ty \ˌpär-shē-ˈal-ət-ē, pär-ˈshal-\ *n, pl* **-ties** **1** : the quality or state of being partial : BIAS **2** : a special taste or liking
partially ordered *adj* : having some but not all elements connected by a relation that is transitive and not symmetric
partial pressure *n* : the pressure exerted by a (specified) component in a mixture of gases
partial product *n* : a product obtained by multiplying a multiplicand by one digit of a multiplier with more than one digit
par·ti·ble \ˈpärt-ə-bəl\ *adj* : capable of being parted : DIVISIBLE
par·tic·i·pant \pər-ˈtis-ə-pənt, pär-\ *n* : one that participates — **participant** *adj*
par·tic·i·pate \pər-ˈtis-ə-ˌpāt, pär-\ *vb* **-pat·ed; -pat·ing** [L *participatus*, pp. of *participare*, fr. *particip-, particeps* participant, fr. *part-, pars* part + *capere* to take — more at HEAVE] *vt, archaic* : PARTAKE ~ *vi* **1** : to possess something of the nature of a person, thing, or quality **2 a** : to take part ⟨always tried to ~ in class discussions⟩ **b** : to have a part or share in something ***syn*** see SHARE — **par·tic·i·pa·tive** \-ˌpāt-iv\ *adj* — **par·tic·i·pa·tor** \-ˌpāt-ər\ *n*
par·tic·i·pa·tion \pər-ˌtis-ə-ˈpā-shən, (ˌ)pär-\ *n* **1** : the act of participating **2** : the state being related to a larger whole
par·tic·i·pa·to·ry \pər-ˈtis-ə-pə-ˌtōr-ē, pär-, -ˌtȯr-\ *adj* : characterized by or involving participation; *esp* : providing the opportunity for individual participation ⟨~ democracy⟩
par·ti·cip·i·al \ˈpärt-ə-ˈsip-ē-əl\ *adj* [L *participialis*, fr. *participium*] : of, relating to, or formed with or from a participle — **par·ti·cip·i·al·ly** \-ē-ə-lē\ *adv*
par·ti·ci·ple \ˈpärt-ə-ˌsip-əl\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, modif. of L *participium*, fr. *particip-, particeps*] : a word having the characteristics of both verb and adjective; *esp* : an English verbal form that has the function of an adjective and at the same time shows such verbal features as tense and voice and capacity to take an object
par·ti·cle \ˈpärt-i-kəl\ *n* [ME, fr. L *particula*, fr. dim. of *part-, pars*] **1** *archaic* : a clause or article of a composition or document **2** : one of the minute subdivisions of matter (as an atom or molecule); *also* : ELEMENTARY PARTICLE **3 a** : a minute quantity or fragment **b** : a relatively small or the smallest possible discrete portion or amount of something **4 a** : a unit of speech expressing some general aspect of meaning or some connective or limiting relation and including the articles, most prepositions and conjunctions, and some interjections and adverbs **b** : an element that resembles a word but that is used only in composition (as *un-* in *unfair* and *-ward* in *backward*) **5** : a small eucharistic wafer distributed to a Roman Catholic layman at Communion
particle board *n* : a composition board made of very small pieces of wood bonded together (as with a synthetic resin)
particle physics *n* : HIGH-ENERGY PHYSICS
par·ti–col·ored \ˌpärt-ē-ˈkəl-ərd\ *adj* [obs. E *party* (parti-colored) + E *colored*] : showing different colors or tints ⟨~ threads⟩
¹par·tic·u·lar \pə(r)-ˈtik-yə-lər\ *adj* [ME *particuler*, fr. MF, fr. LL *particularis*, fr. L *particula* small part] **1** : of, relating to, or being a single person or thing ⟨the ~ person I had in mind⟩ **2** *obs* : PARTIAL **3** : of, relating to, or concerned with details ⟨gave us a very ~ account of her day⟩ **4 a** : distinctive among others of the same general category ⟨suffered from measles of ~ severity⟩ **b** : being one unit or element among others ⟨~ incidents in the account seem contrived⟩ **5 a** : being a particular in logic **b** : affirming or denying a predicate to a part of the subject — used of a proposition in logic ⟨"some men are wise" is a ~ affirmative⟩ **6 a** : concerned over or attentive to details : METICULOUS ⟨a very ~ housekeeper⟩ **b** : nice in taste : FASTIDIOUS **c** : hard to please : EXACTING ***syn*** **1** see SINGLE ***ant*** general **2** see SPECIAL **3** see CIRCUMSTANTIAL **4** see NICE
²particular *n* **1** *archaic* : a separate part of a whole **2 a** : an individual fact, point, circumstance, or detail **b** : a specific item or detail of information or news ⟨bill of ~s⟩ **3 a** : an individual or a specific subclass in logic falling under some general concept or term **b** : a particular proposition in logic ***syn*** see ITEM — **in particular** : in distinction from others : SPECIFICALLY
par·tic·u·lar·ism \pə(r)-ˈtik-yə-lə-ˌriz-əm, pär-\ *n* **1** : exclusive or special devotion to a particular interest **2** : a political theory that each political group has a right to promote its own interests and esp. independence without regard to the interests of larger groups **3** : a tendency to explain complex social phenomena in terms of a single causative factor — **par·tic·u·lar·ist** \-rəst\ *n* — **par·tic·u·lar·is·tic** \-ˌtik-yə-lə-ˈris-tik\ *adj*
par·tic·u·lar·i·ty \pə(r)-ˌtik-yə-ˈlar-ət-ē, (ˌ)pär-\ *n, pl* **-ties** **1 a** : a minute detail : PARTICULAR **b** : an individual characteristic : PECULIARITY; *also* : SINGULARITY **2 a** : the quality or state of being particular as opposed to universal **b** : attentiveness to detail : EXACTNESS **c** : the quality or state of being fastidious in behavior or expression
par·tic·u·lar·iza·tion \-yə-lə-rə-ˈzā-shən\ *n* : the act of particularizing : the condition of being particularized
par·tic·u·lar·ize \pə(r)-ˈtik-yə-lə-ˌrīz, pär-\ *vb* **-ized; -iz·ing** *vt* : to state in detail : SPECIFY ~ *vi* : to go into details
par·tic·u·lar·ly \pə(r)-ˈtik-yə-(lər-)lē, pär-ˈtik-yə-lər-lē\ *adv* **1** : in a particular manner : in detail **2** : to an unusual degree
¹par·tic·u·late \pər-ˈtik-yə-lət, pär-, -ˌlāt\ *adj* [L *particula*] : of or relating to minute separate particles
²particulate *n* : a particulate substance
particulate inheritance *n* : inheritance of characters specif. transmitted by genes in accord with Mendel's laws
¹part·ing \ˈpärt-iŋ\ *n* : a place or point where a division or separation occurs — **parting of the ways** **1** : a point of separation or devergence **2** : a place or time at which a choice must be made
²parting *adj* : given, taken, or performed at parting ⟨a ~ kiss⟩
par·ti pris \ˌpär-ˌtē-ˈprē\ *n, pl* **par·tis pris** \-ˌtē-ˈprē(z)\ [F, lit., side taken] : a preconceived opinion : PREJUDICE, BIAS — **parti pris** *adj*
¹par·ti·san *or* **par·ti·zan** \ˈpärt-ə-zən, -sən\ *n* [MF *partisan*, fr. OIt *partigiano*, fr. *parte* part, party, fr. L *part-, pars* part] **1** : a firm adherent to a party, faction, cause, or person; *esp* : one exhibiting blind, prejudiced, and unreasoning allegiance **2 a** : a member of a body of detached light troops making forays and harassing an enemy **b** : a member of a guerrilla band operating within enemy lines ***syn*** see FOLLOWER — **partisan** *adj* — **par·ti·san·ship** \-ˌship\ *n*
²partisan *or* **partizan** *n* [MF *partisane*, fr. OIt *partigiana*, fem. of *partigiano*] : a weapon of the 16th and 17th centuries with long shaft and broad blade
par·ti·ta \pär-ˈtēt-ə\ *n* [It. fr. *partire*, to divide, fr. L — more at PART] **1** : VARIATION 5 **2** : SUITE 2b(1)
par·tite \ˈpär-ˌtīt\ *adj* [L *partitus*, fr. pp. of *partire*] **1** : divided into a usu. specified number of parts **2** : PARTED 1b ⟨a ~ leaf⟩
¹par·ti·tion \pər-ˈtish-ən, pär-\ *n* **1 a** : the action of parting : the state of being parted : DIVISION **b** (1) : separation of a class or whole into constituent elements (2) : the separation of a set (as the points of a line) into subsets such that every element belongs to one set and no two subsets have an element in common **2** : something that divides; *esp* : an interior dividing wall **3** : one of the parts or sections of a whole — **par·ti·tion·ist** \-ˈtish-(ə-)nəst\ *n*
²partition *vt* **1 a** : to divide into parts or shares **b** : to divide (as a country) into two or more territorial units having separate political status **2** : to separate or divide by a partition (as a wall) — often used with *off* ⟨~*ed* off a closet from the storage area⟩ — **par·ti·tion·er** \-ˈtish-(ə-)nər\ *n*
par·ti·tion·ist \-ˈtish-(ə-)nəst\ *n* : an advocate of political partition
par·ti·tive \ˈpärt-ət-iv\ *adj* **1** : serving to part or divide into parts **2 a** : of, relating to, or denoting a part ⟨a ~ construction⟩ **b** : serving to indicate the whole of which a part is specified ⟨~ genitive⟩ — **par·ti·tive·ly** *adv*
part·let \ˈpärt-lət\ *n* [ME (Sc) *patelet*, fr. MF *patelette*, fr. dim. of *patte* paw] : a 16th century chemisette with a band or collar
part·ly \ˈpärt-lē\ *adv* : in some measure or degree : PARTIALLY
¹part·ner \ˈpärt-nər, *as a term of address often* ˈpärd-\ *n* [ME *partener*, alter. of *parcener*, fr. AF, coparcener — more at PARCENER] **1** *archaic* : one that shares : PARTAKER **2 a** : ASSOCIATE, COLLEAGUE **b** : either of a couple who dance together **c** : one of two or more persons who play together in a game against an opposing side **d** : HUSBAND, WIFE **3** : a member of a partnership **4** : one of the heavy timbers that strengthen a ship's deck to support a mast — usu. used in pl.
²partner *vt* **1** : to join as partner **2** : to provide with a partner ~ *vi* : to act as a partner
part·ner·ship \-ˌship\ *n* **1** : the state of being a partner : PARTICIPATION **2 a** : a legal relation existing between two or more persons contractually associated as joint principals in a business **b** : the persons joined together in a partnership **3** : a relationship resembling a legal partnership and usu. involving close cooperation between parties having specified and joint rights and responsibilities (as in a common enterprise)
part of speech : a traditional class of words distinguished according to the kind of idea denoted and the function performed in a sentence : MAJOR FORM CLASS
par·ton \ˈpär-ˌtän\ *n* [¹*part* + ²*-on*] : a hypothetical particle that is held to be a constituent of nucleons
par·tridge \ˈpär-trij, *dial or archaic* ˈpa-trij\ *n, pl* **partridge** *or* **par·tridg·es** [ME *partrich*, modif. of OF *perdris*, modif. of L *perdic-, perdix*, fr. Gk *perdik-, perdix*] **1** : any of various typically medium-sized stout-bodied Old World gallinaceous game birds (*Perdix, Alectoris*, and related genera) with variegated plumage **2** : any of numerous gallinaceous birds (as the American ruffed grouse or bobwhite) somewhat like the Old World partridges in size, habits, or value as game


partridge 1

par·tridge·ber·ry \-ˌber-ē\ *n* : an American trailing evergreen plant (*Mitchella repens*) of the madder family with insipid scarlet berries; *also* : its fruit
part–song \ˈpärt-ˌsȯŋ\ *n* : a usu. unaccompanied song consisting of two or more voice parts with one part carrying the melody
part–time \ˈpärt-ˈtīm\ *adj* : involving or working less than customary or standard hours ⟨a ~ job⟩ ⟨~ students⟩ — **part–time** *adv*
¹par·tu·ri·ent \pär-ˈt(y)u̇r-ē-ənt\ *adj* [L *parturient-, parturiens*, prp. of *parturire* to be in labor, fr. *parere* to produce — more at PARE] **1 a** : bringing forth or about to bring forth young **b** : of or relating to parturition **2** : being at the point of producing something (as an idea, discovery, or literary work)
²parturient *n* : a parturient individual
par·tu·ri·tion \ˌpärt-ə-ˈrish-ən, ˌpär-chə-, ˌpär-tyu̇-\ *n* [LL *parturition-, parturitio*, fr. L *parturitus*, pp. of *parturire*] : the action or process of giving birth to offspring
part·way \ˈpärt-ˈwā\ *adv* : to some extent : PARTIALLY, PARTLY
¹par·ty \ˈpärt-ē\ *n, pl* **parties** [ME *partie* part, party, fr. OF, fr. *partir* to divide — more at PART] **1** : a person or group taking one

side of a question, dispute, or contest **2** : a group of persons organized for the purpose of directing the policies of a government **3** : a person or group participating in an action or affair : PARTICIPANT ⟨a ~ to the transaction⟩ **4** : a particular individual : PERSON ⟨a coquettish little ~⟩ **5** : a detail of soldiers **6** : a social gathering; *also* : the entertainment provided for it **7** **a** : an act of sexual intercourse **b** : ORGY — **party** *adj*

²party *vi* **par·tied; par·ty·ing** : to attend or give parties

party line *n* **1** : the policy or practice of a political party ⟨elections fought on *party lines*⟩ **2** : a single telephone circuit connecting two or more subscribers with the exchange — called also *party wire* **3** : the principles or policies of an individual or organization; *esp* : the official policies of the Communist party — **par·ty–lin·er** \ˌpärt-ē-ˈlī-nər\ *n*

party wall *n* : a wall which divides two adjoining properties and in which each of the owners of the adjoining properties has rights of enjoyment

pa·rure \pə-ˈrú(ə)r\ *n* [F, lit., adornment, fr. OF *pareure*, fr. *parer* to prepare, adorn — more at PARE] : a matched set of ornaments (as jewelry)

par value *n* : PAR 1b(1)

par·ve \ˈpär-və\ *var of* PAREVE

par·ve·nu \ˈpär-və-ˌn(y)ü\ *n* [F, fr. pp. of *parvenir* to arrive, fr. L *pervenire*, fr. *per* through + *venire* to come — more at FOR, COME] : one who has recently or suddenly attained to wealth or power and has not yet secured the social position appropriate to it : UPSTART — **parvenu** *or* **par·ve·nue** \-ˌn(y)ü\ *adj*

par·vis *also* **par·vise** \ˈpär-vəs\ *n* [ME *parvis*, fr. MF, modif. of LL *paradisus* enclosed park — more at PARADISE] **1** : a court or enclosed space before a building (as a church) **2** : a single portico or colonnade before a church

pas \ˈpä\ *n, pl* **pas** \ˈpä(z)\ [F, fr. L *passus* step — more at PACE] **1** : the right of precedence **2** : a dance step or combination of steps

PAS \ˌpē-ˌā-ˈes\ *abbr* para-aminosalicylic acid

Pas·cal's triangle \pas-ˈkalz-, pȧs-ˈkȧlz-\ *n* [Blaise *Pascal*] : a system of numbers triangularly arranged in rows that consist of the coefficients in the expansion of $(a + b)^n$ for $n = 0, 1, 2, 3, \ldots$

Pasch \ˈpask\ *n* [ME *pasche* Passover, Easter, fr. OF, fr. LL *pascha*, fr. LGk, fr. Gk, Passover, fr. Heb *pesaḥ*] **1** : PASSOVER **2** : EASTER — **pas·chal** \ˈpas-kəl\ *adj*

Paschal Lamb *n* : AGNUS DEI 2

pas de bour·rée \ˌpäd-ə-bu̇-ˈrā\ *n, pl* **pas de bourrée** *same*\ [F, lit., bourrée step] : a walking or running ballet step usu. executed on the points of the toes

pas de deux \ˌpäd-ə-ˈdə(r), -ˈdü\ *n, pl* **pas de deux** \-ˈdər(z), -ˈdə(z), -ˈdü(z)\ [F, lit., step for two] : a dance or figure for two performers

pas de trois \-ˈtrwä, -trə-ˈwä\ *n, pl* **pas de trois** \-ˈtrwä(z), -trə-ˈwä(z)\ [F, lit., step for three] : a dance or figure for three performers

pa·se \ˈpäs-(ˌ)ā\ *n* [Sp, lit., feint, fr. *pase* let him pass, fr. *pasar* to pass, fr. (assumed) VL *passare*] : a movement of a cape by a matador in drawing a bull and taking his charge

pa·seo \pə-ˈsā-(ˌ)ō, pä-\ *n, pl* **paseos** [Sp] **1** **a** : a leisurely stroll : PROMENADE **b** : a public walk or boulevard **2** : a formal entrance march of bullfighters into an arena

¹pash \ˈpash\ *vt* [ME *passhen*] *dial Eng* : SMASH

²pash *n* [origin unknown] *dial Eng* : HEAD

pa·sha \ˈpäsh-ə, ˈpash-; pə-ˈshä, -ˈshȯ\ *n* [Turk *paşa*] : a man of high rank or office (as in Turkey or northern Africa)

Pash·to \ˈpəsh-(ˌ)tō\ *n* [Per *pashtu*, fr. Pashto] : the Iranian language of the Pathan people which is the chief vernacular of eastern Afghanistan and adjacent parts of West Pakistan

Pa·siph·aë \pə-ˈsif-ə-ˌē\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *Pasiphaē*] : the wife of Minos and mother of the Minotaur by a white bull

pasque·flow·er \ˈpask-ˌflau̇(-ə)r\ *n* [MF *passefleur*, fr. *passer* to pass + *fleur* flower, fr. L *flor-*, *flos* — more at BLOW] : any of several low perennial herbs (genus *Anemone*) of the buttercup family with palmately compound leaves and large usu. white or purple early spring flowers

pas·qui·nade \ˌpas-kwə-ˈnād\ *n* [MF, fr. It *pasquinata*, fr. *Pasquino*, name given to a statue in Rome on which lampoons were posted] **1** : a lampoon posted in a public place **2** : satirical writing : SATIRE — **pasquinade** *vt*

¹pass \ˈpas\ *vb* [ME *passen*, fr. OF *passer*, fr. (assumed) VL *passare*, fr. L *passus* step — more at PACE] *vi* **1** : MOVE, PROCEED **2** **a** : to go away : DEPART **b** : DIE — often used with *on* **3** **a** : to go by : move past **b** : to glide by ⟨time ~*es* swiftly⟩ **c** : to move past another vehicle going in the same direction **4** **a** : to go or make one's way through ⟨allow no one to ~⟩ **b** : to go uncensured or unchallenged ⟨let his remark ~⟩ **5** : to go from one quality, state, or form to another ⟨~*es* from a liquid to a gaseous state⟩ **6** **a** : to sit in inquest or judgment **b** (1) : to render a judgment, verdict, or opinion ⟨the court ~*ed* on the legality of wiretapping⟩ (2) : to become legally rendered ⟨judgment ~*ed* for the plaintiff⟩ **7** **a** : to become legally transferred ⟨title ~*es* from the seller to the buyer upon payment in full⟩ **b** : to go from the control or possession of one person or group to that of another ⟨the throne ~*ed* to the king's son⟩ **8** **a** : HAPPEN, OCCUR **b** : to take place as a mutual exchange or transaction ⟨words ~*ed*⟩ **9** **a** : to become approved by a legislature or other body empowered to sanction or reject ⟨the proposal ~*ed*⟩ **b** : to undergo an inspection, test, or course of study successfully **10** **a** : to serve as a medium of exchange **b** : to be held or regarded ⟨~ for an honest man⟩ **c** : to identify oneself or accept identification as a white person though having some Negro ancestry **11** **a** *obs* : to make a pass in fencing **b** : to throw or hit a ball or puck to a teammate — often used with *off* **12** **a** : to decline to bid, double, or redouble in a card game **b** : to withdraw from the current poker pot ~ *vt* **1** : to go beyond: as **a** : SURPASS, EXCEED ⟨~*es* all expectations⟩ **b** : to advance or develop beyond **c** : to go past (one moving in the same direction) **2** **a** : to omit a regularly scheduled declaration and payment of (a dividend) **b** : to leave out in an account or narration **3** **a** : to go across, over, or through : CROSS **b** : to live through : UNDERGO **c** : to cause or permit to elapse : SPEND ⟨~ time⟩ **4** **a** : to secure the approval of ⟨the bill ~*ed* the Senate⟩ **b** : to go through successfully : satisfy the requirements of ⟨~ an exam⟩ **5** **a** : to cause or permit to win approval or legal or official sanction ⟨~ a law⟩ **b** : to let go unnoticed : OVERLOOK **c** : to cause or allow to pass an examination or course of study **6** **a** : PLEDGE **b** : to transfer the right to or property in ⟨~ title to a house⟩ **7** **a** : to put in circulation ⟨~ bad checks⟩ **b** : to transfer from one person to another ⟨please ~ the salt⟩ **c** : to cause or enable to go : TRANSPORT **d** : to take a turn with (as a rope) around something **e** : to throw or hit (a ball or puck) esp. to a teammate **8** **a** : to pronounce judicially ⟨~ sentence⟩ **b** : UTTER **9** **a** : to cause or permit to go past or through a barrier **b** : to cause to march or go by in order ⟨~ the troops in review⟩ **10** : to emit or discharge from a bodily part and esp. the bowels **11** **a** : to give a base on balls to **b** : to hit a ball past (an opponent) in a game (as tennis) — **pass·er** *n* — **in passing** : by the way : PARENTHETICALLY — **pass muster** : to pass an inspection or examination — **pass the buck** : to shift a responsibility to someone else — **pass the hat** : to take up a collection for money

²pass *n* **1** : a means (as an opening, road, or channel) by which a barrier may be passed or access to a place may be gained; *esp* : a low place in a mountain range **2** : a position to be maintained usu. against odds

³pass *n* **1** : the act or an instance of passing : PASSAGE **2** : REALIZATION ⟨brought his dream to ~⟩ **3** : a usu. distressing or bad state of affairs ⟨what has brought you to such a ~?⟩ **4** **a** : a written permission to move about freely in a place or to leave or enter it **b** : a written leave of absence from a military post or station for a brief period **c** : a permit or ticket allowing one free transportation or free admission **5** *archaic* : a thrust or lunge in fencing **6** **a** : a transference of objects by sleight of hand or other deceptive means **b** : a moving of the hands over or along something **7** *archaic* : an ingenious sally (as of wit) **8** : the passing of an examination or course of study; *also* : the mark or certification of such passing **9** : a single complete mechanical operation; *also* : a single complete cycle of operations (as for processing, manufacturing, or printing) **10** **a** (1) : a transfer of a ball or a puck from one player to another on the same team (2) : an instance of such a transfer (3) : a ball or puck so transferred **b** : a ball hit to the side and out of reach of an opponent in a game (as tennis or paddleball) **11** : BASE ON BALLS **12** **a** : an election not to bid, bet, or draw an additional card in a card game **b** : an election not to bid, double, or redouble in bridge **13** : a throw of dice in the game of craps that wins the shooter his bet — compare CRAP, MISSOUT **14** : a single passage or movement of an airplane or other man-made object over a place or toward a target **15** **a** : EFFORT, TRY **b** : a sexually inviting gesture or approach **16** : PASE ***syn*** see JUNCTURE

⁴pass *abbr* **1** passenger **2** passive

pass·able \ˈpas-ə-bəl\ *adj* **1** **a** : capable of being passed, crossed, or traveled on ⟨~ roads⟩ **b** : capable of being freely circulated **2** : barely good enough : TOLERABLE — **pass·ably** \-blē\ *adv*

pas·sa·ca·glia \ˌpäs-ə-ˈkäl-yə, ˌpas-ə-ˈkal-yə\ *n* [modif. of Sp *pasacalle*] **1** **a** : an old Italian or Spanish dance tune **b** : an instrumental musical composition consisting of variations usu. on a ground bass in moderately slow triple time **2** : an old dance performed to a passacaglia

pas·sa·do \pə-ˈsäd-(ˌ)ō\ *n, pl* **-dos** *or* **-does** [modif. of F *passade* (fr. It *passata*) or It *passata*, fr. *passare* to pass, fr. (assumed) VL] *archaic* : a thrust in fencing with one foot advanced

¹pas·sage \ˈpas-ij\ *n* **1** **a** : the action or process of passing from one place or condition to another **b** *obs* : DEATH **2** **a** : a way of exit or entrance : a road, path, channel, or course by which something passes **b** : a corridor or lobby giving access to the different rooms or parts of a building or apartment **3** **a** (1) : a specific act of traveling or passing esp. by sea or air (2) : a privilege of conveyance as a passenger : ACCOMMODATIONS **b** : the passing of a legislative measure or law : ENACTMENT **4** : a right, liberty, or permission to pass **5** **a** : something that happens or is done : INCIDENT **b** : something that takes place between two persons mutually **6** **a** : a usu. brief portion of a written work or speech that is relevant to a point under discussion or noteworthy for content or style **b** : a phrase or short section of a musical composition **c** : a detail of a work of art (as a painting) **7** : the act or action of passing something or undergoing a passing **8** : incubation of a pathogen (as a virus) in culture, a living organism, or a developing egg

²passage *vb* **pas·saged; pas·sag·ing** *vi* : to go past or across : CROSS ~ *vt* : to subject to passage ⟨*passaged* a virus⟩

pas·sage·way \-ij-ˌwā\ *n* : a way that allows passage

pas·sant \ˈpas-ᵊnt\ *adj* [MF, fr. prp. of *passer* to pass] : walking with the farther forepaw raised — used of a heraldic animal

pass away *vi* **1** : to go out of existence **2** : DIE

pass·band \ˈpas-ˌband\ *n* : a band of frequencies (as in a radio circuit or a light filter) that is transmitted with maximum efficiency

pass·book \-ˌbu̇k\ *n* : BANKBOOK

pass degree *n* : a bachelor's degree without honors that is taken at a British university

pas·sé \pa-ˈsā\ *adj* [F, fr. pp. of *passer*] **1** : past one's prime **2** **a** : OUTMODED **b** : behind the times

passed ball *n* : a pitched baseball not hit by the batter that passes the catcher when he should have stopped it and allows a base runner to advance a base — compare WILD PITCH

passed pawn *n* : a chess pawn that has no enemy pawn in front of it on its own or an adjacent file

pas·sel \ˈpas-əl\ *n* [alter. of *parcel*] : a large number : GROUP

passe·men·terie \pas-ˈmen-trē, -ˈment-ə-rē\ *n* [F, fr. *passement* ornamental braid, fr. *passer*] : a fancy edging or trimming made of braid, cord, gimp, beading, or metallic thread

pas·sen·ger \ˈpas-ᵊn-jər\ *n* [ME *passager*, fr. MF, fr. *passager*, adj., passing, fr. *passage* act of passing, fr. OF, fr. *passer*] **1** : WAYFARER **2** : a traveler in a public or private conveyance

passenger pigeon *n* : an extinct but formerly abundant No. American migratory pigeon (*Ectopistes migratorius*)
passe-par-tout \ˌpas-pər-ˈtü, -ˌpär-\ *n* [F, fr. *passe partout* pass everywhere] **1** : MASTER KEY **2 a** : ⁵MAT 1 **b** : a method of framing in which a picture, a mat, a glass, and a back (as of cardboard) are held together by strips of paper or cloth pasted over the edges **3** : a strong paper gummed on one side and used esp. for mounting pictures
pass-er-by \ˌpas-ər-ˈbī, ˈpas-ər-ˌ\ *n, pl* **pass-ers-by** \-ərz-\ : one who passes by
pas-ser-ine \ˈpas-ə-ˌrīn\ *adj* [L *passerinus* of sparrows, fr. *passer* sparrow] **1** : of or relating to the largest order (Passeriformes) of birds which includes more than half of all living birds and consists chiefly of altricial songbirds of perching habits **2** : of or relating to a suborder (Passeres) of passerine birds comprising the true songbirds with specialized vocal apparatus — **passerine** *n*
pas seul \pä-ˈsər(-ə)l, -ˈsəl\ *n* [F, lit., solo step] : a solo dance or dance figure
pass-fail \ˈpas-ˈfā(ə)l\ *n* : a system of grading whereby the grades "pass" and "fail" replace the traditional letter grades
pas-si-ble \ˈpas-ə-bəl\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF, fr. LL *passibilis*, fr. L *passus*, pp. of *pati* to suffer — more at PATIENT] : capable of feeling or suffering
pas-sim \ˈpas-əm; ˈpas-ˌim, ˈpäs-\ *adv* [L, fr. *passus* scattered, fr. pp. of *pandere* to spread — more at FATHOM] : here and there
¹pass-ing \ˈpas-iŋ\ *n* : the act of one that passes or causes to pass; *esp* : DEATH — **in passing** : by the way : PARENTHETICALLY
²passing *adj* **1** : going by or past ⟨a ~ pedestrian⟩ **2** : having a brief duration ⟨a ~ whim⟩ **3** *obs* : SURPASSING **4** : SUPERFICIAL **5 a** : of, relating to, or used in or for the act or process of passing ⟨~ lanes⟩ **b** : given on satisfactory completion of an examination or course of study ⟨a ~ grade⟩
³passing *adv* : to a surpassing degree : EXCEEDINGLY ⟨~ fair⟩
passing note *n* : a nonharmonic tone interposed between essential harmonic tones of adjacent chords — called also *passing tone*
passing shot *n* : a stroke in tennis that drives the ball to one side and beyond the reach of an opponent who is at or coming toward the net
pas-sion \ˈpash-ən\ *n* [ME, fr. OF, fr. LL *passion-, passio* suffering, being acted upon, fr. L *passus*, pp. of *pati* to suffer — more at PATIENT] **1** *often cap* **a** : the sufferings of Christ between the night of the Last Supper and his death **b** : an oratorio based on a gospel narrative of the Passion **2** *obs* : SUFFERING **3** : the state or capacity of being acted on by external agents or forces **4 a** (1) : EMOTION ⟨his ruling ~ is greed⟩ (2) *pl* : the emotions as distinguished from reason **b** : intense, driving, or overmastering feeling ⟨driven to paint by a ~ beyond his control⟩ **c** : an outbreak of anger **5 a** : ardent affection : LOVE **b** : a strong liking for or devotion to some activity, object, or concept **c** : sexual desire **d** : an object of desire or deep interest — **pas-sion-less** \-ləs\ *adj*
syn **1** see FEELING
2 PASSION, FERVOR, ARDOR, ENTHUSIASM, ZEAL *shared meaning element* : intense emotion compelling action
pas-sion-al \ˈpash-ən-ᵊl, ˈpash-nəl\ *adj* : of, relating to, or marked by passion
pas-sion-ate \ˈpash-(ə-)nət\ *adj* **1 a** : easily aroused to anger **b** : filled with anger : ANGRY **2 a** : capable of, affected by, or expressing intense feeling **b** : ENTHUSIASTIC **3** : swayed by or affected with sexual desire ***syn*** see IMPASSIONED — **pas-sion-ate-ly** *adv* — **pas-sion-ate-ness** *n*
pas-sion-flow-er \ˈpash-ən-ˌflaù(-ə)r\ *n* [fr. the fancied resemblance of parts of the flower to the instruments of Christ's crucifixion] : any of a genus (*Passiflora* of the family Passifloraceae, the passionflower family) of chiefly tropical woody tendriled climbing vines or erect herbs with usu. showy flowers and pulpy often edible berries



passionflower

Pas-sion-ist \ˈpash-(ə-)nəst\ *n* [It *passionista*, fr. *passione* passion, fr. LL *passion-, passio*] : a member of a Roman Catholic mendicant order founded by St. Paul of the Cross in Italy in 1720 and devoted chiefly to missionary work and retreats
passion play *n, often cap 1st P* : a dramatic representation of the scenes connected with the passion and crucifixion of Christ
Passion Sunday *n* : the fifth Sunday in Lent
Pas-sion-tide \ˈpash-ən-ˌtīd\ *n* : the last two weeks of Lent
Passion Week *n* **1** : HOLY WEEK **2** : the second week before Easter
pas-siv-ate \ˈpas-iv-ˌāt\ *vt* **-at-ed; -at-ing** **1** : to make inactive or less reactive ⟨~ the surface of steel by chemical treatment⟩ **2** : to protect (as a semiconductor device) against failure by coating (as with silicon nitride) — **pas-siv-ation** \ˌpas-iv-ˈā-shən\ *n*
¹pas-sive \ˈpas-iv\ *adj* [ME, fr. L *passivus*, fr. *passus*, pp.] **1 a** (1) : acted upon by an external agency (2) : receptive to outside impressions or influences **b** (1) : asserting that the grammatical subject of a verb is subjected to or affected by the action represented by that verb (2) : containing a passive verb form **c** : lacking in energy or will : LETHARGIC **d** : induced by an outside agency ⟨~ exercise⟩ **2 a** : not active or operating : INERT **b** : LATENT **c** (1) : of, relating to, or characterized by a state of chemical inactivity; *esp* : resistant to corrosion (2) : not involving expenditure of chemical energy ⟨~ transport across a cell membrane⟩ **d** : exhibiting no gain or control — used of an electronic device (as a capacitor or resistor) **e** : operating solely by means of the power of an input signal ⟨a ~ communication satellite that reflects television signals⟩ **f** : relating to the detection of or orientation by means of an object through its emission of energy **3 a** : receiving or enduring without resistance : SUBMISSIVE **b** : existing without being active or open ⟨~ support⟩ ***syn*** see INACTIVE ***ant*** active — **pas-sive-ly** *adv* — **pas-sive-ness** *n* — **pas-siv-i-ty** \pa-ˈsiv-ət-ē\ *n*
²passive *n* **1** : a passive verb form **2** : the passive voice of a language
passive immunity *n* : immunity acquired by transfer of antibodies (as by injection of serum from an individual with active immunity)
passive resistance *n* : resistance esp. to a government or an occupying power characterized mainly by techniques and acts of noncooperation
passive transfer *n* : a local transfer of skin sensitivity from an allergic to a normal person by injection of serum from the former that is used esp. for identifying specific allergens when a high degree of allergic sensitivity is suspected
pas-siv-ism \ˈpas-iv-ˌiz-əm\ *n* : a passive attitude, behavior, or way of life — **pas-siv-ist** \-əst\ *n*
pass-key \ˈpas-ˌkē\ *n* **1** : MASTER KEY **2** : SKELETON KEY
pass off *vt* **1** : to make public or offer for sale with intent to deceive **2** : to give a false identity or character to
pass out *vi* **1** : to lose consciousness **2** : DIE ~ *vt* : to reject (a deal in bridge) as unplayable because everyone has passed on the first round of bidding
Pass-over \ˈpas-ˌō-vər\ *n* [fr. the exemption of the Israelites from the slaughter of the first-born in Egypt (Exod 12:23-27)] : a Jewish holiday beginning on the 14th of Nisan and commemorating the Hebrews' liberation from slavery in Egypt
pass over \(ˈ)pas-ˈō-vər\ *vt* **1** : to ignore in passing **2** : to pay no attention to the claims of : DISREGARD
pass-port \ˈpas-ˌpō(ə)rt, -ˌpȯ(ə)rt\ *n* [MF *passeport*, fr. *passer* to pass + *port* port, fr. L *portus* — more at FORD] **1 a** : a formal document that is issued by an authorized official of a country to one of its citizens and usu. necessary for exit from and reentry into the country, that allows him to travel in a foreign country in accordance with visa requirements, and that requests protection for him while abroad **b** : a license issued by a country permitting a foreign citizen to pass or take goods through its territory : SAFE-CONDUCT **c** : a document of identification required by law to be carried by persons residing or traveling within a country **2 a** : a permission or authorization to go somewhere **b** : something that secures admission or acceptance ⟨education as a ~ to success⟩
pass up *vt* : DECLINE, REJECT
pass-word \ˈpas-ˌwərd\ *n* **1** : a word or phrase that must be spoken by a person before he is allowed to pass a guard **2** : WATCHWORD 1
¹past \ˈpast\ *adj* [ME, fr. pp. of *passen* to pass] **1 a** : AGO ⟨ten years ~⟩ **b** : just gone or elapsed ⟨for the ~ few months⟩ **2** : having existed or taken place in a period before the present : BYGONE **3** : of, relating to, or constituting a verb tense that in English is usu. formed by internal vowel change (as in *sang*) or by the addition of a suffix (as in *laughed*) and that is expressive of elapsed time **4** : having served as a specified officer in an organization ⟨~ president⟩
²past *prep* **1 a** : beyond the age for or of ⟨~ playing with dolls⟩ **b** : AFTER ⟨half ~ two⟩ **2 a** : at the farther side of : BEYOND **b** : in a course or direction going close to and then beyond ⟨drove ~ the house⟩ **3** *obs* : more than **4** : beyond the capacity, range, or sphere of ⟨~ belief⟩
³past *n* **1 a** : time gone by **b** : something that happened or was done in the past ⟨regret the ~⟩ **2 a** : the past tense of a language **b** : a verb form in the past tense **3** : a past life, history, or course of action; *esp* : one that is kept secret
⁴past *adv* : so as to reach and go beyond a point near at hand
pas-ta \ˈpäs-tə\ *n* [It, fr. LL] **1** : a paste in processed form (as spaghetti) or in the form of fresh dough (as ravioli) **2** : a dish of cooked pasta
¹paste \ˈpāst\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. LL *pasta* dough, paste] **1 a** : a dough that contains a considerable proportion of fat and is used for pastry crust or fancy rolls **b** : a confection made by evaporating fruit with sugar or by flavoring a gelatin, starch, or gum arabic preparation **c** : a smooth food product made by evaporation or grinding ⟨tomato ~⟩ ⟨almond ~⟩ **d** : a shaped dough (as spaghetti or ravioli) prepared from semolina, farina, or wheat flour **2** : a soft plastic mixture or composition: as **a** : a preparation usu. of flour or starch and water used as an adhesive or a vehicle for mordant or color **b** : clay or a clay mixture used in making pottery or porcelain **3** : a brilliant glass of high lead content used for the manufacture of artificial gems
²paste *vt* **past-ed; past-ing** **1** : to cause to adhere by paste : STICK **2** : to cover with something pasted on
³paste *vt* **past-ed; past-ing** [alter. of *baste*] : to strike hard at
¹paste-board \ˈpās(t)-ˌbō(ə)rd, -ˌbȯ(ə)rd\ *n* **1** : paperboard made by pasting together two or more sheets of paper; *broadly* : PAPERBOARD **2 a** : VISITING CARD **b** : PLAYING CARD **c** : TICKET
²pasteboard *adj* **1** : made of pasteboard **2** : SHAM, UNSUBSTANTIAL
paste-down \-ˌdaůn\ *n* : the outer leaf of an endpaper that is pasted down to the inside of the front or back cover of a book
¹pas-tel \pas-ˈtel\ *n* [F, fr. It *pastello*, fr. LL *pastellus* woad, fr. dim. of *pasta*] **1** : a paste made of ground color and used for making crayons; *also* : a crayon made of such paste **2 a** : a drawing in pastel **b** : the process or art of drawing with pastels **3** : a light literary sketch **4** : any of various pale or light colors
²pastel *adj* **1 a** : of or relating to a pastel **b** : made with pastels **2** : pale and light in color **3** : lacking in body or vigor
pas-tel-ist *or* **pas-tel-list** \-ˈtel-əst\ *n* : an artist who works with pastels

pas·tern \'pas-tərn\ *n* [MF *pasturon*, fr. *pasture* pasture, tether attached to a horse's foot] **1** : a part of the foot of an equine extending from the fetlock to the coffin bone — see HORSE illustration **2** : a part of the leg of an animal other than an equine that corresponds to the pastern

pas·teur·iza·tion \ˌpas-chə-rə-'zā-shən, ˌpas-tə-\ *n* **1** : partial sterilization of a substance and esp. a liquid (as milk) at a temperature and for a period of exposure that destroys objectionable organisms without major chemical alteration of the substance **2** : partial sterilization of perishable food products (as fruit or fish) with radiation (as gamma rays)

pas·teur·ize \'pas-chə-ˌrīz, 'pas-tə-\ *vt* **-ized; -iz·ing** [Louis *Pasteur*] : to subject to pasteurization — **pas·teur·iz·er** *n*

Pasteur treatment *n* : a method of aborting rabies by stimulating production of antibodies through successive inoculations with attenuated virus of gradually increasing strength

pas·tic·cio \pas-'tē-ch(ē-ˌ)ō, päs-\ *n, pl* **-ci** \-(ˌ)chē\ *or* **-cios** [It, lit., pasty, fr. ML *pasticius*, fr. LL *pasta*] : PASTICHE

pas·tiche \pas-'tēsh, päs-\ *n* [F, fr. It *pasticcio*] **1** : a literary, artistic, or musical work that imitates the style of previous work **2 a** : a musical, literary, or artistic composition made up of selections from different works : POTPOURRI **b** : HODGEPODGE

past·ies \'pā-stēz\ *n pl* [²*paste*] : small round coverings for a woman's nipples worn esp. by a stripteaser

pas·tille \pas-'tē(ə)l\ *also* **pas·til** \'pas-tᵊl\ *n* [F *pastille*, fr. L *pastillus* small loaf, lozenge; akin to L *panis* bread — more at FOOD] **1** : a small mass of aromatic paste for fumigating or scenting the air of a room **2** : an aromatic or medicated lozenge : TROCHE

pas·time \'pas-ˌtīm\ *n* : something that amuses and serves to make time pass agreeably : DIVERSION

past·i·ness \'pā-stē-nəs\ *n* : the quality or state of being pasty

past master *n* **1** : one who has held the office of worshipful master in a lodge of Freemasons or of master in a guild, club, or society **2** [alter. of *passed master*] : one who is expert : ADEPT — **past mistress** *n*

past·ness \'pas(t)-nəs\ *n* **1** : the quality or state of being past **2** : the subjective quality of something being remembered rather than immediately experienced

¹pas·tor \'pas-tər, *for 2* päs-'tȯ(ə)r\ *n* [ME *pastour*, fr. OF, fr. L *pastor*, herdsman, fr. *pastus*, pp. of *pascere* to feed — more at FOOD] **1** : a spiritual overseer; *esp* : a clergyman serving a local church or parish **2** *chiefly Southwest* [Sp, fr. L] : HERDSMAN — **pas·tor·ship** \-ˌship\ *n*

²pas·tor \'pas-tər\ **-tored; -tor·ing** \-t(ə-)riŋ\ *vt* : to serve as pastor of (as a church)

¹pas·to·ral \'pas-t(ə-)rəl\ *adj* [ME, fr. L *pastoralis*, fr. *pastor* herdsman] **1 a** (1) : of, relating to, or composed of shepherds or herdsmen (2) : devoted to or based on livestock raising **b** : of or relating to the countryside : not urban **c** : portraying or expressive of the life of shepherds or country people esp. in an idealized and conventionalized manner ⟨~ poetry⟩ **d** : pleasingly peaceful and innocent : IDYLLIC **2 a** : of or relating to spiritual care or guidance esp. of a congregation **b** : of or relating to the pastor of a church ***syn*** see RURAL — **pas·to·ral·ly** \-t(ə-)rə-lē\ *adv* — **pas·to·ral·ness** *n*

²pastoral \'pas-t(ə-)rəl, *2d is often* ˌpas-tə-'räl, -'ral\ *n* **1** : a letter of a pastor to his charge: as **a** : a letter addressed by a bishop to his diocese **b** : a letter of the house of bishops of the Protestant Episcopal Church to be read in each parish **2 a** : a literary work (as a poem or play) dealing with shepherds or rural life in a usu. artificial manner and typically drawing a contrast between the innocence and serenity of the simple life and the misery and corruption of city and esp. court life **b** : pastoral poetry or drama **c** : a rural picture or scene **d** : PASTORALE 1b **3** : CROSIER

pas·to·rale \ˌpas-tə-'räl, -'ral *also* -'räl-ē\ *n* [It, fr. *pastorale* of herdsmen, fr. L *pastoralis*, fr. *pastor*] **1 a** : an opera of the 16th or 17th centuries having a pastoral plot **b** : an instrumental or vocal composition having a pastoral theme **2** : PASTORAL 2a

Pastoral Epistle *n* : one of three New Testament letters including two addressed to Timothy and one to Titus that give advice on matters of church government and discipline

pas·to·ral·ism \'pas-t(ə-)rə-ˌliz-əm\ *n* **1** : the quality or style characteristic of pastoral writing **2 a** : livestock raising **b** : social organization based on livestock raising as the primary economic activity — **pas·to·ral·ist** \-ləst\ *n*

pas·tor·ate \'pas-t(ə-)rət\ *n* **1** : the office, state, jurisdiction, or tenure of office of a pastor **2** : a body of pastors

pas·to·ri·um \pas-'tōr-ē-əm, -'tȯr-\ *n* [irreg. fr. *pastor* + *-orium*] *chiefly South* : a Protestant parsonage

past participle *n* : a participle that typically expresses completed action, that is traditionally one of the principal parts of the verb, and that is traditionally used in English in the formation of perfect tenses in the active voice and of all tenses in the passive voice

past perfect *adj* : of, relating to, or constituting a verb tense that is traditionally formed in English with *had* and denotes an action or state as completed at or before a past time spoken of — **past perfect** *n*

pas·tra·mi \pə-'sträm-ē\ *also* **pas·tromi** *n* [Yiddish, fr. Rum *pastramă*] : a highly seasoned smoked beef prepared esp. from shoulder cuts

past·ry \'pā-strē\ *n, pl* **pastries** [¹*paste*] **1 a** : PASTE 1a **b** : sweet baked goods made of dough or having a crust made of enriched dough **2** : a piece of pastry

past tense *n* : a verb tense expressing action or state in or as if in the past: **a** : a verb tense expressive of elapsed time (as *wrote* in "on arriving I wrote a letter") **b** : a verb tense expressing action or state in progress or continuance or habitually done or customarily occurring at a past time (as *was writing* in "I was writing while he dictated" or *loved* in "their sons loved fishing")

pas·tur·age \'pas-chə-rij\ *n* : PASTURE

¹pas·ture \'pas-chər\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. LL *pastura*, fr. L *pastus*, pp. of *pascere* to feed — more at FOOD] **1** : plants (as grass) grown for the feeding esp. of grazing animals **2** : land or a plot of land used for grazing **3** : the feeding of livestock : GRAZING

²pasture *vb* **pas·tured; pas·tur·ing** *vi* : GRAZE, BROWSE ~ *vt* **1** : to feed (as cattle) on pasture **2** : to use as pasture — **pas·tur·er** *n*

pas·ture·land \'pas-chər-ˌland\ *n* : PASTURE 2

¹pas·ty \'pas-tē\ *n, pl* **pasties** [ME *pastee*, fr. MF *pasté*, fr. *paste* dough, paste] **1** : ²PIE 1, 2; *esp* : a meat pie **2** : TURNOVER 5

²pasty \'pā-stē\ *adj* **past·i·er; -est** : resembling paste; *esp* : pallid and unhealthy in appearance

PA system \pē-'ā-\ *n* : PUBLIC-ADDRESS SYSTEM

¹pat \'pat\ *n* [ME *patte*] **1** : a light blow esp. with the hand or a flat instrument **2** : a light tapping often rhythmical sound **3** : something (as butter) shaped into a small flat usu. square individual portion

²pat *vb* **pat·ted; pat·ting** *vt* **1** : to strike lightly with a flat instrument **2** : to flatten, smooth, or put into place or shape with light blows **3** : to tap or stroke gently with the hand to soothe, caress, or show approval ~ *vi* **1** : to strike or beat gently **2** : to walk or run with a light beating sound

³pat *adv* : in a pat manner : APTLY, PROMPTLY

⁴pat *adj* **1 a** : exactly suited to the purpose or occasion : APT **b** : suspiciously appropriate : CONTRIVED **2** : learned, mastered, or memorized exactly **3** : FIRM, UNYIELDING ***syn*** see SEASONABLE

⁵pat *abbr* patent

pa·ta·ca \pə-'täk-ə\ *n* [Pg] — see MONEY table

pa·ta·gi·um \pə-'tā-jē-əm\ *n, pl* **-gia** \-jē-ə\ [NL, fr. L, gold edging on a tunic] : a wing membrane: as **a** : the fold of skin connecting the forelimbs and hind limbs of a flying squirrel or dragon lizard **b** : the fold of skin in front of the main segments of a bird's wing

¹patch \'pach\ *n* [ME *pacche*] **1** : a piece of material used to mend or cover a hole or a weak spot **2** : a tiny piece of black silk or court plaster worn on the face or neck esp. by women to hide a blemish or to heighten beauty **3 a** : a piece of adhesive plaster or other cover applied to a wound **b** : a shield worn over the socket of an injured or missing eye **4 a** : a small piece : SCRAP **b** : a small area distinct from that about it ⟨cabbage ~⟩ **5** : a piece of cloth sewed on a garment as an ornament or insignia; *esp* : SHOULDER PATCH **6** : a temporary connection in a communication system (as a telephone hookup) **7** : a temporary correction in a faulty computer program

²patch *vt* **1** : to mend, cover, or fill up a hole or weak spot in **2** : to provide with a patch **3 a** : to make of patches or fragments **b** : to mend or put together esp. in hasty or shabby fashion — usu. used with *up* **c** : to make a patch in (a computer program) **4** : to connect (as circuits) by a patch cord ***syn*** see MEND

³patch *n* [perh. by folk etymology fr. It dial. *paccio*] : FOOL, DOLT

patch·board \'pach-ˌbō(ə)rd, -ˌbȯ(ə)rd\ *n* : a plugboard in which circuits are interconnected by patch cords

patch cord *n* : a wire with a plug at each end that is used to effect a communication patch

pa·tchou·li *or* **pa·tchou·ly** \'pach-ə-lē, pə-'chü-lē\ *n* [Tamil *paccuḷi*] **1** : an East Indian shrubby mint (*Pogostemon cablin*) that yields a fragrant essential oil **2** : a heavy perfume made from patchouli

patch pocket *n* : a flat pocket applied to the outside of a garment

patch test *n* : a test for determining allergic sensitivity that is made by applying to the unbroken skin small pads soaked with the allergen to be tested

patch·work \'pach-ˌwərk\ *n* **1** : something composed of miscellaneous or incongruous parts : HODGEPODGE **2** : pieces of cloth of various colors and shapes sewed together to form a covering

patchy \'pach-ē\ *adj* **patch·i·er; -est** : marked by, consisting of, or diversified with patches — **patch·i·ly** \'pach-ə-lē\ *adv* — **patch·i·ness** \'pach-ē-nəs\ *n*

pate \'pāt\ *n* [ME] **1** : HEAD **2** : the crown of the head **3** : BRAIN — used chiefly disparagingly — **pat·ed** \'pāt-əd\ *adj*

pâte \'pät\ *n* [F, lit., paste, fr. OF *paste*] : PASTE 2b

pâ·té \pä-'tā, pa-\ *n* [F, fr. OF *pasté*, fr. *paste*] **1** : a meat or fish pie or patty **2** : a spread of finely mashed seasoned and spiced meat ⟨chicken liver ~⟩

pâ·té de foie gras \(ˌ)pä-ˌtād-ə-ˌfwä-'grä, (ˌ)pa-ˌtād-\ *n, pl* **pâ·tés de foie gras** \-ˌtā(z)d-ə-\ [F] : a rich pâté of fat goose liver and truffles sometimes with added fat pork

pa·tel·la \pə-'tel-ə\ *n, pl* **pa·tel·lae** \-'tel-(ˌ)ē, -ˌī\ *or* **patellas** [L, fr. dim. of *patina* shallow dish] : a thick flat triangular movable bone that forms the anterior point of the knee and protects the front of the joint — called also *kneecap* — **pa·tel·lar** \-'tel-ər\ *adj*

pa·tel·li·form \pə-'tel-ə-ˌfȯrm\ *adj* [NL *Patella* genus including the limpet, fr. L, small shallow dish] **1** : resembling a limpet or limpet shell **2** : disk-shaped with a narrow rim

pat·en \'pat-ᵊn\ *n* [ME, fr. OF *patene*, fr. ML & L; ML *patina*, fr. L, shallow dish, fr. Gk *patanē*; akin to L *patēre*] **1** : a plate usu. made of precious metal and used to carry the bread at the Eucharist **2 a** : PLATE **b** : something (as a metal disk) resembling a plate

pa·ten·cy \'pat-ᵊn-sē, 'pāt-\ *n* : the quality or state of being patent

¹pa·tent *4-7 are* 'pat-ᵊnt, 'pāt-; *1-3 are* 'pat-, *Brit* 'pat- *or* 'pāt-\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *patent-, patens*, fr. prp. of *patēre* to be open — more at FATHOM] **1 a** : open to public inspection — used chiefly in the phrase *letters patent* **b** (1) : secured by letters patent or by a patent to the exclusive control and possession of a particular individual or party (2) : protected by a patent : made under a patent ⟨~ locks⟩ **c** : protected by a trademark or a trade name so as to establish proprietary rights analogous to those conveyed by letters patent or a patent : PROPRIETARY ⟨~ drugs⟩ **2** : of, relating to, or concerned with the granting of patents esp. for inventions ⟨a ~ lawyer⟩ **3** : making exclusive or proprietary claims or pretensions **4** : affording free passage : UNOBSTRUCTED ⟨a ~ opening⟩ **5** : PATULOUS, SPREADING ⟨a ~ calyx⟩ **6** *archaic* : ACCESSIBLE, EXPOSED **7** : readily visible or intelligible : not hidden or obscure ***syn*** see EVIDENT ***ant*** latent — **pa·tent·ly** *adv*

²pat·ent \'pat-ᵊnt, *Brit also* 'pāt-\ *n* **1** : an official document conferring a right or privilege : LETTERS PATENT **2 a** : a writing securing to an inventor for a term of years the exclusive right to make, use, or sell his invention **b** : the monopoly or right so granted **c** : a patented invention **3** : PRIVILEGE, LICENSE **4** : an

instrument making a conveyance of public lands; *also* : the land so conveyed

³pat·ent *vt* **1** : to grant a privilege, right, or license to by patent **2** : to obtain or secure by patent; *esp* : to secure by letters patent exclusive right to make, use, or sell **3** : to obtain a patent right or grant one to — **pat·ent·abil·i·ty** \ˌpat-ᵊn-tə-ˈbil-ət-ē, *Brit also* ˌpāt-\ *n* — **pat·ent·able** \ˈpat-ᵊn-tə-bəl, *Brit also* ˈpāt-\ *adj*

pat·en·tee \ˌpat-ᵊn-ˈtē, *Brit also* ˌpāt-\ *n* : one to whom a grant is made or a privilege secured by patent

pat·ent flour \ˌpat-ᵊn(t)-, *Brit also* ˌpāt-\ *n* : a high-grade wheat flour that consists solely of endosperm

pat·ent leather \ˌpat-ᵊn(t)-, *Brit usu* ˌpāt-\ *n* : a leather with a hard smooth glossy surface

patent medicine *n* : PROPRIETARY 3

patent office *n* : a government office for examining claims to patents and granting patents

pat·en·tor \ˈpat-ᵊn-tər, ˌpat-ᵊn-ˈtȯ(ə)r, *Brit also* ˈpāt-, ˌpāt-\ *n* : one that grants a patent

patent right *n* : a right granted by letters patent; *esp* : the exclusive right to an invention

pa·ter *n* **1** *often cap* \ˈpä-ˌte(ə)r\ : PATERNOSTER **2** \ˈpāt-ər\ [L] *chiefly Brit* : FATHER

pa·ter·fa·mil·i·as \ˌpāt-ər-fə-ˈmil-ē-əs, ˌpät-\ *n, pl* **pa·tres·fa·mil·i·as** \ˌpā-ˌtrēz-, ˌpä-ˌträs-\ [L, fr. *pater* father + *familias*, archaic gen. of *familia* household — more at FATHER, FAMILY] **1** : the male head of a household **2** : the father of a family

pa·ter·nal \pə-ˈtərn-ᵊl\ *adj* [L *paternus*, fr. *pater*] **1 a** : of or relating to a father **b** : like that of a father ⟨~ benevolence⟩ **2** : received or inherited from one's male parent **3** : related through one's father ⟨~ grandfather⟩ — **pa·ter·nal·ly** \-ᵊl-ē\ *adv*

pa·ter·nal·ism \pə-ˈtərn-ᵊl-ˌiz-əm\ *n* **1** : a system under which an authority undertakes to supply needs or regulate conduct of those under its control in matters affecting them as individuals as well as in their relations to authority and to each other **2** : a policy or practice based on or characteristic of paternalism — **pa·ter·nal·ist** \-ᵊl-əst\ *n or adj* — **pa·ter·nal·is·tic** \-ˌtərn-ᵊl-ˈis-tik\ *adj*

pa·ter·ni·ty \pə-ˈtər-nət-ē\ *n* **1** : the quality or state of being a father **2** : origin or descent from a father

paternity test *n* : a test to determine whether a given man could be the biological father of a given child that is made by comparison of genetic traits (as blood groups) of the mother, child, and suspected man

pa·ter·nos·ter \ˈpat-ər-ˌnäs-tər; ˌpät-ər-ˈnäs-tər, -ˌte(ə)r\ *n* [ME, fr. ML, fr. L *pater noster* our father] **1** *often cap* : LORD'S PRAYER **2** : a word formula repeated as a prayer or magical charm

¹path \ˈpath, ˈpȧth\ *n, pl* **paths** \ˈpa͟thz, ˈpaths, ˈpȧ͟thz, ˈpȧths\ [ME, fr. OE *pæth;* akin to OHG *pfad* path] **1** : a trodden way **2** : a track specially constructed for a particular use **3 a** : COURSE, ROUTE **b** : a way of life, conduct, or thought **4 a** : the continuous series of positions or configurations that can be assumed in any motion or process of change by a moving or varying system **b** : a sequence of arcs in a network that can be traced continuously without retracing any arc **5** : a line of communication over interconnecting neurons extending from one organ or center to another

²path *or* **pathol** *abbr* pathological; pathology

path- *or* **patho-** *comb form* [NL, fr. Gk, fr. *pathos*, lit., suffering — more at PATHOS] : pathological state : disease ⟨*patho*gen⟩

-path \ˌpath\ *n comb form* [G, back-formation fr. *-pathie* -pathy] **1** : practitioner of a (specified) system of medicine that emphasizes one aspect of disease or its treatment ⟨naturo*path*⟩ **2** [ISV, fr. Gk *-pathēs*, adj., suffering, fr. *pathos*] : one suffering from a disorder (of such a part or system) ⟨psycho*path*⟩

Pa·than \pə-ˈtän *also* ˈpā-thən\ *n* [Hindi *Paṭhān*] : a member of the principal ethnic group of Afghanistan

pa·thet·ic \pə-ˈthet-ik\ *adj* [MF or LL; MF *pathetique*, fr. LL *patheticus*, fr. Gk *pathētikos* capable of feeling, pathetic, fr. *paschein* to experience, suffer — more at PATHOS] **1** : having a capacity to move one to either compassionate or contemptuous pity **2** : marked by sorrow or melancholy : SAD ***syn*** see MOVING — **pa·thet·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj* — **pa·thet·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

pathetic fallacy *n* : the ascription of human traits or feelings to inanimate nature (as in *cruel sea*)

path·find·er \ˈpath-ˌfīn-dər, ˈpȧth-\ *n* : one that discovers a way; *esp* : one that explores untraversed regions to mark out a new route — **path·find·ing** \-diŋ\ *n or adj*

path·less \-ləs\ *adj* : UNTRODDEN, TRACKLESS — **path·less·ness** *n*

patho·gen \ˈpath-ə-jən\ *n* [ISV] : a specific causative agent (as a bacterium or virus) of disease

patho·gen·e·sis \ˌpath-ə-ˈjen-ə-səs\ *n* [NL] : the origination and development of a disease

patho·ge·net·ic \-jə-ˈnet-ik\ *adj* [ISV] **1** : of or relating to pathogenesis **2** : PATHOGENIC 2

patho·gen·ic \-ˈjen-ik\ *adj* [ISV] **1** : PATHOGENETIC 1 **2** : causing or capable of causing disease — **patho·gen·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **patho·ge·nic·i·ty** \-jə-ˈnis-ət-ē\ *n*

pa·tho·gno·mon·ic \ˌpath-ə(g)-nō-ˈmän-ik\ *adj* [Gk *pathognōmonikos*, fr. *path-* + *gnōmonikos* fit to judge, fr. *gnōmōn* interpreter] : distinctively characteristic of a particular disease

patho·log·i·cal \ˌpath-ə-ˈläj-i-kəl\ *or* **patho·log·ic** \-ik\ *adj* **1** : of or relating to pathology **2** : altered or caused by disease — **patho·log·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

pa·thol·o·gist \pə-ˈthäl-ə-jəst, pa-\ *n* : a specialist in pathology; *specif* : one who interprets and diagnoses the changes caused by disease in tissues

pa·thol·o·gy \-jē\ *n, pl* **-gies** [NL *pathologia* & MF *pathologie*, fr. Gk *pathologia* study of the emotions, fr. *path-* + *-logia* -logy] **1** : the study of the essential nature of diseases and esp. of the structural and functional changes produced by them **2** : something abnormal: **a** : the anatomic and physiologic deviations from the normal that constitute disease or characterize a particular disease **b** : deviation from propriety or from an assumed normal state of something nonliving or nonmaterial

pa·thom·e·ter \pə-ˈthäm-ət-ər, pa-\ *n* : an instrument that measures changes in bodily electrical conductivity and is used as a lie detector

patho·mor·phol·o·gy \ˈpath-ō-mȯr-ˈfäl-ə-jē\ *n* : morphology of abnormal conditions — **patho·mor·pho·log·i·cal** \-ˌmȯr-fə-ˈläj-i-kəl\ *or* **patho·mor·pho·log·ic** \-ik\ *adj*

patho·phys·i·ol·o·gy \-ˌfiz-ē-ˈäl-ə-jē\ *n* : the physiology of abnormal states; *specif* : the functional changes that accompany a particular syndrome or disease — **patho·phys·i·o·log·i·cal** \-ē-ə-ˈläj-i-kəl\ *or* **patho·phys·i·o·log·ic** \-ik\ *adj*

pa·thos \ˈpā-ˌthäs\ *n* [Gk, suffering, experience, emotion, fr. *paschein* to experience, suffer; akin to Lith *kesti* to suffer] **1** : an element in experience or in artistic representation evoking pity or compassion **2** : an emotion of sympathetic pity
syn PATHOS, POIGNANCY, BATHOS *shared meaning element* : a quality that moves one to pity or sorrow

path·way \ˈpath-ˌwā, ˈpȧth-\ *n* **1** : PATH, COURSE **2** : the sequence of enzyme catalyzed reactions by which an energy-yielding substance is utilized by protoplasm ⟨metabolic ~*s*⟩

-pa·thy \p-ə-thē\ *n comb form* [L *-pathia*, fr. Gk *-patheia*, fr. *-pathēs* suffering — more at -PATH] **1** : feeling : suffering ⟨em*pathy*⟩ : being acted upon ⟨tele*pathy*⟩ **2** : disorder of (such) a part or kind ⟨neuro*pathy*⟩ **3** : system of medicine based on (such) a factor ⟨osteo*pathy*⟩

pa·tience \ˈpā-shən(t)s\ *n* **1** : the capacity, habit, or fact of being patient **2** *chiefly Brit* : SOLITAIRE 2

¹pa·tient \ˈpā-shənt\ *adj* [ME *pacient*, fr. MF, fr. L *patient-, patiens*, fr. prp. of *pati* to suffer; akin to L *paene* almost, *penuria* need, Gk *pēma* suffering] **1** : bearing pains or trials calmly or without complaint **2** : manifesting forbearance under provocation or strain **3** : not hasty or impetuous **4** : steadfast despite opposition, difficulty, or adversity **5 a** : able or willing to bear — used with *of* **b** : SUSCEPTIBLE, ADMITTING ⟨~ of one interpretation⟩ — **pa·tient·ly** *adv*

²patient *n* **1 a** : an individual awaiting or under medical care and treatment **b** : the recipient of any of various personal services **2** : one that is acted upon

pa·ti·na \ˈpat-ə-nə, pə-ˈtē-nə\ *n, pl* **pa·ti·nas** \-nəz\ *or* **pa·ti·nae** \ˈpat-ə-ˌnē, -ˌnī\ [NL, fr. L, shallow dish — more at PATEN] **1 a** : a usu. green film formed naturally on copper and bronze by long exposure or artificially (as by acids) and often valued aesthetically for its color **b** : a surface appearance of something grown beautiful esp. with age or use **2** : an appearance or aura that is derived from association, habit, or established character

¹pa·tine \pa-ˈtēn\ *n* [F, fr. NL *patina*] : PATINA

²patine *vt* **pa·tined; pa·tin·ing** : to cover with a patina

pa·tio \ˈpat-ē-ˌō *also* ˈpät-\ *n, pl* **pa·ti·os** [Sp] **1** : COURTYARD; *esp* : an inner court open to the sky **2** : a recreation area that adjoins a dwelling, is often paved, and is adapted esp. to outdoor dining

pa·tois \ˈpa-ˌtwä, ˈpä-\ *n, pl* **pa·tois** \-ˌtwäz\ [F] **1 a** : a dialect other than the standard or literary dialect **b** : illiterate or provincial speech **2** : the characteristic special language of an occupational or social group : JARGON

patr- *or* **patri-** *or* **patro-** *comb form* [*patr-, patri-* fr. L, fr. *patr-, pater; patr-, patro-* fr. Gk, fr. *patr-, patēr* — more at FATHER] : father ⟨*patr*istic⟩

pa·tri·arch \ˈpā-trē-ˌärk\ *n* [ME *patriarche*, fr. OF, fr. LL *patriarcha*, fr. Gk *patriarchēs*, fr. *patria* lineage (fr. *patr-, patēr* father) + *-archēs* -arch — more at FATHER] **1 a** : one of the scriptural fathers of the human race or of the Hebrew people **b** : a man who is father or founder **c** (1) : the oldest member or representative of a group (2) : a venerable old man **d** : a man who is head of a patriarchy **2 a** : any of the bishops of the ancient or Eastern Orthodox sees of Constantinople, Alexandria, Antioch, and Jerusalem or the ancient and Western see of Rome with authority over other bishops **b** : the head of any of various Eastern churches **c** : a Roman Catholic bishop next in rank to the pope with purely titular or with metropolitan jurisdiction **3** : a Mormon of the Melchizedek priesthood empowered to perform the ordinances of the church and pronounce blessings within a stake or other prescribed jurisdiction — **pa·tri·ar·chal** \ˌpā-trē-ˈär-kəl\ *adj*

patriarchal cross *n* : a chiefly heraldic cross denoting a cardinal's or archbishop's rank and having two crossbars of which the lower is the longer and intersects the upright above or at its center — see CROSS illustration

pa·tri·arch·ate \ˈpā-trē-ˌär-kət, -ˌkāt\ *n* **1 a** : the office, jurisdiction, or time in office of a patriarch **b** : the residence or headquarters of a patriarch **2** : PATRIARCHY

pa·tri·ar·chy \-ˌär-kē\ *n, pl* **-chies** **1** : social organization marked by the supremacy of the father in the clan or family, the legal dependence of wives and children, and the reckoning of descent and inheritance in the male line **2** : a society organized according to the principles of patriarchy

pa·tri·cian \pə-ˈtrish-ən\ *n* [ME *patricion*, fr. MF *patricien*, fr. L *patricius*, fr. *patres* senators, fr. pl. of *pater* father — more at FATHER] **1** : a member of one of the original citizen families of ancient Rome **2 a** : a person of high birth : ARISTOCRAT **b** : a person of breeding and cultivation — **patrician** *adj*

pa·tri·ci·ate \-ˈtrish-ē-ət, -ē-ˌāt\ *n* **1** : the position or dignity of a patrician **2** : a patrician class

pat·ri·cide \ˈpa-trə-ˌsīd\ *n* **1** [L *patricida*, fr. *patr-* + *-cida* -cide] : one who murders his own father **2** [LL *patricidium*, fr. L *patr-* + *-cidium* -cide] : the murder of one's own father — **pat·ri·cid·al** \ˌpa-trə-ˈsīd-ᵊl\ *adj*

pat·ri·lin·eal \ˌpa-trə-ˈlin-ē-əl\ *adj* : relating to, based on, or tracing descent through the paternal line ⟨~ society⟩

pat·ri·mo·ny \'pa-trə-ˌmō-nē\ *n* [ME *patrimonie*, fr. MF, fr. L *patrimonium*, fr. *patr-*, *pater* father] **1 a** : an estate inherited from one's father or ancestor **b** : anything derived from one's father or ancestors : HERITAGE **2** : an estate or endowment belonging by ancient right to a church *syn* see HERITAGE — **pat·ri·mo·ni·al** \ˌpa-trə-'mō-nē-əl\ *adj*

pa·tri·ot \'pā-trē-ət, -trē-ˌät, *also chiefly Brit* 'pa-\ *n* [MF *patriote*, fr. LL *patriota*, fr. Gk *patriōtēs*, fr. *patrios* of one's father, fr. *patr-*, *patēr* father] : one who loves his country and zealously supports its authority and interests

pa·tri·ot·ic \ˌpā-trē-'ät-ik, *also chiefly Brit* ˌpa-\ *adj* **1** : inspired by patriotism **2** : befitting or characteristic of a patriot — **pa·tri·ot·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

pa·tri·o·tism \'pā-trē-ə-ˌtiz-əm, *also chiefly Brit* 'pa-\ *n* : love for or devotion to one's country

Patriots' Day *n* : the third Monday in April observed as a legal holiday in Maine and Massachusetts in commemoration of the battles of Lexington and Concord in 1775

pa·tris·tic \pə-'tris-tik\ *adj* : of or relating to the church fathers or their writings — **pa·tris·ti·cal** \-ti-kəl\ *adj*

pa·tris·tics \-tiks\ *n pl but sing in constr* : the study of the writings and background of the church fathers

Pa·tro·clus \pə-'trō-kləs, -'träk-ləs\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *Patroklos*] : a Greek hero and friend of Achilles slain by Hector at Troy

[1]pa·trol \pə-'trōl\ *n* **1 a** : the action of traversing a district or beat or of going the rounds along a chain of guards for observation or the maintenance of security **b** : the person performing such an action **c** : a detachment of men employed for reconnaissance, security, or combat **2 a** : a subdivision of a boy scout troop made up of two or more boys **b** : a subdivision of a girl scout troop usu. composed of from six to eight girls

[2]patrol *vb* **pa·trolled; pa·trol·ling** [F *patrouiller*, fr. MF, to tramp around in the mud, fr. *patte* paw — more at PATTEN] *vi* : to carry out a patrol ~ *vt* : to carry out a patrol of — **pa·trol·ler** *n*

pa·trol·man \pə-'trōl-mən\ *n* : one who patrols; *esp* : a policeman assigned to a beat

patrol wagon *n* : an enclosed motortruck used by police to carry prisoners

pa·tron \'pā-trən, *for 6 also* pa-'trōⁿ\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. ML & L; ML *patronus* patron saint, patron of a benefice, pattern, fr. L, defender, fr. *patr-*, *pater*] **1 a** : a person chosen, named, or honored as a special guardian, protector, or supporter **b** : a wealthy or influential supporter of an artist or writer **c** : a social or financial sponsor of a social function (as a ball or concert) **2** : one who uses his wealth or influence to help an individual, an institution, or a cause **3 a** : CUSTOMER **b** : one who uses the services of a library and esp. a public library **4** : the holder of the right of presentation to an English ecclesiastical benefice **5** : a master in ancient times who freed his slave but retained some rights over him **6** [F, fr. MF] : the proprietor of an establishment (as an inn) esp. in France **7** : the chief male officer in some fraternal lodges having both men and women members — **pa·tron·al** \'pā-trən-ᵊl\ *adj*

pa·tron·age \'pa-trə-nij, 'pā-\ *n* **1** : ADVOWSON **2** : the support or influence of a patron **3** : kindness done with an air of superiority **4** : business or activity provided by patrons ⟨the new branch library is expected to have a heavy ~⟩ **5 a** : the power to make appointments to government jobs on a basis other than merit alone **b** : the distribution of jobs on the basis of patronage **c** : jobs distributed by patronage

pa·tron·ess \'pā-trə-nəs\ *n* : a female patron

pa·tron·ize \'pā-trə-ˌnīz, 'pa-\ *vt* **-ized; -iz·ing** **1** : to act as patron of **2** : to adopt an air of condescension toward **3** : to be a patron of — **pa·tron·iza·tion** \ˌpā-trə-nə-'zā-shən, pa-\ *n* — **pa·tron·iz·ing·ly** \'pā-trə-ˌnī-ziŋ-lē, 'pa-\ *adv*

patron saint *n* **1** : a saint to whose protection and intercession a person, a society, a church, or a place is dedicated **2** : an original leader or prime exemplar

pat·ro·nym·ic \ˌpa-trə-'nim-ik\ *n* [LL *patronymicum*, fr. neut. of *patronymicus* of a patronymic, fr. Gk *patronymikos*, fr. *patronymia* patronymic, fr. *patr-* + *onyma* name — more at NAME] : a name derived from that of the father or a paternal ancestor usu. by the addition of an affix — **patronymic** *adj*

pa·troon \pə-'trün\ *n* [F *patron* & Sp *patrón*, fr. ML *patronus*, fr. L, patron] **1** *archaic* : the captain or officer commanding a ship **2** [D, fr. F *patron*] : the proprietor of a manorial estate esp. in New York originally granted under Dutch rule but in some cases existing until the mid-19th century

pat·sy \'pat-sē\ *n, pl* **pat·sies** [perh. fr. It *pazzo* fool] : one who is duped or victimized : SUCKER

pat·ten \'pat-ᵊn\ *n* [ME *patin*, fr. MF, fr. *patte* paw, hoof, fr. (assumed) VL *patta*, of imit. origin] : a clog, sandal, or overshoe often with a wooden sole or metal device to elevate the foot and increase the wearer's height or aid in walking in mud

[1]pat·ter \'pat-ər\ *vb* [ME *patren*, fr. *paternoster*] *vt* : to say or speak in a rapid or mechanical manner ~ *vi* **1** : to recite prayers (as paternosters) rapidly or mechanically **2** : to talk glibly and volubly **3** : to speak or sing rapid-fire words in a theatrical performance — **pat·ter·er** \-ər-ər\ *n*

[2]patter *n* **1** : a specialized lingo : CANT; *esp* : the jargon of criminals (as thieves) **2** : the spiel of a street hawker or of a circus barker **3** : empty chattering talk **4 a** (1) : the rapid-fire talk of a comedian (2) : the talk with which an entertainer accompanies his routine **b** : the words of a comic song or of a rapidly spoken usu. humorous monologue introduced into such a song

[3]patter *vb* [freq. of [2]*pat*] *vi* **1** : to strike or pat rapidly and repeatedly **2** : to run with quick light-sounding steps ~ *vt* : to cause to patter

[4]patter *n* : a quick succession of slight sounds or pats

[1]pat·tern \'pat-ərn\ *n* [ME *patron*, fr. MF, fr. ML *patronus*] **1** : a form or model proposed for imitation : EXEMPLAR **2** : something designed or used as a model for making things ⟨a dressmaker's ~⟩ **3** : a model for making a mold into which molten metal is poured to form a casting **4** : SPECIMEN, SAMPLE **5 a** : an artistic or mechanical design **b** : form or style in literary or musical composition **6** : a natural or chance configuration ⟨frost ~⟩ ⟨the ~ of events⟩ **7** : a length of fabric sufficient for an article **8 a** : the distribution of the shot from a shotgun or the bullets from an exploded shrapnel **b** : the grouping made on a target by bullets **9** : a reliable sample of traits, acts, or other observable features characterizing an individual ⟨behavior ~⟩ **10** : the flight path prescribed for an airplane that is coming in for a landing **11** : a standard diagram transmitted for testing television circuits **12** : a prescribed route to be followed by a pass receiver in football *syn* see MODEL — **pat·terned** \-ərnd\ *adj*

[2]pattern *vt* **1** : to make or fashion according to a pattern **2** *dial chiefly Eng* **a** : MATCH **b** : IMITATE **3** : to furnish, adorn, or mark with a design ~ *vi* : to form a pattern

pat·tern·ing *n* **1** : decoration, composition, or configuration according to a pattern **2** : physiotherapy that is designed to improve malfunctioning nervous control by means of feedback from muscular activity imposed by an outside source or induced by other muscles

pat·ty *also* **pat·tie** \'pat-ē\ *n, pl* **patties** [F *pâté*] **1** : a little pie **2 a** : a small flat cake of chopped food ⟨a hamburger ~⟩ **b** : a small flat candy ⟨a peppermint ~⟩ **3** : PATTY SHELL

patty shell *n* : a shell of puff paste made to hold a creamed meat, fish, or vegetable filling

pat·u·lous \'pach-ə-ləs\ *adj* [L *patulus*, fr. *patēre* to be open — more at FATHOM] : spreading widely from a center ⟨a tree with ~ branches⟩ — **pat·u·lous·ly** *adv* — **pat·u·lous·ness** *n*

PAU *abbr* Pan American Union

pau·ci·ty \'pȯ-sət-ē\ *n* [ME *paucite*, fr. MF or L; MF *paucité*, fr. L *paucitat-*, *paucitas*, fr. *paucus* little — more at FEW] **1** : smallness of number : FEWNESS **2** : smallness of quantity : DEARTH

Paul \'pȯl\ *n* [L *Paulus*, fr. Gk *Paulos*] : an early Christian apostle and missionary and author of several New Testament epistles

Paul Bun·yan \-'bən-yən\ *n* : a giant lumberjack of American mythology

Pau·li exclusion principle \'paù-lē-\ *n* [Wolfgang *Pauli*] : EXCLUSION PRINCIPLE — called also *Pauli principle*

Pau·line \'pȯ-ˌlīn\ *adj* : of or relating to the apostle Paul, his epistles, or the doctrine or theology implicit in his epistles

Paul·ist \'pȯ-ləst\ *n* : a member of the Roman Catholic Congregation of the Missionary Priests of St. Paul the Apostle founded by I. T. Hecker in the U.S. in 1858

pau·low·nia \pȯ-'lō-nē-ə\ *n* [NL, genus name, fr. Anna *Paulovna* †1865 Russ princess] : any of a genus (*Paulownia*) of Chinese trees of the figwort family; *esp* : one (*P. tomentosa*) widely cultivated for its panicles of fragrant violet flowers

paunch \'pȯnch, 'pänch\ *n* [ME, fr. MF *panche*, fr. L *pantic-*, *pantex*] **1 a** : the belly and its contents **b** : POTBELLY **2** : RUMEN

paunchy \'pȯn-chē, 'pän-\ *adj* **paunch·i·er; -est** : having a potbelly — **paunch·i·ness** *n*

pau·per \'pȯ-pər\ *n* [L, poor] **1** : a person destitute of means except such as are derived from charity; *specif* : one who receives aid from public poor funds **2** : a very poor person — **pau·per·ism** \-pə-ˌriz-əm\ *n*

pau·per·ize \'pȯ-pə-ˌrīz\ *vt* **-ized; -iz·ing** : to reduce to poverty

[1]pause \'pȯz\ *n* [ME, fr. L *pausa*, fr. Gk *pausis*, fr. *pauein* to stop; akin to Gk *paula* rest] **1** : a temporary stop **2 a** : a break in a verse **b** : a brief suspension of the voice to indicate the limits and relations of sentences and their parts **3** : temporary inaction esp. as caused by uncertainty : HESITATION **4 a** : the sign denoting a fermata **b** : a mark (as a period or comma) used in writing or printing to indicate or correspond to a pause of voice **5** : a reason or cause for pausing ⟨a thought that should give one ~⟩
syn PAUSE, RECESS, RESPITE, LULL, INTERMISSION *shared meaning element* : a temporary cessation of activity or an activity

[2]pause *vb* **paused; paus·ing** *vi* **1** : to stop temporarily **2** : to linger for a time ~ *vt* : to cause to pause : STOP

pa·vane \pə-'vän, -'van\ *also* **pa·van** *same or* 'pav-ən\ *n* [MF *pavane*, fr. OSp *pavana*, fr. OIt] **1** : a stately court dance by couples that was introduced from southern Europe into England in the 16th century **2** : music for the pavane; *also* : music having the slow duple rhythm of a pavane

pave \'pāv\ *vt* **paved; pav·ing** [ME *paven*, fr. MF *paver*, fr. L *pavire* to strike, stamp; akin to OHG ar*fūrian* to castrate, L *putare* to prune, reckon, think, Gk *paiein* to strike] **1** : to lay or cover with material (as stone or concrete) that forms a firm level surface for travel **2** : to cover firmly and solidly as if with paving material **3** : to serve as a covering or pavement of — **pav·er** *n* — **pave the way** : to prepare a smooth easy way : facilitate development

paved \'pāvd\ *adj* **1** : covered with a pavement **2** *or* **pa·vé** \pa-'vā\ [*pavé* fr. F, fr. pp. of *paver* to pave] *of jewels* : set as close together as possible to conceal a metal base

pave·ment \'pāv-mənt\ *n* [ME, fr. OF, fr. L *pavimentum*, fr. *pavire*] **1** : a paved surface: as **a** : the artificially covered surface of a public thoroughfare **b** *chiefly Brit* : SIDEWALK **2** : the material with which something is paved **3** : something that suggests a pavement (as in flatness, hardness, and extent of surface)

pav·id \'pav-əd\ *adj* [L *pavidus*, fr. *pavēre* to be frightened; akin to L *pavire*] : TIMID

[1]pa·vil·ion \pə-'vil-yən\ *n* [ME *pavilon*, fr. OF *paveillon*, fr. L *papilion-*, *papilio* butterfly; akin to OHG *fīfaltra* butterfly, Lith *peteliškė* flighty] **1 a** : a large often sumptuous tent **b** : something resembling a canopy or tent ⟨tree ferns spread their delicate ~*s* — Blanche E. Baughan⟩ **2 a** : a part of a building projecting from the rest **b** : one of several detached or semidetached units into which a building is sometimes divided **3 a** : a light sometimes ornamental structure in a garden, park, or place of recreation that is used for entertainment or shelter **b** : a temporary structure erected at an exposition by an individual exhibitor **4** : the lower faceted part of a brilliant between the girdle and the culet — see BRILLIANT illustration

[2]pavilion *vt* : to furnish or cover with or put in a pavilion

pav·ing \'pā-viŋ\ *n* : PAVEMENT

pav·ior *or* **pav·iour** \'pāv-yər\ *n* [ME *pavier*, fr. *paven* to pave] *Brit* : one that paves

Pav·lov·ian \pav-'lȯ-vē-ən, -'lō-; -'lȯ-fē-\ *adj* : of or relating to Ivan Pavlov or to his work and theories ⟨~ conditioning⟩

¹paw \'pȯ\ *n* [ME, fr. MF *poue*] **1** : the foot of a quadruped (as a lion or dog) that has claws; *broadly* : the foot of an animal **2** : a human hand esp. when large or clumsy

²paw *vt* **1** : to feel of or touch clumsily, amorously, or rudely **2** : to touch or strike at with a paw **3** : to scrape or beat with or as if with a hoof **4** : to flail at or grab for wildly ~ *vi* **1** : to beat or scrape something with or as if with a hoof **2** : to touch or strike with a paw **3** : to feel or touch clumsily, amorously, or rudely **4** : to flail or grab wildly ***syn*** see TOUCH

paw·ky \'pȯ-kē\ *adj* [obs. E dial. *pawk* (trick)] *chiefly Brit* : artfully shrewd : CANNY

pawl \'pȯl\ *n* [perh. modif. of D *pal* pawl] : a pivoted tongue or sliding bolt on one part of a machine that is adapted to fall into notches or interdental spaces on another part (as a ratchet wheel) so as to permit motion in only one direction

¹pawn \'pȯn, 'pän\ *n* [ME *paun*, modif. of MF *pan*] **1 a** : something delivered to or deposited with another as security for a loan **b** : HOSTAGE **2** : the state of being pledged **3** : something used as a pledge : GUARANTY **4** : the act of pawning

²pawn *vt* : to deposit in pledge or as security — **pawn·er** \'pȯ-nər, 'pän-ər\ *or* **paw·nor** *same or* pȯ-'nȯ(ə)r, pä-\ *n*

³pawn *n* [ME *pown*, fr. MF *poon*, fr. ML *pedon-*, *pedo* foot soldier, fr. LL, one with broad feet, fr. L *ped-*, *pes* foot — more at FOOT] **1** : one of the chessmen of least value having the power to move only forward ordinarily one square at a time, to capture only diagonally forward, and be promoted to any piece except a king upon reaching the eighth rank **2** : one that can be used to further the purposes of another

pawn·bro·ker \'pȯn-ˌbrō-kər, 'pän-\ *n* : one who loans money on the security of personal property pledged in his keeping — **pawn·bro·king** \-kiŋ\ *n*

Paw·nee \pȯ-'nē, pä-\ *n, pl* **Pawnee** *or* **Pawnees** : a member of an Amerindian people orig. of Kansas and Nebraska

pawn·shop \'pȯn-ˌshäp, 'pän-\ *n* : a pawnbroker's shop

paw·paw *var of* PAPAW

pax \'paks, 'päks\ *n* [ME, fr. ML, fr. L, peace — more at PEACE] **1** : a tablet decorated with a sacred figure (as of Christ) and sometimes ceremonially kissed by participants at mass **2** : the kiss of peace in the Mass **3** : PEACE

¹pay \'pā\ *vb* **paid** \'pād\ *also in sense 7* **payed; pay·ing** [ME *payen*, fr. OF *paier*, fr. L *pacare* to pacify, fr. *pac-*, *pax* peace] *vt* **1 a** : to make due return to for services rendered or property delivered **b** : to engage for money : HIRE ⟨you couldn't ~ me to do that⟩ **2 a** : to give in return for goods or service ⟨~ wages⟩ **b** : to discharge indebtedness for : SETTLE ⟨~ a bill⟩ **c** : to make a disposal or transfer of (money) **3** : to give or forfeit in expiation or retribution ⟨~ the penalty⟩ **4 a** : to make compensation for **b** : to requite according to what is deserved ⟨~ him back⟩ **5** : to give, offer, or make freely or as fitting ⟨~ attention⟩ **6 a** : to return value or profit to ⟨it ~*s* you to stay open⟩ **b** : to bring in as a return ⟨an investment ~*ing* five percent⟩ **7** : to slacken (as a rope) and allow to run out — used with *out* ~ *vi* **1** : to discharge a debt or obligation **2** : to be worth the expense or effort ⟨it ~*s* to advertise⟩

syn PAY, COMPENSATE, REMUNERATE, SATISFY, REIMBURSE, INDEMNIFY, REPAY, RECOMPENSE *shared meaning element* : to give money or an equivalent in return for something

²pay *n* **1 a** : the act or fact of paying or being paid **b** : the status of being paid by an employer : EMPLOY **2** : something paid for a purpose and esp. as a salary or wage : REMUNERATION **3** : a person viewed with respect to reliability or promptness in paying debts or bills **4 a** : ore or a natural situation that yields metal and esp. gold in profitable amounts **b** : an oil-yielding stratum or zone ***syn*** see WAGE

³pay *adj* **1** : containing or leading to something precious or valuable **2** : equipped with a coin slot for receiving a fee for use **3** : requiring payment

⁴pay *vt* **payed** *also* **paid; pay·ing** [obs. F *peier*, fr. L *picare*, fr. *pic-*, *pix* pitch] : to coat with a waterproof composition

pay·able \'pā-ə-bəl\ *adj* **1** : that may, can, or must be paid **2** : PROFITABLE

pay-as-you-go *adj* : of or relating to a system or policy of paying bills when due or of paying for goods and services when purchased

pay·check \'pā-ˌchek\ *n* **1** : a check in payment of wages or salary **2** : WAGES, SALARY

pay·day \-ˌdā\ *n* : a regular day on which wages are paid

pay dirt *n* **1** : earth or ore that yields a profit to a miner **2** : a useful or remunerative discovery or object

PAYE *abbr* **1** pay as you earn **2** pay as you enter

pay·ee \pā-'ē\ *n* : one to whom money is or is to be paid

pay·er \'pā-ər\ *also* **pay·or** \'pā-ər, pā-'ȯ(ə)r\ *n* : one that pays; *esp* : the person by whom a bill or note has been or should be paid

pay·load \'pā-ˌlōd\ *n* **1** : the revenue-producing or useful load that a vehicle of transport can carry **2** : the explosive charge carried in the warhead of a missile **3** : the load that is carried by a spacecraft and that consists of things (as passengers or instruments) that relate directly to the purpose of the flight as opposed to things (as fuel) that are necessary for operation; *also* : the weight of such a load

pay·mas·ter \-ˌmas-tər\ *n* : an officer or agent whose duty it is to pay salaries or wages

pay·ment \'pā-mənt\ *n* **1** : the act of paying **2** : something that is paid : PAY **3** : REQUITAL

pay·nim \'pā-nəm\ *n* [ME *painim*, fr. OF *paienime* heathendom, fr. LL *paganismus*, fr. *paganus* pagan] *archaic* : PAGAN; *esp* : MUSLIM

¹pay-off \'pā-ˌȯf\ *n* **1** : the act or occasion of paying employees' wages or distributing gains (as profits or bribe money) **2 a** : PROFIT, REWARD; *esp* : an amount received by a player in a game **b** : RETRIBUTION **3** : the climax of an incident or enterprise; *specif* : the denouement of a narrative **4** : a decisive fact or factor resolving a situation or bringing about a definitive conclusion

²payoff *adj* : yielding results in the final test : DECISIVE

pay off \(')pā-'ȯf\ *vt* **1 a** : to give all due wages to; *esp* : to pay in full and discharge (an employee) **b** : to pay (a debt or a creditor) in full **2** : to inflict retribution on **3** : to allow (a thread or rope) to run off a spool or drum ~ *vi* : to yield returns

pay·ola \pā-'ō-lə\ *n* [prob. alter. of ¹*payoff*] : undercover or indirect payment (as to a disc jockey) for a commercial favor (as plugging a record)

pay·roll \'pā-ˌrōl\ *n* **1** : a paymaster's or employer's list of those entitled to pay and of the amounts due to each **2** : the sum necessary for distribution to those on a payroll; *also* : the money to be distributed

pay station *n* : a public telephone usu. equipped with a slot-machine device for payment of toll

payt *abbr* payment

pay up *vt* : to pay in full ~ *vi* : to pay what is due

Pb *symbol* [L *plumbum*] lead

PBX *abbr* private branch exchange

PC *abbr* **1** Peace Corps **2** percent; percentage **3** postcard **4** [L *post cibum*] after meals

PCB \ˌpē-ˌsē-'bē\ *n* : POLYCHLORINATED BIPHENYL

pct *abbr* percent

PCV *abbr* positive crankcase ventilation

pd *abbr* paid

Pd *symbol* palladium

PD *abbr* **1** per diem **2** police department **3** postal district **4** potential difference

PDA *abbr* **1** predicted drift angle **2** public display of affection

PDD *abbr* past due date

PDQ \ˌpē-ˌdē-'kyü\ *adv, often not cap* [abbr. of *pretty damned quick*] : IMMEDIATELY

PDT *abbr* Pacific daylight time

pe \'pā\ *n* [Heb *pē*] : the 17th letter of the Hebrew alphabet — see ALPHABET table

PE *abbr* **1** physical education **2** printer's error **3** probable error **4** professional engineer

pea \'pē\ *n, pl* **peas** *also* **pease** \'pēz\ *often attrib* [back-formation fr. ME *pease* (taken as a pl.), fr. OE *pise*, fr. L *pisa*, pl. of *pisum*, fr. Gk *pison*] **1 a** : a variable annual leguminous vine (*Pisum sativum*) that is cultivated for its rounded smooth or wrinkled edible protein-rich seeds **b** : the seed of the pea **c** *pl* : the immature pods of the pea with their included seeds **2** : any of various leguminous plants related to or resembling the pea — usu. used with a qualifying term ⟨chick-*pea*⟩ ⟨black-eyed ~⟩; *also* : the seed of such a plant **3** : something resembling a pea



pea 1a

pea aphid *n* : a widely distributed aphid (*Acyrthosiphon pisum*) that is a serious pest on legumes (as alfalfa, pea, and clover)

pea bean *n* : any of various kidney beans cultivated for their small white seeds which are used dried (as for baking)

¹peace \'pēs\ *n* [ME *pees*, fr. OF *pais*, fr. L *pac-*, *pax*; akin to L *pacisci* to agree — more at PACT] **1** : a state of tranquillity or quiet: as **a** : freedom from civil disturbance **b** : a state of security or order within a community provided for by law or custom ⟨a breach of the ~⟩ **2** : freedom from disquieting or oppressive thoughts or emotions **3** : harmony in personal relations **4 a** : a state or period of mutual concord between governments **b** : a pact or agreement to end hostilities between those who have been at war or in a state of enmity **5** — used interjectionally as a command or request for silence or calm or as a greeting or farewell — **at peace** : in a state of concord or tranquillity

²peace *vi, obs* : to be, become, or keep silent or quiet

peace·able \'pē-sə-bəl\ *adj* **1 a** : disposed to peace : not contentious or quarrelsome **b** : quietly behaved **2** : marked by freedom from strife or disorder ***syn*** see PACIFIC ***ant*** contentious — **peace·able·ness** *n* — **peace·ably** \-blē\ *adv*

peace corps *n* : a body of trained personnel sent as volunteers esp. to assist underdeveloped nations

peace·ful \'pēs-fəl\ *adj* **1** : PEACEABLE 1 **2** : untroubled by conflict, agitation, or commotion : QUIET, TRANQUIL **3** : of or relating to a state or time of peace **4** : devoid of violence or force ***syn*** **1** see CALM ***ant*** turbulent **2** see PACIFIC — **peace·ful·ly** \-fə-lē\ *adv* — **peace·ful·ness** *n*

peaceful coexistence *n* : a living together in peace rather than in constant hostility

peace·keep·ing \'pē-ˌskē-piŋ\ *n* : the preserving of peace; *esp* : international enforcement and supervision of a truce between hostile states or communities — **peace·keep·er** \-pər\ *n*

peace·mak·er \'pē-ˌsmā-kər\ *n* : one who makes peace esp. by reconciling parties at variance — **peace·mak·ing** \-kiŋ\ *n or adj*

peace offering *n* : a gift or service for the purpose of procuring peace or reconciliation

peace officer *n* : a civil officer (as a policeman) whose duty it is to preserve the public peace

peace pipe *n* : CALUMET

peace sign *n* : a sign made by holding the palm outward and forming a V with the index and middle fingers and used to indicate the desire for peace

peace·time \'pē-ˌstīm\ *n* : a time when a nation is not at war

[1]peach \'pēch\ *n* [ME *peche*, fr. MF (the fruit), fr. LL *persica*, fr. L *persicum*, fr. neut. of *persicus* Persian, fr. *Persia*] **1 a** : a low spreading freely branching Chinese tree (*Prunus persica*) of the rose family that is cosmopolitan in cultivation in temperate areas and has lanceolate leaves, sessile usu. pink flowers borne on the naked twigs in early spring, and a fruit which is a single-seeded drupe with a hard endocarp, a pulpy white or yellow mesocarp, and a thin downy epicarp **b** : the edible fruit of the peach **2** : a variable color averaging a moderate yellowish pink

[2]peach *vb* [ME *pechen*, short for *apechen* to accuse, fr. (assumed) AF *apecher*, fr. LL *impedicare* to entangle — more at IMPEACH] *vt* : to inform against : BETRAY ~ *vi* : to turn informer : BLAB

peach leaf curl *n* : leaf curl of the peach that is caused by a fungus (*Taphrina deformans*)

peach tree borer *n* : a blue-black orange-marked clearwing moth (*Sanninoidea exitiosa*) whose white brown-headed larva bores in the wood of stone fruit trees (as the peach) in eastern No. America

peachy \'pē-chē\ *adj* **peach·i·er; -est** **1** : resembling a peach **2** : unusually fine : DANDY

[1]pea·cock \'pē-ˌkäk\ *n* [ME *pecok*, fr. *pe-* (fr. OE *pēa* peafowl) + *cok* cock; akin to OHG *pfāwo* peacock; both fr. a prehistoric WGmc-NGmc word borrowed fr. L *pavon-*, *pavo* peacock] **1** : a male peafowl distinguished by a crest of upright plumules and by greatly elongated loosely webbed upper tail coverts which are mostly tipped with ocellated spots and can be erected and spread at will in a fan shimmering with iridescent color; *broadly* : PEAFOWL **2** : one making a proud display of himself : SHOW-OFF — **pea·cock·ish** \-ish\ *adj* — **pea·cocky** \-ē\ *adj*

[2]peacock *vi* : to show off

peacock blue *n* : a variable color averaging a moderate greenish blue

peacock flower *n* : ROYAL POINCIANA

pea·fowl \'pē-ˌfau̇l\ *n* [*pea-* (as in *peacock*) + *fowl*] : a very large terrestrial pheasant (genus *Pavo*) of southeastern Asia and the East Indies that is often reared as an ornamental fowl

pea green *n* : a variable color averaging a moderate yellow-green

pea·hen \'pē-ˌhen, -'hen\ *n* [ME *pehenne*, fr. *pe-* + *henne* hen] : a female peafowl

pea jacket \'pē-\ *n* [by folk etymology fr. D *pijjekker*, fr. *pij*, a kind of cloth + *jekker* jacket] : a heavy woolen double-breasted jacket worn by sailors; *also* : a similar jacket worn by civilians

[1]peak \'pēk\ *vi* [origin unknown] **1** : to grow thin or sickly **2** : to dwindle away

[2]peak *n* [perh. alter. of *pike*] **1** : a pointed or projecting part of a garment; *esp* : the visor of a cap or hat **2** : PROMONTORY **3** : a sharp or pointed end **4 a** (1) : the top of a hill or mountain ending in a point (2) : a prominent mountain usu. having a well-defined summit **b** : something resembling a mountain peak **5 a** : the upper aftermost corner of a fore-and-aft sail **b** : the narrow part of a ship's bow or stern or the part of the hold in it **6 a** : the highest level or greatest degree **b** : a high point in a course of development esp. as represented on a graph **7** : a point formed by the hair on the forehead ***syn*** see SUMMIT

[3]peak *vi* : to reach a maximum ~ *vt* : to cause to come to a peak, point, or maximum

[4]peak *adj* : being at or reaching the maximum

[5]peak *vt* [fr. *apeak* (held vertically)] **1** : to set (as a gaff) nearer the perpendicular **2** : to hold (oars) with blades well raised

[1]peaked \'pēkt *also* 'pē-kəd\ *adj* : having a peak : POINTED — **peaked·ness** \'pēk(t)-nəs, 'pē-kəd-nəs\ *n*

[2]peak·ed \'pē-kəd *also* 'pik-əd\ *adj* : looking pale and wan

[1]peal \'pē(ə)l\ *n* [ME, appeal, summons to church, short for *appel* appeal, fr. *appelen* to appeal] **1 a** : the loud ringing of bells **b** : a complete set of changes on a given number of bells **c** : a set of bells tuned to the tones of the major scale for change ringing **2** : a loud sound or succession of sounds ⟨heard ~s of laughter⟩

[2]peal *vi* : to give out peals ~ *vt* : to utter or give forth loudly

pea·like \'pē-ˌlīk\ *adj* **1** : resembling a garden pea esp. in size, firmness, and shape ⟨a ~ lump under the skin⟩ **2** *of a flower* : being showy and papilionaceous

[1]pea·nut \'pē-(ˌ)nət\ *n* **1 a** : a low-branching widely cultivated leguminous annual herb (*Arachis hypogaea*) with showy yellow flowers having a peduncle which elongates and bends into the soil where the ovary ripens into a pod containing one to three oily edible seeds **b** : the seed or seed-containing pod of the peanut **2** : an insignificant or tiny person **3** *pl* : a trifling amount

[2]peanut *adj* : INSIGNIFICANT, PETTY ⟨~ politics⟩

peanut butter *n* : a paste made by grinding roasted skinned peanuts

peanut oil *n* : a colorless to yellow fatty nondrying oil that is obtained from peanuts and is used chiefly as a salad oil, in margarine, in soap, and as a vehicle in pharmaceutical preparations and cosmetics

pear \'pa(ə)r, 'pe(ə)r\ *n* [ME *pere*, fr. OE *peru*, fr. L *pirum*] **1** : a fleshy pome fruit that is borne by a tree (genus *Pyrus*, esp. *P. communis*) of the rose family and is usu. larger at the apical end **2** : a tree bearing pears

[1]pearl \'pər(-ə)l\ *n* [ME *perle*, fr. MF, fr. (assumed) VL *pernula*, dim. of L *perna* haunch, sea mussel; akin to OE *fiersn* heel, Gk *pternē*] **1 a** : a dense variously colored and usu. lustrous concretion formed of concentric layers of nacre as an abnormal growth within the shell of some mollusks and used as a gem **b** : MOTHER-OF-PEARL **2** : one that is very choice or precious **3** : something resembling a pearl intrinsically or physically **4** : a nearly neutral slightly bluish medium gray

[2]pearl *vt* **1** : to set or adorn with pearls **2** : to sprinkle or bead with pearly drops **3** : to form into small round grains **4** : to give a pearly color or luster to ~ *vi* **1** : to form drops or beads like pearls **2** : to fish or search for pearls — **pearl·er** \'pər-lər\ *n*

[3]pearl *adj* **1 a** : of, relating to, or resembling pearl **b** : made of or adorned with pearls **2** : having medium-sized grains

[4]pearl *n or vt* [alter. of *purl*] *Brit* : PICOT

pearl danio *n* : a small lustrous cyprinid fish (*Brachydanio albolineatus*) that is often kept in tropical aquariums

pearl·es·cent \ˌpər-'les-ᵊnt\ *adj* : having a pearly luster ⟨a ~ lacquer⟩ — **pearl·es·cence** \-ᵊn(t)s\ *n*

pearl essence *n* : a translucent substance that occurs in the silvery scales of various fish (as herring) and is used in making artificial pearls, lacquers, and plastics

pearl gray *n* **1** : a yellowish to light gray **2** : a variable color averaging a pale blue

Pearl Harbor *n* [*Pearl Harbor*, Oahu, Hawaii, Am naval station attacked without warning by the Japanese] : a sneak attack usu. with devastating effect

pearl·ite \'pər(-ə)l-ˌīt\ *n* [F *perlite*, fr. *perle* pearl] **1** : the lamellar mixture of ferrite and cementite in slowly cooled iron-carbon alloys occurring normally as a principal constituent of both steel and cast iron **2** : PERLITE — **pearl·it·ic** \ˌpər-'lit-ik\ *adj*

pearl·ized \'pər(-ə)l-ˌīzd\ *adj* : given a pearlescent surface or finish

pearl millet *n* : a tall cereal grass (*Pennisetum glaucum*) that has large leaves and dense round spikes and is widely grown for its seeds and for forage

pearl onion *n* : a very small usu. pickled onion used esp. in appetizers and as a garnish

pearly \'pər-lē\ *adj* **pearl·i·er; -est** **1** : resembling, containing, or adorned with pearls or mother-of-pearl **2** : highly precious

pearly everlasting *n* : an American everlasting (*Anaphalis margaritacea*) that has herbage covered with white woolly hairs and corymbose heads with white scarious involucres

pearly nautilus *n* : NAUTILUS 1

pear psylla *n* : a yellowish or greenish jumping plant louse (*Psylla pyricola*) that is often destructive to the pear

pear–shaped \'pa(ə)r-ˌshāpt, 'pe(ə)r-\ *adj* **1** : having an oval shape markedly tapering at one end **2** *of a vocal tone* : free from harshness, thinness, or nasality

peart \'pi(ə)rt\ *adj* [alter. of *pert*] *chiefly South & Midland* : being in good spirits : LIVELY — **peart·ly** *adv*

peas·ant \'pez-ᵊnt\ *n* [ME *paissaunt*, fr. MF *paisant*, fr. OF, fr. *païs* country, fr. LL *pagensis* inhabitant of a district, fr. L *pagus* district] **1** : a member of a European class of persons tilling the soil as small landowners or as laborers; *also* : a member of a similar class elsewhere **2** : a usu. uneducated person of low social status

peas·ant·ry \-ᵊn-trē\ *n* **1** : PEASANTS **2** : the position, rank, or behavior of a peasant

[1]pease \'pēz\ *n* [ME *pese*] *chiefly Brit* : PEA

[2]pease *pl of* PEA

pease·cod *or* **peas·cod** \'pēz-ˌkäd\ *n* [ME *pesecod*, fr. *pese* + *cod* bag, husk — more at CODPIECE] : a pea pod

pea·shoot·er \'pē-'shüt-ər, -ˌshüt-\ *n* : a toy blowgun for shooting peas

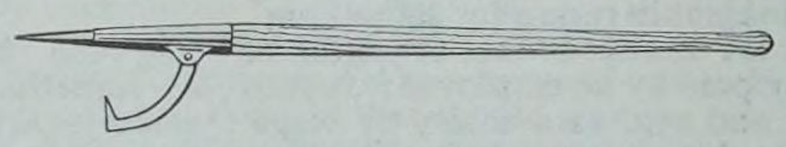
pea soup *n* **1** : a thick purée made of dried peas **2** : a heavy fog

[1]peat \'pēt\ *n, often attrib* [ME *pete*, fr. ML *peta*] **1** : TURF 2b **2** : partially carbonized vegetable tissue formed by partial decomposition in water of various plants (as mosses of the genus *Sphagnum*) — **peaty** \-ē\ *adj*

[2]peat *n* [origin unknown] : a bold gay woman

peat moss *n* : SPHAGNUM

pea·vey *or* **pea·vy** \'pē-vē\ *n, pl* **peaveys** *or* **peavies** [prob. fr. the name *Peavey*] : a stout lever like a cant hook but with the end armed with a strong sharp spike used esp. in handling logs



peavey

[1]peb·ble \'peb-əl\ *n* [ME *pobble*, fr. OE *papolstān*, fr. *papol-* (prob. imit.) + *stān* stone] **1** : a small usu. rounded stone esp. when worn by the action of water **2** : transparent and colorless quartz : ROCK CRYSTAL **3** : an irregular, crinkled, or grainy surface — **peb·bly** \-(ə-)lē\ *adj*

[2]pebble *vt* **peb·bled; peb·bling** \-(ə-)liŋ\ **1** : to pelt with pebbles **2** : to pave or cover with pebbles or something resembling pebbles **3** : to grain (as leather) so as to produce a rough and irregularly indented surface

pe·can \pi-'kän, -'kan; 'pē-ˌkan\ *n* [of Algonquian origin; akin to Ojibwa *pagân*, a hard-shelled nut] **1** : a large hickory (*Carya illinoensis*) that has roughish bark and hard but brittle wood and is widely grown in the warmer parts of the U.S. and in Mexico for its edible nut **2** : the wood of the pecan tree **3** : the smooth oblong thin-shelled nut of the pecan tree

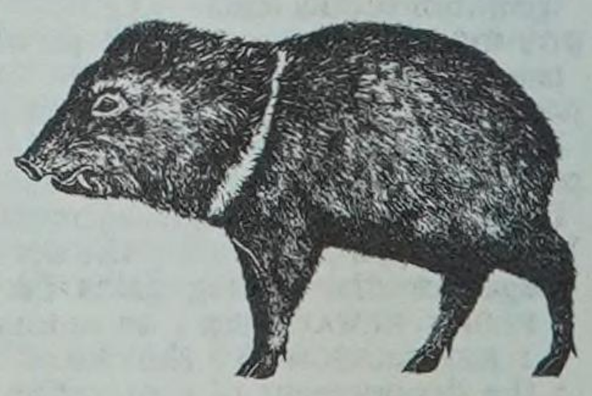
pec·ca·ble \'pek-ə-bəl\ *adj* [MF, fr. L *peccare*] : prone to sin

pec·ca·dil·lo \ˌpek-ə-'dil-(ˌ)ō\ *n, pl* **-loes** *or* **-los** [Sp *pecadillo*, dim. of *pecado* sin, fr. L *peccatum*, fr. neut. of *peccatus*, pp. of *peccare*] : a slight offense

pec·can·cy \'pek-ən-sē\ *n, pl* **-cies** **1** : the quality or state of being peccant **2** : OFFENSE

pec·cant \'pek-ənt\ *adj* [L *peccant-*, *peccans*, prp. of *peccare* to stumble, sin] **1** : guilty of a moral offense : SINNING **2** : violating a principle or rule — **pec·cant·ly** *adv*

pec·ca·ry \'pek-ə-rē\ *n, pl* **-ries** [of Cariban origin; akin to Chaima *paquera* peccary] : either of two largely nocturnal gregarious American mammals resembling the related pigs: **a** : a grizzled animal (*Tayassu angulatus*) with an indistinct white collar **b** : a blackish animal (*Tayassu pecari*) with whitish cheeks



peccary a

pec·ca·vi \pe-'kä-(ˌ)wē, -(ˌ)vē; -'kā-ˌvī\ *n* [L, I have sinned, fr. *peccare*] : an acknowledgment of sin

[1]peck \'pek\ *n* [ME *pek*, fr. OF] **1** — see WEIGHT table **2 :** a large quantity or number

[2]peck *vb* [ME *pecken*, alter. of *piken* to pierce — more at PICK] *vt* **1 a :** to strike or pierce esp. repeatedly with the bill or a pointed tool **b :** to make by pecking ⟨~ a hole⟩ **2 :** to pick up with the bill ~ *vi* **1 a :** to strike, pierce, or pick up something with or as if with the bill **b :** CARP, NAG **2 :** to eat reluctantly and in small bites ⟨~ at food⟩

[3]peck *n* **1 :** an impression or hole made by pecking **2 :** a quick sharp stroke

peck·er \'pek-ər\ *n* **1 :** one that pecks **2** *chiefly Brit* : COURAGE **3 :** PENIS — often considered vulgar

pecking order *or* **peck order** *n* **1 :** the basic pattern of social organization within a flock of poultry in which each bird pecks another lower in the scale without fear of retaliation and submits to pecking by one of higher rank **2 :** a social hierarchy

peck·sniff·ian \pek-'snif-ē-ən\ *adj* [Seth *Pecksniff*, character in *Martin Chuzzlewit* (1843-44) by Charles Dickens] : selfish and corrupt behind a display of seeming benevolence : SANCTIMONIOUS

pecky \'pek-ē\ *adj* [*[3]peck*] **1 :** marked by lenticular or finger-shaped pockets of decay caused by fungi ⟨~ cypress⟩ **2 :** containing discolored or shriveled grains ⟨~ rice⟩

pec·tate \'pek-ˌtāt\ *n* : a salt or ester of a pectic acid

pec·ten \'pek-tən\ *n, pl* **pectens** [NL *pectin-, pecten*, fr. L, comb, scallop] **1** *pl usu* **pec·ti·nes** \-tə-ˌnēz\ : a body part that resembles a comb; *esp* : a folded vascular pigmented membrane projecting into the vitreous humor in the eye of a bird or reptile **2** : [1]SCALLOP 1a

pec·tic \'pek-tik\ *adj* [F *pectique*, fr. Gk *pēktikos* coagulating, fr. *pēgnynai* to fix, coagulate — more at PACT] : of, relating to, or derived from pectin

pectic acid *n* : any of various water-insoluble substances formed by hydrolyzing the methyl ester groups of pectins

pec·tin \'pek-tən\ *n* [F *pectine*, fr. *pectique*] : any of various water-soluble substances that bind adjacent cell walls in plant tissues and yield a gel which is the basis of fruit jellies; *also* : a commercial product rich in pectins

pec·tin·aceous \ˌpek-tə-'nā-shəs\ *adj* : of, relating to, or containing pectin

pec·ti·nate \'pek-tə-ˌnāt\ *also* **pec·ti·nat·ed** \-ˌnāt-əd\ *adj* [L *pectinatus*, fr. *pectin-, pecten* comb; akin to Gk *kten-, kteis* comb, L *pectere* to comb — more at FEE] : having narrow parallel projections or divisions suggestive of the teeth of a comb ⟨~ antennae⟩ — **pec·ti·na·tion** \ˌpek-tə-'nā-shən\ *n*

pec·tin·es·ter·ase \ˌpek-tə-'nes-tə-ˌrās, -ˌrāz\ *n* : an enzyme that catalyzes the hydrolysis of pectins into pectic acids and methanol

[1]pec·to·ral \'pek-t(ə-)rəl\ *n* : something worn on the breast

[2]pectoral *adj* [MF or L; MF, fr. L *pectoralis*, fr. *pector-, pectus* breast; akin to Toch A *päśśäm* the two breasts] **1 :** of, situated in or on, or worn on the chest **2 :** coming from the breast or heart as the seat of emotion

pectoral cross *n* : a cross worn on the breast esp. by a prelate

pectoral fin *n* : either of the fins of a fish that correspond to the forelimbs of a quadruped

pectoral girdle *n* : the bony or cartilaginous arch that supports the forelimbs of a vertebrate

pectoral muscle *n* : one of the muscles which connect the ventral walls of the chest with the bones of the upper arm and shoulder and of which there are two on each side in man

pec·u·late \'pek-yə-ˌlāt\ *vt* **-lat·ed; -lat·ing** [L *peculatus*, pp. of *peculari*, fr. *peculium*] : EMBEZZLE — **pec·u·la·tion** \ˌpek-yə-'lā-shən\ *n* — **pec·u·la·tor** \'pek-yə-ˌlāt-ər\ *n*

[1]pe·cu·liar \pi-'kyül-yər\ *adj* [ME *peculier*, fr. L *peculiaris* of private property, special, fr. *peculium* private property, fr. *pecu* cattle; akin to L *pecus* cattle — more at FEE] **1 :** belonging exclusively to one person or group **2 :** felt to be characteristic of one only : DISTINCTIVE **3 :** different from the usual or normal: **a :** SPECIAL, PARTICULAR **b :** CURIOUS **c :** ECCENTRIC, QUEER ***syn*** see CHARACTERISTIC, STRANGE — **pe·cu·liar·ly** *adv*

[2]peculiar *n* : something exempt from ordinary jurisdiction; *esp* : a church or parish exempt from the jurisdiction of the ordinary in whose territory it lies

pe·cu·liar·i·ty \pi-ˌkyül-'yar-ət-ē, -ˌkyü-lē-'ar-\ *n, pl* **-ties** **1 :** the quality or state of being peculiar **2 :** a distinguishing characteristic **3 :** ODDITY, QUIRK

pe·cu·ni·ary \pi-'kyü-nē-ˌer-ē\ *adj* [L *pecuniarius*, fr. *pecunia* money — more at FEE] **1 :** consisting of or measured in money **2 :** of or relating to money : MONETARY ***syn*** see FINANCIAL — **pe·cu·ni·ar·i·ly** \-ˌkyü-nē-'er-ə-lē\ *adv*

ped \'ped\ *n* [Gk *pedon* ground; akin to L *ped-, pes* foot — more at FOOT] : a natural soil aggregate

PED *abbr* doctor of physical education

ped- — see PAED-

-ped \ˌped *also* pəd\ *or* **-pede** \ˌpēd\ *n comb form* [L *ped-, pes*] : foot ⟨maxilli*ped*⟩ ⟨maxilli*pede*⟩

ped·a·gog·ic \ˌped-ə-'gäj-ik, -'gōj-\ *adj* : of, relating to, or befitting a teacher or education — **ped·a·gog·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj* — **ped·a·gog·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

ped·a·gog·ics \-iks\ *n pl but sing in constr* : PEDAGOGY

ped·a·gogue *also* **ped·a·gog** \'ped-ə-ˌgäg\ *n* [ME *pedagoge*, fr. MF, fr. L *paedagogus*, fr. Gk *paidagōgos*, slave who escorted children to school, fr. *paid-* paed- + *agōgos* leader, fr. *agein* to lead — more at AGENT] : TEACHER, SCHOOLMASTER

ped·a·go·gy \'ped-ə-ˌgōj-ē *also* -ˌgäj-, *esp Brit* -ˌgäg-\ *n* : the art, science, or profession of teaching; *esp* : EDUCATION 2

[1]ped·al \'ped-ᵊl\ *n* [MF *pedale*, fr. It, fr. L *pedalis*, adj.] **1 :** a lever pressed by the foot in the playing of a musical instrument (as an organ or piano) **2 :** a foot lever or treadle by which a part is activated in a mechanism

[2]ped·al *adj* [L *pedalis*, fr. *ped-, pes*] **1** \'ped-ᵊl *also* 'pēd-\ : of or relating to the foot **2** \'ped-\ : of, relating to, or involving a pedal

[3]ped·al \'ped-ᵊl\ *vb* **ped·aled** *also* **ped·alled; ped·al·ing** *also* **ped·al·ling** \'ped-ᵊl-iŋ, 'ped-liŋ\ *vi* **1 :** to use or work a pedal **2 :** to ride a bicycle ~ *vt* : to work the pedals of

pedal disk *n* : the base by which a coelenterate polyp (as a sea anemone) is attached to the substrate

pe·dal·fer \pə-'dal-fər, -ˌfe(ə)r\ *n* [Gk *pedon* ground + E *alumen* + L *ferrum* iron] : a soil that lacks a hardened layer of accumulated carbonates — **ped·al·fer·ic** \ˌped-(ˌ)al-'fer-ik\ *adj*

ped·al–note \'ped-ᵊl-ˌnōt\ *n* [fr. the playing of the lowest notes on the organ by means of pedals] **1 :** PEDAL POINT **2 :** one of the lowest tones that can be sounded on a brass instrument being an octave below the normal usable range and representing the fundamental of the harmonic series

pedal point *n* : a single tone usu. the tonic or dominant that is normally sustained in the bass and sounds against changing harmonies in the other parts

pedal pushers *n pl* : women's and girls' calf-length trousers

ped·ant \'ped-ᵊnt\ *n* [MF, fr. It *pedante*] **1** *obs* : a male schoolteacher **2 a :** one who parades his learning **b :** one who is unimaginative or who unduly emphasizes minutiae in the presentation or use of knowledge **c :** a formalist or precisionist in teaching

pe·dan·tic \pi-'dant-ik\ *adj* **1 :** of, relating to, or being a pedant **2 :** narrowly, stodgily, and often ostentatiously learned ⟨~ concern with detail⟩ — **pe·dan·ti·cal·ly** \-'dant-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

syn PEDANTIC, ACADEMIC, SCHOLASTIC, BOOKISH *shared meaning element* : too narrowly concerned with learned matters

ped·ant·ry \'ped-ᵊn-trē\ *n, pl* **-ries** **1 :** pedantic presentation or application of knowledge or learning **2 :** an instance of pedantry

ped·dle \'ped-ᵊl\ *vb* **ped·dled; ped·dling** \'ped-liŋ, -ᵊl-iŋ\ [back-formation fr. *peddler*, fr. ME *pedlere*] *vi* **1 :** to travel about with wares for sale; *broadly* : SELL **2 :** to be busy with trifles : PIDDLE ~ *vt* **1 :** to sell or offer for sale from place to place : HAWK **2 :** to deal out or seek to disseminate

ped·dler *or* **ped·lar** \'ped-lər\ *n* : one who peddles: as **a :** one who offers merchandise (as fresh produce) for sale along the street or from door to door **b :** one who deals in or promotes something intangible (as a personal asset or an idea) ⟨influence ~s⟩

ped·dling \'ped-lən, -ᵊl-ən, -liŋ, -ᵊl-iŋ\ *adj* [alter. of *piddling*] : PETTY

ped·er·ast \'ped-ə-ˌrast\ *n* [Gk *paiderastēs*, lit., lover of boys, fr. *paid-* paed- + *erastēs* lover, fr. *erasthai* to love — more at EROS] : one that practices anal intercourse esp. with a boy — **ped·er·as·tic** \ˌped-ə-'ras-tik\ *adj* — **ped·er·as·ty** \'ped-ə-ˌras-tē\ *n*

pedes *pl of* PES

[1]ped·es·tal \'ped-əs-tᵊl\ *n* [MF *piedestal*, fr. OIt *piedestallo*, fr. *pie di stallo* foot of a stall] **1 a :** the support or foot of a late classic or neoclassic column — see COLUMN illustration **b :** the base of an upright structure **2 :** BASE, FOUNDATION **3 :** a position of esteem

[2]pedestal *vt* **-taled** *or* **-talled; -tal·ing** *or* **-tal·ling :** to place on or furnish with a pedestal

[1]pe·des·tri·an \pə-'des-trē-ən\ *adj* [L *pedestr-, pedester*, lit., going on foot, fr. *pedes* one going on foot, fr. *ped-, pes* foot — more at FOOT] **1 :** COMMONPLACE, UNIMAGINATIVE **2 a :** going or performed on foot **b :** of, relating to, or designed for walking ⟨a ~ mall⟩

[2]pedestrian *n* : a person going on foot : WALKER

pe·des·tri·an·ism \-ˌiz-əm\ *n* **1 a :** the practice of walking **b :** fondness for walking for exercise or recreation **2 :** the quality or state of being unimaginative or commonplace

pe·di·at·ric \ˌpēd-ē-'a-trik\ *adj* : of or relating to pediatrics

pe·di·a·tri·cian \ˌpēd-ē-ə-'trish-ən\ *or* **pe·di·a·trist** \ˌpēd-ē-'a-trəst, pē-'dī-ə-\ *n* : a specialist in pediatrics

pe·di·at·rics \ˌpēd-ē-'a-triks\ *n pl but sing or pl in constr* : a branch of medicine dealing with the development, care, and diseases of children

pedi·cab \'ped-i-ˌkab\ *n* [L *ped-, pes* + E *cab*] : a small 3-wheeled hooded passenger vehicle that is pedaled

ped·i·cel \'ped-ə-ˌsel\ *n* [NL *pedicellus*, dim. of L *pediculus*] **1 :** a slender basal part of an organism or one of its parts: as **a :** a plant stalk that supports a fruiting or spore-bearing organ — see CORYMB illustration **b :** a narrow basal attachment (as of the abdomen of an ant) of an animal organ or part **2 :** a small foot or footlike organ — **ped·i·cel·late** \ˌped-ə-'sel-ət\ *adj*

ped·i·cle \'ped-i-kəl\ *n* [L *pediculus*, fr. dim. of *ped-, pes*] : PEDICEL — **ped·i·cled** \-kəld\ *adj*

pe·dic·u·late \pi-'dik-yə-lət\ *adj* [deriv. of L *pediculus* little foot, pedicel] : of or relating to an order (Pediculati) of marine teleost fishes with jugular ventral fins, pectoral fins at the end of an arm-like process, and part of the dorsal fin modified into a lure — **pediculate** *n*

pe·dic·u·lo·sis \pi-ˌdik-yə-'lō-səs\ *n* [NL, fr. L *pediculus* louse] : infestation with lice

pe·dic·u·lous \pi-'dik-yə-ləs\ *adj* [L *pediculosus*, fr. *pediculus*] : infested with lice : LOUSY

ped·i·cure \'ped-i-ˌkyu̇(ə)r\ *n* [F *pédicure*, fr. L *ped-, pes* foot + *curare* to take care, fr. *cura* care — more at CURE] **1 :** one who practices chiropody **2 a :** care of the feet, toes, and nails **b :** a single treatment of these parts — **ped·i·cur·ist** \-ˌkyu̇r-əst\ *n*

ped·i·gree \'ped-ə-ˌgrē\ *n* [ME *pedegru*, fr. MF *pie de grue* crane's foot; fr. the shape made by the lines of a genealogical chart] **1 :** a register recording a line of ancestors **2 a :** an ancestral line : LINEAGE **b :** the origin and the history of something **3 a :** a distinguished ancestry **b :** the recorded purity of breed of an individual or strain — **ped·i·greed** \-ˌgrēd\ *adj*

ped·i·ment \'ped-ə-mənt\ *n* [obs. E *periment*, prob. alter. of E *pyramid*] **1 :** a triangular space forming the gable of a 2-pitched roof in classic architecture; *also* : a similar form used as a decoration **2 :** a broad gently sloping bedrock surface with low relief that is situated at the base of a steeper slope and is usu. thinly cov-

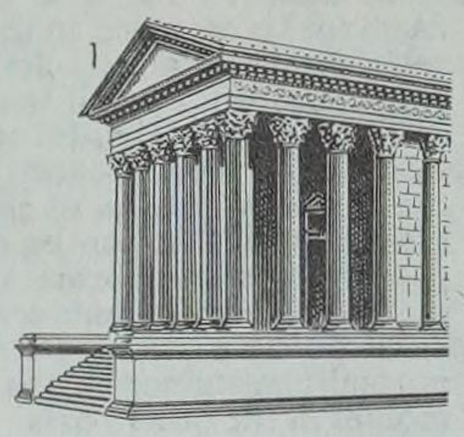
ered with alluvial gravel and sand — **ped·i·men·tal** \ˌped-ə-ˈment-ᵊl\ *adj*

pedi·palp \ˈped-ə-ˌpalp\ *n* [NL *pedipalpus*, fr. *ped-*, *pes* foot + *palpus*] : either of the second pair of appendages of an arachnid (as a spider) that are borne near the mouth and are often modified for a special (as sensory) function

ped·lary *or* **ped·dlery** \ˈped-lə-rē\ *n* **1** *archaic* : peddlers' merchandise **2** *archaic* : the trade of a peddler

pedo- — see PAED-

ped·o·cal \ˈped-ə-ˌkal\ *n* [Gk *pedon* earth + L *calc-*, *calx* lime — more at PED, CHALK] : a soil that includes a definite hardened layer of accumulated carbonates — **ped·o·cal·ic** \ˌped-ə-ˈkal-ik\ *adj*



1, pediment 1

[1]pe·do·gen·e·sis \ˌpēd-ə-ˈjen-ə-səs\ *var of* PAEDOGENESIS

[2]pedo·gen·e·sis \ˌped-ə-ˈjen-ə-səs\ *n* [NL, fr. Gk *pedon* + L *genesis*] : the formation and development of soil — **pedo·gen·ic** \-ˈjen-ik\ *or* **pedo·ge·net·ic** \-jə-ˈnet-ik\ *adj*

[1]ped·o·log·ic \ˌped-ᵊl-ˈäj-ik\ *or* **ped·o·log·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj* : of or relating to soil science

[2]pe·do·log·ic \ˌpēd-ᵊl-ˈäj-ik\ *or* **pe·do·log·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj* : of or relating to child study

[1]pe·dol·o·gist \pē-ˈdäl-ə-jəst\ *n* : a specialist in child study

[2]pe·dol·o·gist \pi-ˈdäl-ə-jəst, pe-\ *n* : a soil scientist

[1]pe·dol·o·gy \pē-ˈdäl-ə-jē\ *n* [*paed-* + *-logy*] : the scientific study of the life and development of children

[2]pe·dol·o·gy \pi-ˈdäl-ə-jē, pe-\ *n* [Gk *pedon* + ISV *-logy*] : a science dealing with soils

pe·dom·e·ter \pi-ˈdäm-ət-ər\ *n* [F *pédomètre*, fr. L *ped-*, *pes* foot + F *-mètre* -meter — more at FOOT] : an instrument usu. in watch form that records the distance a walker covers by responding to his body motion at each step

pe·do·phile \ˈpēd-ə-ˌfīl\ *n* : one affected with pedophilia

pe·do·phil·ia \ˌpēd-ə-ˈfil-ē-ə\ *n* [NL] : sexual perversion in which children are the preferred sexual object — **pe·do·phil·i·ac** \-ˈfil-ē-ˌak\ *or* **pe·do·phil·ic** \-ˈfil-ik\ *adj*

pe·dun·cle \ˈpē-ˌdəŋ-kəl, pi-ˈ\ *n* [NL *pedunculus*, dim. of L *ped-*, *pes*] **1** : a stalk bearing a flower or flower cluster or a fructification — see CORYMB illustration **2** : a narrow part by which some larger part or the whole body of an organism is attached : STALK, PEDICEL **3** : a narrow stalk by which a tumor or polyp is attached — **pe·dun·cled** \-kəld\ *adj* — **pe·dun·cu·lar** \pi-ˈdəŋ-kyə-lər\ *adj*

pe·dun·cu·late \pi-ˈdəŋ-kyə-lət\ *or* **pe·dun·cu·lat·ed** \-ˌlāt-əd\ *adj* [NL *pedunculus*] : having, growing on, or being attached by a peduncle ⟨a ~ tumor⟩

[1]pee \ˈpē\ *n* : the letter *p*

[2]pee *vi* **peed; pee·ing** [euphemism fr. the initial letter of *piss*] : URINATE —sometimes considered vulgar

Peeb *abbr* Peeblesshire

[1]peek \ˈpēk\ *vi* [ME *piken*] **1 a** : to look furtively **b** : to peer through a crack or hole or from a place of concealment — often used with *in* or *out* **2** : to take a brief look : GLANCE

[2]peek *n* **1** : a surreptitious look **2** : a brief look : GLANCE

[1]peek·a·boo \ˌpē-kə-ˈbü\ *n* [*[1]peek* + *[1]boo*] : a game for amusing a baby in which one repeatedly hides his face or body and pops back into view exclaiming "Peekaboo!"

[2]peek·a·boo \-ˌbü\ *adj* **1** : trimmed with eyelet embroidery ⟨a ~ blouse⟩ **2** : made of a sheer or transparent fabric

[1]peel \ˈpē(ə)l\ *vb* [ME *pelen*, fr. MF *peler*, fr. L *pilare* to remove the hair from, fr. *pilus* hair — more at PILE] *vt* **1** : to strip off an outer layer of ⟨~ an orange⟩ **2** : to remove by stripping ⟨~ the label off the can⟩ ~ *vi* **1 a** : to come off in sheets or scales **b** : to lose an outer layer (as of skin) ⟨his face is ~*ing*⟩ **2** : to take off one's clothes — **peel·able** \ˈpē-lə-bəl\ *adj*

[2]peel *n* **1** : the skin or rind of a fruit **2** : a thin layer of organic material that is embedded in a film of collodion and stripped from the surface of an object (as a plant fossil) for microscopic study

[3]peel *also* **pele** \ˈpē(ə)l\ *n* [ME *pel* stockade, stake, fr. AF, stockade & MF, stake, fr. L *palus* stake — more at POLE] : a medieval small massive fortified tower along the Scottish-English border

[4]peel *n* [ME *pele*, fr. MF, fr. L *pala*] : a usu. long-handled spade-shaped instrument that is used chiefly by bakers for getting something (as bread or pies) into or out of the oven

[1]peel·er \ˈpē-lər\ *n* **1** : one that peels **2** : a log of wood (as Douglas fir) suitable for cutting into rotary veneer — called also *peeler log*

[2]peeler *n* [Sir Robert *Peel*] *Brit* : POLICEMAN

peel·ing \ˈpē-liŋ\ *n* : a peeled-off piece or strip (as of skin or rind)

peel off *vi* **1** : to veer away from an airplane formation esp. for diving or landing **2** : DEPART, LEAVE

[1]peen \ˈpēn\ *vt* : to draw, bend, or flatten by or as if by hammering with a peen

[2]peen *or* **pein** \ˈpēn\ *n* [prob. of Scand origin; akin to Norw *penn* peen] : a usu. hemispherical or wedge-shaped end of the head of a hammer that is opposite the face and is used esp. for bending, shaping, or cutting the material struck

[1]peep \ˈpēp\ *vi* [ME *pepen*, of imit. origin] **1** : to utter a feeble shrill sound as of a bird newly hatched : CHEEP **2** : to utter the slightest sound

[2]peep *n* **1** : a feeble shrill sound : CHEEP **2** : a slight utterance esp. of complaint or protest ⟨don't let me hear another ~ out of you⟩ **3** : any of several small sandpipers

[3]peep *vb* [ME *pepen*, perh. alter. of *piken* to peek] *vi* **1 a** : to peer through or as if through a crevice **b** : to look cautiously or slyly **2** : to begin to emerge from or as if from concealment : show slightly ~ *vt* : to put forth or cause to protrude slightly

[4]peep *n* **1** : the first glimpse or faint appearance ⟨at the ~ of dawn⟩ **2 a** : a brief look : GLANCE **b** : a furtive look

[1]peep·er \ˈpē-pər\ *n* **1** : one that makes a peeping sound **2** : any of various tailless amphibians (as a tree frog or a spring peeper) that peep shrilly

[2]peeper *n* **1** : one that peeps; *specif* : VOYEUR **2** : EYE

peep·hole \ˈpēp-ˌhōl\ *n* : a hole or crevice to peep through

Peeping Tom \-ˈtäm\ *n* **1** : a legendary man who looked at Lady Godiva riding naked through Coventry and was struck blind **2** *often not cap P* : a pruriently prying person : VOYEUR — **Peeping Tom·ism** \-ˈtäm-ˌiz-əm\ *n*

peep show *n* : an entertainment (as a film) or object (as a small painting) viewed through a small opening or a magnifying glass

peep sight *n* : a rear sight for a gun having an adjustable metal piece pierced with a small hole to peep through in aiming

[1]peer \ˈpi(ə)r\ *n* [ME, fr. OF *per*, fr. *per*, adj., equal, fr. L *par*] **1** : one that is of equal standing with another : EQUAL **2** *archaic* : COMPANION **3 a** : a member of one of the five ranks (as duke, marquess, earl, viscount, or baron) of the British peerage **b** : NOBLE 1

[2]peer *vt*, *archaic* : RIVAL, MATCH

[3]peer *adj* : belonging to the same group in society esp. when membership is determined by age, grade, or status ⟨a ~ group of adolescents⟩

[4]peer *vi* [perh. by shortening & alter. fr. *appear*] **1** : to look narrowly or curiously; *esp* : to look searchingly at something difficult to discern **2** : to come slightly into view : emerge partly ***syn*** see GAZE

peer·age \ˈpi(ə)r-ij\ *n* **1** : the body of peers **2** : the rank or dignity of a peer **3** : a book containing a list of peers with their genealogy, history, and titles

peer·ess \ˈpir-əs\ *n* **1** : the wife or widow of a peer **2** : a woman who holds in her own right the rank of a peer

peer·less \ˈpi(ə)r-ləs\ *adj* : MATCHLESS, INCOMPARABLE — **peer·less·ly** *adv* — **peer·less·ness** *n*

[1]peeve \ˈpēv\ *vt* **peeved; peev·ing** [back-formation fr. *peevish*] : to make peevish or resentful : ANNOY ***syn*** see IRRITATE

[2]peeve *n* **1** : a feeling or mood of resentment **2** : a particular grievance : GRUDGE

pee·vish \ˈpē-vish\ *adj* [ME *pevish* spiteful] **1** : querulous in temperament or mood : FRETFUL **2** : perversely obstinate **3** : marked by ill temper — **pee·vish·ly** *adv* — **pee·vish·ness** *n*

pee·wee \ˈpē-(ˌ)wē\ *n* [imit.] **1** : PEWEE **2** : one that is diminutive or small; *esp* : a small child — **peewee** *adj*

pee·wit \ˈpē-ˌwit, ˈpyü-ət\ *n* [imit.] : any of several birds: as **a** : LAPWING **b** : a small black-headed European gull (*Larus ridibundus*) **c** : PEWEE

[1]peg \ˈpeg\ *n* [ME *pegge*] **1 a** : a small usu. cylindrical pointed or tapered piece (as of wood) used to pin down or fasten things or to fit into or close holes : PIN, PLUG **b** *Brit* : CLOTHESPIN **c** : a predetermined level at which something (as a price) is fixed **2 a** : a projecting piece used as a support or boundary marker **b** : something (as a fact or opinion) used as a support, pretext, or reason **3 a** : one of the movable wooden pegs set in the head of a stringed instrument (as a violin) that are turned to regulate the pitch of the strings — see VIOLIN illustration **b** : a step or degree esp. in estimation **4** : a pointed prong or claw for catching or tearing **5** *Brit* : DRINK ⟨poured himself out a stiff ~ —Dorothy Sayers⟩ **6** : something (as a leg) resembling a peg **7** : THROW; *esp* : a hard throw in baseball made in an attempt to put out a base runner

[2]peg *vb* **pegged; peg·ging** *vt* **1 a** : to put a peg into **b** *Brit* : to pin (laundry) on a clothesline **c** : to pin down : RESTRICT **d** : to fix or hold (as prices) at a predetermined level **e** : to place in a definite category : IDENTIFY **2** : to mark by pegs **3** : THROW ~ *vi* **1** : to work steadily and diligently — often used with *away* **2** : to move along vigorously or hastily : HUSTLE

[3]peg \ˈpeg\ *or* **pegged** \ˈpegd\ *adj* : wide at the top and narrow at the bottom ⟨~ pants⟩

Peg·a·sus \ˈpeg-ə-səs\ *n* [L (gen. *Pegasi*), fr. Gk *Pēgasos*] **1** : a winged horse that caused the stream Hippocrene to spring from Mount Helicon with a blow of his hoof **2** : poetic inspiration **3** : a northern constellation near the vernal equinoctial point

peg·board \ˈpeg-ˌbō(ə)rd, -ˌbȯ(ə)rd\ *n* : a small board perforated with a pattern of holes into which pegs are stuck in playing certain games (as solitaire)

Peg–Board *trademark* — used for material (as fiberboard) with regularly spaced perforations into which hooks may be inserted for the storage or display of articles

peg leg *n* [*[3]peg*] : an artificial leg; *esp* : one fitted at the knee

peg·ma·tite \ˈpeg-mə-ˌtīt\ *n* [F, fr. Gk *pēgmat-*, *pēgma* something fastened together, fr. *pēgnynai* to fasten together — more at PACT] **1** : a coarse variety of granite occurring in dikes or veins **2** : a formation similar to pegmatite in other rocks ⟨syenite ~⟩ — **peg·ma·tit·ic** \ˌpeg-mə-ˈtit-ik\ *adj*

peg–top \ˈpeg-ˈtäp\ *or* **peg–topped** \-ˈtäpt\ *adj* : PEG

peg top *n* **1** \ˈpeg-ˈtäp\ : a pear-shaped top that is made to spin on the sharp metal peg in its base by the unwinding of a string wound round its center **2** *pl* \-ˌtäps\ : peg-top trousers

Peh·le·vi \ˈpel-ə-(ˌ)vē\ *var of* PAHLAVI

PEI *abbr* Prince Edward Island

pei·gnoir \pān-ˈwär, pen-\ *n* [F, lit., garment worn while combing the hair, fr. MF, fr. *peigner* to comb the hair, fr. L *pectinare*, fr. *pectin-*, *pecten* comb — more at PECTINATE] : a woman's loose negligee or dressing gown

pe·jo·ra·tive \pi-ˈjȯr-ət-iv, -ˈjär-; ˈpej-(ə-)rət-, ˈpej-ə-ˌrāt-, ˈpēj-\ *adj* [LL *pejoratus*, pp. of *pejorare* to make or become worse, fr. L *pejor* worse; akin to L *pessimus* worst, Gk *pedon* ground — more at PARALLELEPIPED] : having a tendency to make or become worse : DEPRECIATORY, DISPARAGING — **pe·jo·ra·tive·ly** *adv*

peke \ˈpēk\ *n, often cap* : PEKINGESE 2

Pe·kin \pi-ˈkin, ˈpē-ˌ\ *n* [*Peking, Pekin*, China] : any of a breed of large white ducks of Chinese origin used for meat production

Pe·king·ese *or* **Pe·kin·ese** \ˌpē-kən-ˈēz, -kiŋ-, -ˈēs\ *n, pl* **Pekingese** *or* **Pekinese** **1 a** : a native or resident of Peking **b** : the Chinese dialect of Peking **2** : any of a Chinese breed of small short-legged dogs with a broad flat face and a profuse long soft coat

Pe·king man \ˌpē-ˌkiŋ-\ *n* : an extinct Pleistocene man that is known from skeletal and cultural remains in cave deposits at Choukoutien, China and that is more advanced in some details than Java man but nearer to him than to other fossil hominids or to recent man

pe·koe \'pē-(ˌ)kō\ *n* [Chin (Amoy) *pek-ho*] **1** : a black tea made from the first three leaves on the spray **2** : a black tea of India or Ceylon made from leaves of approximately the same size obtained by screening fired tea

pel·age \'pel-ij\ *n* [F, fr. MF, fr. *poil* hair, fr. L *pilus* — more at PILE] : the hairy covering of a mammal

[1]Pe·la·gian \pə-'lā-j(ē-)ən\ *n* : one agreeing with Pelagius in denying original sin and consequently in holding that man has perfect freedom to do either right or wrong

[2]Pelagian *adj* : of or relating to Pelagians or Pelagianism

Pe·la·gian·ism \-ˌiz-əm\ *n* : the teaching of Pelagius or Pelagians

pe·lag·ic \pə-'laj-ik\ *adj* [L *pelagicus*, fr. Gk *pelagikos*, fr. *pelagos* sea — more at FLAKE] : of, relating to, or living or occurring in the open sea : OCEANIC

pel·ar·go·ni·um \ˌpel-är-'gō-nē-əm, ˌpel-ər-\ *n* [NL, genus name, irreg. fr. Gk *pelargos* stork] : any of a genus (*Pelargonium*) of southern African herbs (as a garden geranium) of the geranium family with showy flowers of various shades of red, pink, or white distinguished by a spurred calyx and irregular corolla

Pe·las·gian \pə-'laz-j(ē-)ən, -'laz-gē-ən\ *n* [Gk *pelasgios*, adj., Pelasgian, fr. *Pelasgoi* Pelasgians] : a member of an ancient people mentioned by classical writers as early inhabitants of Greece and the eastern islands of the Mediterranean — **Pelasgian** *adj* — **Pe·las·gic** \-jik, -gik\ *adj*

pele *var of* PEEL

pe·lecy·pod \pə-'les-ə-ˌpäd\ *n* [NL *Pelecypoda*, group name, fr. Gk *pelekys* axe + *pod-, pous* foot — more at FOOT] : LAMELLIBRANCH

pel·er·ine \ˌpel-ə-'rēn, 'pel-ə-rən\ *n* [obs. F, neckerchief, fr. F *pèlerine*, fem. of *pèlerin* pilgrim, fr. LL *pelegrinus* — more at PILGRIM] : a woman's narrow cape made of fabric or fur and usu. with long ends hanging down in front

Pe·leus \'pēl-ˌyüs, 'pē-lē-əs\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *Pēleus*] : a son of Aeacus who became by the goddess Thetis the father of Achilles

pelf \'pelf\ *n* [ME, fr. MF *pelfre* booty] : MONEY, RICHES

pel·i·can \'pel-i-kən\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *pellican*, fr. LL *pelecanus*, fr. Gk *pelekan*] : any of a genus (*Pelecanus*) of large web-footed birds with a very large bill and distensible gular pouch in which fish are caught

pe·lisse \pə-'lēs, pe-\ *n* [F, fr. LL *pellicia*, fr. fem. of *pellicius* made of skin, fr. L *pellis* skin — more at FELL] **1** : a long cloak or coat made of fur or lined or trimmed with fur **2** : a woman's loose lightweight cloak with wide collar and fur trimming

pel·la·gra \pə-'lag-rə, -'lāg-, -'läg-\ *n* [It, fr. *pelle* skin (fr. L *pellis*) + *-agra* (as in *podagra*, fr. L)] : a disease marked by dermatitis, gastrointestinal disorders, and central nervous symptoms and associated with a diet deficient in niacin and protein — **pel·la·grous** \-rəs\ *adj*

pel·la·grin \-rən\ *n* [irreg. fr. *pellagra*] : one that is affected with pellagra

[1]pel·let \'pel-ət\ *n* [ME *pelote*, fr. MF, fr. (assumed) VL *pilota*, dim. of L *pila* ball — more at PILE] **1** : a usu. small rounded or spherical body (as of food, medicine, debris, or snow) **2 a** : a usu. stone ball used as a missile in medieval times **b** : CANNONBALL **c** : BULLET **d** : a piece of small shot **e** : an imitation bullet — **pel·let·al** \-ət-ᵊl\ *adj*

[2]pellet *vt* **1** : PELLETIZE **2** : to strike with pellets

pel·let·ize \'pel-ət-ˌīz\ *vt* **-ized; -iz·ing** : to form or compact into pellets ⟨~ ore⟩ — **pel·let·iza·tion** \ˌpel-ət-ə-'zā-shən\ *n* — **pel·let·iz·er** \'pel-ət-ˌī-zər\ *n*

pel·li·cle \'pel-i-kəl\ *n* [MF *pellicule*, fr. ML *pellicula*, fr. L, dim. of *pellis*] : a thin skin or film; *esp* : one that reflects a part of the light falling upon it and transmits the rest of the light through it and that is used for dividing a beam of light (as in a photographic device)

[1]pel·li·to·ry \'pel-ə-ˌtōr-ē, -ˌtȯr-\ *n, pl* **-ries** [ME *peletre*, fr. MF *piretre*, fr. L *pyrethrum*] **1** : a southern European composite plant (*Anacyclus pyrethrum*) resembling yarrow — called also *pellitory-of-Spain* **2** : any of several plants (as the feverfew or yarrow) that resemble the pellitory

[2]pellitory *n* [ME *paritorie*, fr. MF *paritaire*, fr. LL *parietaria*, fr. fem. of *parietarius* of a wall, fr. L *pariet-, paries* wall — more at PARIES] : any of a genus (*Parietaria*) of herbs of the nettle family with alternate leaves and inconspicuous flowers — called also *pellitory-of-the-wall*

pell–mell \'pel-'mel\ *adv* [MF *pelemele*] **1** : in mingled confusion or disorder **2** : in confused haste — **pell–mell** *adj or n*

pel·lu·cid \pə-'lü-səd\ *adj* [L *pellucidus*, fr. *per* through + *lucidus* lucid — more at FOR] **1** : admitting maximum passage of light without diffusion or distortion **2** : reflecting light evenly from all surfaces **3** : easy to understand — **pel·lu·cid·i·ty** \ˌpel-yü-'sid-ət-ē\ *n* — **pel·lu·cid·ly** \pə-'lü-səd-lē\ *adv* — **pel·lu·cid·ness** *n*

Pe·lops \'pē-ˌläps, 'pel-ˌäps\ *n* [L, fr. Gk] : a son of Tantalus cut up by his father and served to the gods but restored to life by Hermes

pe·lo·ria \pə-'lōr-ē-ə, -'lȯr-\ *n* [NL, fr. Gk *pelōros* monstrous, fr. *pelōr* monster; akin to Gk *teras* marvel — more at TERATOLOGY] : an abnormal regularity of structure occurring in normally irregular flowers — **pe·lor·ic** \-'lȯr-ik, -'lär-\ *adj*

pe·lo·rus \pə-'lōr-əs, -'lȯr-\ *n* [origin unknown] : a navigational instrument resembling a mariner's compass without magnetic needles and having two sight vanes by which bearings are taken

pe·lo·ta \pə-'lōt-ə\ *n* [Sp, fr. OF *pelote* little ball — more at PELLET] **1** : a court game related to jai alai **2** : the ball used in jai alai

[1]pelt \'pelt\ *n* [ME] **1** : a usu. undressed skin with its hair, wool, or fur **2** : a skin stripped of hair or wool for tanning

[2]pelt *vt* : to strip off the skin or pelt of (an animal)

[3]pelt *vb* [ME *pelten*] *vt* **1** : to strike with a succession of blows or missiles ⟨~*ed* him with stones⟩ **2** : HURL, THROW ⟨hand me anything hard . . . to ~ at her —Charles Dickens⟩ **3** : to beat or dash repeatedly against ⟨hailstones ~*ing* the roof⟩ ~ *vi* **1** : to deliver a succession of blows or missiles **2** : to beat incessantly **3** : to move rapidly and vigorously : HURRY — **pelt·er** *n*

[4]pelt *n* : BLOW, WHACK

pel·tate \'pel-ˌtāt\ *adj* [prob. fr. (assumed) NL *peltatus*, fr. L *pelta* small shield, fr. Gk *peltē*] : shaped like a shield; *specif* : having the stem or support attached to the lower surface instead of at the base or margin ⟨a ~ leaf⟩ — **pel·tate·ly** *adv*

pelt·ing \'pel-tiŋ\ *adj* [prob. fr. E dial. *pelt* piece of trash] *archaic* : PALTRY, INSIGNIFICANT

pelt·ry \'pel-trē\ *n, pl* **peltries** [ME, fr. AF *pelterie*] : PELTS, FURS; *esp* : raw undressed skins

pel·vic \'pel-vik\ *adj* : of, relating to, or located in or near the pelvis — **pelvic** *n*

pelvic fin *n* : one of the paired fins of a fish that are homologous with the hind limbs of a quadruped — called also *ventral fin*

pelvic girdle *n* : a bony or cartilaginous arch that supports the hind limbs of a vertebrate

pel·vis \'pel-vəs\ *n, pl* **pel·vis·es** \-və-səz\ *or* **pel·ves** \-ˌvēz\ [NL, fr. L, basin; akin to OE & ON *full* cup, Gk *pella* wooden bowl] **1** : a basin-shaped structure in the skeleton of many vertebrates that is formed by the pelvic girdle and adjoining bones of the spine **2** : the cavity of the pelvis **3** : the funnel-shaped cavity of the kidney into which urine is discharged

pel·y·co·saur \'pel-i-kə-ˌsȯ(ə)r\ *n* [deriv. of Gk *pelyc-, pelyx* wooden bowl + *sauros* lizard] : any of an order (Pelycosauria) of primitive Permian reptiles that resemble mammals and often have extreme development of the dorsal vertebral processes

Pemb *abbr* Pembrokeshire

Pem·broke Welsh corgi \'pem-ˌbrōk-, -ˌbrůk-\ *n* [*Pembroke*, Wales] : a Welsh corgi of a variety characterized by pointed erect ears, straight legs, and short tail — called also *Pembroke*

pem·mi·can *also* **pem·i·can** \'pem-i-kən\ *n* [Cree *pimikân*] : a concentrated food used by No. American Indians and consisting of lean meat dried, pounded fine, and mixed with melted fat; *also* : a similar preparation (as of dried beef, flour, molasses, suet) used for emergency rations

pem·o·line \'pem-ə-ˌlēn\ *n* [origin unknown] : a synthetic organic drug $C_9H_8N_2O_2$ that is usu. mixed with magnesium hydroxide, is a mild stimulant of the central nervous system, and is used experimentally to improve memory

pem·phi·gus \'pem(p)-fi-gəs, pem-'fī-\ *n* [NL, fr. Gk *pemphig-, pemphix* breath, pustule] : a disease characterized by large blisters on skin and mucous membranes and often by itching or burning

[1]pen \'pen\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *penn*] **1 a** : a small enclosure for animals **b** : the animals in a pen ⟨a ~ of sheep⟩ **2** : a small place of confinement or storage **3** : a dock or slip for reconditioning submarines

[2]pen *vt* **penned; pen·ning** : to shut in a pen

[3]pen *n* [ME *penne*, fr. MF, feather, pen, fr. L *penna, pinna* feather; akin to Gk *pteron* wing — more at FEATHER] **1** : an implement for writing or drawing with ink or a similar fluid: as **a** : QUILL **b** : PEN POINT **c** : a penholder containing a pen point **d** : FOUNTAIN PEN **e** : BALL-POINT PEN **2 a** : a writing instrument that is a means of expression ⟨enlisted the ~*s* of the best writers —F. H. Chase⟩ **b** : WRITER **3** : the internal horny feather-shaped shell of a squid

[4]pen *vt* **penned; pen·ning** : WRITE, INDITE ⟨~ a letter⟩

[5]pen *n* [origin unknown] : a female swan

[6]pen *n* : PENITENTIARY

[7]pen *abbr* peninsula

PEN *abbr* International Association of Poets, Playwrights, Editors, Essayists and Novelists

pe·nal \'pēn-ᵊl\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *poenalis*, fr. *poena* punishment — more at PAIN] **1** : of, relating to, or involving punishment, penalties, or punitive institutions **2** : liable to punishment ⟨a ~ offense⟩ **3** : used as a place of confinement and punishment ⟨a ~ colony⟩ — **pe·nal·ly** \-ᵊl-ē\ *adv*

penal code *n* : a code of laws concerning crimes and offenses and their punishment

pe·nal·iza·tion \ˌpēn-ᵊl-ə-'zā-shən, ˌpen-\ *n* : the act of penalizing : the state of being penalized

pe·nal·ize \'pēn-ᵊl-ˌīz, 'pen-\ *vt* **-ized; -iz·ing** **1** : to inflict a penalty on **2** : to put at a serious disadvantage

pen·al·ty \'pen-ᵊl-tē\ *n, pl* **-ties** [ML *poenalitas*, fr. L *poenalis*] **1** : the suffering in person, rights, or property that is annexed by law or judicial decision to the commission of a crime or public offense **2** : the suffering or the sum to be forfeited to which a person subjects himself by agreement in case of nonfulfillment of stipulations **3 a** : disadvantage, loss, or hardship due to some action **b** : a disadvantage (as loss of yardage, time, or possession of the ball or an addition to or subtraction from the score) imposed on a team or competitor for violation of the rules of a sport **4** : points scored in bridge by the side that defeats the opposing contract — usu. used in pl. — **penalty** *adj*

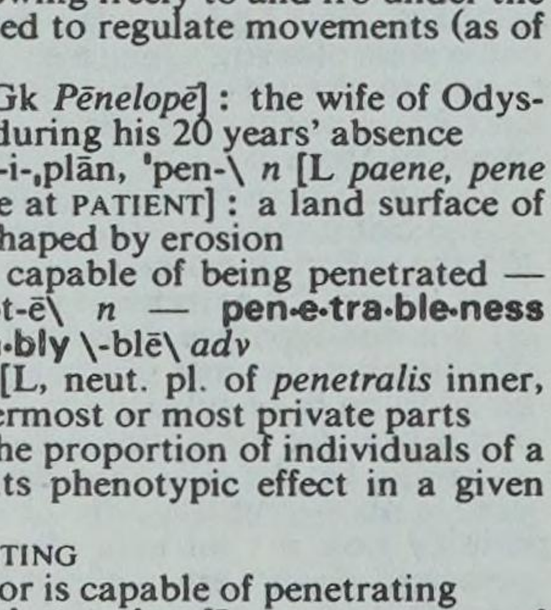
penalty box *n* : an area alongside an ice-hockey rink to which penalized players are confined for the duration of their penalty

penalty kick **1** : a free kick in rugby **2** : a free kick at the goal in soccer made from a point 12 yards in front of the goal and allowed for certain violations within a designated area around the goal

penalty shot *n* : an unhindered shot at the goal in ice hockey awarded to an individual for certain violations by an opponent

[1]pen·ance \'pen-ən(t)s\ *n* [ME, fr. OF, fr. ML *poenitentia* penitence] **1** : an act of self-abasement, mortification, or devotion performed to show sorrow or repentance for sin **2** : a sacramental rite that is practiced in Roman, Eastern, and some Anglican

churches and that consists of private confession, absolution, and a penance directed by the confessor
²penance *vt* **pen·anced; pen·anc·ing** : to impose penance on
Pe·na·tes \pə-'nāt-ēz, -'nät-\ *n pl* [L — more at PENETRATE] : the Roman gods of the household worshiped in close connection with Vesta and with the Lares
pence \'pen(t)s\ *pl of* PENNY
pen·cel *or* **pen·cil** \'pen(t)-səl\ *n* [ME *pencel*, modif. of OF *penoncel*] : PENNONCEL
pen·chant \'pen-chənt, *esp Brit* 'pän-ˌshäⁿ\ *n* [F, fr. prp. of *pencher* to incline, fr. (assumed) VL *pendicare*, fr. L *pendere* to weigh] : a strong leaning : LIKING *syn* see LEANING
¹pen·cil \'pen(t)-səl\ *n* [ME *pensel*, fr. MF *pincel*, fr. (assumed) VL *penicellus*, fr. L *penicillus*, lit., little tail, fr. dim. of *penis* tail, penis] **1** : an artist's brush **2** : an artist's individual skill or style **3 a** : an implement for writing, drawing, or marking consisting of or containing a slender cylinder or strip of a solid marking substance **b** : a small medicated or cosmetic roll or stick for local applications **4 a** : an aggregate of rays of radiation (as light) esp. when diverging from or converging to a point **b** : a set of geometric objects each pair of which has a common property ⟨the lines in a plane through a point comprise a ~ of lines⟩ **5** : something long and thin like a pencil
²pencil *vt* **-ciled** *or* **-cilled; -cil·ing** *or* **-cil·ling** \-s(ə-)liŋ\ : to paint, draw, write, or mark with a pencil — **pen·cil·er** \-s(ə-)lər\ *n*
pen·cil·ing *or* **pen·cil·ling** *n* : the work of the pencil or brush; *also* : a product of this
pencil pusher *n* : a person whose work involves writing
pen·dant *also* **pen·dent** \'pen-dənt; *3 & 4 are also* 'pen-ənt, *6 is also* päⁿ-däⁿ\ *n* [ME *pendaunt*, fr. MF *pendant*, fr. prp. of *pendre* to hang, fr. (assumed) VL *pendere*, fr. L *pendēre;* akin to L *pendere* to weigh, estimate, pay, *pondus* weight — more at SPAN] **1** : something suspended: as **a** : an ornament allowed to hang free **b** : an electrical fixture suspended from the ceiling **2** : a hanging ornament of roofs or ceilings much used in the later styles of Gothic architecture **3** : a short rope hanging from a spar and having at its free end a block or spliced thimble **4** *chiefly Brit* : PENNANT 1a **5** : the shank on a pocket watch stem to which the bow attaches **6** : a companion piece or supplement
pen·den·cy \'pen-dən-sē\ *n* : the state of being pending
pen·dent *or* **pen·dant** \'pen-dənt\ *adj* [ME *pendaunt*] **1** : supported from above : SUSPENDED ⟨icicles ~ from the eaves⟩ **2** : jutting or leaning over : OVERHANGING ⟨a ~ cliff⟩ **3** : remaining undetermined : PENDING — **pen·dent·ly** *adv*
pen·den·tive \pen-'dent-iv\ *n* [F *pendentif*, fr. L *pendent-, pendens*, prp. of *pendēre*] : the part of a groined vault that springs from a single pier or corbel



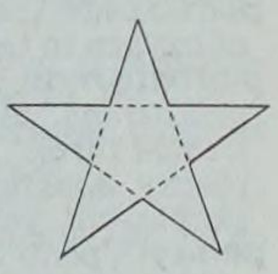
1 pendentives

¹pend·ing \'pen-diŋ\ *prep* [F *pendant*, fr. prp. of *pendre*] **1** : DURING **2** : while awaiting
²pending *adj* **1** : not yet decided : being in continuance **2** : IMMINENT, IMPENDING
pen·drag·on \pen-'drag-ən\ *n* [ME, fr. W, fr. *pen* chief + *dragon* leader] : the chief leader among the ancient British chiefs
pen·du·lar \'pen-jə-lər, 'pen-d(y)ə-\ *adj* : being or resembling the movement of a pendulum
pen·du·lous \-ləs\ *adj* [L *pendulus*, fr. *pendere* to weigh] **1** *archaic* : poised without visible support **2 a** : suspended so as to swing freely ⟨branches hung with ~ vines⟩ **b** : inclined or hanging downward ⟨~ jowls⟩ **3** : marked by vacillation, indecision, or uncertainty — **pen·du·lous·ly** *adv* — **pen·du·lous·ness** *n*
pen·du·lum \-ləm\ *n* [NL, fr. L, neut. of *pendulus*] : a body suspended from a fixed point so as to swing freely to and fro under the action of gravity and commonly used to regulate movements (as of clockwork)
Pe·nel·o·pe \pə-'nel-ə-pē\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *Pēnelopē*] : the wife of Odysseus who waited faithfully for him during his 20 years' absence
pe·ne·plain *also* **pe·ne·plane** \'pēn-i-ˌplān, 'pen-\ *n* [L *paene, pene* almost + E *plain* or *plane* — more at PATIENT] : a land surface of considerable area and slight relief shaped by erosion
pen·e·tra·ble \'pen-ə-trə-bəl\ *adj* : capable of being penetrated — **pen·e·tra·bil·i·ty** \ˌpen-ə-trə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* — **pen·e·tra·ble·ness** \'pen-ə-trə-bəl-nəs\ *n* — **pen·e·tra·bly** \-blē\ *adv*
pen·e·tra·lia \ˌpen-ə-'trā-lē-ə\ *n pl* [L, neut. pl. of *penetralis* inner, fr. *penetrare* to penetrate] : the innermost or most private parts
pen·e·trance \'pen-ə-trən(t)s\ *n* : the proportion of individuals of a particular genotype that express its phenotypic effect in a given environment
¹pen·e·trant \-trənt\ *adj* : PENETRATING
²penetrant *n* : one that penetrates or is capable of penetrating
pen·e·trate \'pen-ə-ˌtrāt\ *vb* **-trat·ed; -trat·ing** [L *penetratus*, pp. of *penetrare;* akin to L *penitus* inward, *Penates* household gods, Lith *peneti* to nourish] *vt* **1 a** : to pass into or through **b** : to enter by overcoming resistance : PIERCE **2 a** : to see into or through **b** : to discover the inner contents or meaning of **3** : to affect profoundly with feeling **4** : to diffuse through or into ~ *vi* **1 a** : to pass, extend, pierce, or diffuse into or through something **b** : to pierce something with the eye or mind **2** : to affect deeply the senses or feelings *syn* see ENTER
pen·e·trat·ing *adj* **1** : having the power of entering, piercing, or pervading ⟨a ~ shriek⟩ **2** : ACUTE, DISCERNING ⟨~ insights into life⟩ — **pen·e·trat·ing·ly** \-ˌtrāt-iŋ-lē\ *adv*
pen·e·tra·tion \ˌpen-ə-'trā-shən\ *n* **1** : the act or process of penetrating: as **a** : the act of entering a country so that actual establishment of influence is accomplished **b** : an attack that penetrates the enemy's front or territory **2 a** : the depth to which something penetrates **b** : the power to penetrate; *esp* : the ability to discern deeply and acutely *syn* see DISCERNMENT
pen·e·tra·tive \'pen-ə-ˌtrāt-iv\ *adj* **1** : tending to penetrate : PIERCING **2** : ACUTE ⟨~ observations⟩ **3** : IMPRESSIVE ⟨a ~ speaker⟩ — **pen·e·tra·tive·ly** *adv* — **pen·e·tra·tive·ness** *n*
pen·e·trom·e·ter \ˌpen-ə-'träm-ət-ər\ *n* [L *penetrare* + ISV *-meter*] : an instrument for measuring firmness or consistency (as of soil)
pen·gö \'peŋ-ˌgə(r), -ˌgœ\ *n, pl* **pengö** *or* **pengös** [Hung *pengő*, lit., jingling] : the basic monetary unit of Hungary from 1925 to 1946
pen·guin \'pen-gwən, 'peŋ-\ *n* [perh. fr. W *pen gwyn* white head] : any of various erect short-legged flightless aquatic birds (family Spheniscidae) of the southern hemisphere


penguins

pen·hold·er \'pen-ˌhōl-dər\ *n* : a holder or handle for a pen point
pen·i·cil·la·mine \ˌpen-ə-'sil-ə-ˌmēn\ *n* : an amino acid $C_5H_{11}NO_2S$ that is obtained from penicillins and is used esp. in the treatment of poisoning by metals (as copper or lead) and of cystinuria
pen·i·cil·late \ˌpen-ə-'sil-ət, -ˌāt\ *adj* [prob. fr. (assumed) NL *penicillatus*, fr. L *penicillus* brush — more at PENCIL] : furnished with a tuft of fine filaments ⟨a ~ stigma⟩ — **pen·i·cil·late·ly** *adv* — **pen·i·cil·la·tion** \-sə-'lā-shən\ *n*
pen·i·cil·lin \ˌpen-ə-'sil-ən\ *n* **1** : any of several relatively nontoxic antibiotic acids of the general constitution $C_9H_{11}N_2O_4SR$ that are produced by molds (genus *Penicillium* and esp. *P. notatum* or *P. chrysogenum*) or synthetically and are used esp. against cocci; *also* : a mixture of such acids **2** : a salt or ester of a penicillin or a mixture of such salts or acids
pen·i·cil·lin·ase \-'sil-ə-ˌnās, -ˌnāz\ *n* : an enzyme that inactivates the penicillins by hydrolyzing them and that is found esp. in bacteria
pen·i·cil·li·um \-'sil-ē-əm\ *n, pl* **-lia** \-ē-ə\ [NL, genus name, fr. L *penicillus*] : any of a genus (*Penicillium* of the family Moniliaceae) of fungi (as a blue mold) that are found chiefly on moist nonliving organic matter
pe·nile \'pē-ˌnīl\ *adj* : of, relating to, or affecting the penis
pen·in·su·la \pə-'nin(t)-s(ə-)lə, -'nin-chə-lə\ *n* [L *paeninsula*, fr. *paene* almost + *insula* island — more at PATIENT] : a portion of land nearly surrounded by water and connected with a larger body by an isthmus; *also* : a piece of land jutting out into the water whether with or without a well-defined isthmus — **pen·in·su·lar** \-s(ə-)lər, -chə-lər\ *adj*
pe·nis \'pē-nəs\ *n, pl* **pe·nes** \'pē-(ˌ)nēz\ *or* **pe·nis·es** [L, penis, tail; akin to OHG *faselt* penis, Gk *peos*] : a male organ of copulation
penis envy *n* : an unverbalized longing that in psychoanalytic theory is attributed to the female and is based on a desire to be a male
pen·i·tence \'pen-ə-ten(t)s\ *n* [ME, fr. OF, fr. ML *poenitentia*, alter. of L *paenitentia* regret, fr. *paenitent-, paenitens*, prp.] : the quality or state of being penitent : sorrow for sins or faults
syn PENITENCE, REPENTANCE, CONTRITION, COMPUNCTION, REMORSE *shared meaning element* : regret for sin or wrongdoing. PENITENCE implies sad and humble realization of and regret for one's misdeeds ⟨the attitude that no sin is beyond forgiveness if it is followed by true *penitence* —K. S. Latourette⟩ REPENTANCE adds a suggestion of awareness of one's general moral shortcomings and a resolve to change ⟨I came not to call the righteous, but sinners to *repentance* —Lk 5:32 (AV)⟩ CONTRITION stresses the sorrowful regret that accompanies true penitence ⟨the tears of my *contrition* . . . repentance for things past —Edmund Spenser⟩ COMPUNCTION implies a painful sting of conscience especially for planned sin or wrong not yet performed ⟨they no longer felt *compunctions* about replacing men with machines —J. S. Vandiver⟩ REMORSE suggests prolonged and insistent self-reproach and mental anguish for past wrongs and especially for those whose consequences cannot be remedied ⟨*remorse* that makes one walk on thorns —Oscar Wilde⟩
¹pen·i·tent \-tənt\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *paenitent-, paenitens*, fr. prp. of *paenitēre* to be sorry; akin to L *paene* almost — more at PATIENT] : feeling or expressing humble or regretful pain or sorrow for sins or offenses : REPENTANT — **pen·i·tent·ly** *adv*
²penitent *n* **1** : a person who repents of sin **2** : a person under church censure but admitted to penance esp. under the direction of a confessor
pen·i·ten·tial \ˌpen-ə-'ten-chəl\ *adj* : of or relating to penitence or penance — **pen·i·ten·tial·ly** \-'tench-(ə-)lē\ *adv*
¹pen·i·ten·tia·ry \ˌpen-ə-'tench-(ə-)rē\ *n, pl* **-ries** [ME *penitenciary*, fr. ML *poenitentiarius*, fr. *poenitentia*] **1 a** : an officer in some Roman Catholic dioceses vested with power from the bishop to absolve in cases reserved to him **b** *cap* : a cardinal presiding over a tribunal of the Roman curia concerned with dispensations and indulgences — called also *Grand Penitentiary* **2** : a public institution in which offenders against the law are confined for detention or punishment; *specif* : a state or federal prison in the U.S.
²pen·i·ten·tia·ry \ˌpen-ə-'tench-(ə-)rē, *1 also* -'tench-ē-ˌer-ē\ *adj* **1** : PENITENTIAL **2** : of, relating to, or incurring confinement in a penitentiary
pen·knife \'pen-ˌnīf\ *n* [fr. its original use for mending quill pens] : a small pocketknife usu. with only one blade
pen·light *or* **pen·lite** \'pen-ˌlīt\ *n* : a small flashlight resembling a fountain pen in size or shape
pen·man \'pen-mən\ *n* **1 a** : COPYIST, SCRIBE **b** : a person with a specified quality or kind of handwriting ⟨a poor ~⟩ **c** : CALLIGRAPHER **2** : AUTHOR
pen·man·ship \-ˌship\ *n* **1** : the art or practice of writing with the pen **2** : quality or style of handwriting
Penn *or* **Penna** *abbr* Pennsylvania
pen·na \'pen-ə\ *n, pl* **pen·nae** \'pen-ˌē, -ˌī\ [L, feather, wing — more at PEN] : a contour feather esp. as distinguished from a down feather or plume — **pen·na·ceous** \pe-'nā-shəs\ *adj*
pen name *n* : an author's pseudonym

pen·nant \'pen-ənt\ *n* [alter. of *pendant*] **1 a** : any of various nautical flags tapering usu. to a point or swallowtail and used for identification or signaling **b** : a flag or banner longer in the fly than in the hoist; *esp* : one that tapers to a point **2** : a flag emblematic of championship (as in a professional baseball league)
pen·nate \'pen-ˌāt\ *adj* [irreg. fr. NL *Pennales*, group name] : of, relating to, or being diatoms of an order (Pennales) characterized by a raphe or a structure resembling a raphe and by ornamentation of the valves that is always bilaterally arranged in relation to a line rather than to a point
pen·ni \'pen-ē\ *n, pl* **pen·nia** \-ē-ə\ *or* **pen·nis** \-ēz\ [Finn] — see *markka* at MONEY table
pen·ni·less \'pen-i-ləs, 'pen-ᵊl-əs\ *adj* : destitute of money : POOR
pen·non \'pen-ən\ *n* [ME, fr. MF *penon*, aug. of *penne* feather — more at PEN] **1 a** : a long usu. triangular or swallow-tailed streamer typically attached to the head of a lance as an ensign **b** : PENNANT 1a **2** : WING, PINION
pen·non·cel *or* **pen·on·cel** \'pen-ən-ˌsel\ *n* [ME *penoncell*, fr. MF *penoncel*, dim. of *penon*] : a small pennon borne esp. at the head of a lance in late medieval or Renaissance times
Penn·syl·va·nia Dutch \ˌpen(t)-səl-ˌvā-nyə-, -nē-ə-\ *n* **1** : a people living mostly in eastern Pennsylvania whose characteristic cultural traditions go back to the German migrations of the 18th century **2** : a dialect of High German spoken in parts of Pennsylvania and Maryland — **Pennsylvania Dutchman** *n*
Pennsylvania German *n* : PENNSYLVANIA DUTCH 2
Penn·syl·va·nian \-'vā-nyən, -nē-ən\ *adj* **1** : of or relating to Pennsylvania or its people **2** : of, relating to, or being the period of the Paleozoic era in No. America between the Mississippian and Permian or the corresponding system of rocks — **Pennsylvanian** *n*
pen·ny \'pen-ē\ *n, pl* **pennies** \-ēz\ *or* **pence** \'pen(t)s\ [ME, fr. OE *penning, penig*; akin to OHG *pfenning*, a coin] **1 a** : a monetary unit of the United Kingdom formerly equal to $^1/_{240}$ pound but now equal to $^1/_{100}$ pound **b** : a similar monetary unit of any of various other countries in or formerly in the British Commonwealth — see *pound* at MONEY table **c** : a coin representing one penny **2** : DENARIUS **3** *pl pennies* : CENT **4** : a trivial amount **5** : a piece or sum of money
-pen·ny \ˌpen-ē\ *adj comb form* [*penny*; fr. the original price per hundred] : being a (specified) nail length — compare EIGHTPENNY NAIL, FOURPENNY NAIL, SIXPENNY NAIL, TENPENNY NAIL
penny ante *n* : poker played for very low stakes
penny arcade *n* : an amusement center having coin-operated devices for entertainment
pen·ny·cress \'pen-ē-ˌkres\ *n* : a Eurasian herb (*Thlaspi arvense*) with round flat pods that is widely naturalized in the New World
penny dreadful *n* : a novel of violent adventure or crime orig. costing one penny
pen·ny–pinch \'pen-ē-ˌpinch\ *vt* [back-formation fr. *penny pincher*] : to give money to in a niggardly manner — **penny pincher** *n*
pen·ny·roy·al \ˌpen-ē-'rȯi(-ə)l, 'pen-i-ˌrīl\ *n* [prob. by folk etymology fr. MF *poullieul*, modif. of L *pulegium*] **1** : a European perennial mint (*Mentha pulegium*) with small aromatic leaves **2** : an aromatic American mint (*Hedeoma pulegioides*) that has blue or violet flowers borne in axillary tufts and yields an oil used in folk medicine or to drive away mosquitoes
pen·ny·weight \'pen-ē-ˌwāt\ *n* — see WEIGHT table
pen·ny–wise \'pen-ē-ˌwīz\ *adj* [fr. the phrase *penny-wise and pound-foolish*] : wise or prudent only in dealing with small sums or matters
pen·ny·wort \-ˌwərt, -ˌwȯ(ə)rt\ *n* : any of several round-leaved plants: as **a** : any of several low creeping plants (genus *Hydrocotyle*) of the carrot family with crenate peltate leaves and umbellate flowers **b** : a leafless perennial (*Obolaria virginica*) of the gentian family with white or purplish flowers
pen·ny·worth \'pen-ē-ˌwərth, *Brit often* 'pen-ərth\ *n, pl* **pennyworth** *or* **pennyworths** **1** : a penny's worth **2** : value for the money spent : BARGAIN **3** : a small quantity : MODICUM
Pe·nob·scot \pə-'näb-skət, -ˌskät\ *n, pl* **Penobscot** *or* **Penobscots** : a member of an Amerindian people of the Penobscot river valley and Penobscot Bay region of Maine
pe·no·che \pə-'nō-chē\ *var of* PENUCHE
pe·nol·o·gy \pi-'näl-ə-jē\ *n* [Gk *poinē* penalty + E *-logy* — more at PAIN] : a branch of criminology dealing with prison management and the treatment of offenders — **pe·no·log·i·cal** \ˌpē-nə-'läj-i-kəl\ *adj* — **pe·nol·o·gist** \pi-'näl-ə-jəst\ *n*
pen pal *n* : a friend made and kept through correspondence
pen point *n* : a small thin convex metal device that tapers to a split point, fits into a holder, and is used for writing or drawing
pen pusher *n* : PENCIL PUSHER
pen·sile \'pen-ˌsīl\ *adj* [L *pensilis*, fr. *pensus*, pp. of *pendēre* to hang] **1** : PENDENT, HANGING ⟨~ nests⟩ **2** : having or building a hanging nest ⟨~ birds⟩
[1]pen·sion *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *pension-, pensio*, fr. *pensus*, pp. of *pendere* to pay — more at PENDANT] **1** \'pen-chən\ : a fixed sum paid regularly to a person: **a** *archaic* : WAGE **b** : a gratuity granted (as by a government) as a favor or reward **c** : one paid under given conditions to a person following his retirement from service or to his surviving dependents **2** \päⁿs-yōⁿ\ [F, fr. MF] **a** : accommodations esp. at a continental European hotel or boardinghouse : ROOM AND BOARD **b** *also* **pensione** [*pensione*, It] : a hotel or boardinghouse esp. in continental Europe — **pen·sion·less** \'pen-chən-ləs\ *adj*
[2]pen·sion \'pen-chən\ *vt* **pen·sioned; pen·sion·ing** \'pench-(ə-)niŋ\ **1** : to grant or pay a pension to **2** : to dismiss or retire from service with a pension ⟨~*ed* off his faithful old servant⟩ — **pen·sion·able** \'pench-(ə-)nə-bəl\ *adj*
pen·sion·ary \'pen-chə-ˌner-ē\ *n, pl* **-ar·ies** : PENSIONER; *esp* : HIRELING — **pensionary** *adj*
pen·sion·er \'pench-(ə-)nər\ *n* **1** : a person who receives or lives on a pension **2** *obs* **a** : GENTLEMAN-AT-ARMS **b** : RETAINER **c** : MERCENARY, HIRELING
pen·sive \'pen(t)-siv\ *adj* [ME *pensif*, fr. MF, fr. *penser* to think, fr. L *pensare* to ponder, fr. *pensus*, pp. of *pendere* to weigh — more at PENDANT] **1** : musingly or dreamily thoughtful **2** : suggestive of sad thoughtfulness — **pen·sive·ly** *adv* — **pen·sive·ness** *n*
pen·ster \'pen(t)-stər\ *n* [*[3]pen* + *-ster*] : a hack writer
pen·stock \'pen-ˌstäk\ *n* **1** : a sluice or gate for regulating a flow (as of water) **2** : a conduit or pipe for conducting water
pent \'pent\ *adj* [prob. fr. pp. of obs. E *pend* (to confine)] : shut up : CONFINED ⟨a ~ crowd⟩ ⟨*pent*-up feelings⟩
penta- *or* **pent-** *comb form* [ME, fr. Gk, fr. *pente* — more at FIVE] **1** : five ⟨*penta*hedron⟩ **2** : containing five atoms, groups, or equivalents ⟨*pent*ane⟩
pen·ta·chlo·ro·phe·nol \ˌpent-ə-ˌklōr-ə-'fē-ˌnōl, -ˌklȯr-, -fi-'\ *n* : a crystalline compound C_6Cl_5OH used esp. as a wood preservative and fungicide and a disinfectant
pen·ta·cle \'pent-i-kəl\ *n* [(assumed) ML *pentaculum*, prob. fr. Gk *pente*] **1** : a 5-pointed star used as a magical symbol **2** : HEXAGRAM


pentacle 1

pen·ta·chord \'pent-ə-ˌkȯrd\ *n* [Gk *pentachordos*, fr. *penta-* + *chordē* string — more at CHORD] : a musical system of five tones
pen·tad \'pen-ˌtad\ *n* [Gk *pentad-, pentas*, fr. *pente*] : a group of five
pen·ta·dac·tyl \ˌpent-ə-'dak-tᵊl\ *adj* [L *pentadactylus*, fr. Gk *pentadaktylos*, fr. *penta-* + *daktylos* finger, toe] : having five digits to the hand or foot or five digitate parts — **pen·ta·dac·tyl·ism** \-tə-ˌliz-əm\ *n*
pen·ta·gon \'pent-ə-ˌgän\ *n* [Gk *pentagōnon*, fr. neut. of *pentagōnos* pentagonal, fr. *penta-* + *gōnia* angle — more at -GON] : a polygon of five angles and five sides — **pen·tag·o·nal** \pen-'tag-ən-ᵊl\ *adj* — **pen·tag·o·nal·ly** \-ᵊl-ē\ *adv*
Pentagon *n* [the *Pentagon* building, headquarters of the Department of Defense] : the U.S. military establishment
pen·ta·gram \'pent-ə-ˌgram\ *n* [Gk *pentagrammon*, fr. *penta-* + *-grammon* (akin to *gramma* letter) — more at GRAM] : PENTACLE 1
pen·ta·he·dron \ˌpent-ə-'hē-drən\ *n* [NL] : a solid bounded by five faces — **pen·ta·he·dral** \-drəl\ *adj*
pen·tam·er·ous \pen-'tam-ə-rəs\ *adj* [NL *pentamerus*, fr. *penta-* (fr. Gk) + *-merus* -merous] : divided into or consisting of five parts; *specif* : having each floral whorl consisting of five or a multiple of five members
pen·tam·e·ter \pen-'tam-ət-ər\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *pentametros* having five metrical feet, fr. *penta-* + *metron* measure — more at MEASURE] : a line of verse consisting of five metrical feet
pen·tane \'pen-ˌtān\ *n* [ISV] : any of three isomeric hydrocarbons C_5H_{12} of the methane series occurring in petroleum
pent·an·gle \'pent-ˌaŋ-gəl\ *n* : PENTACLE
pen·ta·pep·tide \ˌpent-ə-'pep-ˌtīd\ *n* : a polypeptide that contains five amino acid residues
pen·ta·ploid \'pent-ə-ˌplȯid\ *adj* : having or being a chromosome number that is five times the basic number — **pentaploid** *n* — **pen·ta·ploi·dy** \-ˌplȯid-ē\ *n*
pen·ta·quine \-ˌkwēn\ *also* **pen·ta·quin** \-kwən\ *n* [*penta-* + *quinoline*] : an antimalarial $C_{18}H_{27}N_3O$ used esp. in the form of its pale yellow crystalline phosphate
pen·tar·chy \'pen-'tär-kē\ *n* [Gk *pentarchia*, fr. *penta-* + *-archia* -archy] : a group of five countries or districts each under its own ruler or government
Pen·ta·teuch \'pent-ə-ˌt(y)ük\ *n* [LL *Pentateuchus*, fr. Gk *Pentateuchos*, fr. *penta-* + *teuchos* tool, vessel, book; akin to Gk *teuchein* to make — more at DOUGHTY] : the first five books of Jewish and Christian Scriptures
pen·tath·lete \pen-'tath-ˌlēt\ *n* : an athlete participating in a pentathlon
pen·tath·lon \pen-'tath-lən, -ˌlän\ *n* [Gk, fr. *penta-* + *athlon* contest — more at ATHLETE] : an athletic contest involving participation by each contestant in five different events; *esp* : MODERN PENTATHLON
pen·ta·ton·ic scale \ˌpent-ə-ˌtän-ik-\ *n* : a musical scale of five tones; *specif* : one in which the tones are arranged like a major scale with the fourth and seventh tones omitted
pen·ta·va·lent \ˌpent-ə-'vā-lənt\ *adj* : having a valence of five
pen·taz·o·cine \pen-'taz-ə-ˌsēn\ *n* [*penta-* + *azo* + *-cine* (of unknown origin)] : an analgesic drug $C_{19}H_{27}NO$ that does not have the strong addictive properties of morphine
Pen·te·cost \'pent-i-ˌkȯst, -ˌkäst\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *pentecosten*, fr. LL *pentecoste*, fr. Gk *pentēkostē*, lit., fiftieth day, fr. *pentēkostos* fiftieth, fr. *pentēkonta* fifty, fr. *penta-* + *-konta* (akin to L *viginti* twenty) — more at VIGESIMAL] **1** : SHABUOTH **2** : a Christian feast on the seventh Sunday after Easter commemorating the descent of the Holy Spirit on the apostles
[1]Pen·te·cos·tal \ˌpent-i-'käs-tᵊl, -'kȯs-\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or suggesting Pentecost **2** : of, relating to, or constituting any of various Christian religious bodies that emphasize revivalistic worship, baptism conferring the gift of tongues, faith healing, and premillennial teaching — **Pen·te·cos·tal·ism** \-tə-ˌliz-əm\ *n* — **Pen·te·cos·tal·ist** \-tə-ləst\ *n*
[2]Pentecostal *n* : a member of a Pentecostal religious body
pent·house \'pent-ˌhaus\ *n* [ME *pentis*, fr. MF *appentis*, prob. fr. ML *appenticium* appendage, fr. L *appendic-, appendix* — more at APPENDIX] **1 a** : a shed or roof attached to and sloping from a wall or building **b** : a smaller structure joined to a building : ANNEX **2** : a structure or dwelling built on the roof of a building
pent·land·ite \'pent-lən-ˌdīt\ *n* [F, fr. Joseph *Pentland* †1873 Irish scientist] : a bronzy yellow mineral $(Fe,Ni)_9S_8$ that is an isometric nickel iron sulfide and the principal ore of nickel

pen·to·bar·bi·tal \ˌpent-ə-ˈbär-bə-ˌtȯl\ *n* [*penta-* + *-o-* + *barbital*] : a granular barbiturate $C_{11}H_{18}N_2O_3$ used esp. in the form of its sodium or calcium salt as a sedative, hypnotic, and antispasmodic
pen·to·bar·bi·tone \-ˌtōn\ *n* [*penta-* + *-o-* + *barbitone* (barbital)] *Brit* : PENTOBARBITAL
pen·tom·ic \pen-ˈtäm-ik\ *adj* [blend of *penta-* and *atomic*] **1** : made up of five battle groups ⟨a ~ division⟩ **2** : organized into pentomic divisions ⟨a ~ army⟩
pen·to·san \ˈpent-ə-ˌsan\ *n* : any of various polysaccharides that yield only pentoses on hydrolysis and are widely distributed in plants
pen·tose \ˈpen-ˌtōs, -ˌtōz\ *n* [ISV] : any of various monosaccharides $C_5H_{10}O_5$ (as ribose) that contain five carbon atoms in the molecule
pen·to·side \ˈpent-ə-ˌsīd\ *n* : a glycoside that yields a pentose on hydrolysis
Pen·to·thal \ˈpent-ə-ˌthȯl\ *trademark* — used for thiopental
pent·ox·ide \pent-ˈäk-ˌsīd\ *n* [ISV] : an oxide containing five atoms of oxygen in the molecule
pent·ste·mon *or* **pen·ste·mon** \pent-ˈstē-mən, ˈpen(t)-stə-\ *n* [NL *pentstemon*, alter. of *Penstemon*, genus name, fr. Gk *penta-* + *stēmōn* thread — more at STAMEN] : any of a genus (*Penstemon*) of chiefly American herbs of the figwort family with showy blue, purple, red, yellow, or white flowers
pen·tyl \ˈpent-ᵊl\ *n* [*pent*ane + *-yl*] : AMYL
pen·tyl·ene·tet·ra·zol \ˌpent-ᵊl-ˌēn-ˈte-trə-ˌzȯl, -ˌzōl\ *n* [*pent*amethy*lene-tetrazole*] : a compound $C_6H_{10}N_4$ used as a respiratory and circulatory stimulant and for producing a state of convulsion in treating mental disorders
pe·nu·che \pə-ˈnü-chē\ *n* [MexSp *panocha* raw sugar, fr. dim. of Sp *pan* bread, fr. L *panis* — more at FOOD] : fudge made usu. of brown sugar, butter, cream or milk, and nuts
pe·nult \ˈpē-ˌnəlt, pi-ˈ\ *n* [L *paenultima* penult, fr. fem. of *paenultimus* almost last, fr. *paene* almost + *ultimus* last] : the next to the last member of a series; *esp* : the next to the last syllable of a word
pen·ul·ti·ma \pi-ˈnəl-tə-mə\ *n* [L] : PENULT
pen·ul·ti·mate \pi-ˈnəl-tə-mət\ *adj* **1** : next to the last ⟨the ~ chapter of a book⟩ **2** : of or relating to a penult ⟨a ~ accent⟩ — **pen·ul·ti·mate·ly** *adv*
pen·um·bra \pə-ˈnəm-brə\ *n, pl* **-brae** \-(ˌ)brē, -ˌbrī\ *or* **-bras** [NL, fr. L *paene* almost + *umbra* shadow — more at PATIENT, UMBRAGE] **1** : a space of partial illumination (as in an eclipse) between the perfect shadow on all sides and the full light **2** : a shaded region surrounding the dark central portion of a sunspot **3** : a surrounding or adjoining region in which something exists in a lesser degree : FRINGE — **pen·um·bral** \-brəl\ *adj*
pe·nu·ri·ous \pə-ˈn(y)u̇r-ē-əs\ *adj* **1** : marked by or suffering from penury **2** : given to or marked by extreme stinting frugality ***syn*** see STINGY — **pe·nu·ri·ous·ly** *adv* — **pe·nu·ri·ous·ness** *n*
pen·u·ry \ˈpen-yə-rē\ *n* [ME, fr. L *penuria* want — more at PATIENT] **1** : a cramping and oppressive lack of resources (as money); *esp* : severe poverty **2** : extreme and often niggardly frugality ***syn*** see POVERTY
pe·on \ˈpē-ˌän, -ən *also* pā-ˈōn *for 2, Brit also* ˈpyün *for 1*\ *n, pl* **peons** *or* **pe·o·nes** \pā-ˈō-nēz\ [Pg *peão* & F *pion*, fr. ML *pedon-, pedo* foot soldier — more at PAWN] **1** : any of various Indian or Ceylonese workers: as **a** : INFANTRYMAN **b** : ORDERLY **2** [Sp *peón*, fr. L *pedon-, pedo*] : a member of the landless laboring class in Spanish America **3** *pl peons* **a** : a person held in compulsory servitude to a master for the working out of an indebtedness **b** : DRUDGE, MENIAL
pe·on·age \ˈpē-ə-nij\ *n* **1** : the condition of a peon **2** **a** : the use of laborers bound in servitude because of debt **b** : a system of convict labor by which convicts are leased to contractors
pe·o·ny \ˈpē-ə-nē\ *n, pl* **-nies** [ME *piony*, fr. MF *pioine*, fr. L *paeonia*, fr. Gk *paiōnia*, fr. *Paiōn* Paeon, physician of the gods] : any of a genus (*Paeonia*) of plants of the buttercup family with large usu. double flowers of red, pink, or white
¹peo·ple \ˈpē-pəl\ *n, pl* **people** [ME *peple*, fr. OF *peuple*, fr. L *populus*] **1** *pl* : HUMAN BEINGS, PERSONS — often used in compounds instead of *persons* ⟨sales*people*⟩ **2** *pl* : human beings making up a group or assembly or linked by a common interest **3** *pl* : the members of a family or kinship **4** *pl* : the mass of a community as distinguished from a special class ⟨disputes between the ~ and the nobles⟩ — often used by Communists to distinguish Communists or those under Communist control from other people ⟨the *People's* Court⟩ ⟨Bulgarian *People's* Republic⟩ **5** *pl* **peoples** : a body of persons that are united by a common culture, tradition, or sense of kinship, that typically have common language, institutions, and beliefs, and that often constitute a politically organized group **6** : lower animals usu. of a specified kind or situation ⟨squirrels and chipmunks: the little furry ~⟩ **7** : the body of enfranchised citizens of a state
²people *vt* **peo·pled; peo·pling** \-p(ə-)liŋ\ [MF *peupler*, fr. OF, fr. *peuple*] **1** : to supply or fill with people **2** : to dwell in : INHABIT
peo·ple·hood \ˈpē-pəl-ˌhu̇d\ *n* **1** : the quality or state of constituting a people **2** : the awareness of the underlying unity that makes the individual a part of a people
peo·ple·less \ˈpē-pəl-(l)əs\ *adj* : void of people
¹pep \ˈpep\ *n* [short for *pepper*] : brisk energy or initiative and high spirits
²pep *vt* **pepped; pep·ping** : to inject pep into ⟨~ him up⟩
pep·los \ˈpep-ləs, -ˌläs\ *also* **pep·lus** \-ləs\ *n* [L *peplus*, fr. Gk *peplos*] : a garment like a shawl worn by women of ancient Greece
pep·lum \-ləm\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *peplon* peplos] : a short section attached to the waistline of a blouse, jacket, or dress — **pep·lumed** \-ləmd\ *adj*
pe·po \ˈpē-(ˌ)pō\ *n, pl* **pepos** [L, a melon — more at PUMPKIN] : an indehiscent fleshy 1-celled or falsely 3-celled many-seeded berry (as a pumpkin, squash, melon, or cucumber) that has a hard rind and is the characteristic fruit of the gourd family
¹pep·per \ˈpep-ər\ *n* [ME *peper*, fr. OE *pipor*; akin to OHG *pfeffar* pepper; both fr. a prehistoric WGmc-NGmc word borrowed fr. L *piper* pepper, fr. Gk *peperi*] **1** **a** : either of two pungent products from the fruit of an East Indian plant that are used as a condiment, carminative, or stimulant: (1) : BLACK PEPPER (2) : WHITE PEPPER **b** : any of a genus (*Piper* of the family Piperaceae, the pepper family) of tropical mostly jointed climbing shrubs with aromatic leaves; *esp* : a woody vine (*P. nigrum*) with ovate leaves and spicate flowers that is widely cultivated in the tropics for its red berries from which black pepper and white pepper are prepared **2** **a** : any of several products similar to pepper that are obtained from close relatives of the pepper plant **b** : any of various pungent condiments obtained from plants of other genera than that of the pepper — used with a qualifying term ⟨cayenne ~⟩ **3** **a** : CAPSICUM 1; *esp* : a New World capsicum (*Capsicum frutescens*) whose fruits are hot peppers or sweet peppers **b** : the usu. red or yellow fruit of a pepper — **pepper** *adj*


pepper 1b

²pepper *vt* **pep·pered; pep·per·ing** \ˈpep-(ə-)riŋ\ **1** **a** : to sprinkle, season, or cover with or as if with pepper **b** : to shower with shot or other missiles **2** : to hit with rapid repeated blows **3** : to sprinkle as pepper is sprinkled ⟨~*ed* his report with statistics⟩ — **pep·per·er** \-ər-ər\ *n*
pepper–and–salt \ˌpep-ər(-ə)n-ˈsȯlt\ *adj* : having black and white or dark and light color intermingled in small flecks ⟨a ~ overcoat⟩
pep·per·box \ˈpep-ər-ˌbäks\ *n* **1** : a small usu. cylindrical box or bottle with a perforated top used for sprinkling ground pepper on food **2** : a small cylindrical tower or turret **3** : a late 18th century pistol with five or six revolving barrels
pep·per·corn \-ˌkȯ(ə)rn\ *n* : a dried berry of the black pepper
peppered moth *n* : a European geometrid moth (*Biston betularia*) that typically has white wings with small black specks but also occurs as a solid black form esp. in areas where the air is heavily polluted by industry
pep·per·grass \ˈpep-ər-ˌgras\ *n* : any of a genus (*Lepidium*) of cresses; *esp* : GARDEN CRESS
pepper mill *n* : a hand mill for grinding peppercorns
pep·per·mint \-ˌmint, -mənt, *rapid* ˈpep-mənt *or* -ᵊm-ənt\ *n* **1** **a** : a pungent and aromatic mint (*Mentha piperita*) with dark green lanceolate leaves and whorls of small pink flowers in spikes **b** : any of several mints (as *M. arvensis*) that are related to the peppermint **2** : candy flavored with peppermint — **pep·per·minty** \ˈpep-ər-ˌmint-ē\ *adj*
pep·per·o·ni \ˌpep-ə-ˈrō-nē\ *n* [It *peperoni* chilies, pl. of *peperone* chili, aug. of *pepe* pepper, fr. L *piper* — more at PEPPER] : a highly seasoned beef and pork sausage
pepper pot *n* **1** *Brit* : PEPPERBOX **2** **a** : a highly seasoned West Indian stew of vegetables and meat or fish **b** : a thick soup of tripe, meat, dumplings, and vegetables highly seasoned esp. with crushed peppercorns — called also *Philadelphia pepper pot*
pep·per·tree \ˈpep-ər-ˌtrē\ *n* : a Peruvian evergreen tree (*Schinus molle*) of the sumac family grown as a shade tree in mild regions
pep·pery \ˈpep-(ə-)rē\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or having the qualities of pepper : HOT, PUNGENT ⟨a ~ taste⟩ **2** : having a hot temper : TOUCHY ⟨a ~ boss⟩ **3** : FIERY, STINGING ⟨a ~ satire⟩
pep pill *n* : any of various stimulant drugs in pill or tablet form
pep·py \ˈpep-ē\ *adj* **pep·pi·er; -est** : full of pep — **pep·pi·ness** *n*
pep·sin \ˈpep-sən\ *n* [G, fr. Gk *pepsis* digestion, fr. *pessein*] **1** : a proteinase of the stomach that breaks down most proteins to polypeptides **2** : a preparation containing pepsin that is obtained from the stomach esp. of the hog and is used esp. as a digestive
pep·sin·o·gen \pep-ˈsin-ə-jən\ *n* [ISV *pepsin* + *-o-* + *-gen*] : a granular zymogen of the gastric glands that is readily converted into pepsin in a slightly acid medium
pep talk *n* : a usu. brief, high-pressure, and emotional talk designed to influence or encourage an audience
pep·tic \ˈpep-tik\ *adj* [L *pepticus*, fr. Gk *peptikos*, fr. *peptos* cooked, fr. *peptein, pessein* to cook, digest — more at COOK] **1** : relating to or promoting digestion : DIGESTIVE **2** : of, relating to, producing, or caused by pepsin ⟨~ digestion⟩ **3** : connected with or resulting from the action of digestive juices ⟨a ~ ulcer⟩
pep·ti·dase \ˈpep-tə-ˌdās, -ˌdāz\ *n* : an enzyme that hydrolyzes simple peptides or their derivatives
pep·tide \ˈpep-ˌtīd\ *n* [ISV, fr. *peptone*] : any of various amides that are derived from two or more amino acids by combination of the amino group of one acid with the carboxyl group of another and are usu. obtained by partial hydrolysis of proteins — **pep·tid·ic** \pep-ˈtid-ik\ *adj* — **pep·tid·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
peptide bond *n* : the chemical bond between carbon and nitrogen in a peptide linkage
peptide linkage *n* : the bivalent group CO–NH that unites the amino acid residues in a peptide
pep·ti·do·gly·can \ˌpep-təd-ō-ˈglī-ˌkan\ *n* [*peptide* + *-o-* + *glycan* (polysaccharide)] : a polymer that is composed of polysaccharide and peptide chains and is found esp. in bacterial cell walls
pep·tize \ˈpep-ˌtīz\ *vt* **pep·tized; pep·tiz·ing** [prob. fr. Gk *peptein*] : to cause to disperse in a medium; *specif* : to bring into colloidal solution — **pep·ti·za·tion** \ˌpep-tə-ˈzā-shən\ *n* — **pep·tiz·er** \ˈpep-ˌtī-zər\ *n*
pep·tone \ˈpep-ˌtōn\ *n* [G *pepton*, fr. Gk, neut. of *peptos*] : any of various water-soluble products of partial hydrolysis of proteins
pep·to·nize \ˈpep-tə-ˌnīz\ *vt* **-nized; -niz·ing** **1** : to convert into peptone; *esp* : to digest or dissolve by a proteolytic enzyme **2** : to combine with peptone
Pe·quot \ˈpē-ˌkwät\ *n* [prob. modif. of Narraganset *paquatanog* destroyers] : a member of an Amerindian people of eastern Connecticut
¹per \(ˈ)pər\ *prep* [L, through, by means of, by — more at FOR] **1** : by the means or agency of : THROUGH ⟨~ bearer⟩ **2** : with respect to every member of a specified group : for each **3** : according to ⟨~ list price⟩
²per *abbr* **1** period **2** person

per- *prefix* [L, through, throughout, thoroughly, to destruction, fr. *per*] **1** : throughout : thoroughly ⟨*per*chlorinate⟩ **2 a** : containing the largest possible or a relatively large proportion of a (specified) chemical element (*per*chloride⟩ **b** : containing an element in its highest or a high oxidation state ⟨*per*chloric acid⟩

[1]per·ad·ven·ture \ˌpər-əd-ˌven-chər, ˈper-; ˌpər-əd-ˈ, ˌper-\ *adv* [ME *per aventure*, fr. OF, by chance] *archaic* : PERHAPS, POSSIBLY

[2]peradventure *n* : DOUBT, CHANCE

per·am·bu·late \pə-ˈram-byə-ˌlāt\ *vb* **-lat·ed; -lat·ing** [L *perambulatus*, pp. of *perambulare*, fr. *per-* through + *ambulare* to walk — more at AMBLE] *vt* **1** : to travel over or through esp. on foot : TRAVERSE **2** : to make an official inspection of (a boundary) on foot ~ *vi* : STROLL — **per·am·bu·la·tion** \-ˌram-byə-ˈlā-shən\ *n*

per·am·bu·la·tor \pə-ˈram-byə-ˌlāt-ər, *for 2 also* ˈpram-\ *n* **1** : one that perambulates **2** *chiefly Brit* : a baby carriage — **per·am·bu·la·to·ry** \-lə-ˌtōr-ē, -ˌtȯr-\ *adj*

per an·num \(ˌ)pər-ˈan-əm\ *adv* [ML] : in or for each year

per·bo·rate \(ˈ)pər-ˈbō(ə)r-ˌāt, -ˈbȯ(ə)r-\ *n* [ISV] : a salt that is a compound of a borate with hydrogen peroxide

per·cale \(ˌ)pər-ˈkā(ə)l, ˈpər-, ; (ˌ)pər-ˈkal\ *n* [Per *pargālah*] : a fine closely woven cotton cloth variously finished for clothing, sheeting, and industrial uses

per·ca·line \ˌpər-kə-ˈlēn\ *n* [F, fr. *percale*] : a lightweight cotton fabric; *esp* : a glossy fabric used for bookbindings

per cap·i·ta \(ˌ)pər-ˈkap-ət-ə\ *adv or adj* [ML, by heads] **1** : per unit of population : by or for each person ⟨the highest income *per capita* of any state in the union⟩ **2** : equally to each individual

per·ceiv·able \pər-ˈsē-və-bəl\ *adj* : PERCEPTIBLE, INTELLIGIBLE — **per·ceiv·ably** \-blē\ *adv*

per·ceive \pər-ˈsēv\ *vt* **per·ceived; per·ceiv·ing** [ME *perceiven*, fr. OF *perceivre*, fr. L *percipere*, fr. *per-* thoroughly + *capere* to take — more at PER-, HEAVE] **1** : to attain awareness or understanding of **2** : to become aware of through the senses; *esp* : SEE, OBSERVE — **per·ceiv·er** *n*

[1]per cent \pər-ˈsent\ *adv* [earlier *per cent*, fr. *per* + L *centum* hundred — more at HUNDRED] : in the hundred : of each hundred

[2]percent *n, pl* **percent** *or* **percents** **1** *pl percent* **a** : one part in a hundred **b** : PERCENTAGE ⟨a large ~ of his income⟩ **2** *percents pl, Brit* : securities bearing a specified rate of interest

[3]percent *adj* **1** : reckoned on the basis of a whole divided into one hundred parts **2** : paying interest at a specified percent

per·cent·age \pər-ˈsent-ij\ *n* **1 a** : a part of a whole expressed in hundredths **b** : the result obtained by multiplying a number by a percent **2 a** : a share of winnings or profits **b** : ADVANTAGE, PROFIT ⟨no ~ in going around looking like an old sack of laundry —Wallace Stegner⟩ **3** : an indeterminate part : PROPORTION **4 a** : PROBABILITY **b** : favorable odds

per·cen·tile \pər-ˈsen-ˌtīl\ *n* [prob. fr. *percent* + *-ile* (as in *quartile*, n.)] : a value on a scale of one hundred that indicates the percent of a distribution that is equal to or below it ⟨a ~ score of 95 is a score equal to or better than 95 percent of the scores⟩

per cen·tum \pər-ˈsent-əm\ *n* [*per* + L *centum*] : PERCENT

per·cept \ˈpər-ˌsept\ *n* [back-formation fr. *perception*] : an impression of an object obtained by use of the senses : SENSE-DATUM

per·cep·ti·bil·i·ty \pər-ˌsep-tə-ˈbil-ət-ē\ *n* : capability of being perceived

per·cep·ti·ble \-ˈsep-tə-bəl\ *adj* : capable of being perceived esp. by the senses ⟨a ~ change in her tone⟩ ⟨the light became increasingly ~⟩ — **per·cep·ti·bly** \-blē\ *adv*

syn PERCEPTIBLE, SENSIBLE, PALPABLE, TANGIBLE, APPRECIABLE, PONDERABLE *shared meaning element* : apprehensible as real or existent ***ant*** imperceptible

per·cep·tion \pər-ˈsep-shən\ *n* [L *perception-, perceptio* act of perceiving, fr. *perceptus*, pp. of *percipere*] **1** *obs* : CONSCIOUSNESS **2 a** : a result of perceiving : OBSERVATION **b** : a mental image : CONCEPT **3 a** : awareness of the elements of environment through physical sensation ⟨color ~⟩ **b** : physical sensation interpreted in the light of experience **4 a** : quick, acute, and intuitive cognition : APPRECIATION **b** : a capacity for comprehension ***syn*** see DISCERNMENT — **per·cep·tion·al** \-shnəl, -shən-ᵊl\ *adj*

per·cep·tive \pər-ˈsep-tiv\ *adj* **1** : responsive to sensory stimulus : DISCERNING ⟨a ~ eye⟩ **2 a** : capable of or exhibiting keen perception : OBSERVANT ⟨a ~ scholar⟩ **b** : characterized by sympathetic understanding or insight — **per·cep·tive·ly** *adv* — **per·cep·tive·ness** *n* — **per·cep·tiv·i·ty** \(ˌ)pər-ˌsep-ˈtiv-ət-ē\ *n*

per·cep·tu·al \(ˌ)pər-ˈsep-chə(-wə)l, -ˈsepsh-wəl\ *adj* [L *perceptus*] : of, relating to, or involving perception esp. in relation to immediate sensory experience — **per·cep·tu·al·ly** \-ē\ *adv*

Per·ce·val \ˈpər-sə-vəl\ *n* [OF] : a knight of King Arthur who in Arthurian legend wins a sight of the Holy Grail

[1]perch \ˈpərch\ *n* [ME *perche*, fr. OF, fr. L *pertica* pole] **1** : a bar or peg on which something is hung **2 a** : a roost for a bird **b** : a resting place or vantage point : SEAT **c** : a prominent position ⟨his new ~ as president⟩ **3 a** *chiefly Brit* : ROD 2 **b** : any of various units of measure for stonework

[2]perch *vt* : to place on a perch, a height, or a precarious spot ~ *vi* : to alight, settle, or rest uneasily or precariously on a perch

[3]perch *n, pl* **perch** *or* **perch·es** [ME *perche*, fr. MF, fr. L *perca*, fr. Gk *perkē*; akin to OHG *faro* colored, L *porcus*, a spiny fish] **1 a** : a small European freshwater spiny-finned fish (*Perca fluviatilis*) **b** : an American fish (*P. flavescens*) that is closely related to the perch **2** : any of numerous teleost fishes (as of the families Percidae, Centrarchidae, Serranidae)

per·chance \pər-ˈchan(t)s\ *adv* [ME *per chance*, fr. MF, by chance] : PERHAPS, POSSIBLY

Per·che·ron \ˈpər-chə-ˌrän, -shə-\ *n* [F] : any of a breed of powerful rugged draft horses that originated in the Perche region of France

per·chlo·rate \(ˈ)pər-ˈklō(ə)r-ˌāt, -ˈklȯ(ə)r-, -ət\ *n* [ISV] : a salt or ester of perchloric acid

per·chlo·ric acid \(ˌ)pər-ˌklōr-ik-, -ˌklȯr-\ *n* : a fuming corrosive strong acid $HClO_4$ that is the highest oxygen acid of chlorine and a powerful oxidizing agent when heated

per·cip·i·ence \pər-ˈsip-ē-ən(t)s\ *n* : PERCEPTION

per·cip·i·ent \-ənt\ *adj* [L *percipient-, percipiens*, prp. of *percipere* to perceive] : capable of or characterized by perception : DISCERNING — **percipient** *n*

per·coid \ˈpər-ˌkȯid\ *also* **per·coi·de·an** \ˌpər-ˈkȯid-ē-ən\ *adj* [deriv. of L *perca* perch] : of or relating to a very large suborder (Percoidea) of spiny-finned fishes including the true perches, sunfishes, sea basses, and sea breams — **percoid** *n*

per·co·late \ˈpər-kə-ˌlāt, *nonstand* -kyə-\ *vb* **-lat·ed; -lat·ing** [L *percolatus*, pp. of *percolare*, fr. *per-* through + *colare* to sieve — more at PER-, COLANDER] *vt* **1 a** : to cause (a solvent) to pass through a permeable substance (as a powdered drug) esp. for extracting a soluble constituent **b** : to prepare (coffee) in a percolator **2** : to be diffused through : PENETRATE ~ *vi* **1** : to ooze or trickle through a permeable substance : SEEP **2 a** : to become percolated **b** : to become lively or effervescent **3** : to become diffused ⟨allow the sunlight to ~ into our rooms —Norman Douglas⟩ — **per·co·la·tion** \ˌpər-kə-ˈlā-shən\ *n*

per·co·la·tor \ˈpər-kə-ˌlāt-ər, *nonstand* -kyə-\ *n* : one that percolates; *specif* : a coffeepot in which boiling water rising through a tube is repeatedly deflected downward through a perforated basket containing ground coffee beans to extract their essence

per con·tra \(ˌ)pər-ˈkän-trə\ *adv* [It, by the opposite side (of the ledger)] **1 a** : on the contrary **b** : by way of contrast **2** : as an offset

per·cuss \pər-ˈkəs\ *vt* [L *percussus*] : to tap sharply; *esp* : to practice percussion on

per·cus·sion \pər-ˈkəsh-ən\ *n* [L *percussion-, percussio*, fr. *percussus*, pp. of *percutere* to beat, fr. *per-* thoroughly + *quatere* to shake — more at PER-, QUASH] **1** : the act of percussing: as **a** : the striking of a percussion cap so as to set off the charge in a firearm **b** : the beating or striking of a musical instrument **c** : the act or technique of tapping the surface of a body part to learn the condition of the parts beneath by the resultant sound **2** : the striking of sound on the ear **3** : percussion instruments that form a section of a band or orchestra — **percussion** *adj*

percussion cap *n* : CAP 6

percussion instrument *n* : a musical instrument (as a drum, xylophone, or maraca) sounded by striking, shaking, or scraping

per·cus·sion·ist \pər-ˈkəsh-(ə-)nəst\ *n* : one skilled in the playing of percussion instruments

per·cus·sive \pər-ˈkəs-iv\ *adj* : of or relating to percussion; *esp* : operative or operated by striking — **per·cus·sive·ly** *adv* — **per·cus·sive·ness** *n*

per·cu·ta·ne·ous \ˌpər-kyü-ˈtā-nē-əs\ *adj* : effected or performed through the skin — **per·cu·ta·ne·ous·ly** *adv*

per·die \(ˌ)pər-ˈdē, per-\ *var of* PARDIE

[1]per di·em \(ˌ)pər-ˈdē-əm, -ˈdī-\ *adv* [ML] : by the day : for each day

[2]per diem *adj* **1** : based on use or service by the day : DAILY **2** : paid by the day

[3]per diem *n, pl* **per diems** **1** : a daily allowance **2** : a daily fee

per·di·tion \pər-ˈdish-ən\ *n* [ME *perdicion*, fr. LL *perdition-, perditio*, fr. L *perditus*, pp. of *perdere* to destroy, fr. *per-* to destruction + *dare* to give — more at PER-, DATE] **1 a** *archaic* : utter destruction **b** *obs* : LOSS **2 a** : eternal damnation **b** : HELL

[1]per·du *or* **per·due** \ˈpər-(ˌ)d(y)ü, (ˌ)pər-ˈ\ *n, obs* [F *sentinelle perdue*, lit., lost sentinel] : a soldier assigned to extremely hazardous duty

[2]per·du *or* **per·due** \per-dūˈ\ *adj* [F *perdu*, masc., & *perdue*, fem., fr. pp. of *perdre* to lose, fr. L *perdere*] : remaining out of sight

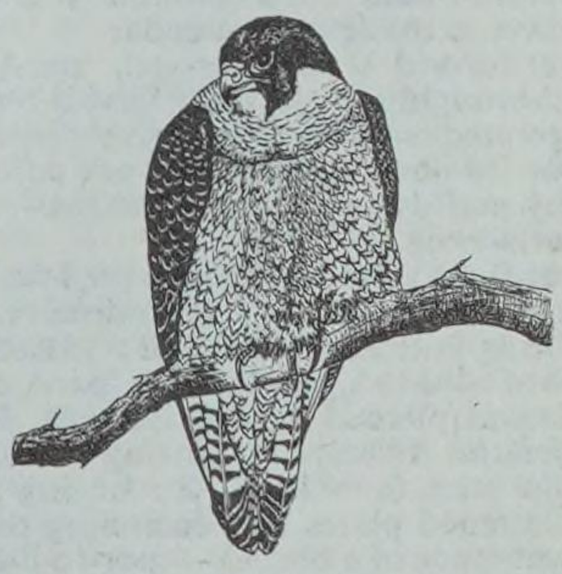
per·du·ra·bil·i·ty \(ˌ)pər-ˌd(y)ůr-ə-ˈbil-ət-ē, *archaic* ˌpər-jə-rə-\ *n* : the quality or state of being perdurable : PERMANENCE

per·du·ra·ble \(ˌ)pər-ˈd(y)ůr-ə-bəl, *archaic* ˈpər-jə-rə-\ *adj* [ME, fr. OF, fr. LL *perdurabilis*, fr. L *perdurare* to endure, fr. *per-* throughout + *durare* to last — more at DURING] : very durable — **per·du·ra·bly** \-blē\ *adv*

per·e·gri·nate \ˈper-ə-grə-ˌnāt\ *vb* **-nat·ed; -nat·ing** *vi* : to travel esp. on foot : WALK ~ *vt* : to walk or travel over : TRAVERSE — **per·e·gri·na·tion** \ˌper-ə-grə-ˈnā-shən\ *n*

[1]per·e·grine \ˈper-ə-grən, -ˌgrēn, -ˌgrīn\ *adj* [ML *peregrinus*, fr. L, foreign — more at PILGRIM] : having a tendency to wander

[2]peregrine *n* : a swift nearly cosmopolitan falcon (*Falco peregrinus*) that is much used in falconry



peregrine

pe·remp·to·ry \pə-ˈrem(p)-t(ə-)rē\ *adj* [LL & L; LL *peremptorius*, fr. L, destructive, fr. *peremptus*, pp. of *perimere* to take entirely, destroy, fr. *per-* to destruction + *emere* to take — more at REDEEM] **1 a** : putting an end to or precluding a right of action, debate, or delay ⟨a ~ mandamus⟩ **b** : admitting of no contradiction ⟨a ~ conclusion based on absolute evidence⟩ **2** : expressive of urgency or command ⟨a ~ call⟩ **3 a** : characterized by often imperious or arrogant self-assurance ⟨how insolent of late he is become, how proud, how ~ —Shak.⟩ **b** : indicative of a peremptory attitude or nature : HAUGHTY ⟨a ~ tone⟩ ⟨~ disregard of an objection⟩ ***syn*** see MASTERFUL — **pe·remp·to·ri·ly** \-ˈrem(p)-t(ə-)rə-lē; -ˌrem(p)-ˈtōr-ə-lē, -ˈtȯr-\ *adv* — **pe·remp·to·ri·ness** \-ˈrem(p)-t(ə-)rē-nəs\ *n*

pe·ren·nate \'per-ə-ˌnāt, pə-'ren-ˌāt\ *vi* **-nat·ed; -nat·ing** [L *perennatus*, pp. of *perennare*, fr. *perennis*] : to live over from season to season ⟨a *perennating* rhizome⟩ — **per·en·na·tion** \ˌper-ə-'nā-shən\ *n*

pe·ren·ni·al \pə-'ren-ē-əl\ *adj* [L *perennis*, fr. *per-* throughout + *annus* year — more at PER-, ANNUAL] **1** : present at all seasons of the year **2** : persisting for several years usu. with new herbaceous growth from a perennating part ⟨~ asters⟩ **3 a** : PERSISTENT, ENDURING **b** : continuing without interruption : CONSTANT **c** : regularly repeated or renewed : RECURRENT ***syn*** see CONTINUOUS — **perennial** *n* — **pe·ren·ni·al·ly** \-ē-ə-lē\ *adv*

perf *abbr* **1** perfect **2** perforated **3** performance

¹per·fect \'pər-fikt\ *adj* [ME *parfit*, fr. OF, fr. L *perfectus*, fr. pp. of *perficere* to carry out, perfect, fr. *per-* thoroughly + *facere* to make, do — more at DO] **1** : EXPERT, PROFICIENT ⟨practice makes ~⟩ **2 a** : being entirely without fault or defect : FLAWLESS ⟨a ~ crime⟩ **b** : satisfying all requirements : ACCURATE **c** : corresponding to an ideal standard or abstract concept ⟨a ~ gentleman⟩ **d** : faithfully reproducing the original; *specif* : LETTER-PERFECT **e** : legally valid **3 a** : PURE, TOTAL **b** : lacking in no essential detail : COMPLETE **c** *obs* : SANE **d** : ABSOLUTE, UNEQUIVOCAL **e** : of an extreme kind : UNMITIGATED **4** *obs* : MATURE **5** : of, relating to, or constituting a verb form or verbal that expresses an action or state completed at the time of speaking or at a time spoken of **6** *obs* **a** : CERTAIN, SURE **b** : CONTENT, SATISFIED **7** *of an interval* : belonging to the consonances unison, fourth, fifth, and octave which retain their character when inverted and when raised or lowered by a half step become augmented or diminished **8 a** : sexually mature and fully differentiated ⟨a ~ insect⟩ **b** : MONOCLINOUS ⟨a ~ flower⟩ — **per·fect·ness** \-fik(t)-nəs\ *n*

²per·fect \pər-'fekt *also* 'pər-fikt\ *vt* **1** : to make perfect : IMPROVE, REFINE **2** : to bring to final form — **per·fect·er** *n*

³per·fect \'pər-fikt\ *n* : the perfect tense of a language; *also* : a verb form in the perfect tense

per·fec·ta \pər-'fek-tə\ *n* [AmerSp *quiniela perfecta* perfect quiniela] : a system of betting (as on dog races) in which the bettor must pick the first and second place finishers in this sequence in order to win — compare QUINIELA, TRIPLE

perfect game *n* **1** : a baseball game in which a pitcher allows no hits, no runs, and no opposing batter to reach first base **2** : a game in bowling in which a bowler gets 12 consecutive strikes

per·fect·ibil·i·ty \pər-ˌfek-tə-'bil-ət-ē *also* ˌpər-fik-\ *n* : a capacity for improvement esp. in moral qualities

per·fect·ible \pər-'fek-tə-bəl *also* 'pər-fik-\ *adj* : capable of improvement or perfection

per·fec·tion \pər-'fek-shən\ *n* **1** : the quality or state of being perfect: as **a** : freedom from fault or defect : FLAWLESSNESS **b** : MATURITY **c** : the quality or state of being saintly **2 a** : an exemplification of supreme excellence **b** : an unsurpassable degree of accuracy or excellence **3** : the act or process of perfecting

per·fec·tion·ism \-shə-ˌniz-əm\ *n* **1 a** : the doctrine that the perfection of moral character constitutes man's highest good **b** : the theological doctrine that a state of freedom from sin is attainable on earth **2** : a disposition to regard anything short of perfection as unacceptable — **per·fec·tion·ist** \-sh(ə-)nəst\ *n or adj*

per·fec·tive \pər-'fek-tiv *also* 'pər-fik-\ *adj* **1** *archaic* **a** : tending to make perfect **b** : becoming better **2** : expressing action as complete or as implying the notion of completion, conclusion, or result ⟨~ verb⟩ — **perfective** *n* — **per·fec·tive·ly** *adv* — **per·fective·ness** *n* — **per·fec·tiv·i·ty** \pər-ˌfek-'tiv-ət-ē *also* ˌpər-fik-\ *n*

per·fect·ly \'pər-fik-(t)lē\ *adv* **1** : in a perfect manner **2** : to an adequate extent : QUITE

perfect number *n* : an integer (as 6 or 28) the sum of whose integral factors including 1 but excluding itself is equal to itself

per·fec·to \pər-'fek-(ˌ)tō\ *n, pl* **-tos** [Sp, perfect, fr. L *perfectus*] : a cigar that is thick in the middle and tapers almost to a point at each end

perfect participle *n* : PAST PARTICIPLE

perfect pitch *n* : ABSOLUTE PITCH 2

perfect square *n* : an integer whose square root is an integer ⟨9 is a *perfect square* because it is the square of 3⟩

perfect year *n* : a common year of 355 days or a leap year of 385 days in the Jewish calendar

per·fer·vid \(ˌ)pər-'fər-vəd, 'pər-\ *adj* [NL *perfervidus*, fr. L *per-* thoroughly + *fervidus* fervid] : marked by overwrought or exaggerated emotion : excessively fervent ***syn*** see IMPASSIONED

per·fid·i·ous \(ˌ)pər-'fid-ē-əs\ *adj* : of, relating to, or characterized by perfidy ***syn*** see FAITHLESS — **per·fid·i·ous·ly** *adv* — **per·fid·i·ous·ness** *n*

per·fi·dy \'pər-fəd-ē\ *n* [L *perfidia*, fr. *perfidus* faithless, fr. *per fidem decipere* to betray, lit., to deceive by trust] : the quality or state of being faithless or disloyal : TREACHERY

per·fo·li·ate \ˌpər-'fō-lē-ət, 'pər-\ *adj* [NL *perfoliata*, an herb having leaves pierced by the stem, fr. L *per* through + *foliata*, fem. of *foliatus* foliate] **1** : having the basal part naturally united around the stem ⟨a ~ leaf⟩ **2** : having the terminal joints expanded into flattened plates and encircling the stalk which connects them ⟨~ antennae of a beetle⟩ — **per·fo·li·a·tion** \ˌpər-ˌfō-lē-'ā-shən\ *n*

per·fo·rate \'pər-fə-ˌrāt\ *vb* **-rat·ed; -rat·ing** [L *perforatus*, pp. of *perforare* to bore through, fr. *per-* through + *forare* to bore — more at BORE] *vt* **1** : to make a hole through ⟨an ulcer ~s the duodenal wall⟩; *specif* : to make a line of holes in to facilitate separation **2** : to pass through or into by or as if by making a hole ~ *vi* : to penetrate a surface — **per·fo·rate** \'pər-f(ə-)rət, -fə-ˌrāt\ *adj* — **per·fo·ra·tor** \-fə-ˌrāt-ər\ *n*

per·fo·rat·ed \-fə-ˌrāt-əd\ *adj* **1** : having a hole or series of holes; *esp* : having a specified number of perforations in 20 millimeters ⟨the stamps are ~ 10⟩ **2** : characterized by perforation ⟨a ~ ulcer⟩

per·fo·ra·tion \ˌpər-fə-'rā-shən\ *n* **1** : the act or process of perforating **2 a** : a hole or pattern made by or as if by piercing or boring **b** : one of the series of holes between rows of postage stamps in a sheet that serve as an aid in separation

per·force \pər-'fō(ə)rs, -'fȯ(ə)rs\ *adv* [ME *par force*, fr. MF, by force] **1** *obs* : by physical coercion **2** : by force of circumstances

per·form \pə(r)-'fȯ(ə)rm\ *vb* [ME *performen*, fr. AF *performer*, alter. of OF *perfournir*, fr. *per-* thoroughly (fr. L) + *fournir* to complete — more at FURNISH] *vt* **1** : to adhere to the terms of : FULFILL ⟨~ a contract⟩ **2** : to carry out : DO **3 a** : to do in a formal manner or according to prescribed ritual **b** : to give a rendition of : PRESENT ~ *vi* **1** : to carry out an action or pattern of behavior : ACT, FUNCTION **2** : to give a performance : PLAY — **per·form·able** \-'fȯr-mə-bəl\ *adj*

syn PERFORM, EXECUTE, DISCHARGE, ACCOMPLISH, ACHIEVE, EFFECT, FULFILL *shared meaning element* : to carry out or into effect

per·for·mance \pə(r)-'fȯr-mən(t)s\ *n* **1 a** : the execution of an action **b** : something accomplished : DEED, FEAT **2** : the fulfillment of a claim, promise, or request : IMPLEMENTATION **3 a** : the action of representing a character in a play **b** : a public presentation or exhibition ⟨a benefit ~⟩ **4 a** : the ability to perform : EFFICIENCY **b** : the manner in which a mechanism performs ⟨engine ~⟩ **5** : the manner of reacting to stimuli : BEHAVIOR — **per·for·ma·to·ry** \-mə-ˌtōr-ē, -ˌtȯr-\ *adj*

per·for·ma·tive \-'fȯr-mət-iv\ *n* : an expression that serves to effect a transaction or that constitutes the performance of the specified act by virtue of its utterance ⟨many ~*s* are *contractual* ("I bet") or *declaratory* ("I declare war") utterances —J. L. Austin⟩

per·form·er \-'fȯr-mər\ *n* : one that performs

per·form·ing *adj* : of, relating to, or constituting an art (as drama) that involves public performance ⟨the ~ arts⟩

¹per·fume \'pər-ˌfyüm, (ˌ)pər-'\ *n* [MF *perfum*, prob. fr. OProv, fr. *perfumar* to perfume, fr. *per-* thoroughly (fr. L) + *fumar* to smoke, fr. L *fumare* — more at FUME] **1** : the scent of something sweet-smelling **2** : a substance that emits a pleasant odor; *esp* : a fluid preparation of floral essences or synthetics and a fixative used for scenting ***syn*** see FRAGRANCE

²per·fume \(ˌ)pər-'fyüm, 'pər-ˌ\ *vt* **per·fumed; per·fum·ing** : to fill or imbue with an odor

per·fum·er \pə(r)-'fyü-mər, 'pər-ˌ\ *n* : one that makes or sells perfumes

per·fum·ery \pə(r)-'fyüm-(ə-)rē\ *n, pl* **-er·ies** **1 a** : the art or process of making perfume **b** : the products made by a perfumer **2** : a perfume establishment

per·func·to·ry \pər-'fəŋ(k)-t(ə-)rē\ *adj* [LL *perfunctorius*, fr. L *perfunctus*, pp. of *perfungi* to accomplish, get through with, fr. *per-* through + *fungi* to perform — more at PER-, FUNCTION] **1** : characterized by routine or superficiality : MECHANICAL ⟨a ~ smile⟩ **2** : lacking in interest or enthusiasm : APATHETIC — **per·func·to·ri·ly** \-t(ə-)rə-lē\ *adv* — **per·func·to·ri·ness** \-t(ə-)rē-nəs\ *n*

per·fuse \(ˌ)pər-'fyüz\ *vt* **per·fused; per·fus·ing** [L *perfusus*, pp. of *perfundere* to pour over, fr. *per-* through + *fundere* to pour — more at FOUND] **1** : SUFFUSE **2 a** : to cause to flow or spread : DIFFUSE **b** : to force a fluid through (an organ or tissue) esp. by way of the blood vessels — **per·fu·sion** \-'fyü-zhən\ *n* — **per·fusive** \-'fyü-siv, -ziv\ *adj*

per·go·la \'pər-gə-lə, pər-'gō-\ *n* [It, fr. L *pergula* projecting roof] **1** : ARBOR, TRELLIS **2** : a structure usu. consisting of parallel colonnades supporting an open roof of girders and cross rafters

perh *abbr* perhaps

¹per·haps \pər-'(h)aps, 'praps\ *adv* [*per* + *hap*] : possibly but not certainly : MAYBE

²perhaps *n* : something open to doubt or conjecture

pe·ri \'pi(ə)r-ē\ *n* [Per *perī* fairy, genius, modif. of Av *pairikā* witch; akin to L *paelex* concubine] **1** : a supernatural being in Persian folklore descended from fallen angels and excluded from paradise until penance is accomplished **2** : a beautiful and graceful girl

peri- *prefix* [L, fr. Gk, around, in excess, fr. *peri;* akin to Gk *peran* to pass through — more at FARE] **1** : all around : about ⟨*peri*scope⟩ **2** : near ⟨*peri*helion⟩ **3** : enclosing : surrounding ⟨*peri*neurium⟩

peri·anth \'per-ē-ˌan(t)th\ *n* [NL *perianthium*, fr. *peri-* + Gk *anthos* flower — more at ANTHOLOGY] : the external envelope of a flower esp. when not differentiated into a calyx and corolla

peri·apt \'per-ē-ˌapt\ *n* [MF or Gk; MF *periapte*, fr. Gk *periapton*, fr. *periaptein* to fasten around (oneself), fr. *peri-* + *haptein* to fasten] : AMULET

peri·car·di·al \ˌper-ə-'kärd-ē-əl\ *adj* : of, relating to, or affecting the pericardium; *also* : situated around the heart

peri·car·di·tis \-ˌkär-'dīt-əs\ *n* [NL] : inflammation of the pericardium

peri·car·di·um \ˌper-ə-'kärd-ē-əm\ *n, pl* **-dia** \-ē-ə\ [NL, fr. Gk *perikardion*, neut. of *perikardios* around the heart, fr. *peri-* + *kardia* heart — more at HEART] **1** : the conical sac of serous membrane that encloses the heart and the roots of the great blood vessels of vertebrates **2** : a cavity or space that contains the heart of an invertebrate and in arthropods is a part of the hemocoel

peri·carp \'per-ə-ˌkärp\ *n* [NL *pericarpium*, fr. Gk *perikarpion* pod, fr. *peri-* + *-karpion* -carp] : the ripened and variously modified walls of a plant ovary — see ENDOCARP illustration

peri·chon·dri·um \ˌper-ə-'kän-drē-əm\ *n, pl* **-dria** \-drē-ə\ [NL, fr. *peri-* + Gk *chondros* grain, cartilage — more at GRIND] : the membrane of fibrous connective tissue that invests cartilage except at joints — **peri·chon·dri·al** \-drē-əl\ *also* **peri·chon·dral** \-drəl\ *adj*

pe·ric·o·pe \pə-'rik-ə-pē\ *n* [LL, fr. Gk *perikopē* section, fr. *peri-* + *kopē* act of cutting; akin to Gk *koptein* to cut — more at CAPON] : a selection from a book; *specif* : LECTION 1

peri·cra·ni·um \ˌper-ə-'krā-nē-əm\ *n, pl* **-nia** \-nē-ə\ [NL, fr. Gk *perikranion*, neut. of *perikranios* around the skull, fr. *peri-* + *kranion* skull] : the external periosteum of the skull — **peri·cra·ni·al** \-nē-əl\ *adj*

peri·cy·cle \'per-ə-ˌsī-kəl\ *n* [F *péricycle*, fr. Gk *perikyklos* spherical, fr. *peri-* + *kyklos* circle — more at WHEEL] : a thin layer of parenchymatous or sclerenchymatous cells that surrounds the stele in most vascular plants — **peri·cy·clic** \ˌper-ə-'sī-klik, -'sik-lik\ *adj*

peri·cyn·thi·on \ˌper-ə-'sin(t)-thē-ən\ *n* [NL, fr. *peri-* + *Cynthia* + *-on* (as in *perihelion*)] : PERILUNE

peri·derm \'per-ə-ˌdərm\ *n* [NL *peridermis*, fr. *peri-* + *-dermis*] : an outer layer of tissue; *esp* : a cortical protective layer of many roots

and stems that typically consists of phellem, phellogen, and phelloderm — **peri·der·mal** \ˌper-ə-ˈdər-məl\ *or* **peri·der·mic** \-mik\ *adj*

pe·rid·i·um \pə-ˈrid-ē-əm\ *n, pl* **pe·rid·ia** \-ē-ə\ [NL, fr. Gk *pēridion*, dim. of *pēra* leather bag] : the outer envelope of the sporophore of many fungi

per·i·dot \ˈper-ə-ˌdōt, -ˌdät\ *n* [F *péridot*] : a deep yellowish green transparent olivine used as a gem — **per·i·do·tic** \ˌper-ə-ˈdōt-ik, -ˈdät-\ *adj*

pe·ri·do·tite \pə-ˈrid-ə-ˌtīt; ˈper-ə-ˌdōt-ˌīt, -ˌdät-\ *n* [F *péridotite*, fr. *péridot*] : any of a group of granitoid igneous rocks composed of ferromagnesian minerals and esp. olivine — **pe·ri·do·tit·ic** \pə-ˌrid-ə-ˈtit-ik, ˌper-əd-ə-\ *adj*

peri·ge·an \ˌper-ə-ˈjē-ən\ *adj* : of or relating to perigee

per·i·gee \ˈper-ə-(ˌ)jē\ *n* [Gk *gē* earth] : the point in the orbit of a satellite of the earth or of a vehicle orbiting the earth that is nearest to the center of the earth; *also* : the point nearest a planet or a satellite (as the moon) reached by any object orbiting it — compare APOGEE

pe·rig·y·nous \pə-ˈrij-ə-nəs\ *adj* [NL *perigynus*, fr. *peri-* + *-gynus* -gynous] : borne on a ring or cup of the receptacle surrounding a pistil ⟨~ petals⟩; *also* : having perigynous stamens and petals ⟨~ flowers⟩ — **pe·rig·y·ny** \-nē\ *n*

peri·he·lion \ˌper-ə-ˈhēl-yən\ *n, pl* **-he·lia** \-ˈhēl-yə\ [NL, fr. *peri-* + Gk *hēlios* sun — more at SOLAR] : the point in the path of a celestial body (as a planet) that is nearest to the sun — compare APHELION — **peri·he·lial** \-ˈhēl-yəl\ *adj*

peri·kary·on \-ˈkar-ē-ˌän, -ən\ *n, pl* **-karya** \-ē-ə\ [NL, fr. *peri-* + Gk *karyon* nut, kernel — more at CAREEN] : the cytoplasmic body of a nerve cell — **peri·kary·al** \-ē-əl\ *adj*

¹per·il \ˈper-əl\ *n* [ME, fr. OF, fr. L *periculum* — more at FEAR] **1** : exposure to the risk of being injured, destroyed, or lost : DANGER ⟨fire put the city in ~⟩ **2** : something that imperils : RISK ⟨lessen the ~s of the streets⟩

²peril *vt* **-iled** *also* **-illed; -il·ing** *also* **-il·ling** : to expose to danger

pe·ril·la \pə-ˈril-ə\ *n* [NL, genus name] : any of a genus (*Perilla*) of Asiatic mints that have four didynamous stamens, a bilabiate fruiting calyx, and rugose nutlets

perilla oil *n* : a light yellow drying oil that is obtained from seeds of perillas and is used chiefly in varnish, printing ink, and linoleum and in the Orient as an edible oil

per·il·ous \ˈper-ə-ləs\ *adj* : full of or involving peril : HAZARDOUS ***syn*** see DANGEROUS — **per·il·ous·ly** *adv* — **per·il·ous·ness** *n*

peri·lune \ˈper-ə-ˌlün\ *n* [*peri-* + L *luna* moon — more at LUNAR] : the point in the path of a body orbiting the moon that is nearest to the center of the moon — compare APOLUNE

peri·lymph \-ˌlim(p)f\ *n* [ISV] : the fluid between the membranous and bony labyrinths of the ear

pe·rim·e·ter \pə-ˈrim-ət-ər\ *n* [F *périmètre*, fr. L *perimetros*, fr. Gk, fr. *peri-* + *metron* measure — more at MEASURE] **1 a** : the boundary of a closed plane figure **b** : the length of a perimeter **2** : a line or strip bounding or protecting an area **3** : outer limits

peri·morph \ˈper-ə-ˌmȯrf\ *n* [ISV] : a crystal of one species enclosing one of another species

peri·my·si·um \ˌper-ə-ˈmiz(h)-ē-əm\ *n, pl* **-sia** \-ē-ə\ [NL, irreg. fr. *peri-* + Gk *mys* mouse, muscle — more at MOUSE] : the connective-tissue sheath that surrounds a muscle and forms sheaths for the bundles of muscle fibers

peri·na·tal \-ˈnāt-ᵊl\ *adj* : occurring at about the time of birth

per·i·ne·um \ˌper-ə-ˈnē-əm\ *n, pl* **-nea** \-ˈnē-ə\ [NL, fr. LL *perinaion*, fr. Gk, fr. *peri-* + *inein* to empty out; akin to L *ira* ire] : an area of tissue that marks externally the approximate boundary of the outlet of the pelvis and gives passage to the urinogenital ducts and rectum; *also* : the area between the anus and the posterior part of the external genitalia esp. in the female — **per·i·ne·al** \-ˈnē-əl\ *adj*

peri·neu·ri·um \ˌper-ə-ˈn(y)u̇r-ē-əm\ *n, pl* **-ria** \-ē-ə\ [NL, fr. *peri-* + Gk *neuron* nerve — more at NERVE] : the connective-tissue sheath that surrounds a bundle of nerve fibers

¹pe·ri·od \ˈpir-ē-əd\ *n* [ME *pariode*, fr. MF *periode*, fr. ML, L, & Gk; ML *periodus* period of time, punctuation mark, fr. L & Gk; L, rhetorical period, fr. Gk *periodos* circuit, period of time, rhetorical period, fr. *peri-* + *hodos* way — more at CEDE] **1 a** (1) : an utterance from one full stop to another : SENTENCE (2) : a well-proportioned sentence of several clauses (3) : PERIODIC SENTENCE **b** : a musical structure or melodic section usu. composed of two or more contrasting or complementary phrases and ending with a cadence **2 a** : the full pause with which the utterance of a sentence closes **b** : END, STOP **3** *obs* : GOAL, PURPOSE **4 a** : a point . used to mark the end (as of a declarative sentence or an abbreviation) **b** : a rhythmical unit in Greek verse composed of a series of two or more cola **5** : the completion of a cycle, a series of events, or a single action : CONCLUSION **6 a** : a portion of time determined by some recurring phenomenon **b** (1) : the interval of time required for a cyclic motion or phenomenon to complete a cycle and begin to repeat itself (2) : a number *k* that does not change the value of a periodic function *f* when added to the independent variable: $f(x + k) = f(x)$; *esp* : the smallest such number **c** : a single cyclic occurrence of menstruation **7 a** : a chronological division : STAGE **b** : a division of geologic time longer than an epoch and included in an era **c** : a stage of culture having a definable place in time and space **8 a** : one of the divisions of the academic day **b** : one of the divisions of the playing time of a game

syn PERIOD, EPOCH, ERA, AGE *shared meaning element* : a portion or division of time

²period *adj* : of, relating to, or representing a particular historical period ⟨~ furniture⟩

pe·ri·od·ic \ˌpir-ē-ˈäd-ik\ *adj* **1** : occurring or recurring at regular intervals **2** : consisting of or containing a series of repeated stages : CYCLIC ⟨~ decimals⟩ ⟨a ~ vibration⟩ **3** : expressed in or characterized by periodic sentences ***syn*** see INTERMITTENT

per·iod·ic acid \ˌpər-(ˌ)ī-ˌäd-ik-\ *n* [ISV *per-* + *iodic*] : any of the strongly oxidizing acids (as H_5IO_6 or HIO_4) that are the highest oxygen acids of iodine

¹peri·od·i·cal \ˌpir-ē-ˈäd-i-kəl\ *adj* **1** : PERIODIC 1 **2 a** : published with a fixed interval between the issues or numbers **b** : published in, characteristic of, or connected with a periodical — **peri·od·i·cal·ly** \-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

²periodical *n* : a periodical publication

periodical cicada *n* : SEVENTEEN-YEAR LOCUST

periodic function *n* : a function any value of which recurs at regular intervals

pe·ri·od·ic·i·ty \ˌpir-ē-ə-ˈdis-ət-ē\ *n* : the quality, state, or fact of being regularly recurrent

periodic law *n* : a law in chemistry: the elements when arranged in the order of their atomic numbers show a periodic variation in most of their properties

periodic sentence *n* : a usu. complex sentence that has no subordinate or trailing elements following its principal clause (as in "yesterday while I was walking down the street, I saw him")

periodic table *n* : an arrangement of chemical elements based on the periodic law

pe·ri·od·iza·tion \ˌpir-ē-əd-ə-ˈzā-shən\ *n* : division (as of history) into periods

peri·odon·tal \ˌper-ē-ō-ˈdänt-ᵊl\ *adj* **1** : investing or surrounding a tooth **2** : of or affecting periodontal tissues or regions — **peri·odon·tal·ly** \-ᵊl-ē\ *adv*

peri·odon·tics \-ˈdänt-iks\ *n pl but sing or pl in constr* [NL *periodontium*, fr. *peri-* + Gk *odont-, odous, odōn* tooth — more at TOOTH] : a branch of dentistry that deals with diseases of the supporting structures of the teeth — **peri·odon·tist** \-ˈdänt-əst\ *n*

period piece *n* : a piece (as of fiction, art, furniture, or music) whose special value lies in its evocation of an historical period

peri·onych·i·um \ˌper-ē-ō-ˈnik-ē-əm\ *n, pl* **-ia** \-ē-ə\ [NL, fr. *peri-* + Gk *onych-, onyx* nail — more at NAIL] : the tissue bordering the root and sides of a fingernail or toenail

periost- *or* **periosteo-** *comb form* [NL *periosteum*] : periosteum ⟨*periosteo*myelitis⟩ ⟨*periosteo*ma⟩ ⟨*periost*itis⟩

peri·os·te·al \ˌper-ē-ˈäs-tē-əl\ *adj* **1** : situated around or produced external to bone **2** : of, relating to, or involving the periosteum

peri·os·te·um \-tē-əm\ *n, pl* **-tea** \-tē-ə\ [NL, fr. LL *periosteon*, fr. Gk, neut. of *periosteos* around the bone, fr. *peri-* + *osteon* bone — more at OSSEOUS] : the membrane of connective tissue that closely invests all bones except at the articular surfaces

peri·os·ti·tis \-ˌäs-ˈtīt-əs\ *n* [NL] : inflammation of the periosteum

peri·otic \ˌper-ē-ˈōt-ik\ *adj* : situated around the ear; *specif* : being, relating to, or composed of the bony elements that are typically three in number, surround the internal ear, and form or help to form its capsule

¹peri·pa·tet·ic \ˌper-ə-pə-ˈtet-ik\ *n* **1** *cap* : a follower of Aristotle or adherent of Aristotelianism **2** : PEDESTRIAN, ITINERANT **3** *pl* : movement or journeys hither and thither

²peripatetic *adj* [MF & L; MF *peripatetique*, fr. L *peripateticus*, fr. Gk *peripatētikos*, fr. *peripatein* to walk up and down, discourse while pacing (as did Aristotle), fr. *peri-* + *patein* to tread; akin to Skt *patha* path — more at FIND] **1** *cap* : ARISTOTELIAN **2** : of or relating to walking : ITINERANT — **peri·pa·tet·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **Peri·pa·tet·i·cism** \-ˈtet-ə-ˌsiz-əm\ *n*

pe·rip·a·tus \pə-ˈrip-ət-əs\ *n* [NL, genus name, fr. Gk *peripatos* act of walking about, fr. *peri-* + *patein* to tread] : any of a class (Onychophora) of primitive tropical arthropods that in some respects are intermediate between annelid worms and typical arthropods

peri·pe·teia \ˌper-ə-pə-ˈtē-(y)ə, -ˈtī-ə\ *n* [Gk, fr. *peripiptein* to fall around, change suddenly, fr. *peri-* + *piptein* to fall — more at FEATHER] : a sudden or unexpected reversal of circumstances or situation esp. in a literary work

pe·rip·e·ty \pə-ˈrip-ət-ē\ *n, pl* **-ties** : PERIPETEIA

pe·riph·er·ad \pə-ˈrif-ə-ˌrad\ *adv* : toward the periphery

¹pe·riph·er·al \pə-ˈrif-(ə-)rəl\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or forming a periphery **2** : located away from a center or central portion : EXTERNAL **3** : of, relating to, or involving the surface of the body **4** : of, relating to, or being the outer part of the field of vision ⟨good ~ vision⟩ **5** : AUXILIARY, SUPPLEMENTARY ⟨~ equipment⟩ — **pe·riph·er·al·ly** \-ē\ *adv*

²peripheral *n* : a device connected to a computer to provide communication (as input and output) or auxiliary functions (as additional storage)

pe·riph·ery \pə-ˈrif-(ə-)rē\ *n, pl* **-er·ies** [MF *peripherie*, fr. LL *peripheria*, fr. Gk *periphereia*, fr. *peripherein* to carry around, fr. *peri-* + *pherein* to carry — more at BEAR] **1** : the perimeter of a circle or other closed curve; *also* : the perimeter of a polygon **2** : the external boundary or surface of a body **3 a** : the outward bounds of something as distinguished from its internal regions or center : CONFINES **b** : an area lying beyond the strict limits of a thing **4** : the regions (as the sense organs, the muscles, or the viscera) in which nerves terminate

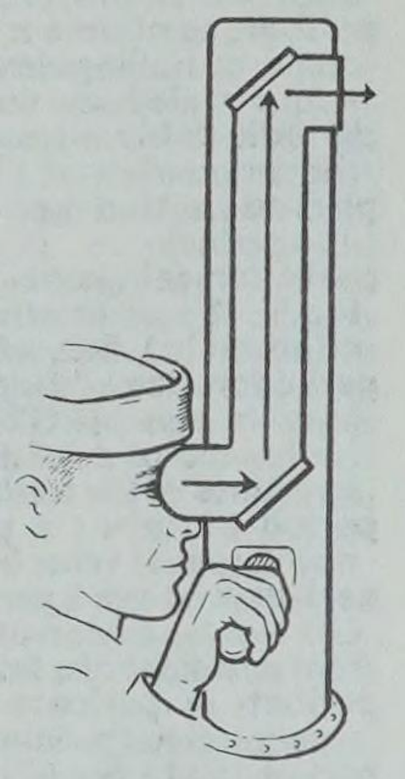
pe·riph·ra·sis \pə-ˈrif-rə-səs\ *n, pl* **-ra·ses** \-ˌsēz\ [L, fr. Gk, fr. *periphrazein* to express periphrastically, fr. *peri-* + *phrazein* to point out] **1** : use of a longer phrasing in place of a possible shorter form of expression **2** : an instance of periphrasis

peri·phras·tic \ˌper-ə-ˈfras-tik\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or characterized by periphrasis **2** : formed by the use of function words or auxiliaries instead of by inflection ⟨*more fair* is a ~ comparative⟩ — **peri·phras·ti·cal·ly** \-ti-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

pe·riph·y·ton \pə-ˈrif-ə-ˌtän\ *n* [NL, fr. Gk *periphytos* (verbal of *periphyein* to grow around, fr. *peri-* + *phyein* to bring forth, grow) + *-on* (as in *plankton*) — more at BE] : organisms (as some algae) that live attached to underwater surfaces — **peri·phyt·ic** \ˌper-ə-ˈfit-ik\ *adj*

ə abut ᵊ kitten ər further a back ā bake ä cot, cart
au̇ out ch chin e less ē easy g gift i trip ī life
j joke ŋ sing ō flow ȯ flaw ȯi coin th thin t͟h this
ü loot u̇ foot y yet yü few yu̇ furious zh vision

peri·plast \'per-ə-ˌplast\ *n* : PLASMA MEMBRANE; *also* : a proteinaceous subcellular layer below the plasma membrane esp. of a euglena
peri·proct \-ˌpräkt\ *n* [ISV *peri-* + Gk *prōktos* anus] : the well-defined area surrounding the anus of various invertebrates (as a sea urchin)
pe·rique \pə-'rēk\ *n* [LaF *périque*] : an aromatic fermented Louisiana tobacco used in smoking mixtures
peri·sarc \'per-ə-ˌsärk\ *n* [ISV *peri-* + Gk *sark-, sarx* flesh — more at SARCASM] : the outer usu. chitinous integument of a hydroid
peri·scope \-ˌskōp\ *n* [ISV] : a tubular optical instrument containing lenses and mirrors by which an observer obtains an otherwise obstructed field of view


periscope

peri·scop·ic \ˌper-ə-'skäp-ik\ *adj* **1** : providing a view all around or on all sides ⟨~ lens⟩ **2** : of or relating to a periscope
peri·se·le·ne \-sə-'lē-nē\ *n* [ISV *peri-* + Gk *selēnē* moon — more at SELENIUM] : PERILUNE
per·ish \'per-ish\ *vb* [ME *perisshen*, fr. OF *periss-*, stem of *perir*, fr. L *perire*, fr. *per-* to destruction + *ire* to go — more at PER-, ISSUE] *vi* **1** : to become destroyed or ruined : DIE ⟨recollection of a past already long since ~*ed* —Philip Sherrard⟩ ⟨guard against your mistakes or your attempts (~ the thought) to cheat —C. B. Davis⟩ **2** *chiefly Brit* : DETERIORATE, SPOIL ~ *vt* **1** *chiefly Brit* : to cause to die : DESTROY **2** : WEAKEN, BENUMB
per·ish·able \'per-ish-ə-bəl\ *adj* : liable to perish : liable to spoil or decay ⟨such ~ products as fruit, vegetables, butter and eggs⟩ — **per·ish·abil·i·ty** \ˌper-ish-ə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* — **perishable** *n*
per·ish·ing \'per-ish-iŋ\ *adj* : that perishes : that causes extreme discomfort, pain, or hardship — **per·ish·ing·ly** \-iŋ-lē\ *adv*
pe·ris·so·dac·tyl \pə-'ris-ə-ˌdak-t'l\ *n* [NL *Perissodactyla*, group name, fr. Gk *perissos* excessive, odd in number + *daktylos* finger, toe] : any of an order (Perissodactyla) of nonruminant ungulate mammals (as a horse, a tapir, or a rhinoceros) that usu. have an odd number of toes, molar teeth with transverse ridges on the grinding surface, and the posterior premolars resembling true molars — **perissodactyl** *adj*
peri·stal·sis \ˌper-ə-'stȯl-səs, -'stäl-, -'stal-\ *n* [NL, fr. Gk *peristaltikos* peristaltic] : successive waves of involuntary contraction passing along the walls of the intestine or other hollow muscular structure and forcing the contents onward
peri·stal·tic \-tik\ *adj* [Gk *peristaltikos*, fr. *peristellein* to wrap around, fr. *peri-* + *stellein* to place — more at STALL] **1** : of, relating to, resulting from, or being peristalsis **2** : having an action suggestive of peristalsis ⟨a ~ pump⟩ — **peri·stal·ti·cal·ly** \-ti-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
peri·stome \'per-ə-ˌstōm\ *n* [NL *peristoma*, fr. *peri-* + Gk *stoma* mouth — more at STOMACH] **1** : the fringe of teeth surrounding the orifice of a moss capsule **2** : the region around the mouth in various invertebrates — **peri·sto·mi·al** \ˌper-ə-'stō-mē-əl\ *adj*
peri·style \'per-ə-ˌstīl\ *n* [F *péristyle*, fr. L *peristylum*, fr. Gk *peristylon*, fr. neut. of *peristylos* surrounded by a colonnade, fr. *peri-* + *stylos* pillar — more at STEER] **1** : a colonnade surrounding a building or court **2** : an open space enclosed by a colonnade
peri·the·ci·um \ˌper-ə-'thē-s(h)ē-əm\ *n, pl* **-cia** \-s(h)ē-ə\ [NL, fr. *peri-* + Gk *thēkion*, dim. of *thēkē* case — more at TICK] : a spherical, cylindrical, or flask-shaped hollow fruiting body in various ascomycetous fungi that contains the asci and usu. opens by a terminal pore — **peri·the·cial** \-'thē-sh(ē-)əl, -sē-əl\ *adj*
periton- *or* **peritone-** *or* **peritoneo-** *comb form* [LL *peritoneum*] : peritoneum ⟨*peritonitis*⟩
peri·to·ne·um \ˌper-ət-ᵊn-'ē-əm\ *n, pl* **-ne·ums** \-'ē-əmz\ *or* **-nea** \-'ē-ə\ [LL, fr. Gk *peritonaion*, neut. of *peritonaios* stretched around, fr. *peri-* + *teinein* to stretch — more at THIN] **1** : the smooth transparent serous membrane that lines the cavity of the abdomen of a mammal and is reflected inward over the abdominal and pelvic viscera **2** : PLEUROPERITONEUM — **peri·to·ne·al** \-'ē-əl\ *adj* — **peri·to·ne·al·ly** \-ə-lē\ *adv*
peri·to·ni·tis \ˌper-ət-ᵊn-'īt-əs\ *n* [NL] : inflammation of the peritoneum
pe·rit·ri·chous \pə-'ri-tri-kəs\ *adj* [*peri-* + Gk *trich-, thrix* hair — more at TRICH-] **1** : having flagella uniformly distributed over the body ⟨~ bacteria⟩ **2** : having a spiral line of modified cilia around the oral disk ⟨~ protozoa⟩ — **pe·rit·ri·chous·ly** *adv*
peri·wig \'per-i-ˌwig\ *n* [modif. of MF *perruque*] : PERUKE — **periwigged** \-ˌwigd\ *adj*
[1]per·i·win·kle \'per-i-ˌwiŋ-kəl\ *n* [ME *perwinke*, fr. OE *perwince*, fr. L *pervinca*] : any of several trailing or woody evergreen herbs (genus *Vinca*) of the dogbane family: as **a** : a European creeper (*V. minor*) widely cultivated as a ground cover and for its blue or white flowers — called also *myrtle* **b** : a commonly cultivated subshrub (*V. rosea*) of the Old World tropics that is the source of several antineoplastic drugs — called also *Madagascar periwinkle*
[2]periwinkle *n* [(assumed) ME, alter. of OE *pīnewincle*, fr. L *pina*, a kind of mussel (fr. Gk) + OE *-wincle* (akin to Dan *vincle* snail shell); akin to OE *wincian* to wink] : any of various gastropod mollusks: as **a** : any of a genus (*Littorina*) of edible littoral marine snails; *also* : any of various similar or related marine snails (as various American members of *Thais*) **b** : any of several No. American freshwater snails
per·jure \'pər-jər\ *vt* **per·jured; per·jur·ing** \'pərj-(ə-)riŋ\ [MF *perjurer*, fr. L *perjurare*, fr. *per-* to destruction, to the bad + *jurare* to swear — more at PER-, JURY] **1** *obs* : to cause to commit perjury **2** : to make a perjurer of (oneself)
per·jur·er \'pər-jər-ər\ *n* : a person guilty of perjury
per·ju·ri·ous \(ˌ)pər-'jůr-ē-əs\ *adj* : marked by perjury ⟨~ testimony⟩ — **per·ju·ri·ous·ly** *adv*
per·ju·ry \'pərj-(ə-)rē\ *n* : the voluntary violation of an oath or vow either by swearing to what is untrue or by omission to do what has been promised under oath : false swearing
[1]perk \'pərk\ *vb* [ME *perken*] *vi* **1 a** : to thrust up the head, stretch out the neck, or carry the body in a bold or insolent manner **b** : to stick up or out jauntily **2** : to gain in vigor or cheerfulness esp. after a period of weakness or depression — usu. used with *up* ⟨he ~*ed* up noticeably when the letter arrived⟩ ~ *vt* **1** : to make smart or spruce in appearance : FRESHEN, IMPROVE **2** : to thrust up quickly or impudently
[2]perk *n, chiefly Brit* : PERQUISITE — usu. used in pl.
[3]perk *vi* : PERCOLATE

PERIODIC TABLE

This is a common long form of the table. Roman numerals and letters heading the vertical columns indicate the groups (there are differences of opinion regarding the letter designations, those given here being probably the most generally used). The horizontal rows represent the periods, with two series removed from the two very long periods and represented below the main table. Atomic numbers are given above the symbols for the elements. Compare ELEMENT table.

IA	IIA	IIIB	IVB	VB	VIB	VIIB	VIII			IB	IIB	IIIA	IVA	VA	VIA	VIIA	Zero
1 H																1 H	2 He
3 Li	4 Be											5 B	6 C	7 N	8 O	9 F	10 Ne
11 Na	12 Mg											13 Al	14 Si	15 P	16 S	17 Cl	18 Ar
19 K	20 Ca	21 Sc	22 Ti	23 V	24 Cr	25 Mn	26 Fe	27 Co	28 Ni	29 Cu	30 Zn	31 Ga	32 Ge	33 As	34 Se	35 Br	36 Kr
37 Rb	38 Sr	39 Y	40 Zr	41 Nb	42 Mo	43 Tc	44 Ru	45 Rh	46 Pd	47 Ag	48 Cd	49 In	50 Sn	51 Sb	52 Te	53 I	54 Xe
55 Cs	56 Ba	57 *La	72 Hf	73 Ta	74 W	75 Re	76 Os	77 Ir	78 Pt	79 Au	80 Hg	81 Tl	82 Pb	83 Bi	84 Po	85 At	86 Rn
87 Fr	88 Ra	89 #Ac															

*LANTHANIDE SERIES	58 Ce	59 Pr	60 Nd	61 Pm	62 Sm	63 Eu	64 Gd	65 Tb	66 Dy	67 Ho	68 Er	69 Tm	70 Yb	71 Lu
#ACTINIDE SERIES	90 Th	91 Pa	92 U	93 Np	94 Pu	95 Am	96 Cm	97 Bk	98 Cf	99 Es	100 Fm	101 Md	102 No	103 Lr

perky \'pər-kē\ *adj* **perk·i·er; -est** **1** : briskly self-assured : COCKY ⟨a ~ salesman⟩ **2** : JAUNTY ⟨a ~ . . . waltz —*New Yorker*⟩ — **perk·i·ly** \-kə-lē\ *adv* — **perk·i·ness** \-kē-nəs\ *n*

per·lite \'pər-ˌlīt\ *n* [F, fr. *perle* pearl] : volcanic glass that has a concentric shelly structure, appears as if composed of concretions, is usu. grayish and sometimes spherulitic, and when expanded by heat forms a lightweight aggregate used esp. in concrete and plaster — **per·lit·ic** \ˌpər-'lit-ik\ *adj*

¹perm \'pərm\ *n* : PERMANENT

²perm *abbr* permanent

per·ma·frost \'pər-mə-ˌfrȯst\ *n* [*permanent* + *frost*] : a permanently frozen layer at variable depth below the earth's surface in frigid regions

per·ma·nence \'pərm(-ə)-nən(t)s\ *n* : the quality or state of being permanent : DURABILITY

per·ma·nen·cy \-nən-sē\ *n, pl* **-cies** **1** : PERMANENCE **2** : something permanent

¹per·ma·nent \-nənt\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *permanent-, permanens*, prp. of *permanēre* to endure, fr. *per-* throughout + *manēre* to remain — more at PER-, MANSION] : continuing or enduring without fundamental or marked change : STABLE — **per·ma·nent·ly** *adv* — **per·ma·nent·ness** *n*

²permanent *n* : a long-lasting hair wave or straightening produced by mechanical and chemical means — called also *permanent wave*

permanent magnet *n* : a magnet that retains its magnetism after removal of the magnetizing force

permanent press *n* : DURABLE PRESS

permanent tissue *n* : tissue that has completed its growth and differentiation and is generally incapable of meristematic activity

permanent tooth *n* : one of the second set of teeth of a mammal that follow the milk teeth, typically persist into old age, and in man are 32 in number

per·man·ga·nate \(ˌ)pər-'maŋ-gə-ˌnāt\ *n* : a dark purple crystalline compound that is a salt of permanganic acid

per·man·gan·ic acid \ˌpər-(ˌ)man-ˌgan-ik-, -(ˌ)maŋ-\ *n* [ISV] : an unstable strong acid $HMnO_4$ known chiefly in purple-colored strongly oxidizing aqueous solutions

per·me·abil·i·ty \ˌpər-mē-ə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* **1** : the quality or state of being permeable **2** : the property of a magnetizable substance that determines the degree in which it modifies the magnetic flux in the region occupied by it in a magnetic field

per·me·able \'pər-mē-ə-bəl\ *adj* : capable of being permeated : PENETRABLE; *esp* : having pores or openings that permit liquids or gases to pass through ⟨a ~ membrane⟩ ⟨~ limestone⟩ — **per·me·able·ness** *n* — **per·me·ably** \-blē\ *adv*

per·me·ance \-ən(t)s\ *n* **1** : PERMEATION **2** : the reciprocal of magnetic reluctance

per·me·ase \-ˌās, -ˌāz\ *n* [ISV *perme-* (fr. *permeate*) + *-ase*] : a substance that catalyzes the transport of another substance across a cell membrane

per·me·ate \'pər-mē-ˌāt\ *vb* **-at·ed; -at·ing** [L *permeatus*, pp. of *permeare*, fr. *per-* through + *meare* to go, pass; akin to MW *mynet* to go, OSlav *minǫti* to pass] *vi* : to diffuse through or penetrate something ~ *vt* **1** : to spread or diffuse through ⟨a room *permeated* with tobacco smoke⟩ **2** : to pass through the pores or interstices of — **per·me·ative** \-ˌāt-iv\ *adj*

per·me·ation \ˌpər-mē-'ā-shən\ *n* **1** : the quality or state of being permeated **2** : the action or process of permeating

per men·sem \(ˌ)pər-'men(t)-səm\ *adv* [ML] : by the month

Perm·ian \'pər-mē-ən, 'per-\ *adj* [*Perm*, region in eastern Russia] : of, relating to, or being the last period of the Paleozoic era or the corresponding system of rocks — **Permian** *n*

per mill \(ˌ)pər-'mil\ *adv* [*per* + L *mille* thousand — more at MILE] : per thousand — **per·mil·lage** \(ˌ)pər-'mil-ij\ *n*

per·mis·si·ble \pər-'mis-ə-bəl\ *adj* [ME, fr. ML *permissibilis*, fr. L *permissus*, pp.] : that may be permitted : ALLOWABLE — **per·mis·si·bil·i·ty** \-ˌmis-ə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* — **per·mis·si·ble·ness** \-'mis-ə-bəl-nəs\ *n* — **per·mis·si·bly** \-blē\ *adv*

per·mis·sion \pər-'mish-ən\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *permission-, permissio*, fr. *permissus*, pp. of *permittere*] **1** : the act of permitting **2** : formal consent : AUTHORIZATION
syn PERMISSION, LEAVE, SUFFERANCE *shared meaning element* : sanction to act or to do something granted by one in authority ***ant*** prohibition

per·mis·sive \pər-'mis-iv\ *adj* [F *permissif*, fr. L *permissus*, pp.] **1** *archaic* : granted on sufferance : TOLERATED **2** : granting or tending to grant permission : TOLERANT **3** : allowing discretion : OPTIONAL ⟨reduced the ~ retirement age from 65 to 62⟩ — **per·mis·sive·ly** *adv* — **per·mis·sive·ness** *n*

¹per·mit \pər-'mit\ *vb* **per·mit·ted; per·mit·ting** [L *permittere* to let through, permit, fr. *per-* through + *mittere* to let go, send — more at PER-, SMITE] *vt* **1** : to consent to expressly or formally ⟨~ access to records⟩ **2** : to give leave : AUTHORIZE **3** : to make possible ~ *vi* : to give an opportunity : ALLOW ⟨if time ~*s*⟩ ***syn*** see LET ***ant*** prohibit, forbid — **per·mit·ter** *n*

²per·mit \'pər-ˌmit, pər-'\ *n* **1** : a written warrant or license granted by one having authority ⟨a gun ~⟩ **2** : PERMISSION

per·mit·tiv·i·ty \ˌpər-ˌmi-'tiv-ət-ē, -mə-\ *n* [¹*permit* + *-ive* + *-ity*] : the ability of a dielectric to store electrical potential energy under the influence of an electric field measured by the ratio of the capacitance of a condenser with the material as dielectric to its capacitance with vacuum as dielectric

per·mu·ta·tion \ˌpər-myù-'tā-shən\ *n* [ME *permutacioun* exchange, transformation, fr. MF *permutation*, fr. L *permutation-, permutatio*, fr. *permutatus*, pp. of *permutare*] **1** : often major or fundamental change (as in character or condition) based primarily on rearrangement of existent elements ⟨land-owners and peasants . . . in the ~*s* of their tortured interdependence —P. E. Mosley⟩ **2 a** : the act or process of changing the lineal order of an ordered set of objects **b** : an ordered arrangement of a set of objects ***syn*** see CHANGE — **per·mu·ta·tion·al** \-shnəl, -shən-ᵊl\ *adj*

permutation group *n* : a group whose elements are permutations and in which the product of two permutations is a permutation whose effect is the same as the successive application of the first two

per·mute \pər-'myüt\ *vt* **per·mut·ed; per·mut·ing** [ME *permuten*, fr. MF or L; MF *permuter*, fr. L *permutare*, fr. *per-* + *mutare* to change — more at MISS] : to change the order or arrangement of; *esp* : to arrange in all possible ways

per·ni·cious \pər-'nish-əs\ *adj* [MF *pernicieus*, fr. L *perniciosus*, fr. *pernicies* destruction, fr. *per-* + *nec-, nex* violent death — more at NOXIOUS] **1** : highly injurious or destructive : DEADLY **2** *archaic* : WICKED — **per·ni·cious·ly** *adv* — **per·ni·cious·ness** *n*
syn PERNICIOUS, BANEFUL, NOXIOUS, DELETERIOUS, DETRIMENTAL *shared meaning element* : exceedingly harmful ***ant*** innocuous

pernicious anemia *n* : a severe hyperchromic anemia marked by a progressive decrease in number and increase in size of the red blood cells and by pallor, weakness, and gastrointestinal and nervous disturbances and associated with reduced ability to absorb vitamin B_{12} due to the absence of intrinsic factor

per·nick·e·ty \pər-'nik-ət-ē\ *adj* [perh. alter. of *particular*] : PERSNICKETY

Per·nod \per-'nō, ˌpər-\ *trademark* — used for an aromatic French liqueur

pe·ro·ne·al \ˌper-ō-'nē-əl, pə-'rō-nē-\ *adj* [NL *peroneus*, fr. *perone* fibula, fr. Gk *peronē*, lit., pin; akin to L *per* through — more at FOR] : of, relating to, or located near the fibula

per·oral \(ˌ)pər-'ōr-əl, pe(ə)r-, -'ȯr-, -'är-\ *adj* [ISV, fr. L *per* through + *or-, os* mouth — more at ORAL] : occurring through or by way of the mouth — **per·oral·ly** \-ə-lē\ *adv*

per·orate \'per-ər-ˌāt *also* 'pər-\ *vi* **-orat·ed; -orat·ing** [L *peroratus*, pp. of *perorare* to declaim at length, wind up an oration, fr. *per-* through + *orare* to speak — more at PER-, ORATION] **1** : to deliver a long or grandiloquent oration **2** : to make a peroration

per·ora·tion \'per-ər-ˌā-shən, 'pər-\ *n* **1** : the concluding part of a discourse and esp. an oration **2** : a highly rhetorical speech — **per·ora·tion·al** \ˌper-ər-'ā-shnəl, pər-, -shən-ᵊl\ *adj*

per·ox·i·dase \pə-'räk-sə-ˌdās, -ˌdāz\ *n* : an enzyme that catalyzes the oxidation of various substances by peroxides

¹per·ox·ide \pə-'räk-ˌsīd\ *n* [ISV] : an oxide containing a high proportion of oxygen; *esp* : a compound (as hydrogen peroxide) in which oxygen is visualized as joined to oxygen — **per·ox·id·ic** \-ˌräk-'sid-ik\ *adj*

²peroxide *vt* **-id·ed; -id·ing** : to treat with a peroxide; *esp* : to bleach (hair) with hydrogen peroxide

per·oxi·some \pə-'räk-sə-ˌsōm\ *n* [*peroxide* + ³*-some*] : a cytoplasmic cell organelle containing enzymes for the production and decomposition of hydrogen peroxide — **per·oxi·som·al** \-ˌräk-sə-'sō-məl\ *adj*

per·oxy- \pə-'räk-si\ *comb form* [ISV *per-* + *oxy-*] : containing the bivalent group O–O

perp *abbr* perpendicular

per·pend \(ˌ)pər-'pend\ *vb* [L *perpendere*, fr. *per-* thoroughly + *pendere* to weigh — more at PER-, PENDANT] *vt* : to reflect on carefully : PONDER ~ *vi* : to be attentive : REFLECT

¹per·pen·dic·u·lar \ˌpər-pən-'dik-yə-lər\ *adj* [ME *perpendiculer*, fr. MF, fr. L *perpendicularis*, fr. *perpendiculum* plumb line, fr. *per-* + *pendēre* to hang — more at PENDANT] **1 a** : standing at right angles to the plane of the horizon : exactly upright **b** : being at right angles to a given line or plane **2** : extremely steep : PRECIPITOUS **3** : of or relating to a medieval English Gothic style of architecture in which vertical lines predominate **4** : relating to, uniting, or consisting of individuals of dissimilar type or on different levels ***syn*** see VERTICAL ***ant*** horizontal — **per·pen·dic·u·lar·i·ty** \-ˌdik-yə-'lar-ət-ē\ *n* — **per·pen·dic·u·lar·ly** \-'dik-yə-lər-lē\ *adv*

²perpendicular *n* **1** : a line at right angles to the plane of the horizon or to another line or surface **2** : an extremely steep face (as of a cliff)

per·pe·trate \'pər-pə-ˌtrāt\ *vt* **-trat·ed; -trat·ing** [L *perpetratus*, pp. of *perpetrare*, fr. *per-* through + *patrare* to accomplish] : to bring about or carry out (as a crime) : COMMIT — **per·pe·tra·tion** \ˌpər-pə-'trā-shən\ *n* — **per·pe·tra·tor** \'pər-pə-ˌtrāt-ər\ *n*

per·pet·u·al \pər-'pech-(ə-)wəl, -'pech-əl\ *adj* [ME *perpetuel*, fr. MF, fr. L *perpetuus*, fr. *per-* through + *petere* to go to — more at FEATHER] **1 a** : continuing forever : EVERLASTING **b** (1) : valid for all time (2) : holding (as an office) for life or for an unlimited time **2** : occurring continually : indefinitely long-continued **3** : blooming continuously throughout the season ***syn*** see CONTINUOUS ***ant*** transitory, transient — **per·pet·u·al·ly** \-ē\ *adv*

perpetual calendar *n* **1** : a table for finding the day of the week for any one of a wide range of dates **2** : a calendar having the years uniform in the correspondence of days and dates

perpetual check *n* : an endless succession of checks to which an opponent's king may be subjected to force a draw in chess

per·pet·u·ate \pər-'pech-ə-ˌwāt\ *vt* **-at·ed; -at·ing** [L *perpetuatus*, pp. of *perpetuare*, fr. *perpetuus*] : to make perpetual or cause to last indefinitely ⟨~ the species⟩ — **per·pet·u·a·tion** \-ˌpech-ə-'wā-shən\ *n* — **per·pet·u·a·tor** \-'pech-ə-ˌwāt-ər\ *n*

per·pe·tu·ity \ˌpər-pə-'t(y)ü-ət-ē\ *n, pl* **-ities** [ME *perpetuite*, fr. MF *perpetuité*, fr. L *perpetuitat-, perpetuitas*, fr. *perpetuus*] **1** : ETERNITY 2 **2** : the quality or state of being perpetual ⟨bequeathed to them in ~⟩ **3 a** : the condition of an estate limited so that it will not take effect or vest within the period fixed by law **b** : an estate so limited **4** : an annuity payable forever

per·phe·na·zine \(ˌ)pər-'fē-nə-ˌzēn, -'fen-ə-\ *n* [blend of *piperazine* and *phen-*] : a tranquilizing drug $C_{21}H_{26}ClN_3OS$ that is used to control tension, anxiety, and agitation esp. in psychotic conditions

per·plex \pər-'pleks\ *vt* [obs. *perplex*, adj., involved, perplexed, fr. L *perplexus*, fr. *per-* thoroughly + *plexus* involved, fr. pp. of *plectere*

to braid, twine — more at PER-, PLY] **1** : to make unable to grasp something clearly or to think logically and decisively about something ⟨her attitude ~*es* me⟩ ⟨a ~*ing* problem⟩ **2** : to make intricate or involved : COMPLICATE ***syn*** see PUZZLE

per·plexed \-'plekst\ *adj* **1** : filled with uncertainty : PUZZLED **2** : full of difficulty — **per·plexed·ly** \-'plek-səd-lē, -'pleks-tlē\ *adv*

per·plex·i·ty \pər-'plek-sət-ē\ *n, pl* **-ties** [ME *perplexite*, fr. OF *perplexité*, fr. LL *perplexitat-, perplexitas*, fr. L *perplexus*] **1** : the state of being perplexed : BEWILDERMENT **2** : something that perplexes **3** : ENTANGLEMENT

per·qui·site \'pər-kwə-zət\ *n* [ME, property acquired by other means than inheritance, fr. ML *perquisitum*, fr. neut. of *perquisitus*, pp. of *perquirere* to purchase, acquire, fr. L, to search for thoroughly, fr. *per-* thoroughly + *quaerere* to seek] **1** : a privilege, gain, or profit incidental to regular salary or wages; *esp* : one expected or promised **2** : GRATUITY, TIP **3** : something held or claimed as an exclusive right or possession ⟨concepts . . . not the ~*s* of any particular groups —Gilbert Ryle⟩

per·ron \'per-ən, pe-rō^n\ *n* [F, fr. OF, aug. of *perre, pierre* rock, stone, fr. L *petra*, fr. Gk] : an outdoor stairway leading up to a building entrance or a platform at its top

per·ry \'per-ē\ *n* [ME *peirrie*, fr. MF *peré*, fr. (assumed) VL *piratum*, fr. L *pirum* pear] : the expressed juice of pears often made alcoholic by fermentation

pers *abbr* person; personal; personnel

Pers *abbr* Persia; Persian

per·salt \'pər-ˌsȯlt\ *n* **1** : a salt containing a relatively large proportion of the acidic element or group **2** : a salt of a peracid

perse \'pərs\ *adj* [ME *pers*, fr. MF, fr. ML *persus*] : of a dark grayish blue resembling indigo

per se \(ˌ)pər-'sā *also* pe(ə)r-'sā *or* (ˌ)pər-'sē\ *adv* [L] : by, of, or in itself or oneself or themselves : as such : INTRINSICALLY

per second per second *adv* : per second every second — used of acceleration

per·se·cute \'pər-si-ˌkyüt\ *vt* **-cut·ed; -cut·ing** [MF *persecuter*, back-formation fr. *persecuteur* persecutor, fr. LL *persecutor*, fr. *persecutus*, pp. of *persequi* to persecute, fr. L, to pursue, fr. *per-* through + *sequi* to follow — more at SUE] **1** : to harass in a manner designed to injure, grieve, or afflict; *specif* : to cause to suffer because of belief **2** : to annoy with persistent or urgent approaches (as attacks, pleas, or importunities) : PESTER — **per·se·cu·tive** \-ˌkyüt-iv\ *adj* — **per·se·cu·tor** \-ˌkyüt-ər\ *n* — **per·se·cu·to·ry** \-kyü-ˌtōr-ē, -ˌtȯr-; -ˌkyüt-ə-rē\ *adj*

per·se·cu·tion \ˌpər-si-'kyü-shən\ *n* **1** : the act or practice of persecuting esp. those who differ in origin, religion, or social outlook **2** : the condition of being persecuted, harassed, or annoyed

Per·se·id \'pər-sē-əd\ *n* [L *Perseus*; fr. their appearing to radiate from a point in Perseus] : any of a group of meteors that appear annually about August 11

Per·seph·o·ne \pər-'sef-ə-nē\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *Persephonē*] : a daughter of Zeus and Demeter abducted by Pluto to reign with him over the underworld

Per·seus \'pər-ˌsüs, -sē-əs\ *n* [L, fr. Gk] **1** : the son of Zeus and Danaë and slayer of Medusa **2** [L (gen. *Persei*), fr. Gk] : a northern constellation between Taurus and Cassiopeia

per·se·ver·ance \ˌpər-sə-'vir-ən(t)s\ *n* : the action or condition or an instance of persevering : STEADFASTNESS

per·sev·er·a·tion \pər-ˌsev-ə-'rā-shən\ *n* [L *perseveration-, perseveratio*, fr. *perseveratus*, pp. of *perseverare*] : continuation of something (as repetition of a word) usu. to an exceptional degree or beyond a desired point

per·se·vere \ˌpər-sə-'vi(ə)r\ *vi* **-vered; -ver·ing** [ME *perseveren*, fr. MF *perseverer*, fr. L *perseverare*, fr. *per-* through + *severus* severe] : to persist in a state, enterprise, or undertaking in spite of counter influences, opposition, or discouragement

Per·sian \'pər-zhən, *esp Brit* -shən\ *n* **1** : one of the people of Persia: as **a** : one of the ancient Iranian Caucasians who under Cyrus and his successors became the dominant Asian race **b** : a member of one of the peoples forming the modern Iranian nationality **2 a** : any of several Iranian languages dominant in Persia at different periods **b** : the modern language of Iran and western Afghanistan used also in Pakistan and by Indian Muslims as a literary language — see INDO-EUROPEAN LANGUAGES table **3** : a thin soft silk formerly used esp. for linings — **Persian** *adj*

Persian cat *n* : a stocky round-headed domestic cat that has long and silky fur and is the long-haired cat of shows and fanciers

Persian lamb *n* **1** : the young of the karakul sheep that furnishes skins used in furriery **2** : a pelt that is obtained from karakul lambs older than those yielding broadtail and that is characterized by very silky tightly curled fur

per·si·flage \'pər-si-ˌfläzh, 'per-\ *n* [F, fr. *persifler* to banter, fr. *per-* thoroughly + *siffler* to whistle, hiss, boo fr. L *sibilare*, of imit. origin] : frivolous bantering talk : light raillery

per·sim·mon \pər-'sim-ən\ *n* [of Algonquian origin; akin to Cree *pasiminan* dried fruit] **1** : any of a genus (*Diospyros*) of trees of the ebony family with hard fine wood, oblong leaves, and small bell-shaped white flowers; *esp* : an American tree (*D. virginiana*) or a Japanese tree (*D. kaki*) **2** : the usu. orange several-seeded globular berry of a persimmon that is edible when fully ripe but usu. extremely astringent when unripe

per·sist \pər-'sist, -'zist\ *vi* [MF *persister*, fr. L *persistere*, fr. *per-* + *sistere* to take a stand, stand firm; akin to L *stare* to stand — more at STAND] **1** : to go on resolutely or stubbornly in spite of opposition, importunity, or warning **2** *obs* : to remain unchanged or fixed in a specified character, condition, or position **3** : to be insistent in the repetition or pressing of an utterance (as a question or an opinion) **4** : to continue to exist esp. past a usual, expected, or normal time ***syn*** see CONTINUE — **per·sist·er** *n*

per·sis·tence \pər-'sis-tən(t)s, -'zis-\ *n* **1** : the action or fact of persisting **2** : the quality or state of being persistent; *esp* : PERSEVERANCE

per·sis·ten·cy \-tən-sē\ *n* : PERSISTENCE 2

per·sis·tent \-tənt\ *adj* [L *persistent-, persistens*, prp. of *persistere*] **1 a** : continuing or inclined to persist in a course **b** : continuing to exist in spite of interference or treatment ⟨a ~ cough⟩ **2** : existing for a long or longer than usual time or continuously: as **a** : retained beyond the usual period ⟨a ~ leaf⟩ **b** : continuing without change in function or structure ⟨~ gills⟩ **c** : effective in the open for an appreciable time usu. through slow volatilizing ⟨mustard gas is ~⟩ **d** : degraded only slowly by the environment ⟨~ pesticides⟩ **e** : remaining infective for a relatively long time in a vector after an initial period of incubation ⟨~ viruses⟩ — **per·sis·tent·ly** *adv*

per·snick·e·ty \pər-'snik-ət-ē\ *adj* [alter. of *pernickety*] **1 a** : fussy about small details : FASTIDIOUS ⟨a ~ teacher⟩ **b** : having the characteristics of a snob **2** : requiring great precision : EXACTING ⟨a ~ job⟩

per·son \'pərs-ᵊn\ *n* [ME, fr. OF *persone*, fr. L *persona* actor's mask, character in a play, person, prob. fr. Etruscan *phersu* mask] **1** : HUMAN BEING, INDIVIDUAL — sometimes used in combination esp. by those who prefer to avoid *man* in compounds applicable to both sexes ⟨chair*person*⟩ **2** : a character or part in or as if in a play : GUISE **3 a** : one of the three modes of being in the Trinitarian Godhead as understood by Christians **b** : the unitary personality of Christ that unites the divine and human natures **4 a** *archaic* : bodily appearance **b** : the body of a human being ⟨unlawful search of the ~⟩ **5** : the individual personality of a human being : SELF **6** : one (as a human being, a partnership, or a corporation) that is recognized by law as the subject of rights and duties **7** : reference of a segment of discourse to the speaker, to one spoken to, or to one spoken of as indicated by means of certain pronouns or in many languages by verb inflection — **per·son·hood** \-ˌhůd\ *n* — **in person** : in one's bodily presence

per·so·na \pər-'sō-nə, -ˌnä\ *n* [L] **1 per·so·nae** \-(ˌ)nē, -ˌnī\ *pl* : the characters of a fictional presentation (as a novel or play) ⟨comic *personae*⟩ **2** *pl* **personas** [NL, fr. L] : an individual's social facade or front that esp. in the analytic psychology of C. G. Jung reflects the role in life the individual is playing — compare ANIMA

per·son·able \'pərs-nə-bəl, -ᵊn-ə-bəl\ *adj* : pleasing in person : ATTRACTIVE — **per·son·able·ness** *n*

per·son·age \'pərs-nij, -ᵊn-ij\ *n* **1** : a person of rank, note, or distinction; *esp* : one distinguished for presence and personal power **2** : a dramatic, fictional, or historical character; *also* : IMPERSONATION **3** : a human individual : PERSON

per·so·na gra·ta \pər-ˌsō-nə-'grat-ə, -'grät-\ *adj* [NL, acceptable person] : being personally acceptable or welcome

¹per·son·al \'pərs-nəl, -ᵊn-əl\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF, fr. LL *personalis*, fr. L *persona*] **1** : of, relating to, or affecting a person : PRIVATE ⟨done purely for ~ financial gain⟩ **2 a** : done in person without the intervention of another; *also* : proceeding from a single person **b** : carried on between individuals directly ⟨a ~ interview⟩ **3** : relating to the person or body **4** : relating to an individual or his character, conduct, motives, or private affairs often in an offensive manner ⟨a ~ insult⟩ **5 a** : being rational and self-conscious ⟨~, responsive government is still possible —John Fischer⟩ **b** : having the qualities of a person rather than a thing or abstraction ⟨a ~ devil⟩ **6** : of, relating to, or constituting personal property ⟨a ~ estate⟩ **7** : denoting grammatical person

²personal *n* **1** : a short newspaper paragraph relating to the activities of a person or a group or to personal matters **2** : a short personal or private communication in a special column of the classified ads section of a newspaper or periodical

personal effects *n pl* : privately owned items (as clothing and toilet articles) normally worn or carried on the person

personal equation *n* : variation (as in observation) occasioned by the personal peculiarities of an individual; *also* : a correction or allowance made for such variation

personal foul *n* : a foul in a game (as basketball) involving usu. physical contact with or deliberate roughing of an opponent — compare TECHNICAL FOUL

per·son·al·ism \'pərs-nə-ˌliz-əm, -ᵊn-ə-\ *n* : a doctrine emphasizing the significance, uniqueness, and inviolability of personality — **per·son·al·ist** \-ləst\ *n or adj* — **per·son·al·is·tic** \ˌpərs-nə-'lis-tik, -ᵊn-ə-\ *adj*

per·son·al·i·ty \ˌpərs-ᵊn-'al-ət-ē, ˌpər-'snal-\ *n, pl* **-ties** [ME *personalite*, fr. LL *personalitat-, personalitas*, fr. *personalis*] **1 a** : the quality or state of being a person **b** : personal existence **2 a** : the condition or fact of relating to a particular person; *specif* : the condition of referring directly to or being aimed disparagingly or hostilely at an individual **b** : an offensively personal remark ⟨indulgence in *personalities*⟩ **3 a** : the complex of characteristics that distinguishes an individual or a nation or group **b** (1) : the totality of an individual's behavioral and emotional tendencies (2) : the organization of the individual's distinguishing character traits, attitudes, or habits **4 a** : distinction or excellence of personal and social traits; *also* : a person having such quality **b** : a person of importance, prominence, renown, or notoriety ⟨a well-known stage ~⟩ ***syn*** see DISPOSITION

personality inventory *n* : any of several tests that attempt to characterize the personality of an individual by objective scoring of replies to a large number of questions concerning his own behavior — compare MINNESOTA MULTIPHASIC PERSONALITY INVENTORY

personality test *n* : any of several tests that consist of standardized tasks designed to determine various aspects of the personality or the emotional status of the individual examined

per·son·al·ize \'pərs-nə-ˌlīz, -ᵊn-ə-\ *vt* **-ized; -iz·ing** **1** : PERSONIFY **2** : to make personal or individual; *specif* : to mark as the property of a particular person ⟨*personalized* stationery⟩ — **per·son·al·i·za·tion** \ˌpərs-nə-lə-'zā-shən, -ᵊn-ə-\ *n*

per·son·al·ly \'pərs-nə-lē, -ᵊn-ə-\ *adv* **1** : in person ⟨attend to the matter ~⟩ **2** : as a person : in personality ⟨~ attractive but not very trustworthy⟩ **3** : for oneself : as far as oneself is concerned

personal pronoun *n* : a pronoun (as *I, you,* or *they*) that expresses a distinction of person

personal property *n* : property other than real property consisting of things temporary or movable : CHATTELS

personal shopper *n* : a person (as a store employee) who assists shoppers in choosing their purchases or who personally selects merchandise to fill telephone or mail orders
personal tax *n* : DIRECT TAX
per·son·al·ty \'pərs-nəl-tē, -ᵊn-əl-\ *n, pl* **-ties** [AF *personalté*, fr. LL *personalitat-, personalitas* personality] : PERSONAL PROPERTY
per·so·na non gra·ta \pər-ˌsō-nə-ˌnän-'grat-ə, -'grät-\ *adj* [NL, person not acceptable] : personally unacceptable or unwelcome
¹per·so·nate \'pərs-nət, -ᵊn-ət\ *adj* [L *personatus* masked, fr. *persona* mask] **1** *of a bilabiate corolla* : having the throat nearly closed by a palate **2** : having a personate bilabiate corolla ⟨a ~ flower⟩
²per·son·ate \'pərs-ᵊn-ˌāt\ *vt* **-at·ed; -at·ing** **1 a** : IMPERSONATE, REPRESENT **b** : to assume without authority and with fraudulent intent (some character or capacity) **2** : to invest with personality or personal characteristics ⟨*personating* their gods ridiculous, and themselves past shame —John Milton⟩ — **per·son·ation** \ˌpərs-ᵊn-'ā-shən\ *n* — **per·son·ative** \'pərs-ᵊn-ˌāt-iv\ *adj* — **per·son·a·tor** \-ˌāt-ər\ *n*
per·son·i·fi·ca·tion \pər-ˌsän-ə-fə-'kā-shən\ *n* **1** : attribution of personal qualities; *esp* : representation of a thing or abstraction as a person or by the human form **2** : a divinity or imaginary being representing a thing or abstraction **3** : EMBODIMENT, INCARNATION
per·son·i·fy \pər-'sän-ə-ˌfī\ *vt* **-fied; -fy·ing** **1** : to conceive of or represent as a person or as having human qualities or powers **2** : to be the embodiment or personification of : INCARNATE ⟨a man who *personified* kindness⟩ — **per·son·i·fi·er** \-ˌfī(-ə)r\ *n*
per·son·nel \ˌpərs-ᵊn-'el\ *n* [F, fr. G *personale, personal*, fr. ML *personale*, fr. LL, neut. of *personalis* personal] **1 a** : a body of persons usu. employed (as in a factory, office, or organization) **b** **personnel** *pl* : PERSONS **2** : a division of an organization concerned with personnel
¹per·spec·tive \pər-'spek-tiv\ *n* [ML *perspectivum*, fr. neut. of *perspectivus* of sight, optical, fr. L *perspectus*, pp. of *perspicere* to look through, see clearly, fr. *per-* through + *specere* to look — more at PER-, SPY] : an optical glass (as a telescope)
²perspective *adj* [ME, fr. ML *perspectivus*] **1** *obs* : aiding the vision ⟨his eyes should be like unto the wrong end of a ~ glass — Alexander Pope⟩ **2** : of, relating to, employing, or seen in perspective ⟨~ drawing⟩ — **per·spec·tive·ly** *adv*
³perspective *n* [MF, prob. modif. of OIt *prospettiva*, fr. *prospetto* view, prospect, fr. L *prospectus* — more at PROSPECT] **1 a** : the technique or process of representing on a plane or curved surface the spatial relation of objects as they might appear to the eye; *specif* : LINEAR PERSPECTIVE **b** : the technique of adjusting the apparent sources of sounds (as on a radio program) into a natural-seeming and integrated whole **2 a** : the interrelation in which a subject or its parts are mentally viewed : CONFIGURATION **b** : the capacity to view things in their true relations or relative importance ⟨by failing to maintain an historical ~ . . . they . . . fail to see the solution —Herbert Ratner⟩ **3 a** (1) : a visible scene; *esp* : one giving a distinctive impression of distance : VISTA (2) : a mental view or prospect **b** : a picture in linear perspective **4** : the appearance to the eye of objects in respect to their relative distance and positions
per·spi·ca·cious \ˌpər-spə-'kā-shəs\ *adj* [L *perspicac-, perspicax*, fr. *perspicere*] : of acute mental vision or discernment : KEEN ***syn*** see SHREWD ***ant*** dull — **per·spi·ca·cious·ly** *adv* — **per·spi·ca·cious·ness** *n* — **per·spi·cac·i·ty** \-'kas-ət-ē\ *n*
per·spic·u·ous \pər-'spik-yə-wəs\ *adj* [L *perspicuus* transparent, perspicuous, fr. *perspicere*] : plain to the understanding esp. because of clarity and precision of presentation ⟨a ~ argument⟩ ***syn*** see CLEAR — **per·spi·cu·ity** \ˌpər-spə-'kyü-ət-ē\ *n* — **per·spic·u·ous·ly** \pər-'spik-yə-wə-slē\ *adv* — **per·spic·u·ous·ness** *n*
per·spi·ra·tion \ˌpər-spə-'rā-shən\ *n* **1** : the action or process of perspiring **2** : a saline fluid secreted by the sweat glands : SWEAT
per·spi·ra·to·ry \pər-'spī-rə-ˌtōr-ē, 'pər-sp(ə-)rə-, -ˌtȯr-\ *adj* : of, relating to, secreting, or inducing perspiration
per·spire \pər-'spī(ə)r\ *vi* **per·spired; per·spir·ing** [F *perspirer*, fr. MF, fr. L *per-* through + *spirare* to blow, breathe — more at PER-, SPIRIT] : to emit matter through the skin; *specif* : to secrete and emit perspiration
per·suad·able \pər-'swād-ə-bəl\ *adj* : capable of being persuaded
per·suade \pər-'swād\ *vt* **per·suad·ed; per·suad·ing** [L *persuadēre*, fr. *per-* thoroughly + *suadēre* to advise, urge — more at SUASION] **1** : to move by argument, entreaty, or expostulation to a belief, position, or course of action **2** : to plead with : URGE **3** : to get with difficulty (as by coaxing) ⟨finally *persuaded* an answer out of him⟩ ***syn*** see INDUCE — **per·suad·er** *n*
per·sua·si·ble \-'swā-zə-bəl, -'swā-sə-\ *adj* [MF, fr. L *persuasibilis* persuasive, fr. *persuasus*] : PERSUADABLE
per·sua·sion \pər-'swā-zhən\ *n* [ME *persuasioun*, fr. MF or L; MF *persuasion*, fr. L *persuasion-, persuasio*, fr. *persuasus*, pp. of *persuadēre*] **1 a** : the act or process or an instance of persuading **b** : a persuading argument : INDUCEMENT **c** : the ability to persuade : PERSUASIVENESS **2** : the condition of being persuaded **3 a** : an opinion held with complete assurance ⟨despite your arguments I remain of the same ~ as before⟩ **b** : a system of religious beliefs; *also* : a group adhering to a particular system of beliefs **4** : KIND, SORT ***syn*** see OPINION
per·sua·sive \-'swā-siv, -ziv\ *adj* : tending to persuade — **per·sua·sive·ly** *adv* — **per·sua·sive·ness** *n*
¹pert \'pərt\ *adj* [ME, open, bold, pert, modif. of OF *apert*, fr. L *apertus* open, fr. pp. of *aperire* to open] **1 a** : saucily free and forward : flippantly cocky and assured **b** : being trim and chic : JAUNTY ⟨a ~ little hat⟩ **c** : piquantly stimulating ⟨is a ~ notion and one to fascinate the attention —G. J. Nathan⟩ **2** : LIVELY, VIVACIOUS ***syn*** see SAUCY — **pert·ly** *adv* — **pert·ness** *n*
²pert *abbr* pertaining
per·tain \pər-'tān\ *vi* [ME *perteinen*, fr. MF *partenir*, fr. L *pertinēre* to reach to, belong, fr. *per-* through + *tenēre* to hold] **1 a** (1) : to belong as a part, member, accessory, or product (2) : to belong as an attribute, feature, or function ⟨the destruction and havoc ~*ing* to war⟩ (3) : to belong as a duty or right ⟨responsibilities that ~ to fatherhood⟩ **b** : to be appropriate to something ⟨the criteria . . . will be different from those that ~ elsewhere —J. B. Conant⟩ **2** : to have reference ⟨books ~*ing* to birds⟩
per·ti·na·cious \ˌpərt-ᵊn-'ā-shəs\ *adj* [L *pertinac-, pertinax*, fr. *per-* thoroughly + *tenac-, tenax* tenacious, fr. *tenēre*] **1 a** : adhering resolutely to an opinion, purpose, or design **b** : perversely persistent **2** : stubbornly unyielding or tenacious ***syn*** see OBSTINATE — **per·ti·na·cious·ly** *adv* — **per·ti·na·cious·ness** *n* — **per·ti·nac·i·ty** \-'as-ət-ē\ *n*
per·ti·nence \'pərt-ᵊn-ən(t)s, 'pərt-nən(t)s\ *n* : the quality or state of being pertinent : RELEVANCE
per·ti·nen·cy \-ᵊn-ən-sē, -nən-sē\ *n* : PERTINENCE
per·ti·nent \'pərt-ᵊn-ənt, 'pərt-nənt\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *pertinent-, pertinens*, prp. of *pertinēre*] : having a clear decisive relevance to the matter in hand : highly significant ***syn*** see RELEVANT ***ant*** impertinent, foreign — **per·ti·nent·ly** *adv*
per·turb \pər-'tərb\ *vt* [ME *perturben*, fr. MF *perturber*, fr. L *perturbare* to throw into confusion, fr. *per-* + *turbare* to disturb — more at TURBID] **1** : to disturb greatly in mind : DISQUIET **2** : to throw into confusion : DISORDER **3** : to cause (a celestial body) to deviate from a theoretically regular orbital motion ***syn*** see DISCOMPOSE — **per·turb·able** \-'tər-bə-bəl\ *adj*
per·tur·ba·tion \ˌpərt-ər-'bā-shən, ˌpər-ˌtər-\ *n* **1** : the action of perturbing : the state of being perturbed **2** : a disturbance of the regular and usu. elliptic course of motion of a celestial body that is produced by some force additional to that which causes its regular motion — **per·tur·ba·tion·al** \-shnəl, -shən-ᵊl\ *adj*
per·tus·sis \pər-'təs-əs\ *n* [NL, fr. L *per-* thoroughly + *tussis* cough] : WHOOPING COUGH
Peru balsam *n* : BALSAM OF PERU
pe·ruke \pə-'rük\ *n* [MF *perruque*, fr. OIt *parrucca, perrucca* hair, wig] : WIG; *specif* : one of a type popular from the 17th to the early 19th century


peruke

pe·ruse \pə-'rüz\ *vt* **pe·rused; pe·rus·ing** [ME *perusen*, prob. fr. L *per-* thoroughly + ME *usen* to use] **1** : to examine or consider with attention and in detail : STUDY **2** : READ — **pe·rus·al** \-'rü-zəl\ *n* — **pe·rus·er** *n*
Pe·ru·vi·an bark \pə-ˌrü-vē-ən-\ *n* [NL *Peruvia* Peru, country of So. America, fr. Sp *Perú*] : CINCHONA 2
per·vade \pər-'vād\ *vt* **per·vad·ed; per·vad·ing** [L *pervadere* to go through, pervade, fr. *per-* through + *vadere* to go — more at PER-, WADE] : to become diffused throughout every part of — **per·va·sion** \-'vā-zhən\ *n* — **per·va·sive** \-'vā-siv, -ziv\ *adj* — **per·va·sive·ly** *adv* — **per·va·sive·ness** *n*
per·verse \(ˌ)pər-'vərs, 'pər-ˌ\ *adj* [ME, fr. L *perversus*, fr. pp. of *pervertere*] **1 a** : turned away from what is right or good : CORRUPT **b** : INCORRECT, IMPROPER **c** : contrary to the evidence or the direction of the judge on a point of law ⟨~ verdict⟩ **2 a** : obstinate in opposing what is right, reasonable, or accepted : WRONGHEADED **b** : arising from or indicative of stubbornness or obstinacy **3** : marked by peevishness or petulance : CRANKY ***syn*** see CONTRARY — **per·verse·ly** *adv* — **per·verse·ness** *n* — **per·ver·si·ty** \pər-'vər-sət-ē, -stē\ *n*
per·ver·sion \pər-'vər-zhən, -shən\ *n* **1** : the action of perverting : the condition of being perverted **2** : a perverted form; *esp* : an aberrant sexual practice esp. when habitual and preferred to normal coitus
per·ver·sive \-'vər-siv, -ziv\ *adj* **1** : that perverts or tends to pervert **2** : arising from or indicative of perversion
¹per·vert \pər-'vərt\ *vt* [ME *perverten*, fr. MF *pervertir*, fr. L *pervertere* to overturn, corrupt, pervert, fr. *per-* thoroughly + *vertere* to turn — more at PER-, WORTH] **1 a** : to cause to turn aside or away from what is good or true or morally right : CORRUPT **b** : to cause to turn aside or away from what is generally done or accepted : MISDIRECT **2 a** : to divert to a wrong end or purpose : MISUSE **b** : to twist the meaning or sense of : MISINTERPRET ***syn*** see DEBASE — **per·vert·er** *n*
²per·vert \'pər-ˌvərt\ *n* : one that has been perverted; *specif* : one given to some form of sexual perversion
per·vert·ed \pər-'vərt-əd\ *adj* **1** : CORRUPT **2** : marked by perversion — **per·vert·ed·ly** *adv* — **per·vert·ed·ness** *n*
per·vi·ous \'pər-vē-əs\ *adj* [L *pervius*, fr. *per-* through + *via* way — more at PER, VIA] **1** : ACCESSIBLE ⟨~ to reason⟩ **2** : PERMEABLE ⟨~ soil⟩ — **per·vi·ous·ness** *n*
pes \'pēz\ *n, pl* **pe·des** \'pēd-(ˌ)ēz, 'ped-\ [NL *ped-, pes*, fr. L, foot — more at FOOT] : the distal segment of the hind limb of a vertebrate including the tarsus and foot
Pe·sach \'pā-ˌsäk̲\ *n* [Heb *pesaḥ*] : PASSOVER
pe·se·ta \pə-'sāt-ə\ *n* [Sp, fr. dim. of *peso*] — see MONEY table
pe·se·wa \pə-'sā-wə\ *n* [native name in Ghana] — see *cedi* at MONEY table
pes·ky \'pes-kē\ *adj* **pes·ki·er; -est** [prob. irreg. fr. *pest* + *-y*] : TROUBLESOME, VEXATIOUS
pe·so \'pā-(ˌ)sō, 'pes-(ˌ)ō\ *n, pl* **pesos** [Sp, lit., weight, fr. L *pensum* — more at POISE] **1** : an old silver coin of Spain and Spanish America equal to eight reals **2** — see MONEY table **3** : the former basic monetary unit of Chile replaced in 1960 by the escudo
pes·sa·ry \'pes-ə-rē\ *n, pl* **-ries** [ME *pessarie*, fr. LL *pessarium*, fr. *pessus, pessum* pessary, fr. Gk *pessos* oval stone for playing check-

ers, pessary] **1** : a vaginal suppository **2** : a device worn in the vagina to support the uterus, remedy a malposition, or prevent conception

pes·si·mism \'pəs-ə-ˌmiz-əm *also* 'pez-\ *n* [F *pessimisme*, fr. L *pessimus* worst — more at PEJORATIVE] **1** : an inclination to emphasize adverse aspects, conditions, and possibilities or to expect the worst possible outcome **2 a** : the doctrine that reality is essentially evil **b** : the doctrine that evil overbalances happiness in life — **pes·si·mist** \-məst\ *n*

pes·si·mis·tic \ˌpes-ə-'mis-tik *also* ˌpez-\ *adj* : of, relating to, or characterized by pessimism : GLOOMY ***syn*** see CYNICAL ***ant*** optimistic — **pes·si·mis·ti·cal·ly** \-ti-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

pest \'pest\ *n* [MF *peste*, fr. L *pestis*] **1** : an epidemic disease associated with high mortality; *specif* : PLAGUE **2** : something resembling a pest in destructiveness; *esp* : a plant or animal detrimental to man **3** : one that pesters or annoys : NUISANCE

pes·ter \'pes-tər\ *vt* **pes·tered; pes·ter·ing** \-t(ə-)riŋ\ [modif. of MF *empestrer* to hobble, embarrass, fr. (assumed) VL *impastoriare*, fr. L *in-* + (assumed) VL *pastoria* hobble, fr. L *pastor* herdsman — more at PASTOR] **1** *obs* : OVERCROWD **2** : to harass with petty irritations : ANNOY ***syn*** see WORRY

pest·hole \'pest-ˌhōl\ *n* : a place liable to epidemic disease

pest·house \-ˌhau̇s\ *n* : a shelter or hospital for those infected with a pestilential or contagious disease

pes·ti·cide \'pes-tə-ˌsīd\ *n* : an agent used to destroy pests

pes·tif·er·ous \pes-'tif-(ə-)rəs\ *adj* [ME, fr. L *pestifer* pestilential, noxious, fr. *pestis* + *-fer* -ferous] **1** : dangerous to society : PERNICIOUS **2 a** : carrying or propagating infection : PESTILENTIAL **b** : infected with a pestilential disease **3** : TROUBLESOME, ANNOYING — **pes·tif·er·ous·ly** *adv* — **pes·tif·er·ous·ness** *n*

pes·ti·lence \'pes-tə-lən(t)s\ *n* **1** : a contagious or infectious epidemic disease that is virulent and devastating; *specif* : BUBONIC PLAGUE **2** : something that is destructive or pernicious ⟨I'll pour this ~ into his ear —Shak.⟩

pes·ti·lent \-lənt\ *adj* [ME, fr. L *pestilent-*, *pestilens* pestilential, fr. *pestis*] **1** : destructive of life : DEADLY **2** : injuring or endangering society : PERNICIOUS **3** : causing displeasure or annoyance **4** : INFECTIOUS, CONTAGIOUS ⟨~ disease⟩ — **pes·ti·lent·ly** *adv*

pes·ti·len·tial \ˌpes-tə-'len-chəl\ *adj* **1 a** : causing or tending to cause pestilence : DEADLY **b** : of or relating to pestilence **2** : morally harmful : PERNICIOUS **3** : giving rise to vexation or annoyance : IRRITATING — **pes·ti·len·tial·ly** \-'lench-(ə-)lē\ *adv*

¹pes·tle \'pes-əl *also* 'pes-tᵊl\ *n* [ME *pestel*, fr. MF, fr. L *pistillum*; akin to MLG *vīsel* pestle, L *pilum* pestle, javelin, *pinsere* to pound, crush] **1** : a usu. club-shaped implement for pounding or grinding substances in a mortar **2** : any of various devices for pounding, stamping, or pressing

²pestle *vb* **pes·tled; pes·tling** \'pes-(ə-)liŋ *also* 'pes-t(ə-)liŋ\ *vt* : to beat, pound, or pulverize with or as if with a pestle ~ *vi* : to work with a pestle : use a pestle

¹pet \'pet\ *n* [perh. back-formation fr. ME *pety* small — more at PETTY] **1** : a domesticated animal kept for pleasure rather than utility **2 a** : a pampered and usu. spoiled child **b** : a person who is treated with unusual kindness or consideration : DARLING

²pet *adj* **1** : kept or treated as a pet **2** : expressing fondness or endearment ⟨a ~ name⟩ **3** : FAVORITE ⟨his ~ project⟩

³pet *vb* **pet·ted; pet·ting** *vt* **1 a** : to treat as a pet **b** : to stroke in a gentle or loving manner **2** : to treat with unusual kindness and consideration : PAMPER ~ *vi* : to engage in amorous embracing, caressing, and kissing : NECK ***syn*** see CARESS — **pet·ter** *n*

⁴pet *n* [origin unknown] : a fit of peevishness, sulkiness, or anger

⁵pet *vi* **pet·ted; pet·ting** : to take offense : SULK

⁶pet *abbr* petroleum

Pet *abbr* Peter

pet·al \'pet-ᵊl\ *n* [NL *petalum*, fr. Gk *petalon*; akin to Gk *petannynai* to spread out — more at FATHOM] : one of the modified leaves of a corolla of a flower — see FLOWER illustration — **pet·aled** *or* **pet·alled** \-ᵊld\ *adj* — **pet·al·like** \-ᵊl-ˌ(l)īk\ *adj*

pet·al·oid \'pet-ᵊl-ˌȯid\ *adj* **1** : resembling a flower petal **2** : consisting of petaloid elements

pet·al·ous \'pet-ᵊl-əs\ *adj* **1** : having petals **2** : having (such or so many) petals — used in combination ⟨poly*petalous*⟩

pe·tard \pə-'tär(d)\ *n* [MF, fr. *peter* to break wind, fr. *pet* expulsion of intestinal gas, fr. L *peditum*, fr. neut. of *peditus*, pp. of *pedere* to break wind; akin to Gk *bdein* to break wind] **1** : a case containing an explosive to break down a door or gate or breach a wall **2** : a firework that explodes with a loud report

pet·a·sos *or* **pet·a·sus** \'pet-ə-səs\ *n* [L & Gk; L *petasus*, fr. Gk *petasos*; akin to Gk *petannynai* to spread out] : a broad-brimmed low-crowned hat worn by ancient Greeks and Romans; *esp* : the winged hat of Hermes



petasos

pet·cock \'pet-ˌkäk\ *n* [*pet-* (perh. fr. *petty*) + *cock*] : a small cock, faucet, or valve for letting out air, releasing compression, or draining

pe·te·chia \pə-'tē-kē-ə\ *n, pl* **-chi·ae** \-kē-ˌī\ [NL, fr. It *petecchia*, deriv. of L *impetigo*] : a minute hemorrhagic or purpuric spot that appears in skin or mucous membrane esp. in some infectious diseases — **pe·te·chi·al** \-kē-əl\ *adj* — **pe·te·chi·ate** \-kē-ət, -ˌāt\ *adj*

¹pe·ter \'pēt-ər\ *n* [fr. the name *Peter*] : PENIS — often considered vulgar

²peter *vi* [origin unknown] **1** : to diminish gradually and come to an end : give out — usu. used with *out* ⟨novelists whose creative impetus seems largely to have ~*ed* out —*Times Lit. Supp.*⟩ **2** : to become exhausted — usu. used with *out*

Pe·ter \'pēt-ər\ *n* [LL *Petrus*, fr. Gk *Petros*, fr. *petra* rock] **1** : a fisherman of Galilee and one of the twelve apostles **2** : either of two hortatory letters written to early Christians and included as books of the New Testament — see BIBLE table

Peter Pan \-'pan\ *n* : a boy in Sir James Barrie's play *Peter Pan* who lives without growing older in a never-never land

Peter Pan collar *n* : a usu. small flat close-fitting collar with rounded ends that meet in front

pe·ter·sham \'pēt-ər-ˌsham, -shəm\ *n* [Charles Stanhope, Lord *Petersham* †1851 E colonel] **1** : a rough nubby woolen cloth used chiefly for men's coats; *also* : a coat made of this material **2** : a heavy corded ribbon used for belts and hatbands

Peter's pence *n pl but sing in constr* [fr. the tradition that St. Peter founded the papal see] **1** : an annual tribute of a penny formerly paid by each householder in England to the papal see **2** : a voluntary annual contribution made by Roman Catholics to the pope

pet·i·o·lar \ˌpet-ē-'ō-lər\ *adj* : of, relating to, or proceeding from a petiole

pet·i·o·late \'pet-ē-ə-ˌlāt, ˌpet-ē-'ō-lət\ *also* **pet·i·o·lat·ed** \'pet-ē-ō-ˌlāt-əd\ *adj* : having a stalk or petiole

pet·i·ole \'pet-ē-ˌōl\ *n* [NL *petiolus*, fr. L, small foot, fruit stalk, alter. of *pediculus*, dim. of *ped-*, *pes* foot — more at FOOT] **1** : a slender stem that supports the blade of a foliage leaf **2** : PEDUNCLE; *specif* : a slender abdominal segment joining the rest of the abdomen to the thorax in some insects — **pet·i·oled** \-ˌōld\ *adj*

pet·i·o·lule \'pet-ē-ō-ˌlül, ˌpet-ē-'ōl-(ˌ)yü(ə)l\ *n* [NL *petiolulus*, dim. of *petiolus*] : a stalk of a leaflet of a compound leaf

pet·it \'pet-ē\ *adj* [ME, small, minor, fr. MF, small] : PETTY 1 — used chiefly in legal compounds

pe·tit bourgeois \pə-'tē-, ˌpet-ē-\ *n* [F, lit., small bourgeois] **1** : a member of the petite bourgeoisie **2** : PETITE BOURGEOISIE — **petit bourgeois** *adj*

¹pe·tite \pə-'tēt\ *adj* [F, fem. of *petit*] : having a small trim figure — usu. used of a woman ***syn*** see SMALL — **pe·tite·ness** *n*

²petite *n* : a clothing size for short women

pe·tite bourgeoisie \pə-ˌtēt-\ *n* [F, lit., small bourgeoisie] : the lower middle class including esp. small shopkeepers and artisans

pe·tit four \ˌpet-ē-'fō(ə)r, pə-ˌtē-, -'fȯ(ə)r; -'fu̇(ə)r\ *n, pl* **petits fours** *or* **petit fours** \-'fō(ə)rz, -'fȯ(ə)rz, -'fu̇(ə)r(z)\ [F, lit., small oven] : a small cake cut from pound or sponge cake and frosted

¹pe·ti·tion \pə-'tish-ən\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *petition-*, *petitio*, fr. *petitus*, pp. of *petere* to seek, request — more at FEATHER] **1** : an earnest request : ENTREATY **2 a** : a formal written request made to a superior **b** : a document embodying such a formal written request **3** : something asked or requested — **pe·ti·tion·ary** \-'tish-ə-ˌner-ē\ *adj*

²petition *vb* **pe·ti·tioned; pe·ti·tion·ing** \-'tish-(ə-)niŋ\ *vt* : to make a request to or for : SOLICIT ~ *vi* : to make a request; *esp* : to make a formal written request — **pe·ti·tion·er** \-(ə-)nər\ *n*

pe·ti·tio prin·ci·pii \pə-'tēt-ē-ˌō-(ˌ)priŋ-'kip-ē-ˌē\ *n* [ML, lit., postulation of the beginning, begging the question] : a logical fallacy in which a premise is assumed to be true without warrant or in which what is to be proved is implicitly taken for granted

pet·it jury \'pet-ē-\ *n* : a jury of 12 persons impaneled to try and to decide finally upon the facts at issue in causes for trial in a court

petit larceny *n* : larceny involving property of a value below a legally established minimum

pe·tit–maî·tre \pə-ˌtē-'mātrᵊ\ *n, pl* **petits–maîtres** *same*\ [F, lit., small master] : DANDY, FOP

pe·tit mal \'pet-ē-ˌmal, -ˌmäl\ *n* [F, lit., small illness] : epilepsy characterized by mild convulsive seizure with transient clouding of consciousness

pet·it point \'pet-ē-ˌpȯint\ *n* [F, lit., small point] : TENT STITCH; *also* : embroidery made with this stitch

pet·nap·ping \'pet-ˌnap-iŋ\ *n* [*pet* + *-napping* (as in *kidnapping*)] : the act of stealing a pet (as a cat or dog) usu. for profit

petr- *or* **petri-** *or* **petro-** *comb form* [NL, fr. Gk *petr-*, *petro-*, fr. *petros* stone & *petra* rock] : stone : rock ⟨*petr*ology⟩

Pe·trar·chan sonnet \pi-ˌträr-kən-, ˌpē-, (ˌ)pe-\ *n* [*Petrarch* (Francesco Petrarca)] : ITALIAN SONNET

pe·trel \'pe-trəl, 'pē-\ *n* [alter. of earlier *pitteral*] : any of numerous sea birds (families Procellariidae and Hydrobatidae); *esp* : one of the smaller long-winged birds that fly far from land — compare STORM PETREL

pe·tri dish \ˌpē-trē-\ *n* [Julius R. *Petri* †1921 G bacteriologist] : a small shallow dish of thin glass with a loose cover used esp. for cultures in bacteriology

pet·ri·fac·tion \ˌpe-trə-'fak-shən\ *n* **1** : the process of petrifying **2** : something petrified **3** : the quality or state of being petrified

pet·ri·fi·ca·tion \ˌpe-trə-fə-'kā-shən\ *n* : PETRIFACTION

pet·ri·fy \'pe-trə-ˌfī\ *vb* **-fied; -fy·ing** [MF *petrifier*, fr. *petr-* + *-ifier* -ify] *vt* **1** : to convert into stone or a stony substance **2** : to make rigid or inert like stone: **a** : to make lifeless or inactive : DEADEN ⟨slogans are apt to ~ a man's thinking —*Saturday Rev.*⟩ **b** : to confound with fear, amazement, or awe : PARALYZE ⟨is *petrified* of talking in public —Alan Frank⟩ ~ *vi* : to become stone or of stony hardness or rigidity

Pe·trine \'pē-ˌtrīn\ *adj* [LL *Petrus* Peter] **1** : of, relating to, or characteristic of the apostle Peter or the doctrines associated with his name **2** : of, relating to, or characteristic of Peter the Great or his reign

pet·ro·chem·i·cal \ˌpe-trō-'kem-i-kəl\ *n* [*petro*leum + *chemical*] : a chemical isolated or derived from petroleum or natural gas — **pet·ro·chem·is·try** \-'kem-ə-strē\ *n*

pet·ro·gen·e·sis \-'jen-ə-səs\ *n* [NL] : the origin or formation of rocks — **pet·ro·ge·net·ic** \-jə-'net-ik\ *adj*

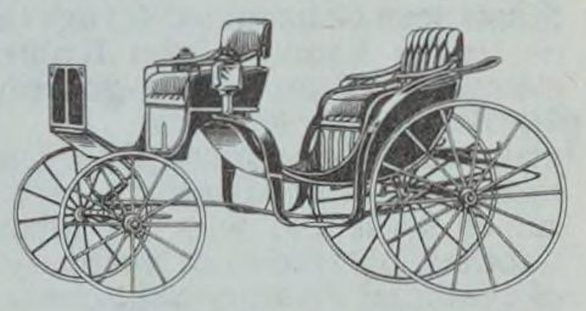
pet·ro·glyph \'pe-trə-ˌglif\ *n* [F *pétroglyphe*, fr. *pétr-* petr- + *-glyphe* (as in *hiéroglyphe* hieroglyph)] : a carving or inscription on a rock

pe·trog·ra·phy \pə-'träg-rə-fē, pe-\ *n* [NL *petrographia*, fr. *petr-* + L *-graphia* -graphy] : the description and systematic classification of rocks — **pe·trog·ra·pher** \-fər\ *n* — **pet·ro·graph·ic** \ˌpe-trə-'graf-ik\ *or* **pet·ro·graph·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj* — **pet·ro·graph·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

pet·rol \'pe-trəl, -ˌträl\ *n* [F *essence de pétrole*, lit., essence of petroleum] *chiefly Brit* : GASOLINE

pet·ro·la·tum \ˌpe-trə-'lāt-əm, -'lät-\ *n* [NL, fr. ML *petroleum*] : a neutral unctuous odorless tasteless substance obtained from petroleum and used esp. in ointments and dressings

pe·tro·leum \pə-'trō-lē-əm, -'trōl-yəm\ *n* [ML, fr. L *petr-* + *oleum* oil — more at OIL] : an oily flammable bituminous liquid that may vary from almost colorless to black, occurs in many places in the upper strata of the earth, is a complex mixture of hydrocarbons with small amounts of other substances, and is prepared for use as gasoline, naphtha, or other products by various refining processes
petroleum jelly *n* : PETROLATUM
pe·trol·o·gy \pə-'träl-ə-jē, pe-\ *n* [ISV] : a science that deals with the origin, history, occurrence, structure, chemical composition, and classification of rocks — **pet·ro·log·ic** \ˌpe-trə-'läj-ik\ *or* **pet·ro·log·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj* — **pet·ro·log·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **pe·trol·o·gist** \pə-'träl-ə-jəst, pe-\ *n*
pet·ro·nel \ˌpe-trə-'nel\ *n* [perh. modif. of MF *poitrinal, petrinal,* fr. *poitrinal* of the chest, fr. *poitrine* chest] : a portable firearm resembling a carbine of large caliber
pe·tro·sal \pə-'trō-səl\ *adj* [NL *petrosa* petrous portion of the temporal bone, fr. L, fem. of *petrosus*] : HARD, STONY; *specif* : of, relating to, or situated in the region of the petrous portion of the temporal bone or capsule of the internal ear
pe·trous \'pe-trəs, 'pē-\ *adj* [MF *petreux,* fr. L *petrosus,* fr. *petra* rock, fr. Gk] : resembling stone esp. in hardness : ROCKY; *specif* : of, relating to, or constituting the exceptionally hard and dense portion of the temporal bone of man that contains the internal auditory organs
[1]pet·ti·coat \'pet-ē-ˌkōt\ *n* [ME *petycote* short tunic, petticoat, fr. *pety* small + *cote* coat] **1** : a skirt worn by women, girls, or young children: as **a** : an outer skirt formerly worn by women and small children **b** : a fancy skirt made to show below a draped-up overskirt **c** : an underskirt usu. a little shorter than outer clothing and often made with a ruffled, pleated, or lace edge **d** *archaic* : the skirt of a woman's riding habit **2 a** : a garment characteristic or typical of women **b** : WOMAN ⟨a little nervous lest ~*s* in a government office might demoralize the male staff —Langston Day⟩ **3** : something (as a valance) resembling a petticoat — **pet·ti·coat·ed** \-əd\ *adj*
[2]petticoat *adj* : of, relating to, or exercised by women : FEMALE ⟨~ government⟩
pet·ti·fog \'pet-ē-ˌfȯg, -ˌfäg\ *vi* **-fogged; -fog·ging** [back-formation fr. *pettifogger*] **1** : to engage in legal chicanery **2** : to quibble over insignificant details : CAVIL, BICKER
pet·ti·fog·ger \-ˌfȯg-ər, -ˌfäg-\ *n* [prob. fr. *petty* + obs. E *fogger* (pettifogger)] **1** : a lawyer whose methods are petty, underhanded, or disreputable : SHYSTER **2** : one given to quibbling over insignificant details
pet·ti·fog·gery \-(ə-)rē\ *n, pl* **-ger·ies** : the practice of a pettifogger : CHICANERY
pet·ti·ness \'pet-ē-nəs\ *n* **1** : the quality or state of being petty **2** : something petty : TRIVIALITY
pet·tish \'pet-ish\ *adj* [prob. fr. [4]*pet*] : FRETFUL, PEEVISH — **pet·tish·ly** *adv* — **pet·tish·ness** *n*
pet·ti·skirt \-ē-ˌskərt\ *n* [*petti*coat + *skirt*] : PETTICOAT 1c
pet·ti·toes \'pet-ē-ˌtōz\ *n pl* [pl. of obs. *pettytoe* (offal)] **1** : the feet of a pig used as food **2** : TOES, FEET
pet·ty \'pet-ē\ *adj* **pet·ti·er; -est** [ME *pety* small, minor, alter. of *petit*] **1** : having secondary rank or importance : MINOR, SUBORDINATE **2** : having little or no importance or significance **3** : marked by or reflective of narrow interests and sympathies : SMALL-MINDED — **pet·ti·ly** \'pet-ᵊl-ē\ *adv*
petty cash *n* : cash kept on hand for payment of minor items
petty larceny *n* : PETIT LARCENY
petty officer *n* : a subordinate officer in the navy or coast guard appointed from among the enlisted men — compare NONCOMMISSIONED OFFICER
petty officer first class *n* : an enlisted man in the navy or coast guard ranking above a petty officer second class and below a chief petty officer
petty officer second class *n* : an enlisted man in the navy or coast guard ranking above a petty officer third class and below a petty officer first class
petty officer third class *n* : an enlisted man in the navy or coast guard ranking above a seaman and below a petty officer second class
pet·u·lance \'pech-ə-lən(t)s\ *n* : the quality or state of being petulant : PEEVISHNESS
pet·u·lan·cy \-lən-sē\ *n, archaic* : PETULANCE
pet·u·lant \-lənt\ *adj* [L or MF; MF, fr. L *petulant-, petulans;* akin to L *petere* to go to, attack, seek — more at FEATHER] **1** : insolent or rude in speech or behavior **2** : characterized by temporary or capricious ill humor : PEEVISH — **pet·u·lant·ly** *adv*
pe·tu·nia \pi-'t(y)ün-yə\ *n* [NL, genus name, fr. obs. F *petun* tobacco, fr. Tupi *petyn*] : any of a genus (*Petunia*) of tropical American herbs of the nightshade family with funnel-shaped corollas
pew \'pyü\ *n* [ME *pewe,* fr. MF *puie* balustrade, fr. L *podia,* pl. of *podium* parapet, podium, fr. Gk *podion* base, dim. of *pod-, pous* foot — more at FOOT] **1** : a compartment in the auditorium of a church providing seats for several persons **2** : one of the benches with backs and sometimes doors fixed in rows in a church
pe·wee \'pē-(ˌ)wē\ *n* [imit.] : any of various small olivaceous flycatchers
pew·hold·er \'pyü-ˌhōl-dər\ *n* : a renter or owner of a church pew
pe·wit *var of* PEEWIT
pew·ter \'pyüt-ər\ *n* [ME, fr. MF *peutre;* akin to It *peltro* pewter] **1** : any of various alloys having tin as chief component; *esp* : a dull alloy with lead formerly used for domestic utensils **2** : utensils of pewter — **pewter** *adj*
pew·ter·er \'pyüt-ər-ər\ *n* : one that makes pewter utensils or vessels
pey·o·te \pā-'ōt-ē\ *or* **pey·otl** \-'ōt-ᵊl\ *n* [MexSp *peyote,* fr. Nahuatl *peyotl*] **1** : any of several American cacti (genus *Lophophora*); *esp* : MESCAL **2** : a stimulant drug derived from mescal buttons
pf *abbr* **1** pfennig **2** picofarad **3** preferred
PF *abbr* **1** power factor **2** pianoforte **3** [It *più forte*] louder
PFC *abbr* private first class
pfd *abbr* preferred
pfen·nig \'fen-ig, -ik, *G* '(p)fen-ik\ *n, pl* **pfen·nigs** \'fen-igz, -iks\ *or* **pfen·ni·ge** \'(p)fen-i-gə, -i-yə\ [G, fr. OHG *pfenning* — more at PENNY] — see *deutsche mark, mark* at MONEY table
pg *abbr* page
[1]PG \'pē-'jē\ *adj* [abbr. for *parental guidance*] *of a motion picture* : of such a nature that all ages may be allowed admission but parental guidance is suggested — compare G, R, X
[2]PG *abbr* **1** paying guest **2** postgraduate
PGA *abbr* Professional Golfers' Association
ph *abbr* phase
pH \(')pē-'āch\ *n* : the negative logarithm of the effective hydrogen-ion concentration or hydrogen-ion activity in gram equivalents per liter used in expressing both acidity and alkalinity on a scale whose values run from 0 to 14 with 7 representing neutrality, numbers less than 7 increasing acidity, and numbers greater than 7 increasing alkalinity; *also* : the condition represented by such a number
PH *abbr* **1** pinch hit **2** public health **3** Purple Heart
PHA *abbr* Public Housing Administration
Phae·dra \'fē-drə\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *Phaidra*] : a daughter of Minos who marries Theseus and falls in love with her stepson Hippolytus
Pha·ë·thon \'fā-ə-ˌthän\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *Phaethōn*] : a son of Helios who drives his father's sun-chariot through the sky but loses control and is struck down by a thunderbolt of Zeus
pha·eton \'fā-ət-ᵊn\ *n* [*Phaëthon*] **1** : any of various light four-wheeled horse-drawn vehicles **2** : TOURING CAR



phaeton 1

phage \'fāj *also* 'fäzh\ *n* [by shortening] : BACTERIOPHAGE
-phage \ˌfāj *also* ˌfäzh\ *n comb form* [Gk *-phagos,* fr. *-phagos* -phagous] : one that eats ⟨bacterio*phage*⟩
-pha·gia \'fā-j(ē-)ə\ *n comb form* [NL, fr. Gk] : -PHAGY ⟨dys*phagia*⟩
phago·cyte \'fag-ə-ˌsīt\ *n* [ISV, fr. Gk *phagein* + NL *-cyta* -cyte] : a cell (as a leukocyte) that characteristically engulfs foreign material and consumes debris and foreign bodies — **phago·cyt·ic** \ˌfag-ə-'sit-ik\ *adj*
phago·cy·tize \'fag-ə-sə-ˌtīz, -ˌsīt-ˌīz\ *vt* **-tized; -tiz·ing** : PHAGOCYTOSE
phago·cy·tose \-sə-ˌtōs, -sī-, -tōz\ *vt* **-tosed; -tos·ing** [back-formation fr. *phagocytosis*] : to consume by phagocytosis
phago·cy·to·sis \ˌfag-ə-sə-'tō-səs, -sī-\ *n, pl* **-to·ses** \-ˌsēz\ [NL] : the engulfing and usu. destruction of particulate matter by phagocytes — **phago·cy·tot·ic** \-'tät-ik\ *adj*
phago·some \'fag-ə-ˌsōm\ *n* [Gk *phagein* + E *-o-* + *-some*] : a membrane-surrounded vesicle that encloses materials taken into the cell by endocytosis
-ph·a·gous \f-ə-gəs\ *adj comb form* [Gk *-phagos,* fr. *phagein* to eat — more at BAKSHEESH] : eating ⟨sapro*phagous*⟩
Pha·gun \'päg-ùn\ *n* [Hindi *phāgun,* fr. Skt *phālguna*] : a month of the Hindu year — see MONTH table
-ph·a·gy \f-ə-jē\ *n comb form* [Gk *-phagia,* fr. *phagein*] : eating of a (specified) type or substance ⟨geo*phagy*⟩
pha·lange \'fā-ˌlanj, fə-', fā-'\ *n* [F, fr. Gk *phalang-, phalanx*] : PHALANX 2
pha·lan·ge·al \ˌfā-lən-'jē-əl, ˌfal-ən-; fə-'lan-jē-, fā-\ *adj* : of or relating to a phalanx or the phalanges
pha·lan·ger \fə-'lan-jər, 'fā-ˌ\ *n* [NL, fr. Gk *phalang-, phalanx*] : any of various marsupial mammals (family Phalangeridae) of the Australian region ranging in size from a mouse to a large cat
phal·an·stery \'fal-ən-ˌster-ē\ *n, pl* **-ster·ies** [F *phalanstère* dwelling of a Fourierist community, fr. L *phalang-, phalanx* + *-stère* (as in *monastère* monastery)] **1 a** : a Fourierist cooperative community **b** : a self-contained structure housing such a community **2** : something resembling a Fourierist phalanstery
pha·lanx \'fā-ˌlaŋ(k)s, *Brit usu* 'fal-ˌaŋ(k)s\ *n, pl* **pha·lanx·es** *or* **pha·lan·ges** \fə-'lan-(ˌ)jēz, fā-\ [L *phalang-, phalanx,* fr. Gk, battle line, digital bone, lit., log — more at BALK] **1** : a body of heavily armed infantry in ancient Greece formed in close deep ranks and files; *broadly* : a body of troops in close array **2** *pl phalanges* : one of the digital bones of the hand or foot of a vertebrate **3** *pl usu phalanxes* **a** : a massed arrangement of persons, animals, or things **b** : an organized body of persons
phal·a·rope \'fal-ə-ˌrōp\ *n, pl* **phalaropes** *also* **phalarope** [F, fr. NL *phalaropod-, phalaropus,* fr. Gk *phalaris* coot + *pod-, pous* foot; akin to Gk *phalios* having a white spot — more at BALD, FOOT] : any of various small shorebirds (family Phalaropodidae) that resemble sandpipers but have lobate toes and are good swimmers
phal·lic \'fal-ik\ *adj* **1** : of or relating to phallicism ⟨a ~ cult⟩ **2** : of, relating to, or resembling a phallus **3** : relating to or being the stage of psychosexual development in psychoanalytic theory during which a child becomes interested in his own sexual organs — **phal·li·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
phal·li·cism \'fal-ə-ˌsiz-əm\ *n* : the worship of the generative principle as symbolized by the phallus
phal·lus \'fal-əs\ *n, pl* **phal·li** \'fal-ˌī, -ˌē\ *or* **phal·lus·es** [L, fr. Gk *phallos* penis, representation of the penis — more at BLOW] **1** : a symbol or representation of the penis **2** : PENIS
-phane \ˌfān\ *n comb form* [Gk *phanēs* appearing, fr. *phainein* to show — more at FANCY] : substance having a (specified) form, quality, or appearance ⟨hydro*phane*⟩
pha·nero·gam \'fan-ə-rə-ˌgam, fə-'ner-ə-\ *n* [F *phanérogame,* deriv. of Gk *phaneros* visible (fr. *phainein*) + *gamos* marriage — more at

BIGAMY] : a seed plant or flowering plant : SPERMATOPHYTE — **pha·nero·gam·ic** \ˌfan-ə-rə-ˈgam-ik, fə-ˌner-ə-\ *adj* — **phan·er·og·a·mous** \ˌfan-ə-ˈräg-ə-məs\ *adj*

pha·nero·phyte \ˈfan-ə-rə-ˌfīt, fə-ˈner-ə-\ *n* [Gk *phaneros* + ISV *-phyte*] : a perennial plant that bears its overwintering buds well above the surface of the ground

Pha·nero·zo·ic \ˌfan-ə-rə-ˈzō-ik, fə-ˌner-ə-\ *adj* [Gk *phaneros* + E ²*-zoic*] : of, relating to, or being a period of geologic time that comprises the Paleozoic, Mesozoic, and Cenozoic

phan·tasm \ˈfan-ˌtaz-əm\ *n* [ME *fantasme*, fr. OF, fr. L *phantasma*, fr. Gk, fr. *phantazein* to present to the mind — more at FANCY] **1** : a product of phantasy: as **a** : delusive appearance : ILLUSION **b** : GHOST, SPECTER **c** : a figment of the imagination : FANTASY **2** : a mental representation of a real object **3** : a deceptive or illusory appearance of a thing — **phan·tas·mal** \fan-ˈtaz-məl\ *adj* — **phan·tas·mic** \-mik\ *adj*

phan·tas·ma \fan-ˈtaz-mə\ *n, pl* **-ma·ta** \-mət-ə\ [L *phantasmat-, phantasma*] : PHANTASM 1

phan·tas·ma·go·ria \(ˌ)fan-ˌtaz-mə-ˈgōr-ē-ə, -ˈgȯr-\ *n* [F *phantasmagorie*, fr. *phantasme* phantasm (fr. OF *fantasme*) + *-agorie* (prob. fr. Gk *ageirein* to assemble, collect) — more at GREGARIOUS] **1** : an optical effect by which figures on a screen appear to dwindle into the distance or to rush toward the observer with enormous increase of size **2 a** : a constantly shifting complex succession of things seen or imagined ⟨drugs that . . . can project the mind into a ~ lasting hours —John Kobler⟩ **b** : a scene that constantly changes — **phan·tas·ma·go·ric** \-ˈgōr-ik, -ˈgȯr-, -ˈgär-\ *adj*

phantasy *var of* FANTASY

¹phan·tom \ˈfant-əm\ *n* [ME *fantosme, fantome*, fr. MF *fantosme*, modif. of L *phantasma*] **1 a** : something (as a specter) apparent to sense but with no substantial existence : APPARITION **b** : something elusive or visionary : WILL-O'-THE-WISP **c** : an object of continual dread or abhorrence : BUGBEAR ⟨the ~ of disease and want⟩ **2** : something existing in appearance only ⟨a ~ of a king⟩ **3** : a representation of something abstract, ideal, or incorporeal ⟨she was a ~ of delight —William Wordsworth⟩ — **phan·tom·like** \-ˌlīk\ *adv or adj*

²phantom *adj* **1** : of the nature of, suggesting, or being a phantom : ILLUSORY **2** : FICTITIOUS, DUMMY ⟨~ voters⟩

phar *abbr* **1** pharmacopoeia **2** pharmacy

pha·raoh \ˈfe(ə)r-(ˌ)ō, ˈfa(ə)r-(ˌ)ō, ˈfā-(ˌ)rō\ *n, often cap* [LL *pharaon-, pharao*, fr. Gk *pharaō*, fr. Heb *par'ōh*, fr. Egypt *pr-ʿ*,] **1** : a ruler of ancient Egypt **2** : TYRANT — **phar·a·on·ic** \ˌfer-ā-ˈän-ik, ˌfar-\ *adj, often cap*

pharaoh ant *n* : a little red ant (*Monomorium pharaonis*) that is a common household pest

phar·i·sa·ic \ˌfar-ə-ˈsā-ik\ *adj* [LL *pharisaicus*, fr. LGk *pharisaikos*, fr. Gk *pharisaios* Pharisee] **1** *cap* : of or relating to the Pharisees **2** : PHARISAICAL

phar·i·sa·ical \-ˈsā-ə-kəl\ *adj* : marked by hypocritical censorious self-righteousness ***syn*** see HYPOCRITICAL — **phar·i·sa·ical·ly** \-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **phar·i·sa·ical·ness** \-kəl-nəs\ *n*

phar·i·sa·ism \ˈfar-ə-(ˌ)sā-ˌiz-əm\ *n* [NL *pharisaismus*, fr. Gk *pharisaios*] **1** *cap* : the doctrines or practices of the Pharisees **2** *often cap* : pharisaical character, spirit, or attitude : HYPOCRISY

phar·i·see \ˈfar-ə-(ˌ)sē\ *n* [ME *pharise*, fr. OE *farise*, fr. LL *pharisaeus*, fr. Gk *pharisaios*, fr. Aram *pĕrīshayyā*, pl. of *pĕrīshā*, lit., separated] **1** *cap* : a member of a Jewish sect of the intertestamental period noted for strict observance of rites and ceremonies of the written law and for insistence on the validity of their own oral traditions concerning the law **2** : a pharisaical person

phar·m *abbr* pharmaceutical; pharmacist; pharmacy

¹phar·ma·ceu·ti·cal \ˌfär-mə-ˈsüt-i-kəl\ *also* **phar·ma·ceu·tic** \-ik\ *adj* [LL *pharmaceuticus*, fr. Gk *pharmakeutikos*, fr. *pharmakeuein* to administer drugs — more at PHARMACY] : of or relating to pharmacy or pharmacists — **phar·ma·ceu·ti·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

²pharmaceutical *n* : a medicinal drug

phar·ma·ceu·tics \-iks\ *n pl but sing in constr* : the science of preparing, using, or dispensing medicines : PHARMACY

phar·ma·cist \ˈfär-mə-səst\ *n* : one engaged in pharmacy

pharmaco- *comb form* [Gk *pharmako-*, fr. *pharmakon*] : medicine : drug ⟨*pharmaco*logy⟩

phar·ma·co·dy·nam·ic \ˌfär-mə-kō-dī-ˈnam-ik, -də-\ *adj* [back-formation fr. *pharmacodynamics*] : of, relating to, or used in pharmacodynamics — **phar·ma·co·dy·nam·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

phar·ma·co·dy·nam·ics \-iks\ *n pl but sing in constr* : a branch of pharmacology dealing with the reactions between drugs and living structures

phar·ma·co·ge·net·ics \-jə-ˈnet-iks\ *n pl but sing in constr* : the study of the interrelation of hereditary constitution and response to drugs — **phar·ma·co·ge·net·ic** \-ik\ *adj*

phar·ma·cog·no·sy \ˌfär-mə-ˈkäg-nə-sē\ *n* [ISV, fr. Gk *pharmakon* + *-gnōsia* knowledge, fr. *gnōsis* — more at GNOSIS] : descriptive pharmacology dealing with crude drugs and simples — **phar·ma·cog·nos·tic** \-ˌkäg-ˈnäs-tik\ *or* **phar·ma·cog·nos·ti·cal** \-ti-kəl\ *adj*

phar·ma·co·ki·net·ics \-kō-kə-ˈnet-iks, -kō-kī-\ *n pl but sing in constr* : the study of the bodily absorption, distribution, metabolism, and excretion of drugs — **phar·ma·co·ki·net·ic** \-ik\ *adj*

phar·ma·col·o·gy \ˌfär-mə-ˈkäl-ə-jē\ *n* **1** : the science of drugs including materia medica, toxicology, and therapeutics **2** : the properties and reactions of drugs esp. with relation to their therapeutic value — **phar·ma·co·log·ic** \-kə-ˈläj-ik\ *or* **phar·ma·co·log·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj* — **phar·ma·co·log·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **phar·ma·col·o·gist** \-ˈkäl-ə-jəst\ *n*

phar·ma·co·poe·ia \-kə-ˈpē-(y)ə\ *n* [NL, fr. LGk *pharmakopoiia* preparation of drugs, fr. Gk *pharmako-* + *poiein* to make — more at POET] **1** : a book describing drugs, chemicals, and medicinal preparations; *esp* : one issued by an officially recognized authority and serving as a standard **2** : a collection or stock of drugs — **phar·ma·co·poe·ial** \-(y)əl\ *adj*

phar·ma·cy \ˈfär-mə-sē\ *n, pl* **-cies** [LL *pharmacia* administration of drugs, fr. Gk *pharmakeia*, fr. *pharmakeuein* to administer drugs, fr. *pharmakon* magic charm, poison, drug; akin to Lith *burti* to practice magic] **1** : the art or practice of preparing, preserving, compounding, and dispensing drugs **2 a** : a place where medicines are compounded or dispensed **b** : DRUGSTORE **3** : PHARMACOPOEIA 2

phar·os \ˈfa(ə)r-ˌäs, ˈfe(ə)r-\ *n* [Gk, fr. *Pharos*, island in the bay of Alexandria, Egypt, famous for its lighthouse] : a lighthouse or beacon to guide seamen

pharyng- *or* **pharyngo-** *comb form* [Gk, fr. *pharyng-, pharynx*] : pharynx ⟨*pharyng*itis⟩ ⟨*pharyngo*logy⟩

pha·ryn·geal \ˌfar-ən-ˈjē-əl, fə-ˈrin-j(ē-)əl\ *adj* [NL *pharyngeus*, fr. *pharyng-, pharynx*] : relating to or located or produced in the region of the pharynx

phar·yn·gi·tis \ˌfar-ən-ˈjīt-əs\ *n, pl* **-git·i·des** \-ˈjit-ə-ˌdēz\ : inflammation of the pharynx

phar·ynx \ˈfar-iŋ(k)s\ *n, pl* **pha·ryn·ges** \fə-ˈrin-(ˌ)jēz\ *also* **phar·ynx·es** [NL *pharyng-, pharynx*, fr. Gk, throat, pharynx; akin to ON *barki* throat, L *forare* to bore — more at BORE] **1** : the part of the vertebrate alimentary canal between the cavity of the mouth and the esophagus **2** : a differentiated part of the alimentary canal in some invertebrates that may be thickened and muscular, eversible and toothed, or adapted as a suctorial organ

¹phase \ˈfāz\ *n* [NL *phasis*, fr. Gk, appearance of a star, phase of the moon, fr. *phainein* to show (middle voice, to appear) — more at FANCY] **1** : a particular appearance or state in a regularly recurring cycle of changes ⟨~*s* of the moon⟩ **2 a** : a distinguishable part in a course, development, or cycle ⟨the early ~*s* of his career⟩ **b** : an aspect or part (as of a problem) under consideration **3** : the point or stage in a period of uniform circular motion, harmonic motion, or the periodic changes of any magnitude varying according to a simple harmonic law to which the rotation, oscillation, or variation has advanced considered in its relation to a standard position or assumed instant of starting **4** : a homogeneous, physically distinct, and mechanically separable portion of matter present in a nonhomogeneous physical-chemical system **5** : an individual or subgroup distinguishably different in appearance or behavior from the norm of the group to which it belongs; *also* : the distinguishing peculiarity — **pha·sic** \ˈfā-zik\ *adj*

syn PHASE, ASPECT, SIDE, FACET, ANGLE *shared meaning element* : one of the possible ways of viewing or being presented to view. PHASE implies a change of appearance, either literal or figurative, often without clear reference to an observer ⟨the red fox occurs in several color *phases*⟩ ⟨the *phases* of development⟩ ASPECT may stress the point of view of the observer and the limitations it imposes ⟨the north *aspect* of the house⟩ ⟨the *aspects* of the poor that we resent⟩ SIDE, sometimes interchangeable with *phase* or *aspect*, is used typically with reference to something felt as having two or more faces and not fully comprehensible unless it or its observer shifts position ⟨see life only on its pleasant *side*⟩ FACET implies the presence of a multiplicity of sides, usually comparable to the one singled out for attention ⟨the different shades of green on the planes and *facets* of each clipped tree —Roald Dahl⟩ ⟨delighted to explore the *facets* of her complex nature⟩ ANGLE denotes an aspect seen from a very restricted or specific point of view ⟨examine the contemporary scene from various *angles*⟩

— **in phase** : in a synchronized or correlated manner — **out of phase** : in an unsynchronized manner : not in correlation

²phase *vt* **phased; phas·ing** **1** : to adjust so as to be in a synchronized condition **2 a** : to conduct or carry out by planned phases **b** : to schedule (as operations) or contract for (as goods or services) to be performed or supplied as required ⟨guiding industry to ~ its development programs —Barbara Ward⟩ **3** : to introduce in stages — often used with *in* ⟨~ in new models⟩

phase–contrast *adj* : of or employing the phase microscope

phase microscope *n* : a microscope that translates differences in phase of the light transmitted through or reflected by the object into differences of intensity in the image — called also *phase-contrast microscope*

phase modulation *n* : modulation of the phase of a radio carrier wave by voice or other signal

phase-out \ˈfā-ˌzau̇t\ *n* : a gradual stopping of operations or production : a closing down by phases

phase out \ˈfā-ˈzau̇t\ *vt* : to discontinue the practice, production, or use of by phases ⟨*phase out* the old machinery⟩ ~ *vi* : to stop production or operation by phases

-pha·sia \ˈfā-zh(ē-)ə\ *n comb form* [NL, fr. Gk, speech, fr. *phasis* utterance, fr. *phanai* to speak, say — more at BAN] : speech disorder of a (specified) type ⟨dys*phasia*⟩

phas·mid \ˈfaz-məd\ *n* [NL *Phasmida*, group name, fr. *Phasma*, type genus, fr. Gk, apparition, fr. *phainein* to show — more at FANCY] : any of an order or suborder (Phasmatodea) of large cylindrical or sometimes flattened chiefly tropical insects (as a walking stick) with long strong legs, strictly phytophagous habits, and slight metamorphosis

phat \ˈfat\ *adj* [alter. of ¹*fat*] *of copy or type matter* : susceptible of easy and rapid setting

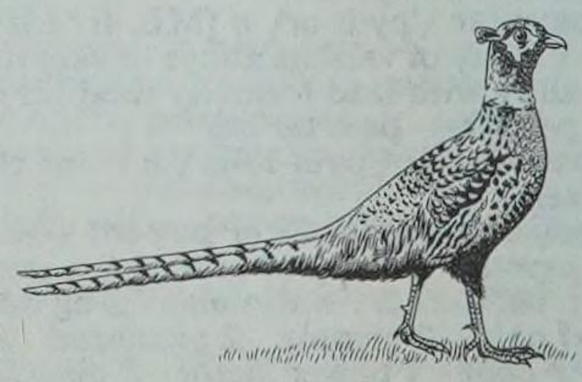
phat·ic \ˈfat-ik\ *adj* [Gk *phatos*, verbal of *phanai* to speak] : revealing or sharing feelings or establishing an atmosphere of sociability rather than communicating ideas — **phat·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

PhB *abbr* [L *philosophiae baccalaureus*] bachelor of philosophy

PhC *abbr* pharmaceutical chemist

PhD *abbr* [L *philosophiae doctor*] doctor of philosophy

pheas·ant \ˈfez-ᵊnt\ *n, pl* **pheasant** *or* **pheasants** [ME *fesaunt*, fr. AF, fr. OF *fesan*, fr. L *phasianus*, fr. Gk *phasianos*, fr. *phasianos* of the Phasis river, fr. *Phasis*, river in Colchis] **1** : any of numerous large often long-tailed and brightly colored Old World gallinaceous birds (*Phasianus* and related genera of the family Phasianidae) many of which are reared as



pheasant 1

ornamental or game birds **2** : any of various birds resembling a pheasant

phel·lem \'fel-ˌem\ *n* [Gk *phellos* cork + E *-em* (as in *phloem*)] : a layer of usu. suberized cells produced outwardly by a phellogen

phel·lo·derm \'fel-ə-ˌdərm\ *n* [Gk *phellos* + ISV *-derm*] : a layer of parenchyma produced inwardly by a phellogen

phel·lo·gen \'fel-ə-jən\ *n* [Gk *phellos* + ISV *-gen*] : a secondary meristem that initiates phellem and phelloderm in the periderm of a stem

phen- *or* **pheno-** *comb form* [obs. *phene* (benzene), fr. F *phène*, fr. Gk *phainein* to show; fr. its occurrence in illuminating gas — more at FANCY] : related to or derived from benzene ⟨*phen*ol⟩ : containing phenyl ⟨*pheno*barbital⟩

phe·na·caine *or* **phe·no·cain** \'fē-nə-ˌkān, 'fen-ə-\ *n* [*phenacaine* prob. fr. *phene*tidine + *acet-* + *-caine*; *phenocain* prob. irreg. fr. *phen-* + *-caine*] : a crystalline base $C_{18}H_{22}N_2O_2$ or its hydrochloride used as a local anesthetic

phen·ac·e·tin \fi-'nas-ət-ən\ *n* [ISV] : ACETOPHENETIDIN

phen·a·kite \'fen-ə-ˌkīt, 'fēn-\ *or* **phen·a·cite** \-ˌsīt\ *n* [G *phenakit*, fr. Gk *phenak-*, *phenax* deceiver; fr. its being easily mistaken for quartz] : a glassy mineral Be_2SiO_4 that consists of a beryllium silicate and occurs in rhombohedral crystals

phen·an·threne \fə-'nan-ˌthrēn\ *n* [ISV *phen-* + *anthracene*] : a crystalline aromatic hydrocarbon $C_{14}H_{10}$ of coal tar isomeric with anthracene

phen·azine \'fen-ə-ˌzēn\ *n* [ISV] : a yellowish crystalline base $C_{12}H_8N_2$ that is the parent compound of many azine dyes and a few antibiotics

phen·el·zine \'fen-ᵊl-ˌzēn\ *n* [*phen*yl + eth*yl* + hydra*zine*] : a monoamine oxidase inhibitor $C_8H_{12}N_2$ that suppresses paradoxical sleep and is used esp. as an antidepressant drug

phe·net·ic \fi-'net-ik\ *adj* [*phen*otype + *-etic* (as in *genetic*)] : of, relating to, or being classificatory systems and procedures that are based on overall similarity usu. of many characters without regard to the evolutionary history of the organisms involved

phe·net·ics \-iks\ *n pl but sing in constr* : biological systematics based on phenetic relationships — **phe·net·i·cist** \-'net-ə-səst\ *n*

phe·net·i·dine \fə-'net-ə-ˌdēn\ *n* [*phene*tole + *-idine*] : any of three liquid basic amino derivatives $C_8H_{11}NO$ of phenetole used esp. in manufacturing dyestuffs

phen·e·tole \'fen-ə-ˌtōl\ *n* [ISV *phen-* + *eth*yl + *-ole*] : the aromatic liquid ethyl ether $C_8H_{10}O$ of phenol

phen·for·min \fen-'fȯr-mən\ *n* [*phen*yl + *form*amide ($HCONH_2$) + *-in*] : a somewhat toxic drug $C_{10}H_{15}N_5$ that is used orally to lower blood sugar in some cases of diabetes

phen·met·ra·zine \(ˌ)fen-'me-trə-ˌzēn\ *n* [*phen*yl + *met*hyl + te*tra-* + oxa*zine*] : a sympathomimetic stimulant $C_{11}H_{15}NO$ that tends to cause loss of appetite

phe·no·bar·bi·tal \ˌfē-nō-'bär-bə-ˌtȯl\ *n* : a crystalline barbiturate $C_{12}H_{12}N_2O_3$ used as a hypnotic and sedative

phe·no·bar·bi·tone \-bə-ˌtōn\ *n, chiefly Brit* : PHENOBARBITAL

phe·no·copy \'fē-nə-ˌkäp-ē\ *n* [*phen*otype + *copy*] : a phenotypic variation that is caused by unusual environmental conditions and resembles the normal expression of a genotype other than its own

phe·no·cryst \-ˌkrist\ *n* [F *phénocryste*, fr. Gk *phainein* to show + *krystallos* crystal — more at FANCY] : one of the prominent embedded crystals of a porphyry — **phe·no·crys·tic** \ˌfē-nə-'kris-tik\ *adj*

phe·nol \'fē-ˌnōl, -ˌnól, fi-'\ *n* [ISV *phen-* + *-ol*] **1** : a caustic poisonous crystalline acidic compound C_6H_5OH present in coal tar and wood tar that in dilute solution is used as a disinfectant **2** : any of various acidic compounds analogous to phenol and regarded as hydroxyl derivatives of aromatic hydrocarbons

phe·no·late \'fēn-ᵊl-ˌāt\ *n* : PHENOXIDE

¹phe·no·lic \fi-'nō-lik, -'näl-ik\ *adj* **1 a** : of, relating to, or having the characteristics of a phenol **b** : containing or derived from a phenol **2** : of, relating to, or being a phenolic

²phenolic *n* : a usu. thermosetting resin or plastic made by condensation of a phenol with an aldehyde and used esp. for molding and insulating and in coatings and adhesives — called also *phenolic resin*

phe·nol·o·gy \fi-'näl-ə-jē\ *n* [*phen*omena + *-logy*] **1** : a branch of science dealing with the relations between climate and periodic biological phenomena (as bird migration or plant flowering) **2** : phenological phenomena (as of a kind of organism) — **phe·no·log·i·cal** \ˌfēn-ᵊl-'äj-i-kəl\ *adj* — **phe·no·log·i·cal·ly** \-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

phe·nol·phtha·lein \ˌfēn-ᵊl-'thal-ē-ən, -'thal-ˌēn, -'thāl-\ *n* [ISV] : a white or yellowish white crystalline compound $C_{20}H_{14}O_4$ used in analysis as an indicator because its solution is brilliant red in alkalies and is decolorized by acids and in medicine as a laxative

phenol red *n* : a red crystalline compound $C_{19}H_{14}O_5S$ used esp. as an acid-base indicator

phe·nom \fi-'näm\ *n* : PHENOMENON; *esp* : a person of phenomenal ability or promise

phe·nom·e·nal \fi-'näm-ən-ᵊl\ *adj* : relating to or being a phenomenon: as **a** : known through the senses rather than through thought or intuition **b** : concerned with phenomena rather than with hypotheses **c** : EXTRAORDINARY, REMARKABLE ***syn*** see MATERIAL ***ant*** noumenal — **phe·nom·e·nal·ly** \-ᵊl-ē\ *adv*

phe·nom·e·nal·ism \-ən-ᵊl-ˌiz-əm\ *n* **1** : a theory that limits knowledge to phenomena only **2** : a theory that all knowledge is of phenomena and all existence is phenomenal — **phe·nom·e·nal·ist** \-ᵊl-əst\ *n* — **phe·nom·e·nal·is·tic** \-ˌnäm-ən-ᵊl-'is-tik\ *adj* — **phe·nom·e·nal·is·ti·cal·ly** \-ti-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

phe·nom·e·no·log·i·cal \fi-ˌnäm-ən-ᵊl-'äj-i-kəl\ *adj* **1** : of or relating to phenomenology **2** : PHENOMENAL **3** : of or relating to phenomenalism — **phe·nom·e·no·log·i·cal·ly** \-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

phe·nom·e·nol·o·gy \fi-ˌnäm-ə-'näl-ə-jē\ *n, pl* **-gies** [G *phänomenologie*, fr. *phänomenon* phenomenon + *-logie* -logy] **1** : the study of the development of human consciousness and self-awareness as a preface to philosophy or a part of philosophy **2 a** (1) : the description of the formal structure of the objects of awareness and of awareness itself in abstraction from any claims concerning existence ⟨the ~ of internal time-consciousness⟩ (2) : the typological classification of a class of phenomena ⟨the ~ of religion⟩ **b** : an analysis produced by phenomenological investigation — **phe·nom·e·nol·o·gist** \-jəst\ *n*

phe·nom·e·non \fi-'näm-ə-ˌnän, -nən\ *n, pl* **-na** \-nə, -ˌnä\ *or* **-nons** [LL *phaenomenon*, fr. Gk *phainomenon*, fr. neut. of *phainomenos*, prp. of *phainesthai* to appear, middle voice of *phainein* to show — more at FANCY] **1** *pl phenomena* : an observable fact or event **2** *pl phenomena* **a** : an object or aspect known through the senses rather than by thought or nonsensuous intuition **b** : a temporal or spatiotemporal object of sensual experience as distinguished from a noumenon **c** : a fact or event of scientific interest susceptible of scientific description and explanation **3 a** : a rare or significant fact or event **b** *pl phenomenons* : an exceptional, unusual, or abnormal person, thing, or occurrence

phe·no·thi·azine \ˌfē-nō-'thī-ə-ˌzēn\ *n* [ISV] **1** : a greenish yellow crystalline compound $C_{12}H_9NS$ used as an anthelmintic and insecticide esp. in veterinary practice **2** : any of various phenothiazine derivatives (as chlorpromazine) that are used as tranquilizing agents esp. in the treatment of schizophrenia

phe·no·type \'fē-nə-ˌtīp\ *n* [G *phänotypus*, fr. Gk *phainein* to show + *typos* type] **1** : the visible properties of an organism that are produced by the interaction of the genotype and the environment **2** : a group of organisms sharing a particular phenotype — **phe·no·typ·ic** \ˌfē-nə-'tip-ik\ *also* **phe·no·typ·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj* — **phe·no·typ·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

phen·ox·ide \fi-'näk-ˌsīd\ *n* : a salt of a phenol esp. in its capacity as a weak acid

phen·oxy- \fi-'näk-sē\ *comb form* [*phen*yl + *oxy-*] : containing the univalent radical C_6H_5O

phen·tol·amine \fen-'täl-ə-ˌmēn, -mən\ *n* [*phen-* + *tol*uidine + *amine*] : an adrenergic blocking agent $C_{17}H_{19}N_3O$ that is used esp. in the diagnosis of pheochromocytoma

phe·nyl \'fen-ᵊl, 'fēn-\ *n* [ISV] : a univalent radical C_6H_5 that is an aryl group derived from benzene by removal of one hydrogen atom — often used in combination — **phe·nyl·ic** \fi-'nil-ik\ *adj*

phe·nyl·al·a·nine \ˌfen-ᵊl-'al-ə-ˌnēn, ˌfēn-\ *n* [ISV] : an essential amino acid $C_9H_{11}NO_2$ that is converted in the normal body to tyrosine

phen·yl·bu·ta·zone \ˌfen-ᵊl-'byüt-ə-ˌzōn\ *n* [*phenyl* + *but*yric acid + pyr*azalone* ($C_3H_4N_2O$)] : a drug $C_{19}H_{20}N_2O_2$ that is used for its analgesic and anti-inflammatory properties esp. in the treatment of arthritis, gout, and bursitis

phen·yl·ene \'fen-ᵊl-ˌēn\ *n* [ISV] : any of three bivalent radicals C_6H_4 derived from benzene by removal of two hydrogen atoms

phen·yl·eph·rine \-'ef-ˌrēn, -rən\ *n* [*phenyl* + epine*phrine*] : a sympathomimetic agent $C_9H_{13}NO_2$ that is used in the form of the hydrochloride as a vasoconstrictor, a mydriatic, and by injection to raise the blood pressure

phe·nyl·ke·ton·uria \ˌfen-ᵊl-ˌkēt-ᵊn-'(y)ůr-ē-ə, ˌfēn-\ *n* [*phenyl* + *ketone* + *-uria*] : an inherited metabolic disease in man that is characterized by inability to oxidize a metabolic product of phenylalanine and by severe mental deficiency

phe·nyl·ke·ton·uric \-'(y)ůr-ik\ *n* : one affected with phenylketonuria

phen·yl·thio·car·ba·mide \ˌfen-ᵊl-ˌthī-ō-'kär-bə-ˌmīd\ *n* : a crystalline compound $C_7H_8N_2S$ that is extremely bitter or tasteless depending on the presence or absence of a single dominant gene in the taster — called also *phenylthiourea, PTC*

phen·yl·thio·urea \-ˌthī-ō-yù-'rē-ə\ *n* : PHENYLTHIOCARBAMIDE

pheo·chro·mo·cy·to·ma \ˌfē-ə-'krō-mə-sə-'tō-mə, -sī-\ *n, pl* **-mas** *or* **-ma·ta** \-mət-ə\ [NL, fr. ISV *pheochromocyte* (chromaffin cell) + NL *-oma*] : a tumor that is derived from chromaffin cells and is usu. associated with paroxysmal or sustained hypertension

pher·o·mone \'fer-ə-ˌmōn\ *n* [ISV *phero-* (fr. Gk *pherein* to carry) + *-mone* (as in *hormone*) — more at BEAR] : a chemical substance that is produced by an animal and serves esp. as a stimulus to other individuals of the same species for one or more behavioral responses — **pher·o·mon·al** \ˌfer-ə-'mōn-ᵊl\ *adj*

phi \'fī\ *n* [MGk, fr. Gk *phei*] : the 21st letter of the Greek alphabet — see ALPHABET table

phi·al \'fī(-ə)l\ *n* [ME, fr. L *phiala*, fr. Gk *phialē*] : VIAL

Phi Be·ta Kap·pa \ˌfī-ˌbāt-ə-'kap-ə\ *n* [*Phi Beta Kappa* (*Society*), fr. *phi* + *beta* + *kappa*, initials of the society's Gk motto *philosophia biou kybernētēs* philosophy the guide of life] : a person winning high scholastic distinction in an American college or university and being elected to membership in a national honor society founded in 1776

phil *or* **philol** *abbr* philological; philology

phil- *or* **philo-** *comb form* [ME, fr. OF, fr. L, fr. Gk, fr. *philos* dear, friendly] : loving : having an affinity for ⟨*philo*progenitive⟩

¹-phil \ˌfil\ *or* **-phile** \ˌfīl\ *n comb form* [F *-phile*, fr. Gk *-philos* -philous] : lover : one having an affinity for or a strong attraction to ⟨acido*phil*⟩ ⟨Slavo*phile*⟩

²-phil *or* **-phile** *adj comb form* [NL *-philus*, fr. L, fr. Gk *-philos*] : loving : having a fondness or affinity for ⟨hemo*phile*⟩ ⟨Franco*phil*⟩

Phil·a·del·phia lawyer \ˌfil-ə-ˌdel-fyə-, -fē-ə-\ *n* [*Philadelphia*, Pa.] : a shrewd lawyer adept at exploiting legal technicalities

Philadelphia pepper pot *n* : PEPPER POT 2b

phil·a·del·phus \ˌfil-ə-'del-fəs\ *n* [NL, genus name, fr. Gk *philadelphos* brotherly, fr. *phil-* + *adelphos* brother — more at -ADELPHOUS] : any of a genus of ornamental shrubs of the saxifrage family of which several are widely grown in temperate regions for their showy white flowers — called also *mock orange, syringa*

phi·lan·der \fə-'lan-dər\ *vi* **phi·lan·dered; phi·lan·der·ing** \-d(ə-)riŋ\ [fr. obs. *philander* (lover, philanderer), prob. fr. the name *Philander*] **1** : to make love to someone with whom mar-

riage is impossible (as because of an existing marriage) or with no intention of proposing marriage **2** : to have many love affairs — **phi·lan·der·er** \-dər-ər\ *n*

phil·an·throp·ic \ˌfil-ən-ˈthräp-ik\ *also* **phil·an·throp·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or characterized by philanthropy : HUMANITARIAN **2** : dispensing or receiving aid from funds set aside for humanitarian purposes ⟨a ~ foundation⟩ — **phil·an·throp·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lī\ *adv*

phi·lan·thro·pist \fə-ˈlan(t)-thrə-pəst\ *n* : one who practices philanthropy

phi·lan·thro·py \-pē\ *n, pl* **-pies** [LL *philanthropia*, fr. Gk *philanthrōpia*, fr. *philanthrōpos* loving mankind, fr. *phil-* + *anthrōpos* man] **1** : goodwill to fellowmen; *esp* : active effort to promote human welfare **2** **a** : a philanthropic act or gift **b** : an organization distributing or supported by philanthropic funds

phi·lat·e·list \fə-ˈlat-ᵊl-əst\ *n* : a specialist in philately : one who collects or studies stamps

phi·lat·e·ly \fə-ˈlat-ᵊl-ē\ *n* [F *philatélie*, fr. *phil-* + Gk *ateleia* tax exemption, fr. *atelēs* free from tax, fr. *a-* + *telos* tax; akin to Gk *telein* to pay, *tlēnai* to bear; fr. the fact that a stamped letter frees the recipient from paying the mailing charges — more at TOLERATE] : the collection and study of postage and imprinted stamps : stamp collecting — **phil·a·tel·ic** \ˌfil-ə-ˈtel-ik\ *adj* — **phil·a·tel·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

Phi·le·mon \fə-ˈlē-mən, fī-\ *n* [Gk *Philēmōn*] **1** : a friend and probable convert of the apostle Paul **2** : a letter written by St. Paul to a Christian living in the area of Colossae and included as a book in the New Testament — see BIBLE table **3** : a poor aged Phrygian who with his wife Baucis entertained Zeus and was rewarded with a splendid temple over which the couple presided

Phil·har·mon·ic \ˌfil-ər-ˈmän-ik, ˌfil-(ˌ)(h)är-\ *n* [F *philharmonique*, lit., loving harmony, fr. It *filarmonico*, fr. *fil-* phil- + *armonia* harmony, fr. L *harmonia*] : SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

phil·hel·lene \(ˈ)fil-ˈhel-ˌēn\ *or* **phil·hel·len·ic** \ˌfil-hə-ˈlen-ik\ *adj* [Gk *philellēn*, fr. *phil-* + *Hellēn* Hellene] : admiring Greece or the Greeks — **philhellene** *n* — **phil·hel·le·nism** \(ˈ)fil-ˈhel-ə-ˌniz-əm\ *n* — **phil·hel·le·nist** \-nəst\ *n*

-phil·ia \ˈfil-ē-ə\ *n comb form* [NL, fr. Gk *philia* friendship, fr. *philos* dear] **1** : tendency toward ⟨hemo*philia*⟩ **2** : abnormal appetite or liking for ⟨necro*philia*⟩

-phil·i·ac \ˈfil-ē-ˌak\ *n comb form* [NL *-philia* + Gk *-akos*, adj. suffix] **1** : one having a tendency toward ⟨hemo*philiac*⟩ **2** : one having an abnormal appetite or liking for ⟨copro*philiac*⟩

-phil·ic \ˈfil-ik\ *adj comb form* [Gk *-philos* -philous] : having an affinity for : loving ⟨photo*philic*⟩

Phi·lip·pi·ans \fə-ˈlip-ē-ənz\ *n pl but sing in constr* [short for *Epistle to the Philippians*] : a hortatory letter written by St. Paul to the Christians of Philippi and included as a book in the New Testament — see BIBLE table

phi·lip·pic \fə-ˈlip-ik\ *n* [MF *philippique*, fr. L & Gk; L *philippica, orationes philippicae*, speeches of Cicero against Mark Anthony, trans. of Gk *philippikoi logoi*, speeches of Demosthenes against Philip II of Macedon, lit., speeches relating to Philip] : a discourse or declamation full of bitter condemnation : TIRADE

Phil·ip·pine mahogany \ˌfil-ə-ˌpēn-\ *n* [*Philippine* islands] : any of several Philippine timber trees (family Dipterocarpaceae) with wood resembling that of the true mahoganies; *also* : its wood

phi·lis·tia \fə-ˈlis-tē-ə\ *n pl, often cap* [*Philistia*, ancient country of southwest Palestine] : the class or world of cultural philistines

phi·lis·tine \ˈfil-ə-ˌstēn; fə-ˈlis-tən, -ˌtēn; ˈfil-ə-stən\ *n* **1** *cap* : a native or inhabitant of ancient Philistia **2** *often cap* **a** : a crass prosaic often priggish individual guided by material rather than intellectual or artistic values : BABBITT **b** : one uninformed in a special area of knowledge — **philistine** *adj* — **phi·lis·tin·ism** \-ˌstē-ˌniz-əm, -tə-, -stə-\ *n*

phil·lu·men·ist \fi-ˈlü-mə-nəst\ *n* [*phil-* + L *lumen* light — more at LUMINARY] : one who collects matchbooks or matchbox labels

philo·den·dron \ˌfil-ə-ˈden-drən\ *n, pl* **-drons** *or* **-dra** \-drə\ [NL, fr. Gk, neut. of *philodendros* loving trees, fr. *phil-* + *dendron* tree — more at DENDR-] : any of various aroid plants (as of the genus *Philodendron*) that are cultivated for their showy foliage



philodendron

phi·log·y·ny \fə-ˈläj-ə-nē\ *n* [Gk *philogynia*, fr. *phil-* + *gynē* woman — more at QUEEN] : fondness for women

phi·lol·o·gist \fə-ˈläl-ə-jəst *also* fī-\ *n* : a specialist in philology

phi·lol·o·gy \-jē\ *n* [F *philologie*, fr. L *philologia* love of learning and literature, fr. Gk, fr. *philologos* fond of learning and literature, fr. *phil-* + *logos* word, speech — more at LEGEND] **1** : the study of literature and of disciplines relevant to literature or to language as used in literature **2** **a** : LINGUISTICS; *esp* : historical and comparative linguistics **b** : the study of human speech esp. as the vehicle of literature and as a field of study that sheds light on cultural history — **phil·o·log·i·cal** \ˌfil-ə-ˈläj-i-kəl\ *adj* — **phil·o·log·i·cal·ly** \-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

Phil·o·mel \ˈfil-ə-ˌmel\ *n* [L *Philomela* Philomela, nightingale] : NIGHTINGALE

Phil·o·me·la \ˌfil-ə-ˈmē-lə\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *Philomēlē*] : an Athenian princess of Greek mythology raped and deprived of her tongue by her brother-in-law Tereus, avenged by the killing of his son, and changed into a nightingale while fleeing from him — compare PROCNE

philo·pro·gen·i·tive \ˌfil-ə-prō-ˈjen-ət-iv\ *adj* [*phil-* + L *progenitus*, pp. of *progignere* to beget — more at PROGENITOR] **1** : tending to produce offspring : PROLIFIC **2** : of, relating to, or characterized by love of offspring — **philo·pro·gen·i·tive·ness** *n*

philos *abbr* philosopher; philosophy

phi·lo·sophe \ˌfē-lə-ˈzȯf\ *n* [F, lit., philosopher] : one of the deistic or materialistic writers and thinkers of the 18th century French Enlightenment

phi·los·o·pher \fə-ˈläs-(ə-)fər\ *n* [ME, modif. of MF *philosophe*, fr. L *philosophus*, fr. Gk *philosophos*, fr. *phil-* + *sophia* wisdom, fr. *sophos* wise] **1** **a** : one who seeks wisdom or enlightenment : SCHOLAR, THINKER **b** : a student of philosophy **2** **a** : a person whose philosophical perspective enables him to meet trouble with equanimity **b** : the expounder of a theory in a particular area of experience **c** : one who philosophizes

philosophers' stone *n* : an imaginary stone, substance, or chemical preparation believed to have the power of transmuting baser metals into gold and sought for by alchemists

philo·soph·ic \ˌfil-ə-ˈsäf-ik *also* -ˈzäf-\ *or* **phil·o·soph·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj* **1** **a** : of or relating to philosophers or philosophy **b** : based on philosophy **2** : characterized by the attitude of a philosopher; *specif* : calm in face of trouble — **philo·soph·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

philosophical analysis *n* : an Anglo-American philosophical movement that seeks the solution of philosophical problems in the analysis of propositions or sentences — called also *analytic philosophy, linguistic analysis;* compare ORDINARY-LANGUAGE PHILOSOPHY

phi·los·o·phize \fə-ˈläs-ə-ˌfīz\ *vb* **-phized; -phiz·ing** *vi* **1** : to reason in the manner of a philosopher **2** : to expound a moralizing and often superficial philosophy ~ *vt* : to consider from or bring into conformity with a philosophic point of view — **phi·los·o·phiz·er** *n*

phi·los·o·phy \fə-ˈläs-(ə-)fē\ *n, pl* **-phies** [ME *philosophie*, fr. OF, fr. L *philosophia*, fr. Gk, fr. *philosophos* philosopher] **1** **a** : pursuit of wisdom **b** : a search for a general understanding of values and reality by chiefly speculative rather than observational means **c** : an analysis of the grounds of and concepts expressing fundamental beliefs **2** **a** (1) *archaic* : PHYSICAL SCIENCE (2) : ETHICS **b** (1) : all learning exclusive of technical precepts and practical arts (2) : the sciences and liberal arts exclusive of medicine, law, and theology ⟨a doctor of ~⟩ (3) : the 4-year college course of a major seminary **c** : a discipline comprising as its core logic, aesthetics, ethics, metaphysics, and epistemology **3** **a** : a system of philosophical concepts ⟨Kantian ~⟩ **b** : a theory underlying or regarding a sphere of activity or thought ⟨the ~ of cooking⟩ ⟨~ of science⟩ **4** **a** : the most general beliefs, concepts, and attitudes of an individual or group ⟨the hippie ~⟩ **b** : calmness of temper and judgment befitting a philosopher

philosophy of life **1** : an overall vision of or attitude toward life and the purpose of life **2** [trans. of G *Lebensphilosophie*] : any of various philosophies that emphasize human life or life in general

-ph·i·lous \f-(ə-)ləs\ *adj comb form* [Gk *-philos*, fr. *philos* dear, friendly] : loving : having an affinity for ⟨acido*philous*⟩

phil·ter *or* **phil·tre** \ˈfil-tər\ *n* [MF *philtre*, fr. L *philtrum*, fr. Gk *philtron;* akin to Gk *philos* dear] **1** : a potion, drug, or charm held to have the power to arouse sexual passion **2** : a potion credited with magical power

phi phenomenon \ˌfī-\ *n* : apparent motion resulting from an orderly sequence of stimuli (as lights flashed in rapid succession a short distance apart on a sign) without any actual motion being presented to the eye

PhL *abbr* licentiate in philosophy

phleb- *or* **phlebo-** *comb form* [ME *fleb-*, fr. MF, fr. LL *phlebo-*, fr. Gk *phleb-*, *phlebo-*, fr. *phleb-*, *phleps;* akin to L *fluere* to flow — more at FLUID] : vein ⟨*phleb*itis⟩

phle·bi·tis \fli-ˈbīt-əs\ *n* [NL] : inflammation of a vein

phle·bo·gram \ˈflē-bə-ˌgram\ *n* [ISV] : a figure of a vein or a record of its movements (as by roentgenography following injection of a radiopaque substance)

phle·bog·ra·phy \fli-ˈbäg-rə-fē\ *n* [ISV] : the art of making phlebograms — **phle·bo·graph·ic** \ˌflē-bə-ˈgraf-ik\ *adj*

phle·bol·o·gy \fli-ˈbäl-ə-jē\ *n* [ISV] : a branch of medicine concerned with the veins

phle·bot·o·mize \fli-ˈbät-ə-ˌmīz\ *vb* **-mized; -miz·ing** *vt* : to draw blood from : BLEED ~ *vi* : to practice phlebotomy

phle·bo·to·mus fever \fli-ˌbät-ə-məs-\ *n* [NL *Phlebotomus*, genus of sand flies] : SANDFLY FEVER

phle·bot·o·my \fli-ˈbät-ə-mē\ *n, pl* **-mies** [ME *fleobotomie*, fr. MF *flebotomie*, fr. LL *phlebotomia*, fr. Gk, fr. *phleb-* + *-tomia* -tomy] : the letting of blood in the treatment of disease : VENESECTION — **phle·bot·o·mist** \-məst\ *n*

Phleg·e·thon \ˈfleg-ə-ˌthän\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *Phlegethōn*] : a river of fire in Hades

phlegm \ˈflem\ *n* [ME *fleume*, fr. MF, fr. LL *phlegmat-*, *phlegma*, fr. Gk, flame, inflammation, phlegm, fr. *phlegein* to burn — more at BLACK] **1** : the one of the four humors in early physiology that was considered to be cold and moist and to cause sluggishness **2** : viscid mucus secreted in abnormal quantity in the respiratory passages **3** **a** : dull or apathetic coldness or indifference **b** : intrepid coolness or calm fortitude ***syn*** see EQUANIMITY — **phlegmy** \-ē\ *adj*

phleg·mat·ic \fleg-ˈmat-ik\ *adj* **1** : resembling, consisting of, or producing the humor phlegm **2** : having or showing a slow and stolid temperament ***syn*** see IMPASSIVE — **phleg·mat·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

phlo·em \ˈflō-ˌem\ *n* [G, fr. Gk *phloios, phloos* bark; akin to Gk *phallos* penis — more at BLOW] : a complex tissue in the vascular system of higher plants that consists mainly of sieve tubes and elongated parenchyma cells usu. with fibers and that functions in translocation and in support and storage — compare XYLEM

phloem necrosis *n* : a pathological state in a plant characterized by brown discoloration and disintegration of the phloem; *esp* : a fatal virus disease of the American elm

phloem ray *n* : a vascular ray or part of a vascular ray that is located in phloem — called also *bast ray;* compare XYLEM RAY

phlo·gis·tic \flō-ˈjis-tik\ *adj* **1** [NL *phlogiston*] : of or relating to phlogiston **2** [Gk *phlogistos*] : of or relating to inflammations and fevers

phlo·gis·ton \-tən\ *n* [NL, fr. Gk, neut. of *phlogistos* inflammable, fr. *phlogizein* to set on fire, fr. *phlog-*, *phlox* flame, fr. *phlegein*] : the hypothetical principle of fire regarded formerly as a material substance

phlog·o·pite \'fläg-ə-ˌpīt\ *n* [G *phlogopit*, fr. Gk *phlogōpos* fiery-looking, fr. *phlog-*, *phlox* + *ōps* face — more at EYE] : a usu. brown to red form of mica
phlo·ri·zin *or* **phlo·rhi·zin** \'flōr-ə-zən, 'flȯr-; flə-'rīz-ᵊn\ *or* **phlo·rid·zin** \'flōr-əd-zən, 'flȯr-; flə-'rid-zən\ *n* [ISV *phlo-* (fr. Gk *phloos* bark) + *rhiz-* + *-in*] : a bitter crystalline glucoside $C_{21}H_{24}O_{10}$ that is extracted from root bark or bark (as of the apple, pear, or cherry), produces glycosuria if injected hypodermically, and is used chiefly in producing experimental diabetes in animals
phlox \'fläks\ *n, pl* **phlox** *or* **phlox·es** [NL, genus name, fr. L, a flower, fr. Gk, flame, wallflower] : any of a genus (*Phlox* of the family Polemoniaceae, the phlox family) of American annual or perennial herbs that have red, purple, white, or variegated flowers, a salverform corolla with the stamens on its tube, and a 3-valved capsular fruit
phlyc·te·nule \flik-'ten-(ˌ)yü(ə)l, 'flik-tə-ˌn(y)ü(ə)l\ *n* [NL *phlyctenula*, dim. of *phlyctena* pustule, fr. Gk *phlyktaina* blister, fr. *phlyzein* to boil over — more at FLUID] : a small vesicle or pustule; *esp* : one on the conjunctiva or cornea of the eye
-phobe \ˌfōb\ *n comb form* [Gk *-phobos* fearing] : one fearing or averse to (something specified) ⟨Franco*phobe*⟩
pho·bia \'fō-bē-ə\ *n* [NL, fr. LL *-phobia*, fr. Gk, fr. *-phobos* fearing, fr. *phobos* fear, flight; akin to Gk *phebesthai* to flee, be frightened, Lith *bėgti* to flee] : an exaggerated usu. inexplicable and illogical fear of a particular object or class of objects
pho·bic \'fō-bik\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or constituting phobia **2** : motivated by or based on withdrawal from an unpleasant stimulus rather than movement toward a pleasant one ⟨a ~ taxis⟩
-pho·bic \'fō-bik\ *or* **-ph·o·bous** \f-ə-bəs\ *adj comb form* [*-phobic* fr. F *-phobique*, fr. LL *-phobicus*, fr. Gk *-phobikos*, fr. *-phobia*; *-phobous* fr. LL *-phobus*, fr. Gk *-phobos*] **1** : having an aversion for ⟨calci*phobous*⟩ **2** : lacking affinity for ⟨lyo*phobic*⟩
phobic reaction *n* : a psychoneurosis in which the principal symptom is a phobia
phoe·be \'fē-(ˌ)bē\ *n* [alter. of *pewee*] : any of several American flycatchers (genus *Sayornis*); *esp* : one (*S. phoebe*) of the eastern U.S. that has a slight crest and is plain grayish brown above and yellowish white below
Phoe·be \'fē-bē\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *Phoibē*, fr. *phoibē*, fem. of *phoibos*] : ARTEMIS
Phoe·bus \'fē-bəs\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *Phoibos*, fr. *phoibos* radiant] **1** : APOLLO **2** *not cap* : SUN
Phoe·ni·cian \fi-'nish-ən, -'nē-shən\ *n* **1** : a native or inhabitant of ancient Phoenicia **2** : the Semitic language of ancient Phoenicia — **Phoenician** *adj*
phoe·nix \'fē-niks\ *n* [ME *fenix*, fr. OE, fr. L *phoenix*, fr. Gk *phoinix* purple, crimson, Phoenician, phoenix, date palm, fr. *phoinos* bloodred; akin to Gk *phonos* murder, *theinein* to strike — more at DEFEND] : a legendary bird which according to one account lived 500 years, burned itself to ashes on a pyre, and rose youthfully alive from the ashes to live another period — **phoe·nix·like** \-ˌlīk\ *adj*
¹phon \'fän\ *n* [ISV, fr. Gk *phōnē* voice, sound] : the unit of loudness on a scale beginning at zero for the faintest audible sound and corresponding to the decibel scale of sound intensity with the number of phons of a given sound being equal to the decibels of a pure 1000-cycle tone judged by the average listener to be equal in loudness to the given sound
²phon *abbr* phonetics
phon- *or* **phono-** *comb form* [L, fr. Gk *phōn-*, *phōno-*, fr. *phōnē* — more at BAN] : sound : voice : speech ⟨*phon*ate⟩ ⟨*phono*graph⟩
pho·nate \'fō-ˌnāt\ *vi* **pho·nat·ed; pho·nat·ing** : to produce vocal sounds and esp. speech — **pho·na·tion** \fō-'nā-shən\ *n*
¹phone \'fōn\ *n* [by shortening] **1** : EARPHONE **2** : TELEPHONE
²phone *vb* **phoned; phon·ing** : TELEPHONE
³phone *n* [Gk *phōnē*] : a speech sound considered as a physical event without regard to its place in the sound system of a language
-phone \ˌfōn\ *n comb form* [Gk *-phōnos* sounding, fr. *phōnē*] : sound ⟨homo*phone*⟩ — often in names of musical instruments and sound-transmitting devices ⟨radio*phone*⟩ ⟨xylo*phone*⟩
pho·ne·mat·ic \ˌfō-ni-'mat-ik\ *adj* : PHONEMIC
pho·neme \'fō-ˌnēm\ *n* [F *phonème*, fr. Gk *phōnēmat-*, *phōnēma* speech sound, utterance, fr. *phōnein* to sound] : a member of the set of the smallest units of speech that serve to distinguish one utterance from another in a language or dialect ⟨the *p* of English *pat* and the *f* of English *fat* are two different ~*s*⟩
pho·ne·mic \fə-'nē-mik, fō-\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or having the characteristics of a phoneme **2** **a** : constituting members of different phonemes ⟨in English \n\ and \ŋ\ are ~⟩ **b** : DISTINCTIVE 2 — **pho·ne·mi·cal·ly** \-mi-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
pho·ne·mics \-miks\ *n pl but sing in constr* **1** : a branch of linguistic analysis that consists of the study of phonemes **2** : the structure of a language in terms of phonemes
pho·net·ic \fə-'net-ik\ *adj* [NL *phoneticus*, fr. Gk *phōnētikos*, fr. *phōnein* to sound with the voice, fr. *phōnē* voice] **1** **a** : of or relating to spoken language or speech sounds **b** : of or relating to the science of phonetics **2** : representing the sounds and other phenomena of speech: **a** : constituting an alteration of ordinary spelling that better represents the spoken language, that employs only characters of the regular alphabet, and that is used in a context of conventional spelling **b** : representing speech sounds by means of symbols that have one value only **c** : employing for speech sounds more than the minimum number of symbols necessary to represent the significant differences in a speaker's speech — **pho·net·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj* — **pho·net·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
phonetic alphabet *n* **1** : a set of symbols used for phonetic transcription **2** : any of various systems of identifying letters of the alphabet by means of code words in voice communication
pho·ne·ti·cian \ˌfō-nə-'tish-ən *also* ˌfän-ə-\ *n* : a specialist in phonetics
pho·net·ics \fə-'net-iks\ *n pl but sing in constr* **1** **a** : the study and systematic classification of the sounds made in spoken utterance **b** : the practical application of this science to language study **2** : the system of speech sounds of a language or group of languages
pho·nic \'fän-ik, *except 2b also* 'fō-nik\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or producing sound : ACOUSTIC **2** **a** : of or relating to the sounds of speech **b** : of or relating to phonics — **pho·ni·cal·ly** \-(ə-)lē\ *adv*
pho·nics \'fän-iks, *1 is also* 'fō-niks\ *n pl but sing in constr* **1** : the science of sound : ACOUSTICS **2** : a method of teaching beginners to read and pronounce words by learning the phonetic value of letters, letter groups, and esp. syllables
pho·no \'fō-(ˌ)nō\ *n, pl* **phonos** : PHONOGRAPH
pho·no·car·dio·gram \ˌfō-nə-'kärd-ē-ə-ˌgram\ *n* [ISV] : a graphic record of heart sounds made by means of a microphone, amplifier, and galvanometer
pho·no·car·dio·graph \-ˌgraf\ *n* : an instrument used for the graphic recording of the sounds of the heart by phonocardiogram — **pho·no·car·dio·graph·ic** \-ˌkärd-ē-ə-'graf-ik\ *adj* — **pho·no·car·di·og·ra·phy** \-ē-'äg-rə-fē\ *n*
pho·no·gram \'fō-nə-ˌgram\ *n* [ISV] **1** : a character or symbol used to represent a word, syllable, or phoneme **2** : a succession of orthographic letters that occurs with the same phonetic value in several words (as the *ight* of *bright*, *fight*, and *flight*) — **pho·no·gram·mic** *or* **pho·no·gram·ic** \ˌfō-nə-'gram-ik\ *adj* — **pho·no·gram·mi·cal·ly** *or* **pho·no·gram·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
pho·no·graph \'fō-nə-ˌgraf\ *n* : an instrument for reproducing sounds by means of the vibration of a stylus or needle following a spiral groove on a revolving disc or cylinder
pho·nog·ra·pher \fə-'näg-rə-fər, fō-\ *n* : a specialist in phonography
pho·no·graph·ic \ˌfō-nə-'graf-ik, *1 is also* ˌfän-ə-\ *adj* **1** : of or relating to phonography **2** : of or relating to a phonograph — **pho·no·graph·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
pho·nog·ra·phy \fə-'näg-rə-fē, fō-\ *n* **1** : spelling based on pronunciation **2** : a system of shorthand writing based on sound
pho·no·lite \'fōn-ᵊl-ˌīt\ *n* [F, fr. G *phonolith*, fr. *phon-* + *-lith*; fr. its ringing sound when struck] : a gray or green volcanic rock consisting essentially of orthoclase and nepheline — **pho·no·lit·ic** \ˌfōn-ᵊl-'it-ik\ *adj*
pho·no·log·i·cal \ˌfōn-ᵊl-'äj-i-kəl *also* ˌfän-ᵊl-\ *also* **pho·no·log·ic** \-ik\ *adj* : of or relating to phonology — **pho·no·log·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
pho·nol·o·gist \fə-'näl-ə-jəst, fō-\ *n* : a specialist in phonology
pho·nol·o·gy \-jē\ *n* **1** : the science of speech sounds including esp. the history and theory of sound changes in a language or in two or more related languages **2** : the phonetics and phonemics of a language at a particular time
pho·non \'fō-ˌnän\ *n* [*phon-* + ²*-on*] : a quantum of vibrational energy (as in a crystal)
pho·no·re·cep·tion \ˌfō-nō-ri-'sep-shən\ *n* : the perception of vibratory motion of relatively high frequency; *specif* : HEARING
pho·no·re·cep·tor \-'sep-tər\ *n* : an animal organ for phonoreception; *esp* : OTOCYST
pho·no·rec·ord \'fō-nō-ˌrek-ərd\ *n* : a phonograph record
¹pho·ny *or* **pho·ney** \'fō-nē\ *adj* **pho·ni·er; -est** [origin unknown] : not genuine or real: as **a** (1) : intended to deceive or mislead **a** (2) : intended to defraud : COUNTERFEIT ⟨a ~ $10 bill⟩ ⟨a ~ check⟩ **b** : arousing suspicion : probably dishonest ⟨something ~ about his alibi⟩ **c** : having no genuine existence : FICTITIOUS ⟨~ publicity stories⟩ **d** : FALSE, SHAM ⟨a ~ name⟩ ⟨~ pearls⟩ **e** : making a false show: as **e** (1) : HYPOCRITICAL **e** (2) : SPECIOUS ⟨has a ~ poetic elegance — *New Republic*⟩ — **pho·ni·ly** \'fōn-ᵊl-ē\ *adv* — **pho·ni·ness** \'fō-nē-nəs\ *n*
²phony *or* **phoney** *n, pl* **phonies** : one that is phony
-pho·ny \f-ə-nē, ˌfō-nē\ *also* **-pho·nia** \'fō-nē-ə\ *n comb form* [ME *-phonie*, fr. OF, fr. L *-phonia*, fr. Gk *-phōnia*, fr. *-phōnos* sounding — more at -PHONE] **1** : sound ⟨tele*phony*⟩ **2** *usu* *-phonia* : speech disorder of a (specified) type ⟨dys*phonia*⟩
phoo·ey \'fü-ē\ *interj* [imit.] — used to express repudiation or disgust
pho·rate \'fō(ə)r-ˌāt, 'fȯ(ə)r-\ *n* [phos*phor*us + thion*ate*] : a very toxic organophosphate systemic insecticide $C_7H_{17}O_2PS_3$ that is used esp. in seed treatments
-phore \ˌfō(ə)r, ˌfȯ(ə)r\ *n comb form* [NL *-phorus*, fr. Gk *-phoros*, fr. *-phoros* (adj. comb. form) carrying, fr. *pherein* to carry — more at BEAR] : carrier ⟨gameto*phore*⟩
-pho·re·sis \fə-'rē-səs\ *n comb form, pl* **-pho·re·ses** \-ˌsēz\ [NL, fr. Gk *phorēsis* act of carrying, fr. *phorein* to carry, wear, freq. of *pherein*] : transmission ⟨electro*phoresis*⟩
phos- *comb form* [Gk *phōs-*, fr. *phōs*] : light ⟨*phos*gene⟩
phos·gene \'fäz-ˌjēn\ *n* [fr. its originally having been obtained by the action of sunlight] : a colorless gas $COCl_2$ of unpleasant odor that is a severe respiratory irritant
phosph- *or* **phospho-** *comb form* [*phosphorus*] **1** : phosphorus ⟨*phosph*ide⟩ **2** : phosphate ⟨*phospho*fructokinase⟩
phos·pham·i·don \fäs-'fam-ə-ˌdän\ *n* [*phosphate* + *amide* + *-on*, of unknown origin] : a contact and systemic organophosphorus insecticide and miticide $C_{10}H_{19}ClNO_5P$
phos·pha·tase \'fäs-fə-ˌtās, -ˌtāz\ *n* : an enzyme that accelerates the hydrolysis and synthesis of organic esters of phosphoric acid and the transfer of phosphate groups to other compounds: **a** : ALKALINE PHOSPHATASE **b** : ACID PHOSPHATASE
phos·phate \'fäs-ˌfāt\ *n* [F, fr. *acide phosphorique* phosphoric acid] **1** **a** : a salt or ester of a phosphoric acid **b** : an organic compound of phosphoric acid in which the acid unit is bound to nitrogen or a carboxyl group in a way that permits useful energy to be released (as in metabolism) **2** : an effervescent drink of carbonated water with a small amount of phosphoric acid or an acid

phosphate flavored with fruit syrup **3** : a phosphatic material used for fertilizers

phosphate group *n* : a group or radical derived from phosphoric acid by removal of one or more hydrogen atoms

phosphate rock *n* : a rock that consists largely of calcium phosphate usu. together with other minerals (as calcium carbonate), is used in making fertilizers, and is a source of phosphorus compounds

phos·phat·ic \fäs-ˈfat-ik, -ˈfāt-\ *adj* : of, relating to, or containing phosphoric acid or phosphates ⟨~ fertilizers⟩

phos·pha·tide \ˈfäs-fə-ˌtīd\ *n* [ISV] : PHOSPHOLIPID — **phos·pha·tid·ic** \ˌfäs-fə-ˈtid-ik\ *adj*

phos·pha·ti·dyl \ˌfäs-fə-ˈtīd-ᵊl, fäs-ˈfat-əd-ᵊl\ *n* : any of several univalent radicals $(RCOO)_2C_3H_5OPO(OH)$ that are derived from phosphatidic acids

phos·pha·tize \ˈfäs-fə-ˌtīz\ *vt* **-tized; -tiz·ing** **1** : to change to a phosphate or phosphates **2** : to treat with phosphoric acid or a phosphate — **phos·pha·ti·za·tion** \ˌfäs-fət-ə-ˈzā-shən, -ˌfāt-\ *n*

phos·pha·tu·ria \ˌfäs-fə-ˈt(y)u̇r-ē-ə\ *n* [NL, fr. ISV *phosphate* + NL *-uria*] : the excessive discharge of phosphates in the urine — **phos·pha·tu·ric** \-ˈt(y)u̇(ə)r-ik\ *adj*

phos·phene \ˈfäs-ˌfēn\ *n* [ISV *phos-* + Gk *phainein* to show — more at FANCY] : a luminous impression due to excitation of the retina

phos·phide \-ˌfīd\ *n* [ISV] : a binary compound of phosphorus usu. with a more electropositive element or radical

phos·phine \-ˌfēn\ *n* [ISV] **1** : a colorless poisonous flammable gas PH_3 that is a weaker base than ammonia and that is used esp. to fumigate stored grain **2** : any of various derivatives of phosphine analogous to amines but weaker as bases

phos·phite \-ˌfīt\ *n* : a salt or ester of phosphorous acid

phos·pho·cre·atine \ˌfäs-(ˌ)fō-ˈkrē-ə-ˌtēn\ *n* [ISV] : a compound $C_4H_{10}N_3O_5P$ of creatine and phosphoric acid that is found esp. in vertebrate muscle where it is an energy source for muscle contraction

phos·pho·di·es·ter·ase \-dī-ˈes-tə-ˌrās, -ˌrāz\ *n* [*phosph-* + *diester* + *-ase*] : a phosphatase (as from snake venom) that acts on diesters (as some nucleotides) to hydrolyze only one of the two ester groups

phos·pho·enol·pyr·uvate \ˈfäs-ˌfō-ə-ˌnōl-pī-ˈrü-ˌvāt, -ˌnōl-, -ˌpī(ə)r-ˈyü-\ *n* : a salt or ester of phosphoenolpyruvic acid

phos·pho·enol·pyr·uvic acid \-ˌü-vik-, -ˈyü-\ *n* : the phosphate $CH_2{=}O(OPO_3H_2)COOH$ of the enol form of pyruvic acid that is formed as an intermediate in carbohydrate metabolism (as in the reversible dehydration of phosphoglyceric acid)

phos·pho·fruc·to·ki·nase \ˈfäs-(ˌ)fō-ˌfrək-tō-ˈkī-ˌnās, -ˌfrük-, -ˌfrůk-, -ˌnāz\ *n* [*phospho-* + *fructose* + *kinase*] : an enzyme that catalyzes the transfer of a second phosphate (as from ATP) to fructose in carbohydrate metabolism

phos·pho·glu·co·mu·tase \-ˌglü-kō-ˈmyü-ˌtās, -ˌtāz\ *n* [*phosph-* + *gluc-* + *mutase*] : an enzyme that is found in all plant and animal cells and that catalyzes the reversible isomerization of glucose-1-phosphate to glucose-6-phosphate

phos·pho·glyc·er·al·de·hyde \-ˌglis-ə-ˈral-də-ˌhīd\ *n* : a phosphate of glyceraldehyde $C_3H_5O_3(H_2PO_3)$ that is formed esp. in anaerobic metabolism of carbohydrates by the splitting of a diphosphate of fructose

phos·pho·gly·cer·ic acid \-glis-ˌer-ik-\ *n* : either of two isomeric phosphates $HOOCC_2H_3(OH)OPO_3H_2$ of glyceric acid that are formed as intermediates in photosynthesis and in carbohydrate metabolism

phos·pho·ki·nase \ˌfäs-fō-ˈkī-ˌnās, -ˌnāz\ *n* : KINASE

phos·pho·li·pase \-ˈlī-ˌpās, -ˌpāz\ *n* : LECITHINASE

phos·pho·lip·id \-ˈlip-əd\ *n* : a complex phosphoric ester lipid that is found in all living cells in association with stored fats

phos·pho·mono·es·ter·ase \-ˌmän-ō-ˈes-tə-ˌrās, -ˌrāz\ *n* : a phosphatase that acts on monoesters

phos·pho·ni·um \fäs-ˈfō-nē-əm\ *n* [NL] : a univalent radical PH_4 analogous to ammonium and derived from phosphine

phos·pho·pro·tein \ˌfäs-fō-ˈprō-ˌtēn, -ˈprōt-ē-ən\ *n* : any of various proteins (as casein) that contain combined phosphoric acid

phos·phor \ˈfäs-fər, -ˌfȯ(ə)r\ *also* **phos·phore** \-ˌfō(ə)r, -ˌfȯ(ə)r, -fər\ *n* [L *phosphorus*, fr. Gk *phōsphoros*, lit., light bringer, fr. *phōs-phoros* light-bearing, fr. *phōs-* + *pherein* to carry, bring — more at BEAR] : a phosphorescent substance; *specif* : a substance that emits light when excited by radiation

phosphor- *or* **phosphoro-** *comb form* : phosphorus ⟨*phospho-rism*⟩ : phosphoric acid ⟨*phosphoro*lysis⟩

phosphor bronze *n* : a bronze of great hardness, elasticity, and toughness that contains a small amount of phosphorus

phos·pho·resce \ˌfäs-fə-ˈres\ *vi* **-resced; -resc·ing** [prob. back-formation fr. *phosphorescent*] : to exhibit phosphorescence

phos·pho·res·cence \-ˈres-ᵊn(t)s\ *n* **1** : luminescence that is caused by the absorption of radiations and continues for a noticeable time after these radiations have stopped **2** : an enduring luminescence without sensible heat

phos·pho·res·cent \-ᵊnt\ *adj* : exhibiting phosphorescence — **phos·pho·res·cent·ly** *adv*

phos·pho·ret·ed *or* **phos·pho·ret·ted** \ˈfäs-fə-ˌret-əd\ *adj* [NL *phosphoretum* phosphide, fr. *phosphorus*] : impregnated or combined with phosphorus

phos·pho·ric \fäs-ˈfȯr-ik, -ˈfär-; ˈfäs-f(ə-)rik\ *adj* : of, relating to, or containing phosphorus esp. with a valence higher than in phosphorous compounds

phosphoric acid *n* **1** : a syrupy or deliquescent tribasic acid H_3PO_4 used esp. in preparing phosphates (as for fertilizers), in rust-proofing metals, and as a flavoring in soft drinks — called also *orthophosphoric acid* **2** : any of several hydrated forms of phosphoric acid (as metaphosphoric acid or pyrophosphoric acid)

phos·pho·rism \ˈfäs-fə-ˌriz-əm\ *n* : a poisoning by phosphorus esp. when chronic

phos·pho·rite \-ˌrīt\ *n* **1** : a fibrous concretionary apatite **2** : PHOSPHATE ROCK — **phos·pho·rit·ic** \ˌfäs-fə-ˈrit-ik\ *adj*

phos·pho·rol·y·sis \ˌfäs-fə-ˈräl-ə-səs\ *n* [NL] : a reversible reaction analogous to hydrolysis in which phosphoric acid functions in a manner similar to that of water with the formation of a phosphate (as glucose-1-phosphate in the breakdown of liver glycogen) — **phos·pho·ro·lyt·ic** \-rō-ˈlit-ik\ *adj*

phos·pho·rous \ˈfäs-f(ə-)rəs; fäs-ˈfōr-əs, -ˈfȯr-\ *adj* : of, relating to, or containing phosphorus esp. with a valence lower than in phosphoric compounds

phosphorous acid *n* : a deliquescent crystalline acid H_3PO_3 used esp. as a reducing agent and in making phosphites

phos·pho·rus \ˈfäs-f(ə-)rəs\ *n, often attrib* [NL, fr. Gk *phōsphoros* light-bearing — more at PHOSPHOR] **1** : a phosphorescent substance or body; *esp* : one that shines or glows in the dark **2** : a nonmetallic multivalent element of the nitrogen family that occurs widely esp. as phosphates — see ELEMENT table

phos·pho·ryl \ˈfäs-fə-ˌril\ *n* [ISV] : a usu. trivalent radical PO consisting of phosphorus and oxygen

phos·phor·y·lase \fäs-ˈfȯr-ə-ˌlās, -ˌlāz\ *n* [*phosphoryl* + *-ase*] : any enzyme that catalyzes phosphorolysis with the formation of organic phosphates

phos·phor·y·late \-ˌlāt\ *vt* **-lat·ed; -lat·ing** : to cause (an organic compound) to take up or combine with phosphoric acid or a phosphorus-containing group — **phos·phor·y·la·tive** \-ˌlāt-iv\ *adj*

phos·phor·y·la·tion \ˌfäs-ˌfȯr-ə-ˈlā-shən\ *n* : the process of phosphorylating either by reaction with inorganic phosphate or by transfer of phosphate from another organic phosphate; *esp* : the enzymatic conversion of carbohydrates into their phosphoric esters in metabolic processes

phot \ˈfōt\ *n* [ISV, fr. Gk *phōt-*, *phōs* light] : the cgs unit of illumination equal to one lumen per square centimeter

phot- *or* **photo-** *comb form* [Gk *phōt-*, *phōto-*, fr. *phōt-*, *phōs* — more at FANCY] **1** : light : radiant energy ⟨*photon*⟩ ⟨*photo*graphy⟩ **2** : photograph : photographic ⟨*photo*engraving⟩ **3** : photoelectric ⟨*photo*cell⟩

pho·tic \ˈfōt-ik\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or involving light esp. in relation to organisms **2** : penetrated by light esp. of the sun ⟨~ zone of the ocean⟩ — **pho·ti·cal·ly** \ˈfōt-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

¹pho·to \ˈfōt-(ˌ)ō\ *n, pl* **photos** : PHOTOGRAPH

²photo *vb* : PHOTOGRAPH

³photo *adj* : PHOTOGRAPHIC 1

pho·to·au·to·tro·phic \ˌfōt-ō-ˌȯt-ə-ˈtrō-fik\ *adj* : autotrophic and obtaining energy from light ⟨green plants are ~⟩ — **pho·to·au·to·tro·phi·cal·ly** \-fi-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

pho·to·bi·ol·o·gy \ˌfōt-ō-(ˌ)bī-äl-ə-jē\ *n* [ISV] : a branch of biology that deals with the effects on living beings of radiant energy (as light) — **pho·to·bi·o·log·ic** \-ˌbī-ə-ˈläj-ik\ *or* **pho·to·bi·o·log·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj* — **pho·to·bi·ol·o·gist** \-(ˌ)bī-ˈäl-ə-jəst\ *n*

pho·to·bi·ot·ic \-(ˌ)bī-ˈät-ik\ *adj* : requiring light in order to live or thrive

pho·to·cath·ode \-ˈkath-ˌōd\ *n* [ISV] : a cathode that emits electrons when exposed to radiant energy and esp. light

pho·to·cell \ˈfōt-ə-ˌsel\ *n* [ISV] : PHOTOELECTRIC CELL

pho·to·chem·i·cal \ˌfōt-ō-ˈkem-i-kəl\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or resulting from the chemical action of radiant energy and esp. light ⟨~ smog⟩ **2** : of or relating to photochemistry ⟨~ studies⟩ — **pho·to·chem·i·cal·ly** \-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

pho·to·chem·is·try \-ˈkem-ə-strē\ *n* **1** : a branch of chemistry that deals with the effect of radiant energy in producing chemical changes **2 a** : photochemical properties ⟨the ~ of gases⟩ **b** : photochemical processes ⟨the ~ of vision⟩ — **pho·to·chem·ist** \-ˈkem-əst\ *n*

pho·to·chro·mic \ˌfōt-ə-ˈkrō-mik\ *adj* [*phot-* + *chrom-* + *-ic*] **1** : capable of changing color on exposure to radiant energy (as light) ⟨~ glass⟩ **2** : of, relating to, or utilizing the change of color shown by a photochromic substance ⟨a ~ process⟩ — **pho·to·chro·mism** \-ˌmiz-əm\ *n*

pho·to·co·ag·u·la·tion \-kō-ˌag-yə-ˈlā-shən\ *n* : a surgical process of coagulating tissue by means of a precisely oriented high-energy light source (as a light beam)

pho·to·com·pose \ˌfōt-ō-kəm-ˈpōz\ *vt* : to set (as reading matter) by photocomposition — **pho·to·com·pos·er** *n*

pho·to·com·po·si·tion \-ˌkäm-pə-ˈzish-ən\ *n* : composition of reading matter directly on film or photosensitive paper for reproduction

pho·to·con·duc·tive \-kən-ˈdək-tiv\ *adj* : having, involving, or operating by photoconductivity

pho·to·con·duc·tiv·i·ty \-ˌkän-ˌdək-ˈtiv-ət-ē, -kən-\ *n* : electrical conductivity that is affected by exposure to light or other radiation

¹pho·to·copy \ˈfōt-ə-ˌkäp-ē\ *n* [ISV] : a photographic reproduction of graphic matter

²photocopy *vt* : to make a photocopy of ~ *vi* : to make a photocopy — **pho·to·copi·er** *n*

pho·to·cur·rent \ˈfōt-ō-ˌkər-ənt, -kə-rənt\ *n* [*photo*electric *current*] : a stream of electrons produced by photoelectric or photovoltaic effects

pho·to·de·com·po·si·tion \-ˌdē-ˌkäm-pə-ˈzish-ən\ *n* : chemical breaking down (as of a pesticide) by means of radiant energy

pho·to·de·tec·tor \ˌfōt-ō-di-ˈtek-tər\ *n* : any of various devices for detecting and measuring the intensity of radiant energy through photoelectric action

pho·to·dis·in·te·gra·tion \ˈfōt-ō-dis-ˌint-ə-ˈgrā-shən\ *n* : disintegration of the nucleus of an atom produced by absorption of radiant energy — **pho·to·dis·in·te·grate** \-ˈint-ə-ˌgrāt\ *vt*

pho·to·dis·so·ci·a·tion \-dis-ˌō-sē-ˈā-shən, -shē-\ *n* : dissociation (as of water) under the influence of radiant energy — **pho·to·dis·so·ci·ate** \-ˈō-s(h)ē-ˌāt\ *vt* — **pho·to·dis·so·ci·a·tive** \-s(h)ē-ˌāt-iv, -shət-iv\ *adj*

pho·to·dra·ma \ˈfōt-ə-ˌdräm-ə, -ˌdram-\ *n* : MOTION PICTURE

pho·to·du·pli·cate \ˌfōt-ō-ˈd(y)ü-plə-ˌkāt\ *vb* : PHOTOCOPY — **pho·to·du·pli·cate** \-pli-kət\ *n* — **pho·to·du·pli·ca·tion** \-ˌd(y)ü-plə-ˈkā-shən\ *n*

pho·to·dy·nam·ic \-(ˌ)dī-ˈnam-ik\ *adj* [ISV] : of, relating to, or having the property of intensifying or inducing a toxic reaction to

light and esp. sunlight in living systems — **pho·to·dy·nam·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

pho·to·elec·tric \ˌfōt-ō-i-ˈlek-trik\ *adj* [ISV] : involving, relating to, or utilizing any of various electrical effects due to the interaction of radiation (as light) with matter — **pho·to·elec·tri·cal·ly** \-tri-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

photoelectric cell *n* : a cell whose electrical properties are modified by the action of light

pho·to·elec·tron \ˌfōt-ō-i-ˈlek-ˌträn\ *n* [ISV] : an electron released in photoemission — **pho·to·elec·tron·ic** \-ˌlek-ˈträn-ik\ *adj*

pho·to·emis·sion \-i-ˈmish-ən\ *n* : the release of electrons from a metal by means of energy supplied by incidence of radiation and esp. light — **pho·to·emis·sive** \-ˈmis-iv\ *adj*

pho·to·en·grave \-in-ˈgrāv\ *vt* [back-formation fr. *photoengraving*] : to make a photoengraving of — **pho·to·en·grav·er** *n*

pho·to·en·grav·ing *n* **1** : a photomechanical process for making linecuts and halftone cuts by photographing an image on a metal plate and then etching **2 a** : a plate made by photoengraving **b** : a print made from such a plate

photo finish *n* **1** : a race finish in which contestants are so close that a photograph of them as they cross the finish line has to be examined to determine the winner **2** : a close contest

pho·to·flash \ˈfōt-ə-ˌflash\ *n* : an electrically or mechanically operated flash lamp; *esp* : FLASHBULB

pho·to·flood \-ˌfləd\ *n* : an electric lamp using excess voltage to give intense sustained illumination for taking photographs

pho·to·flu·o·ro·gram \ˌfōt-ə-ˈflůr-ə-ˌgram\ *n* : a photograph made by photofluorography

pho·to·flu·o·rog·ra·phy \-(ˌ)flů(-ə)r-ˈäg-rə-fē\ *n* : the photography of the image produced on a fluorescent screen by X rays — **pho·to·flu·o·ro·graph·ic** \-ˌflůr-ə-ˈgraf-ik\ *adj*

¹pho·tog \fə-ˈtäg\ *n* [short for *photographer*] : one who takes photographs : PHOTOGRAPHER

²photog *abbr* photographic; photography

pho·to·gene \ˈfōt-ə-ˌjēn\ *n* [ISV *phot-* + *-gen*] : an afterimage or retinal impression

pho·to·ge·nic \ˌfōt-ə-ˈjen-ik, -ˈjēn-\ *adj* **1** : produced or precipitated by light ⟨~ dermatitis⟩ **2** : producing or generating light : PHOSPHORESCENT ⟨~ bacteria⟩ **3** : suitable or suited for being photographed — **pho·to·ge·ni·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

pho·to·ge·ol·o·gy \ˌfōt-ō-jē-ˈäl-ə-jē\ *n* : a branch of geology concerned with the identification of geological features through the study of aerial photographs — **pho·to·geo·log·ic** \-ˌjē-ə-ˈläj-ik\ *also* **pho·to·geo·log·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj*

pho·to·gram \ˈfōt-ə-ˌgram\ *n* [ISV] : a shadowlike photograph made by placing objects between light-sensitive paper and a light source

pho·to·gram·met·ric \ˌfōt-ə-grə-ˈme-trik, -gra-\ *adj* : of, made by, or relating to photogrammetry

pho·to·gram·me·try \-ˈgram-ə-trē\ *n* [ISV *photogram* photograph (fr. *phot-* + *-gram*) + *-metry*] : the science of making reliable measurements by the use of photographs and esp. aerial photographs (as in surveying) — **pho·to·gram·me·trist** \-trəst\ *n*

¹pho·to·graph \ˈfōt-ə-ˌgraf\ *n* : a picture or likeness obtained by photography

²photograph *vt* : to take a photograph of ~ *vi* **1** : to take a photograph **2** : to undergo being photographed — **pho·tog·ra·pher** \fə-ˈtäg-rə-fər\ *n*

pho·to·graph·ic \ˌfōt-ə-ˈgraf-ik\ *adj* **1** : relating to, obtained by, or used in photography **2** : representing nature and human beings with the exactness of a photograph **3** : capable of retaining vivid impressions ⟨a ~ mind⟩ — **pho·to·graph·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

pho·tog·ra·phy \fə-ˈtäg-rə-fē\ *n* : the art or process of producing images on a sensitized surface (as a film) by the action of radiant energy and esp. light

pho·to·gra·vure \ˌfōt-ə-grə-ˈvyů(ə)r\ *n* [F, fr. *phot-* + *gravure*] : a process for making prints from an intaglio plate prepared by photographic methods; *also* : a print produced by photogravure

pho·to·he·lio·graph \ˌfōt-ō-ˈhē-lē-ə-ˌgraf\ *n* : a telescope adapted for photographing the sun

pho·to·in·duced \-in-ˈd(y)üst\ *adj* : induced by the action of light — **pho·to·in·duc·tion** \-ˈdək-shən\ *n* — **pho·to·in·duc·tive** \-ˈdək-tiv\ *adj*

pho·to·ion·iza·tion \-ˌī-ə-nə-ˈzā-shən\ *n* : ionization (as in the ionosphere) resulting from collision of a molecule or atom with a photon

pho·to·jour·nal·ism \ˌfōt-ō-ˈjərn-ᵊl-ˌiz-əm\ *n* : journalism in which written copy is subordinate to pictorial usu. photographic presentation of news stories or in which a high proportion of pictorial presentation is used — **pho·to·jour·nal·ist** \-ᵊl-əst\ *n* — **pho·to·jour·nal·is·tic** \-ˌjərn-ᵊl-ˈis-tik\ *adj*

pho·to·ki·ne·sis \-kə-ˈnē-səs, -kī-\ *n* [NL, fr. *phot-* + Gk *kinēsis* motion — more at KINESIOLOGY] : motion or activity induced by light — **pho·to·ki·net·ic** \-ˈnet-ik\ *adj*

pho·to·li·thog·ra·phy \-lith-ˈäg-rə-fē\ *n* [ISV] : lithography in which photographically prepared plates are used — **pho·to·litho·graph** \-ˈlith-ə-ˌgraf\ *n or vt* — **pho·to·li·thog·ra·pher** \-lith-ˈäg-rə-fər, -ˈlith-ə-ˌgraf-ər\ *n* — **pho·to·litho·graph·ic** \-ˌlith-ə-ˈgraf-ik\ *adj* — **pho·to·litho·graph·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

pho·tol·y·sis \fō-ˈtäl-ə-səs\ *n* [NL] : chemical decomposition by the action of radiant energy — **pho·to·lyt·ic** \ˌfōt-ᵊl-ˈit-ik\ *adj* — **pho·to·lyt·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

pho·to·lyze \ˈfōt-ᵊl-ˌīz\ *vb* **-lyzed; -lyz·ing** *vt* : to cause to undergo photolysis ~ *vi* : to undergo photolysis — **pho·to·lyz·able** \-ˌī-zə-bəl\ *adj*

¹pho·to·map \ˈfōt-ō-ˌmap\ *n* : a photograph which is taken vertically from above (as from an airplane) and upon which a grid and data pertinent to maps have been added

²photomap *vt* : to make a photomap of ~ *vi* : to make a photomap

pho·to·me·chan·i·cal \ˌfōt-ō-mi-ˈkan-i-kəl\ *adj* [ISV] : relating to or involving any of various processes for producing printed matter from a photographically prepared surface — **pho·to·me·chan·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

pho·tom·e·ter \fō-ˈtäm-ət-ər\ *n* [NL *photometrum*, fr. *phot-* + *-metrum* -meter] : an instrument for measuring luminous intensity, luminous flux, illumination, or brightness

pho·to·met·ric \ˌfōt-ə-ˈme-trik\ *adj* : of or relating to photometry or the photometer — **pho·to·met·ri·cal·ly** \-tri-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

pho·tom·e·try \fō-ˈtäm-ə-trē\ *n* [NL *photometria*, fr. *phot-* + *-metria* -metry] : a branch of science that deals with measurement of the intensity of light; *also* : the practice of using a photometer

pho·to·mi·cro·graph \ˌfōt-ə-ˈmī-krə-ˌgraf\ *n* [*phot-* + *micr-* + *-graph*] : a photograph of a magnified image of a small object — **photomicrograph** *vt* — **pho·to·mi·cro·graph·ic** \-ˌmī-krə-ˈgraf-ik\ *also* **pho·to·mi·cro·graph·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj* — **pho·to·mi·crog·ra·phy** \-mī-ˈkräg-rə-fē\ *n*

pho·to·mi·cro·scope \-ˈmī-krə-ˌskōp\ *n* : an instrument or system that combines a microscope, camera, and light source and is used for making photomicrographs — **pho·to·mi·cro·scop·ic** \-ˌmī-krə-ˈskäp-ik\ *adj*

pho·to·mon·tage \-män-ˈtäzh, mōⁿ(n)-, -ˈtázh\ *n* [ISV] : montage using photographic images; *also* : a picture made by photomontage

pho·to·mor·pho·gen·e·sis \ˌfōt-ə-ˌmȯr-fə-ˈjen-ə-səs\ *n* [NL] : plant morphogenesis controlled by radiant energy (as light) — **pho·to·mor·pho·gen·ic** \-ˈjen-ik\ *adj*

pho·to·mul·ti·pli·er \ˌfōt-ō-ˈməl-tə-ˌplī(-ə)r\ *n* : an electron multiplier in which electrons released by photoelectric emission are multiplied in successive stages by dynodes that produce secondary emission

pho·to·mu·ral \-ˈmyůr-əl\ *n* : an enlarged photograph usu. several yards long used on walls esp. as decoration

pho·ton \ˈfō-ˌtän\ *n* [*phot-* + ²*-on*] **1** : a quantum of radiant energy **2** : a unit of intensity of light at the retina equal to the illumination received per square millimeter of a pupillary area from a surface having a brightness of one candle per square meter — **pho·ton·ic** \fō-ˈtän-ik\ *adj*

pho·to·neg·a·tive \ˌfōt-ō-ˈneg-ət-iv\ *adj* : exhibiting negative phototropism or phototaxis

pho·to·nu·cle·ar \-ˈn(y)ü-klē-ər\ *adj* : relating to or caused by the incidence or radiant energy (as gamma rays) on atomic nuclei

pho·to–off·set \-ˈȯf-ˌset\ *n* : offset printing from photolithographic plates

pho·to·ox·i·da·tion \-ˌäk-sə-ˈdā-shən\ *n* : oxidation under the influence of radiant energy (as light) — **pho·to·ox·i·da·tive** \-ˈäk-sə-ˌdāt-iv\ *adj*

pho·to·pe·ri·od \-ˈpir-ē-əd\ *n* : the relative lengths of alternating periods of lightness and darkness as they affect the growth and maturity of an organism — **pho·to·pe·ri·od·ic** \-ˌpir-ē-ˈäd-ik\ *adj* — **pho·to·pe·ri·od·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **pho·to·pe·ri·od·ism** \-ˈpir-ē-əd-ˌiz-əm\ *n*

pho·to·phil·ic \ˌfōt-ə-ˈfil-ik\ *or* **pho·toph·i·lous** \fō-ˈtäf-ə-ləs\ *also* **pho·to·phile** \ˈfōt-ə-ˌfīl\ *adj* : thriving in full light : requiring abundant light ⟨~ plants⟩ — **pho·toph·i·ly** \fō-ˈtäf-ə-lē\ *n*

pho·to·pho·bia \ˌfōt-ə-ˈfō-bē-ə\ *n* [NL] : intolerance to light; *esp* : painful sensitiveness to strong light

pho·to·pho·bic \-ˈfō-bik\ *adj* **1 a** : shunning or avoiding light **b** : growing best under reduced illumination **2** : of or relating to photophobia

pho·to·phore \ˈfōt-ə-ˌfō(ə)r, -ˌfȯ(ə)r\ *n* [ISV] : a light-emitting organ; *esp* : one of the luminous spots on various marine mostly deep-sea fishes

pho·to·phos·phor·y·la·tion \ˈfōt-ō-ˌfäs-ˌfȯr-ə-ˈlā-shən\ *n* [*phot-* + *phosphorylation*] : the conversion of ADP to ATP in photosynthesis using radiant energy

phot·opia \fōt-ˈō-pē-ə\ *n* [NL, fr. *phot-* + *-opia*] : vision in bright light with light-adapted eyes that is mediated by the cones of the retina — **phot·opic** \-ˈō-pik, -ˈäp-ik\ *adj*

pho·to·play \ˈfōt-ō-ˌplā\ *n* : MOTION PICTURE 2

pho·to·poly·mer \ˌfōt-ō-ˈpäl-ə-mər\ *n* : a photosensitive plastic used in the manufacture of printing plates

pho·to·pos·i·tive \-ˈpäz-ət-iv, -ˈpäz-tiv\ *adj* : exhibiting positive phototropism or phototaxis

pho·to·print \ˈfōt-ō-ˌprint\ *n* : a reproduction of graphic matter on photographic paper

pho·to·prod·uct \ˌfōt-ō-ˈpräd-(ˌ)əkt\ *n* : a product of a photochemical reaction

pho·to·pro·duc·tion \-prə-ˈdək-shən\ *n* : the production of mesons as a result of the action of photons on atomic nuclei; *also* : the production of a substance (as hydrogen) by a photochemical reaction (as in photosynthetic bacteria)

pho·to·re·ac·ti·va·tion \-rē-ˌak-tə-ˈvā-shən\ *n* : repair of DNA (as of a bacterium) by a light-dependent enzymatic reaction after being damaged by ultraviolet irradiation — **pho·to·re·ac·ti·vat·ing** \-ˈak-tə-ˌvāt-iŋ\ *adj*

pho·to·re·cep·tion \-ri-ˈsep-shən\ *n* : perception of waves in the range of visible light; *specif* : VISION — **pho·to·re·cep·tive** \-ˈsep-tiv\ *adj*

pho·to·re·cep·tor \-ˈsep-tər\ *n* : a receptor for light stimuli

pho·to·re·con·nais·sance \ˌfōt-ō-ri-ˈkän-ə-zən(t)s *also* -sən(t)s\ *n* : reconnaissance in which aerial photographs are taken

pho·to·re·duc·tion \-ri-ˈdək-shən\ *n* : chemical reduction under the influence of radiant energy (as light) : photochemical reduction

pho·to·res·pi·ra·tion \-ˌres-pə-ˈrā-shən\ *n* : oxidation involving production of carbon dioxide during photosynthesis

pho·to·sen·si·tive \-'sen(t)-sət-iv, -'sen(t)-stiv\ *adj* : sensitive or sensitized to the action of radiant energy — **pho·to·sen·si·tiv·i·ty** \-ˌsen(t)-sə-'tiv-ət-ē\ *n*
pho·to·sen·si·ti·za·tion \-ˌsen(t)-sət-ə-'zā-shən, -ˌsen(t)-stə-'zā-\ *n* **1** : the process of photosensitizing **2** : the condition of being photosensitized; *esp* : the development of an abnormal capacity to react to sunlight typically by edematous swelling and dermatitis
pho·to·sen·si·tize \-'sen(t)-sə-ˌtīz\ *vt* : to make sensitive to the influence of radiant energy and esp. light — **pho·to·sen·si·tiz·er** *n*
pho·to·set \'fōt-ō-ˌset\ **-set; -set·ting** *vt* : PHOTOCOMPOSE — **pho·to·set·ter** *n*
pho·to·sphere \'fōt-ə-ˌsfi(ə)r\ *n* **1** : a sphere of light or radiance **2** : the luminous surface layer of the sun or a star — **pho·to·spher·ic** \ˌfōt-ə-'sfi(ə)r-ik, -'sfer-\ *adj*
pho·to·stat \'fōt-ə-ˌstat\ *vt* : to copy by a Photostat device
Photostat *trademark* — used for a device for making a photographic copy of graphic matter
pho·to·stat·ic \ˌfōt-ə-'stat-ik\ *adj* : of, made by, or using a Photostat device ⟨a ~ copy⟩ ⟨a ~ process⟩
pho·to·syn·the·sis \ˌfōt-ō-'sin(t)-thə-səs\ *n* [NL] : synthesis of chemical compounds with the aid of radiant energy and esp. light; *esp* : formation of carbohydrates in the chlorophyll-containing tissues of plants exposed to light — **pho·to·syn·the·size** \-ˌsīz\ *vi* — **pho·to·syn·thet·ic** \-sin-'thet-ik\ *adj* — **pho·to·syn·thet·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
pho·to·tac·tic \-'tak-tik\ *adj* [ISV] : of, relating to, or exhibiting phototaxis — **pho·to·tac·ti·cal·ly** \-ti-kə-lē\ *adv*
pho·to·tax·is \-'tak-səs\ *n* [NL] : a taxis in which light is the directive factor
pho·to·te·leg·ra·phy \-tə-'leg-rə-fē\ *n* [ISV] : FACSIMILE 2
pho·to·tro·pic \ˌfōt-ə-'trōp-ik, -'träp-\ *adj* : of, relating to, or capable of phototropism — **pho·to·tro·pi·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
pho·tot·ro·pism \fō-'tä-trə-ˌpiz-əm\ *n* [ISV] : a tropism in which light is the orienting stimulus
pho·to·tube \'fōt-ō-ˌt(y)üb\ *n* : an electron tube having a photoemissive cathode whose released electrons are drawn to the anode by reason of its positive potential
pho·to·type·set·ting \ˌfōt-ō-'tīp-ˌset-iŋ\ *n* : PHOTOCOMPOSITION; *esp* : photocomposition done on a keyboard or tape-operated composing machine — **pho·to·type·set·ter** *n*
pho·to·ty·pog·ra·phy \-tī-'päg-rə-fē\ *n* [ISV] : PHOTOCOMPOSITION — **pho·to·ty·po·graph·ic** \-ˌtī-pə-'graf-ik\ *adj*
pho·to·vol·ta·ic \-väl-'tā-ik, -vōl-\ *adj* [ISV] : of, relating to, or utilizing the generation of an electromotive force when radiant energy falls on the boundary between dissimilar substances
phr *abbr* phrase
phrag·mo·plast \'frag-mō-ˌplast\ *n* [ISV *phragmo-* (fr. Gk *phragmos* fence, fr. *phrassein* to enclose) + *-plast* — more at FARCE] : the enlarged barrel-shaped spindle that is characteristic of the later stages of plant mitosis and within which the cell plate forms
phras·al \'frā-zəl\ *adj* : of, relating to, or consisting of a phrase ⟨~ prepositions⟩ — **phras·al·ly** \-zə-lē\ *adv*
¹phrase \'frāz\ *n* [L *phrasis*, fr. Gk, fr. *phrazein* to point out, explain, tell] **1** : a characteristic manner or style of expression : DICTION **2 a** : a brief expression; *esp* : CATCHWORD **b** : WORD **3** : a short musical thought typically two to four measures long closing with a cadence **4** : a group of two or more grammatically related words that bear to one another the modifying relation, the coordinate relation, or the composite relation ⟨an adverbial ~⟩
²phrase *vt* **phrased; phras·ing** **1 a** : to express in words or in appropriate or telling terms **b** : to designate by a descriptive word or phrase **2** : to divide into melodic phrases
phrase book *n* : a book containing idiomatic expressions of a foreign language and their translation
phrase·mak·er \'frāz-ˌmā-kər\ *n* **1** : one who coins telling phrases **2** : one given to making fine-sounding but often hollow and meaningless phrases — **phrase·mak·ing** \-kiŋ\ *n*
phrase·mon·ger \-ˌməŋ-gər, -ˌmäŋ-\ *n* : PHRASEMAKER 2 — **phrase·mon·ger·ing** \-g(ə-)riŋ\ *n*
phra·seo·gram \'frā-zē-ə-ˌgram\ *n* [*phraseo-* (as in *phraseology*) + *-gram*] : a symbol for a phrase in some shorthand systems
phra·seo·graph \-ˌgraf\ *n* : PHRASEOGRAM
phra·seo·log·i·cal \ˌfrā-zē-ə-'läj-i-kəl\ *adj* **1 a** : expressed in formal often sententious phrases **b** : marked by frequently insincere use of such phrases **2** : of or relating to phraseology — **phra·seo·log·i·cal·ly** \-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
phrase·ol·o·gist \ˌfrā-zē-'äl-ə-jəst, frā-'zäl-\ *n* : one who uses sententious or insincere phrases
phrase·ol·o·gy \-jē\ *n, pl* **-gies** [NL *phraseologia*, fr. Gk *phrase-, phrasis* + *-logia* -logy] **1** : a manner of organization of words and phrases into longer elements : STYLE **2** : choice of words
phras·ing \'frā-ziŋ\ *n* **1** : style of expression : PHRASEOLOGY **2** : the act, method, or result of grouping notes into musical phrases
phra·try \'frā-trē\ *n, pl* **phratries** [Gk *phratria*, fr. *phratēr* member of the same clan, member of a phratry — more at BROTHER] **1** : a kinship group forming a subdivision of a Greek phyle **2** : a tribal subdivision; *specif* : an exogamous group typically comprising several totemic clans
phre·at·ic \frē-'at-ik\ *adj* [Gk *phreat-, phrear* well] **1** : of, relating to, or being ground water **2** : of, relating to, or being an explosion caused by steam derived from ground water
phre·ato·phyte \frē-'at-ə-ˌfīt\ *n* [Gk *phreat-, phrear* well + E *-o-* + *-phyte*] : a deep-rooted plant that obtains its water from the water table or the layer of soil just above it — **phre·ato·phyt·ic** \-ˌat-ə-'fit-ik\ *adj*
phren- *or* **phreno-** *comb form* [Gk, fr. *phren-, phrēn* diaphragm, mind] **1** : mind ⟨*phreno*logy⟩ **2** : diaphragm ⟨*phren*ic⟩
phre·net·ic \fri-'net-ik\ *adj* [L *phreneticus*] : FRENETIC
-phre·nia \'frē-nē-ə\ *n comb form* [NL, fr. Gk *phren-, phrēn*] : disordered condition of mental functions ⟨hebe*phrenia*⟩
phren·ic \'fren-ik\ *adj* [NL *phrenicus*, fr. *phren-*] **1** : of or relating to the diaphragm **2** : of or relating to the mind
phre·nol·o·gy \fri-'näl-ə-jē\ *n* : the study of the conformation of the skull based on the belief that it is indicative of mental faculties and character — **phre·no·log·i·cal** \ˌfren-ᵊl-'äj-i-kəl, ˌfrēn-\ *adj* — **phre·no·log·i·cal·ly** \-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **phre·nol·o·gist** \fri-'näl-ə-jəst\ *n*
phren·sy *var of* FRENZY
Phry·gian \'frij-(ē-)ən\ *n* **1** : a native or inhabitant of ancient Phrygia **2** : the language of the Phrygians usu. assumed to be Indo-European — see INDO-EUROPEAN LANGUAGES table — **Phrygian** *adj*
PHS *abbr* Public Health Service
phtha·lein \'thal-ē-ən, 'thal-ˌēn, 'thāl-\ *n* [ISV, fr. *phthalic acid*] : any of various xanthene dyes that are intensely colored in alkaline solution
phthal·ic acid \ˌthal-ik-\ *n* [ISV, short for obs. *naphthalic acid*, fr. *naphthalene*] : any of three isomeric acids $C_8H_6O_4$ obtained by oxidation of various benzene derivatives
phthalic anhydride *n* : a crystalline cyclic acid anhydride $C_8H_4O_3$ used esp. in making alkyd resins
phtha·lo·cy·a·nine \ˌthal-ō-'sī-ə-ˌnēn, ˌthā-lō-\ *n* [ISV *phthal*ic acid + *-o-* + *cyanine*] : a bright greenish blue crystalline compound $C_{32}H_{18}N_8$; *also* : any of several metal derivatives that are brilliant fast blue to green dyes or pigments
phthi·ri·a·sis \thə-'rī-ə-səs, thī-\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *phtheiriasis*, fr. *phtheir* louse; akin to Gk *phtheirein* to destroy, Skt *ksarati* it flows, perishes] : PEDICULOSIS; *esp* : infestation with crab lice
phthis·ic \'tiz-ik\ *n* [ME *tisike*, fr. MF *tisique*, fr. *tisique* tubercular, fr. L *phthisicus*, fr. Gk *phthisikos*, fr. *phthisis*] : PHTHISIS — **phthisic** *or* **phthis·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj*
phthi·sis \'t(h)ī-səs, 't(h)is-əs\ *n, pl* **phthi·ses** \'t(h)ī-ˌsēz, 't(h)is-ˌēz\ [L, fr. Gk, fr. *phthinein* to waste away; akin to Skt *kṣiṇoti* he destroys] : a progressively wasting or consumptive condition; *esp* : pulmonary tuberculosis
phy·co·cy·a·nin \ˌfī-kō-'sī-ə-nən\ *n* [ISV *phyco-* (fr. Gk *phykos*) + *cyan-* + *-in*] : any of various bluish green protein pigments in the cells of blue-green algae
phy·co·er·y·thrin \-'er-i-thrən\ *n* [ISV *phyco-* + *erythr-* + *-in*] : any of the red protein pigments in the cells of red algae
phy·col·o·gy \fī-'käl-ə-jē\ *n* [Gk *phykos* seaweed + ISV *-logy* — more at FUCUS] : ALGOLOGY — **phy·co·log·i·cal** \ˌfī-kə-'läj-i-kəl\ *adj* — **phy·col·o·gist** \fī-'käl-ə-jəst\ *n*
phy·co·my·cete \ˌfī-kō-'mī-ˌsēt, -ˌmī-'sēt\ *n* [deriv. of Gk *phykos* + *mykēt-, mykēs* fungus — more at MYC-] : any of a large class (Phycomycetes) of highly variable lower fungi in many respects similar to algae — **phy·co·my·ce·tous** \-ˌmī-'sēt-əs\ *adj*
phyl- *or* **phylo-** *comb form* [L, fr. Gk, fr. *phylē, phylon;* akin to Gk *phyein* to bring forth — more at BE] : tribe : race : phylum ⟨*phylo*geny⟩
phy·lac·tery \fə-'lak-t(ə-)rē\ *n, pl* **-ter·ies** [ME *philaterie*, fr. ML *philaterium*, alter. of LL *phylacterium*, fr. Gk *phylaktērion* amulet, phylactery, fr. *phylassein* to guard, fr. *phylak-, phylax* guard] **1** : one of two small square leather boxes containing slips inscribed with scriptural passages and traditionally worn on the left arm and forehead by Jewish men during morning weekday prayers **2** : AMULET

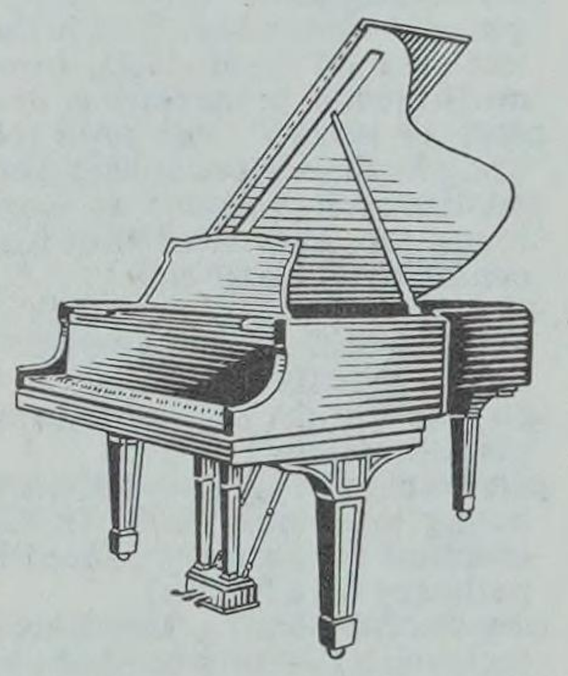


worshiper wearing phylacteries

phy·lar \'fī-lər, -ˌlär\ *adj* : of or relating to a phylum
phy·le \'fī-(ˌ)lē\ *n, pl* **phy·lae** \-ˌlē\ [Gk *phylē* tribe, phyle] : the largest political subdivision among the ancient Athenians
phy·le·sis \fī-'lē-səs, 'fī-lə-\ *n* [NL, fr. *phyl-* + *-esis* (as in *genesis*)] : the course of evolutionary or phylogenetic development — **phy·let·ic** \fī-'let-ik\ *adj* — **phy·let·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
phyll- *or* **phyllo-** *comb form* [NL, fr. Gk, fr. *phyllon* — more at BLADE] : leaf ⟨*phyllo*me⟩
-phyll \ˌfil\ *n comb form* [NL *-phyllum*, fr. Gk *phyllon* leaf] : leaf ⟨spor*ophyll*⟩
phyl·la·ry \'fil-ə-rē\ *n, pl* **-ries** [NL *phyllarium*, fr. Gk *phyllarion*, dim. of *phyllon* leaf] : one of the involucral bracts subtending the flower head of a composite plant
phyl·lo·clade \'fil-ə-ˌklād\ *n* [NL *phyllocladium*, fr. *phyll-* + Gk *klados* branch — more at GLADIATOR] : a flattened stem or branch (as a joint of a cactus) that functions as a leaf
phyl·lode \'fil-ˌōd\ *n* [NL *phyllodium*, fr. Gk *phyllōdēs* like a leaf, fr. *phyllon* leaf] : a flat expanded petiole that replaces the blade of a foliage leaf, fulfills the same functions, and is analogous to a cladophyll
phyl·lo·di·um \fil-'ōd-ē-əm\ *n, pl* **-dia** \-ē-ə\ [NL] : PHYLLODE
phyl·loid \'fil-ˌȯid\ *adj* : resembling a leaf — **phylloid** *n*
phyl·lome \'fil-ˌōm\ *n* [ISV] : a plant part that is a leaf or is phylogenetically derived from a leaf — **phyl·lo·mic** \fil-'ōm-ik\ *adj*
phyl·loph·a·gous \fil-'äf-ə-gəs\ *adj* [prob. fr. (assumed) NL *phyllophagus*, fr. NL *phyll-* + *-phagus* -phagous] : feeding on leaves
phyl·lo·pod \'fil-ə-ˌpäd\ *n* [deriv. of Gk *phyllon* leaf + *pod-, pous* foot — more at FOOT] : any of a group (Phyllopoda) of crustaceans (subclass Entomostraca) that typically have leaflike swimming appendages that also serve as gills — **phyllopod** *adj* — **phyl·lop·o·dan** \fil-'äp-əd-ən\ *adj or n* — **phyl·lop·o·dous** \-əd-əs\ *adj*
phyl·lo·tac·tic \ˌfil-ə-'tak-tik\ *or* **phyl·lo·tac·ti·cal** \-ti-kəl\ *adj* : of or relating to phyllotaxy
phyl·lo·taxy \'fil-ə-ˌtak-sē\ *also* **phyl·lo·tax·is** \ˌfil-ə-'tak-səs\ *n* [NL *phyllotaxis*, fr. *phyll-* + *-taxis*] **1** : the arrangement of leaves on a stem and in relation to one another **2** : the study of phyllotaxy and of the laws that govern it

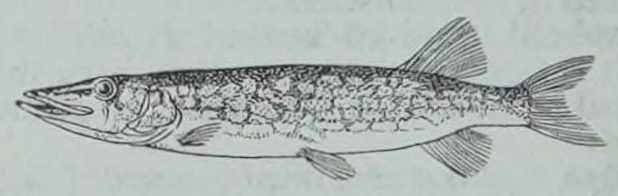
-phyl·lous \'fil-əs\ *adj comb form* [NL *-phyllus*, fr. Gk *-phyllos*, fr. *phyllon* leaf — more at BLADE] : having (such or so many) leaves, leaflets, or leaflike parts ⟨di*phyllous*⟩
phyl·lox·e·ra \ˌfil-ˌäk-'sir-ə, fə-'läk-sə-rə\ *n* [NL, genus name, fr. *phyll-* + Gk *xēros* dry — more at SERENE] : any of various plant lice (esp. genus *Phylloxera*) that differ from aphids esp. in wing structure and in being continuously oviparous — **phyl·lox·e·ran** \-'sir-ən, -sə-rən\ *adj or n*
phy·lo·ge·net·ic \ˌfī-lō-jə-'net-ik\ *adj* [ISV, fr. NL *phylogenesis* phylogeny, fr. *phyl-* + *genesis*] **1** : of or relating to phylogeny **2** : based on natural evolutionary relationships **3** : acquired in the course of phylogenetic development : RACIAL — **phy·lo·ge·net·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
phy·log·e·ny \fī-'läj-ə-nē\ *n, pl* **-nies** [ISV] **1** : the racial history of a kind of organism **2** : the evolution of a genetically related group of organisms as distinguished from the development of the individual organism **3** : the history or course of the development of something (as a word or custom)
phy·lum \'fī-ləm\ *n, pl* **phy·la** \-lə\ [NL, fr. Gk *phylon* tribe, race — more at PHYL-] **1 a** : a direct line of descent within a group **b** : a group that constitutes or has the unity of a phylum; *esp* : one of the usu. primary divisions of the animal kingdom ⟨the ~ Arthropoda⟩ **2** : a group of languages related more remotely than those of a family or stock
-phyre \ˌfī(ə)r\ *n comb form* [F, fr. *porphyre* porphyry, fr. ML *porphyrium*] : porphyritic rock ⟨grano*phyre*⟩
phys *abbr* **1** physical **2** physician **3** physics
physi- *or* **physio-** *comb form* [L, fr. Gk, fr. *physis* — more at PHYSICS] **1** : nature ⟨*physio*graphy⟩ **2** : physical ⟨*physio*therapy⟩
phys·iat·rics \ˌfiz-ē-'a-triks\ *n pl but sing or pl in constr* [Gk *physis* + ISV *-iatrics*] : PHYSICAL THERAPY
phys·iat·rist \ˌfiz-ē-'a-trəst\ *n* : a physician who specializes in physical medicine
[1]phys·ic \'fiz-ik\ *n* [ME *physik* natural science, art of medicine — more at PHYSICS] **1 a** : the art or practice of healing disease **b** : the practice or profession of medicine **2** : a medicinal agent or preparation; *esp* : PURGATIVE
[2]physic *vt* **phys·icked; phys·ick·ing** [ME *phisiken*, fr. *phisik* medicine — more at PHYSICS] **1** : to treat with or administer medicine to; *esp* : PURGE **2** : HEAL, CURE
[1]phys·i·cal \'fiz-i-kəl\ *adj* [ME, fr. ML *physicalis*, fr. L *physica* physics] **1 a** : having material existence : perceptible esp. through the senses and subject to the laws of nature ⟨everything ~ is measurable by weight, motion, and resistance — Thomas De Quincey⟩ **b** : of or relating to material things **2 a** : of or relating to natural science **b** (1) : of or relating to physics (2) : characterized or produced by the forces and operations of physics **3 a** : of or relating to the body **b** : concerned or preoccupied with the body and its needs : CARNAL *syn* see BODILY, MATERIAL — **phys·i·cal·ly** \-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
[2]physical *n* : PHYSICAL EXAMINATION
physical anthropology *n* : anthropology concerned with the comparative study of human evolution, variation, and classification esp. through measurement and observation — compare CULTURAL ANTHROPOLOGY — **physical anthropologist** *n*
physical education *n* : instruction in the development and care of the body ranging from simple calisthenic exercises to a course of study providing training in hygiene, gymnastics, and the performance and management of athletic games
physical examination *n* : an examination of the bodily functions and condition of an individual
physical geography *n* : geography that deals with the exterior physical features and changes of the earth
phys·i·cal·ism \'fiz-i-kə-ˌliz-əm\ *n* : a thesis that the descriptive terms of scientific language are reducible to terms which refer to spatiotemporal things or events or to their properties — **phys·i·cal·ist** \-ləst\ *n* — **phys·i·cal·is·tic** \ˌfiz-i-kə-'lis-tik\ *adj*
phys·i·cal·i·ty \ˌfiz-ə-'kal-ət-ē\ *n* : intensely physical orientation : predominance of the physical usu. at the expense of the mental, spiritual, or social
physical science *n* : the natural sciences (as physics, chemistry, and astronomy) that deal primarily with nonliving materials — **physical scientist** *n*
physical therapy *n* : the treatment of disease by physical and mechanical means (as massage, regulated exercise, water, light, heat, and electricity) — **physical therapist** *n*
phy·si·cian \fə-'zish-ən\ *n* [ME *fisicien*, fr. OF, fr. *fisique* medicine] **1** : a person skilled in the art of healing; *specif* : a doctor of medicine **2** : one exerting a remedial or salutary influence
phys·i·cist \'fiz-(ə-)səst\ *n* **1** : a specialist in physics **2** *archaic* : a person skilled in natural science
phys·i·co·chem·i·cal \ˌfiz-i-kō-'kem-i-kəl\ *adj* **1** : being physical and chemical **2** : of or relating to chemistry that deals with the physicochemical properties of substances — **phys·i·co·chem·i·cal·ly** \-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
phys·ics \'fiz-iks\ *n pl but sing or pl in constr* [*physics* fr. L *physica*, pl., natural science, fr. Gk *physika*, fr. neut. pl. of *physikos* of nature, fr. *physis* growth, nature, fr. *phyein* to bring forth; *physic* fr. ME *phisik* natural science, art of medicine, fr. OF *fisique*, fr. L *physica*, sing., natural science, fr. Gk *physikē*, fr. fem. of *physikos* — more at BE] **1** *also* **physic** *archaic* : NATURAL SCIENCE **2** : a science that deals with matter and energy and their interactions in the fields of mechanics, acoustics, optics, heat, electricity, magnetism, radiation, atomic structure, and nuclear phenomena **3 a** : the physical processes and phenomena of a particular system **b** : the physical properties and composition of something
Phys·io·crat \'fiz-ē-ə-ˌkrat\ *n* [F *physiocrate*, fr. *physi-* + *-crate* -crat] : a member of a school of political economists founded in 18th century France and characterized chiefly by a belief that government policy should not interfere with the operation of natural economic laws and that land is the source of all wealth — **phys·io·crat·ic** \ˌfiz-ē-ə-'krat-ik\ *adj, often cap*
phys·i·og·nom·ic \ˌfiz-ē-ə(g)-'näm-ik\ *adj* : of, relating to, or characteristic of physiognomy or the physiognomy — **phys·i·og·nom·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj* — **phys·i·og·nom·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
phys·i·og·no·my \ˌfiz-ē-'ä(g)-nə-mē\ *n, pl* **-mies** [ME *phisonomie*, fr. MF, fr. LL *physiognomonia, physiognomia*, fr. Gk *physiognōmonia*, fr. *physiognōmōn* judging character by the features, fr. *physis* nature, physique, appearance + *gnōmōn* interpreter — more at GNOMON] **1** : the art of discovering temperament and character from outward appearance **2** : the facial features held to show qualities of mind or character by their configuration or expression **3** : external aspect; *also* : inner character or quality revealed outwardly ⟨the ~ of a political party⟩
physiographic climax *n* : an ecological climax that develops in association with a particular physiographic situation and persists only while the physiographic factors remain stable — compare EDAPHIC CLIMAX
phys·i·og·ra·phy \ˌfiz-ē-'äg-rə-fē\ *n* [prob. fr. (assumed) NL *physiographia*, fr. NL *physi-* + L *-graphia* -graphy] **1** : a description of nature or natural phenomena in general **2** : PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHY — **phys·i·og·ra·pher** \-fər\ *n* — **phys·io·graph·ic** \ˌfiz-ē-ō-'graf-ik\ *also* **phys·io·graph·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj*
physiol *abbr* physiologist; physiology
phys·i·o·log·i·cal \ˌfiz-ē-ə-'läj-i-kəl\ *or* **phys·i·o·log·ic** \-ik\ *adj* **1** : of or relating to physiology **2** : characteristic of or appropriate to an organism's healthy or normal functioning **3** : differing in, involving, or affecting physiological factors ⟨a ~ strain of bacteria⟩ — **phys·i·o·log·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
physiological psychology *n* : a branch of psychology that deals with the effects of normal and pathological physiological processes on mental life — called also *psychophysiology*
physiological saline *n* : a solution of a salt or salts that is essentially isotonic with tissue fluids or blood
phys·i·ol·o·gy \ˌfiz-ē-'äl-ə-jē\ *n* [L *physiologia* natural science, fr. Gk, fr. *physi-* + *-logia* -logy] **1** : a branch of biology that deals with the functions and activities of life or of living matter (as organs, tissues, or cells) and of the physical and chemical phenomena involved — compare ANATOMY **2** : the organic processes and phenomena of an organism or any of its parts or of a particular bodily process — **phys·i·ol·o·gist** \-jəst\ *n*
phys·io·pa·thol·o·gy \'fiz-ē-ō-pə-'thäl-ə-jē, -pa-\ *n* : a branch of biology or medicine that combines physiology and pathology esp. in the study of altered bodily function in disease — **phys·io·path·o·log·ic** \-ˌpath-ə-'läj-ik\ *or* **phys·io·path·o·log·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj*
phys·io·ther·a·py \ˌfiz-ē-ō-'ther-ə-pē\ *n* [NL *physiotherapia*, fr. *physi-* + *therapia* therapy] : PHYSICAL THERAPY — **phys·io·ther·a·pist** \-pəst\ *n*
phy·sique \fə-'zēk\ *n* [F, fr. *physique* physical, bodily, fr. L *physicus* of nature, fr. Gk *physikos*] : the form or structure of a person's body : bodily makeup — **phy·siqued** \-zēkt\ *adj*
syn PHYSIQUE, BUILD, HABIT, CONSTITUTION *shared meaning element* : bodily makeup or type
phy·so·stig·mine \ˌfī-sə-'stig-ˌmēn\ *n* [ISV, fr. NL *Physostigma*, genus of vines whose fruit is the Calabar bean] : a crystalline tasteless alkaloid $C_{15}H_{21}N_3O_2$ from the Calabar bean that is used in medicine esp. in the form of its salicylate
phyt- *or* **phyto-** *comb form* [NL, fr. Gk, fr. *phyton*, fr. *phyein* to bring forth — more at BE] : plant ⟨*phyto*phagous⟩
phy·tane \'fī-ˌtān\ *n* : an isoprenoid hydrocarbon $C_{20}H_{42}$ that is found esp. associated with fossilized plant remains from the Precambrian and later eras
-phyte \ˌfīt\ *n comb form* [ISV, fr. Gk *phyton* plant] **1** : plant having a (specified) characteristic or habitat ⟨xero*phyte*⟩ **2** : pathological growth ⟨osteo*phyte*⟩
-phyt·ic \'fit-ik\ *adj comb form* [ISV, fr. Gk *phyton* plant] : like a plant ⟨holo*phytic*⟩
phy·to·alex·in \ˌfit-ō-ə-'lek-sən\ *n* [*phyt-* + *alexin* (substance combating infection), fr. G, fr. Gk *alexein* to ward off, protect] : a chemical substance produced by a plant to combat infection by a pathogen (as a fungus)
phy·to·chem·i·cal \-'kem-i-kəl\ *adj* : of, relating to, or being phytochemistry — **phy·to·chem·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
phy·to·chem·is·try \-'kem-ə-strē\ *n* : the chemistry of plants, plant processes, and plant products — **phy·to·chem·ist** \-'kem-əst\ *n*
phy·to·chrome \'fīt-ə-ˌkrōm\ *n* : a chromoprotein that is present in traces in many plants and that plays a significant role in initiating floral and developmental processes when activated by red or far-red radiation
phy·to·fla·gel·late \ˌfīt-ō-'flaj-ə-lət, -ˌlāt; -flə-'jəl-ət\ *n* : PLANTLIKE FLAGELLATE
phy·to·gen·ic \ˌfīt-ə-'jen-ik\ *adj* : of plant origin
phy·to·ge·og·ra·phy \ˌfīt-ō-jē-'äg-rə-fē\ *n* [ISV] : the biogeography of plants — **phy·to·geo·graph·i·cal** \-ˌjē-ə-'graf-i-kəl\ *or* **phy·to·geo·graph·ic** \-ik\ *adj* — **phy·to·geo·graph·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
phy·tog·ra·phy \fī-'täg-rə-fē\ *n* [NL *phytographia*, fr. *phyt-* + L *-graphia* -graphy] : descriptive botany sometimes including plant taxonomy
phy·to·he·mag·glu·ti·nin *also* **phy·to·hae·mag·glu·ti·nin** \'fīt-ō-ˌhē-mə-'glüt-ᵊn-ən\ *n* : a proteinaceous hemagglutinin of plant origin used esp. to induce mitosis
phy·to·hor·mone \ˌfīt-ə-'hȯr-ˌmōn\ *n* [ISV] : PLANT HORMONE
phy·tol·o·gy \fī-'täl-ə-jē\ *n* [NL *phytologia*, fr. *phyt-* + L *-logia* -logy] : BOTANY — **phy·to·log·ic** \ˌfīt-ᵊl-'äj-ik\ *or* **phy·to·log·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj* — **phy·to·log·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
phy·ton \'fī-ˌtän\ *n* [NL, fr. Gk, plant] **1** : a structural unit of a plant consisting of a leaf and its associated portion of stem **2**

: the smallest part of a stem, root, or leaf that when severed may grow into a new plant — **phy·ton·ic** \fī-'tän-ik\ *adj*
phy·to·patho·gen \ˌfīt-ō-'path-ə-jən\ *n* : an organism parasitic on a plant host — **phy·to·patho·gen·ic** \-ˌpath-ə-'jen-ik\ *adj*
phy·to·pa·thol·o·gy \-pə-'thäl-ə-jē, -pa-\ *n* [ISV] : plant pathology — **phy·to·path·o·log·i·cal** \-ˌpath-ə-'läj-i-kəl\ *or* **phy·to·path·o·log·ic** \-ik\ *adj*
phy·toph·a·gous \fī-'täf-ə-gəs\ *adj* : feeding on plants ⟨~ insect⟩ — **phy·toph·a·gy** \-ə-jē\ *n*
phy·to·plank·ton \ˌfīt-ō-'plaŋ(k)-tən, -ˌtän\ *n* [ISV] : planktonic plant life — **phy·to·plank·ton·ic** \-plaŋ(k)-'tän-ik\ *adj*
phy·to·so·ci·ol·o·gy \-ˌsō-sē-'äl-ə-jē, -shē-\ *n* : a branch of ecology that deals with the interrelations among the flora of particular areas and esp. with plant communities — **phy·to·so·cio·log·i·cal** \-sē-ə-'läj-i-kəl\ *adj* — **phy·to·so·cio·log·i·cal·ly** \-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **phy·to·so·ci·ol·o·gist** \-ˌsō-sē-'äl-ə-jəst, -shē-\ *n*
phy·tos·ter·ol \fī-'täs-tə-ˌrȯl, -ˌrōl\ *n* [ISV] : any of various sterols derived from plants — compare ZOOSTEROL
phy·to·tox·ic \ˌfīt-ə-'täk-sik\ *adj* : poisonous to plants — **phy·to·tox·ic·i·ty** \-ˌtäk-'sis-ət-ē\ *n*
¹pi \'pī\ *n, pl* **pis** \'pīz\ [MGk, fr. Gk *pei*, of Sem origin; akin to Heb *pē* pe] **1** : the 16th letter of the Greek alphabet — see ALPHABET table **2 a** : the symbol π denoting the ratio of the circumference of a circle to its diameter **b** : the ratio itself : a transcendental number having a value to eight decimal places of 3.14159265
²pi *also* **pie** \'pī\ *n, pl* **pies** [origin unknown] **1** : type that is spilled or mixed **2** : a pi character or matrix
³pi *adj* **1** : not intended to appear in final printing ⟨~ lines⟩ **2** : capable of being inserted only by hand ⟨~ characters⟩
⁴pi *also* **pie** *vb* **pied; pi·ing** *or* **pie·ing** *vt* : to spill or throw (type or type matter) into disorder ~ *vi* : to become pied
⁵pi *or* **pias** *abbr* piaster
PI *abbr* programmed instruction
pi·al \'pī-əl, 'pē-\ *adj* : of or relating to the pia mater
pia ma·ter \'pī-ə-ˌmāt-ər, 'pē-ə-ˌmät-\ *n* [ME, fr. ML, fr. L, tender mother] : the thin vascular membrane that invests the brain and spinal cord internal to the arachnoid and dura mater
pi·a·nism \'pē-ə-ˌniz-əm\ *n* : the art or technique of piano playing
¹pi·a·nis·si·mo \ˌpē-ə-'nis-ə-ˌmō\ *adv or adj* [It, fr. *piano* softly] : very softly — used as a direction in music
²pianissimo *n, pl* **-mi** \-(ˌ)mē\ *or* **-mos** : a passage played, sung, or spoken very softly
pi·a·nist \pē-'an-əst, 'pē-ə-nəst\ *n* : one who plays the piano; *esp* : a skilled or professional performer on the piano
pi·a·nis·tic \ˌpē-ə-'nis-tik\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or characteristic of the piano **2** : skilled in or well adapted to piano playing — **pi·a·nis·ti·cal·ly** \-ti-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
¹pi·a·no \pē-'än-(ˌ)ō\ *adv or adj* [It, fr. LL *planus* smooth, fr. L, level — more at FLOOR] : in a soft or quiet manner — used as a direction in music
²pi·ano \pē-'an-(ˌ)ō *also* -'än-\ *n, pl* **pianos** [It, short for *pianoforte*, fr. *piano e forte* soft and loud; fr. the fact that its tones could be varied in loudness] : a stringed instrument having steel wire strings that sound when struck by felt-covered hammers operated from a keyboard



piano

piano accordion *n* : an accordion with a keyboard for the right hand resembling and corresponding to the middle register of a piano keyboard
pi·ano·forte \pē-'an-ə-ˌfō(ə)rt, -'än-, -ˌfȯ(ə)rt, -ˌfȯrt-ē; -ˌan-ə-'fȯrt-ē, -ˌän-\ *n* [It] : PIANO
piano hinge *n* : a hinge that has a thin pin joint and extends along the full length of the part to be moved
pi·as·sa·va \ˌpē-ə-'säv-ə\ *n* [Pg *piassaba*, fr. Tupi *piaçaba*] **1** : any of several stiff coarse fibers obtained from palms and used esp. in cordage or brushes **2** : a palm yielding piassava; *esp* : either of two Brazilian palms (*Attalia funifera* and *Leopoldinia piassaba*)
pi·as·ter *or* **pi·as·tre** \pē-'as-tər, -'äs-\ *n* [F *piastre*, fr. It *piastra* thin metal plate, coin, fr. L *emplastra, emplastrum* plaster] **1** : PIECE OF EIGHT **2 a** — see MONEY table **b** — see *pound* at MONEY table
pi·az·za \pē-'az-ə, -'äz-ə, *1 is usu* -'at-sə, -'ät-\ *n, pl* **piazzas** *or* **pi·az·ze** \-'at-(ˌ)sā, -'ät-\ [It, fr. L *platea* broad street — more at PLACE] **1** *pl piazze* : an open square in an Italian or other European town **2 a** : an arcaded and roofed gallery **b** *chiefly North & Midland* : VERANDA, PORCH
pi·broch \'pē-ˌbräk, -ˌbräk\ *n* [ScGael *piobaireachd* pipe-music] : a set of martial or mournful variations for the Scottish Highland bagpipe
¹pic \'pik\ *n, pl* **pics** *or* **pix** \'piks\ [short for *picture*] **1** : PHOTOGRAPH **2** : MOTION PICTURE
²pic \'pik, 'pēk\ *n* [Sp *pica*, fr. *picar* to prick] : the picador's lance
¹pi·ca \'pī-kə\ *n* [prob. fr. ML, collection of church rules] **1** : 12-point type **2** : a unit of about $\frac{1}{6}$ inch used in measuring typographical material **3** : a typewriter type providing 10 characters to the linear inch and six lines to the vertical inch
²pica *n* [NL, fr. L, magpie — more at PIE] : a craving for unnatural food (as chalk or ashes)
pic·a·dor \'pik-ə-ˌdȯ(ə)r, ˌpik-ə-'\ *n, pl* **picadors** \-ˌdȯ(ə)rz, -'dȯ(ə)rz\ *or* **pic·a·do·res** \ˌpik-ə-'dōr-ēz, -'dȯr-\ [Sp, fr. *picar* to prick, fr. (assumed) VL *piccare* — more at PIKE] : a horseman in a bullfight who prods the bull with a lance to weaken its neck and shoulder muscles
pi·ca·ra \'pē-kä-ˌrä\ *n* [Sp *pícara*, fem. of *pícaro*] : a female picaro
¹pi·ca·resque \ˌpik-ə-'resk, ˌpē-kə-\ *adj* [Sp *picaresco*, fr. *pícaro*] : of or relating to rogues or rascals; *also* : of, relating to, or being a type of fiction of Spanish origin dealing with rogues and vagabonds
²picaresque *n* : one that is picaresque
pi·ca·ro \'pē-kä-ˌrō\ *n, pl* **-ros** [Sp *pícaro*] : ROGUE, BOHEMIAN
¹pic·a·roon *or* **pick·a·roon** \ˌpik-ə-'rün\ *n* [Sp *picarón*, aug. of *pícaro*] **1** : PICARO **2** : PIRATE
²picaroon *vi* : to act as a pirate
¹pic·a·yune \ˌpik-ē-'(y)ün\ *n* [F *picaillon* halfpenny, fr. Prov *picaioun*, fr. *picaio* money, fr. *pica* to prick, jingle, fr. (assumed) VL *piccare* to prick — more at PIKE] **1 a** : a Spanish half real piece formerly current in Louisiana and other southern states **b** : HALF DIME **2** : something trivial
²picayune *adj* : of little value : PALTRY; *also* : PETTY, SMALL-MINDED — **pic·a·yun·ish** \-'(y)ü-nish\ *adj*
pic·ca·lil·li \ˌpik-ə-'lil-ē\ *n* [prob. alter. of *pickle*] : a pungent relish of chopped vegetables and spices
¹pic·co·lo \'pik-ə-ˌlō\ *n, pl* **-los** [It, short for *piccolo flauto* small flute] : a small shrill flute whose range is an octave higher than that of an ordinary flute — **pic·co·lo·ist** \-ˌlō-əst\ *n*
²piccolo *adj* [It, small] : smaller than ordinary size ⟨~ banjo⟩
pice \'pīs\ *n, pl* **pice** [Hindi *paisā*] : PAISA
pi·ce·ous \'pī-sē-əs\ *adj* [L *piceus*, fr. *pic-, pix* pitch — more at PITCH] : of, relating to, or resembling pitch; *esp* : glossy brownish black in color ⟨an insect with a ~ brown abdomen⟩
¹pick \'pik\ *vb* [ME *piken*, partly fr. (assumed) OE *pīcian* (akin to MD *picken* to prick); partly fr. MF *piquer* to prick — more at PIKE] *vt* **1** : to pierce, penetrate, or break up with a pointed instrument ⟨~*ed* the hard clay⟩ **2 a** : to remove bit by bit ⟨~ meat from bones⟩ **b** : to remove covering or adhering matter from ⟨~ the bones⟩ **3 a** : to gather by plucking ⟨~ apples⟩ **b** : CHOOSE, SELECT ⟨tried to ~ the shortest route⟩ ⟨she ~*ed* out the most expensive dress⟩ **4** : PILFER, ROB ⟨~ pockets⟩ **5** : PROVOKE ⟨~ a quarrel⟩ **6 a** : to dig into : PROBE ⟨~ his teeth⟩ **b** : to pluck with a pick or with the fingers ⟨reputed to ~ a mighty mean guitar —G. S. Perry⟩ **c** : to loosen or pull apart with a sharp point ⟨~ wool⟩ **7** : to unlock with a device (as a wire) other than the key ⟨~ a lock⟩ ~ *vi* **1** : to use or work with a pick **2** : to gather or harvest something by plucking **3** : PILFER — used in the phrase *picking and stealing* **4** : to eat sparingly or mincingly ⟨~*ing* listlessly at his dinner⟩ — **pick and choose** : to select with care and deliberation — **pick on** **1** : HARASS ⟨*picked on* smaller boys⟩ **2** : to single out for a particular purpose or for special attention
²pick *n* **1** : a blow or stroke with a pointed instrument **2 a** : the act or privilege of choosing or selecting : CHOICE ⟨take your ~⟩ **b** : the best or choicest one ⟨the ~ of the herd⟩ **3** : the portion of a crop gathered at one time ⟨the first ~ of peaches⟩ **4** : a screen in basketball
³pick *vt* [ME *pykken*, alter. of *picchen* to pitch] **1** *chiefly dial* : to throw or thrust with effort : HURL **2** : to throw (a shuttle) across the loom
⁴pick *n* **1** *dial Eng* **a** : the act of pitching or throwing **b** : something thrown **2 a** : a throw of the shuttle **b** : one filling thread taken as a unit of fineness of fabric
⁵pick *n* [ME *pik*] **1** : a heavy wooden-handled iron or steel tool pointed at one or both ends — compare MATTOCK **2 a** : TOOTHPICK **b** : PICKLOCK **c** : a small thin piece (as of plastic or metal) used to pluck the strings of a stringed instrument **3** : one of the points of the forepart of a figure skate blade
pick·a·back \'pig-ē-ˌbak, 'pik-ə-\ *var of* PIGGYBACK
pick–and–shovel *adj* : done with or as if with a pick and shovel : LABORIOUS
pick·a·nin·ny *or* **pic·a·nin·ny** \'pik-ə-ˌnin-ē, ˌpik-ə-'\ *n, pl* **-nies** [prob. modif. of Pg *pequenino* very little] : a Negro child
pick·ax \'pik-ˌaks\ *n* [alter. of ME *pikois*, fr. OF *picois*, fr. *pic* pick, fr. L *picus* woodpecker — more at PIE] : ⁵PICK 1
¹picked \'pikt\ *adj* : CHOICE, PRIME
²pick·ed \'pik-əd\ *adj* [ME, fr. ⁵*pick*] *chiefly dial* : POINTED, PEAKED
pick·eer \pik-'i(ə)r\ *vi* [prob. modif. of F *picorer* to steal sheep, maraud, fr. MF *pecore* sheep, fr. OIt *pecora*, fr. L, neut. pl. of *pecor-, pecus* cattle — more at FEE] *archaic* : to skirmish in advance of an army; *also* : SCOUT, RECONNOITER
pick·er \'pik-ər\ *n* : one that picks: as **a** : a worker who picks something (as crops) **b** : a tool, implement, or machine used in picking something
pick·er·el \'pik(-ə)-rəl\ *n, pl* **pickerel** *or* **pickerels** [ME *pikerel*, dim. of *pike*] **1 a** *dial chiefly Brit* : a young or small pike **b** : any of several comparatively small fishes (genus *Esox*) — usu. used with a qualifying term ⟨grass ~⟩ **2** : WALLEYE



pickerel 1b

pick·er·el·weed \-rəl-ˌwēd\ *n* : any of various monocotyledonous aquatic plants: as **a** : any of a genus (*Pontederia*); *esp* : a blue-flowered American shallow-water herb (*P. cordata*) **b** : any of several still-water herbs (genus *Potamogeton*)
¹pick·et \'pik-ət\ *n* [F *piquet*, fr. MF, fr. *piquer* to prick — more at PIKE] **1** : a pointed or sharpened stake, post, or pale **2 a** : a detached body of soldiers serving to guard an army from surprise **b** : a detachment kept ready in camp for such duty **c** : SENTINEL **3** : a person posted by a labor organization at a place of work affected by a strike; *also* : a person posted for a demonstration or protest
²picket *vt* **1** : to enclose, fence, or fortify with pickets **2 a** : to guard with a picket **b** : to post as a picket **3** : TETHER **4 a** : to

post pickets at **b** : to walk or stand in front of as a picket ~ *vi* : to serve as a picket — **pick·et·er** *n*
pick·et·boat \'pik-ət-ˌbōt\ *n* : a craft used (as by the coast guard) for harbor patrol
picket line *n* **1** : a position held by a line of military pickets **2** : a line of individuals (as workers) picketing a business, organization, or institution
picket ship *n* : a ship or airplane stationed outside a formation or geographical area as a rescue or warning unit
pick·ings \'pik-iŋz, -ənz\ *n pl* : something that is picked or picked up: as **a** : gleanable or eatable fragments : SCRAPS **b** : yield or return for effort expended
¹pick·le \'pik-əl\ *n* [ME *pekille*] **1** : a solution or bath for preserving or cleaning: as **a** : a brine or vinegar solution in which foods are preserved **b** : any of various baths used in industrial cleaning or processing **2** : a difficult situation : PLIGHT ⟨could see no way out of the ~ I was in —R. L. Stevenson⟩ **3** : an article of food (as a cucumber) that has been preserved in brine or in vinegar **4** *Brit* : a mischievous or troublesome person
²pickle *vt* **pick·led; pick·ling** \-(ə-)liŋ\ : to treat, preserve, or clean in or with a pickle
³pickle *n* [perh. fr. Sc *pickle* (to trifle, pilfer)] **1** *Scot* : GRAIN, KERNEL **2** *Scot* : a small quantity
pick·led *adj* **1** : preserved in or cured with pickle ⟨~ herring⟩ **2** : DRUNK ⟨gets thoroughly ~ before dinner —*New Yorker*⟩
pick·lock \'pik-ˌläk\ *n* **1** : a tool for picking locks **2** : BURGLAR
pick–me–up \'pik-mē-ˌəp\ *n* : something that stimulates or restores : TONIC, BRACER
pick·off \'pik-ˌȯf\ *n* : a baseball play in which a base runner is picked off
pick–off *n* : a sensing device that responds to angular movement and produces a signal or effects control
pick off \(')pik-'ȯf\ *vt* **1** : to shoot or bring down one by one **2** : to put out (a base runner who is off base) with a quick throw (as from the pitcher or catcher) **3** : INTERCEPT ⟨*picked off* a pass⟩
pick out *vt* : to play the notes of by ear or one by one ⟨learned to *pick out* tunes on the piano⟩
pick over *vt* : to examine in order to select the best or remove the unwanted
pick·pock·et \'pik-ˌpäk-ət\ *n* : one who steals from pockets
pick·proof \-'prüf\ *adj* : designed to prevent picking ⟨a ~ lock⟩
pick·thank \-ˌthaŋk\ *n* [fr. *pick a thank* to seek someone's favor] *archaic* : SYCOPHANT
¹pick·up \'pik-ˌəp\ *n* **1** : the act or process of picking up: as **a** : a revival of business activity **b** : ACCELERATION **2** : one that is picked up: as **a** : a hitchhiker who is given a ride **b** : a temporary chance acquaintance **3** : the conversion of mechanical movements into electrical impulses in the reproduction of sound; *also* : a device (as on a phonograph) for making such conversion **4** **a** (1) : the reception of sound or an image into a radio or television transmitting apparatus for conversion into electrical signals (2) : interference (as with such reception) from an adjacent electrical circuit or system **b** : a device (as a microphone or a television camera) for converting sound or the image of a scene into electrical signals **c** : the place where a broadcast originates **d** : the electrical system for connecting to a broadcasting station a program produced outside the studio **5** : a light truck having an open body with low sides and tailboard — called also *pickup truck*
²pickup *adj* : utilizing or comprising local or available personnel esp. without formal organization ⟨a ~ basketball game⟩
pick up \(')pik-'əp\ *vt* **1** **a** : to take hold of and lift up **b** : to gather together : COLLECT ⟨*picked up* all the pieces⟩ **c** : to clean up : TIDY **2** **a** : to take (passengers or freight) into a vehicle **b** : to use as a means of transportation ⟨people waiting to *pick up* the bus⟩ **3** **a** : to acquire casually or by chance ⟨*picked up* a valuable antique at a tag sale⟩ **b** : to acquire by study or experience : LEARN ⟨*picking up* a great deal of knowledge in the process — Robert Schleicher⟩ **c** : CLAIM ⟨*picked up* his clothes at the cleaners⟩ **d** : to obtain esp. by payment : BUY ⟨*picked up* some groceries on the way home⟩ **e** : to acquire (a player) esp. from another team through a trade or by financial recompense **f** : to accept for the purpose of paying ⟨offered to *pick up* the tab⟩ **g** : to come down with : CATCH ⟨*picked up* a cold⟩ **h** : GAIN, TRAVERSE ⟨*picked up* a few yards on the last play⟩ **4** : to enter informally into conversation or companionship with (a previously unknown person) ⟨had a brief affair with a girl he *picked up* in a bar⟩ **5** **a** : to take into custody ⟨the police *picked up* the fugitive⟩ **b** : to come to and follow ⟨*picked up* the outlaw's trail⟩ **c** : to bring within range of sight or hearing **6** **a** : REVIVE **b** : INCREASE **7** : to resume after a break : CONTINUE ⟨*pick up* the discussion tomorrow⟩ **8** : to move in conjunction with in an athletic contest; *also* : to move into position to guard (an opponent) ~ *vi* **1** : to recover speed, vigor, or activity : IMPROVE ⟨after the strike, business *picked up*⟩ **2** : to put things in order ⟨was always *picking up* after her⟩ **3** : to pack up one's belongings ⟨couldn't just *pick up* and leave⟩
Pick·wick·ian \(')pik-'wik-ē-ən\ *adj* [Samuel *Pickwick*, character in the novel *Pickwick Papers* (1836–37) by Charles Dickens] **1** : marked by simplicity and generosity **2** : intended or taken in a sense other than the obvious or literal one
picky \'pik-ē\ *adj* **pick·i·er; -est** : FUSSY, CHOOSY ⟨a ~ eater⟩
pi·clo·ram \'pik-lə-ˌram, 'pīk-\ *n* [*pic*oline + ch*lor-* + *am*ine] : a systemic herbicide $C_6H_3Cl_3N_2O_2$ that breaks down only very slowly in the soil
¹pic·nic \'pik-(ˌ)nik\ *n* [G or F; G *picknick*, fr. F *pique-nique*] **1** : an excursion or outing with food usu. provided by members of the group and eaten in the open **2** **a** : a pleasant or amusingly carefree experience ⟨I don't expect being married to be a ~ like you seem to —Josephine Pinckney⟩ **b** : an easy task or feat **3** : a shoulder of pork with much of the butt removed — see PORK illustration — **pic·nic·ky** \-(ˌ)nik-ē\ *adj*
²picnic *vi* **pic·nicked; pic·nick·ing** : to go on a picnic : eat in picnic fashion — **pic·nick·er** *n*
picnometer *var of* PYCNOMETER
pi·co- \'pē-(ˌ)kō, -kə\ *comb form* [ISV, perh. fr. It *piccolo* small] **1** : one trillionth (10^{-12}) part of ⟨*pico*gram⟩ **2** : very small ⟨*picor*navirus⟩
pi·co·far·ad \ˌpē-kō-'far-ˌad, -əd\ *n* [ISV] : one trillionth of a farad
pi·co·gram \'pē-kō-ˌgram, -kə-\ *n* [ISV] : one trillionth of a gram
pic·o·line \'pik-ə-ˌlēn, 'pīk-\ *n* [L *pic-*, *pix* pitch + ISV *-ol* + *-ine* — more at PITCH] : any of the three liquid pyridine bases C_6H_7N found esp. in coal tar, ammonia liquor, and bone oil and used chiefly as solvents and in organic synthesis
pi·cor·na·vi·rus \(ˌ)pē-ˌkȯr-nə-'vī-rəs\ *n* [*pico-* + *RNA* + *virus*] : any of a group of RNA-containing viruses that includes the enteroviruses and rhinoviruses
pi·co·sec·ond \ˌpē-kō-'sek-ənd, -ənt\ *n* [ISV] : one trillionth of a second
¹pi·cot \'pē-(ˌ)kō, pē-'\ *n* [F, lit., small point, fr. MF, fr. *pic* prick, fr. *piquer* to prick — more at PIKE] : one of a series of small ornamental loops forming an edging on ribbon or lace
²picot *vt* : to finish with picots
pic·o·tee \ˌpik-ə-'tē\ *n* [F *picoté* pointed, fr. *picoter* to mark with points, fr. *picot*] : a flower (as some carnations or tulips) having one basic color with a margin of another color
picr- *or* **picro-** *comb form* [F, fr. Gk *pikr-*, *pikro-*, fr. *pikros* — more at PAINT] **1** : bitter ⟨*picr*ic acid⟩ **2** : picric acid ⟨*picr*ate⟩
pic·rate \'pik-ˌrāt\ *n* : a salt or ester of picric acid
pic·ric acid \ˌpik-rik-\ *n* [ISV] : a bitter toxic explosive yellow crystalline strong acid $C_6H_3N_3O_7$ used esp. in high explosives, as a dye, or in medicine
pic·ro·tox·in \ˌpik-rō-'täk-sən\ *n* [ISV] : a poisonous bitter crystalline stimulant and convulsive drug $C_{30}H_{34}O_{13}$ used intravenously as an antidote for barbiturate poisoning
Pict \'pikt\ *n* [ME *Pictes*, pl., Picts, fr. LL *Picti*] : a member of a possibly non-Celtic people who once occupied Great Britain, carried on continual border wars with the Romans, and about the 9th century became amalgamated with the Scots — **Pict·ish** \'pik-tish\ *adj or n*
pic·to·gram \'pik-tə-ˌgram\ *n* [ISV *picto-* (fr. L *pictus*) + *-gram*] : PICTOGRAPH
pic·to·graph \-ˌgraf\ *n* [L *pictus* + E *-o-* + *-graph*] **1** : an ancient or prehistoric drawing or painting on a rock wall **2** : one of the symbols belonging to a pictorial graphic system **3** : a diagram representing statistical data by pictorial forms — **pic·to·graph·ic** \ˌpik-tə-'graf-ik\ *adj*
pic·tog·ra·phy \pik-'täg-rə-fē\ *n* : use of pictographs : PICTURE WRITING 1
¹pic·to·ri·al \pik-'tōr-ē-əl, -'tȯr-\ *adj* [LL *pictorius*, fr. L *pictor* painter] **1** : of or relating to a painter, a painting, or the painting or drawing of pictures ⟨~ perspective⟩ **2** **a** : consisting of pictures ⟨~ records⟩ **b** : illustrated by pictures ⟨~ weekly⟩ **c** : consisting of or displaying the characteristics of pictographs **d** : suggesting or conveying visual images ⟨he made ~ drama out of the most commonplace intimacies of . . . life —J. T. Soby⟩ ***syn*** see GRAPHIC — **pic·to·ri·al·ly** \-ē-ə-lē\ *adv* — **pic·to·ri·al·ness** *n*
²pictorial *n* : a periodical having much pictorial matter
pic·to·ri·al·ism \-ē-ə-ˌliz-əm\ *n* : the use or creation of pictures or visual images
pic·to·ri·al·iza·tion \pik-ˌtōr-ē-ə-lə-'zā-shən, -ˌtȯr-\ *n* : the act, process, or an instance of representing by a picture or illustrating with pictures ⟨detailed ~ of the . . . coronation —*Newsweek*⟩
pic·to·ri·al·ize \pik-'tōr-ē-ə-ˌlīz, -'tȯr-\ *vt* **-ized; -iz·ing** : to make pictorial
¹pic·ture \'pik-chər\ *n* [ME, fr. L *pictura*, fr. *pictus*, pp. of *pingere* to paint — more at PAINT] **1** : a design or representation made by various means (as painting, drawing, or photography) **2** : a description so vivid or graphic as to suggest a mental image or give an accurate idea of something ⟨the book gives a detailed ~ of what is happening⟩ **3** : IMAGE, COPY ⟨he was the ~ of his father⟩ **4** **a** : a transitory visible image or reproduction **b** : MOTION PICTURE **c** *pl, chiefly Brit* : MOVIES **5** : TABLEAU 1, 2 ⟨stage ~s⟩ **6** : SITUATION ⟨took a hard look at his financial ~⟩
²picture *vt* **pic·tured; pic·tur·ing** \'pik-chə-riŋ, 'pik-shriŋ\ **1** : to paint or draw a representation, image, or visual conception of : DEPICT; *also* : ILLUSTRATE **2** : to describe graphically in words **3** : to form a mental image of : IMAGINE
picture book *n* : a book that consists wholly or chiefly of pictures
pic·ture-go·er \'pik-chər-ˌgō(-ə)r\ *n, chiefly Brit* : MOVIEGOER
picture hat *n* : a woman's dressy hat with a broad brim
Pic·ture·phone \'pik-chər-ˌfōn\ *service mark* — used for a combined telephone and television apparatus
picture puzzle *n* : JIGSAW PUZZLE
pic·tur·esque \ˌpik-chə-'resk\ *adj* [F & It; F *pittoresque*, fr. It *pittoresco*, fr. *pittore* painter, fr. L *pictor*, fr. *pictus*, pp.] **1** **a** : resembling a picture : suggesting a painted scene **b** : QUAINT, CHARMING **2** : evoking mental images : VIVID ***syn*** see GRAPHIC — **pic·tur·esque·ly** *adv* — **pic·tur·esque·ness** *n*
picture tube *n* : a cathode-ray tube having at one end a screen of luminescent material on which are produced visible images
picture window *n* : an outsize usu. single-paned window designed to frame an exterior view
picture writing *n* **1** : the recording of events or expression of messages by pictures representing actions or facts **2** : the record or message represented by picture writing
pic·tur·ize \'pik-chə-ˌrīz\ *vt* **-ized; -iz·ing** : to make a picture of : present in pictures; *esp* : to make into a motion picture — **pic·tur·iza·tion** \ˌpik-chə-rə-'zā-shən\ *n*

pic·ul \'pik-əl\ *n* [Malay *pikul* to carry a heavy load] : any of various units of weight used in China and southeast Asia; *esp* : a Chinese unit equal to 133.33 pounds
pid·dle \'pid-ᵊl\ *vi* **pid·dled; pid·dling** \'pid-liŋ, -ᵊl-iŋ\ [origin unknown] : to behave or work in an idle manner : DAWDLE
pid·dling \'pid-lən, -liŋ, -ᵊl-ən, -ᵊl-iŋ\ *adj* : TRIVIAL, PALTRY
pid·dock \'pid-ək, -ik\ *n* [origin unknown] : a bivalve mollusk (genus *Pholas* or family Pholadidae) that bores holes in wood, clay, and rocks
pid·gin \'pij-ən\ *n* [*Pidgin English*] : a simplified speech used for communication between people with different languages — **pid·gin·ize** \-ə-ˌnīz\ *vt* — **pid·gin·iza·tion** \ˌpij-ə-nə-'zā-shən\ *n*
Pidgin English *n* [Pidgin E, modif. of E *business English*] : an English-based pidgin; *esp* : one orig. used in parts of the Orient
¹pie \'pī\ *n* [ME, fr. OF, fr. L *pica;* akin to L *picus* woodpecker, OHG *speh*] **1** : MAGPIE **2** : a parti-colored animal
²pie *n* [ME] **1** : a meat dish baked with biscuit or pastry crust — compare POTPIE **2** : a dessert consisting of a filling (as of fruit or custard) in a pastry shell or topped with pastry or both **3 a** : AFFAIR, BUSINESS ⟨she wanted her finger . . . in every possible social ~ —Mary Deasy⟩ **b** : a whole regarded as divisible into shares ⟨giving the less fortunate . . . a larger share of the economic ~ —R. M. Hutchins⟩
³pie *var of* PI
⁴pie *n* [Hindi *pāī*, fr. Skt *pādikā* quarter] : a former monetary unit of India and Pakistan equal to $^1/_{192}$ of the rupee
¹pie·bald \'pī-ˌbȯld\ *adj* **1** : of different colors: **a** : spotted or blotched with black and white **b** : SKEWBALD **2** : composed of incongruous parts : HETEROGENEOUS
²piebald *n* : a piebald animal (as a horse)
¹piece \'pēs\ *n* [ME, fr. OF, fr. (assumed) VL *pettia*, of Gaulish origin; akin to Bret *pez* piece] **1** : a part of a whole **2** : an object or individual regarded as a unit of a kind or class : EXAMPLE **3** : a standard quantity (as of length, weight, or size) in which something is made or sold **4 a** : a literary composition **b** : PAINTING, SCULPTURE **c** : a theatrical production : PLAY **d** : a musical composition **5** : FIREARM **6** : COIN; *also* : TOKEN **7** : a man used in playing a board game; *specif* : a chessman of superior rank **8 a** : an act of copulation — usu. considered vulgar **b** : the female partner in sexual intercourse — usu. considered vulgar ***syn*** see PART — **of a piece** : ALIKE, CONSISTENT — **piece of one's mind** : a severe scolding : TONGUE-LASHING — **piece of the action** : a share in activity or profit — **to pieces** **1** : without reserve or restraint : COMPLETELY **2** : into fragments **3** : out of control ⟨went *to pieces* from shock⟩
²piece *vt* **pieced; piec·ing** **1** : to repair, renew, or complete by adding pieces : PATCH **2** : to join into a whole — often used with *together* ⟨his new book . . . has been *pieced* together from talks — Merle Miller⟩ — **piec·er** *n*
piece by piece *adv* : by degrees : PIECEMEAL
pièce de ré·sis·tance \pē-ˌes-də-rə-ˌzē-'stän(t)s, -rā-, -'stäⁿs\ *n, pl* **pièces de ré·sis·tance** *same*\ [F, lit., piece of resistance] **1** : the chief dish of a meal **2** : an outstanding item : SHOWPIECE
piece–dye \'pēs-ˌdī\ *vt* : to dye after weaving or knitting
piece goods *n pl* : cloth fabrics sold from the bolt at retail in lengths specified by the customer — called also *yard goods*
¹piece·meal \'pē-ˌsmēl, -'smē(ə)l\ *adv* **1** : one piece at a time : GRADUALLY **2** : in pieces or fragments : APART
²piecemeal *adj* : done, made, or accomplished piece by piece or in a fragmentary way : GRADUAL
piece of eight : an old Spanish peso of eight reals
piece·wise \'pē-ˌswīz\ *adv* : with respect to a number of discrete intervals, sets, or pieces ⟨~ continuous functions⟩
piece·work \'pē-ˌswərk\ *n* : work done by the piece and paid for at a set rate per unit — **piece·work·er** \-ˌswər-kər\ *n*
pie chart *n* : a circular chart cut by radii into segments illustrating relative magnitudes or frequencies — called also *circle graph*
pie·crust \'pī-ˌkrəst\ *n* : the pastry shell of a pie
pied \'pīd\ *adj* : of two or more colors in blotches; *also* : wearing or having a parti-colored coat ⟨a ~ horse⟩
pied–à–terre \pē-ˌād-ə-'te(ə)r, -ˌād-ä-, ˌpyā-\ *n, pl* **pieds–à–terre** *same*\ [F. lit., foot to the ground] : a temporary or second lodging
pied·mont \'pēd-ˌmänt\ *adj* [*Piedmont*, region of Italy] : lying or formed at the base of mountains — **piedmont** *n*
pied piper *n, often cap both Ps* [*The Pied Piper of Hamelin*, title & hero of a poem (1842) by Robert Browning] **1** : one that offers strong but delusive enticement **2** : a leader who makes irresponsible promises
pie–eyed \'pī-'īd\ *adj* : INTOXICATED
pie–faced \-'fāst\ *adj* : having a round, smooth, or blank face
pie·fort *or* **pied·fort** \pē-ˌā-'fȯ(ə)r\ *n, often attrib* [F *pied-fort*, lit., strong-footed one] : a coin struck on an unusually thick flan
pie in the sky : a prospect or promise of deferred happiness or prosperity
pie·plant \'pī-ˌplant\ *n* : garden rhubarb
pier \'pi(ə)r\ *n* [ME *per*, fr. OE, fr. ML *pera*] **1** : an intermediate support for the adjacent ends of two bridge spans **2** : a structure (as a breakwater) extending into navigable water for use as a landing place or promenade or to protect or form a harbor **3** : a vertical structural support: as **a** : the wall between two openings **b** : PILLAR, PILASTER **c** : a vertical member that supports the end of an arch or lintel **d** : an auxiliary mass of masonry used to stiffen a wall **4** : a structural mount (as for a telescope) usu. of stonework, concrete, or steel
pierce \'pi(ə)rs\ *vb* **pierced; pierc·ing** [ME *percen*, fr. OF *percer*] *vt* **1 a** : to run into or through as a pointed weapon does : STAB **b** : to enter or thrust into sharply or painfully **2** : to make a hole through : PERFORATE **3** : to force or make a way into or through **4** : to penetrate with the eye or mind : DISCERN **5** : to penetrate so as to move or touch the emotions of ~ *vi* : to force a way into or through something ***syn*** see ENTER
pierced *adj* **1** : having holes; *esp* : decorated with perforations **2** : having the earlobe punctured for an earring ⟨~ ears⟩
pierc·ing *adj* : PENETRATING: as **a** : LOUD, SHRILL ⟨~ cries⟩ **b** : PERCEPTIVE ⟨~ eyes⟩ **c** : penetratingly cold : BITING ⟨a ~ wind⟩ **d** : CUTTING, INCISIVE ⟨~ sarcasm⟩ — **pierc·ing·ly** \'pir-siŋ-lē\ *adv*
pier glass *n* : a large high mirror; *esp* : one designed to occupy the wall space between windows
Pi·eri·an \pī-'ir-ē-ən, -'er-\ *adj* **1** : of or relating to the region of Pieria in ancient Macedonia or to the Muses who were early worshiped there **2** : of or relating to learning or poetry
Pier·rot \'pē-ə-ˌrō\ *n* [F, dim. of *Pierre* Peter] : a stock comic character of old French pantomime usu. having a whitened face and wearing loose white clothes
pier table *n* : a table to be placed under a pier glass
pies *pl of* PI *or of* PIE
pie·tà \ˌpē-(ˌ)ā-'tä, pyā-\ *n, often cap* [It, lit., pity, fr. L *pietat-, pietas*] : a representation of the Virgin Mary mourning over the dead body of Christ
pi·etism \'pī-ə-ˌtiz-əm\ *n* **1** *cap* : a 17th century religious movement originating in Germany in reaction to formalism and intellectualism and stressing Bible study and personal religious experience **2 a** : emphasis on devotional experience and practices **b** : affectation of devotion — **pi·etist** \'pī-ət-əst\ *n, often cap*
pi·etis·tic \ˌpī-ə-'tis-tik\ *or* **pi·etis·ti·cal** \-'tis-ti-kəl\ *adj* **1** : of or relating to Pietism **2 a** : of or relating to religious devotion or devout persons **b** : marked by overly sentimental or emotional devotion to religion : RELIGIOSE ***syn*** see DEVOUT — **pi·etis·ti·cally** \-ti-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
pi·ety \'pī-ət-ē\ *n, pl* **pi·eties** [F *pieté* piety, pity, fr. L *pietat-, pietas*, fr. *pius* dutiful — more at PIOUS] **1** : the quality or state of being pious: as **a** : fidelity to natural obligations (as to parents) **b** : dutifulness in religion : DEVOUTNESS **2** : an act inspired by piety **3** : a conventional belief or standard : ORTHODOXY ***syn*** see FIDELITY ***ant*** impiety
piezo- *comb form* [Gk *piezein* to press; akin to Skt *pīḍayati* he squeezes] : pressure ⟨*piezo*meter⟩
¹pi·ezo·elec·tric \pē-ˌā-(ˌ)zō-ə-'lek-trik, pē-ˌāt-(ˌ)sō-\ *adj* [ISV] : of, relating to, marked by, or functioning by means of piezoelectricity — **pi·ezo·elec·tri·cal·ly** \-tri-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
²piezoelectric *n* : a piezoelectric substance
pi·ezo·elec·tric·i·ty \-ˌlek-'tris-ət-ē, -'tris-tē\ *n* [ISV] : electricity or electric polarity due to pressure esp. in a crystalline substance (as quartz)
pi·ezom·e·ter \ˌpē-ə-'zäm-ət-ər, pē-ˌāt-'säm-\ *n* : an instrument for measuring pressure or compressibility; *esp* : one for measuring the change of pressure of a material subjected to hydrostatic pressure — **pi·ezo·met·ric** \pē-ˌā-zə-'me-trik, pē-ˌāt-sə-\ *adj* — **pi·ezom·e·try** \ˌpē-ə-'zäm-ə-trē, pē-ˌāt-'säm-\ *n*
¹pif·fle \'pif-əl\ *vi* **pif·fled; pif·fling** \-(ə-)liŋ\ [perh. blend of *piddle* and *trifle*] : to talk or act in a trivial, inept, or ineffective way
²piffle *n* : trivial nonsense : INEPTITUDE
¹pig \'pig\ *n, often attrib* [ME *pigge*] **1** : a young swine not yet sexually mature; *broadly* : a wild or domestic swine **2 a** : PORK **b** : the dressed carcass of a young swine weighing less than 130 pounds **c** : PIGSKIN **3 a** : one resembling a pig **b** : an animal related to or resembling the pig — usu. used in combination ⟨guinea ~⟩ **4** : a crude casting of metal (as iron) **5** : an immoral woman **6** *slang* : POLICEMAN — usu. used disparagingly
²pig *vb* **pigged; pig·ging** *vi* **1** : FARROW **2** : to live like a pig ⟨~ it⟩ ~ *vt* : FARROW
³pig *n* [ME *pygg*] *chiefly Scot* : an earthenware vessel : CROCK
pig bed *n* : a bed of sand in which iron is cast into pigs
pig·boat \'pig-ˌbōt\ *n* : SUBMARINE
pi·geon \'pij-ən\ *n* [ME, fr. MF *pijon*, fr. LL *pipion-, pipio* young bird, fr. L *pipire* to chirp] **1** : any of a widely distributed family (Columbidae, order Columbiformes) of birds with a stout body, rather short legs, and smooth and compact plumage; *esp* : a member of one of many varieties derived from the rock pigeon that exist in domestication and in the feral state in cities and towns throughout most of the world **2** : a young woman **3** : an easy mark : DUPE **4** : CLAY PIGEON **5** [alter. of *pidgin*] : an object of special concern : BUSINESS
pigeon breast *n* : a rachitic deformity of the chest marked by sharp projection of the sternum — **pi·geon–breast·ed** \ˌpij-ən-'bres-təd\ *adj*
pigeon hawk *n* **1** : a small American falcon (*Falco columbarius*) related to the European merlin **2** : SHARP-SHINNED HAWK
pi·geon·heart·ed \ˌpij-ən-'härt-əd\ *adj* : TIMID, COWARDLY
¹pi·geon·hole \'pij-ən-ˌhōl\ *n* **1** : a hole or small recess for pigeons to nest **2** : a small open compartment (as in a desk or cabinet) for keeping letters or documents **3** : a neat category which usu. fails to reflect actual complexities
²pigeonhole *vt* **1 a** : to place in or as if in the pigeonhole of a desk **b** : to lay aside : SHELVE ⟨his reports continued to be *pigeonholed* and his advice not taken —Walter Mills⟩ **2** : to assign to a category : CLASSIFY
pi·geon–liv·ered \ˌpij-ən-'liv-ərd\ *adj* : GENTLE, MILD
pigeon pea *n* : a leguminous woody herb (*Cajanus cajan*) that has trifoliate leaves, yellow flowers, and somewhat flat pods and is much cultivated esp. in the tropics; *also* : its small highly nutritious seed
pi·geon–toed \ˌpij-ən-'tōd\ *adj* : having the toes turned in
pi·geon·wing \'pij-ən-ˌwiŋ\ *n* : a fancy dance step executed by jumping and striking the legs together
pig·fish \'pig-ˌfish\ *n* **1** : a saltwater grunt (*Orthopristis chrysopterus*) that is a food fish found from Long Island southward **2** : any of several grunts other than the pigfish
pig·gery \'pig-ə-rē\ *n, pl* **-ger·ies** : a place where swine are kept
pig·gin \'pig-ən\ *n* [origin unknown] : a small wooden pail with one stave extended upward as a handle
pig·gish \'pig-ish\ *adj* [¹*pig*] **1** : GREEDY ⟨their wishes for a somewhat ~ material happiness —Paul de Kruif⟩ **2** : STUBBORN — **pig·gish·ly** *adv* — **pig·gish·ness** *n*
¹pig·gy·back \'pig-ē-ˌbak\ *adv* [alter. of earlier *a pick pack*, of unknown origin] **1** : up on the back and shoulders **2** : on a railroad flatcar ⟨the trailer rode ~ from coast to coast⟩

²piggyback *n* **1** : the act of carrying piggyback **2** : the movement of loaded truck trailers on railroad flatcars or cars of special design — compare BIRDYBACK, FISHYBACK
³piggyback *adj* **1** : marked by being up on the shoulders and back ⟨a child needs hugging, tussling, and ~ rides —Benjamin Spock⟩ **2** : of or relating to the hauling of truck trailers on railroad flatcars **3** : of or relating to radio or television advertising that includes within usu. a one minute period more than one commercial by the same company **4** : being or relating to something carried into space as an extra load by a vehicle (as a spacecraft)
⁴piggyback *vt* **1** : to carry up on the shoulders and back **2** : to haul (as a truck trailer) by railroad car ~ *vi* : to haul truck trailers on railroad cars
piggy bank *n* : a coin bank often in the shape of a pig
pig·head·ed \'pig-'hed-əd\ *adj* : OBSTINATE, STUBBORN — **pig·head·ed·ness** *n*
pig in a poke : something offered in such a way as to obscure its real nature or worth ⟨unwilling to buy a *pig in a poke*⟩
pig iron *n* : crude iron that is the direct product of the blast furnace and is refined to produce steel, wrought iron, or ingot iron
pig latin *n, often cap L* : a jargon that is made by systematic mutilation of English (as *ipskay the ointjay* for *skip the joint*)
pig lead *n* : lead cast in pigs
pig·let \'pig-lət\ *n* : a small usu. young hog
¹pig·ment \'pig-mənt\ *n* [L *pigmentum*, fr. *pingere* to paint — more at PAINT] **1** : a substance that imparts black or white or a color to other materials; *esp* : a powdered substance that is mixed with a liquid in which it is relatively insoluble and used esp. to impart color to coating materials (as paints) or to inks, plastics, and rubber **2** : a coloring matter in animals and plants esp. in a cell or tissue; *also* : any of various related colorless substances — **pig·men·tary** \-mən-ˌter-ē\ *adj*
²pig·ment \-mənt, -ˌment\ *vt* : to color with or as if with pigment
pig·men·ta·tion \ˌpig-mən-'tā-shən, -ˌmen-\ *n* : coloration with or deposition of pigment; *esp* : an excessive deposition of bodily pigment
pigmy *var of* PYGMY
pig·nut \'pig-ˌnət\ *n* **1** : any of several bitter-flavored hickory nuts **2** : a hickory (as *Carya glabra, C. ovalis,* or *C. cordiformis*) bearing pignuts
pig·pen \-ˌpen\ *n* **1** : a pen for pigs **2** : a dirty slovenly place
pig·skin \-ˌskin\ *n* **1** : the skin of a swine or leather made of it **2 a** : a jockey's saddle **b** : FOOTBALL 2a
pig·stick \-ˌstik\ *vi* : to hunt the wild boar on horseback with a spear — **pig·stick·er** *n*
pig·sty \'pig-ˌstī\ *n* : PIGPEN 1
pig·tail \-ˌtāl\ *n* **1** : tobacco in small twisted strands or rolls **2** : a tight braid of hair
pig·tailed \-ˌtāld\ *adj* : wearing a pigtail ⟨~ little girls⟩
pig·weed \-ˌwēd\ *n* : any of various strongly growing weedy plants esp. of the goosefoot or amaranth families
pi·ka \'pē-kə, 'pī-\ *n* [Tungusic *piika*] : any of various short-eared small lagomorph mammals (family Ochotonidae) of rocky uplands of Asia and western No. America that are related to the rabbits
pi·ka·ke \'pē-kə-ˌkā\ *n* [Hawaiian *pīkake*] : an East Indian vine (*Jasminum sambuc*) that is cultivated for its profuse fragrant white flowers
¹pike \'pīk\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *pīc* pickax] **1** : PIKESTAFF 1 **2** : a sharp point or spike; *also* : the tip of a spear — **piked** \'pīkt\ *adj*
²pike *vi* **piked; pik·ing** [ME *pyken* (refl.)] **1** : to leave abruptly ⟨get lonely and sore, and ~ out —Sinclair Lewis⟩ **2** : to make one's way ⟨~ along⟩
³pike *n* [ME, perh. of Scand origin; akin to Norw dial. *pīk* pointed mountain] **1** *dial Eng* : a mountain or hill having a peaked summit — used esp. in place names **2** [Sp *pico*, fr. *picar* to prick — more at PICADOR] *archaic* : PEAK
⁴pike *n, pl* **pike** *or* **pikes** [ME, fr. ¹*pike*] **1 a** : a large elongate long-snouted teleost fish (*Esox lucius*) valued for food and sport and widely distributed in cooler parts of the northern hemisphere **b** : any of various fishes (family Esocidae) related to the pike: as (1) : MUSKELLUNGE (2) : PICKEREL **2** : any of various fishes resembling the pike in appearance or habits
⁵pike *n* [MF *pique*, fr. *piquer* to prick, fr. (assumed) VL *piccare*, fr. *piccus* woodpecker, fr. L *picus* — more at PIE] : a weapon formed of a long wooden shaft with a pointed steel head and used by the foot soldier until superseded by the bayonet
⁶pike *vt* **piked; pik·ing** : to pierce, kill, or wound with a pike
⁷pike *n* **1** : TURNPIKE **2** : a railroad or model railroad line or system ⟨railroading on . . . backwoods ~*s* —F. P. Donovan⟩
⁸pike *n* [prob. fr. ⁴*pike*] : a body position (as in diving) in which the hips are bent, the knees are straight, the head is pressed forward, and the hands touch the toes or clasp the legs behind or just above the knees
pike·man \'pīk-mən\ *n* : a soldier armed with a pike
pike perch *n* : a fish (as the walleye) of the perch group that resembles the pike
pik·er \'pī-kər\ *n* [*Pike* county, Missouri, thought to be the original home of many shiftless farmers] **1** : one who gambles or speculates with small amounts of money **2** : one who does things in a small way; *also* : TIGHTWAD, CHEAPSKATE
pike·staff \'pīk-ˌstaf\ *n* **1** : a spiked staff for use on slippery ground **2** : the staff of a foot soldier's pike
pil- *or* **pili-** *or* **pilo-** *comb form* [L *pilus* — more at PILE] : hair ⟨*pil*eous⟩ ⟨*pili*ferous⟩
pi·laf *or* **pi·laff** \pi-'läf, 'pē-ˌ\ *or* **pi·lau** \pi-'lō, -'lȯ, 'pē-(ˌ); *South often* 'pər-(ˌ)lü, -(ˌ)lō\ *n* [Per & Turk *pilāv*] : a dish made of seasoned rice and often meat



1 pilasters

pi·las·ter \'pī-ˌlas-tər *also* pə-'las- *or* pī-'\ *n* [MF *pilastre*, fr. It *pilastro*] : an upright architectural member that is rectangular in plan and is structurally a pier but architecturally treated as a column and that usu. projects a third of its width or less from the wall
pil·chard \'pil-chərd\ *n* [origin unknown] **1** : a fish (*Sardinia pilchardus*) of the herring family resembling the herring and occurring in great schools along the coasts of Europe **2** : any of several sardines related to the European pilchard
¹pile \'pī(ə)l\ *n* [ME, dart, stake, fr. OE *pīl;* akin to OHG *pfīl* dart; both fr. a prehistoric WGmc word borrowed fr. L *pilum* javelin — more at PESTLE] **1** : a long slender column usu. of timber, steel, or reinforced concrete driven into the ground to carry a vertical load **2** : a wedge-shaped heraldic charge usu. placed vertically with the broad end up **3 a** : a target-shooting arrowhead without cutting edges **b** [L *pilum*] : an ancient Roman foot soldier's heavy javelin
²pile *vt* **piled; pil·ing** : to drive piles into
³pile *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *pila* pillar] **1 a** (1) : a quantity of things heaped together (2) : a heap of wood for burning a corpse or a sacrifice **b** : any great number or quantity : LOT **2** : a large building or group of buildings **3** : a great amount of money : FORTUNE **4 a** : a vertical series of alternate disks of two dissimilar metals (as copper and zinc) with disks of cloth or paper moistened with an electrolyte between them for producing a current of electricity **b** : a battery made up of cells similarly constructed **5** : REACTOR 3b
⁴pile *vb* **piled; pil·ing** *vt* **1** : to lay or place in a pile : STACK **2** : to heap in abundance : LOAD ⟨*piled* potatoes on his plate⟩ ~ *vi* **1** : to form a pile : ACCUMULATE **2** : to move or press forward in or as if in a mass : CROWD ⟨*piled* into a car⟩
⁵pile *n* [ME, fr. L *pilus* hair; akin to L *pila* ball, *pilleus, pileus* felt cap, Gk *pilos*] **1** : a coat or surface of usu. short close fine furry hairs **2** : a velvety surface produced by an extra set of filling yarns that form raised loops which are cut and sheared
⁶pile *n* [ME, fr. L *pila* ball] **1** : a single hemorrhoid **2** *pl* **piles** : HEMORRHOIDS; *also* : the condition of one affected with hemorrhoids
pi·le·ate \'pī-lē-ˌāt\ *adj* : having a pileus
pi·le·at·ed \-ˌāt-əd\ *adj* : having a crest covering the pileum ⟨a ~ woodpecker⟩
piled \'pī(ə)ld\ *adj* : having a pile ⟨a deep-*piled* rug⟩
pile driver *n* **1** : a machine for driving down piles with a pile hammer or a steam or air hammer **2** : an operator of a pile driver
pi·le·um \'pī-lē-əm\ *n, pl* **pi·lea** \-lē-ə\ [NL, fr. L *pileus, pileum* felt cap] : the top of the head of a bird from the bill to the nape
pile-up \'pī-ˌləp\ *n* **1** : a collision involving usu. several motor vehicles and causing damage or injury **2** : a jammed tangled mass or pile (as of motor vehicles or people) resulting from collision
pi·le·us \'pī-lē-əs\ *n, pl* **pi·lei** \-lē-ˌī\ [NL, fr. L] **1** : the umbrella-shaped fruiting body of many fungi (as the mushrooms) **2** [L] : a pointed or close-fitting cap worn by ancient Romans
pile·wort \'pī(ə)l-ˌwərt, -ˌwȯ(ə)rt\ *n* [⁶*pile;* fr. its use in treating piles] **1** : CELANDINE 2 **2** : a coarse hairy perennial figwort (*Scrophularia marilandica*) of the eastern and central U.S.
pil·fer \'pil-fər\ *vb* **pil·fered; pil·fer·ing** \-f(ə-)riŋ\ [MF *pelfrer*, fr. *pelfre* booty] *vi* : to steal stealthily in small amounts or to small value and often again and again ⟨the mouse that ~*s* from our pantry⟩ ~ *vt* : to steal in small quantities ***syn*** see STEAL — **pil·fer·age** \-f(ə-)rij\ *n* — **pil·fer·er** \-fər-ər\ *n*
pil·gar·lic \pil-'gär-lik\ *n* [*pilled garlic*] **1 a** : a bald head **b** : a bald-headed man **2** : a man looked upon with humorous contempt or mock pity
pil·grim \'pil-grəm\ *n* [ME, fr. OF *peligrin*, fr. LL *pelegrinus*, alter. of L *peregrinus* foreigner, fr. *peregrinus* foreign, fr. *pereger* being abroad, fr. *per* through + *agr-, ager* land — more at FOR, ACRE] **1** : one who journeys in foreign lands : WAYFARER **2** : one who travels to a shrine or holy place as a devotee **3** *cap* : one of the English colonists settling at Plymouth in 1620
¹pil·grim·age \'pil-grə-mij\ *n* **1** : a journey of a pilgrim; *esp* : one to a shrine or a sacred place **2** : the course of life on earth
²pilgrimage *vi* **-aged; -ag·ing** : to go on a pilgrimage
pilgrim bottle *n* : COSTREL
pil·ing \'pī-liŋ\ *n* : a structure of piles; *also* : PILES
Pi·li·pi·no \ˌpil-ə-'pē-(ˌ)nō, ˌpēl-\ *n* [Pilipino, fr. Sp *Filipino* Philippine] : the Tagalog-based official language of the Republic of the Philippines
¹pill \'pil\ *vb* [ME *pilen, pillen*, partly fr. OE *pilian* to peel, partly fr. MF *piller* to plunder] *vi, dial chiefly Eng* : to come off in flakes or scales : PEEL ~ *vt* **1** *archaic* : to subject to depredation or extortion **2** *dial* : to peel or strip off
²pill *n* [L *pilula*, fr. dim. of *pila* ball — more at PILE] **1 a** : medicine in a small rounded mass to be swallowed whole **b** : an oral contraceptive — usu. used with *the* **2** : something repugnant or unpleasant that must be accepted or endured **3** : something resembling a pill in size or shape **4** : a disagreeable or tiresome person
³pill *vt* **1** : to dose with pills **2** : BLACKBALL ~ *vi* : to become rough with or mat into little balls ⟨brushed woolens often ~⟩
¹pil·lage \'pil-ij\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. *piller* to plunder, fr. *peille* rag, fr. L *pilleum, pilleus* felt cap] **1** : the act of looting or plundering esp. in war **2** : something taken as booty ***syn*** see SPOIL
²pillage *vb* **pil·laged; pil·lag·ing** *vt* : to plunder ruthlessly : LOOT ~ *vi* : to take booty ***syn*** see RAVAGE — **pil·lag·er** *n*
¹pil·lar \'pil-ər\ *n* [ME *piler*, fr. OF, fr. ML *pilare*, fr. L *pila*] **1 a** : a firm upright support for a superstructure : POST **b** : a usu. ornamental column or shaft; *esp* : one standing alone for a monu-

ment **2** : a chief supporter : PROP **3** : a solid mass of coal, rock, or ore left standing to support a mine roof **4** : a body part that resembles a column — **from pillar to post** : from one place or one situation to another

²pillar *vt* : to provide or strengthen with or as if with pillars

pil·lar–box \'pil-ər-ˌbäks\ *n, Brit* : a pillar-shaped mailbox

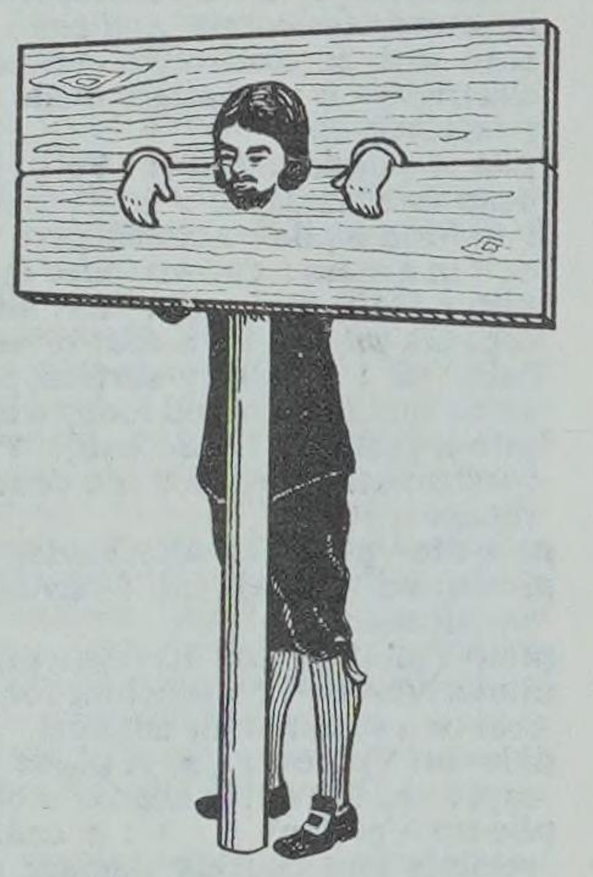
pill·box \'pil-ˌbäks\ *n* **1** : a box for pills; *esp* : a shallow round box of pasteboard **2** : a small low concrete emplacement for machine guns and antitank weapons **3** : a small round hat without a brim; *specif* : a woman's shallow hat with a flat crown and straight sides

pill bug *n* [*²pill;* fr. its rolling into a ball when disturbed] : WOOD LOUSE 1

¹pil·lion \'pil-yən\ *n* [ScGael or IrGael; ScGael *pillean,* dim. of *peall* covering, couch; IrGael *pillīn,* dim. of *peall* covering, couch] **1 a** : a light saddle for women consisting chiefly of a cushion **b** : a pad or cushion put on behind a man's saddle chiefly for a woman to ride on **2** : a motorcycle or bicycle riding saddle for a passenger

²pillion *adv* : on or as if on a pillion ⟨ride ~⟩

¹pil·lo·ry \'pil-(ə-)rē\ *n, pl* **-ries** [ME, fr. OF *pilori*] **1** : a device for publicly punishing offenders consisting of a wooden frame with holes in which the head and hands can be locked **2** : a means for exposing one to public scorn or ridicule



pillory 1

²pillory *vt* **-ried; -ry·ing** **1** : to set in a pillory as punishment **2** : to expose to public contempt, ridicule, or scorn

¹pil·low \'pil-(ˌ)ō, -ə(-w)\ *n* [ME *pilwe,* fr. OE *pyle;* akin to OHG *pfuliwi* pillow; both fr. a prehistoric WGmc word borrowed fr. L *pulvinus* pillow] **1 a** : a support for the head of a reclining person; *esp* : a cloth bag filled with feathers, down, sponge rubber, or plastic fiber **b** : something resembling a pillow esp. in form **2** : a block or support used esp. to equalize or distribute pressure **3** : a cushion or pad tightly stuffed and used as a support for the design and tools in making lace with a bobbin

²pillow *vt* **1** : to rest or lay on or as if on a pillow **2** : to serve as a pillow for ~ *vi* : to lay or rest one's head on or as if on a pillow

pillow block *n* : a block or standard to support a journal (as of a shaft) : BEARING

pil·low·case \'pil-ə-ˌkās, -ō-\ *n* : a removable covering for a pillow usu. of linen or cotton

pillow lace *n* [fr. its being worked over a pillow on which the pattern is marked] : lace made with a bobbin

pillow sham *n* : an ornamental covering for a bed pillow

pillow slip *n* : PILLOWCASE

pilo- — see PIL-

pi·lo·car·pine \ˌpī-lə-'kär-ˌpēn\ *n* [ISV, fr. NL *Pilocarpus jaborandi,* species of tropical shrubs] : a muscarinic alkaloid $C_{11}H_{16}N_2O_2$ that is obtained from jaborandi and is a strong sialagogue and diaphoretic

pi·lose \'pī-ˌlōs\ *adj* [L *pilosus,* fr. *pilus* hair — more at PILE] : covered with usu. soft hair — **pi·los·i·ty** \pī-'läs-ət-ē\ *n*

¹pi·lot \'pī-lət\ *n* [MF *pilote,* fr. It *pilota,* alter. of *pedota,* fr. (assumed) MGk *pēdōtēs,* fr. Gk *pēda* steering oars, pl. of *pēdon* oar; akin to Gk *pod-, pous* foot — more at FOOT] **1 a** : one employed to steer a ship : HELMSMAN **b** : a person who is qualified and usu. licensed to conduct a ship into and out of a port or in specified waters, often for fixed fees **2** : GUIDE, LEADER **3** : COWCATCHER **4** : one who handles or is qualified to handle the controls of an aircraft or spacecraft **5** : a piece that guides a tool or machine part **6** : a television show produced and filmed or taped as a sample of a proposed series **7** : PILOT BURNER — **pi·lot·less** \-ləs\ *adj*

²pilot *vt* **1** : to act as a guide to : lead or conduct over a usu. difficult course **2 a** : to set and conn the course of ⟨~ a ship⟩ **b** : to act as pilot of ⟨~ a plane⟩ ***syn*** see GUIDE

³pilot *adj* : serving as a guiding or tracing device, an activating or auxiliary unit, or a trial apparatus or operation

pi·lot·age \'pī-lət-ij\ *n* **1** : the action or business of piloting **2** : the compensation paid to a pilot

pilot balloon *n* : a small unmanned balloon sent up to show the direction and speed of the wind

pilot biscuit *n* : HARDTACK — called also *pilot bread*

pilot burner *n* : a small burner kept lighted to rekindle a principal burner

pilot engine *n* : a locomotive going in advance of a train to make sure that the way is clear

pilot fish *n* : a pelagic carangid fish (*Naucrates ductor*) that often swims in company with a shark

pi·lot·house \'pī-lət-ˌhaùs\ *n* : a deckhouse for a ship's helmsman containing the steering wheel, compass, and navigating equipment

pilot light *n* **1** : an indicator light showing where a switch or circuit breaker is located or whether a motor is in operation or power is on — called also *pilot lamp* **2** : a small permanent flame used to ignite gas at a burner

pilot officer *n* : a commissioned officer in the British air force who ranks with a second lieutenant in the army

pil·sner *also* **pil·sen·er** \'pilz-(ə-)nər, 'pil-snər\ *n* [G, lit., of Pilsen, city in Czechoslovakia (now Plzen)] **1** : a light beer with a strong flavor of hops **2** : a tall slender footed glass for beer

Pilt·down man \ˌpilt-ˌdaùn-\ *n* [*Piltdown,* East Sussex, England] : a supposedly very early primitive modern man based on skull fragments that were uncovered in a gravel pit at Piltdown and were used in combination with comparatively recent skeletal remains of various animals in the development of an elaborate fraud

pil·u·lar \'pil-yə-lər\ *adj* : of, relating to, or resembling a pill

pil·ule \'pil-(ˌ)yü(ə)l\ *n* [MF, fr. L *pilula* pill — more at PILE] : a little pill

pi·lus \'pī-ləs\ *n, pl* **pi·li** \-ˌlī\ [L — more at PILE] : a hair or a structure (as of a bacterium) resembling a hair

pi·ma cotton \ˌpē-mə-, ˌpim-ə-\ *n* [*Pima* county, Arizona] : a cotton that produces fiber of exceptional strength and firmness and that was developed in the southwestern U.S. by selection and breeding of Egyptian cottons

Pi·man \'pē-mən\ *adj* : of, relating to, or constituting a language family of the Uto-Aztecan phylum

pi·men·to \pə-'ment-(ˌ)ō\ *n, pl* **pimentos** *or* **pimento** [Sp *pimienta* allspice, pepper, fr. LL *pigmenta,* pl. of *pigmentum* plant juice, fr. L, pigment] **1** : PIMIENTO 1 **2** : ALLSPICE

pimento cheese *n* : a Neufchâtel, process, cream, or occas. cheddar cheese to which ground pimientos have been added

pi–me·son \'pī-'mez-ˌän, -'mēz-, -'mēs-, -'mes-\ *n* [*¹pī*] : PION

pi·mien·to \pə-'ment-(ˌ)ō, pəm-'yent-\ *n, pl* **-tos** [Sp. fr. *pimienta*] **1** : any of various bluntly conical thick-fleshed sweet peppers of European origin that have a distinctive mild sweet flavor and are used esp. as a garnish, as a stuffing for olives, and as a source of paprika **2** : a plant that bears pimientos

¹pimp \'pimp\ *n* [origin unknown] : a man who solicits clients for a prostitute

²pimp *vi* : to work as a pimp

pim·per·nel \'pim-pər-ˌnel, -pər-nəl\ *n* [ME *pimpernele,* fr. MF *pimprenelle,* fr. LL *pimpinella,* a medicinal herb] : any of a genus (*Anagallis*) of herbs of the primrose family; *esp* : SCARLET PIMPERNEL

pimp·ing \'pim-pən, -piŋ\ *adj* [origin unknown] **1** : PETTY, INSIGNIFICANT **2** *chiefly dial* : PUNY, SICKLY

pim·ple \'pim-pəl\ *n* [ME *pinple*] **1** : a small inflamed elevation of the skin : PAPULE; *esp* : PUSTULE **2** : a swelling or protuberance like a pimple — **pim·pled** \-pəld\ *adj* — **pim·ply** \-p(ə-)lē\ *adj*

¹pin \'pin\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *pinn;* akin to OHG *pfinn* peg] **1 a** : a piece of solid material (as wood or metal) used esp. for fastening separate articles together or as a support by which one article may be suspended from another **b** *obs* : the center peg of a target; *also* : the center itself **c** : something that resembles a pin esp. in slender elongated form **d** (1) : one of the wooden pieces constituting the target in various games (as bowling) (2) : the peg at which a quoit is pitched (3) : the staff of the flag marking a hole on a golf course **e** : a peg for regulating the tension of the strings of a musical instrument **f** : the part of a key stem that enters a lock **g** (1) : THOLE 2 (2) : a belaying pin **2 a** (1) : a small pointed piece of wire with a head used esp. for fastening cloth (2) : something of small value : TRIFLE **b** : an ornament or emblem fastened to clothing with a pin **c** (1) : BOBBY PIN (2) : HAIRPIN (3) : SAFETY PIN **3** : LEG — usu. used in pl. ⟨wobbly on his ~s⟩

²pin *vt* **pinned; pin·ning** **1 a** : to fasten, join, or secure with a pin **b** : to hold fast or immobile **2 a** : ATTACH, HANG ⟨*pinned* his hopes on a miracle⟩ **b** : to assign the blame or responsibility for ⟨~ the robbery on a night watchman⟩ **3 a** : to make (a chess opponent's man) unable to move without exposing the king to check or a valuable piece to capture **b** *of a wrestler* : to secure a fall over (an opponent)

³pin *adj* **1** : of or relating to a pin **2** *of leather* : having a grain suggesting the heads of pins

pi·ña cloth \ˌpēn-yə-\ *n* [Sp *piña*] : a lustrous transparent cloth of Philippine origin that is woven of silky pineapple fibers

pin·afore \'pin-ə-ˌfō(ə)r, -ˌfȯ(ə)r\ *n* [*²pin* + *afore*] : a sleeveless usu. low-necked garment fastened in the back and worn as an apron or dress by girls and women

pi·nas·ter \pī-'nas-tər, 'pī-ˌ\ *n* [L, wild pine, fr. *pinus* pine] : a pine (*Pinus pinaster*) of the Mediterranean region with reflexed bud scales and needles in pairs

pi·ña·ta *or* **pi·na·ta** \pēn-'yät-ə\ *n* [Sp *piñata,* lit., pot] : a decorated pottery jar filled with candies, fruits, and gifts and hung from the ceiling to be broken as part of Mexican festivities (as at Christmas or for a birthday party)

pin·ball machine \'pin-ˌbȯl-\ *n* : an amusement device in which a ball propelled by a plunger scores points as it rolls down a slanting surface among pins and targets — called also *pinball game*

pin·bone \'pin-ˌbōn, -ˌbōn\ *n* : the hipbone esp. of a quadruped — see COW illustration

pince–nez \paⁿ-'snā, pan(t)-\ *n, pl* **pince–nez** \-'snā(z)\ [F, fr. *pincer* to pinch + *nez* nose, fr. L *nasus* — more at NOSE] : eyeglasses clipped to the nose by a spring

pin·cer \'pin-chər (*usual US for 1*), 'pin(t)-sər\ *n* [ME *pinceour*] **1** *pl but sing or pl in constr* **a** : an instrument having two short handles and two grasping jaws working on a pivot and used for gripping things **b** : a claw (as of a lobster) resembling a pair of pincers : CHELA **2** : one part of a double envelopment in which two military forces converge upon opposite sides of an enemy position — **pin·cer·like** \-ˌlīk\ *adj*

¹pinch \'pinch\ *vb* [ME *pinchen,* fr. (assumed) ONF *pinchier*] *vt* **1 a** : to squeeze between the finger and thumb or between the jaws of an instrument **b** : to prune the tip of (a plant or shoot) usu. to induce branching **c** : to squeeze or compress painfully **d** : to cause physical or mental pain to **e** (1) : to cause to appear thin or shrunken (2) : to cause to shrivel or wither **2** : to subject to strict economy or want : STRAITEN **3 a** : STEAL **b** : ARREST **4** : to sail too close to the wind ~ *vi* **1** : COMPRESS, SQUEEZE **2** : to be miserly or closefisted **3** : to press painfully **4** : NARROW, TAPER

²pinch *n* **1 a** : a critical juncture : EMERGENCY **b** (1) : PRESSURE, STRESS (2) : HARDSHIP, PRIVATION **c** : SHORTAGE **2 a** : an act of pinching : SQUEEZE **b** : as much as may be taken between the finger and thumb ⟨a ~ of snuff⟩ **3** : a marked thinning of a

vein or bed **4 a** : THEFT **b** : a police raid; *also* : ARREST ***syn*** see JUNCTURE — **with a pinch of salt** : with doubts about the truth of something proposed

³pinch *adj* [²*pinch*] **1** : SUBSTITUTE ⟨~ runner⟩ **2** : made by a pinch hitter ⟨~ homer⟩

pinch bar *n* : a bar similar in form and use to a crowbar and sometimes having an end adapted for pulling spikes or inserting under a heavy wheel that is to be rolled

pinch·beck \'pinch-ˌbek\ *n* [Christopher *Pinchbeck* †1732 E watchmaker] **1** : an alloy of copper and zinc used esp. to imitate gold in jewelry **2** : something counterfeit or spurious — **pinchbeck** *adj*

pinch·cock \-ˌkäk\ *n* : a clamp used on a flexible tube to regulate the flow of a fluid through the tube

pinch·er \'pin-chər\ *n* **1** : one that pinches **2** *pl* : PINCERS

pinch–hit \(')pinch-'hit\ *vi* [back-formation fr. *pinch hitter*] **1** : to bat in the place of another player esp. in an emergency when a hit is particularly needed **2** : to act or serve in place of another

pinch hit *n* : a hit made by a pinch hitter

pinch hitter *n* : one that pinch-hits

pin curl *n* : a curl made usu. by dampening a strand of hair with water or lotion, coiling it, and securing it by a hairpin or clip

pin·cush·ion \'pin-ˌku̇sh-ən\ *n* : a small cushion in which pins may be stuck ready for use

¹Pin·dar·ic \pin-'dar-ik\ *adj* **1** : of or relating to the poet Pindar **2** : written in the manner or style characteristic of Pindar

²Pindaric *n* **1** : a Pindaric ode **2** *pl* : loose irregular verses similar to those used in Pindaric odes

pin·dling \'pin-(d)lən, -(d)liŋ, -dᵊl-ən, -dᵊl-iŋ\ *adj* [perh. alter. of *spindling*] *dial* : PUNY, FRAIL

¹pine \'pīn\ *vi* **pined; pin·ing** [ME *pinen*, fr. OE *pīnian*, fr. (assumed) OE *pīn* punishment, fr. L *poena* — more at PAIN] **1** : to lose vigor, health, or flesh (as through grief) : LANGUISH **2** : to yearn intensely and persistently esp. for something unattainable ⟨they still *pined* for their lost wealth⟩ ***syn*** see LONG

²pine *n, often attrib* [ME, fr. OE *pīn*, fr. L *pinus;* akin to Gk *pitys* pine, L *opimus* fat — more at FAT] **1** : any of a genus (*Pinus* of the family Pinaceae, the pine family) of coniferous evergreen trees which have slender elongated needles and some of which are valuable timber trees or ornamentals **2** : the straight-grained white or yellow usu. durable and resinous wood of a pine varying from extreme softness in the white pine to hardness in the longleaf pine **3** : any of various Australian coniferous trees (as of the genera *Callitris, Araucaria,* or *Cupressus*) **4** : PINEAPPLE — **piny** *or* **pin·ey** \'pī-nē\ *adj*

pi·ne·al \'pī-nē-əl, pī-'\ *adj* [F *pinéal*, fr. MF, fr. L *pinea* pinecone, fr. fem. of *pineus* of pine, fr. *pinus*] : of, relating to, or being the pineal body

pineal body *n* : a small usu. conical appendage of the brain of all craniate vertebrates that in a few reptiles has the essential structure of an eye, that functions in some birds as part of a time-measuring system, and that is variously postulated to be a vestigial third eye, an endocrine organ, or the seat of the soul — called also *pineal gland, pineal organ*

pine·ap·ple \'pī-ˌnap-əl\ *n* **1 a** : a tropical monocotyledonous plant (*Ananas comosus* of the family Bromeliaceae, the pineapple family) that has rigid spiny-margined recurved leaves and a short stalk with a dense oblong head of small abortive flowers **b** : the multiple fruit of the pineapple that consists of the succulent fleshy inflorescence **2 a** : a dynamite bomb **b** : a hand grenade

pine·cone \'pīn-ˌkōn\ *n* : a cone of a pine tree

pine·drops \'pīn-ˌdräps\ *n pl but sing or pl in constr* **1** : a purplish brown leafless saprophytic plant (*Pterospora andromedea*) of the wintergreen family with racemose drooping white flowers **2** : BEECHDROPS

pi·nene \'pī-ˌnēn\ *n* [ISV, fr. L *pinus*] : either of two liquid isomeric unsaturated bicyclic terpene hydrocarbons $C_{10}H_{16}$ of which one is a major constituent of wood turpentine

pine nut *n* : the edible seed of any of several chiefly western No. American pines

pin·ery \'pīn-(ə-)rē\ *n, pl* **-er·ies** **1** : a hothouse or area where pineapples are grown **2** : a grove or forest of pine

pine·sap \'pīn-ˌsap\ *n* : any of several yellowish or reddish parasitic or saprophytic herbs (genus *Monotropa*) of the wintergreen family resembling the Indian pipe

pine siskin *n* : a No. American finch (*Spinus pinus*) with streaked plumage

pine snake *n* **1** : a large constricting snake (*Pituophis melanoleucus*) of the eastern U.S. that is typically white and black and is found esp. in coastal regions from New Jersey southward **2** : any of various snakes related to the pine snake

pine tar *n* : tar obtained by destructive distillation of the wood of the pine tree and used esp. in roofing and soaps and in the treatment of skin diseases

pi·ne·tum \pī-'nēt-əm\ *n, pl* **pi·ne·ta** \-'nēt-ə\ [L, fr. *pinus*] **1** : a plantation of pine trees; *esp* : a scientific collection of living coniferous trees **2** : a treatise on pines

pine·wood \'pīn-ˌwu̇d\ *n* **1** : a wood of pines — often used in pl. but sing. or pl. in constr. **2** : the wood of the pine tree

pin·feath·er \'pin-ˌfeth-ər\ *n* : a feather not fully developed; *esp* : a feather just emerging through the skin — **pin·feath·ered** \-ərd\ *adj* — **pin·feath·ery** \-ˌfeth-(ə-)rē\ *adj*

pin·fish \-ˌfish\ *n* : a small compressed dark green grunt (*Lagodon rhomboides*) that has sharp dorsal spines and is found along the Atlantic coast

pin·fold \-ˌfōld\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *pundfald*, fr. *pund-* enclosure + *fald* fold] **1** : ⁴POUND 1a **2** : a place of restraint

ping \'piŋ\ *n* [imit.] **1** : a sharp sound like that of a striking bullet **2** : ignition knock — **ping** *vi*

ping·er \'piŋ-ər\ *n* : a device for producing pulses of sound (as for marking an underwater site or detecting an underwater object)

pin·go \'piŋ-(ˌ)gō\ *n* [Esk] : a low hill or mound forced up by hydrostatic pressure in an area underlain by permafrost

Ping–Pong \'piŋ-ˌpäŋ, -ˌpȯŋ\ *trademark* — used for table tennis

pin·head \'pin-ˌhed\ *n* **1** : something very small or insignificant **2** : a very dull or stupid person : FOOL

pin·head·ed \-'hed-əd\ *adj* : lacking intelligence or understanding : DULL, STUPID — **pin·head·ed·ness** *n*

pin·hole \-ˌhōl\ *n* : a small hole made by, for, or as if by a pin

¹pin·ion \'pin-yən\ *n* [ME, fr. MF *pignon*] **1** : the terminal section of a bird's wing including the carpus, metacarpus, and phalanges; *broadly* : WING **2** : FEATHER, QUILL; *also* : FLIGHT FEATHERS — **pinioned** \-yənd\ *adj*

²pinion *vt* **1** : to restrain (a bird) from flight esp. by cutting off the pinion of one wing **2 a** : to disable or restrain by binding the arms **b** : to bind fast : SHACKLE

³pi·nion *like* PIÑON\ *n* [AmerSp *piñón*] : PIÑON

⁴pin·ion \'pin-yən\ *n* [F *pignon*, fr. MF *peignon*, fr. *peigne* comb, fr. L *pecten* — more at PECTINATE] **1** : a gear with a small number of teeth designed to mesh with a larger wheel or rack — see RACK illustration **2** : the smaller of a pair or the smallest of a train of gear wheels

¹pink \'piŋk\ *vt* [ME *pinken*] **1 a** : PIERCE, STAB **b** : to wound by irony, criticism, or ridicule **2 a** : to perforate in an ornamental pattern **b** : to cut a saw-toothed edge on

²pink *n* [ME, fr. MD *pinke*] : a ship with a narrow overhanging stern — called also *pinkie*

³pink *n* [origin unknown] **1** : any of a genus (*Dianthus* of the family Caryophyllaceae, the pink family) of plants having a cylindrical many-veined calyx with bracts at its base **2 a** : the very embodiment : PARAGON **b** (1) : one dressed in the height of fashion (2) : ELITE **c** : highest degree possible : HEIGHT ⟨keep their house in the ~ of repair —Rebecca West⟩ — **in the pink** : in the best of health

⁴pink *adj* **1** : of the color pink **2** : holding moderately radical and usu. socialistic political or economic views **3** : emotionally moved : EXCITED — often used as an intensive ⟨was tickled ~ by her flattery⟩ — **pink·ness** *n*

⁵pink *n* **1** : any of a group of colors bluish red to red in hue, of medium to high lightness, and of low to moderate saturation **2 a** (1) : the scarlet color of a fox hunter's coat (2) : a fox hunter's coat of this color **b** : pink-colored clothing **c** *pl* : light-colored trousers formerly worn by army officers **3** : a person who holds advanced liberal or moderately radical political or economic views

pink bollworm *n* : a small dark brown moth (*Pectinophora gossypiella*) whose pinkish larva bores into the flowers and bolls of cotton and is a destructive pest in most cotton-growing regions

pink elephants *n pl* : any of various hallucinations arising esp. from heavy drinking or use of narcotics

pink·eye \'piŋ-ˌkī\ *n* : an acute highly contagious conjunctivitis of man and various domestic animals

¹pin·kie *or* **pin·ky** \'piŋ-kē\ *n, pl* **pinkies** [prob. fr. D *pinkje*, dim. of *pink* little finger] : a little finger

²pinkie *n* [prob. fr. D *pinkje* small pink, dim. of *pink*, fr. MD *pinke*] : ²PINK

pinking shears *n pl* : shears with a saw-toothed inner edge on the blades for making a zigzag cut

pink·ish \'piŋ-kish\ *adj* : somewhat pink; *esp* : tending to be pink in politics — **pink·ish·ness** *n*

pink lady *n* : a cocktail consisting of gin, brandy, lemon juice, grenadine, and white of egg shaken with ice and strained

pink·ly \'piŋ-klē\ *adv* : in a pink manner : with a pink hue

pin knot *n* : a sound knot in lumber not over $\frac{1}{2}$ inch in diameter

pinko \'piŋ-(ˌ)kō\ *n, pl* **pink·os** *or* **pink·oes** : ⁵PINK 3

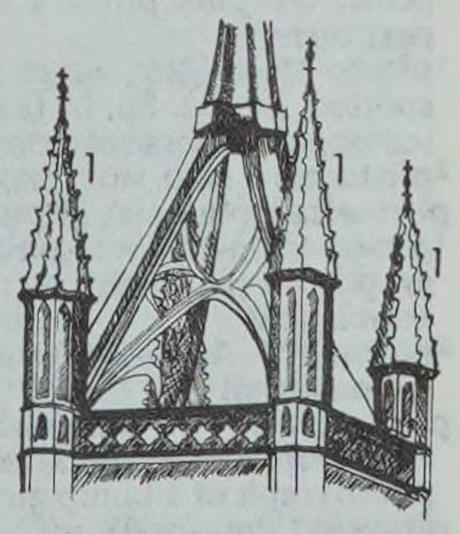
pink·root \'piŋ-ˌkrüt, -ˌkru̇t\ *n* : any of several plants (genus *Spigelia*) related to the nux vomica and used as anthelmintics; *esp* : an American woodland herb (*S. marilandica*) sometimes cultivated for its showy red and yellow flowers

pin money *n* **1 a** : money given by a man to his wife for her own use **b** : money set aside for the purchase of incidentals **2** : a trivial amount of money ⟨worked for *pin money*⟩

pin·na \'pin-ə\ *n, pl* **pin·nae** \'pin-ˌē, -ˌī\ *or* **pinnas** [NL, fr. L, feather, wing — more at PEN] **1** : a leaflet or primary division of a pinnate leaf or frond **2 a** : a projecting body part (as a feather, wing, or fin) **b** : the largely cartilaginous projecting portion of the external ear — see EAR illustration — **pin·nal** \'pin-ᵊl\ *adj*

pin·nace \'pin-əs\ *n* [MF *pinace*, prob. fr. OSp *pinaza*, fr. *pino* pine, fr. L *pinus*] **1** : a light sailing ship; *esp* : one used as a tender **2** : any of various ship's boats

¹pin·na·cle \'pin-i-kəl\ *n* [ME *pinacle*, fr. MF, fr. LL *pinnaculum* gable, fr. dim. of L *pinna* wing, battlement] **1** : an upright architectural member generally ending in a small spire and used esp. in Gothic construction to give weight to a buttress or angle pier **2** : a structure or formation suggesting a pinnacle; *specif* : a lofty peak **3** : the highest point of development or achievement : ACME ***syn*** see SUMMIT



1, pinnacle 1

²pinnacle *vt* **pin·na·cled; pin·na·cling** \-k(ə-)liŋ\ **1** : to surmount with a pinnacle **2** : to raise or rear on a pinnacle

pin·nate \'pin-ˌāt\ *adj* [NL *pinnatus*, fr. L, feathered, fr. *pinna*] : resembling a feather esp. in having similar parts arranged on opposite sides of an axis like the barbs on the rachis of a feather ⟨~ leaf⟩ — **pin·nate·ly** *adv* — **pin·na·tion** \pin-'ā-shən\ *n*

pinnati- *comb form* [NL, fr. *pinnatus*] : pinnately ⟨*pinnati*sect⟩

pin·nati·fid \pə-'nat-ə-fəd, -ˌfid\ *adj* [NL *pinnatifidus*, fr. *pinnati-* + L *-fidus* -fid] : cleft in a pinnate manner ⟨a ~ leaf⟩ — **pin·nati·fid·ly** *adv*
pin·nati·sect \-ˌsekt\ *adv* : cleft pinnately to or almost to the midrib
pin·ner \'pin-ər\ *n* **1** : a woman's cap with long lappets worn in the 17th and 18th centuries **2** : one that pins
pin·ni·ped \'pin-ə-ˌped\ *n* [deriv. of L *pinna* + *ped-*, *pes* foot — more at FOOT] : any of a suborder (Pinnipedia) of aquatic carnivorous mammals (as a seal or walrus) with all four limbs modified into flippers — **pinniped** *adj*
pin·nu·la \'pin-yə-lə\ *n, pl* **-lae** \-ˌlē, -ˌlī\ [NL, fr. L, dim. of *pinna*] **1** : PINNULE **2** : BARB 4 — **pin·nu·lar** \-lər\ *adj*
pin·nu·late \-ˌlāt\ *or* **pin·nu·lat·ed** \-ˌlāt-əd\ *adj* : having pinnules
pin·nule \'pin-(ˌ)yü(ə)l\ *n* [NL *pinnula*] **1 a** : one of the secondary branches of a plumose organ **b** : a small fish fin separated from a major fin **2** : one of the ultimate divisions of a twice pinnate leaf
pi·noch·le \'pē-ˌnək-əl\ *n* [prob. modif. of G dial. *binokel*, a game resembling bezique, fr. F dial. *binocle*] : a card game played with a 48-card pack containing two each of A, K, Q, J, 10, 9 in each suit with the object to score points by melding certain combinations of cards or by winning tricks that contain scoring cards; *also* : the meld of queen of spades and jack of diamonds scoring 40 points in this game
pi·no·cy·to·sis \ˌpin-ə-sə-'tō-səs, ˌpīn-, -ˌsī-\ *n, pl* **-to·ses** \-ˌsēz\ [NL, fr. Gk *pinein* to drink + NL *cyt-* + *-osis* — more at POTABLE] : the uptake of fluid by a cell by invagination and pinching off of the cell membrane
pi·no·cy·tot·ic \-'tät-ik\ *adj* : of or relating to pinocytosis — **pi·no·cy·tot·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
pi·no·le \pi-'nō-lē\ *n* [AmerSp, fr. Nahuatl *pinolli*] **1** : a finely ground flour made from parched corn **2** : any of various flours resembling pinole and ground from the seeds of other plants
pi·ñon *or* **pin·yon** \'pin-ˌyōn, -ˌyän, -yən; pin-'yōn\ *n, pl* **pi·ñons** *or* **pin·yons** *or* **pi·ño·nes** \pin-'yō-nēz\ [AmerSp *piñón*, fr. Sp, pine nut, fr. *piña* pine cone, fr. L *pinea* — more at PINEAL] **1** : any of various low-growing nut pines (as *Pinus parryana*, *P. cembroides*, *P. edulis*, and *P. monophylla*) of western No. America **2** : the edible seed of a piñon
1pin·point \'pin-ˌpȯint\ *vt* **1** : to locate or aim with great precision or accuracy **2 a** : to fix, determine, or identify with precision **b** : to cause to stand out conspicuously : HIGHLIGHT
2pinpoint *adj* **1** : extremely fine or precise **2** : located, fixed, or directed with extreme precision
1pin·prick \'pin-ˌprik\ *n* **1** : a small puncture made by or as if by a pin **2** : a petty irritation or annoyance
2pinprick *vt* : to administer pinpricks to ~ *vi* : to administer pinpricks
pins and needles *n pl* : a pricking tingling sensation in a limb recovering from numbness — **on pins and needles** : in a nervous or jumpy state of anticipation
pin·set·ter \'pin-ˌset-ər\ *n* : an employee or a mechanical device that spots pins in a bowling alley
pin·spot·ter \-ˌspät-ər\ *n* : PINSETTER
pin·stripe \-ˌstrīp\ *n* : a very thin stripe esp. on a fabric; *also* : a suit with such stripes — **pin–striped** \-ˌstrīpt\ *adj*
pint \'pīnt\ *n* [ME *pinte*, fr. MF, fr. ML *pincta*, fr. (assumed) VL, fem. of *pinctus*, pp. of L *pingere* to paint — more at PAINT] **1** — see WEIGHT table **2** : a pint pot or vessel
pin·ta \'pint-ə, 'pin-ˌtä\ *n* [AmerSp, fr. Sp, spot, mark, fr. (assumed) VL *pincta*] : a chronic skin disease that is endemic in tropical America, that occurs successively as an initial papule, a generalized eruption, and a patchy loss of pigment, and that is caused by a spirochete (*Treponema careteum*) morphologically indistinguishable from the causative agent of syphilis
pin·tail \'pin-ˌtāl\ *n, pl* **pintail** *or* **pintails** : a bird having elongated central tail feathers: as **a** : a slender gray and white river duck (*Dafila acuta*) with a white line on the side of the neck and head **b** : any of several grouse
pin–tailed \-ˌtāld\ *adj* **1** : having a tapered tail with the middle feathers longest **2** : having the tail feathers spiny
pin·tle \'pint-ᵊl\ *n* [ME *pintel*, lit., penis, fr. OE; akin to MLG *pint* penis, OE *pinn* pin] : a usu. upright pivot pin on which another part turns
1pin·to \'pin-(ˌ)tō\ *n, pl* **pintos** *also* **pintoes** [AmerSp, fr. *pinto* spotted, fr. obs. Sp, fr. (assumed) VL *pinctus*] *chiefly West* : a spotted or calico horse or pony
2pinto *adj* : PIED, MOTTLED
pint–size \'pīnt-ˌsīz\ *or* **pint–sized** \-ˌsīzd\ *adj* : SMALL
1pin·up \'pin-ˌəp\ *n* : something fastened to a wall: as **a** : a photograph of a pinup girl **b** : something (as a lamp) designed for wall attachment
2pinup *adj* **1** : of or relating to pinup girls **2** : designed for hanging on a wall
pinup girl *n* **1** : a girl whose glamorous qualities make her a suitable subject of a photograph pinned up on an admirer's wall **2** : a photograph of a pinup girl
pin·wale \'pin-ˌwāl\ *adj, of a fabric* : made with narrow wales
pin·weed \-ˌwēd\ *n* **1** : any of a genus (*Lechea*) of herbs of the rockrose family with slender stems and leaves **2** : ALFILARIA
pin·wheel \-ˌhwēl, -ˌwēl\ *n* **1** : a toy consisting of lightweight vanes that revolve at the end of a stick **2** : a fireworks device in the form of a revolving wheel of colored fire
pin·work \-ˌwərk\ *n* : fine stitches raised from the surface of a design in needlepoint lace to add lightness to the effect
pin·worm \-ˌwərm\ *n* **1** : any of numerous small nematode worms (family Oxyuridae) that infest the intestines and esp. the cecum of various vertebrates; *esp* : a worm (*Enterobius vermicularis*) parasitic in man **2** : any of several rather slender insect larvae that burrow in plant tissue
pinx *abbr* [L *pinxit*] he painted it
pinx·ter flower \'piŋ(k)-stər-\ *n* [D *pinkster* Whitsuntide] : a deciduous pink-flowered azalea (*Rhododendron nudiflorum*) that is native to rich moist woodlands of eastern No. America
pi·o·let \ˌpē-ə-'lā\ *n* [F] : an ice ax used in mountaineering
pi·on \'pī-ˌän\ *n* [contr. of *pi-meson*] : a short-lived meson that is primarily responsible for the nuclear force and that exists as a positive or negative particle with mass 273.2 times the electron mass or a neutral particle with mass 264.2 times the electron mass — **pi·on·ic** \pī-'än-ik\ *adj*
1pi·o·neer \ˌpī-ə-'ni(ə)r\ *n* [MF *pionier*, fr. OF *peonier* foot soldier, fr. *peon* foot soldier, fr. ML *pedon-*, *pedo* — more at PAWN] **1** : a member of a military unit usu. of construction engineers **2 a** : a person or group that originates or helps open up a new line of thought or activity or a new method or technical development **b** : one of the first to settle in a territory **3** : a plant or animal capable of establishing itself in a bare or barren area and initiating an ecological cycle
2pioneer *adj* **1** : ORIGINAL, EARLIEST **2** : relating to or being a pioneer; *esp* : of, relating to, or characteristic of early settlers or their time
3pioneer *vi* : to act as a pioneer ⟨~*ed* in the development of nuclear reactors⟩ ~ *vt* **1** : to open or prepare for others to follow; *esp* : SETTLE **2** : to originate or take part in the development of
Pioneer Day *n* : July 24 observed as a legal holiday in Utah in commemoration of the arrival of Brigham Young at the present site of Salt Lake City in 1847
pi·ous \'pī-əs\ *adj* [L *pius;* akin to L *piare* to appease] **1 a** : marked by or showing reverence for deity and devotion to divine worship **b** : marked by conspicuous religiosity ⟨a hypocrite — a thing all ~ words and uncharitable deeds —Charles Reade⟩ **2** : sacred or devotional as distinct from the profane or secular : RELIGIOUS ⟨a ~ opinion⟩ **3** : showing loyal reverence for a person or thing : DUTIFUL **4 a** : marked by sham or hypocrisy **b** : marked by self-conscious virtue : VIRTUOUS **5** : deserving commendation : WORTHY ⟨a ~ effort⟩ ***syn*** see DEVOUT ***ant*** impious — **pi·ous·ly** *adv* — **pi·ous·ness** *n*
1pip \'pip\ *n* [ME *pippe*, fr. MD; akin to OHG *pfiffīz* pip; both fr. a prehistoric WGmc word borrowed fr. (assumed) VL *pipita*, alter. of L *pituita* phlegm, pip; akin to L *opimus* fat — more at FAT] **1 a** : a disorder of a bird marked by formation of a scale or crust on the tongue **b** : the scale or crust of this disorder **2** : any of various human ailments; *esp* : a slight nonspecific disorder
2pip *n* [origin unknown] **1 a** : one of the dots used on dice and dominoes to indicate numerical value **b** : SPOT 2c **2 a** : SPOT, SPECK **b** : an inverted V or a spot of light on a radarscope indicating the return of radar waves reflected from an object; *broadly* : BLIP **3** : an individual rootstock of the lily of the valley **4** : a diamond worn to indicate rank by a second lieutenant, lieutenant, or captain in the British army
3pip *n* [short for *pippin*] **1** : a small fruit seed; *esp* : one of a several-seeded fleshy fruit **2** : one extraordinary of its kind
4pip *vb* **pipped; pip·ping** [imit.] *vi* **1** : 1PEEP 1 **2** : to break through the shell of the egg ⟨the chick *pipped*⟩ ~ *vt* : to break open (the shell of an egg) in hatching
5pip *n* [imit.] : a short high-pitched tone
pip·age *or* **pipe·age** \'pī-pij\ *n* **1 a** : transportation by means of pipes **b** : the charge for such transportation **2** : material for pipe lines : PIPING
pi·pal \'pē-(ˌ)pəl\ *n* [Hindi *pīpal*, fr. Skt *pippala*] : a large long-lived fig (*Ficus religiosa*) of India that yields a product like lac and lacks prop roots
1pipe \'pīp\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *pīpa;* akin to OHG *pfīfa* pipe; both fr. a prehistoric WGmc word borrowed fr. (assumed) VL *pipa* pipe, fr. L *pipare* to peep, of imit. origin] **1 a** : a tubular wind instrument; *specif* : a small fipple flute held in and played by the left hand **b** : one of the tubes of a pipe organ: (1) : FLUE PIPE (2) : REED PIPE **c** : BAGPIPE — usu. used in pl. **d** (1) : VOICE, VOCAL CORD — usu. used in pl. (2) : PIPING 1 **2** : a long tube or hollow body for conducting a liquid, gas, or finely divided solid or for structural purposes **3 a** : a tubular or cylindrical object, part, or passage **b** : a roughly cylindrical and vertical geological formation **c** : the eruptive channel opening into the crater of a volcano **4 a** : a large cask of varying capacity used esp. for wine and oil **b** : any of various units of liquid capacity based on the size of a pipe; *esp* : a unit equal to 2 hogsheads **5** : a device for smoking usu. consisting of a tube having a bowl at one end and a mouthpiece at the other **6** : something easy : SNAP ⟨considered the course a ~⟩
2pipe *vb* **piped; pip·ing** *vi* **1 a** : to play on a pipe **b** : to convey orders by signals on a boatswain's pipe **2 a** : to speak in a high or shrill voice **b** : to emit a shrill sound ~ *vt* **1 a** : to play (a tune) on a pipe **b** : to utter in the shrill tone of a pipe **2 a** : to lead or cause to go with pipe music **b** (1) : to call or direct by the boatswain's pipe (2) : to receive aboard or attend the departure of by a boatswain's pipe **3** : to trim with piping **4** : to furnish or equip with pipes **5** : to convey by or as if by pipes; *specif* : to transmit by wire or coaxial cable **6** *slang* : NOTICE
pipe–clay *vt* : to whiten or clean with pipe clay
pipe clay *n* : highly plastic grayish white clay used esp. in making tobacco pipes and for whitening leather
pipe cleaner *n* : something used to clean the inside of a pipe; *specif* : a piece of flexible wire in which tufted fabric is twisted and which is used to clean the stem of a tobacco pipe
pipe cutter *n* : a tool or machine for cutting pipe; *esp* : a hand tool comprising a grasping device and three sharp-edged wheels forced inward by screw pressure that cut into the pipe as the tool is rotated
pipe down *vi* [2*pipe*] : to stop talking or making noise
pipe dream *n* [fr. the fantasies brought about by the smoking of opium] : an illusory or fantastic plan, hope, or story
pipe·fish \'pīp-ˌfish\ *n* : any of various long slender fishes (of *Syngnathus* and related genera) that are related to the sea horses and have a tube-shaped snout and an angular body covered with bony plates

pipe fitter *n* : one who installs and repairs piping
pipe fitting *n* **1** : a piece (as a coupling or elbow) used to connect pipes or as accessory to a pipe **2** : the work of a pipe fitter
pipe·ful \'pīp-ˌfu̇l\ *n* : a quantity of tobacco smoked in a pipe at one time
pipe·less \'pī-pləs\ *adj* : having no pipe
pipe·like \'pī-ˌplīk\ *adj* : resembling a pipe or piping
pipe·line \'pī-ˌplīn\ *n* **1** : a line of pipe with pumps, valves, and control devices for conveying liquids, gases, or finely divided solids **2** : a direct channel for information **3** : the processes through which supplies pass from source to user
pipe major *n* : the principal player in a band of bagpipes
pipe of peace : CALUMET
pipe organ *n* : ORGAN 1b(1)
pip·er \'pī-pər\ *n* **1** : one that plays on a pipe **2** **a** : a maker, layer, or repairer of pipes **b** : one that applies piping
pi·per·a·zine \pī-'per-ə-ˌzēn\ *n* [ISV, blend of *piperidine* and *az-*] : a crystalline heterocyclic base $C_4H_{10}N_2$ or $C_4H_{10}N_2{\cdot}6H_2O$ used esp. as an anthelmintic
pi·per·i·dine \pī-'per-ə-ˌdēn\ *n* [ISV, blend of *piperine* and *-ide*] : a liquid heterocyclic base $C_5H_{11}N$ that has a peppery ammoniacal odor and is obtained usu. by hydrolysis of piperine
pip·er·ine \'pip-ə-ˌrēn\ *n* [ISV, fr. L *piper* pepper] : a white crystalline alkaloid $C_{17}H_{19}NO_3$ that is the chief active constituent of pepper
pi·per·o·nal \pī-'per-ə-ˌnal\ *n* [ISV *piperine* + *-one* + *-al*] : a crystalline aldehyde $C_8H_6O_3$ with an odor of heliotrope that is used esp. in perfumery
pi·per·o·nyl bu·tox·ide \pī-'per-ə-ˌnil-byu̇-'täk-ˌsīd, -ən-ᵊl-\ *n* [*piperonal* + *-yl* + *but-* + *oxide*] : an insecticide $C_{19}H_{30}O_5$; *esp* : an oily liquid containing this compound that is used chiefly as a synergist (as for pyrethrum insecticides)
pipe·stone \'pīp-ˌstōn\ *n* : a pink or mottled pink-and-white argillaceous stone carved by the Indians into tobacco pipes
pipe stop *n* : an organ stop composed of flue pipes
pi·pette *or* **pi·pet** \pī-'pet\ *n* [F *pipette*, dim. of *pipe* pipe, cask, fr. (assumed) VL *pipa*, *pippa* pipe] : a small piece of apparatus which typically consists of a narrow tube into which fluid is drawn by suction (as for dispensing or measurement) and retained by closing the upper end
pipe up *vi* : to begin to play or to sing or speak
pipe wrench *n* : a wrench for gripping and turning a cylindrical object (as a pipe) usu. by use of two serrated jaws so designed as to grip the pipe when turning in one direction only
¹pip·ing \'pī-piŋ\ *n* **1** **a** : the music of a pipe **b** : a sound, note, or call like that of a pipe **2** : a quantity or system of pipes **3** : trimming stitched in seams or along edges of clothing, slipcovers, or curtains
²piping *adj* : marked by peaceful pipe music rather than martial drum and fife music : TRANQUIL
piping hot *adj* : so hot as to sizzle or hiss : very hot
pip·it \'pip-ət\ *n* [imit.] : any of various small singing birds (family Motacillidae and esp. genus *Anthus*) resembling the lark
pip·kin \'pip-kən\ *n* [perh. fr. *pipe*] : a small earthenware or metal pot usu. with a horizontal handle
pip·pin \'pip-ən\ *n* [ME *pepin*, fr. OF] **1** : any of numerous apples that have usu. yellow or greenish yellow skins strongly flushed with red and are used esp. for cooking **2** : a highly admired or very admirable person or thing
pip–pip \pip-'ip, 'pip-'pip\ *interj* [origin unknown] *Brit* : GOOD-BYE
pip·sis·se·wa \pip-'sis-ə-ˌwȯ\ *n* [Cree *pipisisikweu*] : any of a genus (*Chimaphila*, esp. *C. corymbosa*) of evergreen herbs of the wintergreen family with astringent leaves used as a tonic and diuretic
pip–squeak \'pip-ˌskwēk\ *n* : a small or insignificant person
pi·quan·cy \'pē-kən-sē, 'pik-wən-\ *n* : the quality or state of being piquant
pi·quant \'pē-kənt, -ˌkänt; 'pik-wənt\ *adj* [MF, fr. prp. of *piquer*] **1** : agreeably stimulating to the palate : SAVORY **2** : engagingly provocative; *also* : having a lively arch charm ⟨her ~ face⟩ ***syn*** see PUNGENT ***ant*** bland — **pi·quant·ly** *adv* — **pi·quant·ness** *n*
¹pique \'pēk\ *n* : a transient feeling of wounded vanity : a fit of resentment ***syn*** see OFFENSE
²pique *vt* **piqued; piqu·ing** [F *piquer*, lit., to prick — more at PIKE] **1** : to arouse anger or resentment in : IRRITATE; *specif* : to offend by slighting **2** **a** : to excite or arouse by a provocation, challenge, or rebuff **b** : to stir up the pride or interest of esp. in respect to a particular accomplishment ⟨he ~*s* himself on his skill as a cook⟩ ***syn*** see PROVOKE, PRIDE
pi·qué *or* **pi·que** \pi-'kā, 'pē-ˌ\ *n* [F *piqué*, fr. pp. of *piquer* to prick, quilt] : a durable ribbed clothing fabric of cotton, rayon, or silk
pi·quet \pi-'kā, pik-'et\ *n* [F] : a two-handed card game played with 32 cards and in which points are scored for certain combinations of cards and for taking tricks
pi·ra·cy \'pī-rə-sē\ *n, pl* **-cies** [ML *piratia*, fr. LGk *peirateia*, fr. Gk *peiratēs* pirate] **1** : robbery on the high seas **2** : the unauthorized use of another's production, invention, or conception esp. in infringement of a copyright **3** **a** : an act of piracy **b** : an act resembling piracy
pi·ra·gua \pə-'räg-wə, -'rag-\ *n* [Sp] **1** : DUGOUT 1 **2** : a 2-masted flat-bottomed boat
pi·ra·nha \pə-'ran-yə, -'rän-(y)ə\ *n* [Pg, fr. Tupi] : a small So. American characin fish (genus *Serrasalmo*) that often attacks and inflicts dangerous wounds upon men and large animals — called also *caribe*
pi·ra·ru·cu \pi-ˌrär-ə-'kü\ *n* [Pg, fr. Tupi *pirá-rucú*] : a very large food fish (*Arapaima gigas*, order Isospondyli) of the rivers of northern So. America
¹pi·rate \'pī-rət\ *n* [ME, fr. MF or L; MF, fr. L *pirata*, fr. Gk *peiratēs*, fr. *peiran* to attempt — more at FEAR] : one who commits or practices piracy — **pi·rat·i·cal** \pə-'rat-i-kəl, pī-\ *adj* — **pi·rat·i·cal·ly** \-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
²pirate *vb* **pi·rated; pi·rat·ing** *vt* **1** : to commit piracy on **2** : to take or appropriate by piracy: as **a** : to reproduce without authorization esp. in infringement of copyright **b** : to lure away from another employer by offers of betterment ~ *vi* : to commit or practice piracy
pirn \'pərn, *2 is also* 'pi(ə)rn\ *n* [ME] **1** : QUILL 1a(1) **2** *chiefly Scot* : a device resembling a reel
pi·rogue \'pē-ˌrōg\ *n* [F, fr. Sp *piragua*, of Cariban origin; akin to Galibi *piraua* pirogue] **1** : DUGOUT 1 **2** : a boat like a canoe
piro·plasm \'pir-ə-ˌplaz-əm\ *or* **piro·plas·ma** \ˌpir-ə-'plaz-mə\ *n, pl* **piroplasms** *or* **piro·plas·ma·ta** \ˌpir-ə-'plaz-mət-ə\ [NL *Piroplasma*, genus of piroplasms] : any of a family (Babesiidae) of parasitic sporozoans : BABESIA
pi·rosh·ki \ˌpir-əsh-'kē\ *n pl* [Russ *pirozhki*, pl. of *pirozhok* small tart] : small pastry turnovers stuffed esp. with a savory meat filling
pir·ou·ette \ˌpir-ə-'wet\ *n* [F, lit., teetotum] : a rapid whirling about of the body; *specif* : a full turn on the toe or ball of one foot in ballet — **pirouette** *vi*
pis *pl of* PI
pis al·ler \ˌpē-za-'lā\ *n, pl* **pis al·lers** \-'lā(z)\ [F, lit., to go worst] : a last resource or device : EXPEDIENT
pis·ca·ry \'pis-kə-rē\ *n, pl* **-ries** **1** [ME *piscarie*, fr. ML *piscaria*, fr. L, neut. pl. of *piscarius* of fish, fr. *piscis*] : FISHERY 4; *esp* : the right of fishing in waters belonging to another **2** [ML *piscaria*, fr. L, fem. of *piscarius*] : FISHERY 2
pis·ca·to·ri·al \ˌpis-kə-'tōr-ē-əl, -'tȯr-\ *adj* : PISCATORY — **pis·ca·to·ri·al·ly** \-ē-ə-lē\ *adv*
pis·ca·to·ry \'pis-kə-ˌtōr-ē, -ˌtȯr-\ *adj* [L *piscatorius*, fr. *piscatus*, pp. of *piscari* to fish, fr. *piscis*] : of, relating to, or dependent on fishermen or fishing
Pi·sces \'pī-(ˌ)sēz, 'pis-ˌēz, 'pis-ˌkās\ *n pl but sing in constr* [ME, fr. L (gen. *Piscium*), fr. pl. of *piscis* fish — more at FISH] **1** : a zodiacal constellation directly south of Andromeda **2** **a** : the 12th sign of the zodiac in astrology — see ZODIAC table **b** : one born under this sign
pi·sci·cul·ture \'pī-sə-ˌkəl-chər, 'pis-(k)ə-\ *n* [prob. F, fr. L *piscis* + F *culture*] : fish culture — **pi·sci·cul·tur·al** \ˌpī-sə-'kəlch(-ə)-rəl\ *adj* — **pi·sci·cul·tur·ist** \-rəst\ *n*
pi·sci·na \pə-'sē-nə, -'sī-, *R.C. also* -'shē-\ *n* [ML, fr. L, fishpond, fr. *piscis*] : a basin with a drain near the altar of a church for disposing of water from liturgical ablutions
pi·scine \'pī-ˌsēn, 'pis-ˌ(k)īn\ *adj* [L *piscinus*, fr. *piscis*] : of, relating to, or characteristic of fish
pi·sciv·o·rous \pə-'siv-ə-rəs, pī-\ *adj* [L *piscis* + E *-vorous*] : feeding on fishes
pish \'pish\ *interj* — used to express disdain or contempt
¹pi·si·form \'pī-sə-ˌfȯrm\ *adj* [L *pisum* pea + E *-iform* — more at PEA] : resembling a pea in size or shape
²pisiform *n* : a bone on the ulnar side of the carpus in most mammals
pis·mire \'pis-ˌmī(ə)r, 'piz-\ *n* [ME *pissemire*, fr. *pisse* urine + *mire* ant, of Scand. origin; akin to ON *maurr* ant; akin to L *formica* ant, Gk *myrmēx*] : ANT
pis·mo clam \ˌpiz-(ˌ)mō-\ *n, often cap P* [*Pismo* Beach, Calif.] : a thick-shelled clam (*Tivela stultorum*) of the southwest coast of No. America used extensively for food
pi·so·lite \'pī-sə-ˌlīt\ *n* [NL *pisolithus*, fr. Gk *pisos* pea + *-lithos* -lith] : a limestone composed of pisiform concretions — **pi·so·lit·ic** \ˌpī-sə-'lit-ik\ *adj*
¹piss \'pis\ *vb* [ME *pissen*, fr. OF *pissier*, fr. (assumed) VL *pissiare*, of imit. origin] *vi* : URINATE — sometimes considered vulgar ~ *vt* : to urinate in or on ⟨~ the bed⟩ — sometimes considered vulgar
²piss *n* **1** : URINE — sometimes considered vulgar **2** : an act of urinating — often used with *take*; sometimes considered vulgar
pissed off *adj, slang* : ANGRY, DISAPPOINTED, DISGUSTED ⟨a lot of guys . . . are *pissed off* at me 'cause I came in after them and made corporal —Norman Mailer⟩
pis·soir \pi-'swär\ *n* [F, fr. MF, fr. *pisser* to urinate, fr. OF *pissier*] : a public urinal usu. located on the street in some European countries
pis·ta·chio \pə-'stash-(e-ˌ)ō, -'stäsh-\ *n, pl* **-chios** [It *pistacchio*, fr. L *pistacium* pistachio nut, fr. Gk *pistakion*, fr. *pistakē* pistachio tree, fr. Per *pistah*] : a small tree (*Pistacia vera*) of the sumac family whose drupaceous fruit contains a greenish edible seed; *also* : its seed
pis·ta·reen \ˌpis-tə-'rēn\ *n* [prob. modif. of Sp *peseta* peseta] : an old Spanish 2-real silver piece circulating in Spain, the West Indies, and the U.S. at a debased rate
pis·til \'pis-tᵊl\ *n* [NL *pistillum*, fr. L, pestle — more at PESTLE] : the ovule-bearing organ of a seed plant that consists of the ovary with its appendages — see FLOWER illustration
pis·til·late \'pis-tə-ˌlāt\ *adj* : having pistils; *specif* : having pistils but no stamens
pis·tol \'pis-tᵊl\ *n* [MF *pistole*, fr. G, fr. MHG dial. *pischulle*, fr. Czech *pištal*, lit., pipe; akin to Russ *pischal* harquebus] : a short firearm intended to be aimed and fired with one hand; *esp* : a handgun whose chamber is integral with the barrel — **pistol** *vt*
pis·tole \pis-'tōl\ *n* [ME] : an old gold 2-escudo piece of Spain; *also* : any of several old gold coins of Europe of approximately the same value
pis·tol·eer \ˌpis-tə-'li(ə)r\ *n* : one who uses a pistol or is armed with a pistol
pistol grip *n* **1** : a grip of a shotgun or rifle shaped like a pistol stock **2** : a handle (as on a tool) shaped like a pistol stock
pistol–whip *vt* : to beat with a pistol; *broadly* : to assail violently and intemperately
pis·ton \'pis-tən\ *n* [F, fr. It *pistone*, fr. *pistare* to pound, fr. ML *pistare*, fr. L *pistus*, pp. of *pinsere* to crush — more at PESTLE] **1** : a sliding piece moved by or moving against fluid pressure which usu.

consists of a short cylinder fitting within a cylindrical vessel along which it moves back and forth **2 a** : a valve sliding in a cylinder in a brass instrument and serving when depressed by a finger knob to lower its pitch **b** : a button on an organ console to bring in a previously selected registration

piston pin *n* : WRIST PIN

piston ring *n* : a springy split metal ring for sealing the gap between a piston and the cylinder wall

piston rod *n* : a rod by which a piston is moved or by which it communicates motion

1pit \'pit\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *pytt;* akin to OHG *pfuzzi* well] **1 a** (1) : a hole, shaft, or cavity in the ground (2) : MINE **b** : an area often sunken or depressed below the adjacent floor area: as (1) : an enclosure in which animals are made to fight each other (2) : a space at the front of a theater for the orchestra (3) : an area in a securities or commodities exchange in which members do trading **2** : HELL — used with *the* **3** : a hollow or indentation esp. in the surface of an organism: as **a** : a natural hollow in the surface of the body **b** : one of the indented scars left in the skin by a pustular disease : POCKMARK **c** : a minute depression in the secondary wall of a plant cell functioning in the intercellular movement of water and dissolved material **4** : any of the areas alongside an auto racecourse used for refueling and repairing the cars during a race — often used in pl. with *the* **5** : the area comprising the middle of the offensive and defensive lines in football

2pit *vb* **pit·ted; pit·ting** *vt* **1 a** : to place, cast, bury, or store in a pit **b** : to make pits in; *esp* : to scar or mark with pits **2 a** : to set (as gamecocks) into or as if into a pit to fight **b** : to set into opposition or rivalry : OPPOSE ~ *vi* **1** : to become marked with pits; *esp* : to preserve for a time an indentation made by pressure **2** : to make a usu. brief stop at one's pit during a race for fuel or repairs

3pit *n* [D, fr. MD — more at PITH] : the stone of a drupaceous fruit

4pit *vt* **pit·ted; pit·ting** : to remove the pit from (a fruit)

pi·ta \'pēt-ə\ *n* [Sp & Pg] **1** : any of several fiber-yielding plants: as **a** : CENTURY PLANT **b** : YUCCA **c** : a Central American wild pineapple (*Ananas magdalenae*) **2** : the fiber of a pita; *also* : any of several fibers from other sources

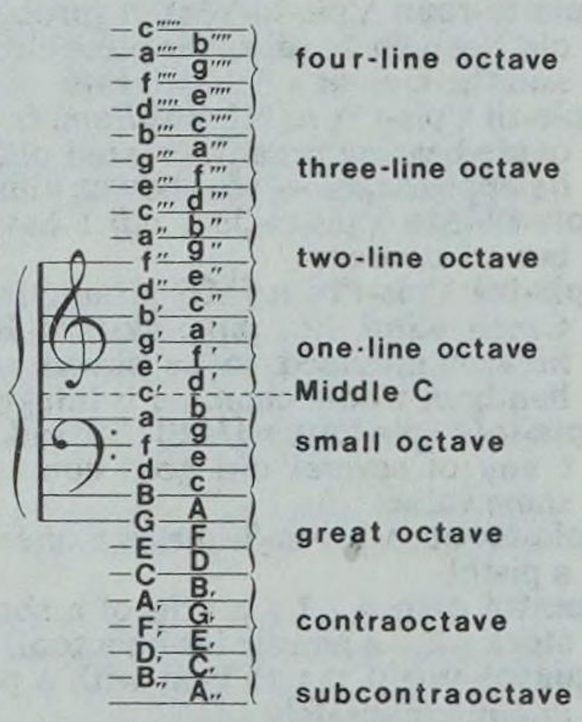
pit-a-pat \ˌpit-i-'pat\ *n* [imit.] : PITTER-PATTER — **pit-a-pat** *adv or adj* — **pit-a-pat** *vi*

1pitch \'pich\ *n* [ME *pich,* fr. OE *pic,* fr. L *pic-, pix;* akin to L *opimus* fat — more at FAT] **1** : a black or dark viscous substance obtained as a residue in the distillation of organic materials and esp. tars **2** : any of various bituminous substances **3** : resin obtained from various conifers and often used medicinally **4** : any of various artificial mixtures resembling resinous or bituminous pitches

2pitch *vt* : to cover, smear, or treat with or as if with pitch

3pitch *vb* [ME *pichen*] *vt* **1** : to erect and fix firmly in place ⟨~ a tent⟩ **2** : to throw usu. with a particular objective or toward a particular point ⟨~ hay onto a wagon⟩: as **a** : to throw (a baseball) to a batter **b** : to toss (as coins) so as to fall at or near a mark ⟨~ pennies⟩ **c** : to put aside or discard by throwing ⟨~*ed* his cigarette into the fire⟩ **3** : to sell or advertise esp. in a high-pressure way **4 a** (1) : to cause to be at a particular level or of a particular quality (2) : to set in a particular musical key **b** : to cause to be set at a particular angle : SLOPE **5** : to utter glibly and insincerely **6 a** : to use as a starting pitcher **b** : to play as pitcher **7** : to hit (a golf ball) in a high arc with backspin so that it rolls very little after striking the green ~ *vi* **1 a** : to fall precipitately or headlong **b** (1) *of a ship* : to have the bow alternately plunge precipitately down and rise abruptly up (2) *of an aircraft* : to turn about a lateral axis so that the nose rises or falls in relation to the tail (3) *of a missile or spacecraft* : to turn about a lateral axis that is both perpendicular to the longitudinal axis and horizontal with respect to the earth **c** : BUCK 1 **2** : ENCAMP **3** : to choose something usu. in a casual way ⟨~*ed* on a present for his wife⟩ **4** : to incline downward : SLOPE **5 a** : to throw a ball to a batter **b** : to play ball as a pitcher **c** : to pitch a golf ball ***syn*** see PLUNGE, THROW — **pitch into 1** : ATTACK, ASSAIL **2** : to set to work on energetically

4pitch *n* **1** : the action or a manner of pitching; *esp* : an up-and-down movement — compare YAW **2 a** : SLOPE; *also* : degree of slope : RAKE **b** (1) : distance between one point on a gear tooth and the corresponding point on the next tooth (2) : distance from any point on the thread of a screw to the corresponding point on an adjacent thread measured parallel to the axis **c** : the distance advanced by a propeller in one revolution **d** : the number of teeth or of threads per inch **3** *archaic* : TOP, ZENITH **4 a** : the relative level, intensity, or extent of some quality or state **b** (1) : the property of a sound and esp. a musical tone that is determined by the frequency of the waves producing it : highness or lowness of sound (2) : a standard frequency for tuning instruments **c** (1) : the difference in the relative vibration frequency of the human voice that contributes to the total meaning of speech (2) : a definite relative pitch that is a significant phenomenon in speech **5** : a steep place : DECLIVITY **6** *chiefly Brit* : a field used for playing certain games (as soccer or cricket) **7** : an all-fours game in which the first card led is a trump **8 a** : an often high-pressure sales talk **b** : ADVERTISEMENT **9 a** : the delivery of a baseball by a pitcher to a batter **b** : a baseball so thrown **c** : PITCHOUT 2 — **pitched** \'picht\ *adj*



staff notation of pitch 4b(1)

pitch-and-toss \ˌpich-ən-'tȯs, -'täs\ *n* : a game in which the player who pitches coins nearest to a mark has first chance at tossing the pitched coins and winning those that fall heads up

pitch-black \'pich-'blak\ *adj* : extremely dark or black

pitch-blende \'pich-ˌblend\ *n* [part trans. of G *pechblende,* fr. *pech* pitch + *blende*] : a brown to black mineral that consists of massive uraninite, has a distinctive luster, contains radium, and is the chief ore-mineral source of uranium

pitch-dark \'pich-'därk\ *adj* : extremely dark : PITCH-BLACK

pitched battle \'pich(t)-\ *n* : an intensely fought battle in which the opposing forces are locked in close combat

1pitch-er \'pich-ər\ *n* [ME *picher,* fr. OF *pichier,* fr. ML *bicarius* goblet, fr. Gk *bikos* earthen jug] **1** : a container for holding and pouring liquids that usu. has a lip or spout and a handle **2** : ASCIDIUM; *esp* : a modified leaf of a pitcher plant in which the hollowed petiole and base of the blade form an elongated receptacle

2pitcher *n* : one that pitches; *specif* : the player that pitches in a game of baseball

pitcher plant *n* : a plant (esp. family Sarraceniaceae, the pitcher-plant family) with leaves modified into pitchers in which insects are trapped and digested by the plant by means of liquids secreted by the leaves

pitch-fork \'pich-ˌfȯ(ə)rk\ *n* [ME *pikfork,* fr. *pik* pick + *fork*] : a long-handled fork that has two or three long somewhat curved prongs and is used esp. in pitching hay — **pitchfork** *vt*

pitch in *vi* **1** : to begin to work **2** : to contribute to a common endeavor

pitch-man \'pich-mən\ *n* : SALESMAN; *esp* : one who vends novelties or similar articles on the streets or from a concession

pitch-out \'pich-ˌau̇t\ *n* **1** : a pitch in baseball deliberately out of reach of the batter to enable the catcher to check or put out a base runner **2** : a lateral pass in football between two backs behind the scrimmage line — **pitch out** *vi*

pitch pipe *n* : a small reed pipe or flue pipe producing one or more tones to establish the pitch in singing or in tuning an instrument

pitch-stone \'pich-ˌstōn\ *n* : a glassy rock with a resinous luster that contains more water than obsidian does

pitchy \'pich-ē\ *adj* **1 a** : full of pitch : TARRY **b** : of, relating to, or having the qualities of pitch **2** : PITCH-BLACK

pit-e-ous \'pit-ē-əs\ *adj* : of a kind to move to pity or compassion ***syn*** see PITIFUL — **pit-e-ous-ly** *adv* — **pit-e-ous-ness** *n*

pit-fall \'pit-ˌfȯl\ *n* **1** : TRAP, SNARE; *specif* : a pit flimsily covered or camouflaged and used to capture and hold animals or men **2** : a hidden or not easily recognized danger or difficulty

1pith \'pith\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *pitha;* akin to MD & MLG *pit* pith, pit] **1 a** : a usu. continuous central strand of spongy tissue in the stems of most vascular plants that prob. functions chiefly in storage **b** : any of various loose spongy plant tissues that resemble true pith **c** : the soft or spongy interior of a part of the body **2 a** : the essential part : CORE **b** : substantial quality (as of meaning) **3** : IMPORTANCE, SIGNIFICANCE

2pith *vt* **1 a** : to kill (as cattle) by piercing or severing the spinal cord **b** : to destroy the spinal cord or central nervous system of (as a frog) usu. by passing a wire or needle up and down the vertebral canal **2** : to remove the pith from (a plant stem)

pit-head \'pit-ˌhed\ *n* : the top of a mining pit or coal shaft; *also* : the immediately adjacent ground and buildings

pith-ec-an-thro-pine \ˌpith-i-'kan(t)-thrə-ˌpīn\ *n* : PITHECANTHROPUS — **pithecanthropine** *adj*

pith-ec-an-thro-poid \ˌpith-i-'kan(t)-thrə-ˌpȯid\ *adj* : of, relating to, or resembling the pithecanthropi — **pithecanthropoid** *n*

pith-ec-an-thro-pus \-'kan(t)-thrə-pəs, -ˌkan-'thrō-\ *n, pl* **-pi** \-ˌpī, -ˌpē\ [NL, fr. Gk *pithēkos* ape + *anthrōpos* human being; akin to OHG *bibēn* to tremble, L *foedus* ugly] : any of the primitive extinct men (genus *Pithecanthropus*) known from skeletal remains from Javanese Pliocene gravels

pith ray *n* : MEDULLARY RAY

pithy \'pith-ē\ *adj* **pith-i-er; -est** **1** : consisting of or abounding in pith **2** : having substance and point : tersely cogent ***syn*** see CONCISE — **pith-i-ly** \'pith-ə-lē\ *adv* — **pith-i-ness** \'pith-ē-nəs\ *n*

piti-able \'pit-ē-ə-bəl\ *adj* **1** : deserving or exciting pity : LAMENTABLE **2** : of a kind to evoke mingled pity and contempt esp. because of inadequacy ⟨a ~ excuse⟩ ***syn*** see PITIFUL, CONTEMPTIBLE — **piti-able-ness** *n* — **piti-ably** \-blē\ *adv*

piti-er \'pit-ē-ər\ *n* : one that pities

piti-ful \'pit-i-fəl\ *adj* **1 a** : deserving or arousing pity or commiseration **b** : exciting pitying contempt (as by meanness or inadequacy) **2** *archaic* : full of pity : COMPASSIONATE — **piti-ful-ly** \-f(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **piti-ful-ness** \-fəl-nəs\ *n*

syn PITIFUL, PITEOUS, PITIABLE *shared meaning element* : arousing or deserving pity ***ant*** cruel

piti-less \'pit-i-ləs, 'pit-ᵊl-əs\ *adj* : devoid of pity : MERCILESS — **piti-less-ly** *adv* — **piti-less-ness** *n*

pit-man \'pit-mən\ *n* **1** *pl* **pit-men** \-mən\ : one who works in or near a pit (as in a coal mine) **2** *pl* **pitmans** : CONNECTING ROD

pi-ton \'pē-ˌtän\ *n* [F] : a spike, wedge, or peg that is driven into a rock or ice surface as a support (as for a mountain climber)

Pi-tot-stat-ic tube \ˌpē-ˌtō-'stat-ik-\ *n* : a device that consists of a Pitot tube and a static tube and that measures pressures in such a way that the relative speed of a fluid can be determined

Pi-tot tube \ˌpē-ˌtō-\ *n* [F (*tube de*) *Pitot,* fr. Henri *Pitot* †1771 F physicist] **1** : a device that consists of a tube having a short right-angled bend which is placed vertically in a moving body of fluid with the mouth of the bent part directed upstream and that is used with a manometer to measure the velocity of fluid flow **2** : PITOT-STATIC TUBE

pit saw *n* : a handsaw worked by two men one of whom stands on or above the log being sawed into planks and the other below it usu. in a pit

pit-tance \'pit-ᵊn(t)s\ *n* [ME *pitance,* fr. OF, piety, pity, fr. ML *pietantia,* fr. *pietant-, pietans,* prp. of *pietari* to be charitable, fr. L

pietas] : a small portion, amount, or allowance; *also* : a meager wage or remuneration ***syn*** see RATION

pit·ted \'pit-əd\ *adj* : marked with pits

pit·ter–pat·ter \'pit-ər-ˌpat-ər, 'pit-ē-ˌ\ *n* [imit.] : a rapid succession of light sounds or beats : PATTER — **pitter–patter** \ˌpit-ər-', ˌpit-ē-'\ *adv or adj* — **pitter–patter** *like adv*\ *vi*

pit·ting *n* **1** : the action or process of forming pits **2** : an arrangement of pits **3** : the bringing of gamecocks together to fight

[1]pi·tu·itary \pə-'t(y)ü-ə-ˌter-ē\ *adj* [L *pituita* phlegm; fr. the former belief that the pituitary gland secreted phlegm — more at PIP] **1** : of or relating to the pituitary gland **2** : of, relating to, or being a physique with a symptom complex characteristic of secretory disturbances of the pituitary gland

[2]pituitary *n, pl* **-itar·ies** : PITUITARY GLAND

pituitary gland *n* : a small oval endocrine organ that is attached to the infundibulum of the brain, consists of an epithelial anterior lobe joined by an intermediate part to a posterior lobe of nervous origin, and produces various internal secretions directly or indirectly impinging on most basic body functions — called also *pituitary body;* see BRAIN illustration

Pi·tu·itrin \pə-'t(y)ü-ə-trən\ *trademark* — used for an aqueous extract of the fresh pituitary gland of cattle

pit viper *n* : any of various mostly New World specialized venomous snakes (family Crotalidae) with a sensory pit on each side of the head and hollow perforated fangs

[1]pity \'pit-ē\ *n, pl* **pi·ties** [ME *pite,* fr. OF *pité,* fr. L *pietat-, pietas* piety, pity, fr. *pius* pious] **1 a** : sympathetic sorrow for one suffering, distressed, or unhappy **b** : capacity to feel pity **2** : something to be regretted ⟨it's a ~ you can't go⟩ ***syn*** see SYMPATHY

[2]pity *vb* **pit·ied; pity·ing** *vt* : to feel pity for ~ *vi* : to feel pity

pity·ing *adj* : expressing or feeling pity — **pity·ing·ly** \-iŋ-lē\ *adv*

pit·y·ri·a·sis \ˌpit-i-'rī-ə-səs\ *n* [NL, fr. Gk, fr. *pityron* scurf] : a condition of man or domestic animals marked by dry scaling or scurfy patches of skin

più \(ˌ)pyü, pē-ˌü\ *adv* [It, fr. L *plus*] : MORE — used to qualify an adverb or adjective used as a direction in music

Pi·ute *var of* PAIUTE

[1]piv·ot \'piv-ət\ *n* [F] **1** : a shaft or pin on which something turns **2 a** : a person, thing, or factor having a major or central role, function, or effect **b** : a key player or position; *specif* : an offensive player position in basketball that is occupied by a player (as a center) who stands usu. with his back to his own basket to relay passes, shoot, or provide a screen for teammates **3** : the action of pivoting

[2]pivot *vi* : to turn on or as if on a pivot ~ *vt* **1** : to provide with, mount on, or attach by a pivot **2** : to cause to pivot — **pivot·able** \-ə-bəl\ *adj*

[3]pivot *adj* **1** : turning on or as if on a pivot **2** : PIVOTAL

piv·ot·al \'piv-ət-ᵊl\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or constituting a pivot **2** : vitally important : CRUCIAL — **piv·ot·al·ly** \-ᵊl-ē\ *adv*

piv·ot·man \'piv-ət-ˌman\ *n* : one who plays the pivot; *specif* : a center on a basketball team

pivot tooth *n* : an artificial crown attached to the root of a tooth by a usu. metallic pin — called also *pivot crown*

pix *pl of* PIC

[1]pix·ie *or* **pixy** \'pik-sē\ *n, pl* **pix·ies** [origin unknown] : FAIRY; *specif* : a cheerful mischievous sprite — **pix·ie·ish** \-sē-ish\ *adj*

[2]pixie *or* **pixy** *adj* : playfully mischievous — **pixi·ness** *n*

pix·i·lat·ed \'pik-sə-ˌlāt-əd\ *adj* [irreg. fr. *pixie*] **1** : somewhat unbalanced mentally; *also* : BEMUSED **2** : WHIMSICAL — **pix·i·la·tion** \ˌpik-sə-'lā-shən\ *n*

pizz *abbr* pizzicato

piz·za \'pēt-sə\ *n* [It, fr. (assumed) VL *picea,* fr. L, fem. of *piceus* of pitch, fr. *pic-, pix* pitch — more at PITCH] : an open pie made typically of thinly rolled bread dough spread with a spiced mixture (as of tomatoes, cheese, and ground meat) and baked — called also *pizza pie*

piz·zazz *or* **pi·zazz** \pə-'zaz\ *n* [origin unknown] : the quality of being exciting or attractive: as **a** : GLAMOUR **b** : VITALITY

piz·ze·ria \ˌpēt-sə-'rē-ə\ *n* [It, fr. *pizza*] : an establishment where pizzas are made or sold

[1]piz·zi·ca·to \ˌpit-si-'kät-(ˌ)ō\ *adv or adj* [It] : by means of plucking instead of bowing — used as a direction in music; compare ARCO

[2]pizzicato *n, pl* **-ca·ti** \-'kät-(ˌ)ē\ : a note or passage played by plucking strings

piz·zle \'piz-əl\ *n* [prob. fr. Flem *pezel;* akin to LG *pesel* pizzle] **1** : the penis of an animal **2** : a whip made of a bull's pizzle

pj's \(')pē-'jāz\ *n pl* [*pajamas*] : PAJAMAS

pk *abbr* **1** park **2** peak **3** peck **4** pike

PK \'pē-'kā\ *n* : PSYCHOKINESIS

pkg *abbr* package

pkt *abbr* **1** packet **2** pocket

PKU \ˌpē-ˌkā-'yü\ *abbr* phenylketonuria

pkwy *abbr* parkway

pl *abbr* **1** place **2** plate **3** plural

PL *abbr* **1** partial loss **2** private line

pla·ca·ble \'plak-ə-bəl, 'plāk-\ *adj* : easily placated : TOLERANT, TRACTABLE — **pla·ca·bil·i·ty** \ˌplak-ə-'bil-ət-ē, ˌplāk-\ *n* — **pla·ca·bly** \'plak-ə-blē, 'plāk-\ *adv*

[1]plac·ard \'plak-ərd, -ˌärd\ *n* [ME *placquart,* a formal document, fr. MF, fr. *plaquier* to plate — more at PLAQUE] **1** : a notice posted in a public place : POSTER **2** : a small card or metal plaque

[2]placard \-ˌärd, -ərd\ *vt* **1 a** : to cover with or as if with posters **b** : to post in a public place **2** : to announce by or as if by posting

pla·cate \'plāk-ˌāt, 'plak-\ *vt* **pla·cat·ed; pla·cat·ing** [L *placatus,* pp. of *placare* — more at PLEASE] : to soothe or mollify esp. by concessions : APPEASE — **pla·ca·tion** \plā-'kā-shən, pla-\ *n* — **pla·ca·tive** \'plāk-ˌāt-iv, 'plak-\ *adj* — **pla·ca·to·ry** \'plāk-ə-ˌtōr-ē, 'plak-, -ˌtȯr-\ *adj*

pla·cat·er \'plāk-ˌāt-ər, 'plak-\ *n* : one that placates; *esp* : MEDIATOR

[1]place \ˌplās\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, open space, fr. L *platea* broad street, fr. Gk *plateia (hodos),* fr. fem. of *platys* broad, flat; akin to Skt *pṛthu* broad, L *planta* sole of the foot] **1 a** : a way for admission or transit **b** : physical environment : SPACE **c** : physical surroundings : ATMOSPHERE **2 a** : an indefinite region or expanse : AREA **b** : a building or locality used for a special purpose ⟨a ~ of amusement⟩ **c** *archaic* : the three-dimensional compass of a material object **3 a** : a particular region or center of population **b** : HOUSE, DWELLING ⟨invited them to his ~ for the evening⟩ **4** : a particular part of a surface or body : SPOT **5** : relative position in a scale or series: as **a** : degree of prestige ⟨put her in her ~⟩ **b** : a step in a sequence ⟨in the first ~, you're wrong⟩ **c** : one of the leading positions at the conclusion of a competition **6 a** : a proper or designated niche ⟨thought that a woman's ~ is in the home⟩ **b** : an appropriate moment or point ⟨this is not the ~ to discuss compensation —Robert Moses⟩ **7 a** : an available seat or accommodation **b** : an empty or vacated position **8** : the position of a figure in relation to others of a row or series; *esp* : the position of a digit within a numeral ⟨12 is a two ~ number⟩ ⟨in 316 the figure 1 is in the tens ~⟩ **9 a** : remunerative employment : JOB; *esp* : public office **b** : prestige accorded to one of high rank : STATUS ⟨an endless quest for preferment and ~ —*Time*⟩ **10** : a public square : PLAZA **11** : second place at the finish of a horse race

[2]place *vb* **placed; plac·ing** *vt* **1** : to distribute in an orderly manner : ARRANGE **2 a** : to put in a particular place : SET **b** : to present for consideration ⟨a question *placed* before the group⟩ **c** : to put in a particular state ⟨~ a performer under contract⟩ **d** : to direct to a desired spot **e** : to cause (the voice) to produce free and well resonated singing or speaking tones **3** : to appoint to a position **4** : to find employment or a home for **5 a** : to assign to a position in a series or category : RANK **b** : ESTIMATE ⟨*placed* the value of the estate too high⟩ **c** : to identify by connecting with an associated context ⟨couldn't quite ~ her face⟩ **6 a** : to give (an order) to a supplier **b** : to give an order for ⟨~ a bet⟩ ~ *vi* : to earn a top spot in a competition; *specif* : to come in second in a horse race — **place·able** \'plā-sə-bəl\ *adj*

pla·ce·bo *n, pl* **-bos** **1** \plä-'chā-(ˌ)bō\ [ME, fr. L, I shall please, fr. *placēre* to please — more at PLEASE] : the Roman Catholic vespers for the dead **2** \plə-'sē-\ [L, I shall please] **a** (1) : a medication prescribed more for the mental relief of the patient than for its actual effect on his disorder (2) : an inert or innocuous substance used esp. in controlled experiments testing the efficacy of another substance (as a drug) **b** : something tending to soothe

placebo effect *n* : improvement in the condition of a sick person that occurs in response to treatment but cannot be considered due to the specific treatment used

place·hold·er \'plās-ˌhōl-dər\ *n* : a symbol in a mathematical or logical expression that may be replaced by the name of any element of a set

[1]place·kick \'plā-ˌskik\ *n* : the kicking of a ball (as a football) placed or held in a stationary position on the ground

[2]placekick *vt* **1** : to kick (a ball) from a stationary position **2** : to score by means of a placekick — **place·kick·er** *n*

place·less \'plā-sləs\ *adj* : lacking a fixed location — **place·less·ly** *adv*

place·man \'plā-smən\ *n* : a political appointee to a public office esp. in 18th century Britain

place mat *n* : a small often rectangular table mat on which a place setting is laid

place·ment \'plā-smənt\ *n* **1** : an act or instance of placing: as **a** : an accurately hit ball (as in tennis) that an opponent cannot return **b** : the assignment of a person to a suitable place (as a job or a class in school) **2 a** : the position of a ball for a placekick **b** : PLACEKICK

placement test *n* : a test usu. given to a student entering an educational institution to determine his knowledge or proficiency in various subjects so that he may be assigned to appropriate courses or classes

place–name \'plā-ˌnām\ *n* : the name of a geographical locality

pla·cen·ta \plə-'sent-ə\ *n, pl* **-centas** *or* **-cen·tae** \-'sent-(ˌ)ē\ [NL, fr. L, flat cake, fr. Gk *plakount-, plakous,* fr. *plak-, plax* flat surface — more at PLEASE] **1** : the vascular organ in mammals except monotremes and marsupials that unites the fetus to the maternal uterus and mediates its metabolic exchanges through a more or less intimate association of uterine mucosal with chorionic and usu. allantoic tissues; *also* : an analogous organ in another animal **2** : a sporangium-bearing surface; *esp* : the part of the carpel bearing ovules — **pla·cen·tal** \-'sent-ᵊl\ *adj or n*

pla·cen·ta·tion \ˌplas-ᵊn-'tā-shən, plə-ˌsen-\ *n* **1 a** : the development of the placenta and attachment of the fetus to the uterus during pregnancy **b** : the morphological type of a placenta **2** : the arrangement of placentas and ovules in a plant ovary

[1]plac·er \'plā-sər\ *n* : one that places: as **a** : one that deposits or arranges **b** : one of the winners in a competition

[2]plac·er \'plas-ər\ *n* [Sp, fr. Catal, submarine plain, fr. *plaza* place, fr. L *platea* broad street — more at PLACE] : an alluvial or glacial deposit containing particles of valuable mineral and esp. of gold

place setting *n* : a table service for one person

place value *n* : the value of the location of a digit in a numeral ⟨in 425 the location of the digit 2 has a *place value* of ten while the digit itself indicates that there are two tens⟩

plac·id \'plas-əd\ *adj* [L *placidus,* fr. *placēre* to please — more at PLEASE] **1** : serenely free of interruption or disturbance : QUIET ⟨~ summer skies⟩ ⟨a ~ disposition⟩ **2** : COMPLACENT ***syn*** see CALM ***ant*** choleric, ruffled — **pla·cid·i·ty** \pla-'sid-ət-ē, plə-\ *n* — **plac·id·ly** \'plas-əd-lē\ *adv* — **plac·id·ness** *n*

plack·et \'plak-ət\ *n* [origin unknown] **1 a** : a slit in a garment (as a skirt) often forming the closure **b** *archaic* : a pocket esp. in a woman's skirt **2** *archaic* **a** : PETTICOAT **b** : WOMAN
plac·oid \'plak-ˌȯid\ *adj* [Gk *plak-, plax* flat surface] : of, relating to, or being a scale of dermal origin with an enamel-tipped spine characteristic of the elasmobranchs
pla·fond \plȧ-fōⁿ\ *n* [F, fr. MF, fr. *plat* flat + *fond* bottom, fr. L *fundus* — more at PLATE, BOTTOM] : a usu. elaborate ceiling formed by the underside of a floor
pla·gal \'plā-gəl\ *adj* [ML *plagalis*, deriv. of Gk *plagios* oblique, sideways, fr. *plagos* side; akin to L *plaga* net, region, Gk *pelagos* sea — more at FLAKE] **1** *of a church mode* : having the keynote on the 4th scale step — compare AUTHENTIC 4a **2** *of a cadence* : progressing from the subdominant chord to the tonic — compare AUTHENTIC 4b
plage \'pläzh\ *n* [F, beach, luminous surface, fr. It *piaggia* beach, fr. LL *plagia*, fr. Gk *plagios* oblique] : a bright region on the sun that is caused by the light emitted by clouds of calcium or hydrogen and that is often associated with a sunspot
pla·gia·rism \'plā-jə-ˌriz-əm *also* -jē-ə-\ *n* **1** : an act or instance of plagiarizing **2** : something plagiarized — **pla·gia·rist** \-rəst\ *n* — **pla·gia·ris·tic** \ˌplā-jə-'ris-tik *also* -jē-ə-\ *adj*
pla·gia·rize \'plā-jə-ˌrīz *also* -jē-ə-\ *vb* **-rized; -riz·ing** *vt* [*plagiary*] : to steal and pass off (the ideas or words of another) as one's own : use (a created production) without crediting the source ~ *vi* : to commit literary theft : present as new and original an idea or product derived from an existing source — **pla·gia·riz·er** *n*
pla·gia·ry \'plā-jē-ˌer-ē, -jə-rē\ *n, pl* **-ries** [L *plagiarius*, lit., plunderer, fr. *plagium* hunting net, fr. *plaga* net] **1** *archaic* : one that plagiarizes **2** : PLAGIARISM
pla·gio·clase \'plā-j(ē-)ə-ˌklās, 'plaj-(ē-)ə-, -ˌklāz\ *n* [Gk *plagios* + *klasis* breaking, fr. *klan* to break — more at HALT] : a triclinic feldspar; *esp* : one having calcium or sodium in its composition
pla·gio·tro·pic \ˌplā-j(ē-)ə-'trōp-ik, ˌplaj-(ē-)ə-, -'träp-\ *adj* [Gk *plagios* + ISV *-tropic*] : having the longer axis inclined away from the vertical ⟨~ lateral branches⟩ — **pla·gio·tro·pi·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **pla·gi·ot·ro·pism** \ˌplā-jē-'ä-trə-ˌpiz-əm, ˌplaj-ē-\ *n*
¹plague \'plāg\ *n* [ME *plage*, fr. MF, fr. LL *plaga*, fr. L, blow; akin to L *plangere* to strike — more at PLAINT] **1 a** : a disastrous evil or affliction : CALAMITY **b** : a destructively numerous influx ⟨a ~ of locusts⟩ **2 a** : an epidemic disease causing a high rate of mortality : PESTILENCE **b** : a virulent contagious febrile disease that is caused by a bacterium (*Pasteurella pestis*) and that occurs in several forms **3 a** : a cause of irritation : NUISANCE **b** : a sudden unwelcome outbreak ⟨a ~ of burglaries⟩
²plague *vt* **plagued; plagu·ing** **1** : to smite, infest, or afflict with or as if with disease, calamity, or natural evil **2 a** : to cause worry or distress to : HAMPER, BURDEN **b** : to disturb or annoy persistently *syn* see WORRY — **plagu·er** *n*
plague·some \'plāg-səm\ *adj* **1** : TROUBLESOME **2** : PESTILENTIAL
plagu·ey *or* **plaguy** \'plā-gē, 'pleg-ē\ *adj, chiefly dial* : causing irritation or annoyance : TROUBLESOME — **plaguey** *adv* — **plagu·i·ly** \'plā-gə-lē, 'pleg-ə-\ *adv*
plaice \'plās\ *n, pl* **plaice** [ME *plaice*, fr. OF *plaïs*, fr. LL *platensis*] : any of various flatfishes; *esp* : a large European flounder (*Pleuronectes platessa*)
plaid \'plad\ *n* [ScGael *plaide*] **1** : a rectangular length of tartan worn over the left shoulder as part of the Scottish national costume **2 a** : a twilled woolen fabric with a tartan pattern **b** : a fabric with a pattern of tartan or an imitation of tartan **3 a** : TARTAN 1 **b** : a pattern of unevenly spaced repeated stripes crossing at right angles — **plaid** *adj* — **plaid·ed** \-əd\ *adj*
¹plain \'plān\ *vi* [ME *plainen*, fr. MF *plaindre*, fr. L *plangere* lament — more at PLAINT] *archaic* : COMPLAIN
²plain *n* [ME, fr. OF, fr. L *planum*, fr. neut. of *planus* flat, plain — more at FLOOR] **1 a** : an extensive area of level or rolling treeless country **b** : a broad unbroken expanse **2** : something free from artifice, ornament, or extraneous matter
³plain *adj* **1** *archaic* : EVEN, LEVEL **2** : lacking ornament : UNDECORATED **3** : free of extraneous matter : PURE **4** : free of impediments to view : UNOBSTRUCTED **5 a** (1) : evident to the mind or senses : OBVIOUS ⟨it's perfectly ~ that they will resist⟩ (2) : CLEAR ⟨made his intentions ~⟩ **b** : marked by outspoken candor : free from duplicity or subtlety : BLUNT **6** : belonging to mankind in general : COMMON; *also* : lacking special distinction or affectation : ORDINARY **7** : characterized by simplicity : not complicated ⟨~ home-cooked meals⟩ **8** : lacking beauty or ugliness — **plain·ly** *adv* — **plain·ness** \'plān-nəs\ *n*
syn **1** see EVIDENT ***ant*** abstruse
2 PLAIN, HOMELY, SIMPLE, UNPRETENTIOUS *shared meaning element* : free from all ostentation or superficial embellishment. PLAIN stresses moderation and lack of anything likely to catch the attention ⟨a *plain* house on a quiet street⟩ Additionally, it may suggest quiet elegance ⟨the furnishings were *plain* with very simple classic lines⟩ or avoidance of waste and extravagance ⟨she set a *plain* but ample meal before us⟩ or, with reference to personal appearance, a lack of positive beauty that is by no means ugliness ⟨a *plain* but very charming girl⟩ HOMELY may suggest comfortable but unostentatious informality or easy familiarity ⟨a book-learned language, wholly remote from anything personal, native, or *homely* —Willa Cather⟩ ⟨a comfortable *homely* scene⟩ In application to personal appearance, especially in American use, *homely* is likely to imply something between *plain* and *ugly*. SIMPLE, very close to *plain* in its references to situations or things, may stress volition as the source of the quality described ⟨what was then called the *simple* life . . . is recognizable as the austere luxury of a very cultivated poet —Agnes Repplier⟩ and regularly connotes lack of complication or adornment ⟨told the *simple* truth⟩ ⟨a *simple* gray dress⟩ UNPRETENTIOUS stresses lack of vanity and affectation and may praise a person or a thing, especially when felt as a reflection of a personality ⟨he drove a sturdy but *unpretentious* car⟩ ⟨a knowledgeable but quite *unpretentious* writer⟩ ***ant*** lovely
3 see FRANK
4 see COMMON
⁴plain *adv* : in a plain manner : CLEARLY, SIMPLY ⟨saw them clearly and told you ~ —*Amer. Documentation*⟩
⁵plain *adv* [partly fr. ME *plein* entire, complete, fr. MF, full, fr. L *plenus*; partly fr. ⁴*plain* — more at FULL] : ABSOLUTELY ⟨it ~ galled me to pay fancy prices —F. R. Buckley⟩
plain·chant \'plān-ˌchant\ *n* [F *plain-chant*, lit., plain song] : PLAINSONG
plain·clothes·man \'plān-'klō(th)z-mən, -ˌman\ *n* : a police officer who does not wear a uniform while on duty : DETECTIVE
plain–laid \'plān-'lād\ *adj, of a rope* : consisting of three strands laid right-handed
Plain People *n* : members of any of various Protestant groups (as Mennonites) esp. in the U.S. who wear distinctively plain clothes and adhere to a simple and traditional style of life excluding many conveniences of modern technology (as motorcars)
Plains \'plānz\ *adj* : of or relating to No. American Indians of the Great Plains or to their culture
plain sailing *n* : easy progress over an unobstructed course
plains·man \'plānz-mən\ *n* [Great *Plains* + *man*] : an inhabitant of the plains
plain·song \'plān-ˌsȯŋ\ *n* **1** : GREGORIAN CHANT **2** : a liturgical chant of any of various Christian rites
plain·spo·ken \-'spō-kən\ *adj* : CANDID, FRANK — **plain·spo·ken·ness** \-kən-nəs\ *n*
plaint \'plānt\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *planctus*, fr. *planctus*, pp. of *plangere* to strike, beat one's breast, lament; akin to OHG *fluokhōn* to curse, Gk *plēssein* to strike] **1** : LAMENTATION, WAIL **2** : PROTEST, COMPLAINT
plain·text \'plān-ˌtekst\ *n* : the intelligible form of an encrypted text or of its elements — compare CIPHERTEXT
plaint·ful \'plānt-fəl\ *adj* : MOURNFUL
plain·tiff \'plānt-əf\ *n* [ME *plaintif*, fr. MF, fr. *plaintif*, adj.] **1** : one who commences a personal action or lawsuit to obtain a remedy for an injury to his rights **2** : the complaining party in a litigation — compare DEFENDANT
plain·tive \'plānt-iv\ *adj* [ME *plaintif*, fr. MF, fr. *plaint*] : expressive of suffering or woe : MELANCHOLY — **plain·tive·ly** *adv* — **plain·tive·ness** *n*
plain weave *n* : a weave in which the threads interlace alternately
plais·ter \'plas-tər, 'plās-\ *var of* PLASTER
¹plait \'plāt, 'plat\ *n* [ME *pleit*, fr. MF, fr. (assumed) VL *plictus*, fr. *plictus*, pp. of L *plicare* to fold — more at PLY] **1** : PLEAT **2** : a braid of material (as hair or straw); *specif* : PIGTAIL
²plait *vt* **1** : PLEAT 1 **2 a** : to interweave the strands or locks of : BRAID **b** : to make by plaiting — **plait·er** *n*
plait·ing *n* : the interlacing of strands : BRAIDING
¹plan \'plan\ *n* [F, plane, foundation, ground plan; partly fr. L *planum* level ground, fr. neut. of *planus* level; partly fr. F *planter* to plant, fix in place, fr. LL *plantare* — more at FLOOR, PLANT] **1** : a drawing or diagram drawn on a plane: as **a** : a top or horizontal view of an object **b** : a large-scale map of a small area **2 a** : a method for achieving an end ⟨working hard at a ~ to avoid work⟩ **b** : an often customary method of doing something : PROCEDURE ⟨the usual ~ is to both arrive and leave early⟩ **c** : a detailed formulation of a program of action ⟨the ~ called for increasing the bet whenever he won⟩ **d** : GOAL, AIM ⟨his ~ was to get a degree in medicine⟩ **3** : an orderly arrangement of parts of an overall design or objective — **plan·less** \-ləs\ *adj* — **plan·less·ly** *adv* — **plan·less·ness** *n*
syn PLAN, DESIGN, PLOT, SCHEME, PROJECT *shared meaning element* : a method devised for making or doing something or attaining an end
²plan *vb* **planned; plan·ning** *vt* **1** : to arrange the parts of : DESIGN **2** : to devise or project the realization or achievement of ⟨~ a program⟩ **3** : to have in mind : INTEND ~ *vi* : to make plans — **plan·ner** *n*
¹plan- *or* **plano-** *comb form* [prob. fr. NL, fr. Gk, wandering, fr. *planos*; akin to Gk *planasthai* to wander — more at PLANET] : moving about : motile ⟨*plano*blast⟩
²plan- *or* **plano-** *comb form* [L *planus*] **1** : flat ⟨*plano*sol⟩ **2** : flatly ⟨*plano*spiral⟩ **3** : flat and ⟨*plano*-concave⟩
pla·nar \'plā-nər, -ˌnär\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or lying in a plane **2** : two-dimensional in quality — **pla·nar·i·ty** \plā-'nar-ət-ē\ *n*
pla·nar·ia \plə-'nar-ē-ə, -'ner-\ *n* [NL *Planaria*, genus name, fr. fem. of LL *planarius* lying on a plane, fr. *planum* plane] : PLANARIAN; *esp* : any of a genus (*Planaria*) of 2-eyed planarian worms
pla·nar·i·an \-ē-ən\ *n* [NL *Planaria*, type genus of the family] : any of a family (Planariidae) or order (Tricladida) of small soft-bodied ciliated mostly aquatic turbellarian worms


planarian

pla·na·tion \plā-'nā-shən\ *n* : the condition or process of becoming flattened; *esp* : mechanical erosion producing smoothed or flattened surfaces
plan·chet \'plan-chət\ *n* [dim. of *planch* (flat plate)] **1** : a metal disk to be stamped as a coin **2** : a small metal or plastic disk
plan·chette \plan-'shet\ *n* [F, fr. dim. of *planche* plank, fr. L *planca*] : a small triangular or heart-shaped board supported on casters at two points and a vertical pencil at a third and believed to produce automatic writing when lightly touched by the fingers; *also* : a similar board without a pencil
Planck's constant \'plaŋ(k)s-, 'pläŋ(k)s-\ *n* [Max K.E.L. *Planck*] : a proportionality constant *h* that relates the frequency of radiation to its quanta of energy and that has an approximate value of 6.625×10^{-27} erg second (gcm² per second)
¹plane \'plān\ *vb* **planed; plan·ing** [ME *planen*, fr. MF *planer*, fr. LL *planare*, fr. L *planus* level — more at FLOOR] *vt* **1 a** : to make smooth or even : LEVEL **b** : to make plane by use of a plane ⟨*planed* the sides of the door⟩ **2** : to remove by planing — often used with *away* or *off* ~ *vi* **1** : to work with a plane **2** : to do the work of a plane — **plan·er** *n*
²plane *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *platanus*, fr. Gk *platanos*; akin to Gk *platys* broad — more at PLACE] : any of a genus (*Platanus* of the

family Platanaceae, the plane-tree family) of trees with large palmately lobed leaves and flowers in globose heads — called also *buttonwood, plane tree, sycamore*

[3]plane *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. LL *plana*, fr. *planare*] : a tool for smoothing or shaping a wood surface



plane

[4]plane *n* [L *planum*, fr. neut. of *planus* level] **1 a** : a surface of such nature that a straight line joining two of its points lies wholly in the surface **b** : a flat or level surface **2** : a level of existence, consciousness, or development ⟨on the intellectual ~⟩ **3 a** : one of the main supporting surfaces of an airplane **b** [by shortening] : AIRPLANE

[5]plane *adj* [L *planus*] **1** : having no elevations or depressions : FLAT **2 a** : of, relating to, or dealing with geometric planes **b** : lying in a plane ⟨a ~ curve⟩ ***syn*** see LEVEL

[6]plane *vi* **planed; plan·ing** [F *planer*, fr. *plan* plane; fr. the plane formed by the wings of a soaring bird] **1 a** : to fly while keeping the wings motionless **b** : to skim across the surface of the water **2** : to travel by airplane

plane angle *n* : an angle formed by two intersecting lines each of which lies on a face of a dihedral angle and is perpendicular to the edge of the face

plane geometry *n* : a branch of elementary geometry that deals with plane figures

plane·load \'plān-ˌlōd\ *n* : a load that fills an airplane

pla·ner tree \'plā-nər-\ *n* [J. J. *Planer* †1789 G botanist] : a small-leaved No. American tree (*Planera aquatica*) of the elm family with an oval ribbed fruit

plan·et \'plan-ət\ *n* [ME *planete*, fr. OF, fr. LL *planeta*, modif. of Gk *planēt-*, *planēs*, lit., wanderer, fr. *planasthai* to wander; akin to ON *flana* to rush around] **1 a** : any of the seven celestial bodies sun, moon, Venus, Jupiter, Mars, Mercury, and Saturn that in ancient belief have motions of their own among the fixed stars **b** (1) : one of the bodies except a comet, meteor, or satellite that revolves around the sun in the solar system (2) : a similar body associated with another star **c** : EARTH — usu. used with *the* **2** : a celestial body held to influence the fate of human beings **3** : a person or thing of great importance : LUMINARY

PLANETS

SYMBOL	NAME	MEAN DISTANCE FROM THE SUN astronomical units	MEAN DISTANCE FROM THE SUN million miles	PERIOD OF REVOLUTION IN DAYS OR YEARS	EQUATORIAL DIAMETER IN MILES
☿	Mercury	0.387	36.0	88.0 d.	3,100
♀	Venus	0.723	67.2	224.7 d.	7,700
⊕	Earth	1.000	92.9	365.26 d.	7,926
♂	Mars	1.524	141.5	687.0 d.	4,200
♃	Jupiter	5.203	483.4	11.86 y.	88,700
♄	Saturn	9.539	886.0	29.46 y.	75,100
♅	Uranus	19.18	1782.0	84.01 y.	29,200
♆	Neptune	30.06	2792.0	164.8 y.	27,700
♇	Pluto	39.44	3664.0	247.7 y.	3,500

plane table *n* : an instrument that consists essentially of a drawing board on a tripod with a ruler pointed at the object observed and is used for plotting the lines of a survey directly from the observation

plan·e·tar·i·um \ˌplan-ə-'ter-ē-əm\ *n, pl* **-iums** *or* **-ia** \-ē-ə\ **1** : a model or representation of the solar system **2 a** : an optical device to project various celestial images and effects **b** : a building or room housing such a projector

plan·e·tary \'plan-ə-ˌter-ē\ *adj* **1 a** : of, relating to, or being a planet **b** : ERRATIC, WANDERING **c** : having a motion like that of a planet ⟨~ electrons⟩ **d** : IMMENSE ⟨the scope of this project has reached ~ proportions⟩ **2 a** : of, relating to, or belonging to the earth : TERRESTRIAL **b** : GLOBAL, WORLDWIDE **3** : having or consisting of an epicyclic train of gear wheels

plan·e·tes·i·mal \ˌplan-ə-'tes-ə-məl, -'tez-\ *n* [*planet* + *-esimal* (as in *infinitesimal*)] : one of numerous small solid celestial bodies that may have existed at an early stage of the development of the solar system

planetesimal hypothesis *n* : a hypothesis in astronomy: the planets have evolved by aggregation from planetesimals

plan·e·toid \'plan-ə-ˌtȯid\ *n* **1** : a body resembling a planet **2** : ASTEROID — **plan·e·toi·dal** \ˌplan-ə-'tȯid-ᵊl\ *adj*

plan·e·tol·o·gy \ˌplan-ə-'täl-ə-jē\ *n, pl* **-gies** : a study that deals with the condensed matter (as the planets, natural satellites, comets, and meteorites) of the solar system — **plan·e·to·log·i·cal** \ˌplan-ət-ᵊl-'äj-i-kəl\ *adj* — **plan·e·tol·o·gist** \ˌplan-ə-'täl-ə-jəst\ *n*

plan·et–strick·en \'plan-ət-ˌstrik-ən\ *or* **plan·et–struck** \-ˌstrək\ *adj* **1** : affected by the influence of a planet **2** : PANIC-STRICKEN

planet wheel *n* : a gear wheel that revolves around the wheel with which it meshes in an epicyclic train

plan·form \'plan-ˌfȯrm\ *n* : the contour of an object (as an airplane) as viewed from above

plan·gen·cy \'plan-jən-sē\ *n* : the quality or state of being plangent

plan·gent \-jənt\ *adj* [L *plangent-*, *plangens*, prp. of *plangere* to strike, lament] **1** : having a loud reverberating sound **2** : having an expressive and esp. plaintive quality — **plan·gent·ly** *adv*

pla·nim·e·ter \plā-'nim-ət-ər, plə-\ *n* [F *planimètre*, fr. L *planum* plane + F *-mètre* -meter] : an instrument for measuring the area of a plane figure by tracing its boundary line

pla·ni·met·ric \ˌplā-nə-'me-trik\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or made by means of a planimeter ⟨~ measurements⟩ **2** *of a map* : having no indications of contour

plan·ish \'plan-ish\ *vt* [MF *planiss-*, stem of *planir* to make smooth, fr. *plan* level, fr. L *planus*] : to toughen and finish (metal) by hammering lightly — **plan·ish·er** *n*

pla·ni·sphere \'plā-nə-ˌsfi(ə)r\ *n* [ML *planisphaerium*, fr. L *planum* plane + *sphaera* sphere] : a representation of the circles of the sphere on a plane; *esp* : a polar projection of the celestial sphere and the stars on a plane with adjustable circles or other appendages for showing celestial phenomena for any given time — **pla·ni·spher·ic** \ˌplā-nə-'sfi(ə)r-ik, -'sfer-\ *adj*

[1]plank \'plaŋk\ *n* [ME, fr. ONF *planke*, fr. L *planca*] **1 a** : a heavy thick board; *specif* : one 2 to 4 inches thick and at least 8 inches wide **b** : an object made of a plank or planking **c** : PLANKING **2 a** : an article in the platform of a political party **b** : a principal item of a policy or program

[2]plank *vt* **1** : to cover or floor with planks **2** : to set down **3** : to cook and serve on a board usu. with an elaborate garnish

plank·ing *n* **1** : the act or process of covering or fitting with planks **2** : a quantity of planks

plank·ter \'plaŋ(k)-tər\ *n* [Gk *planktēr* wanderer, fr. *plazesthai*] : a planktonic organism

plank·ton \'plaŋ(k)-tən, -ˌtän\ *n* [G, fr. Gk, neut. of *planktos* drifting, fr. *plazesthai* to wander, drift, pass. of *plazein* to drive astray; akin to L *plangere* to strike — more at PLAINT] : the passively floating or weakly swimming usu. minute animal and plant life of a body of water — **plank·ton·ic** \plaŋ(k)-'tän-ik\ *adj*

planned parenthood *n* : the practice of birth control measures (as contraception) designed to regulate the number and spacing of children in a family

plan·ning *n* : the act or process of making or carrying out plans; *specif* : the establishment of goals, policies, and procedures for a social or economic unit ⟨city ~⟩ ⟨business ~⟩

plano- — see PLAN-

pla·no–con·cave \ˌplā-nō-(ˌ)kän-'kāv, -'kän-ˌ\ *adj* : flat on one side and concave on the other

pla·no–con·vex \-(ˌ)kän-'veks, -'kän-ˌ, -kən-'\ *adj* : flat on one side and convex on the other

pla·nog·ra·phy \plā-'näg-rə-fē, plə-\ *n* : a process (as lithography) for printing from a plane surface — **pla·no·graph** \'plā-nə-ˌgraf\ *vt* — **pla·no·graph·ic** \ˌplā-nə-'graf-ik\ *adj*

pla·no·sol \'plā-nə-ˌsäl, -ˌsȯl\ *n* [*[2]plan-* + L *solum* ground, soil] : any of an intrazonal group of soils that have a strongly leached upper layer over a compacted clay or silt and occur on smooth flat uplands

plan position indicator *n* : PPI

[1]plant \'plant\ *vb* [ME *planten*, fr. OE *plantian*, fr. LL *plantare* to plant, fix in place, fr. L, to plant, fr. *planta* plant] *vt* **1 a** : to put or set in the ground for growth ⟨~ seeds⟩ **b** : to set or sow with seeds or plants **c** : IMPLANT **2 a** : ESTABLISH, INSTITUTE **b** : COLONIZE, SETTLE **c** : to place (animals) in a new locality **d** : to stock with animals **3 a** : to place in or on the ground **b** : to place firmly or forcibly ⟨~*ed* a hard blow on his chin⟩ **4 a** : CONCEAL **b** : to covertly place for discovery, publication, or dissemination ~ *vi* : to plant something — **plant·able** \-ə-bəl\ *adj*

[2]plant *n* [ME *plante*, fr. OE, fr. L *planta*] **1 a** : a young tree, vine, shrub, or herb planted or suitable for planting **b** : any of a kingdom (Plantae) of living beings typically lacking locomotive movement or obvious nervous or sensory organs and possessing cellulose cell walls **2 a** : the land, buildings, machinery, apparatus, and fixtures employed in carrying on a trade or an industrial business **b** : a factory or workshop for the manufacture of a particular product **c** : the total facilities available for production or service **d** : the buildings and other physical equipment of an institution ⟨the school ~⟩ **3** : an act of planting **4** : something or someone planted ⟨left muddy footprints as a ~ to confuse the police⟩ — **plant·like** \-ˌlīk\ *adj*

Plan·tag·e·net \plan-'taj-(ə-)nət\ *adj* [*Plantagenet*, nickname of the family adopted as surname] : of or relating to the English royal house that ruled from 1154 to 1399 — **Plantagenet** *n*

[1]plan·tain \'plant-ᵊn\ *n* [ME, fr. OF, fr. L *plantagin-*, *plantago*, fr. *planta* sole of the foot; fr. its broad leaves — more at PLACE] : any of a genus (*Plantago* of the family Plantaginaceae, the plantain family) of short-stemmed elliptic-leaved herbs with spikes of minute greenish flowers

[2]plantain *n* [Sp *plántano* plane tree, banana tree, fr. ML *plantanus* plane tree, alter. of L *platanus* — more at PLANE] **1** : a banana plant (*Musa paradisiaca*) **2** : the angular greenish starchy fruit of the plantain that is a staple food in the tropics when cooked

plantain lily *n* : a plant (genus *Hosta*) of the lily family with plaited basal leaves and racemose white or violet flowers

plan·tar \'plant-ər, 'plan-ˌtär\ *adj* [L *plantaris*, fr. *planta* sole — more at PLACE] : of or relating to the sole of the foot

plan·ta·tion \plan-'tā-shən\ *n* **1** : a usu. large group of plants and esp. trees under cultivation **2** : a settlement in a new country or region : COLONY ⟨Plymouth *Plantation*⟩ **3 a** : a place that is planted or under cultivation **b** : an agricultural estate usu. worked by resident labor

plant·er \'plant-ər\ *n* **1** : one that cultivates plants: as **a** : FARMER **b** : one who owns or operates a plantation **2** : one who settles or founds a place and esp. a new colony **3** : a container in which ornamental plants are grown

planter's punch *n* : a punch of rum, lime or lemon juice, sugar, water, and sometimes bitters

plant food *n* **1** : FOOD 1b **2** : FERTILIZER

plant hormone *n* : an organic substance other than a nutrient that in minute amounts modifies a plant physiological process; *esp* : one produced by a plant and active elsewhere than at the site of production

plan·ti·grade \'plant-ə-ˌgrād\ *adj* [F, fr. L *planta* sole + F *-grade*] : walking on the sole with the heel touching the ground ⟨man is a ~ animal⟩ — **plantigrade** *n*

plant·ing *n* : an area where plants are grown for commercial or decorative purposes

plant kingdom *n* : the one of the three basic groups of natural objects that includes all living and extinct plants — compare ANIMAL KINGDOM, MINERAL KINGDOM
plantlike flagellate *n* : any of various organisms that constitute a subclass (Phytomastigina), have many characteristics in common with typical algae, and are classified either as protozoans or as algae
plant louse *n* : APHID; *also* : any of various small insects (as a jumping plant louse) of similar habits
plan·u·la \'plan-yə-lə\ *n, pl* **-lae** \-ˌlē, -ˌlī\ [NL, fr. L *planus* level, flat — more at FLOOR] : the very young usu. flattened oval or oblong free-swimming ciliated larva of a coelenterate — **plan·u·lar** \-lər\ *adj* — **plan·u·loid** \-ˌlȯid\ *adj*
plaque \'plak\ *n* [F, fr. MF, metal sheet, fr. *plaquier* to plate, fr. MD *placken* to piece, patch; akin to MD *placke* piece, MHG *placke* patch] **1 a** : an ornamental brooch; *esp* : the badge of an honorary order **b** : a flat thin piece (as of metal) used for decoration **c** : a commemorative or identifying inscribed tablet **2 a** : a localized abnormal patch on a body part or surface **b** : a film of mucus harboring bacteria on a tooth **3** : a clear area in a bacterial culture produced by destruction of cells by a virus
[1]plash \'plash\ *n* [prob. imit.] : SPLASH
[2]plash *vt* : to break the surface of (water) : SPLASH ~ *vi* : to cause a splashing or spattering effect
-pla·sia \'plā-zh(ē-)ə\ *or* **-pla·sy** \ˌplā-sē, ˌplas-ē, p-lə-sē\ *n comb form* [NL *-plasia*, fr. Gk *plasis* molding, fr. *plassein*] : development : formation ⟨hyper*plasia*⟩ ⟨homo*plasy*⟩
plasm \'plaz-əm\ *n* [LL *plasma* something molded] : PLASMA
plasm- *or* **plasmo-** *comb form* [F, fr. NL *plasma*] : plasma ⟨*plasm*odium⟩ ⟨*plasmo*lysis⟩
-plasm \ˌplaz-əm\ *n comb form* [G *-plasma*, fr. NL *plasma*] : formative or formed material (as of a cell or tissue) ⟨endo*plasm*⟩
plas·ma \'plaz-mə\ *n* [G, fr. LL, something molded, fr. Gk, fr. *plassein* to mold — more at PLASTER] **1** : a green faintly translucent quartz **2** [NL, fr. LL] **a** : the fluid part of blood, lymph, or milk as distinguished from suspended material **b** : the juice that can be expressed from muscle **3** : PROTOPLASM **4** : a collection of charged particles (as in the atmospheres of stars or in a metal) containing about equal numbers of positive ions and electrons and exhibiting some properties of a gas but differing from a gas in being a good conductor of electricity and in being affected by a magnetic field — **plas·mat·ic** \plaz-'mat-ik\ *adj*
plasma cell *n* : a mononuclear slightly amoeboid wandering cell that is usu. found in association with low-grade chronic inflammations or with various allergic processes
plas·ma·gel \'plaz-mə-ˌjel\ *n* : gelated protoplasm; *esp* : the outer firm zone of a pseudopodium
plas·ma·gene \-ˌjēn\ *n* [ISV] : an extranuclear determiner of hereditary characteristics with a capacity for replication similar to that of a nuclear gene — **plas·ma·gen·ic** \ˌplaz-mə-'jēn-ik, -'jen-\ *adj*
plasma jet *n* : a stream of very hot ionized plasma; *also* : a device for producing such a stream
plas·ma·lem·ma \ˌplaz-mə-'lem-ə\ *n* [NL, fr. *plasma* + Gk *lemma* husk — more at LEMMA] : the differentiated protoplasmic surface bounding a cell
plasma membrane *n* : a semipermeable limiting layer of cell protoplasm
plas·ma·pher·e·sis \ˌplaz-mə-'fer-ə-səs\ *n* [NL, fr. *plasma* + Gk *aphairesis* taking off — more at APHAERESIS] : a process in which red blood cells are separated from the plasma of a blood donor and returned to the donor's circulatory system
plas·ma·sol \'plaz-mə-ˌsäl, -ˌsȯl, -ˌsōl\ *n* : solated protoplasm; *esp* : the inner fluid zone of a pseudopodium or amoeboid cell
plasma torch *n* : a device that heats a gas by electrical means to form a plasma for high-temperature operations (as melting metal)
plas·mid \'plaz-məd\ *n* [*plasma* + [2]*-id*] : a cellular element that exists and replicates autonomously in the cytoplasm : PLASMAGENE
plas·min \-mən\ *n* : a proteolytic enzyme that dissolves the fibrin of blood clots
plas·min·o·gen \plaz-'min-ə-jən\ *n* : the precursor of plasmin that is found in blood plasma and serum
plas·mo·des·ma \ˌplaz-mə-'dez-mə\ *also* **plas·mo·desm** \'plaz-mə-ˌdez-əm\ *n, pl* **-des·ma·ta** \-'dez-mət-ə\ *or* **-des·mas** \-'dez-məz\ [NL *plasmodesma*, fr. *plasma* + Gk *desmat-, desma* bond, fr. *dein* to bind — more at DIADEM] : one of the cytoplasmic strands that pass through openings in some plant cell walls and provide living bridges between cells
plas·mo·di·um \plaz-'mōd-ē-əm\ *n, pl* **-dia** \-ē-ə\ [NL, fr. *plasm-* + *-odium* thing resembling, fr. Gk *-ōdēs* like] **1 a** : a motile multinucleate mass of protoplasm resulting from fusion of uninucleate amoeboid cells; *also* : an organism (as a stage of a slime mold) that consists of such a structure **b** : SYNCYTIUM 1 **2** : an individual malaria parasite
plas·mog·a·my \plaz-'mäj-ə-mē\ *n* [ISV] : fusion of the cytoplasm of two or more cells as distinguished from fusion of nuclei
plas·mol·y·sis \plaz-'mäl-ə-səs\ *n* [NL] : shrinking of the cytoplasm away from the wall of a living cell due to water loss by exosmosis — **plas·mo·lyt·ic** \ˌplaz-mə-'lit-ik\ *adj* — **plas·mo·lyt·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
plas·mo·lyze \'plaz-mə-ˌlīz\ *vb* **-lyzed; -lyz·ing** *vt* : to subject to plasmolysis ~ *vi* : to undergo plasmolysis
-plast \ˌplast\ *n comb form* [MF *-plaste* thing molded, fr. LL *-plastus*, fr. Gk *-plastos*, fr. *plastos* molded, fr. *plassein*] : organized particle or granule : cell ⟨chromo*plast*⟩
[1]plas·ter \'plas-tər\ *n* [ME, fr. OE, fr. L *emplastrum*, fr. Gk *emplastron*, fr. *emplassein* to plaster on, fr. *en-* + *plassein* to mold, plaster; akin to L *planus* level, flat — more at FLOOR] **1** : a medicated or protective dressing that consists of a film (as of cloth or plastic) spread with a usu. medicated substance ⟨adhesive ~⟩; *broadly* : something applied to heal and soothe **2** : a pasty composition (as of lime, water, and sand) that hardens on drying and is used for coating walls, ceilings, and partitions — **plas·tery** \-t(ə-)rē\ *adj*
[2]plaster *vb* **plas·tered; plas·ter·ing** \-t(ə-)riŋ\ *vt* **1** : to overlay or cover with plaster : COAT **2** : to apply a plaster to **3 a** : to cover over or conceal as if with a coat of plaster **b** : to apply as a coating or incrustation **c** : to smooth down with a sticky or shiny substance ⟨~*ed* his hair down⟩ **4** : to fasten or apply tightly to another surface **5** : to treat with plaster of paris **6** : to affix to or place upon esp. conspicuously or in quantity **7** : to inflict heavy damage, injury, or casualties upon esp. by a concentrated or unremitting attack : strike heavily and effectively ~ *vi* : to apply plaster — **plas·ter·er** \-tər-ər\ *n*
plas·ter·board \'plas-tər-ˌbō(ə)rd, -ˌbȯ(ə)rd\ *n* : a board used in large sheets as a backing or as a substitute for plaster in walls and consisting of several piles of fiberboard, paper, or felt usu. bonded to a hardened gypsum plaster core
plaster cast *n* **1** : a sculptor's model in plaster of paris **2** : a rigid dressing of gauze impregnated with plaster of paris
plas·tered \'plas-tərd\ *adj* : DRUNK, INTOXICATED
plas·ter·ing *n* **1** : a coating of or as if of plaster **2** : a decisive defeat
plaster of par·is \-'par-əs\ *often cap 2d P* [*Paris*, France] : a white powdery slightly hydrated calcium sulfate $CaSO_4.\frac{1}{2}H_2O$ or $2CaSO_4.H_2O$ made by calcining gypsum and used chiefly for casts and molds in the form of a quick-setting paste with water
plas·ter·work \'plas-tər-ˌwərk\ *n* : plastering used to finish architectural constructions
[1]plas·tic \'plas-tik\ *adj* [L *plasticus* of molding, fr. Gk *plastikos*, fr. *plassein* to mold, form] **1** : FORMATIVE, CREATIVE ⟨~ forces in nature⟩ **2 a** : capable of being molded or modeled ⟨~ clay⟩ **b** : capable of adapting to varying conditions : PLIABLE ⟨ecologically ~ animals⟩ **3** : SCULPTURAL **4** : made or consisting of a plastic **5** : capable of being deformed continuously and permanently in any direction without rupture **6** : of, relating to, or involving plastic surgery **7** : formed by or adapted to an artificial or conventional standard : SYNTHETIC ⟨this is the ~ age, the era of the sham and the bogus — Logan Gourlay⟩
syn PLASTIC, PLIABLE, PLIANT, DUCTILE, MALLEABLE, ADAPTABLE *shared meaning element* : susceptible of being modified in form or nature
[2]plastic *n* : a plastic substance; *specif* : any of numerous organic synthetic or processed materials that are mostly thermoplastic or thermosetting polymers of high molecular weight and that can be molded, cast, extruded, drawn, or laminated into objects, films, or filaments — often used in pl. with sing. constr.
-plas·tic \'plas-tik\ *adj comb form* [Gk *-plastikos*, fr. *plassein*] **1** : developing : forming ⟨thrombo*plastic*⟩ **2** : of or relating to (something designated by a term ending in *-plasm, -plast, -plasty*, or *-plasy*) ⟨homo*plastic*⟩ ⟨neo*plastic*⟩
plas·ti·cal·ly \'plas-ti-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* **1** : in a plastic manner **2** : with respect to plastic qualities
plastic art *n* **1** : art (as sculpture or bas-relief) characterized by modeling : three-dimensional art **2** : one of the visual arts (as painting, sculpture, or film) esp. as distinguished from those that are written (as poetry or music)
plastic foam *n* : EXPANDED PLASTIC
plas·tic·i·ty \pla-'stis-ət-ē\ *n* **1** : the quality or state of being plastic; *esp* : capacity for being molded or altered **2** : the ability to retain a shape attained by pressure deformation **3** : the capacity of organisms with the same genotype to vary in developmental pattern, in phenotype, or in behavior according to varying environmental conditions
plas·ti·cize \'plas-tə-ˌsīz\ *vt* **-cized; -ciz·ing** **1** : to make plastic **2** : to treat with a plastic ⟨a *plasticized* mattress cover⟩ — **plas·ti·ci·za·tion** \ˌplas-tə-sə-'zā-shən\ *n*
plas·ti·ciz·er \'plas-tə-ˌsī-zər\ *n* : one that plasticizes; *specif* : a chemical added esp. to rubbers and resins to impart flexibility, workability, or stretchability
plastic surgeon *n* : a specialist in plastic surgery
plastic surgery *n* : a branch of surgery concerned with the repair or restoration of lost, injured, or deformed parts of the body chiefly by transfer of tissue
plas·tid \'plas-təd\ *n* [G, fr. Gk *plastos* molded] : any of various cytoplasmic organelles of photosynthetic cells that serve in many cases as centers of special metabolic activities — **plas·tid·i·al** \pla-'stid-ē-əl\ *adj*
plas·ti·sol \'plas-tə-ˌsäl, -ˌsȯl\ *n* [*plastic* + [4]*sol*] : a substance consisting of a mixture of a resin and a plasticizer that can be molded, cast, or made into a continuous film by application of heat
plas·to·gene \'plas-tə-ˌjēn\ *n* [*plast*id + *-o-* + *-gene*] : a hereditary determinant in a plant cell plastid
plas·tral \'plas-trəl\ *adj* : of or relating to a plastron
plas·tron \'plas-trən\ *n* [MF, fr. OIt *piastrone*, aug. of *piastra* thin metal plate — more at PIASTER] **1 a** : a metal breastplate formerly worn under the hauberk **b** : a quilted pad worn in fencing practice to protect the chest, waist, and the side on which the weapon is held **2** : the ventral part of the shell of a tortoise or turtle consisting typically of nine symmetrically placed bones overlaid by horny plates **3 a** : a trimming like a bib for a woman's dress **b** : DICKEY 1a **4** : a thin film of air held by water-repellent hairs of some aquatic insects
-plas·ty \ˌplas-tē\ *n comb form* [F *-plastie*, fr. LGk *-plastia* molding, fr. Gk *-plastēs* molder, fr. *plassein*] : plastic surgery ⟨osteo*plasty*⟩
-plasy — see -PLASIA
[1]plat \'plat\ *vt* **plat·ted; plat·ting** [ME *platen*, alter. of *plaiten*] : PLAIT
[2]plat *n* : PLAIT
[3]plat *n* [prob. alter. of *plot*] **1** : a small piece of ground (as a lot or quadrat) : PLOT **2** : a plan, map, or chart of a piece of land with actual or proposed features (as lots); *also* : the land represented
[4]plat *vt* **plat·ted; plat·ting** : to make a plat of
[5]plat *abbr* **1** plateau **2** platoon
plat·an \'plat-ᵊn\ *n* [ME, fr. L *platanus*] : [2]PLANE
plat du jour \ˌpläd-ə-'zhü(ə)r, ˌplad-\ *n, pl* **plats du jour** *same*\ [F, lit., plate of the day] : a dish that is featured by a restaurant on a particular day
[1]plate \'plāt\ *n* [ME, fr. OF, fr. *plate*, fem. of *plat* flat, fr. (assumed) VL *plattus*, prob. fr. Gk *platys* broad, flat — more at PLACE] **1 a**

: a smooth flat thin piece of material **b** (1) : forged, rolled, or cast metal in sheets usu. thicker than ¼ inch (2) : a very thin layer of metal deposited on a surface of base metal by plating **c** : one of the broad metal pieces used in armor; *also* : armor of such plates **d** (1) : a lamina or plaque (as of bone or horn) that forms part of an animal body; *esp* : SCUTE (2) : the thin under portion of the forequarter of beef; *esp* : the fatty back part — see BEEF illustration **e** : HOME PLATE **f** : any of the huge movable segments into which the earth's crust is divided **2** [ME; partly fr. OF *plate* plate, piece of silver; partly fr. OSp *plata* silver, fr. (assumed) VL *plattus* flat] **a** *obs* : a silver coin **b** : precious metal; *esp* : silver bullion **3** [ME, fr. MF *plat* dish, plate, fr. *plat* flat] **a** : domestic hollowware made of or plated with gold, silver, or base metals **b** : a shallow usu. circular vessel from which food is eaten or served **c** (1) : PLATEFUL (2) : a main course served on a plate (3) : food and service supplied to one person ⟨a dinner at $10 a ~⟩ **d** (1) : a prize given to the winner in a contest (2) : a horse race in which the contestants compete for a prize rather than stakes **e** : a dish or pouch passed in taking collections **f** : a flat glass dish used chiefly for culturing microorganisms **4 a** : a prepared surface from which printing is done **b** : a sheet of material (as glass) coated with a light-sensitive photographic emulsion **c** (1) : the usu. flat or grid-formed anode of an electron tube at which electrons collect (2) : a metallic grid with its interstices filled with active material that forms one of the structural units of a battery **d** : LICENSE PLATE **5** : a horizontal structural member (as a timber) that provides bearing and anchorage esp. for the trusses of a roof or the rafters **6** : the part of a denture that fits to the mouth; *broadly* : DENTURE **7** : a full-page illustration often on different paper from the text pages — **plate-like** \-ˌlīk\ *adj*

²plate *vt* **plat-ed; plat-ing** **1** : to cover or equip with plate: as **a** : to arm with armor plate **b** : to cover with an adherent layer mechanically, chemically, or electrically; *also* : to deposit (as a layer) on a surface **2** : to make a printing surface from or for **3** : to fix or secure with a plate

¹pla-teau \pla-ˈtō, ˈpla-ˌ\ *n, pl* **plateaus** *or* **pla-teaux** \-ˈtōz, -ˌtōz\ [F, fr. MF, platter, fr. *plat* flat] **1 a** : a usu. extensive land area having a relatively level surface raised sharply above adjacent land on at least one side : TABLELAND **b** : a similar undersea feature **2 a** : a region of little or no change in a graphical representation **b** : a relatively stable level, period, or condition

²plateau *vi* : to reach a level, period, or condition of stability

plate-ful \ˈplāt-ˌfu̇l\ *n* : as much or as many as a plate will hold

plate glass *n* : rolled, ground, and polished sheet glass

plate-let \ˈplāt-lət\ *n* : a minute flattened body (as of ice or a mineral); *esp* : BLOOD PLATELET

plate-mak-er \ˈplāt-ˌmā-kər\ *n* : a machine for making printing plates and esp. offset printing plates — **plate-mak-ing** \-kiŋ\ *n*

plat-en \ˈplat-ᵊn\ *n* [MF *plateine*, fr. *plate*] **1** : a flat plate (as of metal); *esp* : one that exerts or receives pressure **2** : the roller of a typewriter

plat-er \ˈplāt-ər\ *n* **1** : one that plates **2 a** : a horse that runs chiefly in plate races **b** : an inferior racehorse

plate rail *n* : a rail or narrow shelf along the upper part of a wall for holding plates or ornaments

plat-er-esque \ˌplat-ə-ˈresk\ *adj, often cap* [Sp *plateresco*, fr. *platero* silversmith, fr. *plata* silver] : of, relating to, or being a 16th century Spanish architectural style characterized by elaborate ornamentation suggestive of silver plate

plat-form \ˈplat-ˌfȯrm\ *n, often attrib* [MF *plate-forme* diagram, map, lit., flat form] **1** : PLAN, DESIGN **2** : a declaration of the principles on which a group of persons stand; *esp* : a declaration of principles and policies adopted by a political party or a candidate **3 a** (1) : a horizontal flat surface usu. higher than the adjoining area; *also* : a device incorporating or providing a platform (as for reaching high places) (2) : a raised flooring (as for speakers or performers) **b** : a place or opportunity for public discussion **4 a** : a layer (as of leather) between the inner sole and outer sole of a shoe **b** : a shoe having such a sole

platform rocker *n* : a chair that rocks on a stable platform

platform scale *n* : a weighing machine with a flat platform on which objects are weighed — called also *platform balance*

platform tennis *n* : a variation of paddle tennis that is played on a wooden platform enclosed by a wire fence

platin- *or* **platino-** *comb form* [NL *platinum*] : platinum ⟨*platino*type⟩ ⟨*platini*iridium⟩

¹pla-ti-na \plə-ˈtē-nə\ *n* [Sp] : PLATINUM; *esp* : crude native platinum

²platina *adj* : of the color platinum

plat-ing \ˈplāt-iŋ\ *n* **1** : the act or process of plating **2 a** : a coating of metal plates **b** : a thin coating of metal

pla-tin-ic \pla-ˈtin-ik\ *adj* : of, relating to, or containing platinum esp. with a valence of four — compare PLATINOUS

plat-i-nize \ˈplat-ᵊn-ˌīz\ *vt* **-nized; -niz-ing** : to cover, treat, or combine with platinum or a compound of platinum

plat-i-no-cy-a-nide \ˌplat-ᵊn-ō-ˈsī-ə-ˌnīd\ *n* : a fluorescent complex salt formed by the union of platinous cyanide with another cyanide

plat-i-noid \ˈplat-ᵊn-ˌȯid\ *n* : an alloy chiefly of copper, nickel, and zinc used for forming electrical resistance coils and standards

plat-i-nous \ˈplat-nəs, -ᵊn-əs\ *adj* : of, relating to, or containing platinum esp. with a valence of two — compare PLATINIC

plat-i-num \ˈplat-nəm, -ᵊn-əm\ *n, often attrib* [NL, fr. Sp *platina*, fr. dim. of *plata* silver — more at PLATE] **1** : a heavy precious grayish white noncorroding ductile malleable metallic element that fuses with difficulty and is used esp. in chemical ware and apparatus, as a catalyst, and in dental and jewelry alloys — see ELEMENT table **2** : a moderate gray

platinum black *n* : a soft dull black powder of metallic platinum obtained by reduction and precipitation from solutions of its salts and used as a catalyst

platinum blonde *n* **1** : a pale silvery blonde color that in human hair is usu. produced by bleach and a bluish rinse **2** : a person whose hair is of the color platinum blonde

plat-i-tude \ˈplat-ə-ˌt(y)üd\ *n* [F, fr. *plat* flat, dull] **1** : the quality or state of being dull or insipid **2** : a banal, trite, or stale remark

plat-i-tu-di-nal \ˌplat-ə-ˈt(y)üd-nəl, -ᵊn-əl\ *adj* : PLATITUDINOUS

plat-i-tu-di-nar-i-an \-ˌt(y)üd-ᵊn-ˈer-ē-ən\ *n* : one given to the use of platitudes

plat-i-tu-di-nize \-ˈt(y)üd-ᵊn-ˌīz\ *vi* **-nized; -niz-ing** [*platitudinous*] : to utter platitudes

plat-i-tu-di-nous \-ˈt(y)üd-nəs, -ᵊn-əs\ *adj* [*platitude* + *-inous* (as in *multitudinous*)] : having the characteristics of a platitude : full of platitudes ⟨~ remarks⟩ — **plat-i-tu-di-nous-ly** *adv*

pla-ton-ic \plə-ˈtän-ik, plā-\ *adj* [L *platonicus*, fr. Gk *platōnikos* fr. *Platōn* Plato] **1** *cap* : of, relating to, or characteristic of Plato or Platonism **2 a** : relating to or based on platonic love; *also* : experiencing or professing platonic love **b** : NOMINAL, THEORETICAL — **pla-ton-i-cal-ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

platonic love *n, often cap P* **1** : love conceived by Plato as ascending from passion for the individual to contemplation of the universal and ideal **2** : a close relationship between two persons in which sexual desire has been suppressed or sublimated

Pla-to-nism \ˈplāt-ᵊn-ˌiz-əm\ *n* **1 a** : the philosophy of Plato stressing esp. that actual things are copies of transcendent ideas and that these ideas are the objects of true knowledge apprehended by reminiscence **b** : NEOPLATONISM **2** : PLATONIC LOVE — **Pla-to-nist** \-ᵊn-əst\ *n* — **Pla-to-nis-tic** \ˌplāt-ᵊn-ˈis-tik\ *adj*

Pla-to-nize \ˈplāt-ᵊn-ˌīz\ *vb* **-nized; -niz-ing** *vi* : to adopt, imitate, or conform to Platonic opinions ~ *vt* : to explain in accordance with or adapt to Platonic doctrines; *esp* : IDEALIZE

¹pla-toon \plə-ˈtün, pla-\ *n* [F *peloton* small detachment, lit., ball, fr. *pelote* little ball — more at PELLET] **1** : a subdivision of a company-size military unit normally consisting of two or more squads or sections **2** : a group of persons sharing a common characteristic or activity ⟨a ~ of waiters⟩: as **a** : a group of football players trained for either offense or defense and sent into or withdrawn from the game as a body **b** : two or more players (as in baseball) who alternate playing the same position

²platoon *vt* : to play (one player) alternately with another player in the same position (as on a baseball team) ~ *vi* **1** : to alternate with another player at the same position **2** : to use alternate players at the same position

platoon sergeant *n* : a noncommissioned officer in the army ranking above a staff sergeant and below a first sergeant

Platt-deutsch \ˈplat-ˌdȯich, ˈplät-\ *n* [G, fr. D *Platduitsch*, lit., Low German, fr. *plat* flat, low + *duitsch* German] : a colloquial language of northern Germany comprising several Low German dialects

plat-ter \ˈplat-ər\ *n* [ME *plater*, fr. AF, fr. MF *plat* plate] **1 a** : a large plate used esp. for serving meat **b** : PLATE 3c(2) **2** : a phonograph record — **plat-ter-ful** \-ˌfu̇l\ *n* — **on a platter** : without effort : very easily ⟨can have the presidency *on a platter* —Jonathan Daniels⟩

¹platy \ˈplāt-ē\ *adj* : resembling a plate; *also* : consisting of plates or flaky layers — used chiefly of soil or mineral formations

²platy \ˈplat-ē\ *n, pl* **platy** *or* **plat-ys** *or* **plat-ies** [NL *Platypoecilus*, genus name] : any of various small stocky Mexican topminnows that are popular for tropical aquariums, are noted for variability and brilliant color, and are classified as a single species (*Platypoecilus maculatus*)

platy-hel-minth \ˌplat-i-ˈhel-ˌmin(t)th\ *n* [deriv. of Gk *platys* broad, flat + *helminth-, helmis* helminth] : any of a phylum (Platyhelminthes) of soft-bodied usu. much flattened worms (as the planarians, flukes, and tapeworms) — **platy-hel-min-thic** \-hel-ˈmin(t)-thik, -ˈmint-ik\ *adj*

platy-pus \ˈplat-i-pəs, -ˌpu̇s\ *n, pl* **platy-pus-es** *also* **platy-pi** \-ˌpī, -ˌpē\ [NL, fr. Gk *platypous* flat-footed, fr. *platys* broad, flat + *pous* foot — more at PLACE, FOOT] : a small aquatic oviparous mammal (*Ornithorhynchus anatinus*) of southern and eastern Australia and Tasmania that has a fleshy bill resembling that of a duck, dense fur, webbed feet, and a broad flattened tail



platypus

¹plat-yr-rhine \ˈplat-i-ˌrīn\ *adj* **1** [NL *Platyrrhina*, group name, fr. Gk *platyrrhin-, platyrrhis* broad-nosed] : of, relating to, or being any of a division (Platyrrhina) of monkeys all of which are New World monkeys and are characterized by a broad nasal septum, usu. 36 teeth, and often a prehensile tail **2** [Gk *platyrrhin-, platyrrhis*, fr. *platys* + *rhin-, rhis* nose] : having a short broad nose — **plat-yr-rhi-ny** \-ˌrī-nē\ *n*

²platyrrhine *n* : a platyrrhine individual

plau-dit \ˈplȯd-ət\ *n* [L *plaudite* applaud, pl. imper. of *plaudere* to applaud] **1** : an act or round of applause **2** : enthusiastic approval — usu. used in pl. ⟨received the ~s of the critics⟩

plau-si-bil-i-ty \ˌplȯ-zə-ˈbil-ət-ē\ *n, pl* **-ties** **1** : the quality or state of being plausible **2** : something plausible

plau-si-ble \ˈplȯ-zə-bəl\ *adj* [L *plausibilis* worthy of applause, fr. *plausus*, pp. of *plaudere*] **1** : superficially fair, reasonable, or valuable but often specious ⟨a ~ pretext⟩ **2** : superficially pleasing or persuasive ⟨a swindler . . . , then a quack, then a smooth, ~ gentleman —R. W. Emerson⟩ **3** : appearing worthy of belief ⟨his argument was both powerful and ~⟩ — **plau-si-ble-ness** *n* — **plau-si-bly** \-blē\ *adv*

syn PLAUSIBLE, CREDIBLE, BELIEVABLE, COLORABLE, SPECIOUS *shared meaning element* : outwardly acceptable as true or genuine ***ant*** implausible

plau·sive \'plȯ-ziv, -siv\ *adj* [L *plausus*, pp.] **1** : manifesting praise or approval : APPLAUDING **2** *obs* : PLEASING **3** *archaic* : SPECIOUS

¹play \'plā\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *plega;* akin to OE *plegan* to play, MD *pleyen*] **1 a** : SWORDPLAY **b** *archaic* : GAME, SPORT **c** : the conduct, course, or action of a game **d** : a particular act or maneuver in a game: as (1) : the action during an attempt to advance the ball in football (2) : the action in which a player is put out in baseball **e** : the action in which cards are played after bidding in a card game **f** : the moving of a piece in a board game (as chess) **2 a** *obs* : SEXUAL INTERCOURSE **b** : DALLIANCE **3 a** : recreational activity; *esp* : the spontaneous activity of children **b** : absence of serious or harmful intent : JEST ⟨said it in ~⟩ **c** : the act or an instance of playing on words or speech sounds **d** : GAMING, GAMBLING **4 a** (1) : an act, way, or manner of proceeding : MANEUVER ⟨that was a ~ to get your fingerprints —Erle Stanley Gardner⟩ (2) : DEAL, VENTURE **b** (1) : OPERATION, ACTIVITY ⟨other motives surely come into ~ —M. R. Cohen⟩ (2) : brisk, fitful, or light movement ⟨the gem presented a dazzling ~ of colors⟩ (3) : free or unimpeded motion (as of a part of a machine); *also* : the length or measure of such motion (4) : scope or opportunity for action **5** : emphasis or publicity esp. in the news media ⟨wished the country received a better ~ in the American press —Hugh MacLennan⟩ **6** : a move or series of moves calculated to arouse friendly feelings — usu. used with *make* ⟨made a big ~ for the girl —Will Herman⟩ **7 a** : the stage representation of an action or story **b** : a dramatic composition : DRAMA ***syn*** see FUN — **in play** : in condition or position to be legitimately played — **out of play** : not in play

²play *vi* **1 a** : to engage in sport or recreation : FROLIC **b** : to have sexual relations; *esp* : to have promiscuous or illicit sexual relations — usu. used in the phrase *play around* **c** (1) : to move aimlessly about : TRIFLE (2) : to deal or behave frivolously or mockingly : JEST (3) : to deal in a light, speculative, or sportive manner (4) : to make use of double meaning or of the similarity of sound of two words for stylistic or humorous effect **2 a** : to take advantage ⟨~*ing* on fears⟩ **b** (1) : FLUTTER, FRISK (2) : to move or operate in a lively, irregular, or intermittent manner **c** : to move or function freely within prescribed limits **d** : to discharge, eject, or fire repeatedly or so as to make a stream ⟨hoses ~*ing* on a fire⟩ **3 a** (1) : to perform music ⟨~ on a violin⟩ (2) : to sound in performance ⟨the organ is ~*ing*⟩ (3) : to emit sounds ⟨his radio is ~*ing*⟩ (4) : to reproduce recorded sounds ⟨a record is ~*ing*⟩ **b** (1) : to act in a dramatic production (2) : SHOW, RUN ⟨what's ~*ing* at the theater⟩ **c** : to be suitable for dramatic performance **d** : to act with special consideration so as to gain favor, approval, or sympathy ⟨might ~ to popular prejudices to serve his political ends —V. L. Parrington⟩ — often used in the phrase *play up to* **4 a** : to engage or take part in a game **b** : to perform in a position in a specified manner ⟨the outfielders were ~*ing* deep⟩ **c** : to play a card or move a piece during one's turn in a game **d** : GAMBLE **e** (1) : to behave or conduct oneself in a specified way ⟨~ safe⟩ (2) : to feign a specified state or quality ⟨~ dead⟩ (3) : to take part in or assent to some activity : COOPERATE ⟨~ along with his scheme⟩ (4) : to act so as to prove advantageous to another — usu. used in the phrase *play into the hands of* ~ *vt* **1 a** (1) : to engage in or occupy oneself with ⟨~ baseball⟩ (2) : to engage in as if in a game (3) : to deal with, handle, or manage (4) : EXPLOIT, MANIPULATE **b** : to pretend to engage in ⟨children ~*ing* house⟩ **c** (1) : to perform or execute for amusement or to deceive or mock ⟨~ a trick⟩ (2) : WREAK ⟨~ havoc⟩ **d** : to give an indicated degree of value, importance, or emphasis to — usu. used with *up* or *down* **2 a** (1) : to put on a performance of (a play) (2) : to act in the character or part of (3) : to act or perform in ⟨~*ed* leading theaters⟩ **b** : to perform or act the part of ⟨~ the fool⟩ **3 a** (1) : to contend against in a game (2) : to use as a contestant in a game ⟨the coach did not ~ him⟩ (3) : to perform the duties associated with (a certain position) ⟨~*ed* quarterback⟩ (4) : to guard or move into position to defend against (an opponent) in a specified manner **b** (1) : to wager in a game : STAKE (2) : to make wagers on ⟨~ the races⟩ (3) : to operate on the basis of ⟨~ a hunch⟩ **c** : to put into action in a game; *esp* : to remove (a playing card) from one's hand and place usu. face up on a table in one's turn either as part of a scoring combination or as one's contribution to a trick **d** : to catch or pick up (a batted ball) : FIELD ⟨~*ed* the ball bare-handed⟩ **e** : to direct the course of (as a ball) : HIT ⟨~*ed* a wedge shot to the green⟩; *also* : to cause (a ball or puck) to rebound ⟨~*ed* the ball off the backboard⟩ **4 a** : to perform (music) on an instrument ⟨~ a waltz⟩ **b** : to perform music on ⟨~ the violin⟩ **c** : to perform music of (a certain composer) **d** (1) : to cause (as a radio or phonograph) to emit sounds (2) : to cause the recorded sounds of (as a record or a magnetic tape) to be reproduced **5 a** : WIELD, PLY **b** : to discharge, fire, or set off with continuous effect ⟨~*ed* the hose on the burning building⟩ **c** : to cause to move or operate lightly and irregularly or intermittently **d** : to keep (a hooked fish) in action — **play·abil·i·ty** \ˌplā-ə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* — **play·able** \'plā-ə-bəl\ *adj* — **play ball** : COOPERATE — **play both ends against the middle** : to set opposing interests against each other to one's own ultimate profit — **play by ear** : to deal with something without previous planning or instructions — **play politics** **1** : to act from political considerations only **2** : to seek to gain one's ends by scheming or intrigue — **play possum** : to pretend to be asleep or dead — **play second fiddle** : to take a subordinate position — **play the field** : to have dates with more than one member of the opposite sex — **play the game** : to act according to a code or set of standards — **play with oneself** : MASTURBATE

pla·ya \'plī-ə\ *n* [Sp, lit., beach] : the flat-floored bottom of an undrained desert basin that becomes at times a shallow lake

play·act \'plā-ˌakt\ *vb* [back-formation fr. *playacting*] *vi* **1 a** : to take part in theatrical performances esp. as a professional **b** : to make believe **2** : to engage in theatrical or insincere behavior ~ *vt* : to act out — **play·act·ing** *n*

play–action pass *n* : a pass play in football in which the quarterback fakes a handoff before passing the ball

play·back \'plā-ˌbak\ *n* **1** : the action of reproducing recorded sound or pictures often immediately after recording **2** : a tape or disc sound or picture reproducing device

play back \(')plā-'bak\ *vt* : to perform a playback of (a usu. recently recorded disc or tape)

play·bill \'plā-ˌbil\ *n* : a bill advertising a play and usu. announcing the cast

Playbill *trademark* — used for a theater program

play·book \-ˌbůk\ *n* **1** : one or more plays in book form **2** : a notebook containing diagramed football plays

play·boy \-ˌbȯi\ *n* : a man who lives a life devoted chiefly to the pursuit of pleasure

play–by–play \ˌplā-bə-ˌplā, -ˌbī-\ *adj* **1** : being a running commentary on a sports event **2** : relating each event as it occurs

played out *adj* **1** : worn out or used up **2** : tired out : SPENT

play·er \'plā-ər\ *n* : one that plays: as **a** : a person who plays a game **b** : MUSICIAN **c** : ACTOR **d** : a mechanical device for automatically playing a musical instrument (as a piano)

player piano *n* : a piano containing a mechanical piano player

play·fel·low \'plā-ˌfel-(ˌ)ō, -ə(-w)\ *n* : PLAYMATE

play·field \-ˌfēld\ *n* : a playground designed for outdoor athletics

play·ful \'plā-fəl\ *adj* **1** : full of play : FROLICSOME, SPORTIVE ⟨a ~ kitten⟩ **2** : HUMOROUS, JOCULAR ⟨the ~ tone of her voice —Ellen Glasgow⟩ — **play·ful·ly** \-fə-lē\ *adv* — **play·ful·ness** *n*

play·girl \-ˌgər(-ə)l\ *n* : a female playboy

play·go·er \-ˌgō(-ə)r\ *n* : one who frequently attends plays

play·ground \-ˌgraůnd\ *n* **1** : a piece of land used for and usu. equipped with facilities for recreation esp. by children **2** : the area of a specific activity ⟨that town was a gambling ~⟩

play·house \-ˌhaůs\ *n* **1** : THEATER **2** : a small house for children to play in

playing card *n* : one of a set of 24 to 78 thin rectangular pieces of paperboard or plastic marked on one side to show its rank and suit and used in playing any of numerous games

playing field *n* : a field for various games; *esp* : the part of a field officially marked off for play

play·land \'plā-ˌland\ *n* : PLAYGROUND

play·let \-lət\ *n* : a short play

play·mak·er \-ˌmā-kər\ *n* : a player who leads the offense for a team (as in basketball or hockey)

play·mate \-ˌmāt\ *n* : a companion in play

play–off \'plā-ˌȯf\ *n* **1** : a final contest or series of contests to determine the winner between contestants or teams that have tied **2** : a series of contests played after the end of the regular season to determine a championship

play off \(')plā-'ȯf\ *vt* **1** : to complete the playing of (an interrupted contest) **2** : to break (a tie) by a play-off **3** : to set in opposition for one's own gain

play out *vt* **1 a** : to perform to the end ⟨*play out* a role⟩ **b** : to use up : FINISH **2** : UNREEL, UNFOLD ⟨*played out* a length of line — Gordon Webber⟩ ~ *vi* : to become spent or exhausted

play·pen \'plā-ˌpen\ *n* : a portable usu. collapsible enclosure in which a baby or young child may play

play·room \-ˌrüm, -ˌrům\ *n* : RUMPUS ROOM

play·suit \-ˌsüt\ *n* : a sports and play outfit for women and children that consists usu. of a blouse and shorts

play therapy *n* : psychotherapy in which a child is encouraged to reveal his feelings and conflicts in play rather than by verbalization

play·thing \'plā-ˌthiŋ\ *n* : TOY

play·time \-ˌtīm\ *n* : a time for play or diversion

play·wear \'plā-ˌwa(ə)r, -ˌwe(ə)r\ *n* : informal clothing worn for leisure activities

play·wright \'plā-ˌrīt\ *n* [¹*play* + obs. *wright* (maker), fr. ME, fr. OE *wryhta* — more at WRIGHT] : a person who writes plays

pla·za \'plaz-ə, 'pläz-\ *n* [Sp, fr. L *platea* broad street — more at PLACE] **1** : a public square in a city or town **2** : an open-air area used for the parking or servicing of motor vehicles **3** : the section of a toll road at which the tollbooths are located ⟨a toll ~⟩ **4** : an area adjacent to an expressway which has service facilities (as a restaurant, service station, and rest rooms) **5** : SHOPPING CENTER

plea \'plē\ *n* [ME *plaid, plai,* fr. OF *plait, plaid,* fr. ML *placitum,* fr. L decision, decree, fr. neut. of *placitus,* pp. of *placēre* to please, be decided — more at PLEASE] **1** : a legal suit or action **2** : an allegation made by a party in support of his cause: as **a** : an allegation of fact — compare DEMURRER **b** (1) : a defendant's answer to a plaintiff's declaration in common-law practice (2) : an accused person's answer to a charge or indictment in criminal practice **c** : a plea of guilty to an indictment **3** : something offered by way of excuse or justification ⟨she left early with the ~ of a headache⟩ **4** : an earnest entreaty : APPEAL ⟨their ~ for understanding must be answered⟩ ***syn*** see APOLOGY

plea bargaining *n* : pleading guilty to a lesser charge in order to avoid standing trial for a more serious one

pleach \'plēch, 'plāch\ *vt* [ME *plechen,* fr. ONF *plechier,* fr. L *plexus,* pp. of *plectere* to braid — more at PLY] : INTERLACE, PLAIT

plead \'plēd\ *vb* **plead·ed** \'plēd-əd\ *or* **pled** \'pled\; **plead·ing** [ME *plaiden* to institute a lawsuit, fr. OF *plaidier,* fr. *plaid* plea] *vi* **1** : to argue a case or cause in a court of law **2 a** : to make an allegation in an action or other legal proceeding; *esp* : to answer the previous pleading of the other party by denying facts therein stated or by alleging new facts **b** : to conduct pleadings **3** : to make a plea of a specified nature ⟨~ not guilty⟩ **4 a** : to argue for or against a claim **b** : to entreat or appeal earnestly : IMPLORE ~ *vt* **1** : to maintain (as a case or cause) in a court of law or other tribunal **2** : to allege in or by way of a legal plea **3** : to offer as a plea usu. in defense, apology, or excuse — **plead·able** \'plēd-ə-bəl\ *adj* — **plead·er** *n* — **plead·ing·ly** \'plēd-iŋ-lē\ *adv*

plead·ing *n* **1** : advocacy of a cause in a court of law **2 a** : one of the formal usu. written allegations and counter allegations made alternately by the parties in a legal action or proceeding **b** : the

action or process performed by the parties in presenting such formal allegations until a single point at issue is produced **c** : the introduction of one of these allegations and esp. the first one **d** : the body of rules according to which these allegations are framed **3** : the act or an instance of making a plea **4** : a sincere entreaty

pleas·ance \'plez-ᵊn(t)s\ *n* **1** : a feeling of pleasure : DELIGHT **2** : a pleasant rest or recreation place usu. attached to a mansion

pleas·ant \'plez-ᵊnt\ *adj* [ME *plesaunt*, fr. MF *plaisant*, fr. prp. of *plaisir*] **1** : having qualities that tend to give pleasure : AGREEABLE ⟨a ~ day⟩ **2** : having or characterized by pleasing manners, behavior, or appearance — **pleas·ant·ly** *adv* — **pleas·ant·ness** *n*
syn PLEASANT, PLEASING, AGREEABLE, GRATEFUL, GRATIFYING, WELCOME *shared meaning element* : highly acceptable to the mind or senses ***ant*** unpleasant, distasteful

pleas·ant·ry \-ᵊn-trē\ *n, pl* **-ries** **1** : an agreeable playfulness in conversation : BANTER **2** : a humorous act or remark : JEST

[1]please \'plēz\ *vb* **pleased; pleas·ing** [ME *plesen*, fr. MF *plaisir*, fr. L *placēre;* akin to L *placare* to placate, OE *flōh* flat stone, Gk *plak-, plax* flat surface] *vi* **1** : to afford or give pleasure or satisfaction **2** : LIKE, WISH ⟨do as you ~⟩ **3** *archaic* : to have the kindness ⟨will you ~ to enter the carriage —Charles Dickens⟩ ~ *vt* **1** : to give pleasure to : GRATIFY **2** : to be the will or pleasure of ⟨may it ~ your Majesty⟩

[2]please *adv* **1** — used as a function word to express politeness or emphasis in a request ⟨ ~ come in⟩ **2** — used as a function word to express polite affirmation ⟨have some tea? *Please*⟩

pleas·ing \'plē-ziŋ\ *adj* : giving pleasure : AGREEABLE ⟨he found the sun's warmth ~⟩ ***syn*** see PLEASANT ***ant*** displeasing, repellent — **pleas·ing·ly** \-ziŋ-lē\ *adv* — **pleas·ing·ness** *n*

plea·sur·able \'plezh-(ə-)rə-bəl, 'plāzh-\ *adj* : PLEASANT, GRATIFYING — **plea·sur·abil·i·ty** \ˌplezh-(ə-)rə-'bil-ət-ē, ˌplāzh-\ *n* — **plea·sur·able·ness** \'plezh-(ə-)rə-bəl-nəs, 'plāzh-\ *n* — **plea·sur·ably** \-blē\ *adv*

[1]plea·sure \'plezh-ər, 'plāzh-\ *n* [ME *plesure*, alter. of *plesir*, fr. MF *plaisir*, fr. *plaisir* to please] **1** : DESIRE, INCLINATION ⟨wait upon his ~ —Shak.⟩ **2** : a state of gratification **3 a** : sensual gratification **b** : frivolous amusement **4** : a source of delight or joy

[2]pleasure *vb* **plea·sured; plea·sur·ing** \-(ə-)riŋ\ *vi* **1** : to take pleasure : DELIGHT **2** : to seek pleasure ~ *vt* **1** : to give pleasure to : GRATIFY **2** : to be the will or pleasure of ⟨may it ~ your Majesty⟩

pleasure dome *n* : a place of pleasurable entertainment or recreation : RESORT

plea·sure·less \'plezh-ər-ləs, 'plāzh-\ *adj* : giving no pleasure

pleasure principle *n* : a tendency for individual behavior to be directed toward immediate satisfaction of instinctual drives and immediate relief from pain or discomfort

[1]pleat \'plēt\ *vt* [ME *pleten*, fr. *pleit, plete* plait] **1** : FOLD; *esp* : to arrange in pleats ⟨~ a skirt⟩ **2** : PLAIT 2 — **pleat·er** *n*

[2]pleat *n* [ME *plete*] : a fold in cloth made by doubling material over on itself; *also* : something resembling such a fold — **pleat·ed** *adj* — **pleat·less** \-ləs\ *adj*

pleb \'pleb\ *n* : PLEBEIAN

plebe \'plēb\ *n* [obs. *plebe* (common people), fr. F *plèbe*, fr. L *plebs*] : a freshman at a military or naval academy

[1]ple·be·ian \pli-'bē-(y)ən\ *n* [L *plebeius* of the common people, fr. *plebs* common people; akin to Gk *plēthos* throng, *plēthein* to be full — more at FULL] **1** : a member of the Roman plebs **2** : one of the common people — **ple·be·ian·ism** \-ˌiz-əm\ *n*

[2]plebeian *adj* **1** : of or relating to plebeians **2** : crude or coarse in manner or style : COMMON — **ple·be·ian·ly** *adv*

pleb·i·scite \'pleb-ə-ˌsīt, -sət *also* -ˌsēt\ *n* [L *plebis scitum* law voted by the comitia, lit., decree of the common people] : a vote by which the people of an entire country or district express an opinion for or against a proposal esp. on a choice of government or ruler — **ple·bi·sci·ta·ry** \ple-'bis-ə-ˌter-ē, pli-; ˌpleb-ə-'sīt-ə-rē\ *adj*

plebs \'plebz, 'pleps\ *n, pl* **ple·bes** \'plē-(ˌ)bēz, 'plā-ˌbās\ [L] **1** : the common people of ancient Rome **2** : the general populace

ple·cop·ter·an \pli-'käp-tə-rən\ *n* [NL *Plecoptera*, group name, fr. Gk *plekein* to braid + *pteron* wing — more at FEATHER] : STONE FLY — **plecopteran** *adj*

plec·to·gnath \'plek-ˌtäg-ˌnath, -tə(g)-\ *n* [deriv. of Gk *plektos* twisted (fr. *plekein* to braid) + *gnathos* jaw — more at PLY, GNATH-] : any of an order (Plectognathi) of bony fishes (as a filefish, a puffer, or a triggerfish) that usu. have the body covered with bony plates, spines, or ossicles — **plectognath** *adj*

plec·trum \'plek-trəm\ *n, pl* **plec·tra** \-trə\ *or* **plectrums** [L, fr. Gk *plēktron*, fr. *plēssein* to strike — more at PLAINT] : [5]PICK 2c

[1]pledge \'plej\ *n* [ME, security, fr. MF *plege*, fr. LL *plebium*, fr. (assumed) LL *plebere* to pledge] **1 a** : a bailment of a chattel as security for a debt or other obligation without involving transfer of title **b** : the chattel so delivered **c** : the contract incidental to such a bailment **2 a** : the state of being held as a security or guaranty **b** : something given as security for the performance of an act **3** : a token, sign, or earnest of something else **4** : a gage of battle **5** : TOAST 3 **6 a** : a binding promise or agreement to do or forbear **b** (1) : a promise to join a fraternity or secret society (2) : a person who has so promised

[2]pledge *vt* **pledged; pledg·ing** **1** : to make a pledge of; *specif* : PAWN **2** : to drink the health of **3** : to bind by a pledge **4** : to promise the performance of by a pledge — **pledg·er** \'plej-ər\ *n* — **pled·gor** \'plej-ər, ple-'jȯ(ə)r\ *n*

pledg·ee \ple-'jē\ *n* : one to whom a pledge is given

pled·get \'plej-ət\ *n* [origin unknown] : a compress or pad used to apply medication to or absorb discharges (as from a wound)

-ple·gia \'plē-j(ē-)ə\ *n comb form* [NL, fr. Gk *-plēgia*, fr. *plēssein* to strike — more at PLAINT] : paralysis ⟨di*plegia*⟩

ple·iad \'plē-əd, -ˌad, *chiefly Brit* 'plī-\ *n* [F *Pléiade*, group of 7 16th cent. F poets, fr. MF, group of 7 tragic poets of ancient Alexandria, fr. Gk *Pleiad-, Pleias*, fr. sing. of *Pleiades*] : a group of usu. seven illustrious or brilliant persons or things

Pleiad *n* : any of the Pleiades

Ple·ia·des \'plē-ə-ˌdēz, *chiefly Brit* 'plī-\ *n pl* [L, fr. Gk] **1** : the seven daughters of Atlas turned according to Greek mythology into a group of stars **2** : a conspicuous loose cluster of stars in the constellation Taurus that includes six stars visible to the average eye

plein air \plā-'na(ə)r, ple-, -'ne(ə)r\ *adj* [F, open air] **1** : of or relating to painting in outdoor daylight **2** : of or relating to a branch of impressionism that attempts to represent outdoor light and air — **plein·air·ism** \-ˌiz-əm\ *n* — **plein·air·ist** \-əst\ *n*

pleio- *or* **pleo-** *or* **plio-** *comb form* [Gk *pleiōn, pleōn* — more at PLUS] : more ⟨*pleio*tropic⟩ ⟨*pleo*morphism⟩ ⟨*Plio*cene⟩

pleio·taxy \'plī-ə-ˌtak-sē\ *n* [ISV] : development of more than the normal number of parts (as bracts in a flower or inflorescence)

pleio·tro·pic \ˌplī-ə-'trōp-ik, -'träp-\ *adj* : producing more than one genic effect; *specif* : having multiple phenotypic expressions ⟨a ~ gene⟩ — **pleio·tro·pi·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **plei·ot·ro·py** \plī-'ä-trə-pē\ *n*

Pleis·to·cene \'plī-stə-ˌsēn\ *adj* [Gk *pleistos* most + ISV *-cene;* akin to Gk *pleiōn* more] : of, relating to, or being the earlier epoch of the Quaternary or the corresponding system of rocks — **Pleistocene** *n*

ple·na·ry \'plē-nə-rē, 'plen-ə-\ *adj* [LL *plenarius*, fr. L *plenus* full — more at FULL] **1** : complete in every respect : ABSOLUTE, UNQUALIFIED ⟨~ power⟩ **2** : fully attended or constituted by all entitled to be present ⟨a ~ session⟩ ***syn*** see FULL ***ant*** limited

plenary indulgence *n* : a remission of the entire temporal punishment for sin

ple·nip·o·tent \pli-'nip-ət-ənt\ *adj* [LL *plenipotent-, plenipotens*, fr. L *plenus* + *potent-, potens* powerful — more at POTENT] : PLENIPOTENTIARY

[1]pleni·po·ten·tia·ry \ˌplen-ə-pə-'tench-(ə-)rē, -'ten-chē-ˌer-ē\ *adj* [ML *plenipotentiarius*, adj. & n., fr. (assumed) *plenipotentia*, investment with full power, fr. LL *plenipotent-, plenipotens*] **1** : invested with full power **2** : of or relating to a plenipotentiary

[2]plenipotentiary *n, pl* **-ries** : a person and esp. a diplomatic agent invested with full power to transact business

plen·ish \'plen-ish\ *vt* [ME (Sc) *plenyssen* to fill up, fr. MF *pleniss-*, stem of *plenir*, fr. *plen* full, fr. L *plenus*] *chiefly Brit* : EQUIP

plen·i·tude \'plen-ə-ˌt(y)üd\ *n* [ME *plenitude*, fr. MF or L; MF, fr. L *plenitudo*, fr. *plenus* full] **1** : the quality or state of being full : COMPLETENESS **2** : a great sufficiency : ABUNDANCE

plen·i·tu·di·nous \ˌplen-ə-'t(y)üd-nəs, -ᵊn-əs\ *adj* [L *plenitudin-, plenitudo* plenitude] **1** : characterized by plenitude **2** : PORTLY

plen·te·ous \'plent-ē-əs\ *adj* [ME *plentevous, plenteous*, fr. OF *plentiveus*, fr. *plentif* abundant, fr. *plenté* plenty] **1** : FRUITFUL, PRODUCTIVE ⟨a ~ harvest —J. G. Frazer⟩ — usu. used with *in* or *of* ⟨the seasons had been ~ in corn —George Eliot⟩ **2** : constituting or existing in plenty ⟨~ grace with thee is found —Charles Wesley⟩ — **plen·te·ous·ly** *adv* — **plen·te·ous·ness** *n*

plen·ti·ful \'plent-i-fəl\ *adj* **1** : containing or yielding plenty ⟨a ~ land⟩ **2** : characterized by, constituting, or existing in plenty — **plen·ti·ful·ly** \-fə-lē\ *adv* — **plen·ti·ful·ness** *n*
syn PLENTIFUL, AMPLE, ABUNDANT, COPIOUS *shared meaning element* : more than sufficient without being excessive ***ant*** scanty, scant

plen·ti·tude \'plen(t)-ə-ˌt(y)üd\ *n* [by alter. (influenced by *plenty*)] : PLENITUDE

[1]plen·ty \'plent-ē\ *n* [ME *plente*, fr. OF *plenté*, fr. LL *plenitat-, plenitas*, fr. L, fullness, fr. *plenus* full — more at FULL] **1 a** : a full or more than adequate amount or supply ⟨had ~ of time to finish the job⟩ **b** : a large number or amount ⟨he's in ~ of trouble⟩ **2** : the quality or state of being copious : PLENTIFULNESS

[2]plenty *adj* **1** : plentiful in amount, number, or supply ⟨if reasons were as ~ as blackberries —Shak.⟩ **2** : AMPLE ⟨~ work to be done —*Time*⟩

[3]plenty *adv* : to a considerable or extreme degree : ABUNDANTLY ⟨the nights were ~ cold —F. B. Gipson⟩

ple·num \'plen-əm, 'plēn-əm\ *n, pl* **-nums** *or* **-na** \-ə\ [NL, fr. L, neut. of *plenus*] **1 a** : a space or all space every part of which is full of matter **b** (1) : a condition in which the pressure of the air in an enclosed space is greater than that of the outside atmosphere (2) : an enclosed space in which such a condition exists **2** : a general assembly of all members esp. of a legislative body **3** : the quality or state of being full

ple·och·ro·ism \plē-'äk-rə-ˌwiz-əm\ *n* [ISV *pleochroic* (fr. *pleio-* + Gk *chrōs* skin, color) + *-ism* — more at GRIT] : the property of a crystal of showing different colors when viewed by light that vibrates parallel to different axes — **pleo·chro·ic** \ˌplē-ə-'krō-ik\ *adj*

pleo·mor·phism \ˌplē-ə-'mȯr-ˌfiz-əm\ *n* [ISV] **1** : the occurrence of more than one distinct form in the life cycle of a plant **2** : the quality or state of having or assuming various forms : POLYMORPHISM — **pleo·mor·phic** \-fik\ *adj*

ple·o·nasm \'plē-ə-ˌnaz-əm\ *n* [LL *pleonasmus*, fr. Gk *pleonasmos*, fr. *pleonazein* to be excessive, fr. *pleiōn, pleōn* more — more at PLUS] **1** : the use of more words than those necessary to denote mere sense (as in *the man he said*) : REDUNDANCY **2** : an instance or example of pleonasm — **ple·o·nas·tic** \ˌplē-ə-'nas-tik\ *adj* — **ple·o·nas·ti·cal·ly** \-ti-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

ple·oph·a·gous \plē-'äf-ə-gəs\ *adj* **1** : eating a variety of foods **2** *of a parasite* : not restricted to a single kind of host

pleo·pod \'plē-ə-ˌpäd\ *n* [Gk *plein* to sail + E *-o-* + *-pod;* fr. its use in swimming — more at FLOW] : an abdominal limb of a crustacean

ple·ro·cer·coid \ˌplir-ō-'sər-ˌkȯid\ *n* [Gk *plērēs* full + *kerkos* tail — more at FULL] : the solid elongate infective larva of some tapeworms usu. occurring in the muscles of fishes

ple·sio·saur \'plē-sē-ə-ˌsȯ(ə)r, -zē-\ *n* [deriv. of Gk *plēsios* close (fr. *pelas* near) + *sauros* lizard — more at FELT] : any of a suborder (Plesiosauria) of Mesozoic marine reptiles with dorsoventrally flattened bodies and limbs modified into paddles

pleth·o·ra \'pleth-ə-rə\ *n* [ML, fr. Gk *plēthōra*, lit., fullness, fr. *plēthein* to be full — more at FULL] **1 :** a bodily condition characterized by an excess of blood and marked by turgescence and a florid complexion **2 :** SUPERFLUITY, EXCESS ⟨a ~ of regulations⟩ — **ple·tho·ric** \plə-'thȯr-ik, ple-, -'thär-; 'pleth-ə-rik\ *adj*

ple·thys·mo·gram \ple-'thiz-mə-ˌgram, plə-\ *n* **:** a tracing made by a plethysmograph

ple·thys·mo·graph \-ˌgraf\ *n* [ISV, fr. Gk *plēthysmos* increase, fr. *plēthynein* to increase, fr. *plēthys* mass, quantity, fr. *plēthein* to be full] **:** an instrument for determining and registering variations in the size of an organ or limb and in the amount of blood present or passing through it — **ple·thys·mo·graph·ic** \-ˌthiz-mə-'graf-ik\ *adj* — **ple·thys·mo·graph·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **pleth·ys·mog·ra·phy** \ˌpleth-iz-'mäg-rə-fē\ *n*

pleur- *or* **pleuro-** *comb form* [NL, fr. *pleura*] **1 a :** pleura ⟨*pleuro*pneumonia⟩ **b :** pleura and ⟨*pleuro*peritoneum⟩ **2** [Gk, fr. *pleura*]: side : lateral ⟨*pleuro*dont⟩

pleu·ra \'plůr-ə\ *n, pl* **pleu·rae** \'plů(ə)r-ˌē, -ˌī\ *or* **pleuras** [Gk, rib, side] **:** the delicate serous membrane that lines each half of the thorax of mammals and is folded back over the surface of the lung of the same side — **pleu·ral** \'plůr-əl\ *adj*

pleu·ri·sy \'plůr-ə-sē\ *n* [ME *pluresie*, fr. MF *pleuresie*, fr. LL *pleurisis*, alter. of L *pleuritis*, fr. Gk, fr. *pleura* side] **:** inflammation of the pleura usu. with fever, painful and difficult respiration, cough, and exudation into the pleural cavity — **pleu·rit·ic** \plü-'rit-ik\ *adj*

¹pleur·odont \'plůr-ə-ˌdänt\ *n* **:** a lizard having pleurodont teeth

²pleurodont *adj* [Gk *pleura* side + ISV *-odont*] **1 :** consolidated with the inner surface of the alveolar ridge without sockets ⟨~ teeth⟩ **2 :** having pleurodont teeth

pleu·ro·peri·to·ne·um \'plůr-ō-ˌper-ət-ᵊn-'ē-əm\ *n* [NL] **:** the membrane lining the body cavity and covering the surface of the enclosed viscera of vertebrates that have no diaphragm

pleu·ro·pneu·mo·nia \-n(y)ů-'mō-nyə\ *n* [NL] **1 :** combined inflammation of the pleura and lungs **2 :** an acute febrile and often fatal respiratory disorder of cattle and related animals caused by microorganisms (family Mycoplasmataceae) of uncertain affinities

pleuropneumonia-like organism *n* **:** MYCOPLASMA

pleus·ton \'plü-stən, -ˌstän\ *n* [(assumed) Gk *pleustos* (verbal of *plein* to sail, float) + ISV *-on* (as in *plankton*)] **:** macroscopic floating organisms forming mats on or near the surface of a body of fresh water — **pleus·ton·ic** \plü-'stän-ik\ *adj*

plexi·form \'plek-sə-ˌfȯrm\ *adj* [NL *plexus* + E *-iform*] **:** of, relating to, or having the form or characteristics of a plexus

Plexi·glas \-si-ˌglas\ *trademark* — used for acrylic plastic sheets and molding powders

plex·us \'plek-səs\ *n* [NL, fr. L, braid, network, fr. *plexus*, pp. of *plectere* to braid — more at PLY] **1 :** a network of anastomosing or interlacing blood vessels or nerves **2 :** an interwoven combination of parts or elements in a structure or system

plf *abbr* plaintiff

pli·able \'plī-ə-bəl\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF, fr. *plier* to bend, fold — more at PLY] **1 a :** supple enough to bend freely or repeatedly without breaking **b :** yielding readily to others : COMPLAISANT **2 :** adjustable to varying conditions : ADAPTABLE ***syn*** see PLASTIC ***ant*** obstinate — **pli·abil·i·ty** \ˌplī-ə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* — **pli·able·ness** \'plī-ə-bəl-nəs\ *n* — **pli·ably** \-blē\ *adv*

pli·an·cy \'plī-ən-sē\ *n* **:** the quality or state of being pliant

pli·ant \'plī-ənt\ *adj* **1 :** PLIABLE 1a **2 :** easily influenced : YIELDING **3 :** suitable for varied uses ***syn*** see PLASTIC — **pli·ant·ly** *adv* — **pli·ant·ness** *n*

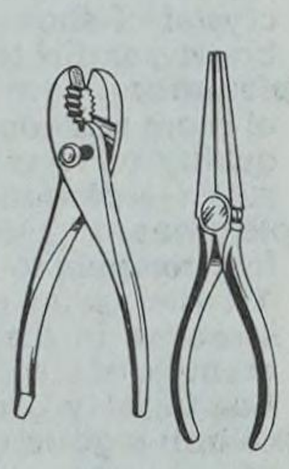
pli·ca \'plī-kə\ *n, pl* **pli·cae** \-ˌkē, -ˌsē\ [ML, fr. L *plicare* to fold — more at PLY] **:** a fold or folded part; *esp* **:** a groove or fold of skin — **pli·cal** \-kəl\ *adj*

pli·cate \'plī-ˌkāt\ *adj* [L *plicatus*, pp. of *plicare*] **1 :** folded lengthwise like a fan ⟨a ~ leaf⟩ **2 :** having the surface thrown up into or marked with parallel ridges ⟨~ wing cases⟩ — **pli·cate·ly** *adv* — **pli·cate·ness** *n*

pli·ca·tion \plī-'kā-shən\ *n* **1 :** the act or process of folding : the state of being folded **2 :** FOLD

plié \plē-'ā\ *n* [F, fr. pp. of *plier* to bend] **:** a bending of the knees by a ballet dancer with the back held straight

pli·ers \'plī(-ə)rz\ *n pl but sing or pl in constr* **:** a small pincers with long jaws for holding small objects or for bending and cutting wire



pliers

¹plight \'plīt\ *vt* [ME *plighten*, fr. OE *plihtan* to endanger, fr. *pliht* danger; akin to OHG *pflegan* to take care of] **:** to put or give in pledge : ENGAGE ⟨~ one's troth⟩ — **plight·er** *n*

²plight *n* **:** a solemnly given pledge : ENGAGEMENT

³plight *n* [ME *plit*, fr. AF, fr. (assumed) VL *plictus* fold — more at PLAIT] **:** CONDITION, STATE; *esp* **:** bad state or condition

plim·soll \'plim(p)-səl, 'plim-ˌsȯl\ *n* [prob. fr. the supposed resemblance of the upper edge of the mudguard to the Plimsoll mark on a ship] *Brit* **:** a shoe with rubber sole, mudguard, and canvas top

Plimsoll mark *n* [Samuel *Plimsoll*] **:** a load line or a set of load-line markings on an oceangoing cargo ship — called also *Plimsoll line*

¹plink \'pliŋk\ *vb* [imit.] *vi* **1 :** to make a tinkling sound **2 :** to shoot at random targets ~ *vt* **1 :** to cause to make a tinkling sound **2 :** to shoot at esp. in a casual manner — **plink·er** *n*

²plink *n* **:** a tinkling metallic sound

plinth \'plin(t)th\ *n* [L *plinthus*, fr. Gk *plinthos*] **1 a :** the lowest member of a base : SUBBASE **b :** a block upon which the moldings of an architrave or trim are stopped at the bottom **2 :** a usu. square block serving as a base; *broadly* **:** any of various bases or lower parts — see BASE illustration **3 :** a course of stones forming a continuous foundation or base course

plio- — see PLEIO-

Plio·cene \'plī-ə-ˌsēn\ *adj* **:** of, relating to, or being the latest epoch of the Tertiary or the corresponding system of rocks — **Pliocene** *n*

Plio·film \'plī-ə-ˌfilm\ *trademark* — used for a glossy membrane made of rubber hydrochloride and used chiefly for water-resistant and packaging materials

plique-à-jour \ˌplē-(ˌ)kä-'zhů(ə)r\ *n* [F, lit., braid letting in daylight] **:** a style of enameling in which usu. transparent enamels are fused into the openings of a metal filigree to produce an effect suggestive of stained glass

plis·kie *or* **plis·ky** \'plis-kē\ *n, pl* **pliskies** [origin unknown] *chiefly Scot* **:** PRACTICAL JOKE, TRICK

plis·sé *or* **plis·se** \pli-'sā\ *n* [F *plissé*, fr. pp. of *plisser* to pleat, fr. MF, fr. *pli* fold, fr. *plier* to fold — more at PLY] **1 :** a textile finish of permanently puckered designs formed by treating with a caustic soda solution **2 :** a fabric usu. of cotton, rayon, or nylon with a plissé finish

PLO *abbr* Palestine Liberation Organization

plod \'pläd\ *vb* **plod·ded; plod·ding** [imit.] *vi* **1 a :** to walk heavily or slowly : TRUDGE **b :** to proceed slowly or tediously ⟨the movie just ~s along⟩ **2 :** to work laboriously and monotonously : DRUDGE ⟨*plodding* through stacks of unanswered mail⟩ ~ *vt* **:** to tread slowly or heavily along or over — **plod** *n* — **plod·der** *n* — **plod·ding·ly** \'päd-iŋ-lē\ *adv*

-ploid \ˌplȯid\ *adj comb form* [ISV, fr. *diploid & haploid*] **:** having or being a chromosome number that bears (such) a relationship to or is (so many) times the basic chromosome number of a given group ⟨poly*ploid*⟩

ploi·dy \'plȯid-ē\ *n* [fr. such words as *diploidy, hexaploidy*] **:** degree of repetition of the basic number of chromosomes

PL/1 \(ˌ)pē-ˌel-'wən\ *n* [*p*rogramming *l*anguage (version) *1*] **:** a general purpose language for programming a computer

¹plonk \'pläŋk, 'plȯŋk\ *var of* PLUNK

²plonk *n* [short for earlier *plink-plonk*, perh. modif. of F *vin blanc* white wine] *chiefly Brit* **:** cheap or inferior wine

plop \'präp\ *vb* **plopped; plop·ping** [imit.] *vi* **1 :** to fall, drop, or move suddenly with a sound like that of something dropping into water **2 :** to allow the body to drop heavily ⟨*plopped* into a chair⟩ ~ *vt* **:** to set, drop, or throw heavily — **plop** *n*

plo·sion \'plō-zhən\ *n* **:** EXPLOSION 2 — **plo·sive** \'plō-siv, -ziv\ *adj or n*

¹plot \'plät\ *n* [ME, fr. OE] **1 a :** a small area of planted ground ⟨a vegetable ~⟩ **b :** a small piece of land in a cemetery **c :** a measured piece of land : LOT **2 :** GROUND PLAN, PLAT **3 :** the plan or main story of a literary work **4 :** a secret plan for accomplishing a usu. evil or unlawful end : INTRIGUE **5 :** a graphic representation (as a chart) ***syn*** see PLAN — **plot·less** \-ləs\ *adj* — **plot·less·ness** *n*

²plot *vb* **plot·ted; plot·ting** *vt* **1 a :** to make a plot, map, or plan of **b :** to mark or note on or as if on a map or chart **2 :** to lay out in plots **3 a :** to locate (a point) by means of coordinates **b :** to locate (a curve) by plotted points **c :** to represent (an equation) by means of a curve so constructed **4 :** to plan or contrive esp. secretly **5 :** to invent or devise the plot of (a literary work) ~ *vi* **1 :** to form a plot : SCHEME **2 :** to be located by means of coordinates ⟨the data ~ at a single point⟩ — **plot·ter** *n*

Plo·ti·nism \plō-'tī-ˌniz-əm, 'plōt-ᵊn-ˌiz-əm\ *n* **:** the Neoplatonic ideas of the philosopher Plotinus — **Plo·ti·nist** \-'tī-nəst, -ᵊn-əst\ *n*

plot·tage \'plät-ij\ *n* **:** the area included in a plot of land

plot·ty \'plät-ē\ *adj* **plot·ti·er; -est :** marked by intricacy of plot or intrigue ⟨as long as a modern novel and ever so much more ~ — *Harper's*⟩

plo·ver \'pləv-ər, 'plō-vər\ *n, pl* **plover** *or* **plovers** [ME, fr. MF, fr. (assumed) VL *pluviarius*, fr. L *pluvia* rain — more at PLUVIAL] **1 :** any of numerous shore-inhabiting birds (family Charadriidae) that differ from the sandpipers in having a short hard-tipped bill and usu. a stouter more compact build **2 :** any of various birds (as a turnstone or sandpiper) related to the plovers

¹plow *or* **plough** \'plaů\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *plōh* hide of land; akin to OHG *pfluog* plow] **1 :** an implement used to cut, lift, and turn over soil esp. in preparing a seedbed **2 :** any of various devices operating like a plow

²plow *or* **plough** *vt* **1 a :** to turn, break up, or work with a plow **b :** to make (as a furrow) with a plow **2 :** to cut into, open, or make furrows or ridges in with or as if with a plow — often used with *up* **3 :** to cleave the surface of or move through (water) ⟨whales ~*ing* the ocean⟩ ~ *vi* **1 a :** to use a plow **b :** to bear or admit of plowing **2 a :** to move in a way resembling that of a plow cutting into or going through the soil ⟨the car ~*ed* into a group of spectators⟩ **b :** to proceed steadily and laboriously : PLOD ⟨had to ~ through a summer reading list⟩ — **plow·able** \-ə-bəl\ *adj* — **plow·er** \'plaů(-ə)r\ *n*

plow back *vt* **:** to retain (profits) for reinvestment in a business

plow·boy \'plaů-ˌbȯi\ *n* **1 :** a boy who leads the team drawing a plow **2 :** a country youth

plow·head \-ˌhed\ *n* **:** the clevis of a plow

plow·man \-mən, -ˌman\ *n* **1 :** a man who guides a plow **2 :** a farm laborer

plow·share \'plaů-ˌshe(ə)r, -ˌsha(ə)r\ *n* [ME *ploughshare*, fr. *plough* plow + *schare* plowshare — more at SHARE] **:** the part of a moldboard plow that cuts the furrow

plow sole *n* **:** a layer of earth at the bottom of the furrow compacted by repeated plowing at the same depth

plow under *vt* **:** to cause to disappear : BURY, OVERWHELM ⟨let us not . . . *plow under* the family farmer —A. E. Stevenson †1965⟩

ploy \'plȯi\ *n* [prob. fr. *employ*] **1 :** ESCAPADE, FROLIC **2 :** a tactic intended to embarrass or frustrate an opponent; *also* **:** something devised or contrived : DEVICE ⟨may have issued his threat merely as a bargaining ~ —*N.Y. Times*⟩

PLSS *abbr* portable life support system

¹pluck \'plək\ *vb* [ME *plucken*, fr. OE *pluccian*; akin to MHG *pflücken* to pluck] *vt* **1 :** to pull or pick off or out **2 a :** to remove something (as hairs) from by or as if by plucking ⟨~ one's eyebrows⟩ **b :** ROB, FLEECE **3 :** to move or separate forcibly ⟨~*ed* the child from the middle of the street⟩ **4 :** to pick, pull, or grasp at; *also* **:** to play (an instrument) in this manner **5 :** to remove (a

person) from one situation in life and transfer him to another ~ *vi* : to make a sharp pull or twitch — **pluck·er** *n*

²pluck *n* **1** : an act or instance of plucking or pulling **2** : the heart, liver, lungs, and windpipe of a slaughtered animal esp. as an item of food **3** : courageous readiness to fight or continue against odds : dogged resolution ***syn*** see FORTITUDE

plucky \'plək-ē\ *adj* **pluck·i·er; -est** : marked by courage : SPIRITED — **pluck·i·ly** \'plək-ə-lē\ *adv* — **pluck·i·ness** \'plək-ē-nəs\ *n*

¹plug \'pləg\ *n* [D, fr. MD *plugge;* akin to MHG *pfloc* plug] **1 a** : a piece used to fill a hole : STOPPER **b** : an obtruding or obstructing mass of material resembling a stopper **2** : a flat compressed cake of tobacco **3** : SHOT **4** : a small core or segment removed from a larger object **5** : something inferior; *esp* : an inferior often aged or unsound horse; *also* : a quiet steady cold-blooded horse usu. of light or moderate weight **6 a** : FIREPLUG **b** : SPARK PLUG **7** : an artificial angling lure used primarily for casting and made with one or more sets of gang hooks **8** : any of various devices resembling or functioning like a plug: as **a** : a male fitting for making an electrical connection by insertion in a receptacle or body of electrical equipment to a circuit **b** : a device for connecting electric wires to a jack **9** : a piece of favorable publicity usu. incorporated in general matter

²plug *vb* **plugged; plug·ging** *vt* **1** : to stop, make tight, or secure by inserting a plug **2** : to hit with a bullet : SHOOT **3** : to advertise or publicize insistently ~ *vi* **1** : to become plugged — usu. used with *up* **2** : to work doggedly and persistently ⟨*plugged* away at his homework⟩ **3** : to fire shots — **plug·ger** *n*

plugged \'pləgd\ *adj* **1** : closed by or as if by a plug : OBSTRUCTED **2** *of a coin* : altered by the insertion of a plug of base metal

plug hat *n* : a man's stiff hat (as a bowler or top hat)

plug–in \'pləg-ˌin\ *adj* : designed to be connected to an electric circuit by plugging in ⟨a ~ toy⟩ — **plug–in** *n*

plug in \'pləg-ˈin, ˌpləg-\ *vi* : to establish an electric circuit by inserting a plug ~ *vt* : to attach or connect to a service outlet

plug–ug·ly \'pləg-ˌəg-lē\ *n* : THUG, TOUGH; *esp* : one hired to intimidate

plum \'pləm\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *plūme;* akin to OHG *pflūmo* plum tree; both fr. a prehistoric WGmc word borrowed fr. L *prunum* plum, fr. Gk *proumnon*] **1 a** : any of numerous trees and shrubs (genus *Prunus*) with globular to oval smooth-skinned fruits that are drupes with oblong seeds **b** : the edible fruit of a plum **2** : any of various trees with edible fruits resembling plums; *also* : its fruit **3 a** : a raisin when used in desserts (as puddings or cake) **b** : SUGARPLUM **4** : something excellent or superior; *esp* : something given as recompense for service **5** : a variable color averaging a dark reddish purple — **plum·like** \-ˌlīk\ *adj*

plum·age \'plü-mij\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. OF, fr. *plume* feather — more at PLUME] : the entire clothing of feathers of a bird — **plumaged** \-mijd\ *adj*

plu·mate \'plü-ˌmāt\ *adj* [NL *plumatus*, fr. L, covered with feathers, fr. *pluma* feather — more at FLEECE] : having a main shaft that bears small filaments ⟨~ antennae of an insect⟩

¹plumb \'pləm\ *n* [ME, fr. (assumed) OF *plomb*, fr. OF *plon* lead, fr. L *plumbum*] **1** : a lead weight attached to a line and used to indicate a vertical direction **2** : any of various weights (as a sinker for a fishing line or a lead for sounding) — **out of plumb** *or* **off plumb** : out of vertical or true

²plumb *adv* **1** : straight down or up : VERTICALLY **2** : in a direct manner : EXACTLY; *also* : without interval of time : IMMEDIATELY **3** *chiefly dial* : to a complete degree : ABSOLUTELY ⟨'you're ~ crazy', she remarked, with easy candor —*Harper's Weekly*⟩

³plumb *vt* **1** : to weight with lead **2 a** : to measure the depth of with a plumb **b** : to examine minutely and critically ⟨~*ing* the book's complexities⟩ **3** : to adjust or test by a plumb line **4** : to seal with lead **5** [back-formation fr. *plumber*] : to supply with or install as plumbing ~ *vi* : to work as a plumber

⁴plumb *adj* **1** : exactly vertical or true **2** : DOWNRIGHT, COMPLETE ***syn*** see VERTICAL

plumb- *or* **plumbo-** *comb form* [L *plumb-*, fr. *plumbum*] : lead ⟨*plumb*ism⟩

plum·bag·i·nous \ˌpləm-'baj-ə-nəs\ *adj* : resembling, consisting of, or containing graphite

plum·ba·go \ˌpləm-'bā-(ˌ)gō\ *n, pl* **-gos** [L *plumbagin-, plumbago* galena, leadwort, fr. *plumbum*] **1** : GRAPHITE **2** [NL, genus name, fr. L] : any of a genus (*Plumbago* of the family Plumbaginaceae, the plumbago family) of woody chiefly tropical plants with alternate leaves and spikes of showy flowers

plumb bob *n* : the metal bob of a plumb line

plum·be·ous \'pləm-bē-əs\ *adj* [L *plumbeus*, fr. *plumbum*] : consisting of or resembling lead; *esp* : of a leaden gray color

plumb·er \'pləm-ər\ *n* **1** *obs* : a dealer or worker in lead **2** : one who installs, repairs, and maintains piping, fittings, and fixtures involved in the distribution and use of water in a building

plumber's helper *n* : PLUNGER e — called also *plumber's friend*

plumber's snake *n* : a long flexible rod or cable usu. of steel that is used to free clogged pipes

plum·bic \'pləm-bik\ *adj* : of, relating to, or containing lead esp. with a valence of four

plum·bif·er·ous \ˌpləm-'bif-(ə-)rəs\ *adj* : containing lead

plumb·ing \'pləm-iŋ\ *n* **1** : the act of using a plumb **2** : a plumber's occupation or trade **3** : the apparatus (as pipes and fixtures) concerned in the distribution and use of water in a building

plum·bism \'pləm-ˌbiz-əm\ *n* : lead poisoning esp. when chronic

plumb line *n* **1** : a line (as of cord) that has at one end a weight (as a plumb bob) and is used esp. to determine verticality **2** : a line directed to the center of gravity of the earth : a vertical line

plum·bous \'pləm-bəs\ *adj* : of, relating to, or containing lead esp. with a valence of two

¹plume \'plüm\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *pluma* small soft feather — more at FLEECE] **1** : a feather of a bird: as **a** : a large conspicuous or showy feather **b** : CONTOUR FEATHER **c** : PLUMAGE **d** : a cluster of distinctive feathers **2 a** : material (as a feather, cluster of feathers, or a tuft of hair) worn as an ornament **b** : a token of honor or prowess : PRIZE **3** : something resembling a feather (as in shape, appearance, or lightness): as **a** : a plumose appendage of a plant **b** : an elongated and usu. open and mobile column or band (as of smoke, exhaust gases, or blowing snow) **c** : a plumate animal structure; *esp* : a full bushy tail

²plume *vt* **plumed; plum·ing** **1 a** : to provide or deck with feathers **b** : to array showily **2** : to indulge (oneself) in pride with an obvious or vain display of self-satisfaction **3 a** : to preen and arrange the feathers of (itself) — used of a bird **b** : to preen and arrange (feathers) ***syn*** see PRIDE

plumed \'plümd\ *adj* : provided with or adorned with or as if with a plume — often used in combination ⟨a white-*plumed* egret⟩

plume·let \'plüm-lət\ *n* : a small tuft or plume

¹plum·met \'pləm-ət\ *n* [ME *plomet*, fr. MF *plombet* ball of lead, fr. *plomb* lead, fr. (assumed) OF — more at PLUMB] : PLUMB; *also* : PLUMB LINE

²plummet *vi* **1** : to fall perpendicularly ⟨the plane ~*ed* to earth⟩ **2** : to drop sharply and abruptly ⟨prices ~*ed*⟩

plum·my \'pləm-ē\ *adj* **plum·mi·er; -est** **1 a** : full of plums ⟨a rich ~ cake⟩ **b** : CHOICE, DESIRABLE ⟨got a ~ role in the movie⟩ **2 a** : having a plum color **b** : rich and mellow often to the point of affectation ⟨a ~ singing voice⟩

plu·mose \'plü-ˌmōs\ *adj* **1** : having feathers or plumes : FEATHERED **2** : PLUMATE, FEATHERY — **plu·mose·ly** *adv*

¹plump \'pləmp\ *vb* [ME *plumpen*, of imit. origin] *vi* **1** : to drop, sink, or come in contact suddenly or heavily ⟨~*ed* down in the chair⟩ **2** : to favor someone or something strongly — used with *for* ~ *vt* **1** : to drop, cast, or place suddenly or heavily **2** : to give support and favorable publicity to

²plump *adv* **1** : with a sudden or heavy drop **2 a** : straight down **b** : straight ahead **3** : without qualification : DIRECTLY

³plump *n* : a sudden plunge, fall, or blow; *also* : the sound made by a plump

⁴plump *n* [ME *plumpe*] *chiefly dial* : GROUP, FLOCK ⟨a ~ of ducks rose at the same time —H. D. Thoreau⟩

⁵plump *adj* [ME, dull, blunt] **1** : having a full rounded usu. pleasing form ⟨a ~ woman⟩ **2** : AMPLE, ABUNDANT

⁶plump *vt* : to make plump ~ *vi* : to become plump

plump·en \'pləm-pən\ *vb* : ⁶PLUMP

¹plump·er \'pləm-pər\ *n* [⁶*plump*] : an object carried in the mouth to fill out the cheeks

²plumper *n* [¹*plump*] *chiefly Brit* : a vote for only one candidate when two or more are to be elected to the same office

plump·ish \'pləm-pish\ *adj* : somewhat plump : moderately stout

¹plump·ly \'pləm-plē\ *adv* : in a plump way ⟨a ~ pretty girl⟩

²plumply *adv* [²*plump*] : in a wholehearted manner and without hesitation or circumlocution : FORTHRIGHTLY

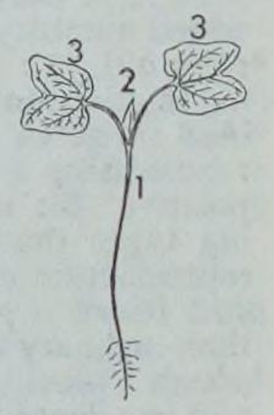
¹plump·ness \'pləmp-nəs\ *n* : the quality or state of being plump

²plumpness *n* : freedom from hesitation or circumlocution : FORTHRIGHTNESS

plum pudding *n* : a rich boiled or steamed pudding containing fruits and spices

plu·mu·late \'plü-myə-ˌlāt\ *adj* [L *plumula*, dim. of *pluma*] : finely plumose

plu·mule \'plü-(ˌ)myü(ə)l\ *n* [NL *plumula*, fr. L] **1** : the primary bud of a plant embryo usu. situated at the apex of the hypocotyl and consisting of leaves and an epicotyl **2** : a down feather — **plu·mu·lose** \'plü-myə-ˌlōs\ *adj*



plumule of morning-glory seedling: *1* hypocotyl, *2* plumule, *3* cotyledons

plumy \'plü-mē\ *adj* **plum·i·er; -est** **1** : DOWNY **2** : having or resembling plumes

¹plun·der \'plən-dər\ *vb* **plun·dered; plun·der·ing** \-d(ə-)riŋ\ [G *plündern*] *vt* **1** : PILLAGE, SACK **2** : to take esp. by force (as in war) : STEAL ~ *vi* : to commit robbery or looting — **plun·der·er** \-dər-ər\ *n*

²plunder *n* **1** : an act of plundering : PILLAGING **2** : something taken by force, theft, or fraud : LOOT **3** *chiefly dial* : personal or household effects ***syn*** see SPOIL

plun·der·able \'plən-d(ə-)rə-bəl\ *adj* **1** : capable of being plundered : subject to plunder **2** : worth plundering

plun·der·age \-d(ə-)rij\ *n* **1** : an act or instance of plundering; *esp* : embezzlement of goods on shipboard **2** : property obtained by plunderage

plun·der·ous \-d(ə-)rəs\ *adj* : given to plundering

¹plunge \'plənj\ *vb* **plunged; plung·ing** [ME *plungen*, fr. MF *plonger*, fr. (assumed) VL *plumbicare*, fr. L *plumbum* lead — more at PLUMB] *vt* **1 a** : to cause to penetrate or enter quickly and forcibly into something **b** : to sink (a potted plant) in the ground or a prepared bed **2** : to cause to enter a state or course of action usu. suddenly, unexpectedly, or violently ~ *vi* **1** : to thrust or cast oneself into or as if into water **2 a** : to become pitched or thrown headlong or violently forward and downward; *also* : to move oneself in such a manner **b** : to act with reckless haste : enter suddenly or unexpectedly **c** : to bet or gamble heavily and recklessly **3** : to descend or dip suddenly ⟨the road ~*s* along the slope⟩

syn PLUNGE, DIVE, PITCH *shared meaning element* : to throw oneself or throw or thrust something forward and downward into or as if into deep water

²plunge *n* : an act or instance of plunging : DIVE; *also* : SWIM

plung·er \'plən-jər\ *n* : one that plunges: as **a** : DIVER **b** : a reckless gambler or speculator **c** : the rod carrying the valves in the inner assembly of an automobile tire valve unit **d** (1) : a sliding

reciprocating piece driven by or against fluid pressure; *esp* : PISTON **d** (2) : a piece with a motion more or less like that of a ram or piston **e** : a rubber suction cup on a handle used to free plumbing traps and waste outlets of obstructions

plunging fire *n* : direct fire from a superior elevation resulting in the projectiles striking the target at a high angle

plunk \'pləŋk\ *vb* [imit.] *vt* **1** : to pluck or hit so as to produce a quick, hollow, metallic, or harsh sound **2** : to set down suddenly : PLUMP ~ *vi* **1** : to make a plunking sound **2** : to drop abruptly : DIVE **3** : to come out in favor of someone or something — used with *for* — **plunk** *n* — **plunk·er** *n*

plunk down *vi* : to drop abruptly : settle into position ~ *vt* **1 a** : to put down usu. firmly or abruptly ⟨*plunked* his money *down* on the counter⟩ **b** : to settle (oneself) into position ⟨*plunked* himself *down* on the bench⟩ **2** : to pay out

plu·per·fect \(')plü-'pər-fikt\ *adj* [modif. of LL *plusquamperfectus*, lit., more than perfect] : past perfect — **pluperfect** *n*

plu·ral \'plůr-əl\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF & L; MF *plurel*, fr. L *pluralis*, fr. *plur-*, *plus* more — more at PLUS] **1** : of, relating to, or constituting a class of grammatical forms usu. used to denote more than one or in some languages more than two ⟨*genetics* is ~ in form but takes a singular verb⟩ **2** : relating to or consisting of or containing more than one or more than one kind or class ⟨a ~ society⟩ — **plural** *n* — **plu·ral·ly** \-ə-lē\ *adv*

plu·ral·ism \'plůr-ə-,liz-əm\ *n* **1** : the quality or state of being plural **2** : the holding of two or more offices or positions (as benefices) at the same time **3 a** : a theory that there are more than one or more than two kinds of ultimate reality **b** : a theory that reality is composed of a plurality of entities **4 a** : a state of society in which members of diverse ethnic, racial, religious, or social groups maintain an autonomous participation in and development of their traditional culture or special interest within the confines of a common civilization **b** : a concept, doctrine, or policy advocating this state — **plu·ral·ist** \-ləst\ *adj or n* — **plu·ral·is·tic** \,plůr-ə-'lis-tik\ *adj* — **plu·ral·is·ti·cal·ly** \-ti-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

plu·ral·i·ty \plů-'ral-ət-ē\ *n, pl* **-ties** **1 a** : the state of being plural **b** : the state of being numerous **c** : a large number or quantity : MULTITUDE **2** : PLURALISM 2; *also* : a benefice held by plurism **3 a** : a number greater than another **b** : an excess of votes over those cast for an opposing candidate **c** : a number of votes cast for a candidate in a contest of more than two candidates that is greater than the number cast for any other candidate but not more than half the total votes cast

plu·ral·ize \'plůr-ə-,līz\ *vt* **-ized; -iz·ing** : to make plural or express in the plural form — **plu·ral·iza·tion** \,plůr-ə-lə-'zā-shən\ *n*

pluri- *comb form* [L, fr. *plur-*, *plus*] : having or being more than one : MULTI- ⟨*pluri*axial⟩

plu·ri·ax·i·al \,plůr-ē-'ak-sē-əl\ *adj* : having more than one axis; *specif* : having flowers developed on secondary shoots

plu·rip·o·tent \plů-'rip-ət-ənt\ *adj* : not fixed as to developmental potentialities : having developmental plasticity

¹plus \'pləs\ *prep* [L, adv., more, fr. neut. of *plur-*, *plus*, adj., more; akin to Gk *pleiōn* more, L *plenus* full — more at FULL] : increased by : with the addition of ⟨four ~ five⟩ ⟨the debt ~ interest⟩

²plus *n, pl* **plus·es** \'pləs-əz\ *also* **plus·ses** **1** : PLUS SIGN **2** : an added quantity **3** : a positive factor or quality **4** : SURPLUS

³plus *adj* **1** : algebraically positive **2** : having, receiving, or being in addition to what is anticipated **3 a** : falling high in a specified range ⟨a grade of C ~⟩ **b** : greater than that specified **c** : possessing a specified quality to a high degree **4** : electrically positive **5** : relating to or being a particular one of the two mating types that are required for successful fertilization in sexual reproduction in some lower plants (as a fungus)

plus fours *n pl* : loose sports knickers made four inches longer than ordinary knickers

¹plush \'pləsh\ *n* [MF *peluche*] : a fabric with an even pile longer and less dense than velvet pile

²plush *adj* **1** : relating to, resembling, or made of plush **2** : notably luxurious — **plush·ly** *adv* — **plush·ness** *n*

plushy \'pləsh-ē\ *adj* **plush·i·er; -est** **1** : having the texture of or covered with plush **2** : LUXURIOUS, SHOWY — **plush·i·ness** *n*

plus·sage \'pləs-ij\ *n* : amount over and above another

plus sign *n* : a sign + denoting addition or a positive quantity

Plu·to \'plüt-(,)ō\ *n* [L *Pluton-*, *Pluto*, fr. Gk *Ploutōn*] **1** : the Greek god of the underworld — compare DIS **2** [NL] : the planet farthest from the sun — see PLANET table

plu·toc·ra·cy \plü-'täk-rə-sē\ *n, pl* **-cies** [Gk *ploutokratia*, fr. *ploutos* wealth] **1** : government by the wealthy **2** : a controlling class of rich men — **plu·to·crat** \'plüt-ə-,krat\ *n* — **plu·to·crat·ic** \,plüt-ə-'krat-ik\ *adj* — **plu·to·crat·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

plu·ton \'plü-,tän\ *n* [prob. back-formation fr. *plutonic*] : a typically large body of intrusive igneous rock

plu·to·ni·an \plü-'tō-nē-ən\ *adj, often cap* : of, relating to, or characteristic of Pluto or the lower world : INFERNAL

plu·ton·ic \plü-'tän-ik\ *adj* [L *Pluton-*, *Pluto*] **1** : formed by solidification of a molten magma deep within the earth and crystalline throughout ⟨~ rock⟩ **2** *often cap* : PLUTONIAN

plu·to·ni·um \plü-'tō-nē-əm\ *n* [NL, fr. *Pluton-*, *Pluto*, the planet Pluto] : a radioactive metallic element similar chemically to uranium that is formed as the isotope 239 by decay of neptunium and found in minute quantities in pitchblende, that undergoes slow disintegration with the emission of a helium nucleus to form uranium 235, and that is fissionable with slow neutrons to yield atomic energy — see ELEMENT table

¹plu·vi·al \'plü-vē-əl\ *adj* [L *pluvialis*, fr. *pluvia* rain, fr. fem. of *pluvius* rainy, fr. *pluere* to rain — more at FLOW] **1 a** : of or relating to rain **b** : characterized by abundant rain **2** *of a geologic change* : resulting from the action of rain

²pluvial *n* : a prolonged period of wet climate ⟨the ~*s* of the early Pleistocene⟩

¹ply \'plī\ *vt* **plied; ply·ing** [ME *plien* to fold, fr. MF *plier*, fr. L *plicare*; akin to OHG *flehtan* to braid, L *plectere*, Gk *plekein*] : to twist together ⟨~ two single yarns⟩

²ply *n, pl* **plies** **1 a** : one of the strands in a yarn **b** : one of several layers (as of cloth) usu. sewn or laminated together **c** : one of the veneer sheets forming plywood **d** : a layer of a paper or paperboard **2** : INCLINATION, BIAS

³ply *vb* **plied; ply·ing** [ME *plien*, short for *applien* to apply] *vt* **1 a** : to use or wield diligently ⟨busily ~*ing* his pen⟩ **b** : to practice or perform diligently ⟨~*ing* his trade⟩ **2** : to keep furnishing or supplying something to ⟨*plied* her with liquor⟩ **3** : to make a practice of rowing or sailing over or on ⟨the boat *plies* the river⟩ ~ *vi* **1** : to apply oneself steadily **2** : to go or travel regularly ⟨a steamer ~*ing* between opposite shores of the lake⟩

Plym·outh Rock \,plim-əth-\ *n* [fr. *Plymouth Rock*, on which the Pilgrims are supposed to have landed in 1620] : any of an American breed of medium-sized single-combed dual-purpose domestic fowls

ply·wood \'plī-,wůd\ *n* : a structural material consisting of sheets of wood glued or cemented together with the grains of adjacent layers arranged at right angles or at a wide angle

pm *abbr* **1** phase modulation **2** premium

Pm *symbol* promethium

PM *abbr* **1** paymaster **2** permanent magnet **3** police magistrate **4** postmaster **5** post meridiem **6** postmortem **7** prime minister **8** provost marshal

PMH *abbr* production per man-hour

pmk *abbr* postmark

PMLA *abbr* Publications of the Modern Language Association of America

pmt *abbr* payment

PN *abbr* promissory note

-pnea *or* **-pnoea** \(p)-nē-ə\ *n comb form* [NL, fr. Gk *-pnoia*, fr. *pnoia*, fr. *pnein* to breathe] : breath : breathing ⟨hyper*pnea*⟩ ⟨ap*noea*⟩

pneum- *or* **pneumo-** *comb form* [NL, partly fr. Gk *pneum-*, (fr. *pneuma*), partly fr. Gk *pneumōn* lung] **1** : air : gas ⟨*pneumo*thorax⟩ **2** : lung ⟨*pneum*ectomy⟩ : pulmonary and ⟨*pneumo*gastric⟩ **3** : respiration ⟨*pneumo*graph⟩ **4** : pneumonia ⟨*pneumo*coccus⟩

pneu·ma \'n(y)ü-mə\ *n* [Gk] : SOUL, SPIRIT

pneumat- *or* **pneumato-** *comb form* [Gk, fr. *pneumat-*, *pneuma*] **1** : air : vapor : gas ⟨*pneumat*ics⟩ **2** : respiration ⟨*pneumato*meter⟩

pneu·mat·ic \n(y)ù-'mat-ik\ *adj* [L *pneumaticus*, fr. Gk *pneumatikos*, fr. *pneumat-*, *pneuma* air, breath, spirit, fr. *pnein* to breathe — more at SNEEZE] **1** : of, relating to, or using gas (as air or wind): **a** : moved or worked by air pressure **b** (1) : adapted for holding or inflated with compressed air (2) : having air-filled cavities **2** : of or relating to the pneuma : SPIRITUAL — **pneu·mat·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

pneu·ma·tic·i·ty \,n(y)ü-mə-'tis-ət-ē\ *n* : a condition marked by the presence of air cavities ⟨~ of bird bones⟩

pneu·mat·ics \n(y)ù-'mat-iks\ *n pl but sing in constr* : a branch of mechanics that deals with the mechanical properties of gases

pneu·ma·tol·o·gy \,n(y)ü-mə-'täl-ə-jē\ *n* [NL *pneumatologia*, fr. Gk *pneumat-*, *pneuma* + NL *-logia* -logy] : the study of spiritual beings or phenomena

pneu·ma·tol·y·sis \-'täl-ə-səs\ *n* [NL] : the process by which pneumatolytic minerals are formed

pneu·ma·to·lyt·ic \,n(y)ü-mət-ᵊl-'it-ik, (,)n(y)ü-,mat-ᵊl-\ *adj* [ISV] : formed or forming by hot vapors or superheated liquids under pressure — used esp. of minerals and ores

pneu·ma·tom·e·ter \,n(y)ü-mə-'täm-ət-ər\ *n* **1** : an instrument for measuring the amount of force exerted by the lungs in respiration **2** : SPIROMETER

pneu·mato·phore \n(y)ù'mat-ə-,fō(ə)r, -,fȯ(ə)r\ *n* [ISV] **1** : a muscular gas-containing sac that serves as a float on a siphonophore colony **2** : a root often functioning as a respiratory organ in a marsh plant — **pneu·mato·phor·ic** \n(y)ü-,mat-ə-'fȯr-ik, -'fär-\ *adj*

pneu·mec·to·my \n(y)ù-'mek-tə-mē\ *n, pl* **-mies** [ISV] : the surgical removal of lung tissue

pneu·mo·ba·cil·lus \,n(y)ü-mō-bə-'sil-əs\ *n, pl* **-cil·li** \-,ī *also* -ē\ [NL] : a bacterium (*Klebsiella pneumoniae*) associated with inflammations (as pneumonia) of the respiratory tract

pneu·mo·coc·cus \,n(y)ü-mə-'käk-əs\ *n, pl* **-coc·ci** \-'käk-(s)ī, -'käk-(,)(s)ē\ [NL] : a bacterium (*Diplococcus pneumoniae*) that causes an acute pneumonia involving one or more lobes of the lung — **pneu·mo·coc·cal** \-'käk-əl\ *also* **pneu·mo·coc·cic** \-'käk-(,)sik\ *adj*

pneu·mo·co·ni·o·sis \'n(y)ü-mō-,kō-nē-'ō-səs\ *n, pl* **-o·ses** \-,sēz\ [NL, fr. *pneum-* + Gk *konis* dust — more at INCINERATE] : a disease of the lungs caused by the habitual inhalation of irritant mineral or metallic particles — compare BLACK LUNG, SILICOSIS

pneu·mo·gas·tric \,n(y)ü-mə-'gas-trik\ *adj* **1** : of or relating to the lungs and the stomach **2** : VAGAL

pneu·mo·graph \'n(y)ü-mə-,graf\ *n* [ISV] : an instrument for recording the thoracic movements or volume change during respiration

pneu·mo·nec·to·my \,n(y)ü-mə-'nek-tə-mē\ *n, pl* **-mies** [Gk *pneumōn* + ISV *-ectomy*] : excision of an entire lung or of one or more lobes of a lung

pneu·mo·nia \n(y)ù-'mō-nyə\ *n* [NL, fr. Gk, fr. *pneumōn* lung, alter. of *pleumōn* — more at PULMONARY] : a disease of the lungs characterized by inflammation and consolidation followed by resolution and caused by infection or irritants

pneu·mon·ic \n(y)ù-'män-ik\ *adj* [NL *pneumonicus*, fr. Gk *pneumonikos*, fr. *pneumōn*] **1** : of or relating to the lungs : PULMONIC **2** : of, relating to, or affected with pneumonia

pneu·mo·no·ul·tra·mi·cro·scop·ic·sil·i·co·vol·ca·no·co·ni·o·sis \'n(y)ü-mə-(,)nō-,əl-trə-,mī-krə-'skäp-ik-'sil-i-(,)kō-(,)väl-'kā-nō-,kō-nē-'ō-səs\ *n* [NL, fr. Gk *pneumōn* + ISV *ultramicroscopic* + NL *silicon* + ISV *volcano* + Gk *konis* dust] : a pneumoconiosis caused by the inhalation of very fine silicate or quartz dust

pneu·mo·tho·rax \,n(y)ü-mə-'thō(ə)r-,aks, -'thȯ(ə)r-\ *n* [NL] : a state in which air or other gas is present in the pleural cavity and which occurs spontaneously as a result of disease or injury of lung

tissue or puncture of the chest wall or is induced as a therapeutic measure to collapse the lung
pneu·mo·tro·pic \ˌn(y)ü-mə-ˈtrōp-ik, -ˈträp-\ *adj* : turning, directed toward, or having an affinity for lung tissues — used esp. of infective agents — **pneu·mot·ro·pism** \n(y)ü-ˈmä-trə-ˌpiz-əm\ *n*
PNR *abbr* point of no return
pnxt *abbr* [L *pinxit*] he painted it
Po *symbol* polonium
PO *abbr* **1** petty officer **2** postal order **3** post office **4** purchase order
¹poach \ˈpōch\ *vt* [ME *pochen*, fr. MF *pocher*, fr. OF *pochier*, lit., to put into a bag, fr. *poche* bag, pocket, of Gmc origin; akin to OE *pocca* bag] : to cook in simmering liquid
²poach *vb* [MF *pocher*, of Gmc origin; akin to ME *poken* to poke] *vt* **1** : to trample or cut up (as sod) with or as if with hoofs **2 a** : to trespass on ⟨what happens to a poet when he ~*es* upon a novelist's preserves —Virginia Woolf⟩ **b** : to take (game or fish) by illegal methods ~ *vi* **1 a** : to sink into mud or mire while walking **b** : to become soft or muddy and full of holes when trampled on **2** : to trespass for the purpose of stealing game; *also* : to take game or fish illegally
¹poach·er \ˈpō-chər\ *n* [²*poach*] **1** : one that trespasses or steals **2** : one who kills or takes game or fish illegally
²poacher *n* [¹*poach*] **1** : a covered pan containing a plate with depressions or shallow cups in each of which an egg can be cooked over steam rising from boiling water in the bottom of the pan **2** : a shallow baking dish in which food (as fish) can be poached
po'boy \ˈpō-ˌbȯi\ *var of* POOR BOY
POC *abbr* port of call
po·chard \ˈpō-chərd\ *n* [origin unknown] : any of numerous rather heavy-bodied diving ducks (esp. genus *Aythya*) with a large head and with feet and legs placed far back under the body
¹pock \ˈpäk\ *n* [ME *pokke*, fr. OE *pocc*; akin to MLG & MD *pocke* pock, L *bucca* cheek, mouth] : a pustule in an eruptive disease (as smallpox); *also* : a spot suggesting such a pustule
²pock *vt* : to mark with or as if with pocks : PIT
¹pock·et \ˈpäk-ət\ *n* [ME *poket*, fr. ONF *pokete*, dim. of *poke* bag, of Gmc origin; akin to OE *pocca* bag] **1 a** : a small bag carried by a person : PURSE **b** : a small bag that is sewed or inserted in a garment so that it is open at the top or side ⟨coat ~⟩ **2** : supply of money : MEANS **3** : RECEPTACLE, CONTAINER: as **a** : an opening at the corner or side of a billiard table **b** : a superficial pouch in some animals **4** : a small isolated area or group ⟨~*s* of unemployment⟩: **a** (1) : a cavity containing a deposit (as of gold or water) (2) : a small body of ore **b** : AIR HOLE **5** : a place for a spar made by sewing a strip of canvas on a sail **6 a** : BLIND ALLEY **b** : the position of a contestant in a race hemmed in by others **c** : an area formed by blockers from which a football quarterback attempts to pass **7** : the concave area at the base of the finger sections of a baseball glove or mitt in which the ball is normally caught — **pock·et·ful** \-ˌfu̇l\ *n* — **in one's pocket** : in one's control or possession — **in pocket** **1** : provided with funds **2** : in the position of having made a profit — **out of pocket** **1** : low on money or funds **2** : having suffered a loss
²pocket *vt* **1 a** : to put or enclose in or as if in one's pocket ⟨~*ed* his change⟩ **b** : to appropriate to one's own use : STEAL ⟨~*ed* the money he had collected for charity⟩ **c** : to refuse assent to (a bill) by a pocket veto **2** : to put up with : ACCEPT **3** : to set aside : SUPPRESS ⟨~*ed* his pride⟩ **4 a** : to hem in **b** : to drive (a ball) into a pocket of a pool table **5** : to cover or supply with pockets
³pocket *adj* **1 a** : small enough to be carried in the pocket **b** : SMALL, MINIATURE ⟨a ~ submarine⟩ **2 a** : of or relating to money **b** : carried in or paid from one's own pocket
pocket battleship *n* : a small battleship built so as to come within treaty limitations of tonnage and armament
pocket billiards *n pl but usu sing in constr* : POOL 2b
pock·et·book \ˈpäk-ət-ˌbu̇k\ *n* **1** *usu* **pocket book** : a small esp. paperback book that can be carried in the pocket **2 a** (1) : a pocket-size container for money and personal papers : WALLET (2) : PURSE **b** : HANDBAG 2 **3 a** : financial resources : INCOME **b** : economic interests
pocket borough *n* : an English constituency controlled before parliamentary reform by a single person or family
pocket edition *n* **1** : POCKETBOOK 1 **2** : a miniature form of something
pocket gopher *n* : GOPHER 2a
pocket–handkerchief *n* : a handkerchief carried in the pocket
pock·et·knife \ˈpäk-ət-ˌnīf\ *n* : a knife that has one or more blades that fold into the handle and that can be carried in the pocket
pocket money *n* : money for small personal expenses
pocket mouse *n* : any of various nocturnal burrowing rodents (family Heteromyidae) that resemble mice, live in arid parts of western No. America, and have long hind legs and tail and fur-lined cheek pouches
pocket rat *n* : any of various rodents (as a pocket gopher) with cheek pouches
pock·et–size \ˈpäk-ət-ˌsīz\ *or* **pock·et–sized** \-ˌsīzd\ *adj* **1** : of a size convenient for carrying in the pocket **2** : SMALL ⟨a ~ country⟩
pocket veto *n* : an indirect veto of a legislative bill by an executive through retention of the bill unsigned until after adjournment of the legislature — **pocket veto** *vt*
¹pock·mark \ˈpäk-ˌmärk\ *n* : a mark, pit, or depressed scar caused by smallpox
²pockmark *vt* : to cover with or as if with pockmarks : PIT
pocky \ˈpäk-ē\ *adj* **1 a** : covered with pocks **b** : of, relating to, or infected with syphilis **2** : relating to or being a pock or the pox
po·co \ˌpō-(ˌ)kō, ˌpȯ-\ *adv* [It, little, fr. L *paucus* — more at FEW] : to a slight degree : SOMEWHAT — used to qualify a direction in music ⟨~ allegro⟩
po·co a po·co \ˌpō-kō-(ˌ)ä-ˈpō-(ˌ)kō, ˌpȯ-kō-(ˌ)ä-ˈpȯ-\ *adv* [It] : little by little : GRADUALLY — used as a direction in music
po·co·cu·ran·te \ˌpō-kō-k(y)u̇-ˈrant-ē\ *adj* [It *poco curante* caring little] : INDIFFERENT, NONCHALANT — **po·co·cu·ran·tism** \-ˈran-ˌtiz-əm\ *n*
po·co·sin \pə-ˈkōs-ᵊn\ *n* [Delaware *pâkwesen*] : an upland swamp of the coastal plain of the southeastern U.S.
¹pod \ˈpäd\ *n* [origin unknown] **1** : a bit socket in a brace **2** : a straight groove or channel in the barrel of an auger
²pod *n* [prob. alter. of *cod* bag — more at CODPIECE] **1** : a dry dehiscent seed vessel or fruit that is composed of one or more carpels; *esp* : LEGUME **2 a** : an anatomical pouch **b** : a grasshopper egg case **3** : a tapered and roughly cylindrical body of ore or mineral **4** : a streamlined compartment under the wings or fuselage of an aircraft used as a container (as for fuel); *broadly* : a protective container or housing ⟨a submarine with its reactor in an external ~⟩ **5** : a detachable compartment (as for personnel, a power unit, or an instrument) on a spacecraft
³pod *vi* **pod·ded; pod·ding** : to produce pods
⁴pod *n* [origin unknown] : a number of animals (as seals) clustered together
POD *abbr* **1** pay on delivery **2** post office department
-pod \ˌpäd\ *n comb form* [Gk *-podos*, fr. *pod-*, *pous* foot — more at FOOT] : foot : part resembling a foot ⟨pleo*pod*⟩
po·dag·ra \pə-ˈdag-rə\ *n* [ME, fr. L, fr. Gk, fr. *pod-*, *pous* + *agra* hunt, catch; akin to L *agere* to drive — more at AGENT] : GOUT — **po·dag·ral** \-rəl\ *adj*
pod corn *n* : an Indian corn that has each kernel enclosed in a chaffy shell similar to that of other cereals
po·de·sta \ˌpōd-ə-ˈstä\ *n* [It *podestà*, lit., power, fr. L *potestat-*, *potestas*, irreg. fr. *potis* able — more at POTENT] : a chief magistrate in a medieval Italian municipality
podgy \ˈpäj-ē\ *adj* **podg·i·er; -est** [*podge* (something pudgy)] : PUDGY
po·di·a·try \pə-ˈdī-ə-trē, pō-\ *n* [Gk *pod-*, *pous* + E *-iatry*] : the care and treatment of the human foot in health and disease — called also *chiropody* — **po·di·at·ric** \ˌpōd-ē-ˈa-trik\ *adj* — **po·di·a·trist** \pə-ˈdī-ə-trəst, pō-\ *n*
pod·ite \ˈpäd-ˌīt\ *n* [ISV *pod-* (fr. Gk *pod-*, *pous*) + *-ite*] : a limb segment of an arthropod — **po·dit·ic** \pä-ˈdit-ik\ *adj*
po·di·um \ˈpōd-ē-əm\ *n, pl* **podiums** *or* **po·dia** \-ē-ə\ [L — more at PEW] **1** : a low wall serving as a foundation or terrace wall: as **a** : one around the arena of an ancient amphitheater serving as a base for the tiers of seats **b** : the masonry under the stylobate of a temple **2 a** : a dais esp. for an orchestral conductor **b** : LECTERN
-po·di·um \ˈpōd-ē-əm\ *n comb form, pl* **-po·dia** \-ē-ə\ [NL, fr. Gk *podion*, dim. of *pod-*, *pous* foot — more at FOOT] : foot : part resembling a foot ⟨pseudo*podium*⟩
podo·phyl·lin \ˌpäd-ə-ˈfil-ən\ *n* [ISV, fr. NL *Podophyllum*] : a bitter irritant purgative resin obtained from the rhizome of the mayapple and used esp. as a cathartic
podo·phyl·lum \-ˈfil-əm\ *n, pl* **-phyl·li** \-ˈfil-ˌī\ *or* **-phyllums** [NL, fr. *Podophyllum*, genus of herbs including the mayapple] : the rhizome and rootlet of the mayapple that is used as a cathartic and as an agent intended to increase the flow of bile
Po·dunk \ˈpō-ˌdəŋk\ *n* [*Podunk*, village in Mass. or locality in Conn.] : a small, unimportant, and isolated town
pod·zol \ˈpäd-ˌzȯl\ *n* [Russ] : any of a group of zonal soils that develop in a moist climate esp. under coniferous or mixed forest and have an organic mat and a thin organic-mineral layer above a gray leached layer resting on a dark illuvial horizon enriched with amorphous clay — **pod·zol·ic** \päd-ˈzäl-ik, -ˈzȯl-\ *adj*
pod·zol·iza·tion \ˌpäd-ˌzȯ-lə-ˈzā-shən\ *n* : a process of soil formation esp. in humid regions involving principally leaching of the upper layers with accumulation of material in lower layers and development of characteristic horizons; *specif* : the development of a podzol — **pod·zol·ize** \ˈpäd-ˌzȯ-ˌlīz\ *vb*
POE *abbr* **1** port of embarkation **2** port of entry
po·em \ˈpō-əm, -ˌem\ *n* [MF *poeme*, fr. L *poema*, fr. Gk *poiēma*, fr. *poiein*] **1** : a composition in verse **2** : a piece of poetry communicating to the reader the sense of a complete experience **3** : a creation, experience, or object suggesting a poem ⟨the house we stayed in . . . was itself a ~ —H. J. Laski⟩
po·esy \ˈpō-ə-zē, -sē\ *n, pl* **po·esies** [ME *poesie*, fr. MF, fr. L *poesis*, fr. Gk *poiēsis*, lit., creation, fr. *poiein*] **1 a** : a poem or body of poems **b** : POETRY **2** : poetic inspiration
po·et \ˈpō-ət\ *n* [ME, fr. OF *poete*, fr. L *poeta*, fr. Gk *poiētēs* maker, poet, fr. *poiein* to make, create; akin to Skt *cinoti* he heaps up] **1** : one who writes poetry : a maker of verses **2** : a creative artist of great imaginative and expressive gifts and special sensitivity to his medium — **po·et·ess** \-əs\ *n*
po·et·as·ter \ˈpō-ət-ˌas-tər\ *n* [NL, fr. L *poeta* + *-aster* -aster] : an inferior poet
po·et·ic \pō-ˈet-ik\ *adj* **1 a** : of, relating to, or characteristic of poets or poetry **b** : given to writing poetry **2** : written in verse
po·et·i·cal \-i-kəl\ *adj* **1** : POETIC **2** : being beyond or above the truth of history or nature : IDEALIZED ⟨had ~ ideas about marriage⟩ — **po·et·i·cal·ly** \-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
po·et·i·cal·ness \-i-kəl-nəs\ *n* : poetic quality
po·et·i·cism \pō-ˈet-ə-ˌsiz-əm\ *n* : an archaic, trite, or strained expression in poetry
po·et·i·cize \-ˌsīz\ *vt* **-cized; -ciz·ing** : to give a poetic quality to
poetic justice *n* : an outcome in which vice is punished and virtue rewarded usu. in a manner peculiarly or ironically appropriate
poetic license *n* : LICENSE 4

po·et·ics \pō-'et-iks\ *n pl but sing or pl in constr* **1 a** : a treatise on poetry or aesthetics **b** : poetic theory or practice **2** : poetic feelings or utterances
po·et·ize \'pō-ət-ˌīz\ *vb* **-ized; -iz·ing** *vi* : to compose poetry ~ *vt* : POETICIZE — **po·et·iz·er** *n*
poet laureate *n, pl* **poets laureate** *or* **poet laureates** **1** : a poet honored for achievement in his art **2** : a poet appointed for life by an English sovereign as a member of the royal household and formerly expected to compose poems for court and national occasions **3** : one regarded by a country or region as its most eminent or representative poet
po·et·ry \'pō-ə-trē, *esp South* -it-rē\ *n* **1 a** : metrical writing : VERSE **b** : the productions of a poet : POEMS **2** : writing that formulates a concentrated imaginative awareness of experience in language chosen and arranged to create a specific emotional response through meaning, sound, and rhythm **3 a** : a quality that stirs the imagination **b** : a quality of spontaneity and grace
po·go·nia \pə-'gō-nē-ə\ *n* [NL, genus name, fr. Gk *pōgōn* beard] : any of a genus (*Pogonia*) of terrestrial orchids (as the snakemouth) of the north temperate zone that have terminal solitary flowers with a crested lip
pog·o·nip \'päg-ə-ˌnip\ *n* [Paiute] : a dense winter fog containing frozen particles that is formed in deep mountain valleys of the western U.S.
po·go·noph·o·ran \ˌpō-gə-'näf-ə-rən\ *n* [NL *Pogonophora*, group name, fr. Gk *pōgōnophora*, neut. pl. of *pōgōnophoros* wearing a beard] : any of a phylum or class (Pogonophora) of marine worms of uncertain systematic relationships that superficially resemble polychaetes but have a dorsal nervous system and obscure segmentation — **pogonophoran** *adj*
po·go stick \'pō-(ˌ)gō-\ *n* [fr. *Pogo*, a trademark] : a pole with a strong spring at the bottom and two footrests on which a person stands and propels himself along with a series of jumps
¹po·grom \pə-'gräm, 'pō-grəm *also* 'päg-rəm\ *n* [Yiddish, fr. Russ, lit., devastation] : an organized massacre of helpless people; *specif* : such a massacre of Jews ***syn*** see MASSACRE
²pogrom *vt* : to massacre or destroy in a pogrom
po·grom·ist \-əst\ *n* : one who organizes or takes part in a pogrom
po·gy \'pō-gē\ *n, pl* **pogies** [of Algonquian origin; akin to Abnaki *pǝkangan* menhaden] : MENHADEN
poi \'pȯi\ *n, pl* **poi** *or* **pois** [Hawaiian & Samoan] : a Hawaiian food of taro root cooked, pounded, and kneaded to a paste and often allowed to ferment
-poi·e·sis \(ˌ)pȯi-'ē-səs\ *n comb form, pl* **-poi·e·ses** \-'ē-ˌsēz\ [NL, fr. Gk *poiēsis* creation — more at POESY] : production : formation ⟨lymph*opoiesis*⟩
-poi·et·ic \(ˌ)pȯi-'et-ik\ *adj comb form* [Gk *poiētikos* creative, fr. *poiētēs* maker — more at POET] : productive : formative ⟨lymph*opoietic*⟩
poi·gnan·cy \'pȯi-nyən-sē\ *n, pl* **-cies** **1** : the quality or state of being poignant **2** : an instance of poignancy ***syn*** see PATHOS
poi·gnant \'pȯi-nyənt\ *adj* [ME *poinaunt*, fr. MF *poignant*, prp. of *poindre* to prick, sting, fr. L *pungere* — more at PUNGENT] **1** : pungently pervasive ⟨a ~ perfume⟩ **2 a** (1) : painfully affecting the feelings : PIERCING (2) : deeply affecting : TOUCHING **b** : designed to make an impression : CUTTING ⟨~ satire⟩ **3 a** : pleasurably stimulating **b** : being to the point : APT ***syn*** **1** see PUNGENT ***ant*** dull (*as of sensation or reaction*) **2** see MOVING
poi·ki·lo·therm \pȯi-'kē-lə-ˌthərm, -'kil-ə-\ *n* [Gk *poikilos* variegated + ISV *-therm;* akin to L *pingere* to paint — more at PAINT] : an organism (as a frog) with a variable body temperature that is usu. slightly higher than the temperature of its environment : a cold-blooded organism — **poi·ki·lo·ther·mic** \ˌpȯi-kə-lō-'thər-mik\ *adj* — **poi·ki·lo·ther·mism** \-'thər-ˌmiz-əm\ *n*
poi·lu \pwäl-'(y)ü, 'pwäl-ˌ ; pwȧ-lü\ *n* [F, fr. *poilu* hairy, fr. MF, fr. *poil* hair, fr. L *pilus* — more at PILE] : a French soldier; *esp* : a front-line soldier in World War I
poin·ci·ana \ˌpȯin(t)-sē-'an-ə, ˌp(w)än(t)-\ *n* [NL, genus name, fr. De *Poinci*, 17th cent. governor of part of the French West Indies] : any of a small genus (*Poinciana*) of ornamental tropical leguminous trees or shrubs with bright orange or red flowers; *also* : a showy closely related tree (*Delonix regia*) with immense racemes of scarlet and orange flowers, flat woody pods, and twice-pinnate leaves
poin·set·tia \pȯin-'set-ē-ə, -'set-ə\ *n* [NL, fr. Joel R. *Poinsett* †1851 Am diplomat] : any of various spurges (genus *Euphorbia*) with flower clusters subtended by showy involucral bracts; *esp* : a showy Mexican and So. American plant (*E. pulcherrima*) with tapering scarlet bracts that suggest petals and surround small yellow flowers
¹point \'pȯint\ *n* [ME, partly fr. OF, puncture, small spot, point in time or space, fr. L *punctum*, fr. neut. of *punctus*, pp. of *pungere* to prick; partly fr. OF *pointe* sharp end, fr. (assumed) VL *puncta*, fr. L, fem. of *punctus*, pp. — more at PUNGENT] **1 a** (1) : an individual detail : ITEM (2) : a distinguishing detail ⟨tact is one of her strong ~*s*⟩ **b** : the most important essential in a discussion or matter ⟨missed the whole ~ of the joke⟩ **c** : COGENCY **2** *obs* : physical condition **3** : an end or object to be achieved : PURPOSE ⟨did not see what ~ there was in continuing the discussion⟩ **4 a** (1) : a geometric element of which it is postulated that at least two exist and that two suffice to determine a line (2) : a geometric element determined by an ordered set of coordinates **b** (1) : a narrowly localized place having a precisely indicated position ⟨walked to a ~ 50 yards north of the building⟩ (2) : a particular place : LOCALITY ⟨have come from distant ~*s*⟩ **c** (1) : an exact moment ⟨at this ~ he was interrupted⟩ (2) : a time interval immediately before something indicated : VERGE ⟨at the ~ of death⟩ **d** (1) : a particular step, stage, or degree in development ⟨had reached the ~ where nothing seemed to matter anymore⟩ (2) : a definite position in a scale **5 a** : the terminal usu. sharp or narrowly rounded part of something : TIP **b** : a weapon or tool having such a part and used for stabbing or piercing **c** (1) : the contact or discharge extremity of an electric device (as a spark plug or contact break) (2) *chiefly Brit* : an electric outlet **6 a** : a projecting usu. tapering piece of land or a sharp prominence **b** (1) : the tip of a projecting body part (2) : TINE 2 (3) *pl* : the extremities or markings of the extremities of an animal esp. when of a color differing from the rest of the body **c** (1) : a railroad switch (2) : the tip of the angle between two rails in a railroad frog **d** : the head of the bow of a stringed instrument **7** : a short musical phrase; *esp* : a phrase in contrapuntal music **8 a** : a very small mark **b** (1) : PUNCTUATION MARK; *esp* : PERIOD (2) : DECIMAL POINT **9** : a lace for tying parts of a garment together used esp. in the 16th and 17th centuries **10** : one of usu. eleven divisions of a heraldic shield that determines the position of a charge **11 a** : one of the 32 equidistant spots of a compass card **b** : the difference of $11\frac{1}{4}$ degrees between two such successive points **12** : a small detachment ahead of an advance guard or behind a rear guard **13 a** : NEEDLEPOINT 1 **b** : lace made with a bobbin **14** : one of 12 spaces marked off on each side of a backgammon board **15** : a unit of measurement: as **a** (1) : a unit of counting in the scoring of a game or contest (2) : a unit used in evaluating the strength of a bridge hand **b** : a unit of academic credit **c** (1) : a unit used in quoting prices (as of stocks, bonds, and commodities) (2) *pl* : a percentage of the face value of a loan often added as a placement fee or service charge **d** : a unit of about $\frac{1}{72}$ inch used to measure the belly-to-back dimension of printing type **16** : the action of pointing: as **a** : the rigidly intent attitude of a hunting dog marking game for a gunner **b** : the action in dancing of extending one leg so that only the tips of the toes touch the floor **17** : a position of a player in various games (as lacrosse); *also* : the player of such a position **18** : a number thrown on the first roll of the dice in craps which the player attempts to repeat before throwing a seven — compare MISSOUT, PASS — **beside the point** : IRRELEVANT — **in point** : RELEVANT, PERTINENT — used predicatively or postpositively ⟨mentioned a case *in point*⟩ — **in point of** : with regard to : in the matter of ⟨*in point of* law⟩ — **to the point** : RELEVANT, PERTINENT ⟨a suggestion that was *to the point*⟩
²point *vt* **1 a** : to furnish with a point : SHARPEN ⟨~*ing* a pencil with a knife⟩ **b** : to give added force, emphasis, or piquancy to ⟨~ up a remark⟩ **2** : to scratch out the old mortar from the joints of (as a brick wall) and fill in with new material **3 a** (1) : to mark the pauses or grammatical divisions in : PUNCTUATE (2) : to separate (a decimal fraction) from an integer by a decimal point — usu. used with *off* **b** : to mark (as Hebrew words) **4 a** (1) : to indicate the position or direction of esp. by extending a finger ⟨~ out a house⟩ (2) : to direct somone's attention to ⟨~ out a mistake⟩ **b** *of a hunting dog* : to indicate the presence and place of (game) by a point **5 a** : to cause to be turned in a particular direction ⟨~ a gun⟩ ⟨~*ed* the boat upstream⟩ **b** : to extend (a leg) in executing a point in dancing ~ *vi* **1 a** : to indicate the fact or probability of something specified ⟨everything ~*s* to a bright future⟩ **b** : to indicate the position or direction of something esp. by extending a finger ⟨~ at the map⟩ **c** : to point game ⟨a dog that ~*s* well⟩ **2 a** : to lie extended, aimed, or turned in a particular direction ⟨a directional arrow that ~*ed* to the north⟩ **b** : to execute a point in dancing **3** *of a ship* : to sail close to the wind **4** : to train for a particular contest
point–blank \'pȯint-'blaŋk\ *adj* **1 a** : marked by no appreciable drop below initial horizontal line of flight **b** : so close to a target that a missile fired will travel in a straight line to the mark **2** : DIRECT, BLUNT ⟨a ~ refusal⟩ — **point–blank** *adv*
point count *n* : a method of evaluating the strength of a hand in bridge by counting points for each high card and often for long or short suits; *also* : the value of a hand so evaluated
point d'ap·pui \ˌpwaⁿ(n)-dap-'wē\ *n, pl* **points d'appui** *same*\ [F, lit., point of support] : a base esp. for a military operation
point–de·vice \ˌpȯint-di-'vīs\ *adj, archaic* [ME *at point devis* at a fixed point] : marked by punctilious attention to detail : METICULOUS — **point–device** *adv, archaic*
pointe \'pwaⁿ(n)t\ *n* [F, lit., point] : a ballet position in which the body is balanced on the extreme tip of the toe
¹point·ed \'pȯint-əd\ *adj* **1 a** : having a point **b** : having a pointed crown characteristic of Gothic architecture **2 a** : being to the point : PERTINENT **b** : aimed at a particular person or group **3** : CONSPICUOUS, MARKED ⟨~ indifference⟩ — **point·ed·ly** *adv* — **point·ed·ness** *n*
²pointed *adj* [short for *appointed*] *obs* : SET, FIXED
point·er \'pȯint-ər\ *n* **1** : one that furnishes with points **2 a** : one that points out; *specif* : a rod used to direct attention **b** *pl, cap* : the two stars in the Great Bear a line through which points to the North Star **3** : a large strong slender smooth-haired gundog that hunts by scent and indicates the presence of game by pointing **4** : a useful suggestion or hint : TIP
point estimate *n* : the single value assigned to a parameter in point estimation
point estimation *n* : estimation in which a single value is assigned to a parameter
poin·til·lism \'pwaⁿ(n)-tē-ˌ(y)iz-əm, 'pȯint-ᵊl-ˌiz-əm\ *n* [F *pointillisme*, fr. *pointiller* to stipple, fr. *point* spot — more at POINT] : the theory or practice in art of applying small strokes or dots of color to a surface so that from a distance they blend together — **poin·tillist** *also* **poin·til·liste** \ˌpwaⁿ(n)-tē-'(y)ēst, 'pȯint-ᵊl-əst\ *n or adj*
poin·til·lis·tic \ˌpwaⁿ(n)-tē-'(y)is-tik, ˌpȯint-ᵊl-'is-\ *adj* : of, relating to, or characteristic of pointillism or pointillists
point lace *n* : NEEDLEPOINT 1
point·less \'pȯint-ləs\ *adj* **1** : devoid of meaning : SENSELESS ⟨a ~ remark⟩ **2** : devoid of effectiveness : FLAT ⟨~ attempts to be funny⟩ — **point·less·ly** *adv* — **point·less·ness** *n*
point of accumulation : LIMIT POINT
point of departure : a starting point esp. in a discussion
point of honor : a matter seriously affecting one's honor
point of inflection : INFLECTION POINT
point of no return **1** : the point in the flight of an aircraft (as over an ocean) beyond which the remaining fuel will be insufficient for a return to the starting point with the result that the craft must

proceed **2** : a critical point (as in a course of action) at which turning back or reversal is not possible

point of view : a position from which something is considered or evaluated : STANDPOINT

point source *n* : a source of radiation (as light) that is concentrated at a point and considered as having no spatial extension

point system *n* : a system in which printing type and spacing materials are made in sizes that are exact multiples of the point

pointy \'pȯint-ē\ *adj* **point·i·er; -est** **1** : coming to a rather sharp point **2** : having parts that stick out sharply here and there

¹poise \'pȯiz\ *vb* **poised; pois·ing** [ME *poisen* to weigh, ponder, fr. MF *pois-*, stem of *peser*, fr. L *pensare* — more at PENSIVE] *vt* **1 a** : BALANCE; *esp* : to hold or carry in equilibrium ⟨walked along gracefully with a water jar *poised* on her head⟩ **b** : to hold supported or suspended without motion in a steady position ⟨*poised* her fork and gave her guest a knowing look —Louis Bromfield⟩ **2** : to hold or carry (the head) in a particular way **3** : to put into readiness : BRACE ~ *vi* **1** : to become drawn up into readiness **2** : HOVER

²poise *n* [ME *poyse* weight, heaviness, fr. MF *pois*, fr. L *pensum*, fr. neut. of *pensus*, pp. of *pendere* to weigh — more at PENDANT] **1** : a stably balanced state : EQUILIBRIUM ⟨a ~ between widely divergent impulses —F. R. Leavis⟩ **2 a** : easy self-possessed assurance of manner : gracious tact in coping or handling; *also* : the pleasantly tranquil interaction between persons of poise ⟨no angry outbursts marred the ~ of the meeting⟩ **b** : a particular way of carrying oneself : BEARING, CARRIAGE ***syn*** see TACT

³poise \'pwäz\ *n* [F, fr. Jean Louis Marie *Poiseuille* †1869 F physician and anatomist] : a cgs unit of viscosity equal to the viscosity of a fluid that would require a shearing force of one dyne to move a square-centimeter area of either of two parallel layers of fluid one centimeter apart with a velocity of one centimeter per second relative to the other layer with the space between the layers being filled with the fluid

poised \'pȯizd\ *adj* : having poise: **a** : marked by balance or equilibrium **b** : marked by easy composure of manner or bearing

¹poi·son \'pȯiz-ᵊn\ *n* [ME, fr. OF, drink, poisonous drink, poison, fr. L *potion-*, *potio* drink — more at POTION] **1 a** : a substance that through its chemical action usu. kills, injures, or impairs an organism **b** (1) : something destructive or harmful (2) : an object of aversion or abhorrence **2** : a substance that inhibits the activity of another substance or the course of a reaction or process ⟨a catalyst ~⟩

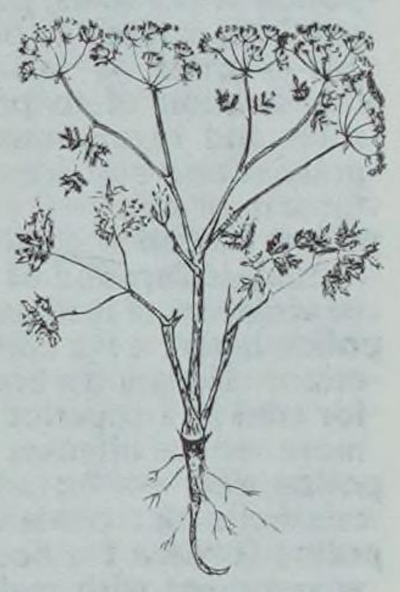
²poison *vb* **poi·soned; poi·son·ing** \'pȯiz-niŋ, -ᵊn-iŋ\ *vt* **1 a** : to injure or kill with poison **b** : to treat, taint, or impregnate with poison **2** : to exert a baneful influence on : CORRUPT ⟨~*ed* their minds⟩ **3** : to inhibit the activity, course, or occurrence of ⟨sulfur may ~ a fuel cell⟩ ~ *vi* : to put poison into or on something — **poi·son·er** \'pȯiz-nər, -ᵊn-ər\ *n*

³poison *adj* **1** : POISONOUS ⟨a ~ plant⟩ : VENOMOUS ⟨a ~ tongue⟩ **2** : impregnated with poison : POISONED ⟨a ~ arrow⟩

poison bean *n* : a leguminous shrub (*Daubentonia drummondii*) of the southern U.S. with poisonous seeds

poison gas *n* : a poisonous gas or a liquid or a solid giving off poisonous vapors designed (as in chemical warfare) to kill, injure, or disable by inhalation or contact

poison hemlock *n* **1** : a large branching biennial poisonous herb (*Conium maculatum*) of the carrot family with finely divided leaves and white flowers **2** : WATER HEMLOCK



poison hemlock 1

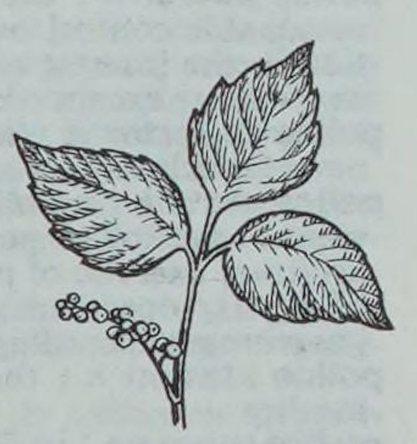
poison ivy *n* **1** : a climbing plant (*Rhus toxicodendron*) of the sumac family that is esp. common in the eastern and central U.S., that has ternate leaves, greenish flowers, and white berries, and that produces an acutely irritating oil causing a usu. intensely itching skin rash; *also* : any of several congeneric plants **2** : a skin rash caused by poison ivy

poison oak *n* : any of several poison ivies: **a** : POISON SUMAC **b** : a bushy poison ivy (*Rhus diversiloba*) of the Pacific coast **c** : a bushy poison ivy (*Rhus quercifolia*) of the southeastern U.S.

poi·son·ous \'pȯiz-nəs, -ᵊn-əs\ *adj* : having the properties or effects of poison : VENOMOUS — **poi·son·ous·ly** *adv*

poison–pen *adj* : written with malice and spite and usu. anonymously ⟨~ letter⟩

poison sumac *n* : a smooth shrubby American swamp poison ivy (*Rhus vernix*) with pinnate leaves, greenish flowers, and greenish white berries — called also *poison dogwood*



poison ivy

poi·son·wood \'pȯiz-ᵊn-ˌwu̇d\ *n* : a caustic or poisonous tree (*Metopium toxiferum*) of Florida and the West Indies that has compound leaves, greenish paniculate flowers, and orange-yellow fruits

Pois·son distribution \pwä-'sōⁿ-\ *n* [Siméon D. *Poisson* †1840 F mathematician] : a probability density function that is often used as a mathematical model of the number of outcomes (as traffic accidents, atomic disintegrations, or organisms) obtained in a suitable interval of time and space, that has the mean equal to the variance, that is used as an approximation to the binomial distribution, and that has the form

$$f(x) = \frac{e^{-\mu}\mu^{x}}{x!} \quad \text{where } \mu$$

is the mean and x takes on nonnegative integral values

¹poke \'pōk\ *n* [ME, fr. ONF — more at POCKET] *chiefly South & Midland* : BAG, SACK

²poke *vb* **poked; pok·ing** [ME *poken*; akin to MD *poken* to poke] *vt* **1 a** (1) : PROD, JAB ⟨*poked* him in the ribs and grinned broadly⟩ (2) : to urge or stir by prodding or jabbing **b** (1) : PIERCE, STAB (2) : to produce by piercing, stabbing, or jabbing ⟨~ a hole⟩ **c** (1) : HIT, PUNCH ⟨*poked* him in the nose⟩ (2) : to deliver (a blow) with the fist **2 a** : to cause to project ⟨*poked* her head out of the window⟩ **b** : to interpose or interject in a meddlesome manner ⟨asked him not to ~ his nose into other people's business⟩ ~ *vi* **1 a** : to make a prodding, jabbing, or thrusting movement esp. repeatedly **b** : to strike out at something **2 a** : to look about or through something without system : RUMMAGE ⟨*poking* around in the attic⟩ **b** : MEDDLE **3** : to move or act slowly or aimlessly : DAWDLE ⟨just *poked* around at home and didn't accomplish much⟩ **4** : to become stuck out or forward : PROTRUDE — **poke fun at** : RIDICULE, MOCK

³poke *n* **1 a** : a quick thrust : JAB **b** : a blow with the fist : PUNCH **2** : a projecting brim on the front of a woman's bonnet

⁴poke *n* [modif. of *puccoon* (in some Algonquian language of Virginia), a plant used in dyeing] : POKEWEED

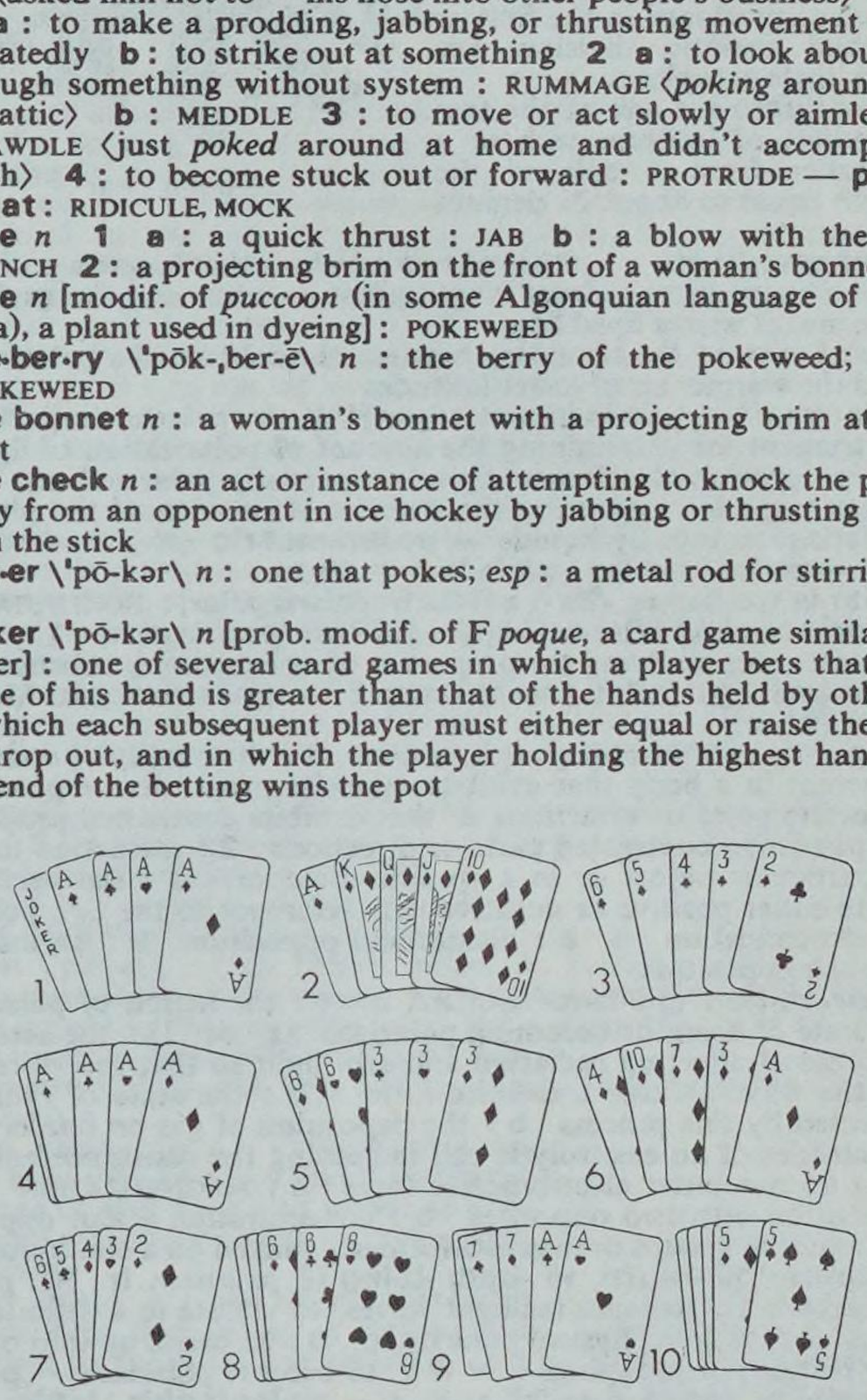
poke·ber·ry \'pōk-ˌber-ē\ *n* : the berry of the pokeweed; *also* : POKEWEED

poke bonnet *n* : a woman's bonnet with a projecting brim at the front

poke check *n* : an act or instance of attempting to knock the puck away from an opponent in ice hockey by jabbing or thrusting at it with the stick

¹pok·er \'pō-kər\ *n* : one that pokes; *esp* : a metal rod for stirring a fire

²po·ker \'pō-kər\ *n* [prob. modif. of F *poque*, a card game similar to poker] : one of several card games in which a player bets that the value of his hand is greater than that of the hands held by others, in which each subsequent player must either equal or raise the bet or drop out, and in which the player holding the highest hand at the end of the betting wins the pot



poker hands in descending value: *1* five of a kind, *2* royal flush, *3* straight flush, *4* four of a kind, *5* full house, *6* flush, *7* straight, *8* three of a kind, *9* two pairs, *10* one pair

poker face *n* [*²poker*; fr. the need of the poker player to conceal the true quality of his hand] : an inscrutable face that reveals no hint of a person's thoughts or feelings — **po·ker–faced** \ˌpō-kər-'fāst\ *adj*

poke·weed \'pō-ˌkwēd\ *n* : a coarse American perennial herb (*Phytolacca americana* of the family Phytolaccaceae, the pokeweed family) with racemose white flowers, dark purple juicy berries, a poisonous root, and young shoots sometimes used as potherbs

po·key \'pō-kē\ *n, pl* **pokeys** [origin unknown] *slang* : JAIL

poky *also* **pok·ey** \'pō-kē\ *adj* **pok·i·er; -est** [*²poke*] **1** : small and cramped **2** : SHABBY, DULL **3** : annoyingly slow — **pok·i·ly** \-kə-lē\ *adv* — **pok·i·ness** \-kē-nəs\ *n*

pol \'päl\ *n* : POLITICIAN

Pol *abbr* Poland; Polish

Po·la·bi·an \pō-'läb-ē-ən, -'lāb-\ *n* [*Polab*, of Slavic origin; akin to Pol *po* on, and to Pol *Laba*, Elbe river] **1** *or* **Polab** : a member of a Slavic people formerly dwelling in the basin of the Elbe and on the Baltic coast of Germany **2** : the extinct West Slavic language of the Polabians

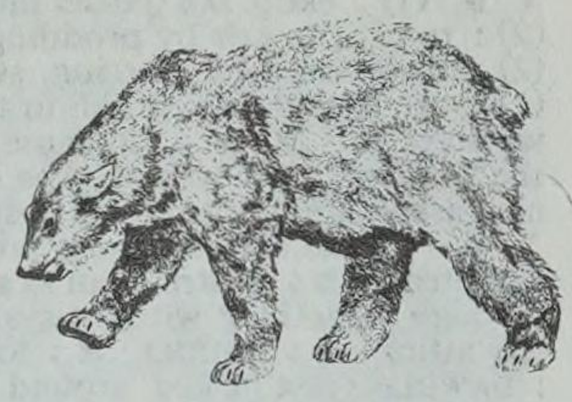
Po·lack \'pō-ˌlak\ *n* [Pol *Polak*] **1** *obs* : POLE 1 **2** : a person of Polish birth or descent — usu. used disparagingly

Po·land Chi·na \ˌpō-lən(d)-'chī-nə\ *n* [*Poland*, Europe + *China*, Asia] : any of an American breed of large white-marked black swine of the lard type

¹po·lar \'pō-lər\ *adj* [NL *polaris*, fr. L *polus* pole] **1 a** : of or relating to a geographical pole or the region around it **b** : coming from or having the characteristics of such a region **c** (1) : passing over a planet's north and south poles ⟨a satellite in a ~ orbit⟩ (2) : traveling in a polar orbit ⟨a ~ satellite⟩ **2** : of or relating to one or more poles (as of a magnet) **3** : serving as a guide **4** : diametrically opposite **5** : exhibiting polarity; *esp* : having a dipole or characterized by molecules having dipoles ⟨a ~ solvent⟩ **6** : resembling a pole or axis around which all else revolves : PIVOTAL **7** : of, relating to, or expressed in polar coordinates ⟨~ equations⟩; *also* : of or relating to a polar coordinate system

²polar *n* : a straight line related to a point; *specif* : the straight line joining the points of contact of the tangents from a point exterior to a conic section

polar bear *n* : a large creamy-white bear (*Thalarctos maritimus* or *Ursus maritimus*) that inhabits arctic regions



polar bear

polar body *n* : a cell that separates from an oocyte during meiosis and that contains a nucleus produced in the first or second meiotic division but very little cytoplasm

polar circle *n* : one of the two parallels of latitude each at a distance from a pole of the earth equal to about 23 degrees 27 minutes

polar coordinate *n* : either of two numbers that locate a point in a plane by its distance from a fixed point on a line and the angle this line makes with a fixed line

polar front *n* : the boundary between the cold air of a polar region and the warmer air of lower latitudes

po·lar·im·e·ter \ˌpō-lə-ˈrim-ət-ər\ *n* [ISV, fr. *polarization*] **1** : an instrument for determining the amount of polarization of light or the proportion of polarized light in a partially polarized ray **2** : a polariscope for measuring the amount of rotation of the plane of polarization esp. by liquids — **po·lar·i·met·ric** \pō-ˌlar-ə-ˈme-trik\ *adj* — **po·lar·im·e·try** \ˌpō-lə-ˈrim-ə-trē\ *n*

Po·lar·is \pə-ˈlar-əs, -ˈlär-\ *n* [NL, fr. *polaris* polar] : NORTH STAR

po·lari·scope \pō-ˈlar-ə-ˌskōp\ *n* [ISV, fr. *polarization*] **1** : an instrument for studying the properties of or examining substances in polarized light **2** : POLARIMETER 2 — **po·lari·scop·ic** \-ˌlar-ə-ˈskäp-ik\ *adj*

po·lar·i·ty \pō-ˈlar-ət-ē, pə-\ *n, pl* **-ties** **1** : the quality or condition inherent in a body that exhibits opposite properties or powers in opposite parts or directions or that exhibits contrasted properties or powers in contrasted parts or directions **2** : attraction toward a particular object or in a specific direction **3** : the particular state either positive or negative with reference to the two poles or to electrification **4** **a** : diametrical opposition **b** : an instance of such opposition

po·lar·iza·tion \ˌpō-lə-rə-ˈzā-shən\ *n* **1** : the action of polarizing or state of being or becoming polarized: as **a** (1) : the action or process of affecting radiation and esp. light so that the vibrations of the wave assume a definite form (2) : the state of radiation affected by this process **b** : the deposition of gas on one or both electrodes of an electrolytic cell increasing the resistance and setting up a counter electromotive force **c** : MAGNETIZATION **2** **a** : division into two opposites **b** : concentration about opposing extremes of groups or interests formerly ranged on a continuum

po·lar·ize \ˈpō-lə-ˌrīz\ *vb* **-ized; -iz·ing** [F *polariser*, fr. NL *polaris* polar] *vt* **1** : to cause (as light waves) to vibrate in a definite pattern **2** : to give physical polarity to **3** : to break up into opposing factions or groupings ~ *vi* : to become polarized — **po·lar·iz·abil·i·ty** \ˌpō-lə-ˌrī-zə-ˈbil-ət-ē\ *n* — **po·lar·iz·able** \ˈpō-lə-ˌrī-zə-bəl\ *adj*

polar nucleus *n* : either of the two nuclei of a seed plant embryo sac that are destined to form endosperm

po·lar·og·ra·phy \ˌpō-lə-ˈräg-rə-fē\ *n* [ISV, fr. *polarization*] : a method of qualitative or quantitative analysis based on current-voltage curves obtained during electrolysis of a solution with a steadily increasing electromotive force — **po·laro·graph·ic** \pō-ˌlar-ə-ˈgraf-ik\ *adj* — **po·laro·graph·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

Po·lar·oid \ˈpō-lə-ˌroid\ *trademark* — used esp. for a light-polarizing material used esp. in eyeglasses and lamps to prevent glare and in various optical devices

po·lar·on \ˈpō-lə-ˌrän\ *n* [ISV *polar* + ²*-on*] : a conducting electron in an ionic crystal together with the induced polarization of the surrounding lattice

pol·der \ˈpōl-dər, ˈpäl-\ *n* [D] : a tract of low land reclaimed from a body of water (as the sea)

¹pole \ˈpōl\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *pāl* stake, pole, fr. L *palus* stake; akin to L *pangere* to fix — more at PACT] **1** **a** : a long slender usu. cylindrical object (as a length of wood) **b** : a shaft which extends from the front axle of a wagon between wheelhorses and by which the wagon is drawn : TONGUE **c** : a long staff of wood, metal, or fiberglass used in the pole vault **2** **a** : a varying unit of length; *esp* : one measuring 16½ feet **b** : a unit of area equal to a square rod **3** : a tree with a breast-high diameter of from 4 to 12 inches **4** : the inside front row position on the starting line for a race

²pole *vb* **poled; pol·ing** *vt* **1** : to act upon with a pole **2** : to impel or push with a pole ~ *vi* **1** : to propel a boat with a pole **2** : to use ski poles to gain speed

³pole *n* [ME *pool*, fr. L *polus*, fr. Gk *polos* pivot, pole; akin to Gk *kyklos* wheel — more at WHEEL] **1** : either extremity of an axis of a sphere and esp. of the earth's axis **2** **a** : either of two related opposites **b** : a point of guidance or attraction **3** **a** : one of the two terminals of an electric cell, battery, or dynamo **b** : one of two or more regions in a magnetized body at which the magnetic flux density is concentrated **4** : either of two morphologically or physiologically differentiated areas at opposite ends of an axis in an organism or cell — see BLASTULA illustration **5** **a** : the fixed point in a system of polar coordinates that serves as the origin **b** : the point of origin of two tangents to a conic that determine a polar

Pole \ˈpōl\ *n* [G, of Slavic origin; akin to Pol *Polak* Pole] **1** : a native or inhabitant of Poland **2** : a person of Polish descent

¹pole·ax \ˈpō-ˌlaks\ *n* [ME *polax, pollax*, fr. *pol, polle* poll + *ax*] **1** : a battle-ax with short handle and often a hook or spike opposite the blade; *also* : one with a long handle used as an ornamental weapon **2** : an ax used in slaughtering cattle

²poleax *vt* : to attack, strike, or fell with or as if with a poleax

pole bean *n* : a cultivated bean that is usu. trained to grow upright on supports

pole·cat \ˈpōl-ˌkat\ *n, pl* **polecats** *or* **polecat** [ME *polcat*, prob. fr. MF *poul, pol* cock + ME *cat*; prob. fr. its preying on poultry — more at PULLET] **1** : a European carnivorous mammal (*Mustela putorius*) of which the ferret is considered a domesticated variety **2** : SKUNK

pole horse *n* **1** : a horse harnessed beside the pole of a wagon **2** : the horse having a starting position next to the inside rail in a harness race

pole·less \ˈpōl-ləs\ *adj* : having no pole

¹po·lem·ic \pə-ˈlem-ik\ *n* [F *polémique*, fr. MF, fr. *polemique* controversial, fr. Gk *polemikos* warlike, hostile, fr. *polemos* war; akin to OE ealfelo baleful, Gk *pallein* to brandish] **1** **a** : an aggressive attack on or refutation of the opinions or principles of another **b** : the art or practice of disputation or controversy — usu. used in pl. but sing. or pl. in constr. **2** : an aggressive controversialist : DISPUTANT — **po·lem·i·cist** \-ˈlem-ə-səst\ *n*

²polemic *or* **po·lem·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or being a polemic : CONTROVERSIAL **2** : engaged in or addicted to polemics : DISPUTATIOUS — **po·lem·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

po·lem·i·cize \-ˈlem-ə-ˌsīz\ *vt* **-cized; -ciz·ing** : POLEMIZE

po·le·mist \pə-ˈlem-əst, ˈpäl-ə-məst\ *n* [irreg. fr. *polemic*] : one skilled in or given to polemics

pol·e·mize \ˈpäl-ə-ˌmīz\ *vt* **-mized; -miz·ing** : to engage in controversy : dispute aggressively

pol·e·mo·ni·um \ˌpäl-ə-ˈmō-nē-əm\ *n* [NL, fr. Gk *polemōnion*, a plant] : JACOB'S LADDER

po·len·ta \pō-ˈlent-ə, pə-, -ˈlen-ˌtä\ *n* [It] : mush made of chestnut meal, cornmeal, semolina, or farina

pol·er \ˈpō-lər\ *n* : one that poles; *esp* : one that poles a boat

pole·star \ˈpōl-ˌstär\ *n* **1** : NORTH STAR **2** **a** : a directing principle : GUIDE **b** : a center of attraction

pole vault *n* : a vault with the aid of a pole; *specif* : a field event consisting of a vault for height over a crossbar — **pole–vault** *vi* — **pole–vault·er** *n*

pole·ward \ˈpōl-wərd\ *adv or adj* : toward or in the direction of a pole of the earth ⟨as the sun moves ~⟩ ⟨~ variation in temperature⟩

¹po·lice \pə-ˈlēs\ *n, pl* **police** *often attrib* [MF, government, fr. LL *politia*, fr. Gk *politeia*, fr. *politeuein* to be a citizen, engage in political activity, fr. *politēs* citizen, fr. *polis* city, state; akin to Skt *pur* city] **1** **a** : the internal organization or regulation of a political unit through exercise of governmental powers esp. with respect to general comfort, health, morals, safety, or prosperity **b** : control and regulation of affairs affecting the general order and welfare of any unit or area **c** : the system of laws for effecting such control **2** **a** : the department of government concerned primarily with maintenance of public order, safety, and health and enforcement of laws and possessing executive, judicial, and legislative powers **b** : the department of government charged with prevention, detection, and prosecution of public nuisances and crimes **3** **a** : POLICE FORCE **b** *pl* : POLICEMEN **4** **a** : a private organization resembling a police force ⟨campus ~⟩ **b** *pl* : the members of a private police organization **5** **a** : the action or process of cleaning and putting in order **b** : military personnel detailed to perform this function

²police *vt* **po·liced; po·lic·ing** **1** *archaic* : GOVERN **2** : to control, regulate, or keep in order by use of police **3** : to make clean and put in order **4** **a** : to supervise the operation, execution, or administration of to prevent or detect and prosecute violations of rules and regulations **b** : to exercise such supervision over the policies and activities of **5** : to perform the functions of a police force in or over

police action *n* : a localized military action undertaken without formal declaration of war by regular forces against persons held to be violators of international peace and order

police court *n* : a court of record that has jurisdiction over various minor offenses (as breach of the peace) and the power to bind over for trial in a superior court or for a grand jury persons accused of more serious offenses

police dog *n* **1** : a dog trained to assist police esp. in tracking criminals **2** : GERMAN SHEPHERD

police force *n* : a body of trained officers and men entrusted by a government with maintenance of public peace and order, enforcement of laws, and prevention and detection of crime

po·lice·man \pə-ˈlē-smən\ *n* : a member of a police force

police power *n* : the inherent power of a government to exercise reasonable control over persons and property within its jurisdiction in the interest of the general security, health, safety, morals, and welfare except where legally prohibited

police reporter *n* : a reporter regularly assigned to cover police news (as crimes and arrests)

police state *n* : a political unit characterized by repressive governmental control of political, economic, and social life usu. by an arbitrary exercise of power by police and esp. secret police in place of regular operation of administrative and judicial organs of the government according to publicly known legal procedures

police station *n* : the headquarters of the police for a particular locality

po·lice·wom·an \pə-ˈlē-ˌswu̇m-ən\ *n* : a woman who is a member of a police force

¹pol·i·cy \ˈpäl-ə-sē\ *n, pl* **-cies** [ME *policie*, government, policy, fr. MF, government, regulation, fr. LL *politia* — more at POLICE] **1** **a** : prudence or wisdom in the management of affairs : SAGACITY **b** : management or procedure based primarily on material interest **2** **a** : a definite course or method of action selected from among alternatives and in light of given conditions to guide and determine present and future decisions **b** : a high-level overall plan embracing the general goals and acceptable procedures esp. of a governmental body

²policy *n, pl* **-cies** [alter. of earlier *police*, fr. MF, certificate, fr. OIt *polizza*, modif. of ML *apodixa* receipt, fr. MGk *apodeixis*, fr. Gk, proof, fr. *apodeiknynai* to demonstrate — more at APODICTIC] **1**

: a writing whereby a contract of insurance is made **2 a** : a daily lottery in which participants bet that certain numbers will be drawn from a lottery wheel **b** : NUMBER 6a

pol·i·cy·hold·er \'päl-ə-sē-ˌhōl-dər\ *n* : the owner of an insurance policy

pol·i·cy·mak·ing \-ˌmā-kiŋ\ *n* : the high-level elaboration of policy and esp. of governmental policy — **pol·i·cy·mak·er** \-kər\ *n*

policy science *n* : a social science dealing with the making of high-level policy (as in a government or business)

po·lio \'pō-lē-ˌō\ *n* : POLIOMYELITIS

po·lio·my·elit·ic \ˌpō-lē-(ˌ)ō-ˌmī-ə-'lit-ik\ *adj* [ISV] : of, relating to, or affected with poliomyelitis

po·lio·my·eli·tis \-'līt-əs\ *n* [NL, fr. Gk *polios* gray + *myelos* marrow — more at FALLOW, MYEL-] : an acute infectious virus disease characterized by fever, motor paralysis, and atrophy of skeletal muscles often with permanent disability and deformity and marked by inflammation of nerve cells in the anterior horns of the spinal cord — called also *infantile paralysis*

po·lio·vi·rus \'pō-lē-(ˌ)ō-ˌvī-rəs\ *n* [NL, fr. *polio*myelitis + *virus*] : an enterovirus that occurs in several antigenically distinct forms and is the causative agent of human poliomyelitis

po·lis \'päl-əs\ *n, pl* **po·leis** \'päl-ˌās\ [Gk — more at POLICE] : a Greek city-state; *broadly* : a state or society esp. when characterized by a sense of community

-p·o·lis \p-(ə-)ləs\ *n comb form* [LL, fr. Gk, fr. *polis*] : city ⟨megalo*polis*⟩

¹pol·ish \'päl-ish\ *vb* [ME *polisshen*, fr. OF *poliss-*, stem of *polir*, fr. L *polire*] *vt* **1** : to make smooth and glossy usu. by friction : BURNISH **2** : to smooth, soften, or refine in manners or condition **3** : to bring to a highly developed, finished, or refined state : PERFECT ~ *vi* : to become smooth or glossy by or as if by friction — **pol·ish·er** *n*

²polish *n* **1 a** : a smooth glossy surface : LUSTER **b** : freedom from rudeness or coarseness : CULTURE **c** : a state of high development or refinement **2** : the action or process of polishing **3** : a preparation that is used to produce a gloss and often a color for the protection and decoration of a surface ⟨furniture ~⟩ ⟨nail ~⟩

¹Pol·ish \'pō-lish\ *adj* [*Pole*] : of, relating to, or characteristic of Poland, the Poles, or Polish

²Polish *n* : the Slavic language of the Poles

polish off *vt* : to dispose of rapidly or completely

polit *abbr* political; politician

po·lit·bu·ro \'päl-ət-ˌbyù(ə)r-(ˌ)ō, 'pō-lət-, pə-'lit-\ *n* [Russ *politbyuro*, fr. *politicheskoye byuro* political bureau] : the principal policy-making and executive committee of a Communist party

po·lite \pə-'līt\ *adj* **po·lit·er; -est** [L *politus*, fr. pp. of *polire*] **1 a** : of, relating to, or having the characteristics of advanced culture **b** : marked by refined cultural interests and pursuits esp. in arts and belles lettres **2 a** : showing or characterized by correct social usage **b** : marked by an appearance of consideration, tact, deference, or courtesy **c** : marked by a lack of roughness or crudities ⟨uses terms seldom met with in ~ literature⟩ ***syn*** see CIVIL ***ant*** impolite — **po·lite·ly** *adv* — **po·lite·ness** *n*

po·li·tesse \ˌpäl-i-'tes, ˌpȯ-li-\ *n* [F, fr. MF, cleanness, fr. OIt *pulitezza*, fr. *pulito*, pp. of *pulire* to polish, clean, fr. L *polire*] : formal politeness : DECOROUSNESS

pol·i·tic \'päl-ə-ˌtik\ *adj* [ME *politik*, fr. MF *politique*, fr. L *politicus*, fr. Gk *politikos*, fr. *politēs* citizen — more at POLICE] **1** : POLITICAL **2** : characterized by shrewdness in managing, contriving, or dealing **3** : sagacious in promoting a policy **4** : shrewdly tactful ***syn*** see EXPEDIENT, SUAVE

po·lit·i·cal \pə-'lit-i-kəl\ *adj* [L *politicus*] **1 a** : of or relating to government, a government, or the conduct of government **b** : of, relating to, or concerned with the making as distinguished from the administration of governmental policy **2 a** : of, relating to, or involving politics and esp. party politics **b** : adept at, sensitive to, or engrossed in politics ⟨highly ~ students⟩ **3** : organized in governmental terms ⟨~ units⟩ **4** : involving or charged or concerned with acts against a government or a political system ⟨~ criminals⟩ — **po·lit·i·cal·ly** \-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

political economy *n* **1** : a 19th century social science comprising the modern science of economics **2** : a modern social science dealing with the interrelationship of political and economic processes — **political economist** *n*

political science *n* : a social science concerned chiefly with the description and analysis of political and esp. governmental institutions and processes — **political scientist** *n*

pol·i·ti·cian \ˌpäl-ə-'tish-ən\ *n* **1** : a person experienced in the art or science of government; *esp* : one actively engaged in conducting the business of a government **2 a** : a person engaged in party politics as a profession **b** : a person primarily interested in political offices from selfish or other narrow usu. short-run interests

po·lit·i·cize \pə-'lit-ə-ˌsīz\ *vb* **-cized; -ciz·ing** *vi* : to discuss or discourse on politics ~ *vt* : to give a political tone or character to — **po·lit·i·ci·za·tion** \-ˌlit-ə-sə-'zā-shən\ *n*

pol·i·tick \'päl-ə-ˌtik\ *vi* [back-formation fr. *politicking*, n., fr. *politics* + *-ing*] : to engage in political discussion or activity — **pol·i·tick·er** *n*

po·lit·i·co \pə-'lit-i-ˌkō\ *n, pl* **-cos** *also* **-coes** [It *politico* or Sp *político*, derivs. of L *politicus* political] : POLITICIAN 2

politico- *comb form* [L *politicus*] : political and ⟨*politico*-diplomatic⟩

pol·i·tics \'päl-ə-ˌtiks\ *n pl but sing or pl in constr* [Gk *politika*, fr. neut. pl. of *politikos* political] **1 a** : the art or science of government **b** : the art or science concerned with guiding or influencing governmental policy **c** : the art or science concerned with winning and holding control over a government **2** : political actions, practices, or policies **3 a** : political affairs or business; *specif* : competition between competing interest groups or individuals for power and leadership in a government or other group **b** : political life esp. as a principal activity or profession **c** : political activities characterized by artful and often dishonest practices **4** : the political opinions or sympathies of a person **5** : the total complex of relations between men in society

pol·i·ty \'päl-ət-ē\ *n, pl* **-ties** [LL *politia* — more at POLICE] **1** : political organization **2** : a specific form of political organization **3** : a politically organized unit **4 a** : the form or constitution of a politically organized unit **b** : the form of government of a religious denomination

pol·ka \'pōl-kə\ *n* [Czech, fr. Pol *Polka* Polish woman, fem. of *Polak* Pole] **1** : a vivacious couple dance of Bohemian origin in duple time with a basic pattern of hop-step-close-step **2** : a lively Bohemian dance tune in $^2/_4$ time — **polka** *vi*

pol·ka dot \'pō-kə-ˌdät\ *n* : a dot in a pattern of regularly distributed dots in textile design — **polka-dot** *or* **pol·ka-dot·ted** \-ˌdät-əd\ *adj*

¹poll \'pōl\ *n* [ME *pol, polle*, fr. MLG] **1** : HEAD **2 a** : the prominent hairy top or back of the head **b** : NAPE **3** : the broad or flat end of a striking tool (as a hammer) **4 a** (1) : the casting or recording of the votes of a body of persons (2) : a counting of votes cast **b** : the place where votes are cast or recorded — usu. used in pl. ⟨at the ~s⟩ **c** : the period of time during which votes may be cast at an election **d** : the total number of votes recorded ⟨a heavy ~⟩ **5 a** : a questioning or canvassing of persons selected at random or by quota to obtain information or opinions to be analyzed **b** : a record of the information so obtained

²poll *vt* **1 a** : to cut off or cut short the hair or wool of : CROP, SHEAR **b** : to cut off or cut short (as wool) **2 a** : to cut off or back the top of (as a tree); *specif* : POLLARD **b** : to cut off or cut short the horns of (cattle) **3 a** : to receive and record the votes of **b** : to request each member of to declare his vote individually ⟨~ the assembly⟩ **4** : to receive (as votes) in an election **5** : to question or canvass in a poll ~ *vi* : to cast one's vote at a poll — **poll·ee** \pō-'lē\ *n* — **poll·er** \'pō-lər\ *n*

³poll *n* [prob. fr. obs. E *poll*, adj., naturally hornless, short for E *polled*] : a polled animal

pol·lack *or* **pol·lock** \'päl-ək\ *n, pl* **pollack** *or* **pollock** [Sc *podlok*, of unknown origin] : a commercially important north Atlantic food fish (*Pollachius virens*) related to and resembling the cods but darker

¹pol·lard \'päl-ərd\ *n* [*²poll*] **1** : a hornless animal of a usu. horned kind **2** : a tree cut back to the trunk to promote the growth of a dense head of foliage

²pollard *vt* : to make a pollard of (a tree)

polled \'pōld\ *adj* : having no horns

pol·len \'päl-ən\ *n* [NL *pollin-, pollen*, fr. L, fine flour; akin to L *pulvis* dust, Gk *palē* fine meal] **1** : a mass of microspores in a seed plant appearing usu. as a fine dust **2** : a dusty bloom on the body of an insect — **pol·lin·ic** \pä-'lin-ik\ *adj*

pol·len·ate \'päl-ə-ˌnāt\ *vt* : POLLINATE 1 — **pol·len·ation** \ˌpäl-ə-'nā-shən\ *n*

pollen basket *n* : a smooth area on each hind tibia of a bee that is edged by a fringe of stiff hairs and serves to collect and transport pollen — called also *corbicula*



bee with full pollen baskets

pollen grain *n* : one of the granular microspores that occur in pollen and give rise to the male gametophyte of a seed plant

pol·len·iz·er \'päl-ə-ˌnī-zər\ *n* [*pollenize* (to pollinize)] **1** : a plant that is a source of pollen **2** : POLLINATOR a

pollen mother cell *n* : a cell that is derived from the hypodermis of the pollen sac and that gives rise by meiosis to four cells, each of which develops into a pollen grain

pollen sac *n* : one of the pouches of a seed plant anther in which pollen is formed

pollen tube *n* : a tube that is formed by a pollen grain, passes down the style, and conveys the sperm nuclei to the embryo sac of a flower

pol·lex \'päl-ˌeks\ *n, pl* **pol·li·ces** \'päl-ə-ˌsēz\ [NL *pollic-, pollex*, fr. L, thumb, big toe] : the first digit of the forelimb : THUMB — **pol·li·cal** \'päl-i-kəl\ *adj*

pollin- *or* **pollini-** *comb form* [NL *pollin-, pollen*] : pollen ⟨*pollin*ate⟩

pol·li·nate \'päl-ə-ˌnāt\ *vt* **-nat·ed; -nat·ing** **1** : to place pollen on the stigma of **2** : to mark or smudge with pollen

pol·li·na·tion \ˌpäl-ə-'nā-shən\ *n* : the transfer of pollen from a stamen to an ovule

pol·li·na·tor \'päl-ə-ˌnāt-ər\ *n* : one that pollinates: as **a** : an agent that pollinates flowers **b** : POLLENIZER 1

pol·li·nif·er·ous \ˌpäl-ə-'nif-(ə-)rəs\ *adj* **1** : bearing or producing pollen **2** : adapted for the purpose of carrying pollen

pol·lin·i·um \pä-'lin-ē-əm\ *n, pl* **-ia** \-ē-ə\ [NL, fr. *pollin-*] : a coherent mass of pollen grains often with a stalk bearing an adhesive disk that clings to insects

pol·li·nize \'päl-ə-ˌnīz\ *vt* **-nized; -niz·ing** [ISV] : POLLINATE 1

pol·li·niz·er \-ˌnī-zər\ *n* : POLLENIZER

pol·li·nose \'päl-ə-ˌnōs\ *adj, of an insect* : covered with pollen

pol·li·no·sis *or* **pol·len·osis** \ˌpäl-ə-'nō-səs\ *n* [NL *pollinosis*, fr. *pollin-*] : an acute recurrent catarrhal disorder caused by allergic sensitivity to specific pollens

pol·li·wog *or* **pol·ly·wog** \'päl-ē-ˌwäg, -ˌwȯg\ *n* [alter. of ME *polwygle*, prob. fr. *pol* poll + *wiglen* to wiggle] : TADPOLE

poll·ster \'pōl-stər\ *n* : one that conducts a poll or compiles data obtained by a poll

poll tax *n* : a tax of a fixed amount per person levied on adults and often payable as a requirement for voting

pol·lut·ant \pə-'lüt-ᵊnt\ *n* : something that pollutes
pol·lute \pə-'lüt\ *vt* **pol·lut·ed; pol·lut·ing** [ME *polluten*, fr. L *pollutus*, pp. of *polluere*, fr. *por-* (akin to L *per* through) + *-luere* (akin to L *lutum* mud, Gk *lyma* dirt, defilement) — more at FOR] **1** : to make ceremonially or morally impure : DEFILE **2** : to make physically impure or unclean : BEFOUL, DIRTY; *esp* : to contaminate (an environment) esp. with man-made waste ***syn*** see CONTAMINATE — **pol·lut·er** *n* — **pol·lut·ive** \-'lüt-iv\ *adj*
pol·lu·tion \pə-'lü-shən\ *n* **1** : emission of semen at other times than in coitus **2 a** : the action of polluting : the condition of being polluted **b** : POLLUTANT
Pol·lux \'päl-əks\ *n* [L, modif. of Gk *Polydeukēs*] **1** : one of the Dioscuri **2** : a first-magnitude star in the constellation Gemini
Pol·ly·an·na \ˌpäl-ē-'an-ə\ *n* [*Pollyanna*, heroine of the novel *Pollyanna* (1913) by Eleanor Porter] : one characterized by irrepressible optimism and a tendency to find good in everything — **Pol·ly·an·na·ish** \-'an-ə-ish\ *or* **Pol·ly·an·nish** \-'an-ish\ *adj*
po·lo \'pō-(ˌ)lō\ *n* [Balti, ball] **1** : a game of oriental origin played by teams of players on horseback using mallets with long flexible handles to drive a wooden ball **2** : WATER POLO — **po·lo·ist** \'pō-(ˌ)lō-əst\ *n*
polo coat *n* : a tailored overcoat that is made of soft fabric and esp. tan camel's hair and often has stitched edges and a half-belt on the back
po·lo·naise \ˌpäl-ə-'nāz, ˌpō-lə-\ *n* [F, fr. fem. of *polonais* Polish, fr. *Pologne* Poland, fr. ML *Polonia*] **1** : an elaborate overdress with a short-sleeved fitted waist and a draped cutaway overskirt **2 a** : a stately Polish processional dance popular in 19th century Europe **b** : music for this dance in moderate 3/4 time



polonaise 1

po·lo·ni·um \pə-'lō-nē-əm\ *n* [NL, fr. ML *Polonia* Poland] : a radioactive metallic element that is similar chemically to tellurium and bismuth, occurs esp. in pitchblende and radium-lead residues, and emits a helium nucleus to form an isotope of lead — see ELEMENT table
Po·lo·ni·us \pə-'lō-nē-əs\ *n* : a garrulous courtier and father of Ophelia and Laertes in Shakespeare's *Hamlet*
polo shirt *n* : a close-fitting pullover knit shirt with short or long sleeves and turnover collar or banded neck
pol·ter·geist \'pōl-tər-ˌgīst\ *n* [G, fr. *poltern* to knock + *geist* spirit, fr. OHG — more at GHOST] : a noisy usu. mischievous ghost held to be responsible for unexplained noises (as rappings)
¹pol·troon \päl-'trün\ *n* [MF *poultron*, fr. OIt *poltrone*, fr. aug. of *poltro* colt, deriv. of L *pullus* young of an animal — more at FOAL] : a spiritless coward : CRAVEN
²poltroon *adj* : characterized by complete cowardice
pol·troon·ery \-'trün-(ə-)rē\ *n* : mean pusillanimity : COWARDICE
pol·troon·ish \-'trü-nish\ *adj* : resembling a poltroon : COWARDLY — **pol·troon·ish·ly** *adv*
¹poly \'päl-ē\ *n, pl* **pol·ys** \-ēz\ [by shortening] : a polymorphonuclear leukocyte
²poly *abbr* polytechnic
poly- *comb form* [ME, fr. L, fr. Gk, fr. *polys*; akin to OE *full* full] **1 a** : many : several : much : MULTI- ⟨*poly*chotomous⟩ ⟨*poly*gyny⟩ **b** : excessive : abnormal : HYPER- ⟨*poly*phagia⟩ **2 a** : containing an indefinite number more than one of a (specified) substance ⟨*poly*sulfide⟩ **b** : polymeric : polymer of a (specified) monomer ⟨*poly*ethylene⟩ ⟨*poly*adenylic acid⟩
poly·acryl·amide \ˌpäl-ē-ə-'kril-ə-ˌmīd\ *n* : a polyamide of acrylic acid
polyacrylamide gel *n* : hydrated polyacrylamide that is used esp. for electrophoresis
poly·adel·phous \ˌpäl-ē-ə-'del-fəs\ *adj* : united by the anthers into three or more groups ⟨~ stamens⟩
poly·al·co·hol \ˌpäl-ē-'al-kə-ˌhȯl\ *n* : an alcohol (as ethylene glycol) that contains more than one hydroxy group
polyalphabetic substitution \ˌpäl-ē-ˌal-fə-'bet-ik-\ *n* : substitution in cryptography that uses several cipher alphabets so that each plaintext letter will have a continually changing cipher equivalent — compare MONOALPHABETIC SUBSTITUTION
poly·am·ide \ˌpäl-ē-'am-ˌīd\ *n* [ISV] : a compound characterized by more than one amide group; *esp* : a polymeric amide
poly·an·dric \-'an-drik\ *adj* : of or relating to polyandry
poly·an·drous \-drəs\ *adj* **1** [*poly-* + *-androus*] : having many usu. free hypogynous stamens **2** [*polyandry*] : relating to or practicing polyandry
poly·an·dry \'päl-ē-ˌan-drē\ *n* [Gk *polyandros*, adj., having many husbands, fr. *poly-* + *andr-*, *anēr* man, husband — more at ANDR-] **1** : the state or practice of having more than one husband or male mate at one time — compare POLYGAMY, POLYGYNY **2** : the state of being polyandrous
poly·an·tha \ˌpäl-ē-'an(t)-thə\ *n* [NL, fr. Gk *polyanthos* blooming] : any of numerous dwarf hybrid bush roses characterized by many large clusters of small flowers
poly·an·thus \-'an(t)-thəs\ *n, pl* **-an·thus·es** *or* **-an·thi** \-'an-ˌthī, -ˌthē\ [NL, fr. Gk *polyanthos* blooming, fr. *poly-* + *anthos* flower — more at ANTHOLOGY] **1** : any of various hybrid primroses **2** : a narcissus (*Narcissus tazetta*) having small umbeled white or yellow flowers with a spreading perianth
poly·ba·site \ˌpäl-i-'bā-ˌsīt\ *n* [G *polybasit*, fr. *poly-* + *basi-*] : an iron-black metallic-looking ore $(Ag,Cu)_{16}Sb_2S_{11}$ of silver consisting of silver, copper, sulfur, and antimony
poly·car·bon·ate \ˌpäl-i-'kär-bə-ˌnāt, -nət\ *n* : any of various tough transparent thermoplastics characterized by high impact strength and high softening temperature
poly·car·pel·lary \-'kär-pə-ˌler-ē\ *adj* : consisting of several carpels
poly·car·pic \-'kär-pik\ *or* **poly·car·pous** \-pəs\ *adj* [prob. fr. NL *polycarpicus*, *polycarpus*, fr. *poly-* + *-carpicus* -carpic, *-carpus* -carpous] : having a gynoecium forming two or more distinct ovaries — **poly·car·py** \'päl-i-ˌkär-pē\ *n*
poly·cen·trism \ˌpäl-i-'sen-ˌtriz-əm\ *n* : the doctrine of a plurality of centers of Communist thought and leadership
poly·chaete \'päl-i-ˌkēt\ *adj* [deriv. of Gk *polychaitēs* having much hair, fr. *poly-* + *chaitē* long hair — more at CHAETA] : of or relating to a class (Polychaeta) of chiefly marine annelid worms usu. with paired segmental appendages, separate sexes, and a free-swimming trochophore larva — **polychaete** *n* — **poly·chae·tous** \ˌpäl-i-'kēt-əs\ *adj*
poly·cha·si·um \ˌpäl-i-'kā-z(h)ē-əm\ *n, pl* **-sia** \-z(h)ē-ə\ [NL, fr. *poly-* + *-chasium* (as in *dichasium*)] : a cymose inflorescence in which each main axis produces more than two branches
poly·chlo·ri·nat·ed biphenyl \-'klōr-ə-ˌnāt-əd-, -'klȯr-\ *n* : any of several compounds that are produced by replacing hydrogen atoms in biphenyl with chlorine, have various industrial applications, and are poisonous environmental pollutants which tend to accumulate in animal tissues — called also *PCB*
poly·chot·o·mous \-'kät-ə-məs\ *adj* [*poly-* + *-chotomous* (as in *dichotomous*)] : dividing or marked by division into many parts, branches, or classes — **poly·chot·o·my** \-mē\ *n*
poly·chro·mat·ic \-krō-'mat-ik\ *adj* [Gk *polychrōmatos*, fr. *poly-* + *chrōmat-*, *chrōma* color — more at CHROMATIC] **1** : showing a variety or a change of colors : MULTICOLORED **2** : being or relating to radiation that is composed of more than one wavelength
poly·chro·mato·phil·ia \-krō-ˌmat-ə-'fil-ē-ə\ *n* [NL] : the quality of being stainable with more than one type of stain and esp. with both acid and basic dyes
poly·chrome \'päl-i-ˌkrōm\ *adj* [Gk *polychrōmos*, fr. *poly-* + *chrōma*] : relating to, made with, or decorated in several colors ⟨~ pottery⟩ — **poly·chro·my** \-ˌkrō-mē\ *n*
poly·cis·tron·ic \ˌpäl-i-sis-'trän-ik\ *adj* : containing the genetic information of a number of cistrons ⟨~ messenger RNA⟩
poly·clin·ic \ˌpäl-i-'klin-ik\ *n* [ISV] : a clinic or hospital treating diseases of many sorts
poly·con·den·sa·tion \-ˌkän-ˌden-'sā-shən, -dən-\ *n* [ISV] : a chemical condensation leading to the formation of a compound of high molecular weight
poly·con·ic projection \ˌpäl-i-ˌkän-ik-\ *n* : a map projection of the earth's surface in which each narrow section is projected on the inside surface of a cone touching the sphere along this section and then the cone is unrolled
poly·cot \'päl-i-ˌkät\ *or* **poly·cot·yl** \-ˌkät-ᵊl\ *n* : POLYCOTYLEDON
poly·cot·y·le·don \-ˌkät-ᵊl-'ēd-ᵊn\ *n* [NL] : a plant having more than two cotyledons — **poly·cot·y·le·don·ous** \-'ēd-nəs, -ᵊn-əs\ *adj*
poly·crys·tal·line \-'kris-tə-lən\ *adj* **1** : consisting of crystals variously oriented **2** : composed of more than one crystal — **poly·crys·tal** \'päl-i-ˌkris-tᵊl\ *n*
poly·cy·clic \ˌpäl-i-'sī-klik, -'sik-lik\ *adj* [ISV] : having more than one cyclic component; *esp* : having two or more usu. fused rings in the molecule
poly·cy·the·mia \-(ˌ)sī-'thē-mē-ə\ *n* [NL, fr. *poly-* + *cyt-* + *-hemia*] : a condition marked by an abnormal increase in the number of circulating red blood cells; *specif* : POLYCYTHEMIA VERA — **poly·cy·the·mic** \-mik\ *adj*
polycythemia ve·ra \-'vir-ə\ *n* [NL, true polycythemia] : polycythemia of unknown cause that is characterized by increase in total blood volume and accompanied by nosebleed, distension of the circulatory vessels, and enlargement of the spleen — called also *erythremia*
poly·dac·tyl \ˌpäl-i-'dak-tᵊl\ *adj* [Gk *polydaktylos*, fr. *poly-* + *daktylos* digit] : having several to many and esp. abnormally many digits — **poly·dac·ty·ly** \-tə-lē\ *n*
poly·dac·ty·lous \-tə-ləs\ *adj* : POLYDACTYL
poly·dip·sia \ˌpäl-i-'dip-sē-ə\ *n* [NL, fr. *poly-* + Gk *dipsa* thirst] : excessive or abnormal thirst — **poly·dip·sic** \-sik\ *adj*
poly·dis·perse \-dis-'pərs\ *adj* [*poly-* + L *dispersus* dispersed, fr. pp. of *dispergere* to disperse] : of, relating to, or characterized by particles of varied sizes in the dispersed phase of a disperse system — **poly·dis·per·si·ty** \-'pər-sət-ē\ *n*
poly·elec·tro·lyte \ˌpäl-ē-ə-'lek-trə-ˌlīt\ *n* : a substance of high molecular weight (as a protein or a nucleotide) that is an electrolyte
poly·em·bry·o·ny \-'em-brē-ə-nē, -(ˌ)em-'brī-\ *n* [ISV *poly-* + *embryon-* + *-y*] **1** : the condition of having several embryos **2** : the production of two or more embryos from one ovule or egg — **poly·em·bry·on·ic** \-ˌem-brē-'än-ik\ *adj*
poly·ene \'päl-ē-ˌēn\ *n* [ISV] : an organic compound containing many double bonds; *esp* : one having the double bonds in a long aliphatic hydrocarbon chain — **poly·enic** \-'ē-nik\ *adj*
poly·es·ter \'päl-ē-ˌes-tər\ *n* [ISV] : a complex ester formed by polymerization or condensation and used esp. in making fibers or plastics — **poly·es·ter·i·fi·ca·tion** \-e-ˌster-ə-fə-'kā-shən\ *n*
poly·es·trous \ˌpäl-ē-'es-trəs\ *adj* : having more than one period of estrus in a year
poly·eth·yl·ene \-'eth-ə-ˌlēn\ *n* : a polymer of ethylene; *esp* : any of various partially crystalline lightweight thermoplastics $(CH_2CH_2)_x$ that are resistant to chemicals and moisture, have good insulating properties, and are used esp. in packaging and insulation
po·lyg·a·la \pə-'lig-ə-lə\ *n* [NL, genus name, fr. L, milkwort, fr. Gk *polygalon*, fr. *poly-* + *gala* milk — more at GALAXY] : MILKWORT
poly·gam·ic \ˌpäl-i-'gam-ik\ *adj* : POLYGAMOUS — **poly·gam·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj* — **poly·gam·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
po·lyg·a·mous \pə-'lig-ə-məs\ *adj* [Gk *polygamos*, fr. *poly-* + *-gamos* -gamous] **1 a** : relating to or practicing polygamy **b** : having more than one mate at one time ⟨baboons are ~⟩ **2** : bearing both hermaphrodite and unisexual flowers on the same plant — **po·lyg·a·mous·ly** *adv*
po·lyg·a·my \-mē\ *n* **1** : marriage in which a spouse of either sex may have more than one mate at the same time — compare POLY-

ANDRY, POLYGYNY **2 :** the state of being polygamous — **po·lyg·a·mist** \-məst\ *n* — **po·lyg·a·mize** \-ˌmīz\ *vi*

poly·gene \'päl-i-ˌjēn\ *n* [ISV] : any of a group of nonallelic genes that collectively control the inheritance of a quantitative character or modify the expression of a qualitative character — **poly·gen·ic** \ˌpäl-i-'jē-nik\ *adj*

poly·gen·e·sis \ˌpäl-i-'jen-ə-səs\ *n* [NL] : polyphyletic origin — **poly·gen·e·sist** \-səst\ *n*

poly·ge·net·ic \-jə-'net-ik\ *adj* **1 :** having many distinct sources **2 :** of or relating to polygenesis : POLYPHYLETIC — **poly·ge·net·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

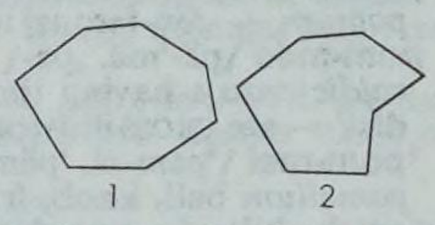
poly·glan·du·lar \-'glan-jə-lər\ *adj* [ISV] : of, relating to, or involving several glands ⟨~ therapy⟩

¹poly·glot \'päl-i-ˌglät\ *n* [Gk *polyglōttos*, adj., polyglot, fr. *poly-* + *glōtta* language — more at GLOSS] **1 :** one who is polyglot **2** *cap* **:** a book containing versions of the same text in several languages; *esp* **:** the Scriptures in several languages **3 :** a mixture or confusion of languages or nomenclatures

²polyglot *adj* **1 a :** speaking or writing several languages : MULTILINGUAL **b :** composed of numerous linguistic groups ⟨a ~ population⟩ **2 :** containing matter in several languages ⟨a ~ sign⟩ **3 :** composed of elements from different languages

poly·glot·ism *or* **poly·glot·tism** \-ˌglät-ˌiz-əm\ *n* **:** the use of many languages : the ability to speak many languages

poly·gon \'päl-i-ˌgän\ *n* [LL *polygonum*, fr. Gk *polygōnon*, fr. neut. of *polygōnos* polygonal, fr. *poly-* + *gōnia* angle — more at -GON] **1 :** a closed plane figure bounded by straight lines **2 :** a closed figure on a sphere bounded by arcs of great circles — **po·lyg·o·nal** \pə-'lig-ən-ᵊl\ *adj* — **po·lyg·o·nal·ly** \-ᵊl-ē\ *adv*



polygons 1: *1* convex, *2* concave

po·lyg·o·num \pə-'lig-ə-nəm\ *n* [NL, genus name, fr. Gk *polygonon* knotgrass, fr. *poly-* + *gony* knee — more at KNEE] : any of a genus (*Polygonum*) of herbs of the buckwheat family with prominent ocreae, thickened nodes, and flowers that are solitary and axillary or in spiked racemes — called also *knotweed*

poly·graph \'päl-i-ˌgraf\ *n* **:** an instrument for recording variations of several different pulsations (as of physiological variables) simultaneously; *broadly* : LIE DETECTOR — **poly·graph·ic** \ˌpäl-i-'graf-ik\ *adj*

poly·gy·noe·cial \ˌpäl-i-jin-'ē-s(h)ē-əl, -i-(ˌ)gī-'nē-, -shəl\ *adj* [*poly-* + NL *gynoecium*] : made up of several to many united gynoecia

po·lyg·y·nous \pə-'lij-ə-nəs\ *adj* **1 :** relating to or practicing polygyny **2 :** having many pistils

po·lyg·y·ny \-nē\ *n* **:** the state or practice of having more than one wife or female mate at one time — compare POLYANDRY, POLYGAMY

polyhedral angle *n* **:** a portion of space partly enclosed by three or more planes whose intersections meet in a vertex

poly·he·dron \ˌpäl-i-'hē-drən\ *n, pl* **-drons** *or* **-dra** \-drə\ [NL] : a solid formed by plane faces — **poly·he·dral** \-drəl\ *adj*

poly·he·dro·sis \ˌpäl-i-hē-'drō-səs\ *n, pl* **-droses** [NL, fr. *polyhedron*] : any of several virus diseases of insect larvae characterized by dissolution of tissues and accumulation of polyhedral granules in the resultant fluid

poly·his·tor \ˌpäl-i-'his-tər\ *n* [Gk *polyistōr* very learned, fr. *poly-* + *istōr, histōr* learned — more at HISTORY] : POLYMATH — **poly·his·tor·ic** \-his-'tȯr-ik, -'tär-\ *adj*

poly·hy·droxy \-hī-'präk-sē\ *adj* [*poly-* + *hydroxyl*] : containing more than one hydroxyl group in the molecule

Poly·hym·nia \ˌpäl-i-'him-nē-ə\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *Polyymnia*] : the Greek Muse of sacred song

poly·mas·ti·gote \ˌpäl-i-'mas-tə-ˌgōt\ *adj* : having many flagella

poly·math \'päl-i-ˌmath\ *n* [Gk *polymathēs* very learned, fr. *poly-* + *manthanein* to learn — more at MATHEMATICAL] : one of encyclopedic learning — **polymath** *or* **poly·math·ic** \ˌpäl-i-'math-ik\ *adj* — **po·ly·ma·thy** \pə-'lim-ə-thē, 'päl-ə-ˌmath-ē\ *n*

poly·mer \'päl-ə-mər\ *n* [ISV, back-formation fr. *polymeric*] : a chemical compound or mixture of compounds formed by polymerization and consisting essentially of repeating structural units

poly·mer·ase \-mə-ˌrās, -ˌrāz\ *n* [*polymer* + *-ase*] : any of several enzymes that catalyze the formation of DNA or RNA from precursor substances in the presence of preexisting DNA or RNA acting as a template

poly·mer·ic \ˌpäl-ə-'mer-ik\ *adj* [ISV, fr. Gk *polymerēs* having many parts, fr. *poly-* + *meros* part — more at MERIT] **1 :** of, relating to, or constituting a polymer **2 :** of, relating to, being, or involving nonallelic often identical genes that collectively control one or more hereditary traits — **poly·mer·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **po·ly·mer·ism** \pə-'lim-ə-ˌriz-əm, 'päl-ə-mə-\ *n*

po·ly·mer·iza·tion \pə-ˌlim-ə-rə-'zā-shən, ˌpäl-ə-mə-rə-\ *n* [ISV] **1 :** a chemical reaction in which two or more small molecules combine to form larger molecules that contain repeating structural units of the original molecules — compare ASSOCIATION 5 **2 :** reduplication of parts in an organism

po·ly·mer·ize \pə-'lim-ə-ˌrīz, 'päl-ə-mə-\ *vb* **-ized; -iz·ing** *vt* **:** to subject to polymerization ~ *vi* **:** to undergo polymerization

poly·morph \'päl-i-ˌmȯrf\ *n* [ISV] **1 :** a polymorphic organism; *also* **:** one of the several forms of such an organism **2 :** any of the crystalline forms of a polymorphic substance

poly·mor·phic \ˌpäl-i-'mȯr-fik\ *or* **poly·mor·phous** \-fəs\ *adj* [Gk *polymorphos*, fr. *poly-* + *-morphos* -morphous] : having, assuming, or occurring in various forms, characters, or styles — **poly·mor·phi·cal·ly** \-fi-k(ə-)lē\ *or* **poly·mor·phous·ly** *adv* — **poly·mor·phism** \-ˌfiz-əm\ *n*

poly·mor·pho·nu·cle·ar \-ˌmȯr-fə-'n(y)ü-klē-ər\ *adj, of a leukocyte* **:** having the nucleus complexly lobed — **polymorphonuclear** *n*

poly·myx·in \ˌpäl-i-'mik-sən\ *n* [ISV, fr. NL *polymyxa* (specific epithet of *Bacillus polymyxa*), fr. *poly-* + Gk *myxa* mucus — more at MUCUS] : any of several toxic antibiotics obtained from a soil bacterium (*Bacillus polymyxa*) and active against gram-negative bacteria

Poly·ne·sian \ˌpäl-ə-'nē-zhən, -shən\ *n* **1 :** a member of any of the native peoples of Polynesia **2 :** a group of Austronesian languages spoken in Polynesia — **Polynesian** *adj*

poly·neu·ri·tis \ˌpäl-i-n(y)ù-'rīt-əs\ *n* [NL] : neuritis of several peripheral nerves at the same time caused by alcoholism, poisons, infectious disease, or vitamin deficiency (as of thiamine)

Poly·ni·ces \ˌpäl-ə-'nī-sēz\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *Polyneikēs*] : a son of Oedipus in whose behalf the Seven against Thebes mounted their expedition

¹poly·no·mi·al \ˌpäl-ə-'nō-mē-əl\ *n* [*poly-* + *-nomial* (as in *binomial*)] : a sum of two or more algebraic terms each of which consists of a constant multiplied by one or more variables raised to a nonnegative integral power ⟨$a + bx + cx^2$ is a ~⟩

²polynomial *adj* : relating to, composed of, or expressed as one or more polynomials ⟨~ functions⟩ ⟨~ equations⟩

poly·nu·cle·ar \ˌpäl-i-'n(y)ü-klē-ər\ *adj* [ISV] : chemically polycyclic esp. with respect to the benzene ring — used chiefly of aromatic hydrocarbons that are important as pollutants and possibly as carcinogens

poly·nu·cle·o·tide \-'n(y)ü-klē-ə-ˌtīd\ *n* [ISV] : a polymeric chain of mononucleotides

po·lyn·ya \ˌpäl-ən-'yä\ *n* [Russ *polyn'ya*] : an area of open water in sea ice

poly·oma virus \ˌpäl-ē-'ō-mə-\ *n* [NL *polyoma*, fr. *poly-* + *-oma*] : a papovavirus of rodents that is associated with various kinds of tumors — called also *polyoma*

poly·on·y·mous \ˌpäl-ē-'än-ə-məs\ *adj* [Gk *polyōnymos*, fr. *poly-* + *onoma, onyma* name] : having or known by various names

pol·yp \'päl-əp\ *n* [MF *polype* octopus, nasal tumor, fr. L *polypus*, fr. Gk *polypous*, fr. *poly-* + *pous* foot — more at FOOT] **1 :** a coelenterate that has typically a hollow cylindrical body closed and attached at one end and opening at the other by a central mouth surrounded by tentacles armed with nematocysts **2 :** a projecting mass of swollen and hypertrophied or tumorous membrane — **pol·yp·oid** \-ə-ˌpȯid\ *adj*

pol·yp·ary \'päl-ə-ˌper-ē\ *n* **:** the common investing structure or tissue in which the polyps of compound coelenterates (as corals) are embedded

poly·pep·tide \ˌpäl-i-'pep-ˌtīd\ *n* [ISV] : a molecular chain of amino acids — **poly·pep·tid·ic** \-(ˌ)pep-'tid-ik\ *adj*

poly·pet·al·ous \-'pet-ᵊl-əs\ *adj* [NL *polypetalus*, fr. *poly-* + *petalum* petal] : having or consisting of separate petals

poly·pha·gia \-'fā-j(ē-)ə\ *n* [Gk *polyphagia*, fr. *polyphagos*] : excessive appetite or eating

po·lyph·a·gous \pə-'lif-ə-gəs\ *adj* [Gk *polyphagos* eating too much, fr. *poly-* + *-phagos* -phagous] : feeding on or utilizing many kinds of food — **po·lyph·a·gy** \-ə-jē\ *n*

poly·phase \'päl-i-ˌfāz\ *adj* [ISV] : having or producing two or more phases ⟨a ~ machine⟩ ⟨a ~ current⟩

poly·pha·sic \ˌpäl-i-'fā-zik\ *adj* : consisting of two or more phases

Poly·phe·mus \ˌpäl-ə-'fē-məs\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *Polyphēmos*] : a Cyclops whom Odysseus blinded in order to escape from his cave

poly·phe·nol \ˌpäl-i-'fē-ˌnōl, -fi-'\ *n* [ISV] : a polyhydroxy phenol — **poly·phe·no·lic** \-fi-'nō-lik, -'näl-ik\ *adj*

poly·phone \'päl-i-ˌfōn\ *n* **:** a symbol or sequence of symbols having more than one phonemic value (as *a* in English)

poly·phon·ic \ˌpäl-i-'fän-ik\ *or* **po·lyph·o·nous** \pə-'lif-ə-nəs\ *adj* **1 :** of, relating to, or marked by polyphony **2 :** being a polyphone — **poly·phon·i·cal·ly** \ˌpäl-i-'fän-i-k(ə-)lē\ *or* **po·lyph·o·nous·ly** *adv*

polyphonic prose *n* **:** a freely rhythmical prose employing characteristic devices of verse (as alliteration and assonance)

po·lyph·o·ny \pə-'lif-ə-nē\ *n* [Gk *polyphōnia* variety of tones, fr. *polyphōnos* having many tones or voices, fr. *poly-* + *phōnē* voice — more at BAN] : a style of musical composition in which two or more independent but organically related voice parts sound against one another

poly·phy·let·ic \ˌpäl-i-(ˌ)fī-'let-ik\ *adj* [ISV, fr. Gk *polyphylos* of many tribes, fr. *poly-* + *phylē* tribe — more at PHYL-] : of or relating to more than one stock; *specif* : derived from more than one ancestral line — **poly·phy·let·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **poly·phy·let·i·cism** \-'let-ə-ˌsiz-əm\ *n*

pol·yp·ide \'päl-ə-ˌpīd\ *n* [*polyp* + Gk *-idēs*, patronymic suffix] : one of the individual zooids of a bryozoan colony

poly·ploid \'päl-i-ˌplȯid\ *adj* [ISV] : having or being a chromosome number that is a multiple greater than two of the monoploid number — **polyploid** *n* — **poly·ploi·dy** \-ˌplȯid-ē\ *n*

po·lyp·nea \pä-'lip-nē-ə, pə-\ *n* [NL] : rapid or panting respiration — **po·lyp·ne·ic** \-nē-ik\ *adj*

poly·po·dy \'päl-ə-ˌpōd-ē\ *n, pl* **-dies** [ME *polypodie*, fr. L *polypodium*, fr. Gk *polypodion*, fr. *poly-* + *pod-, pous* foot — more at FOOT] : a widely distributed fern (*Polypodium vulgare*) that has creeping rootstocks and pinnatifid fronds with entire segments

pol·yp·ous \'päl-ə-pəs\ *adj* : relating to, being, or resembling a polyp

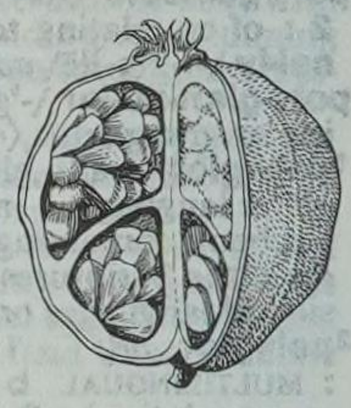
poly·pro·pyl·ene \ˌpäl-i-'prō-pə-ˌlēn\ *n* : any of various thermoplastic plastics or fibers that are polymers of propylene

po·lyp·tych \'päl-əp-ˌtik, pə-'lip-tik\ *n* [Gk *polyptychos* having many folds, fr. *poly-* + *ptychē* fold, fr. *ptyssein* to fold] : an arrangement of four or more panels (as of a painting) usu. hinged and folding together

poly·rhythm \'päl-i-ˌrith-əm\ *n* **:** the simultaneous combination of contrasting rhythms in a musical composition — **poly·rhyth·mic** \ˌpäl-i-'rith-mik\ *adj* — **poly·rhyth·mi·cal·ly** \-mi-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

poly·ri·bo·nu·cle·o·tide \ˌpäl-i-ˌrī-bō-'n(y)ü-klē-ə-ˌtīd\ *n* **:** a polynucleotide in which the mononucleotides are ribonucleotides

poly·ri·bo·some \-'rī-bə-ˌsōm\ *n* : a cluster of ribosomes linked together by a molecule of messenger RNA and forming the site of protein synthesis — **poly·ri·bo·som·al** \-ˌrī-bə-'sō-məl\ *adj*
poly·sac·cha·ride \-'sak-ə-ˌrīd\ *n* [ISV] : a carbohydrate that can be decomposed by hydrolysis into two or more molecules of monosaccharides; *esp* : one of the more complex carbohydrates (as cellulose, starch, or glycogen)
poly·sa·pro·bic \-sə-'prō-bik\ *adj* [ISV] : living in a medium that is rich in decomposable organic matter and is nearly free from dissolved oxygen
po·ly·se·mous \ˌpäl-i-'sē-məs, pə-'lis-ə-məs\ *adj* [LL *polysemus*, fr. Gk *polysēmos*, fr. *poly-* + *sēma* sign] : marked by multiplicity of meaning — **po·ly·se·my** \-mē\ *n*
poly·sep·al·ous \ˌpäl-i-'sep-ə-ləs\ *adj* : having separate sepals
poly·some \'päl-i-ˌsōm\ *n* : POLYRIBOSOME
poly·so·mic \ˌpäl-i-'sō-mik\ *adj* [ISV] : having one or a few chromosomes present in greater or smaller number than the rest — **polysomic** *n*
poly·sor·bate \-'sȯr-ˌbāt\ *n* : any of several emulsifiers used in the preparation of some pharmaceuticals or foods
po·lys·ti·chous \pə-'lis-ti-kəs\ *adj* [Gk *polystichos*, fr. *poly-* + *stichos* row — more at DISTICH] : arranged in several rows
poly·sty·rene \ˌpäl-i-'stī(ə)r-ˌēn\ *n* : a polymer of styrene; *esp* : a rigid transparent thermoplastic of good physical and electrical insulating properties used esp. in molded products, foams, and sheet materials
poly·sul·fide \-'səl-ˌfīd\ *n* [ISV] : a sulfide containing two or more atoms of sulfur in the molecule
poly·syl·lab·ic \ˌpäl-i-sə-'lab-ik\ *adj* [ML *polysyllabus*, fr. Gk *polysyllabos*, fr. *poly-* + *syllabē* syllable] **1** : having more than three syllables **2** : characterized by polysyllabic words — **poly·syl·lab·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
poly·syl·la·ble \'päl-i-ˌsil-ə-bəl, ˌpäl-i-'\ *n* [modif. of ML *polysyllaba*, fr. fem. of *polysyllabus*] : a polysyllabic word
poly·syn·ap·tic \ˌpäl-i-sə-'nap-tik\ *adj* : involving two or more synapses in the central nervous system ⟨~ reflexes⟩ — **poly·syn·ap·ti·cal·ly** \-ti-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
poly·syn·de·ton \-'sin-də-ˌtän\ *n* [NL, fr. LGk, neut. of *polysyndetos* using many conjunctions, fr. Gk *poly-* + *syndetos* bound together, conjunctive — more at ASYNDETON] : repetition of conjunctions in close succession (as in *we have ships and men and money and stores*)
[1]poly·tech·nic \-'tek-nik\ *adj* [F *polytechnique*, fr. Gk *polytechnos* skilled in many arts, fr. *poly-* + *technē* art — more at TECHNICAL] : relating to or devoted to instruction in many technical arts or applied sciences
[2]polytechnic *n* : a polytechnic school
poly·tene \'päl-i-ˌtēn\ *adj* [ISV] : relating to, being, or having chromosomes each of which consists of many strands with the corresponding chromomeres in contact — **poly·te·ny** \-ˌtē-nē\ *n*
poly·the·ism \'päl-i-(ˌ)thē-ˌiz-əm\ *n* [F *polytheisme*, fr. LGk *polytheos* polytheistic, fr. Gk, of many gods, fr. *poly-* + *theos* god] : belief in or worship of more than one god — **poly·the·ist** \-ˌthē-əst\ *adj or n* — **poly·the·is·tic** \ˌpäl-i-thē-'is-tik\ *also* **poly·the·is·ti·cal** \-'is-ti-kəl\ *adj*
poly·thene \'päl-ə-ˌthēn\ *n* [by contr.] : POLYETHYLENE
po·lyt·o·cous \pə-'lit-ə-kəs\ *adj* [Gk *polytokos*, fr. *poly-* + *tiktein* to beget — more at THANE] : producing many eggs or young at one time
poly·to·nal·i·ty \ˌpäl-i-tō-'nal-ət-ē\ *n* : the simultaneous use of two or more musical keys — **poly·ton·al** \-'tōn-ᵊl\ *adj* — **poly·ton·al·ly** \-ᵊl-ē\ *adv*
poly·tro·phic \-'trō-fik\ *adj* : deriving nourishment from more than one organic substance
poly·type \'päl-i-ˌtīp\ *n* : a polymorphic crystal structure — **poly·typ·ism** \-ˌtī-ˌpiz-əm\ *n*
poly·typ·ic \ˌpäl-i-'tip-ik\ *adj* **1** : represented by several or many types or subdivisions **2** : of, relating to, or being a polytype
poly·un·sat·u·rat·ed \'päl-ē-ˌən-'sach-ə-ˌrāt-əd\ *adj, of an oil or fatty acid* : rich in unsaturated chemical bonds
poly·ure·thane \ˌpäl-ē-'yür-ə-ˌthān\ *n* [ISV] : any of various polymers that contain NHCOO linkages and are used esp. in flexible and rigid foams, elastomers, and resins
poly·uria \ˌpäl-ē-'yůr-ē-ə\ *n* [NL] : excessive secretion of urine
poly·va·lent \ˌpäl-i-'vā-lənt\ *adj* [ISV] **1 a** : having a valence greater usu. than two **b** : having variable valence **2 a** : effective against, sensitive toward, or counteracting more than one exciting agent (as a toxin or antigen) **b** : MULTIVALENT 2 — **poly·va·lence** \-lən(t)s\ *n*
poly·vi·nyl \-'vīn-ᵊl\ *adj* [ISV] : of, relating to, or being a polymerized vinyl compound, resin, or plastic — often used in combination
poly·wa·ter \'päl-i-ˌwȯt-ər, -ˌwät-\ *n* [*poly*meric *water*] : water condensed into a glass capillary tube and held to be a stable form with special properties
poly·zo·an \ˌpäl-i-'zō-ən\ *n* **1** [NL *Polyzoa*, phylum name, fr. *poly-* + *-zoa*] : BRYOZOAN **2** [NL *Polyzoa*, subclass name, fr. *poly-* + *-zoa*] : CESTODE — **polyzoan** *adj*
poly·zo·ar·i·um \-zə-'war-ē-əm, -'wer-\ *n, pl* **-ia** \-ē-ə\ [NL, fr. *Polyzoa*] : a bryozoan colony; *also* : the supporting skeleton of such a colony
poly·zo·ic \-'zō-ik\ *adj* **1** : composed of many zooids **2** : producing many sporozoites
pom·ace \'pəm-əs, 'päm-\ *n* [prob. fr. ML *pomacium* cider, fr. LL *pomum* apple, fr. L, fruit] **1** : the dry or pulpy residue of material (as fruit, seeds, or fish) from which a liquid (as juice or oil) has been pressed or extracted **2** : something crushed to a pulpy mass
po·ma·ceous \pō-'mā-shəs\ *adj* [NL *pomaceus*, fr. LL *pomum*] **1** : of or relating to apples **2** [*pome*] : resembling a pome
po·made \pō-'mād, -'mäd\ *n* [MF *pommade* ointment formerly made from apples, fr. It *pomata*, fr. *pomo* apple, fr. LL *pomum*] : a perfumed ointment; *esp* : a fragrant unguent for the hair or scalp — **pomade** *vt*
po·man·der \'pō-ˌman-dər, pō-'\ *n* [ME, modif. of MF *pome d'ambre*, lit., apple or ball of amber] : a mixture of aromatic substances enclosed in a perforated bag or box and formerly carried as a guard against infection
po·ma·tum \pō-'māt-əm, -'mät-\ *n* [NL, fr. LL *pomum* apple] : OINTMENT; *esp* : a perfumed unguent for the hair or scalp
pome \'pōm\ *n* [ME, fr. MF *pome, pomme* apple, pome, ball, fr. LL *pomum* apple, fr. L, fruit] : a fleshy fruit consisting of an outer thickened fleshy layer and a central core with usu. five seeds enclosed in a capsule
pome·gran·ate \'päm-(ə-)ˌgran-ət, 'pəm-ˌgran-\ *n* [ME *poumgarnet*, fr. MF *pomme grenate*, lit., seedy apple] **1** : a thick-skinned several-celled reddish berry that is about the size of an orange and has many seeds in a crimson pulp of tart flavor **2** : a widely cultivated tropical Old World tree (*Punica granatum* of the family Punicaceae) bearing pomegranates


pomegranate 1

pom·e·lo \'päm-ə-ˌlō\ *n, pl* **-los** [alter. of earlier *pompelmous*, fr. D *pompelmoes*] **1** : SHADDOCK **2** : GRAPEFRUIT
Pom·er·a·nian \ˌpäm-ə-'rā-nē-ən, -nyən\ *n* **1** : a native or inhabitant of Pomerania **2** : any of a breed of very small compact long-haired dogs — **Pomeranian** *adj*
po·mif·er·ous \pō-'mif-(ə-)rəs\ *adj* [L *pomifer* fruitbearing, fr. *pomum* + *-fer* -ferous] : bearing pomes
pom·mée \pä-'mā, ˌpə-\ *adj* [F, fr. MF *pomme* apple, ball] *of a heraldic cross* : having the end of each arm terminating in a ball or disk — see CROSS illustration
[1]pom·mel \'pəm-əl, 'päm-\ *n* [ME *pomel*, fr. MF, fr. (assumed) VL *pomellum* ball, knob, fr. dim. of LL *pomum* apple] **1** : the knob on the hilt of a sword or saber **2** : the protuberance at the front and top of a saddlebow **3** : either of a pair of removable rounded or U-shaped handles used on the top of a side horse
[2]pom·mel \'pəm-əl\ *vt* **-meled** *or* **-melled; -mel·ing** *or* **-mel·ling** \-(ə-)liŋ\ [*[1]pommel*] : PUMMEL
po·mol·o·gy \pō-'mäl-ə-jē\ *n* [NL *pomologia*, fr. L *pomum* fruit + *-logia* -logy] : the science and practice of fruit growing — **po·mo·log·i·cal** \ˌpō-mə-'läj-i-kəl\ *adj* — **po·mo·log·i·cal·ly** \ˌpō-mə-'läj-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **po·mol·o·gist** \pō-'mäl-ə-jəst\ *n*
Po·mo·na \pə-'mō-nə\ *n* [L] : the Roman goddess of fruit trees
pomp \'pämp\ *n* [ME, fr. MF *pompe*, fr. L *pompa* procession, pomp, fr. Gk *pompē* act of sending, escort, procession, pomp] **1** : a show of magnificence : SPLENDOR ⟨every day begins . . . in a ~ of flaming colours —F. D. Ommanney⟩ **2** : a ceremonial or festal display (as a train of followers or a pageant) **3 a** : ostentatious display : VAINGLORY **b** : an ostentatious gesture or act
pom·pa·dour \'päm-pə-ˌdō(ə)r, -ˌdȯ(ə)r\ *n* [Marquise de *Pompadour*] **1 a** : a woman's style of hairdressing in which the hair is brushed into a loose full roll around the face **b** : a man's style of hairdressing in which the hair is combed into a high mound in front to stand erect **2** : hair dressed in a pompadour
pom·pa·no \'päm-pə-ˌnō, 'pəm-\ *n, pl* **-no** *or* **-nos** [Sp *pámpano* gilthead, lit., vine leaf, fr. L *pampinus*] **1** : a marine percoid food fish (*Trachinotus carolinus*) of the southern Atlantic and Gulf coasts of No. America; *broadly* : any of several related fishes **2** : a small bluish or greenish butterfish (*Peprilus simillimus*) of the Pacific coast
[1]pom–pom \'päm-ˌpäm\ *n* [imit.] : an automatic gun of 20 to 40 millimeters mounted on ships in pairs, fours, or eights
[2]pom–pom *n* [alter. of *pompon*] : an ornamental ball or tuft used esp. on clothing, caps, or costumes
pom·pon \'päm-ˌpän\ *n* [F, fr. MF *pompe* tuft of ribbons] **1** : [2]POM-POM **2** : a chrysanthemum or dahlia with small rounded flower heads
pom·pos·i·ty \päm-'päs-ət-ē\ *n, pl* **-ties** **1** : pompous demeanor, speech, or behavior **2** : a pompous gesture, habit, or act
pomp·ous \'päm-pəs\ *adj* **1** : relating to or suggestive of pomp : MAGNIFICENT **2** : having or exhibiting self-importance : ARROGANT ⟨a ~ politician⟩ **3** : excessively elevated or ornate ⟨~ rhetoric⟩ — **pomp·ous·ly** *adv* — **pomp·ous·ness** *n*
pon *abbr* pontoon
pon·cho \'pän-(ˌ)chō\ *n, pl* **ponchos** [AmerSp, fr. Araucanian *pontho* woolen fabric] **1** : a cloak resembling a blanket with a slit in the middle for the head **2** : a waterproof garment resembling a poncho worn chiefly as a raincoat
pond \'pänd\ *n* [ME *ponde* artificially confined body of water, alter. of *pounde* enclosure — more at POUND] : a body of water usu. smaller than a lake
pon·der \'pän-dər\ *vb* **pon·dered; pon·der·ing** \-d(ə-)riŋ\ [ME *ponderen*, fr. MF *ponderer*, fr. L *ponderare* to weigh, ponder, fr. *ponder-, pondus* weight — more at PENDANT] *vt* **1** : to weigh in the mind : APPRAISE ⟨~*ed* their chances of success⟩ **2** : to deliberate about **3** : to review mentally : think about ⟨~*ed* the events of the day⟩ ~ *vi* : to think or consider esp. quietly, soberly, and deeply — **pon·der·er** \-dər-ər\ *n*

syn PONDER, MEDITATE, MUSE, RUMINATE *shared meaning element* : to consider or examine attentively or deliberately. PONDER implies a careful weighing of alternatives or prolonged, often inconclusive thinking ⟨*ponder* over the best way to get out of a scrape⟩ MEDITATE adds to *ponder* an implication of a definite directing or focusing of one's thought ⟨*meditate* upon these things; give thyself wholly to them —1 Tim 4:15 (AV)⟩ In transitive use it may imply such deep mental commitment (as to a plan) as to approach *intend* or *purpose* in meaning ⟨he was *meditating* a book on Shakespearian questions —H. J. Oliver⟩ MUSE, otherwise close to *meditate*, is likely to suggest a persistent but languid and inconclusive turning over in the mind ⟨*musing* over old times⟩ ⟨he *mused* about the ultimate destiny of man⟩ RUMINATE suggests going over something repeatedly in the mind often by way of casual reasoning or random speculation ⟨sit at home and *ruminate* on the qualities of certain little books . . . which I can read and read again —L. P. Smith⟩

pon·der·a·ble \'pän-d(ə-)rə-bəl\ *adj* [LL *ponderabilis*, fr. *ponderare*] : capable of being weighed or appraised : APPRECIABLE ***syn*** see PERCEPTIBLE ***ant*** imponderable
pon·der·o·sa pine \ˌpän-də-ˌrō-sə-, -zə-\ *n* [NL *ponderosa*, specific epithet of *Pinus ponderosa*, species name, fr. L, fem. of *ponderosus* ponderous] : a tall timber tree (*Pinus ponderosa*) of western No. America with long needles in groups of two to five; *also* : its strong reddish straight-grained wood — called also *ponderosa*
pon·der·ous \'pän-d(ə-)rəs\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF *pondereux*, fr. L *ponderosus*, fr. *ponder-*, *pondus* weight] **1** : of very great weight **2** : unwieldy or clumsy because of weight and size **3** : oppressively or unpleasantly dull : PEDESTRIAN ⟨~ prose⟩ ***syn*** see HEAVY — **pon·der·ous·ly** *adv* — **pon·der·ous·ness** *n*
pond lily *n* : WATER LILY
pond scum *n* **1** : SPIROGYRA; *also* : any of various related algae **2** : a mass of tangled algal filaments in stagnant waters
pond·weed \'pän-ˌdwēd\ *n* : any of a genus (*Potamogeton* of the family Zannichelliaceae, the pondweed family) of aquatic plants with jointed usu. rooting stems, 2-ranked floating or submerged leaves, and spikes of greenish flowers
pone \'pōn\ *n* [of Algonquian origin; akin to Delaware *äpân* baked] *South & Midland* : CORN PONE
pon·gee \(ˌ)pän-'jē, 'pän-ˌ\ *n* [Chin (Pek) *pen*³ *chi*¹, fr. *pen*³ own + *chi*¹ loom] : a thin soft ecru or tan fabric of Chinese origin woven from raw silk; *also* : an imitation of this fabric in cotton or rayon
pon·gid \'pän-jəd, 'päŋ-gəd\ *n* [deriv. of Kongo *mpungu* ape] : an anthropoid ape — **pongid** *adj*
¹pon·iard \'pän-yərd\ *n* [MF *poignard*, fr. *poing* fist, fr. L *pugnus* fist — more at PUNGENT] : a dagger with a usu. slender blade of triangular or square cross section
²poniard *vt* : to pierce or kill with a poniard
pons \'pänz\ *n, pl* **pon·tes** \'pän-ˌtēz\ [NL, short for *pons Varolii*] : a broad mass of chiefly transverse nerve fibers conspicuous on the ventral surface of the brain of man and lower mammals at the anterior end of the medulla oblongata — see BRAIN illustration
pons asi·no·rum \'pän-ˌzas-ə-'nōr-əm, -'nȯr-\ *n* [NL, lit., asses' bridge, name applied to the proposition that the base angles of an isosceles triangle are equal] : a critical test of ability imposed on the inexperienced or ignorant
pons Va·ro·lii \-və-'rō-lē-ˌī, -lē-ˌē\ *n* [NL, lit., bridge of Varoli, fr. Costanzo *Varoli* †1575 It surgeon and anatomist] : PONS
pon·ti·fex \'pänt-ə-ˌfeks\ *n, pl* **pon·tif·i·ces** \pän-'tif-ə-ˌsēz\ [L *pontific-*, *pontifex*, lit., bridge maker, fr. *pont-*, *pons* bridge + *facere* to make — more at FIND, DO] : a member of the council of priests in ancient Rome
pon·tiff \'pänt-əf\ *n* [F *pontif*, fr. L *pontific-*, *pontifex*] **1** : PONTIFEX **2** : BISHOP; *specif* : POPE
¹pon·tif·i·cal \pän-'tif-i-kəl\ *adj* [L *pontificalis*, fr. *pontific-*, *pontifex*] **1 a** : of or relating to a pontiff or pontifex **b** : celebrated by a prelate of episcopal rank with distinctive ceremonies ⟨~ mass⟩ **2** : POMPOUS **3** : pretentiously dogmatic — **pon·tif·i·cal·ly** \-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
²pontifical *n* **1** : episcopal attire; *specif* : the insignia of the episcopal order worn by a prelate when celebrating a pontifical mass — usu. used in pl. **2** : a book containing the forms for sacraments and rites performed by a bishop
¹pon·tif·i·cate \pän-'tif-i-kət, -ə-ˌkāt\ *n* [L *pontificatus*, fr. *pontific-*, *pontifex*] : the state, office, or term of office of a pontiff
²pon·tif·i·cate \pän-'tif-ə-ˌkāt\ *vi* **-cat·ed; -cat·ing** [ML *pontificatus*, pp. of *pontificare*, fr. L *pontific-*, *pontifex*] **1 a** : to officiate as a pontiff **b** : to celebrate pontifical mass **2** : to deliver oracular utterances or dogmatic opinions — **pon·tif·i·ca·tion** \(ˌ)pän-ˌtif-ə-'kā-shən\ *n* — **pon·tif·i·ca·tor** \-ˌkāt-ər\ *n*
pon·tine \'pän-ˌtīn\ *adj* [ISV *pont-* (fr. NL *pont-*, *pons*) + *-ine*] : of or relating to the pons
Pont l'É·vêque \ˌpōⁿ-lā-'vek\ *n* [*Pont l'Évêque*, town in France] : a soft surface-ripened cheese firmer, yellower, and having less surface mold than Camembert
pon·toon \'pänt-ᵊn, pän-'tün\ *n* [F] : PONTOON
pon·toon·ier \ˌpänt-ᵊn-'i(ə)r\ *n* [F *pontonnier*, fr. *ponton*] : an individual engaged in constructing a pontoon bridge
pon·toon \pän-'tün\ *n* [F *ponton*, floating bridge, punt, fr. L *ponton-*, *ponto*, fr. *pont-*, *pons* bridge] **1** : a flat-bottomed boat (as a lighter); *esp* : a flat-bottomed boat or portable float used in building a floating temporary bridge **2** : a float esp. of an airplane
pontoon bridge *n* : a bridge whose deck is supported on pontoons
po·ny \'pō-nē\ *n, pl* **ponies** [prob. fr. obs. F *poulenet*, dim. of F *poulain* colt, fr. ML *pullanus*, fr. L *pullus* young of an animal, foal — more at FOAL] **1 a** : a small horse; *esp* : one of any of several breeds of very small stocky animals noted for their gentleness and endurance **b** : a bronco, mustang, or similar horse of the western U.S. **c** : RACEHORSE **2** : something smaller than standard **3** : a literal translation of a foreign language text; *esp* : one used surreptitiously by students in preparing or reciting lessons
pony car *n* [fr. its relatively small size and lively performance] : one of a group of 2-door American hardtops of different makes that are similar in sporty styling, high performance characteristics, and price range
pony express *n* : a rapid postal and express system that operated across the western U.S. in 1860–1861 by relays of horses and riders
po·ny·tail \'pō-nē-ˌtāl\ *n* : a style of arranging hair to resemble a pony's tail; *also* : hair arranged in this style
po·ny up \ˌpō-nē-'əp\ *vb* **po·nied up; po·ny·ing up** [origin unknown] *vt* : to pay (money) in settlement of an account ⟨*ponied up* $12.50 for the fine —*Newsweek*⟩ ~ *vi* : PAY
POO *abbr* post office order
pooch \'püch\ *n* [origin unknown] : DOG
pood \'püd, 'püt\ *n* [Russ *pud*, fr. ON *pund* pound — more at POUND] : a Russian unit of weight equal to about 36.11 pounds
poo·dle \'püd-ᵊl\ *n* [G *pudel*, short for *pudelhund*, fr. *pudeln* to splash (fr. *pudel* puddle, fr. LG) + *hund* dog (fr. OHG *hunt*) — more at PUDDLE, HOUND] : any of a breed of active intelligent heavy-coated solid-colored dogs
pooh \'pü, 'pu̇\ *interj* — used to express contempt or disapproval
pooh–bah \'pü-ˌbä, -ˌbȯ\ *n, often cap P&B* [*Pooh-Bah*, character in Gilbert and Sullivan's opera *The Mikado* (1885) bearing the title Lord-High-Everything-Else] **1** : a person holding many public or private offices **2** : a person in high position
pooh–pooh \'pü-(ˌ)pü, pü-'\ *also* **pooh** \'pü\ *vb* [*pooh*] *vi* : to express contempt or impatience ~ *vt* : to express contempt for
¹pool \'pül\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *pōl*; akin to OHG *pfuol* pool] **1** : a small and rather deep body of usu. fresh water **2** : a small body of standing liquid : PUDDLE **3** : a continuous area of porous sedimentary rock which yields petroleum or gas
²pool *n* [F *poule*, lit., hen, fr. OF, fem. of *poul* cock — more at PULLET] **1 a** : an aggregate stake to which each player of a game has contributed **b** : all the money bet by a number of persons on a particular event **2 a** : a game played on an English billiard table in which each of the players stakes a sum and the winner takes all **b** : any of various games of billiards played on an oblong table having 6 pockets with usu. 15 object balls **3** : an aggregation of the interests or property of different persons made to further a joint undertaking by subjecting them to the same control and a common liability: as **a** : a common fund or combination of interests for the common adventure in buying or selling; *esp* : one for speculating in or manipulating the market price of securities or commodities (as grain) **b** : a combination between competing business houses for the control of traffic by removing competition **4** : a readily available supply: as **a** : the whole quantity of a particular material present in the body and available for function or the satisfying of metabolic demands **b** : a body product (as blood) collected from many donors and stored for later use
³pool *vt* : to contribute to a common stock (as of resources), sample, or effort
pool·room \'pül-ˌrüm, -ˌru̇m\ *n* **1** : a room in which bookmaking is carried on **2** : a room for the playing of pool
¹poop \'püp\ *n* [MF *poupe*, fr. L *puppis*] **1** *obs* : STERN **2** : an enclosed superstructure at the stern of a ship above the main deck
²poop *vt* **1** : to break over the stern of **2** : to ship (a sea or wave) over the stern
³poop *vb* [origin unknown] *vt, slang* : to put out of breath; *also* : to tire out ~ *vi, slang* : to become exhausted ⟨~ out⟩
⁴poop *n* [origin unknown] *slang* : INFORMATION
poop deck *n* : a partial deck above a ship's main afterdeck
poor \'pu̇(ə)r, 'pō(ə)r\ *adj* [ME *poure*, fr. OF *povre*, fr. L *pauper*; akin to L *paucus* little and to L *parere* to produce, *parare* to acquire — more at FEW, PARE] **1 a** : lacking material possessions **b** : of, relating to, or characterized by poverty **2 a** : less than adequate : MEAGER **b** : small in worth **3** : exciting pity **4 a** : inferior in quality or value **b** : HUMBLE, UNPRETENTIOUS **c** : MEAN, PETTY **5** : LEAN, EMACIATED **6** : BARREN, UNPRODUCTIVE — used of land — **poor·ly** *adv* — **poor·ness** *n*
poor box *n* : a box (as in a church) for alms for the poor
poor boy \'pō(r)-ˌbȯi\ *n* : SUBMARINE 2
Poor Clare \-'kla(ə)r, -'kle(ə)r\ *n* : a member of an austere order of nuns founded by St. Clare under the direction of St. Francis in Assisi, Italy, in 1212
poor farm \'pu̇(ə)r-ˌfärm, 'pō(ə)r-\ *n* : a farm maintained at public expense for the support and employment of needy persons
poor·house \-ˌhau̇s\ *n* : a place maintained at public expense to house needy or dependent persons
poor·ish \'pu̇(ə)r-ish, 'pō(ə)r-\ *adj* : rather poor
poor law *n* : a law providing for or regulating the public relief or support of the poor
poor·ly \'pu̇(ə)r-lē, 'pō(ə)r-\ *adj* : somewhat ill : INDISPOSED
poor–mouth \-ˌmau̇th, -ˌmau̇th\ *vi* : to plead poverty as a defense or excuse ~ *vt* : to speak disparagingly of
poor mouth \-ˌmau̇th\ *n* : an exaggerated claim of poverty
poor–spir·it·ed \-'spir-ət-əd\ *adj* : lacking zest, confidence, or courage — **poor–spir·it·ed·ly** *adv* — **poor–spir·it·ed·ness** *n*
poor white *n* : a member of an inferior or underprivileged white social group — often taken to be offensive
¹pop \'päp\ *vb* **popped; pop·ping** [ME *poppen*, of imit. origin] *vt* **1** : to strike or knock sharply : HIT **2** : to push, put, or thrust suddenly **3** : to cause to explode or burst open **4** : to fire at : SHOOT **5** : to take (drugs) orally or by injection ⟨he *popped* pills⟩ ~ *vi* **1 a** : to go, come, or enter suddenly **b** : to escape or break away from something (as a point of attachment) usu. suddenly or unexpectedly **2** : to make or burst with a sharp sound : EXPLODE **3** : to protrude from the sockets **4** : to shoot with a firearm **5** : to hit a pop fly — often used with *up* or *out* — **pop the question** : to propose marriage
²pop *n* **1** : a sharp explosive sound **2** : a shot from a gun **3** [fr. the sound made by pulling a cork from a bottle] : a flavored carbonated beverage **4** : POP FLY
³pop *adv* : like or with a pop : SUDDENLY
⁴pop *n* [short for *poppa*] : FATHER
⁵pop *adj* **1** : POPULAR ⟨~ music⟩: as **a** : of or relating to pop music ⟨~ singer⟩ **b** : of, relating to, or constituting a mass culture esp. of the young widely disseminated through the mass media ⟨~ society⟩ **2 a** : of or relating to pop art ⟨~ painter⟩ **b** : having, using, or imitating themes or techniques characteristic of pop art ⟨~ movie⟩
⁶pop *n* **1** : pop music **2** : POP ART **3** : pop culture
⁷pop *abbr* population
pop art *n* : art in which commonplace objects (as road signs, hamburgers, comic strips, or soup cans) are used as subject matter and are often physically incorporated in the work — **pop artist** *n*

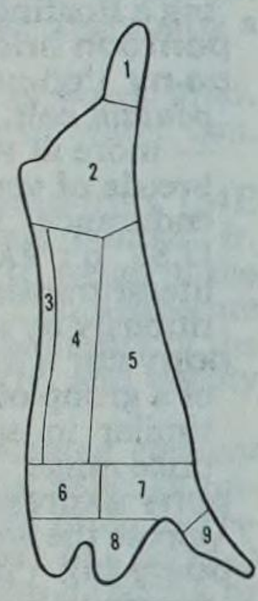
pop-corn \'päp-ˌkȯ(ə)rn\ *n* : an Indian corn (*Zea mays everta*) whose kernels on exposure to heat burst open to form a white starchy mass; *also* : the popped kernels
pope \'pōp\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *pāpa*, fr. LL *papa*, fr. Gk *pappas, papas*, title of bishops, lit., papa] **1** *often cap* : a prelate who as bishop of Rome is the head of the Roman Catholic Church **2** : one that resembles a pope (as in authority) **3** : a priest of an Eastern church
pop-ery \'pō-p(ə-)rē\ *n* : ROMAN CATHOLICISM — usu. used disparagingly
pop eye \'päp-ˌī\ *n* [back-formation fr. *pop-eyed*] : an eye staring and bulging (as from excitement) — **pop-eyed** \-ˈīd\ *adj*
pop fly *n* : a high fly ball in baseball
pop-gun \'päp-ˌgən\ *n* : a toy gun that usu. shoots a cork and produces a popping sound
pop-in-jay \'päp-ən-ˌjā\ *n* [ME *papejay* parrot, fr. MF *papegai, papejai*, fr. Ar *babghā'*] : a strutting supercilious person
pop-ish \'pō-pish\ *adj* [*pope*] : Roman Catholic — often used disparagingly
pop-ish-ly *adv* : in accordance with Roman Catholicism — often used disparagingly
pop-lar \'päp-lər\ *n* [ME *poplere*, fr. MF *pouplier*, fr. *pouple* poplar, fr. L *populus*] **1 a** : any of a genus (*Populus*) of slender quick-growing trees (as an aspen or cottonwood) of the willow family **b** : the wood of a poplar **2** : TULIP TREE 1
pop-lin \'päp-lən\ *n* [F *papeline*] : a strong fabric in plain weave with crosswise ribs
pop-li-te-al \ˌpäp-lə-ˈtē-əl *also* päp-ˈlit-ē-\ *adj* [NL *popliteus*, fr. L *poplit-, poples* ham of the knee] : of or relating to the back part of the leg behind the knee joint
pop-off \'päp-ˌȯf\ *n* : one who talks loosely or loudly
pop off \(ˈ)päp-ˈȯf\ *vi* **1 a** : to leave suddenly **b** : to die unexpectedly **2** : to talk thoughtlessly and often loudly or angrily
pop-over \'päp-ˌō-vər\ *n* : a hollow quick bread shaped like a muffin and made from a thin batter of eggs, milk, and flour
pop-pa \'päp-ə\ *var of* PAPA
pop-per \'päp-ər\ *n* : one that pops; *esp* : a utensil for popping corn
pop-pet \'päp-ət\ *n* [ME *popet* doll, puppet — more at PUPPET] **1** *chiefly Brit* : DEAR **2 a** *Midland* : DOLL **b** *obs* : MARIONETTE **3 a** : an upright support or guide of a machine that is fastened at the bottom only **b** : a valve that rises perpendicularly to or from its seat **4** : any of the small pieces of wood on a boat's gunwale supporting or forming the rowlocks
pop-pied \'päp-ēd\ *adj* **1** *archaic* : growing or overgrown with poppies **2** : DROWSY
¹pop-ple \'päp-əl\ *n* [ME *popul*, fr. OE, fr. L *populus*] *chiefly dial* : POPLAR 1
²popple *n* [*popple*, vb., fr. ME *poplen* to bubble, ripple, prob. of imit. origin] : a choppy sea
pop-py \'päp-ē\ *n, pl* **pop-pies** [ME *popi*, fr. OE *popæg, popig*, modif. of L *papaver*] **1 a** : any of a genus (*Papaver* of the family Papaveraceae, the poppy family) of chiefly annual or perennial herbs with milky juice, showy regular flowers, and capsular fruits including one (*P. somniferum*) that is the source of opium and several that are cultivated as ornamentals **b** : an extract or decoction of poppy used medicinally **2** : a strong reddish orange


poppy 1a

pop-py-cock \'päp-ē-ˌkäk\ *n* [D dial. *pappekak*, lit., soft dung, fr. D *pap* pap + *kak* dung] : empty talk : NONSENSE
pop-py-head \-ˌhed\ *n* : a raised ornament often in the form of a finial generally used on the tops of the upright ends of seats in Gothic churches
Pop-si-cle \'päp-ˌsik-əl\ *trademark* — used for flavored and colored water frozen in a rectangular shape on two flat handles
pop-u-lace \'päp-yə-ləs\ *n* [MF, fr. It *popolaccio* rabble, pejorative of *popolo* the people, fr. L *populus*] **1** : the common people : MASSES **2** : POPULATION
pop-u-lar \'päp-yə-lər\ *adj* [L *popularis*, fr. *populus* the people, a people] **1** : of or relating to the general public **2** : suitable to the majority: as **a** : easy to understand : PLAIN ⟨a ~ history of the war⟩ **b** : suited to the means of the majority : INEXPENSIVE ⟨sold at ~ prices⟩ **3** : having general currency **4** : commonly liked or approved ⟨a very ~ girl⟩ ***syn*** see COMMON ***ant*** unpopular, esoteric — **pop-u-lar-ly** *adv*
popular front *n, often cap P&F* : a working coalition esp. of leftist political parties against a common opponent; *specif* : one sponsored and dominated by Communists as a device for gaining power
pop-u-lar-i-ty \ˌpäp-yə-ˈlar-ət-ē\ *n* : the quality or state of being popular
pop-u-lar-ize \'päp-yə-lə-ˌrīz\ *vb* **-ized; -iz-ing** *vi* : to cater to popular taste ~ *vt* : to make popular: as **a** : to cause to be liked or esteemed **b** : to present in generally understandable or interesting form — **pop-u-lar-i-za-tion** \ˌpäp-yə-lə-rə-ˈzā-shən\ *n* — **pop-u-lar-iz-er** \'päp-yə-lə-ˌrī-zər\ *n*
popular sovereignty *n* **1** : a doctrine in political theory that government is created by and subject to the will of the people **2** : a pre-Civil War doctrine asserting the right of the people living in a newly organized territory to decide by vote of their territorial legislature whether or not slavery would be permitted there
pop-u-late \'päp-yə-ˌlāt\ *vt* **-lat-ed; -lat-ing** [ML *populatus*, pp. of *populare* to people, fr. L *populus* people] **1** : to have a place in : OCCUPY, INHABIT **2 a** : to furnish or provide with inhabitants : PEOPLE **b** : to provide with members
pop-u-la-tion \ˌpäp-yə-ˈlā-shən\ *n* [LL *population-, populatio*, fr. L *populus*] **1 a** : the whole number of people or inhabitants in a country or region **b** : the total of individuals occupying an area or making up a whole **c** : the total of particles in a particular energy level — used esp. of atoms in a laser **2** : the act or process of populating **3 a** : a body of persons or individuals having a quality or characteristic in common **b** (1) : the organisms inhabiting a particular locality (2) : a group of interbreeding organisms that represents the level of organization at which speciation begins **4** : a group of individual persons, objects, or items from which samples are taken for statistical measurement
population explosion *n* : a pyramiding of a living population; *esp* : the recent great increase in human numbers that is usu. related to both increased survival and increased reproduction
pop-u-list \'päp-yə-ləst\ *n* [L *populus* the people] **1** : a member of a political party claiming to represent the common people; *esp, often cap* : a member of a U.S. political party formed in 1891 primarily to represent agrarian interests and to advocate the free coinage of silver and government control of monopolies **2** : a believer in the rights, wisdom, or virtues of the common people — **pop-u-lism** \-ˌliz-əm\ *n* — **populist** *also* **pop-u-lis-tic** \ˌpäp-yə-ˈlis-tik\ *adj, often cap*
pop-u-lous \'päp-yə-ləs\ *adj* [L *populosus*, fr. *populus* people] **1** : densely populated **2 a** : NUMEROUS **b** : filled to capacity : CROWDED — **pop-u-lous-ly** *adv* — **pop-u-lous-ness** *n*
pop-up \'päp-ˌəp\ *n* : POP FLY
por *abbr* portrait
POR *abbr* pay on return
por-bea-gle \'pȯ(ə)r-ˌbē-gəl\ *n* [Corn *porgh-bugel*] : a small viviparous shark (*Lamna nasus*) of the north Atlantic and Pacific oceans with a pointed nose and crescent-shaped tail
por-ce-lain \'pōr-s(ə-)lən, 'pȯr-\ *n* [MF *porcelaine* cowrie shell, porcelain, fr. It *porcellana*, fr. *porcello* vulva, lit., little pig, fr. L *porcellus*, dim. of *porcus* pig, vulva; fr. the shape of the shell — more at FARROW] : a hard, fine-grained, sonorous, nonporous, and usu. translucent and white ceramic ware that consists essentially of kaolin, quartz, and feldspar and is fired at high temperatures — **por-ce-lain-like** \-ˌlīk\ *adj* — **por-ce-la-ne-ous** *or* **por-cel-la-ne-ous** \ˌpōr-sə-ˈlā-nē-əs, ˌpȯr-\ *adj*
porcelain enamel *n* : VITREOUS ENAMEL
por-ce-lain-ize \'pōr-s(ə-)lə-ˌnīz, 'pȯr-\ *vt* **-ized; -iz-ing** : to fire a vitreous coating on (as steel)
porch \'pō(ə)rch, 'pȯ(ə)rch\ *n* [ME *porche*, fr. OF, fr. L *porticus* portico, fr. *porta* gate — more at FORD] **1** : a covered entrance to a building usu. with a separate roof : VERANDA **2** *obs* : PORTICO
por-cine \'pȯr-ˌsīn\ *adj* [L *porcinus*, fr. *porcus* pig — more at FARROW] : of, relating to, or suggesting swine; *esp* : OBESE
por-cu-pine \'pȯr-kyə-ˌpīn\ *n, often attrib* [ME *porkepin*, fr. MF *porc espin*, fr. OIt *porcospino*, fr. L *porcus* pig + *spina* spine, prickle] : any of various relatively large rodents having stiff sharp erectile bristles mingled with the hair and constituting an Old World terrestrial family (Hystricidae) and a New World arboreal family (Erethizontidae)


porcupine

¹pore \'pō(ə)r, 'pȯ(ə)r\ *vi* **pored; por-ing** [ME *pouren*] **1** : to gaze intently **2** : to read studiously or attentively **3** : to reflect or meditate steadily
²pore *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *porus*, fr. Gk *poros* passage, pore — more at FARE] **1** : a minute opening esp. in an animal or plant; *esp* : one by which matter passes through a membrane **2** : a small interstice (as in soil) admitting absorption or passage of liquid — **pored** \'pō(ə)rd, 'pȯ(ə)rd\ *adj*
pore fungus *n* : a fungus (family Boletaceae or Polyporaceae) having the spore-bearing surface within tubes or pores
por-gy \'pȯr-gē\ *n, pl* **porgies** *also* **porgy** [partly fr. earlier *pargo* (porgy); partly fr. earlier *scuppaug* (porgy)] **1** : a blue-spotted crimson percoid food fish (*Pagrus pagrus*) of the coasts of Europe and America; *also* : any of various related fishes (family Sparidae) **2** [alter. of *pogy*] : any of various teleost fishes (as a menhaden) of families other than that of the porgy
po-rif-er-an \pə-ˈrif-ə-rən\ *n* [deriv. of L *porus* pore + *-fer* -ferous] : any of a phylum (Porifera) of primitive invertebrate animals comprising the sponges — **poriferan** *or* **po-rif-er-al** \-rəl\ *adj*
pork \'pō(ə)rk, 'pȯ(ə)rk\ *n* [ME, fr. OF, pig, fr. L *porcus*] **1** : the fresh or salted flesh of swine when dressed for food **2** : government money, jobs, or favors used by politicians as patronage
pork barrel *n* : a government project or appropriation yielding rich patronage benefits
pork-er \'pōr-kər, 'pȯr-\ *n* : HOG; *esp* : a young pig fattened for table use as fresh pork
pork-pie hat \ˌpōrk-ˌpī-, ˌpȯrk-\ *n* [fr. its shape] : a felt, straw, or cloth hat with a low crown, flat top, and usu. a turned-up brim
por-ky \'pȯr-kē\ *n, pl* **porkies** : PORCUPINE
por-nog-ra-pher \pȯr-ˈnäg-rə-fər\ *n* : one who produces pornography
por-nog-ra-phy \-fē\ *n* [Gk *pornographos*, adj., writing of harlots, fr. *pornē* harlot + *graphein* to write; akin to Gk *pernanai* to sell, *poros* journey — more at FARE, CARVE] **1** : the depiction of erotic behavior (as in pictures or writing) intended to cause sexual excitement **2** : material (as books or a photograph) that depicts erotic behavior and is intended to cause sexual excitement — **por-no-graph-ic** \ˌpȯr-nə-ˈgraf-ik\ *adj* — **por-no-graph-i-cal-ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*



pork 1: *1* hind foot, *2* ham, *3* fatback, *4* loin, *5* side, *6* Boston butt, *7* picnic, *8* jowl, *9* forefoot

po-rose \'pō(ə)r-ˌōs, 'pȯ(ə)r-\ *adj* : divided into or forming a continuous series of pores ⟨a ~ hymenium⟩
po-ros-i-ty \pə-ˈräs-ət-ē, pōr-ˈäs-, pȯ-ˈräs-\ *n, pl* **-ties** **1 a** : the quality or state of being porous **b** : the ratio of the volume of interstices of a material to the volume of its mass **2** : PORE

po·rous \'pōr-əs, 'pȯr-\ *adj* **1 a** : possessing or full of pores **b** : containing vessels ⟨hardwood is ~⟩ **2** : permeable to liquids — **po·rous·ly** *adv* — **po·rous·ness** *n*

por·phyr·ia \pȯr-'fir-ē-ə\ *n* [NL, fr. ISV *porphyrin*] : a pathological state characterized by abnormalities of porphyrin metabolism, by excretion of excess porphyrins in the urine, and by extreme sensitivity to light

por·phy·rin \'pȯr-fə-rən\ *n* [ISV, fr. Gk *porphyra* purple] : any of various metal-free derivatives of pyrrole obtained esp. from chlorophyll or hemoglobin

por·phy·rit·ic \ˌpȯr-fə-'rit-ik\ *adj* [ML *porphyriticus*, fr. Gk *porphyritikos*, fr. *porphyritēs* (*lithos*) porphyry] **1** : of or relating to porphyry **2** : having distinct crystals (as of feldspar) in a relatively fine-grained base

por·phy·roid \'pȯr-fə-ˌrȯid\ *n* [*porphyry*] : a more or less schistose metamorphic rock with porphyritic texture

por·phy·rop·sin \ˌpȯr-fə-'räp-sən\ *n* [Gk *porphyra* purple + E *-opsin* (as in *rhodopsin*)] : a purple pigment in the retinal rods of freshwater fishes that resembles rhodopsin

por·phy·ry \'pȯr-f(ə-)rē\ *n, pl* **-ries** [ME *porfurie*, fr. ML *porphyrium*, alter. of L *porphyrites*, fr. Gk *porphyritēs* (*lithos*), lit., stone like Tyrian purple, fr. *porphyra* purple] **1** : a rock consisting of feldspar crystals embedded in a compact dark red or purple groundmass **2** : an igneous rock of porphyritic texture

por·poise \'pȯr-pəs\ *n* [ME *porpoys*, fr. MF *porpois*, fr. ML *porcopiscis*, fr. L *porcus* pig + *piscis* fish — more at FARROW, FISH] **1** : any of several small gregarious toothed whales (genus *Phocaena*); *esp* : a blunt-snouted usu. largely black whale (*P. phocaena*) of the north Atlantic and Pacific 5 to 8 feet long **2** : any of several dolphins

por·rect \pə-'rekt, pä-\ *adj* [L *porrectus*, pp. of *porrigere* to stretch out, fr. *por-* forward + *regere* to direct — more at PORTEND, RIGHT] : extended forward ⟨~ antennae⟩

por·ridge \'pȯr-ij, 'pär-\ *n* [alter. of *pottage*] : a soft food made by boiling meal of grains or legumes in milk or water until thick

por·rin·ger \-ən-jər\ *n* [alter. of ME *poteger*, *potinger*, fr. AF *potageer*, fr. MF *potager* of pottage, fr. *potage* pottage] : a low metal bowl with a single and usu. flat and pierced handle

¹port \'pō(ə)rt, 'pȯ(ə)rt\ *n* [ME, fr. OE & OF, fr. L *portus* — more at FORD] **1** : a place where ships may ride secure from storms : HAVEN **2 a** : a harbor town or city where ships may take on or discharge cargo **b** : AIRPORT **3** : PORT OF ENTRY

²port *n* [ME *porte*, fr. MF, gate, door, fr. L *porta* passage, gate; akin to L *portus* port] **1** *chiefly Scot* : GATE **2 a** : an opening for intake or exhaust of a fluid esp. in a valve seat or valve face **b** : the area of opening in a cylinder face of a passageway for the working fluid in an engine; *also* : such a passageway **c** : a means of access to a system **3 a** : an opening in a ship's side to admit light or air or to load cargo **b** *archaic* : the cover for a porthole **4** : a hole in an armored vehicle or fortification through which guns may be fired

³port *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. *porter* to carry fr. L *portare*] **1** : the manner in which one bears himself **2** *archaic* : STATE 3 **3** : the position in which a military weapon is carried at the command *port arms*

⁴port *n* [prob. fr. ¹*port* or ²*port*] : the left side of a ship or aircraft looking forward — called also *larboard*; compare STARBOARD — **port** *adj*

⁵port *vt* : to turn or put (a helm) to the left — used chiefly as a command

⁶port *n* [*Oporto*, Portugal] : a fortified sweet wine of rich taste and aroma

Port *abbr* Portugal; Portuguese

¹por·ta·ble \'pōrt-ə-bəl, 'pȯrt-\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF, fr. LL *portabilis*, fr. L *portare* to carry — more at FARE] **1** : capable of being carried or moved about ⟨a ~ TV⟩ ⟨a ~ sawmill⟩ **2** *obs* : BEARABLE — **por·ta·bil·i·ty** \ˌpōrt-ə-'bil-ət-ē, ˌpȯrt-\ *n* — **por·ta·bly** \'pōrt-ə-blē, 'pȯrt-\ *adv*

²portable *n* : something that is portable

¹por·tage \'pōrt-ij, 'pȯrt-, *3 is also* pȯr-'täzh\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. *porter* to carry] **1** : the labor of carrying or transporting **2** *archaic* : the cost of carrying : PORTERAGE **3 a** : the carrying of boats or goods overland from one body of water to another **b** : the route followed in making such a transfer

²por·tage \'pōrt-ij, 'pȯrt-; pȯr-'täzh\ *vb* **por·taged; por·tag·ing** *vt* : to carry over a portage ~ *vi* : to move gear over a portage

¹por·tal \'pōrt-ᵊl, 'pȯrt-\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. ML *portale* city gate, porch, fr. neut. of *portalis* of a gate, fr. L *porta* gate — more at PORT] **1** : DOOR, ENTRANCE; *esp* : a grand or imposing one **2** : the whole architectural composition surrounding and including the doorways and porches of a church **3** : the approach or entrance to a bridge or tunnel **4** : a communicating part or area of an organism; *specif* : the point at which something (as a pathogen) enters the body

²portal *adj* [NL *porta* transverse fissure of the liver, fr. L, gate] **1** : of or relating to the transverse fissure on the underside of the liver where most of the vessels enter **2** : of, relating to, or being a portal vein

portal system *n* [*portal vein*] : a system of veins that begins and ends in capillaries

portal-to-portal *adj* : of or relating to the time spent by a workman in traveling from the entrance to his employer's property to his actual working place (as in a mine) and in returning after work ⟨~ pay⟩

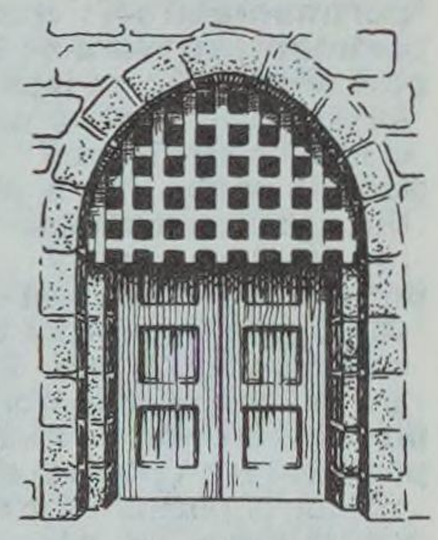
portal vein *n* [²*portal*] : a vein that collects blood from one part of the body and distributes it in another through capillaries; *esp* : a vein carrying blood from the digestive organs and spleen to the liver

por·ta·men·to \ˌpōrt-ə-'men-(ˌ)tō, ˌpȯrt-\ *n, pl* **-men·ti** \-(ˌ)tē\ [It, lit., act of carrying, fr. *portare* to carry, fr. L] : a continuous gliding movement from one tone to another by the voice, a trombone, or a bowed stringed instrument

port arms *n* [fr. the command *port arms!*] : a position in the manual of arms in which the rifle is held diagonally in front of the body with the muzzle pointing upward to the left; *also* : a command to assume this position

por·ta·tive \'pōrt-ət-iv, 'pȯrt-\ *adj* [ME *portatif*, fr. MF, fr. L *portatus*, pp. of *portare*] : PORTABLE

port·cul·lis \pōrt-'kəl-əs, pȯrt-\ *n* [ME *port colice*, fr. MF *porte coleïce*, lit., sliding door] : a grating of iron hung over the gateway of a fortified place and lowered between grooves to prevent passage



portcullis

port de bras \ˌpȯrd-ə-'brä\ *n* [F, lit., carriage of the arm] : the technique and practice of arm movement in ballet

Port du Sa·lut \ˌpōrd-ə-sə-'(y)ü, ˌpȯrd-, -sal-\ *n* [F *port-du-salut*, *port-salut*, fr. *Port du Salut*, Trappist abbey in northwest France] : a semisoft pressed ripened cheese of mild flavor originated by Trappist monks in France — called also *Port Salut*

Porte \'pō(ə)rt, 'pȯ(ə)rt\ *n* [F, short for *Sublime Porte*, lit., sublime gate; fr. the gate of the sultan's palace where justice was administered] : the government of the Ottoman empire

porte co·chere \ˌpōrt-kō-'she(ə)r, ˌpȯrt-\ *n* [F *porte cochère*, lit., coach door] **1** : a passageway through a building or screen wall designed to let vehicles pass from the street to an interior courtyard **2** : a roofed structure extending from the entrance of a building over an adjacent driveway and sheltering those getting in or out of vehicles

porte-mon·naie \'pōrt-ˌmən-ē\ *n* [F, fr. *porter* to carry + *monnaie* coined money, fr. MF *moneie* — more at PORT, MONEY] : a small pocketbook or purse

por·tend \pȯr-'tend, pōr-\ *vt* [ME *portenden*, fr. L *portendere*, fr. *por-* forward (akin to *per* through) + *tendere* to stretch — more at FOR, THIN] **1** : to give an omen or anticipatory sign of : BODE **2** : INDICATE, SIGNIFY

por·tent \'pȯ(ə)r-ˌtent, 'pō(ə)r-\ *n* [L *portentum*, fr. neut. of *portentus*, pp. of *portendere*] **1** : something that foreshadows a coming event : OMEN **2** : prophetic indication or significance **3** : MARVEL, PRODIGY

por·ten·tous \pȯr-'tent-əs, pōr-\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or constituting a portent **2** : eliciting amazement or wonder : PRODIGIOUS **3** : self-consciously weighty : POMPOUS ***syn*** see OMINOUS — **por·ten·tous·ly** *adv* — **por·ten·tous·ness** *n*

¹por·ter \'pōrt-ər, 'pȯrt-\ *n* [ME, fr. OF *portier*, fr. LL *portarius*, fr. L *porta* gate — more at PORT] *chiefly Brit* : a person stationed at a door or gate to admit or assist those entering

²porter *n* [ME *portour*, fr. MF *porteour*, fr. LL *portator*, fr. L *portatus*, pp. of *portare* to carry — more at FARE] **1** : a person who carries burdens; *specif* : one employed to carry baggage for patrons at a hotel or transportation terminal **2** : a parlor-car or sleeping-car attendant who waits on passengers and makes up berths **3** [short for *porter's beer*] : a weak stout that is rich in saccharine matter and contains about four percent of alcohol **4** : a person who does routine cleaning of the premises, furniture, and equipment (as in a hospital or office)

por·ter·age \-ə-rij\ *n* : a porter's work; *also* : the charge for it

por·ter·house \'pōrt-ər-ˌhaùs, 'pȯrt-\ *n* **1** *archaic* : a house where malt liquor (as porter) is sold **2** : a large steak cut from the thick end of the short loin to contain a T-shaped bone and a large piece of tenderloin — see BEEF illustration

port·fo·lio \pōrt-'fō-lē-ˌō, pȯrt-\ *n, pl* **-lios** [It *portafoglio*, fr. *portare* to carry (fr. L) + *foglio* leaf, sheet, fr. L *folium* — more at BLADE] **1** : a hinged cover or flexible case for carrying loose papers, pictures, or pamphlets **2** [fr. the use of such a case to carry documents of state] : the office and functions of a minister of state or member of a cabinet **3** : the securities held by an investor : the commercial paper held by a financial house (as a bank)

port·hole \'pōrt-ˌhōl, 'pȯrt-\ *n* [²*port*] **1** : an opening (as a window) with a cover or closure esp. in the side of a ship or aircraft **2** : a port through which to shoot **3** : ²PORT 2

Por·tia \'pōr-shə, 'pȯr-\ *n* : the heroine in Shakespeare's *The Merchant of Venice*

por·ti·co \'pōrt-i-ˌkō, 'pȯrt-\ *n, pl* **-coes** *or* **-cos** [It, fr. L *porticus* — more at PORCH] : a colonnade or covered ambulatory esp. in classical architecture and often at the entrance of a building

por·tiere \pōr-'tye(ə)r, pȯr-, -'ti(ə)r; 'pōrt-ē-ər, 'pȯrt-\ *n* [F *portière*, fr. OF, fem. of *portier* porter, doorkeeper] : a curtain hanging across a doorway

¹por·tion \'pōr-shən, 'pȯr-\ *n* [ME, fr. OF, fr. L *portion-*, *portio*; akin to L *part-*, *pars* part] **1** : an individual's part or share of something: as **a** : a share received by gift or inheritance **b** : DOWRY **c** : a helping of food **2** : an individual's lot, fate, or fortune : one's share of good and evil **3** : an often limited part set off or abstracted from a whole ⟨give but that ~ which yourself proposed — Shak.⟩ ***syn*** see PART, FATE

²portion *vt* **por·tioned; por·tion·ing** \-sh(ə-)niŋ\ **1** : to divide into portions : DISTRIBUTE **2** : to allot a dowry to : DOWER

por·tion·less \-shən-ləs\ *adj* : having no portion; *esp* : having no dowry or inheritance

port·land cement \ˌpōrt-lən(d)-, ˌpȯrt-\ *n* [Isle of *Portland*, England; fr. its resemblance to a limestone found there] : a hydraulic cement made by finely pulverizing the clinker produced by calcining to incipient fusion a mixture of argillaceous and calcareous materials

port·ly \'pōrt-lē, 'pȯrt-\ *adj* **port·li·er; -est** [³*port*] **1** : DIGNIFIED, STATELY **2** : heavy or rotund of body : STOUT — **port·li·ness** *n*
¹port·man·teau \pōrt-'man-(,)tō, pȯrt-\ *n, pl* **-teaus** *or* **-teaux** \-(,)tōz\ [MF *portemanteau*, fr. *porter* to carry + *manteau* mantle, fr. L *mantellum* — more at PORT] : a large traveling bag
²portmanteau *adj* : combining more than one use or quality
portmanteau word *n* : BLEND b
port of call **1** : an intermediate port where ships customarily stop for supplies, repairs, or transshipment of cargo **2** : a stop included on an itinerary
port of entry **1** : a place where foreign goods may be cleared through a customhouse **2** : a place where an alien may be permitted to enter a country
por·trait \'pōr-trət, 'pȯr-, -ˌtrāt\ *n* [MF, fr. pp. of *portraire*] **1** : PICTURE; *esp* : a pictorial representation (as a painting) of a person usu. showing his face **2** : a sculptured figure : BUST, STATUE **3** : a graphic portrayal in words
por·trait·ist \-əst\ *n* : a maker of portraits
por·trai·ture \'pōr-trə-ˌchu̇(ə)r, 'pȯr-, -chər, -ˌt(y)u̇(ə)r\ *n* **1** : the making of portraits : PORTRAYAL **2** : PORTRAIT
por·tray \pōr-'trā, pȯr-, pər-\ *vt* [ME *portraien*, fr. MF *portraire*, fr. L *protrahere* to draw forth, reveal, expose, fr. *pro-* forth + *trahere* to draw — more at PRO-, DRAW] **1** : to make a picture of : DEPICT **2 a** : to describe in words **b** : to play the role of : ENACT — **por·tray·er** *n*
por·tray·al \-'trā(-ə)l\ *n* **1** : the act or process of portraying : REPRESENTATION **2** : PORTRAIT
por·tress \'pōr-trəs, 'pȯr-\ *n* : a female porter: as **a** : a doorkeeper in a convent or apartment house **b** : CHARWOMAN
Port Roy·al·ist \pōrt-'rȯi-ə-ləst, pȯrt-\ *n* [F *port-royaliste*, fr. *Port-Royal*, a convent near Versailles, France] : a member or adherent of a 17th century French Jansenist lay community noted for its logicians and educators
Port Sa·lut \ˌpōr-sə-'(y)ü, ˌpȯr-, -sal-\ *n* : PORT DU SALUT
Por·tu·guese \ˌpōr-chə-'gēz, ˌpȯr-, -'gēs\ *n, pl* **Portuguese** [Pg *português*, adj. & n., fr. *Portugal*] **1 a** : a native or inhabitant of Portugal **b** : one who is of Portuguese descent **2** : the Romance language of Portugal and Brazil — **Portuguese** *adj*
Portuguese man-of-war *n* : any of several large siphonophores (genus *Physalia*) having a large bladderlike sac or cyst with a broad crest on the upper side by means of which the colony floats at the surface of the sea
por·tu·laca \ˌpōr-chə-'lak-ə, ˌpȯr-\ *n* [NL, genus name, fr. L, purslane, fr. *portula*, dim. of *porta* gate; fr. the lid of its capsule — more at PORT] : any of a genus (*Portulaca*) of mainly tropical succulent herbs of the purslane family; *esp* : a plant (*P. grandiflora*) cultivated for its showy flowers
pos *abbr* **1** position **2** positive
po·sa·da \pə-'säd-ə\ *n* [Sp, fr. *posar* to lodge, fr. LL *pausare*] : an inn in Spanish-speaking countries
¹pose \'pōz\ *vb* **posed; pos·ing** [ME *posen*, fr. MF *poser*, fr. (assumed) VL *pausare*, fr. LL, to stop, rest, pause, fr. L *pausa* pause] *vt* **1 a** : to put or set in place **b** : to place (as a model) in a studied attitude **2 a** : to put or set forth : OFFER ⟨this attitude ~*s* a threat to our hopes for peace⟩ **b** : to present for attention or consideration ⟨let me ~ a question⟩ ~ *vi* **1** : to assume a posture or attitude usu. for artistic purposes **2** : to affect an attitude or character : POSTURE ***syn*** see PROPOSE
²pose *n* **1** : a sustained posture; *esp* : one assumed for artistic effect **2** : an attitude assumed deliberately and usu. for a reason ***syn*** POSE, AIR, AFFECTATION, MANNERISM *shared meaning element* : an adopted way of speaking or acting
³pose *vt* **posed; pos·ing** [short for earlier *appose*, fr. ME *apposen*, alter. of *opposen* to oppose] : PUZZLE, BAFFLE
Po·sei·don \pə-'sīd-ᵊn\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *Poseidōn*] : the Greek god of the sea — compare NEPTUNE
¹pos·er \'pō-zər\ *n* [³*pose*] : a puzzling or baffling question
²poser *n* [¹*pose*] : a person who poses
po·seur \pō-'zər\ *n* [F, lit., poser, fr. *poser*] : an affected or insincere person
posh \'päsh\ *adj* [origin unknown] : ELEGANT, FASHIONABLE
pos·it \'päz-ət\ *vt* **pos·it·ed** \'päz-ət-əd, 'päz-təd\; **pos·it·ing** \'päz-ət-iŋ, 'päz-tiŋ\ [L *positus*, pp.] **1** : to dispose or set firmly : FIX **2** : to assume or affirm the existence of : POSTULATE
¹po·si·tion \pə-'zish-ən\ *n* [MF, fr. L *position-*, *positio*, fr. *positus*, pp. of *ponere* to lay down, put, place, fr. (assumed) OL *posinere*, fr. *po-* away (akin to Gk *apo-*) + L *sinere* to lay, leave — more at SITE] **1** : an act of placing or arranging: as **a** : the laying down of a proposition or thesis **b** : an arranging in order **2** : a point of view adopted and held to ⟨made his ~ on the issue clear⟩ **3** : a market commitment in securities or commodities; *also* : the inventory of a market trader **4 a** : the point or area occupied by a physical object ⟨took her ~ at the head of the line⟩ **b** : a certain arrangement of bodily parts ⟨rose to a standing ~⟩ **5 a** : relative place, situation, or standing ⟨is now in a ~ to make important decisions on his own⟩ **b** : social or official rank or status **c** : EMPLOYMENT, JOB **d** : a situation that confers advantage or preference ***syn*** POSITION, STAND, ATTITUDE *shared meaning element* : a firmly held point of view or way of regarding something
²position *vt* **po·si·tioned; po·si·tion·ing** \-'zish-(ə-)niŋ\ : to put in proper position; *also* : LOCATE
po·si·tion·al \pə-'zish-nəl, -ən-ᵊl\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or fixed by position ⟨~ astronomy⟩ **2** : involving little movement ⟨~ warfare⟩ **3** : dependent on position or environment or context ⟨the front-articulated \k\ in \kē\ *key* and the back-articulated \k\ in \kül\ *cool* are ~ variants⟩
positional notation *n* : a system of expressing numbers in which the digits are arranged in succession, the position of each digit has a place value, and the number is equal to the sum of the products of each digit by its place value
position effect *n* : genic effect that is due to interaction of adjacent genes and that is modified when the spatial relationships of the genes change (as by chromosomal inversion)
position paper *n* : a detailed report that recommends a course of action on a particular issue
¹pos·i·tive \'päz-ət-iv, 'päz-tiv\ *adj* [ME, fr. OF *positif*, fr. L *positivus*, fr. *positus*] **1 a** : formally laid down or imposed : PRESCRIBED ⟨~ laws⟩ **b** : expressed clearly or peremptorily ⟨her answer was a ~ *no*⟩ **c** : fully assured : CONFIDENT **2 a** : of, relating to, or constituting the degree of comparison that is expressed in English by the unmodified and uninflected form of an adjective or adverb and denotes no increase or diminution **b** (1) : independent of changing circumstances : UNCONDITIONED (2) : relating to or constituting a motion or device that is definite, unyielding, constant, or certain in its action ⟨a ~ system of levers⟩ **c** (1) : INCONTESTABLE ⟨~ proof⟩ (2) : UNQUALIFIED ⟨a ~ disgrace⟩ **3 a** : not fictitious : REAL ⟨a ~ influence for good in the community⟩ **b** : active and effective in social or economic function rather than merely maintaining peace and order ⟨a ~ government⟩ **4 a** : having or expressing actual existence or quality as distinguished from deprivation or deficiency ⟨~ change in temperature⟩: as (1) : logically affirmative ⟨a ~ instance⟩ (2) : not speculative : EMPIRICAL **b** : having rendition of light and shade similar in tone to the tones of the original subject ⟨a ~ photographic image⟩ **c** (1) : that is or is generated in a direction arbitrarily or customarily taken as that of increase or progression ⟨~ rotation of the earth⟩ ⟨~ angles⟩ (2) : directed or moving toward a source of stimulation ⟨a ~ taxis⟩ **d** : real and numerically greater than zero ⟨+2 is a ~ integer⟩ **5 a** (1) : being, relating to, or charged with electricity of which the proton is the elementary unit and which predominates in a glass body after being rubbed with silk (2) : losing electrons **b** (1) : having higher electric potential and constituting the part from which the current flows to the external circuit ⟨the ~ terminal of a discharging storage battery⟩ (2) : being an electron-collecting electrode of an electron tube **6 a** : marked by or indicating acceptance, approval, or affirmation **b** : affirming the presence of that sought or suspected to be present ⟨a ~ test for blood⟩ **7** *of a lens* : converging light rays and forming a real inverted image ***syn*** see SURE ***ant*** doubtful — **pos·i·tive·ly** \-lē, *for emphasis often* ˌpäz-ə-'tiv-\ *adv* — **pos·i·tive·ness** \'päz-ət-iv-nəs, 'päz-tiv-\ *n*
²positive *n* : something positive: as **a** (1) : the positive degree of comparison in a language **a** (2) : a positive form of an adjective or adverb **b** : something of which an affirmation can be made : REALITY **c** : a positive photograph or a print from a negative
positive law *n* : law established or recognized by governmental authority — compare NATURAL LAW
pos·i·tiv·ism \'päz-ət-iv-ˌiz-əm, 'päz-tiv-\ *n* [F *positivisme*, fr. *positif* positive + *-isme* -ism] **1 a** : a theory that theology and metaphysics are earlier imperfect modes of knowledge and that positive knowledge is based on natural phenomena and their properties and relations as verified by the empirical sciences **b** : LOGICAL POSITIVISM **2** : the quality or state of being positive — **pos·i·tiv·ist** \-əst\ *adj or n* — **pos·i·tiv·is·tic** \ˌpäz-ət-iv-'is-tik, ˌpäz-tiv-\ *adj*
pos·i·tiv·i·ty \ˌpäz-ə-'tiv-ət-ē\ *n, pl* **-ties** **1** : the quality or state of being positive **2** : something that is positive
pos·i·tron \'päz-ə-ˌträn\ *n* [*positive* + *-tron* (as in *electron*)] : a positively charged particle having the same mass and magnitude of charge as the electron and constituting the antiparticle of the electron — called also *positive electron*
pos·i·tro·ni·um \ˌpäz-ə-'trō-nē-əm\ *n* [*positron* + *-ium*] : a short-lived system suggestive of an atom and analogous to the hydrogen atom consisting of a positron and an electron bound together
poss *abbr* possessive
pos·se \'päs-ē\ *n* [ML *posse comitatus*, lit., power or authority of the county] **1** : a body of persons summoned by a sheriff to assist in preserving the public peace usu. in an emergency **2** : a group of people temporarily organized to make a search (as for a lost child) **3** : a large group often with a common interest
pos·sess \pə-'zes *also* -'ses\ *vt* [ME *possessen*, fr. MF *possesser* to have possession of, take possession of, fr. L *possessus*, pp. of *possidēre*, fr. *potis* able, in power + *sedēre* to sit — more at POTENT, SIT] **1 a** *obs* : to instate in as owner **b** : to make the owner or holder — used with *of* or *with* **c** : to have possession of **2 a** : to have and hold as property : OWN **b** : to have as an attribute, knowledge, or skill **3 a** : to take into one's possession **b** : to enter into and control firmly : DOMINATE ⟨whatever ~*ed* her to act like that?⟩ **c** : to bring or cause to fall under the influence, possession, or control of some emotional or intellectual reaction ⟨melancholy ~*es* her⟩ ***syn*** see HAVE — **pos·sess·or** *n*
pos·sessed *adj* **1** *obs* : held as a possession **2 a** (1) : influenced or controlled by something (as an evil spirit or a passion) (2) : MAD, CRAZED **b** : urgently desirous to do or have something **3** : SELF-POSSESSED, CALM — **pos·sessed·ly** \-'zes-əd-lē, -'zes-tlē *also* -'ses-\ *adv* — **pos·sessed·ness** \-'zes-əd-nəs, -'zest-nəs *also* -'ses- & -'sest-\ *n*
pos·ses·sion \-'zesh-ən, *also* -'sesh-\ *n* **1 a** : the act of having or taking into control **b** : control or occupancy of property without regard to ownership **c** : OWNERSHIP **2** : something owned, occupied, or controlled : PROPERTY **3 a** : domination by something (as an evil spirit, a passion, or an idea) **b** : a psychological state in which an individual's normal personality is replaced by another **c** : the fact or condition of being self-controlled — **pos·ses·sion·al** \-'zesh-nəl, -ən-ᵊl *also* -'sesh-\ *adj*
¹pos·ses·sive \pə-'zes-iv *also* -'ses-\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or constituting a word, a word group, or a grammatical case that denotes ownership or a relation analogous to ownership **2** : manifesting possession or the desire to own or dominate — **pos·ses·sive·ly** *adv* — **pos·ses·sive·ness** *n*
²possessive *n* **1 a** : the possessive case **b** : a word in the possessive case **2** : a possessive word or word group
possessive adjective *n* : a pronominal adjective expressing possession
possessive pronoun *n* : a pronoun that derives from a personal pronoun and denotes possession and analogous relationships

pos·ses·so·ry \pə-'zes-(ə-)rē *also* -'ses-\ *adj* **1** : of, arising from, or having the nature of possession **2** : having possession **3** : characteristic of a possessor : POSSESSIVE
pos·set \'päs-ət\ *n* [ME *poshet, possot*] : a hot drink of sweetened and spiced milk curdled with ale or wine
pos·si·bil·i·ty \ˌpäs-ə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n, pl* **-ties** **1** : the condition or fact of being possible **2** : something that is possible **3** *archaic* : one's utmost power, capacity, or ability **4** : potential or prospective value — usu. used in pl. ⟨the house had great *possibilities*⟩
pos·si·ble \'päs-ə-bəl\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *possibilis*, fr. *posse* to be able, fr. *potis, pote* able + *esse* to be — more at POTENT, IS] **1 a** : being within the limits of ability, capacity, or realization **b** : being what may be done or may occur according to nature, custom, or manners **2** : being something that may or may not occur ⟨it is ~ but not probable that he will win⟩ **3** : having an indicated potential ⟨a ~ housing site⟩ — **pos·si·bly** \-blē\ *adv*
syn **1** POSSIBLE, PRACTICABLE, FEASIBLE *shared meaning element* : capable of being realized ***ant*** impossible
2 see PROBABLE
pos·sum \'päs-əm\ *n* : OPOSSUM
¹post \'pōst\ *n* [ME, fr. OE; akin to OHG *pfosto* post; both fr. a prehistoric WGmc word borrowed fr. L *postis;* akin to Gk *pro* before and to Gk *histasthai* to stand — more at FOR, STAND] **1** : a piece (as of timber or metal) fixed firmly in an upright position esp. as a stay or support : PILLAR, COLUMN **2** : a pole or stake set up to mark or indicate something; *esp* : a pole that marks the starting or finishing point of a horse race **3** : a metallic fitting attached to an electrical device (as a storage battery) for convenience in making connections **4** : GOALPOST
²post *vt* **1** : to affix to a usual place (as a wall) for public notices : PLACARD **2 a** : to publish, announce, or advertise by or as if by use of a placard **b** : to denounce by public notice **c** : to enter on a public listing **d** : to forbid (property) to trespassers under penalty of legal prosecution by notices placed along the boundaries **e** : SCORE
³post *n* [MF *poste* relay station, courier, fr. OIt *posta* relay station, fr. fem. of *posto*, pp. of *porre* to place, fr. L *ponere* — more at POSITION] **1** *obs* : COURIER **2** *archaic* **a** : one of a series of stations for keeping horses for relays **b** : the distance between any two such consecutive stations : STAGE **3** *chiefly Brit* **a** : a nation's organization for handling mail; *also* : the mail handled **b** : a single dispatch of mail **c** : POST OFFICE **d** : POSTBOX
⁴post *vi* **1** : to travel with post-horses **2** : to ride or travel with haste : HURRY ~ *vt* **1** *archaic* : to dispatch in haste **2** : MAIL ⟨~ a letter⟩ **3 a** : to transfer or carry from a book of original entry to a ledger **b** : to make transfer entries in **4** : to make familiar with a subject : INFORM ⟨kept her ~*ed* on the latest gossip⟩
⁵post *adv* : with post-horses : EXPRESS
⁶post *n* [MF *poste*, fr. OIt *posto*, fr. pp. of *porre* to place] **1 a** : the place at which a soldier is stationed; *esp* : a sentry's beat or station **b** : a station or task to which one is assigned **c** : the place at which a body of troops is stationed : CAMP **d** : a local subdivision of a veterans' organization **e** : one of two bugle calls sounded (as in the British Army) at tattoo **2 a** : an office or position to which a person is appointed **b** : a player position in basketball that is the focal point of the offense; *specif* : PIVOT 2b **3 a** : TRADING POST, SETTLEMENT **b** : a trading station on the floor of a stock exchange
⁷post *vt* **1 a** : to station in a given place ⟨guards were ~*ed* at the doors⟩ **b** : to carry ceremoniously to a position ⟨~*ing* the colors⟩ **2** *chiefly Brit* : to assign to a unit or location (as in the military or civil service) **3** : to put up (as bond)
post- *prefix* [ME, fr. L, fr. *post;* akin to Skt *paśca* behind, after, Gk *apo* away from — more at OF] **1 a** : after : subsequent : later ⟨*post*date⟩ **b** : behind : posterior : following after ⟨*post*lude⟩ ⟨*post*consonantal⟩ **2 a** : subsequent to : later than ⟨*post*operative⟩ ⟨*post*-Pleistocene⟩ **b** : posterior to ⟨*post*orbital⟩
post·age \'pō-stij\ *n* **1** : the fee for postal service **2** : adhesive stamps or printed indicia representing postal fees
postage–due stamp *n* : a special adhesive stamp that is applied by a post office to mail bearing insufficient postage to make up an amount equal to the deficient postage with often an additional fee and that is paid for by the addressee immediately prior to delivery
postage meter *n* : a machine that prints postal indicia on pieces of mail, records the amount of postage given in the indicia, and subtracts it from a total amount which has been paid at a post office and for which the machine has been set
postage stamp *n* : a government adhesive stamp or imprinted stamp for use on mail as evidence of prepayment of postage
post·al \'pōs-tᵊl\ *adj* **1** : of or relating to the mails or the post office **2** : conducted by mail ⟨~ chess⟩
postal card *n* **1** : a card officially stamped and issued by the government for use in the mail **2** : POSTCARD
postal order *n, Brit* : MONEY ORDER
postal service *n* : POST OFFICE 1
postal union *n* : an association of governments setting up uniform regulations and practices for international mail
post·ax·i·al \(')pō-'stak-sē-əl\ *adj* : located behind an axis of the body; *esp* : of or relating to the posterior side of the axis of a vertebrate limb — **post·ax·i·al·ly** \-ə-lē\ *adv*
post·bag \'pōs(t)-ˌbag\ *n* **1** *Brit* : MAILBAG **2** *Brit* : a single batch of mail : LETTERS
post·bel·lum \(')pōs(t)-'bel-əm\ *adj* [L *post bellum* after the war] : of, relating to, or characteristic of the period following a war and esp. following the American Civil War
post·box \'pōs(t)-ˌbäks\ *n* : MAILBOX; *esp* : a public mailbox
post·boy \-ˌbȯi\ *n* : POSTILION
post·breed·ing \(')pōs(t)-'brēd-iŋ\ *adj* : following a period of physiological fitness for reproduction ⟨~ regressive changes⟩
post·card \'pōs(t)-ˌkärd\ *n* **1** : a card on which a message may be written for mailing without an envelope and to which the sender must affix a stamp **2** : POSTAL CARD 1
post·ca·va \'pōs(t)-'kā-və\ *n* [NL] : the inferior vena cava of vertebrates higher than fishes — **post·ca·val** \-vəl\ *adj*
post chaise *n* : a carriage usu. having a closed body on four wheels and seating two to four persons
post·clas·si·cal \(')pōs(t)-'klas-i-kəl\ *or* **post·clas·sic** \-ik\ *adj* : of or relating to a period (as in art, literature, or civilization) following a classical one
post·co·lo·nial \ˌpōs(t)-kə-'lō-nyəl, -nē-əl\ *adj* : of or relating to the period following a colony's achieving independence
post–com·mu·nion \-kə-'myü-nyən\ *n, often cap P&C* [ML *postcommunion-, postcommunio*, fr. L *post-* + LL *communio* communion] : a liturgically variable prayer following the communion at Mass
post·con·so·nan·tal \-ˌkän(t)-sə-'nant-ᵊl\ *adj* : immediately following a consonant
post·date \(')pōs(t)-'dāt\ *vt* **1 a** : to date with a date later than that of execution ⟨~ a check⟩ **b** : to assign (an event) to a date subsequent to that of actual occurrence **2** : to follow in time
¹post·di·lu·vi·an \ˌpōs(t)-də-'lü-vē-ən, -dī-\ *adj* [*post-* + L *diluvium* flood — more at DELUGE] : of or relating to the period after the flood described in the Bible
²postdiluvian *n* : one living after the flood described in the Bible
post·doc·tor·al \(')pōs(t)-'däk-t(ə-)rəl\ *also* **post·doc·tor·ate** \-t(ə-)rət\ *adj* : being beyond the doctoral level: **a** : of or relating to advanced academic or professional work beyond a doctor's degree ⟨a ~ fellowship⟩ **b** : engaged in such work ⟨~ scholars⟩
post·em·bry·on·ic \ˌpō-ˌstem-brē-'än-ik\ *also* **post·em·bry·o·nal** \-'brī-ən-ᵊl\ *adj* : succeeding the embryonic stage
post·emer·gence \ˌpō-sti-'mər-jən(t)s\ *n* : a stage between the emergence of a seedling and the maturity of a crop plant — **post-emergence** *adj*
¹post·er \'pō-stər\ *n* [⁴*post*] **1** *archaic* : a swift traveler **2** : POST-HORSE
²poster *n* [²*post*] : a bill or placard for posting often in a public place; *specif* : one that is decorative or pictorial
poster color *n* : an opaque watercolor paint with a gum or glue-size binder sold usu. in jars
poste res·tante \ˌpō-ˌstres-'tä(ⁿ)nt, -'täⁿt\ *n* [F, lit., waiting mail] *chiefly Brit* : GENERAL DELIVERY
pos·te·ri·ad \pō-'stir-ē-ˌad, pä-\ *adv* [*posterior* + *-ad*] : toward the posterior part of the body
¹pos·te·ri·or \pō-'stir-ē-ər, pä-\ *adj* [L, compar. of *posterus* coming after, fr. *post* after — more at POST-] **1** : later in time : SUBSEQUENT **2** : situated behind: as **a** : CAUDAL **b** *of the human body or its parts* : DORSAL **3** *of a plant part* : ADAXIAL, SUPERIOR — **pos·te·ri·or·ly** *adv*
²pos·te·ri·or \pä-'stir-ē-ər, pō-\ *n* : the hinder parts of the body; *specif* : BUTTOCKS
pos·te·ri·or·i·ty \(ˌ)pō-ˌstir-ē-'ȯr-ət-ē, (ˌ)pä-, -'är-\ *n* : the quality or state of being later or subsequent
pos·ter·i·ty \pä-'ster-ət-ē\ *n* [ME *posterite*, fr. MF *posterité*, fr. L *posteritat-, posteritas*, fr. *posterus* coming after] **1** : the offspring of one progenitor to the furthest generation : DESCENDANTS **2** : all future generations
pos·tern \'pōs-tərn, 'päs-\ *n* [ME *posterne*, fr. OF, alter. of *posterle*, fr. LL *posterula*, dim. of *postera* back door, fr. L, fem. of *posterus*] **1** : a back door or gate **2** : a private or side entrance or way — **postern** *adj*
post exchange *n* : a store at a military installation that sells merchandise and services to military personnel and authorized civilians
post·ex·il·ic \ˌpō-(ˌ)steg-'zil-ik\ *adj* : of or relating to the period of Jewish history between the end of the exile in Babylon in 538 B.C. and A.D. 1
post·face \'pōs(t)-fəs, -ˌfās; pȯs-fäs\ *n* [F, fr. *post-* + *-face* (as in *préface* preface)] : a brief article or note (as of explanation) placed at the end of a publication
post·form \(')pōs(t)-'fȯ(ə)rm\ *vt* : to shape (as a sheet of partially cured plastic material) subsequently
post–free \'pōs(t)-'frē\ *adj, chiefly Brit* : POSTPAID
post·gan·gli·on·ic \ˌpōs(t)-ˌgaŋ-glē-'än-ik\ *adj* : distal to a ganglion; *specif* : of, relating to, or being an axon arising from a cell body within an autonomic ganglion
post·gla·cial \(')pōs(t)-'glā-shəl\ *adj* [ISV] : occurring after a period of glaciation
¹post·grad·u·ate \-'graj-(ə-)wət, -ə-ˌwāt\ *adj* : GRADUATE 2
²postgraduate *n* : a student continuing his education after graduation from high school or college
post·har·vest \'pōst-'här-vəst\ *adj* : relating to, taking place in, or used in the period after harvest ⟨a ~ spray⟩ ⟨~ storage⟩
¹post·haste \'pōst-'hāst\ *n* [³*post*] *archaic* : great haste
²posthaste *adv* : with all possible speed
³posthaste *adj, obs* : SPEEDY, IMMEDIATE ⟨requires your . . . ~ appearance —Shak.⟩
post hoc \'pōst-'häk\ *n* [NL *post hoc, ergo propter hoc* after this, therefore because of this] : the fallacy of arguing from temporal sequence to a causal relation
post·hole \'pōst-ˌhōl\ *n* : a hole sunk in the ground to hold a fence post
post horn *n* : a simple straight or coiled brass or copper wind instrument with cupped mouthpiece used esp. by guards of mail coaches of the 18th and 19th centuries
post–horse \'pōst-ˌhȯ(ə)rs\ *n* [³*post*] : a horse for use esp. by couriers or mail carriers
post·hu·mous \'päs-chə-məs *also* 'päs-t(h)ə-, pä-'st(y)ü-, pōst-'hyü-\ *adj* [L *posthumus*, alter. of *postumus* late-born, posthumous, fr. superl. of *posterus* coming after — more at POSTERIOR] **1** : born after the death of the father **2** : published after the death of the

author **3** : following or occurring after death ⟨~ fame⟩ — **post·hu·mous·ly** *adv* — **post·hu·mous·ness** *n*

post·hyp·not·ic \ˌpōst-(h)ip-ˈnät-ik\ *adj* [ISV] : of, relating to, or characteristic of the period following a hypnotic trance

pos·tiche \pȯ-stēsh\ *n* [F, fr. Sp. *postizo*] : WIG; *esp* : TOUPEE 2

pos·til·ion *or* **pos·til·lion** \pō-ˈstil-yən, pə-\ *n* [MF *postillon* mail carrier using post-horses, fr. It *postiglione*, fr. *posta* post] : one who rides as a guide on the near horse of one of the pairs attached to a coach or post chaise esp. without a coachman

Post·im·pres·sion·ism \ˌpō-stim-ˈpresh-ə-ˌniz-əm\ *n* [F *postimpressionisme*, fr. *post-* + *impressionisme* impressionism] : a theory or practice of art originating in France in the last quarter of the 19th century that in revolt against impressionism stresses variously volume, picture structure, or expressionism — **Post·im·pres·sion·ist** \-ˈpresh-(ə-)nəst\ *adj or n* — **Post·im·pres·sion·is·tic** \-ˌpresh-ə-ˈnis-tik\ *adj*

¹post·ing *n* [⁴*post*] **1** : the act of transferring an entry or item from a book of original entry to the proper account in a ledger **2** : the record in a ledger account resulting from the transfer of an entry or item from a book of original entry

²posting *n* [⁷*post*] : appointment to a post or a command

post·ir·ra·di·a·tion \ˌpō-stir-ˌād-ē-ˈā-shən\ *adj* : occurring after irradiation

post–ju·ve·nal \(ˈ)pōs(t)-ˈjü-vən-ᵊl\ *adj* : following or terminating the juvenal stage of a bird's life history ⟨a ~ molt⟩

post–Kant·ian \(ˈ)pōs(t)-ˈkant-ē-ən, -ˈkänt-\ *adj* : of or relating to the idealist philosophers (as Fichte, Schelling, and Hegel) following Kant and developing some of his ideas

post·lude \ˈpōst-ˌlüd\ *n* [*post-* + *-lude* (as in *prelude*)] **1** : a closing piece of music; *esp* : an organ voluntary at the end of a church service **2** : a closing phase (as of an epoch or a literary work)

post·man \ˈpōs(t)-mən, -ˌman\ *n* : MAILMAN

¹post·mark \-ˌmärk\ *n* : an official postal marking on a piece of mail; *specif* : a cancellation mark showing the post office and date of mailing

²postmark *vt* : to put a postmark on

post·mas·ter \-ˌmas-tər\ *n* **1** : one who has charge of a post office **2** : one who has charge of a station for the accommodation of travelers or who supplies post-horses — **post·mas·ter·ship** \-ˌship\ *n*

postmaster general *n, pl* **postmasters general** : an official in charge of a national post office department or agency

post·meno·paus·al \ˌpōs(t)-ˌmen-ə-ˈpȯ-zəl\ *adj* **1** : having undergone menopause **2** : occurring after menopause

post me·ri·di·em \ˈpōs(t)-mə-ˈrid-ē-əm, -ē-ˌem\ *adj* [L] : being after noon — abbr. *p.m.*

post·mil·le·nar·i·an·ism \ˈpōs(t)-ˌmil-ə-ˈner-ē-ə-ˌniz-əm\ *n* : POST-MILLENNIALISM — **postmillenarian** *adj or n*

post·mil·len·ni·al \ˌpōs(t)-mə-ˈlen-ē-əl\ *adj* **1** : coming after or relating to the period after the millennium **2** : holding or relating to postmillennialism

post·mil·len·ni·al·ism \-ē-ə-ˌliz-əm\ *n* : the view that Christ will return only at the end of the millennium — **post·mil·len·ni·al·ist** \-ē-ə-ləst\ *n*

post·mis·tress \ˈpōs(t)-ˌmis-trəs\ *n* : a female postmaster

post·mor·tem \(ˈ)pōs(t)-ˈmȯrt-əm\ *adj* [L *post mortem* after death] **1** : occurring after death **2** : following the event ⟨a ~ appraisal of the game⟩ — **postmortem** *n*

postmortem examination *n* : an examination of a body after death for determining the cause of death or the character and extent of changes produced by disease

¹post·na·sal \(ˈ)pōs(t)-ˈnā-zəl\ *adj* : lying or occurring posterior to the nose

²postnasal *n* : a postnasal part

postnasal drip *n* : flow of mucous secretion from the posterior part of the nasal cavity onto the wall of the pharynx occurring usu. as a chronic accompaniment of an allergic state

post·na·tal \(ˈ)pōs(t)-ˈnāt-ᵊl\ *adj* [ISV] : subsequent to birth; *specif* : of or relating to an infant immediately after birth ⟨~ care⟩ — **post·na·tal·ly** \-ᵊl-ē\ *adv*

post·nup·tial \-ˈnəp-shəl, -chəl, *nonstand* -chə-wəl\ *adj* : made or occurring after marriage or mating — **post·nup·tial·ly** \-ē\ *adv*

¹post–obit \pō-ˈstō-bət, *esp Brit* -ˈstäb-it\ *adj* [L *post obitum* after death] : occurring or taking effect after death

²post–obit *n* : POST-OBIT BOND

post–obit bond *n* : a bond made by a reversioner to secure a loan and payable out of his reversion

post office *n* **1** : a government department or agency handling the transmission of mail **2** : a local branch of a national post office handling the mail for a particular place or area **3** : a game in which a player acting as postmaster or postmistress may exact a kiss from one of the opposite sex as payment for the pretended delivery of a letter

post·op·er·a·tive \(ˈ)pō-ˈstäp-(ə-)rət-iv, -ˈstäp-ə-ˌrāt-\ *adj* [ISV] : following a surgical operation — **post·op·er·a·tive·ly** *adv*

post·or·bit·al \-ˈstȯr-bət-ᵊl\ *adj* : situated behind the eye socket

post·paid \ˈpōs(t)-ˈpād\ *adj* : having the postage paid by the sender and not chargeable to the receiver

post·par·tum \(ˈ)pōs(t)-ˈpärt-əm\ *adj* [NL *post partum* after birth] : following parturition ⟨~ period⟩ — **postpartum** *adv*

post·pi·tu·itary \ˌpōs(t)-pə-ˈt(y)ü-ə-ˌter-ē\ *adj* : arising in or derived from the posterior lobe of the pituitary body

post·pone \pōs(t)-ˈpōn\ *vt* **post·poned; post·pon·ing** [L *postponere* to place after, postpone, fr. *post-* + *ponere* to place — more at POSITION] **1** : to hold back to a later time : DEFER **2 a** : to place later (as in a sentence) than the normal position in English ⟨~ an adjective⟩ **b** : to place after in order of precedence, preference, or importance ***syn*** see DEFER — **post·pon·able** \-ˈpō-nə-bəl\ *adj* — **post·pone·ment** \-ˈpōn-mənt\ *n* — **post·pon·er** *n*

post·po·si·tion \ˌpōs(t)-pə-ˈzish-ən, ˈpōs(t)-pə-ˌ\ *n* [F, fr. *postposer* to place after, fr. L *postponere* (perf. indic. *postposui*)] : the placing of a grammatical element after a word to which it is primarily related in a sentence; *also* : such a word or particle esp. when functioning as a preposition — **post·po·si·tion·al** \ˌpōs(t)-pə-ˈzish-nəl, -ən-ᵊl\ *adj* — **post·po·si·tion·al·ly** \-ē\ *adv*

post·pos·i·tive \(ˈ)pōs(t)-ˈpäz-ət-iv, -ˈpäz-tiv\ *adj* : placed after or at the end of another word — **post·pos·i·tive·ly** *adv*

post·pran·di·al \pōs(t)-ˈpran-dē-əl\ *adj* : following a meal

post road *n* : a road used for the conveyance of mail

post·script \ˈpō(s)-ˌskript\ *n* [NL *postscriptum*, fr. L, neut. of *postscriptus*, pp. of *postscribere* to write after, fr. *post-* + *scribere* to write — more at SCRIBE] : a note or series of notes appended to a completed letter, article, or book

post·syn·ap·tic \ˌpōs(t)-sə-ˈnap-tik\ *adj* **1** : occurring after synapsis ⟨a ~ chromosome⟩ **2** : relating to, occurring in, or being part of a nerve cell by which a wave of excitation is conveyed away from a synapse — **post·syn·ap·ti·cal·ly** \-ti-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

post·ten·sion \(ˈ)pōs(t)-ˈten-chən\ *vt* : to apply tension to (reinforcing steel) after concrete has set

post time *n* [¹*post*] : the designated time for the start of a horse race

post·trau·mat·ic \ˌpōs(t)-trə-ˈmat-ik, -trȯ-, -traù-\ *adj* [ISV] : following or resulting from trauma

post·treat·ment \(ˈ)pōs(t)-ˈtrēt-mənt\ *adj* : relating to, typical of, or occurring in the stage following treatment ⟨~ examinations⟩ — **posttreatment** *adv*

pos·tu·lan·cy \ˈpäs-chə-lən-sē\ *n, pl* **-cies** **1** : the quality or state of being a postulant **2** : the period during which a person remains a postulant

pos·tu·lant \ˈpäs-chə-lənt\ *n* [F, petitioner, candidate, postulant, fr. MF, fr. prp. of *postuler* to demand, solicit, fr. L *postulare*] **1** : a person admitted to a religious house as a probationary candidate for membership **2** : a person on probation before being admitted as a candidate for holy orders in the Episcopal Church

¹pos·tu·late \ˈpäs-chə-ˌlāt\ *vt* **-lat·ed; -lat·ing** [L *postulatus*, pp. of *postulare*, fr. (assumed) *postus*, pp. of L *poscere* to ask; akin to OHG *forsca* question, Skt *pṛcchati* he asks] **1** : DEMAND, CLAIM **2 a** : to assume or claim as true, existent, or necessary : depend upon or start from the postulate of **b** : to assume as a postulate or axiom (as in logic or mathematics) — **pos·tu·la·tion** \ˌpäs-chə-ˈlā-shən\ *n* — **pos·tu·la·tion·al** \-shnəl, -shən-ᵊl\ *adj*

²pos·tu·late \ˈpäs-chə-lət, -ˌlāt\ *n* [ML *postulatum*, fr. neut. of *postulatus*, pp. of *postulare* to assume, fr. L, to demand] **1** : a hypothesis advanced as an essential presupposition, condition, or premise of a train of reasoning **2** : AXIOM 2a

pos·tu·la·tor \-ˌlāt-ər\ *n* : an official who presents a plea for beatification or canonization in the Roman Catholic Church — compare DEVIL'S ADVOCATE

pos·tur·al \ˈpäs-chə-rəl\ *adj* : of, relating to, or involving posture

¹pos·ture \ˈpäs-chər\ *n* [F, fr. It *postura*, fr. L *positura*, fr. *positus*, pp. of *ponere* to place — more at POSITION] **1 a** : the position or bearing of the body whether characteristic or assumed for a special purpose ⟨erect ~⟩ **b** : the pose of a model or artistic figure **2** : relative place or position : SITUATION **3** : state or condition at a given time esp. in relation to other persons or things ⟨put the country in a ~ of defense⟩ **4** : a conscious mental pose : ATTITUDE ⟨his ~ of moral superiority⟩

²posture *vb* **pos·tured; pos·tur·ing** *vt* : to cause to assume a given posture : POSE ~ *vi* **1** : to assume a posture; *esp* : to strike a pose for effect **2** : to assume an artificial or pretended attitude : ATTITUDINIZE — **pos·tur·er** \-chər-ər\ *n*

post·vo·cal·ic \ˌpōst-vō-ˈkal-ik, -və-\ *adj* [ISV] : immediately following a vowel

post·war \ˈpōs-ˈtwȯ(ə)r\ *adj* : of or relating to the period after a war

po·sy \ˈpō-zē\ *n, pl* **posies** [alter. of *poesy*] **1** : a brief sentiment, motto, or legend **2 a** : BOUQUET, NOSEGAY **b** : FLOWER

¹pot \ˈpät\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *pott*; akin to MLG *pot* pot] **1 a** : a rounded metal or earthen container used chiefly for domestic purposes; *also* : any of various technical or industrial vessels or enclosures resembling or likened to a household pot ⟨the ~ of a still⟩ **b** : POTFUL ⟨a ~ of coffee⟩ **2** : an enclosed framework of wire, wood, or wicker for catching fish or lobsters **3 a** : a large amount (as of money) **b** (1) : the total of the bets at stake at one time (2) : one round in a poker game **c** : the total of a prize **d** : the common fund of a group **4** : POTSHOT **5** : POTBELLY **6** : RUIN, DETERIORATION ⟨business went to ~⟩ **7** *Brit* : a shot in snooker in which a ball is pocketed **8** : MARIJUANA

²pot *vb* **pot·ted; pot·ting** *vt* **1 a** : to place in a pot **b** : to preserve in a sealed pot, jar, or can ⟨*potted* chicken⟩ **2** : to shoot (as an animal) for food with a potshot **3** : to make or shape (earthenware) as a potter **4** : to embed (as electronic components) in a container with an insulating or protective material (as plastic) ~ *vi* : to take a potshot

³pot *abbr* **1** potential **2** potentiometer

¹po·ta·ble \ˈpōt-ə-bəl\ *adj* [LL *potabilis*, fr. L *potare* to drink; akin to L *bibere* to drink, Gk *pinein*] : suitable for drinking — **po·ta·bil·i·ty** \ˌpōt-ə-ˈbil-ət-ē\ *n* — **po·ta·ble·ness** \ˈpōt-ə-bəl-nəs\ *n*

²potable *n* : a liquid that is suitable for drinking

po·tage \pȯ-ˈtäzh\ *n* [MF, fr. OF, pottage] : a thick soup

pot ale *n* : the residue of fermented wort left in a still after whiskey or alcohol has been distilled off and used for feeding swine

pot·ash \ˈpät-ˌash\ *n* [sing. of *pot ashes*] **1 a** : potassium carbonate esp. from wood ashes **b** : POTASSIUM HYDROXIDE **2** : potassium or a potassium compound esp. as used in agriculture or industry

po·tas·sic \pə-ˈtas-ik\ *adj* : of, relating to, or containing potassium

po·tas·si·um \pə-ˈtas-ē-əm\ *n, often attrib* [NL, fr. *potassa* potash, fr. E *potash*] : a silver-white soft light low-melting univalent metallic element of the alkali metal group that occurs abundantly in nature esp. combined in minerals — see ELEMENT table

potassium–argon *adj* : being or relating to a method of dating archaeological or geological materials based on the radioactive decay of potassium to argon that has taken place in a specimen

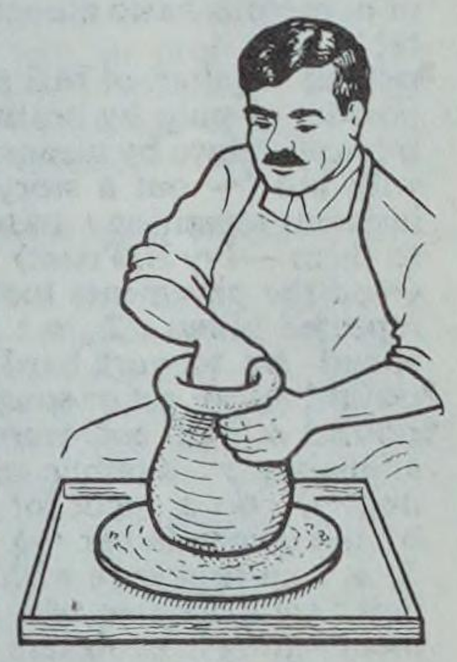
potassium bromide *n* : a crystalline salt KBr with a saline taste that is used as a sedative and in photography

potassium carbonate *n* : a white salt K_2CO_3 that forms a strongly alkaline solution and is used in making glass and soap

potassium chlorate *n* : a crystalline salt $KClO_3$ that is used as an oxidizing agent in matches, fireworks, and explosives
potassium chloride *n* : a crystalline salt KCl occurring as a mineral and in natural waters and used as a fertilizer
potassium cyanide *n* : a very poisonous crystalline salt KCN used esp. in electroplating
potassium dichromate *n* : a soluble salt $K_2Cr_2O_7$ forming large orange-red crystals used esp. in dyeing, in photography, and as an oxidizing agent
potassium hydroxide *n* : a white deliquescent solid KOH that dissolves in water with much heat to form a strongly alkaline and caustic liquid and is used chiefly in making soap and as a reagent
potassium nitrate *n* : a crystalline salt KNO_3 that occurs as a product of nitrification in arable soils, is a strong oxidizer, and is used esp. in making gunpowder, in preserving meat, and in medicine
potassium permanganate *n* : a dark purple salt $KMnO_4$ used as an oxidizer and disinfectant
potassium phosphate *n* : any of various phosphates of potassium; *esp* : any of the three orthophosphates
potassium sulfate *n* : a white crystalline compound K_2SO_4 used as a fertilizer
po·ta·tion \pō-ˈtā-shən\ *n* [ME *potacioun*, fr. MF *potation*, fr. L *potation-*, *potatio* act of drinking, fr. *potatus*, pp. of *potare*] **1** : a usu. alcoholic drink or brew **2** : the act or an instance of drinking or inhaling; *also* : the portion taken in one such act
po·ta·to \pə-ˈtāt-(ˌ)ō, pət-ˈāt-, -ə(-w)\ *n, pl* **-toes** *often attrib* [Sp *batata*, fr. Taino] **1** : SWEET POTATO **2 a** : an erect American herb (*Solanum tuberosum*) of the nightshade family widely cultivated as a vegetable crop **b** : the edible starchy tuber of a potato — called also *Irish potato, white potato*


potato 2a

potato beetle *n* : COLORADO POTATO BEETLE
potato blight *n* : any of several destructive fungus diseases of the potato
potato bug *n* : COLORADO POTATO BEETLE
potato chip *n* : a thin slice of white potato fried crisp and salted
potato leafhopper *n* : a small green white-spotted leafhopper (*Empoasca fabae*) of the eastern and southern U.S. that is a serious pest on many cultivated plants and esp. on the potato
potato psyllid *n* : a hemipterous insect (*Paratrioza cockerelli*) that feeds on tomato and potato plants and transmits a virus disease
potato tu·ber·worm \-ˈt(y)ü-bər-ˌwərm\ *n* : a grayish brown moth (*Phthorimaea operculella* of the family Gelechiidae) whose larva mines the leaves and bores in the stems esp. of potato and tobacco plants and commonly overwinters in potato tubers
pot–au–feu \ˌpät-ō-ˈfə(r), pȯ-tō-fœ\ *n, pl* **pot–au–feu** [F, lit., pot on the fire] : a French boiled dinner of meat and vegetables
pot·bel·lied \ˈpät-ˈbel-ēd\ *adj* : having a potbelly ⟨a ~ man⟩
potbellied stove *n* : a stove with a rounded or bulging body — called also *potbelly stove*
pot·bel·ly \ˈpät-ˌbel-ē\ *n* **1** : an enlarged, swollen, or protruding abdomen **2** : POTBELLIED STOVE
pot·boil \-ˌbȯil\ *vi* : to produce potboilers
pot·boil·er \-ˌbȯi-lər\ *n* : a usu. inferior work (as of art or literature) produced chiefly for profit
pot·boy \-ˌbȯi\ *n* : a boy who serves drinks in a tavern
pot cheese *n* : COTTAGE CHEESE
po·teen *also* **po·theen** \pə-ˈtēn, -ˈchēn, -ˈtyēn, -ˈthēn\ *n* [IrGael *poitín*] : illicitly distilled whiskey of Ireland
po·tence \ˈpōt-ᵊn(t)s\ *n* : POTENCY
po·ten·cy \ˈpōt-ᵊn-sē\ *n, pl* **-cies** **1 a** : the quality or state of being potent **b** : FORCE, POWER **c** : the ability or capacity to achieve or bring about a particular result **2** : POTENTIALITY 1
¹po·tent \ˈpōt-ᵊnt\ *adj* [obs. E *potent* crutch] *of a heraldic cross* : having flat bars across the ends of the arms — see CROSS illustration
²potent *adj* [ME (Sc), fr. L *potent-*, *potens*, fr. prp. of (assumed) L *potēre* to be powerful, fr. L *potis, pote* able; akin to Goth brūth*faths* bridegroom, Gk *posis* husband, Skt *pati* master] **1** : having or wielding force, authority, or influence : POWERFUL **2** : achieving or bringing about a particular result : EFFECTIVE **3 a** : chemically or medicinally effective ⟨a ~ vaccine⟩ **b** : rich in a characteristic constituent ⟨~ tea⟩ **4** : able to copulate — usu. used of the male — **po·tent·ly** *adv*
po·ten·tate \ˈpōt-ᵊn-ˌtāt\ *n* : one who wields controlling power
¹po·ten·tial \pə-ˈten-chəl\ *adj* [ME, fr. LL *potentialis*, fr. *potentia* potentiality, fr. L, power, fr. *potent-*, *potens*] **1** : existing in possibility : capable of development into actuality ⟨~ benefits⟩ **2** : expressing possibility; *specif* : of, relating to, or constituting a verb phrase expressing possibility, liberty, or power by the use of an auxiliary with the infinitive of the verb (as in "it may rain") ***syn*** see LATENT ***ant*** active, actual — **po·ten·tial·ly** \-ˈtench-(ə-)lē\ *adv*
²potential *n* **1** : something that can develop or become actual ⟨a ~ for violence⟩ **2 a** : any of various functions from which the intensity or the velocity at any point in a field may be readily calculated **b** : the degree of electrification as referred to some standard
potential difference *n* : the voltage difference between two points that represents the work involved or the energy released in the transfer of a unit quantity of electricity from one point to the other
potential energy *n* : the energy that a piece of matter has because of its position or because of the arrangement of parts
po·ten·ti·al·i·ty \pə-ˌten-chē-ˈal-ət-ē\ *n, pl* **-ties** **1** : the ability to develop or come into existence **2** : POTENTIAL 1
po·ten·ti·ate \pə-ˈten-chē-ˌāt\ *vt* **-at·ed; -at·ing** : to make effective or more effective; *specif* : to augment (as a drug) synergistically — **po·ten·ti·a·tion** \-ˌten-chē-ˈā-shən\ *n* — **po·ten·ti·a·tor** \-ˈten-chē-ˌāt-ər\ *n*
po·ten·til·la \ˌpōt-ᵊn-ˈtil-ə\ *n* [NL, genus name, fr. ML, garden heliotrope, fr. L *potent-*, *potens*] : any of a large genus (*Potentilla*) of herbs and shrubs (as a cinquefoil) of the rose family that have opposite pinnate or palmate leaves
po·ten·ti·om·e·ter \pə-ˌten-chē-ˈäm-ət-ər\ *n* [ISV *potential* + *-o-* + *-meter*] **1** : an instrument for measuring electromotive forces **2** : VOLTAGE DIVIDER — **po·ten·tio·met·ric** \-ch(ē-)ə-ˈme-trik\ *adj*
pot·ful \ˈpät-ˌfůl\ *n* **1** : as much or as many as a pot will hold **2** : a large amount ⟨make a ~ of money —John Corry⟩
pot hat *n* : a hat with a stiff crown; *esp* : DERBY
pot·head \ˈpät-ˌhed\ *n* : one who smokes marijuana
¹poth·er \ˈpäth-ər\ *n* [origin unknown] **1 a** : confused or fidgety flurry or activity : COMMOTION **b** : agitated talk or controversy usu. over a trivial matter **2** : a choking cloud of dust or smoke **3** : mental turmoil ***syn*** see STIR
²pother *vb* **poth·ered; poth·er·ing** \-(ə-)riŋ\ *vt* : to put into a pother ~ *vi* : to be in a pother
pot·herb \ˈpät-ˌ(h)ərb\ *n* : an herb whose leaves or stems are cooked for use as greens; *also* : one (as mint) used to season food
pot holder *n* : a small cloth pad used for handling hot cooking utensils
pot·hole \ˈpät-ˌhōl\ *n* **1 a** : a circular hole formed in the rocky bed of a river by the grinding action of stones or gravel whirled round by the water **b** : a sizable, rounded, and often water-filled depression in land **2** : a pot-shaped hole in a road surface — **pot·holed** \-ˌhōld\ *adj*
pot·hook \-ˌhůk\ *n* **1** : an S-shaped hook for hanging pots and kettles over an open fire **2** : a written character resembling a pothook
pot·house \-ˌhaůs\ *n* : TAVERN 1
pot·hunt·er \-ˌhənt-ər\ *n* **1** : one who hunts game for food **2** : an amateur archeologist — **pot·hunt·ing** \-iŋ\ *n*
po·tion \ˈpō-shən\ *n* [ME *pocioun*, fr. MF *potion*, fr. L *potion-*, *potio* drink, potion, fr. *potus*, pp. of *potare* to drink — more at POTABLE] : a mixed drink (as of liquor) or dose (as of medicine)
¹pot·latch \ˈpät-ˌlach\ *n* [Chinook Jargon, fr. Nootka *patshatl* giving] **1** : a ceremonial feast of the Indians of the northwest coast marked by the host's lavish distribution of gifts requiring reciprocation **2** *Northwest* : a social event or celebration
²potlatch *vt* **1** : to hold or give a potlatch for (as a tribe or group) **2** : to give (as a gift) esp. with the expectation of a gift in return ~ *vi* : to hold or give a potlatch
pot liquor *n* : the liquid left in a pot after cooking
pot·luck \ˈpät-ˈlək\ *n* **1** : the regular meal available to a guest for whom no special preparations have been made **2** : the luck or chance of succeeding events or possibilities
pot marigold *n* : a calendula (*Calendula officinalis*) grown esp. for ornament
pot·pie \ˈpät-ˈpī\ *n* : pastry-covered meat and vegetables cooked in a deep dish
pot·pour·ri \ˌpō-pů-ˈrē\ *n* [F *pot pourri*, lit., rotten pot] **1** : a mixture of flowers, herbs, and spices that is usu. kept in a jar and used for scent **2** : a miscellaneous collection : MEDLEY ⟨a ~ of the best songs and sketches —*Current Biog.*⟩
pot roast *n* : a piece of beef cooked by braising usu. on top of the stove — see BEEF illustration
pot·sherd \ˈpät-ˌshərd\ *n* [ME *pot-sherd*, fr. *pot* + *sherd* shard] : a pottery fragment
¹pot·shot \-ˌshät\ *n* [fr. the notion that such a shot is unsportsmanlike and worthy only of one whose object is to fill his cooking pot] **1** : a shot taken in a casual manner or at an easy target **2** : a critical remark made in a random or sporadic manner
²potshot *vb* **potshot; pot·shot·ting** *vt* : to attack or shoot with a potshot ~ *vi* : to take a potshot
pot still *n* : a still used esp. in the distillation of Irish grain whiskey and Scotch malt whiskey in which the heat of the fire is applied directly to the pot containing the mash
pot·stone \ˈpät-ˌstōn\ *n* : a more or less impure steatite used esp. in prehistoric times to make cooking vessels
pot·tage \ˈpät-ij\ *n* [ME *potage*, fr. OF, fr. *pot* pot, of Gmc origin; akin to OE *pott* pot] : a thick soup of vegetables or vegetables and meat
pot·ted \ˈpät-əd\ *adj* **1** : planted or grown in a pot **2** *chiefly Brit* : briefly and superficially summarized ⟨a dull, pedestrian ~ history —*Times Lit. Supp.*⟩ **3** *slang* : DRUNK, HIGH
¹pot·ter \ˈpät-ər\ *n* : one that makes pottery
²potter *vi* [prob. freq. of E dial. *pote* to poke] : PUTTER ⟨motorboats ~*ing* here and there —James Morris⟩ — **pot·ter·er** \ˈpät-ər-ər\ *n* — **pot·ter·ing·ly** \ˈpät-ə-riŋ-lē\ *adv*
potter's clay *n* : a plastic clay suitable for making pottery — called also *potter's earth*
potter's field *n* [fr. the mention in Mt 27:7 of the purchase of a potter's field for use as a graveyard] : a public burial place for paupers, unknown persons, and criminals
potter's wheel *n* : a usu. horizontal disk revolving on a vertical spindle and carrying the clay being shaped by a potter


potter's wheel

pot·tery \'pät-ə-rē\ *n, pl* **-ter·ies** **1** : a place where clayware is made and fired **2** **a** : the art or craft of the potter **b** : the manufacture of clayware **3** : CLAYWARE; *esp* : earthenware as distinguished on the one hand from porcelain and stoneware and on the other from brick and tile

pot·tle \'pät-ᵊl\ *n* [ME *potel*, fr. OF, fr. *pot*] **1** *archaic* : a measure equal to a half gallon **2** : a container holding a half gallon

pot·to \'pät-(ˌ)ō\ *n, pl* **pottos** [of Niger-Congo origin; akin to Wolof *pata*, a tailless monkey] : any of several African primates (genera *Arctocebus* and *Perodicticus*); *esp* : a West African primate (*P. potto*) that has a vestigial index finger and tail

Pott's disease \'päts-\ *n* [Percivall *Pott* †1788 E surgeon] : tuberculosis of the spine with destruction of bone resulting in curvature of the spine

¹pot·ty \'pät-ē\ *adj* **pot·ti·er; -est** [prob. fr. ¹*pot*] **1** *Brit* : TRIVIAL, INSIGNIFICANT **2** *chiefly Brit* : slightly crazy **3** : SNOBBISH

²potty *n, pl* **potties** : a small child's pot for urination or defecation

pot·ty–chair \-ˌche(ə)r, -ˌcha(ə)r\ *n* : a child's chair having an open seat under which a receptacle is placed for toilet training

¹pouch \'paůch\ *n* [ME *pouche*, fr. MF, of Gmc origin; akin to OE *pocca* bag] **1** : a small drawstring bag carried on the person **2** **a** : a bag of small or moderate size for storing or transporting goods; *specif* : a lockable bag for first class mail or diplomatic dispatches **b** *chiefly Scot* : POCKET **c** : PACKET **3** : an anatomical structure resembling a pouch — **pouched** \'paůcht\ *adj*

²pouch *vt* **1** : to put or form into or as if into a pouch **2** : to transmit by pouch ~ *vi* **1** : to form a pouch **2** : to transmit mail or dispatches by pouch

pouchy \'paů-chē\ *adj* **pouch·i·er; -est** : having, tending to have, or resembling a pouch ⟨~ insomniac eyes —Graham Greene⟩

pouf *also* **pouff** *or* **pouffe** \'püf\ *n* [F, something inflated, of imit. origin] **1** : PUFF 3b(3) **2** : a bouffant or fluffy part of a garment or accessory **3** : OTTOMAN — **poufed** *or* **pouffed** \'püft\ *adj*

pou·larde *also* **pou·lard** \pů-'lärd\ *n* [F *poularde*] : a pullet sterilized to produce fattening

poult \'pōlt\ *n* [ME *polet*, *pulte* young fowl — more at PULLET] : a young fowl; *esp* : a young turkey

poul·ter·er \'pōl-tər-ər\ *n* [alter. of ME *pulter*, fr. MF *pouletier*] : one that deals in poultry

poul·ter's measure \'pōl-tərz-\ *n* [obs. *poulter* poulterer, fr. ME *pulter*; fr. the former practice of occasionally giving one or two extra when counting eggs by dozens] : a meter in which lines of 12 and 14 syllables alternate

¹poul·tice \'pōl-təs\ *n* [ML *pultes* pap, fr. L, pl. of *pult-*, *puls* porridge] : a soft usu. heated and sometimes medicated mass spread on cloth and applied to sores or other lesions

²poultice *vt* **-ticed; -tic·ing** : to apply a poultice to

poul·try \'pōl-trē\ *n* [ME *pultrie*, fr. MF *pouleterie*, fr. OF, fr. *pouletier* poulterer, fr. *poulet* — more at PULLET] : domesticated birds kept for eggs or meat

poul·try·man \-mən\ *n* **1** : one who raises domestic fowls esp. on a commercial scale for the production of eggs and meat **2** : one who deals in poultry or poultry products

¹pounce \'paůn(t)s\ *n* [ME, talon] : the claw of a bird of prey

²pounce *vi* **pounced; pounc·ing** **1** : to swoop upon and seize something with or as if with talons **2** : to make a sudden assault or approach

³pounce *n* : the act of pouncing

⁴pounce *vt* **pounced; pounc·ing** : to dust, rub, finish, or stencil with pounce

⁵pounce *n* [F *ponce* pumice, fr. LL *pomic-*, *pomex*, alter. of L *pumic-*, *pumex* — more at FOAM] **1** : a fine powder formerly used to prevent ink from spreading **2** : a fine powder for making stenciled patterns

poun·cet–box \'paůn(t)-sət-\ *n* [prob. fr. (assumed) MF *poncette* small pounce bag] *archaic* : a box for carrying pomander

¹pound \'paůnd\ *n, pl* **pounds** *also* **pound** [ME, fr. OE *pund*; akin to ON *pund* pound; both fr. a prehistoric Gmc word borrowed fr. L *pondo* pound; akin to L *pondus* weight — more at PENDANT] **1** : any of various units of mass and weight; *specif* : a unit now in general use among English-speaking peoples equal to 16 avoirdupois ounces or 7000 grains or 0.45359237 kilogram — called also *avoirdupois pound*; see WEIGHT table **2** **a** : the basic monetary unit of the United Kingdom — called also *pound sterling* **b** : any of numerous basic monetary units of other countries — see MONEY table

²pound *vb* [alter. of ME *pounen*, fr. OE *pūnian*] *vt* **1** : to reduce to powder or pulp by beating **2** **a** : to strike heavily or repeatedly **b** : to produce by means of repeated vigorous strokes — usu. used with *out* ⟨~ out a story on the typewriter⟩ **c** : to inculcate by insistent repetition : DRIVE ⟨day after day the facts were ~*ed* home to them —Ivy B. Priest⟩ **3** : to move along heavily or persistently ⟨~*ed* the pavements looking for work⟩ ~ *vi* **1** : to strike heavy repeated blows **2** **a** : to move with or make a heavy repetitive sound **b** : to work hard and continuously — used with *away*

³pound *n* : an act or sound of pounding

⁴pound *n* [ME, enclosure, fr. OE *pund-*] **1** **a** : an enclosure for animals; *esp* : a public enclosure for stray or unlicensed animals ⟨a dog ~⟩ **b** : a depot for holding personal property until redeemed by the owner ⟨a car ~⟩ **2** : a place or condition of confinement **3** **a** : an enclosure within which fish are kept or caught; *esp* : the inner compartment of a fish trap or pound net **b** : an establishment selling live lobsters

⁵pound *vt, archaic* : IMPOUND

¹pound·age \'paůn-dij\ *n* **1** **a** : a tax levied in pounds sterling **b** : COMMISSION **2** **a** : a charge per pound of weight **b** : weight in pounds

²poundage *n* **1** : the act of impounding : the state of being impounded **2** : a fee for the release of an impounded animal

pound·al \'paůn-dᵊl\ *n* [*pound* + *-al* (as in *quintal*)] : a unit of force equal to the force that would give a free mass of one pound an acceleration of one foot per second per second

pound cake *n* [fr. the original recipe prescribing a pound of each of the principal ingredients] : a rich butter cake made with a large proportion of eggs and shortening

¹pound·er \'paůn-dər\ *n* : one that pounds

²pounder *n* **1** : one having a usu. specified weight or value in pounds — usu. used in combination ⟨caught a ten-*pounder* with his new fly rod⟩ **2** : a gun throwing a projectile of a specified weight — usu. used in combination ⟨the ship was armed with six-*pounders*⟩

pound–fool·ish \'paůn(d)-'fü-lish\ *adj* [fr. the phrase *penny-wise and pound-foolish*] : imprudent in dealing with large sums or large matters

pound mile *n* : the transport of one pound of mail or express for one mile

pound net *n* : a fish trap consisting of a netting arranged into a directing wing and an enclosure with a narrow entrance

¹pour \'pō(ə)r, 'pȯ(ə)r\ *vb* [ME *pouren*] *vt* **1** : to cause to flow in a stream **2** : to supply or produce freely or copiously ~ *vi* **1** : to move with a continuous flow **2** : to rain hard **3** : to preside at a tea table — **pour·able** \'pōr-ə-bəl, 'pȯr-\ *adj* — **pour·er** \-ər\ *n* — **pour·ing·ly** \-iŋ-lē\ *adv*

syn POUR, STREAM, GUSH, SLUICE *shared meaning element* : to send forth or come forth abundantly

²pour *n* **1** : the action of pouring : STREAM **2** **a** : something that is poured ⟨a ~ of concrete⟩ **b** : a heavy fall of rain

pour·boire \pů(ə)rb-'wär\ *n* [F, fr. *pour boire* for drinking] : TIP, GRATUITY

pour·par·ler \ˌpů(ə)r-pär-'lā\ *n* [F] : a discussion preliminary to negotiations

pour·point \'pů(ə)r-ˌpȯint, -ˌpwant\ *n* [ME *purpoint*, fr. MF *pourpoint*] : a padded and quilted doublet

pour point \'pō(ə)r-ˌpȯint, 'pȯ(ə)r-\ *n* : the lowest temperature at which a substance flows under specified conditions

pousse–ca·fé \ˌpü-(ˌ)ska-'fā\ *n* [F, lit., coffee chaser] **1** : an after-dinner drink consisting of several liqueurs of different colors and specific gravities poured so as to remain in separate layers **2** : a small drink of brandy or a liqueur taken with black coffee after dinner

pous·sette \pü-'set\ *vi* **pous·sett·ed; pous·sett·ing** [F, game in which contestants cross pins each attempting to get his pin on top, fr. *pousser* to push] : to swing in a semicircle with hands joined with one's partner in a country-dance

¹pout \'paůt\ *n, pl* **pout** *or* **pouts** [prob. fr. (assumed) ME *poute*, a fish with a large head, fr. OE *-pūte*; akin to ME *pouten* to pout, Skt *budbuda* bubble] : any of several large-headed fishes (as a bullhead or eelpout)

²pout *vb* [ME *pouten*] *vi* **1** **a** : to show displeasure by thrusting out the lips or wearing a sullen expression **b** : SULK **2** : PROTRUDE ~ *vt* : to cause to protrude ⟨~*ed* her lips⟩

³pout *n* **1** : a protrusion of the lips expressive of displeasure **2** *pl* : a fit of pique

pout·er \'paůt-ər\ *n* **1** : one that pouts **2** : a domestic pigeon of a breed characterized by erect carriage and a distensible and dilatable crop

pouty \'paůt-ē\ *adj* : SULKY

pov·er·ty \'päv-ərt-ē\ *n, often attrib* [ME *poverte*, fr. OF *poverté*, fr. L *paupertat-*, *paupertas*, fr. *pauper* poor — more at POOR] **1** **a** : the state of one who lacks a usual or socially acceptable amount of money or material possessions **b** : renunciation as a member of a religious order of the right as an individual to own property **2** : SCARCITY, DEARTH **3** **a** : debility due to malnutrition **b** : lack of fertility ⟨~ of the soil⟩

syn POVERTY, INDIGENCE, PENURY, WANT, DESTITUTION *shared meaning element* : the state of one with insufficient resources *ant* riches

pov·er·ty–strick·en \-ˌstrik-ən\ *adj* : very poor : DESTITUTE

¹pow \'pō, 'paů\ *n* [by alter.] : HEAD, POLL

²pow \'paů\ *n* [imit.] : a sound of a blow or explosion

POW \ˌpē-(ˌ)ō-'dəb-əl-(ˌ)yü\ *abbr* prisoner of war

¹pow·der \'paůd-ər\ *n, often attrib* [ME *poudre*, fr. OF, fr. L *pulver-*, *pulvis* dust — more at POLLEN] **1** : matter in a finely divided state : particulate matter **2** **a** : a preparation in the form of fine particles esp. for medicinal or cosmetic use **b** : fine dry light snow **3** : any of various solid explosives used chiefly in gunnery and blasting

²powder *vb* **pow·dered; pow·der·ing** \'paůd-(ə-)riŋ\ *vt* **1** : to sprinkle or cover with or as if with powder **2** : to reduce or convert to powder **3** : to hit (as a ball) very hard ~ *vi* **1** : to become powder **2** : to apply cosmetic powder — **pow·der·er** \-ər-ər\ *n*

powder blue *n* : a variable color averaging a pale blue

powder horn *n* : a flask for carrying gunpowder; *esp* : one made of the horn of an ox or cow

powder keg *n* **1** : a small usu. metal cask for holding gunpowder or blasting powder **2** : something liable to explode

powder metallurgy *n* : a branch of science or an art concerned with the production of powdered metals or of metallic objects by compressing a powdered metal or alloy with or without other materials and heating without thoroughly melting to solidify and strengthen

powder monkey *n* : one who carries or has charge of explosives (as in blasting operations)

powder–puff *adj* : of, relating to, or being a competitive activity or event for women ⟨a ~ football game⟩

powder puff *n* : a small fluffy device (as a pad) for applying cosmetic powder

powder room *n* **1** : a rest room for women **2** : a lavatory in the main living area of a house

pow·dery \'paůd-ə-rē\ *adj* **1** **a** : resembling or consisting of powder ⟨~ snow⟩ **b** : easily reduced to powder : CRUMBLING **2** : covered with or as if with powder

powdery mildew *n* **1** : a perfect fungus (family Erysiphaceae) or an imperfect fungus (genus *Oidium*) producing abundant powdery

conidia on the host **2** : a plant disease caused by a powdery mildew

¹pow·er \'paù(-ə)r\ *n, often attrib* [ME, fr. OF *poeir*, fr. *poeir* to be able, fr. (assumed) L *potēre* to be powerful — more at POTENT] **1 a** : possession of control, authority, or influence over others **b** : one having such power; *specif* : a sovereign state **c** : a controlling group : ESTABLISHMENT — often used in the phrase *the powers that be* **d** *archaic* : a force of armed men **e** *chiefly dial* : a large number or quantity **2 a** (1) : ability to act or produce an effect (2) : ability to get extra-base hits (3) : capacity for being acted upon or undergoing an effect **b** : legal or official authority, capacity, or right **3 a** : physical might **b** : mental or moral efficacy **c** : political control or influence **4** *pl* : an order of angels — see CELESTIAL HIERARCHY **5 a** : the number of times as indicated by an exponent that a number occurs as a factor in a product; *also* : the product itself **b** : CARDINAL NUMBER 2 **6 a** : a source or means of supplying energy; *esp* : ELECTRICITY **b** : MOTIVE POWER **c** : the time rate at which work is done or energy emitted or transferred **7** : MAGNIFICATION 2b **8** : SCOPE, COMPREHENSIVENESS **9** : the probability of rejecting the null hypothesis in a statistical test when a particular alternative hypothesis happens to be true

syn POWER, FACULTY, FUNCTION *shared meaning element* : ability of a living being to perform in a given way or capacity for a particular kind of performance

²power *vt* : to supply with power and esp. motive power

pow·er·boat \'paù(-ə)r-ˌbōt\ *n* : MOTORBOAT

pow·er–dive \-ˈdīv\ *vi* : to make a power dive ~ *vt* : to cause to power-dive

power dive *n* : a dive of an airplane accelerated by the power of the engine

pow·er·ful \'paù(-ə)r-fəl\ *adj* **1** : having great power, prestige, or influence **2** : leading to many or important deductions ⟨a ~ set of postulates⟩ — **pow·er·ful·ly** \-f(ə-)lē\ *adv*

power function *n* : a function of a parameter under statistical test whose value for a particular value of the parameter is the probability of rejecting the null hypothesis if that value of the parameter happens to be true

pow·er·house \'paù(-ə)r-ˌhaùs\ *n* **1 a** : POWER PLANT 1 **b** : a source of influence or inspiration **2** : one having or wielding great power

pow·er·less \-ləs\ *adj* **1** : devoid of strength or resources **2** : lacking the authority or capacity to act : UNABLE — **pow·er·less·ly** *adv* — **pow·er·less·ness** *n*

power mower *n* : a motor-driven lawn mower

power of attorney : a legal instrument authorizing one to act as the attorney or agent of the grantor

power pack *n* : a unit for converting a power supply (as from a battery) to a voltage suitable for an electronic device

power plant *n* **1** : an electric utility generating station **2** : an engine and related parts supplying the motive power of a self-propelled object (as a rocket or automobile)

power play *n* **1** : an offensive maneuver (as in football or hockey) in which mass interference is provided at a particular point or in a particular zone **2** : a military, diplomatic, political, or administrative maneuver in which power is brought to bear

power politics *n pl but sing or pl in constr* : politics based primarily on the use of power as a coercive force rather than on ethical precepts; *esp* : international politics characterized by attempts to advance national interests through coercion on the basis of military and economic strength

power series *n* : an infinite series whose terms are successive integral powers of a variable multiplied by constants

power shovel *n* : a power-operated excavating machine consisting of a boom or crane that supports a dipper handle with a dipper at the end of it

power station *n* : POWER PLANT 1

power steering *n* : automotive steering with engine power used to amplify the torque applied at the steering wheel by the driver

power structure *n* **1** : a group of persons having control of an organization : ESTABLISHMENT **2** : the hierarchical interrelationships existing within a controlling group

power sweep *n* : SWEEP 3e

power take–off *n* : a supplementary mechanism (as on a tractor) enabling the engine power to be used to operate nonautomotive apparatus (as a pump or saw)

power train *n* : the intervening mechanism by which power is transmitted from an engine to a propeller or axle that it drives

¹pow·wow \'paù-ˌwaù\ *n* [of Algonquian origin; akin to Natick *pauwau* conjurer] **1** : an American Indian medicine man **2** : an American Indian ceremony (as for victory in war) **3 a** : a social get-together **b** : a meeting for discussion

²powwow *vi* : to hold a powwow

¹pox \'päks\ *n, pl* **pox** *or* **pox·es** [alter. of *pocks*, pl. of *pock*] **1 a** : a virus disease (as chicken pox) characterized by pustules or eruptions **b** *archaic* : SMALLPOX **c** : SYPHILIS **2** : a disastrous evil : PLAGUE, CURSE ⟨a ~ on him⟩

²pox *vt, archaic* : to infect with a pox and esp. with syphilis

pox·vi·rus \'päks-ˌvī-rəs\ *n* : any of a group of relatively large round, brick-shaped, or ovoid animal viruses (as the causative agent of smallpox) that have a fluffy appearance caused by a covering of tubules and threads

poz·zo·la·na \ˌpät-sə-ˈlän-ə\ *or* **poz·zo·lan** \'pät-sə-lən\ *n* [It *pozzolana*] : finely divided siliceous or siliceous and aluminous material that reacts chemically with slaked lime at ordinary temperature and in the presence of moisture to form a strong slow-hardening cement — **poz·zo·la·nic** \-ˈlan-ik, -ˈlän-\ *adj*

pp *abbr* **1** pages **2** [L *per procurationem*] by proxy **3** pianissimo

PP *abbr* **1** parcel post **2** past participle **3** postpaid **4** prepaid

ppa *abbr* per power of attorney

ppb *abbr* parts per billion

PPC *abbr* [F *pour prendre congé*] to take leave

ppd *abbr* **1** postpaid **2** prepaid

PPFA *abbr* Planned Parenthood Federation of America

¹PPI \ˌpē-(ˌ)pē-ˈī\ *n* [*p*lan *p*osition *i*ndicator] : a radarscope on which spots of light representing reflections of radar waves indicate the range and bearing of objects

²PPI *abbr* policy proof of interest

PPLO \ˌpē-ˌpē-ˌel-ˈō\ *n, pl* **PPLO** [*p*leuro*p*neumonia-*l*ike *o*rganism] : MYCOPLASMA

ppm *abbr* parts per million

ppt *abbr* **1** parts per thousand **2** parts per trillion **3** precipitate

pptn *abbr* precipitation

PQ *abbr* **1** previous question **2** Province of Quebec

pr *abbr* **1** pair **2** price **3** printed

Pr *symbol* **1** praseodymium **2** propyl

PR *abbr* **1** payroll **2** proportional representation **3** public relations **4** Puerto Rico

prac·ti·ca·ble \'prak-ti-kə-bəl\ *adj* **1** : possible to practice or perform : FEASIBLE **2** : capable of being used : USABLE — **prac·ti·ca·bil·i·ty** \ˌprak-ti-kə-ˈbil-ət-ē\ *n* — **prac·ti·ca·ble·ness** \'prak-ti-kə-bəl-nəs\ *n* — **prac·ti·ca·bly** \-blē\ *adv*

syn **1** see POSSIBLE ***ant*** impracticable **2** PRACTICABLE, PRACTICAL *shared meaning element* : capable of being used or turned to account. In spite of the common element of meaning these terms are not interchangeable without loss of precision of expression. PRACTICABLE applies chiefly to something immaterial (as a plan, expedient, or design) which has not been tested in practice or to something material (as a machine or implement) that has not been proved in service or use; the term implies expectation rather than assurance of successful testing or proving ⟨a serviceable concept on which to base a *practicable* policy —J. A. Hobson⟩ PRACTICAL stresses opposition to all that is *theoretical, speculative, ideal, unrealistic,* or *imaginative* and implies a relation to the actual life of man, his daily needs, or problems that must be met. The term emphasizes actual established usefulness rather than discovered or theoretical usableness; thus, the modern low-slung high-speed automobile was *practicable* long before improved roads and fuels made it *practical;* a *practicable* expedient seems likely to meet the needs of a case, but a *practical* expedient has been proved effective in use.

¹prac·ti·cal \'prak-ti-kəl\ *adj* [LL *practicus*, fr. Gk *praktikos*, fr. *prassein* to pass over, fare, do; akin to Gk *peran* to pass through — more at FARE] **1** : actively engaged in some course of action or occupation ⟨a ~ farmer⟩ **2 a** : of, relating to, or manifested in practice or action : not theoretical or ideal ⟨a ~ question⟩ ⟨for all ~ purposes⟩ **b** : being such in practice or effect : VIRTUAL ⟨a ~ failure⟩ **3** : capable of being put to use or account : USEFUL ⟨he had a ~ knowledge of French⟩ **4 a** : disposed to action as opposed to speculation or abstraction **b** (1) : qualified by practice or practical training ⟨a good ~ mechanic⟩ (2) : designed to supplement theoretical training by experience **5** : concerned with voluntary action and ethical decisions ⟨~ reason⟩ ***syn*** see PRACTICABLE — **prac·ti·cal·i·ty** \ˌprak-ti-ˈkal-ət-ē\ *n* — **prac·ti·cal·ness** \'prak-ti-kəl-nəs\ *n*

²practical *n* : an examination requiring demonstration of some practical skill ⟨a zoology ~⟩

practical art *n* : an art (as woodworking) that serves ordinary or material needs — usu. used in pl.

practical joke *n* : a joke whose humor stems from the tricking or abuse of an individual placed somehow at a disadvantage — **practical joker** *n*

prac·ti·cal·ly \'prak-ti-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* **1** : in a practical manner ⟨talked ~ about the problem⟩ **2** : ALMOST, NEARLY ⟨~ everyone went to the party⟩

practical nurse *n* : a nurse who cares for the sick professionally without having the training or experience required of a registered nurse; *esp* : LICENSED PRACTICAL NURSE

practical theology *n* : the study of the institutional activities of religion (as preaching, church administration, pastoral care, and liturgics)

¹prac·tice *or* **prac·tise** \'prak-təs\ *vb* **prac·ticed** *or* **prac·tised; prac·tic·ing** *or* **prac·tis·ing** [ME *practisen*, fr. MF *practiser*, fr. *practique* practice, fr. LL *practica*, fr. Gk *praktikē*, fr. fem. of *praktikos*] *vt* **1 a** : to perform or work at repeatedly so as to become proficient ⟨~ his act⟩ **b** : to train by repeated exercises ⟨~ pupils in penmanship⟩ **2 a** : to carry out : APPLY ⟨~ what he preaches⟩ **b** : to do or perform often, customarily, or habitually ⟨~ politeness⟩ **c** : to be professionally engaged in ⟨~ medicine⟩ **3** *obs* : PLOT ~ *vi* **1** : to do repeated exercises for proficiency **2** : to pursue a profession actively **3** *archaic* : INTRIGUE **4** : to do something customarily **5** : to take advantage of someone ⟨he *practised* on their credulity with huge success —*Times Lit. Supp.*⟩ — **prac·tic·er** *n*

syn PRACTICE, EXERCISE, DRILL *shared meaning element* : to perform or make perform repeatedly

²practice *also* **practise** *n, often attrib* **1 a** : actual performance or application ⟨ready to carry out in ~ what he advocated in principle⟩ **b** : a repeated or customary action ⟨he had an irritating ~ of watching his fellows⟩ **c** : the usual way of doing something ⟨it is wise to conform to local ~*s*⟩ **d** : the form, manner, and order of conducting legal suits and prosecutions **2 a** : systematic exercise for proficiency ⟨~ makes perfect⟩ **b** : the condition of being proficient through systematic exercise ⟨get in ~⟩ **3 a** : the continuous exercise of a profession **b** : a professional business; *esp* : one constituting an incorporeal property ***syn*** see HABIT

prac·ticed *or* **prac·tised** \'prak-təst\ *adj* **1** : EXPERIENCED, SKILLED **2** : learned by practice

prac·tice–teach \-təs-ˌtēch\ *vi* **-taught** \-ˌtȯt\; **-teach·ing** [back-formation fr. *practice teaching*] : to engage in practice teaching — **practice teacher** *n*

practice teaching *n* : teaching in which a student practices educational skills and methods under the supervision of an experienced teacher in preparation for professional teaching

prac·tic·ing *or* **prac·tis·ing** *adj* : actively engaged in a specified career or way of life ⟨a ~ physician⟩

prac·ti·cum \'prak-ti-kəm\ *n* [G *praktikum*, fr. LL *practicum*, neut. of *practicus* practical] : a course of study designed esp. for the preparation of teachers and clinicians that involves the supervised practical application (as in a classroom or clinic) of previously studied theory

prac·ti·tio·ner \prak-'tish-(ə-)nər\ *n* [alter. of earlier *practician*, fr. ME (Sc) *pratician*, fr. MF *practicien*, fr. *pratique*] **1** : one who practices; *esp* : one who practices a profession **2** *Christian Science* : an authorized healer

prae·ci·pe *or* **pre·ci·pe** \'pres-ə-ˌpē, 'prēs-\ *n* [ME *precipe*, fr. ML, fr. L *praecipe*, imper. of *praecipere* to instruct — more at PRECEPT] **1** : any of various legal writs commanding a person to do something or to appear and show cause why he should not **2** : a written order requesting a clerk or prothonotary of a court to issue a writ and specifying the contents of the writ

prae·di·al *var of* PREDIAL

prae·mu·ni·re \ˌprē-myu̇-'nī(ə)r-ē\ *n* [ME *praemunire facias*, fr. ML, that you cause to warn; fr. prominent words in the writ] : an offense against the English Crown punishable chiefly by forfeiture and orig. committed by asserting papal legal supremacy in England

prae·no·men \prē-'nō-mən\ *n, pl* **-nomens** *or* **-no·mi·na** \-'näm-ə-nə, -'nō-mə-\ [L, fr. *prae-* pre- + *nomen* name — more at NAME] : the first of the usual three names of an ancient Roman

prae·sid·i·um *var of* PRESIDIUM

prae·tor \'prēt-ər\ *n* [ME *pretor*, fr. L *praetor*] : an ancient Roman magistrate ranking below a consul and having chiefly judicial functions — **prae·to·ri·al** \prē-'tōr-ē-əl, -'tȯr-\ *adj* — **prae·tor·ship** \'prēt-ər-ˌship\ *n*

prae·to·ri·an \prē-'tōr-ē-ən, -'tȯr-\ *adj* **1** : of or relating to a praetor **2** *often cap* : of, forming, or resembling the Roman imperial bodyguard — **praetorian** *n, often cap*

prag·mat·ic \prag-'mat-ik\ *also* **prag·mat·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj* [L *pragmaticus* skilled in law or business, fr. Gk *pragmatikos*, fr. *pragmat-*, *pragma* deed, fr. *prassein* to do — more at PRACTICAL] **1** *archaic* **a** (1) : BUSY (2) : OFFICIOUS **b** : OPINIONATED **2** : relating to matters of fact or practical affairs often to the exclusion of intellectual or artistic matters : practical as opposed to idealistic ⟨the problem-solving mentality, the product of science and ~ effort —T. F. O'Dea⟩ ⟨~ men of power have had no time or inclination to deal with . . . social morality —K. B. Clark⟩ **3** : relating to or being in accordance with philosophical pragmatism — **pragmatic** *n* — **prag·mat·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

prag·mat·i·cism \prag-'mat-ə-ˌsiz-əm\ *n* : the philosophic doctrine of C. S. Peirce — **prag·mat·i·cist** \-səst\ *n*

prag·mat·ics \prag-'mat-iks\ *n pl but sing or pl in constr* : a branch of semiotic that deals with the relation between signs or linguistic expressions and their users

pragmatic sanction *n* : a solemn decree of a sovereign on a matter of primary importance and with the force of fundamental law

prag·ma·tism \'prag-mə-ˌtiz-əm\ *n* **1** : a practical approach to problems and affairs ⟨tried to strike a balance between principles and ~⟩ **2** : an American movement in philosophy founded by C. S. Peirce and William James and marked by the doctrines that the meaning of conceptions is to be sought in their practical bearings, that the function of thought is to guide action, and that truth is preeminently to be tested by the practical consequences of belief — **prag·ma·tist** \-mət-əst\ *adj or n* — **prag·ma·tis·tic** \ˌprag-mə-'tis-tik\ *adj*

prai·rie \'pre(ə)r-ē\ *n, often attrib* [F, fr. (assumed) VL *prataria*, fr. L *pratum* meadow; akin to L *pravus* crooked, MIr *rāth* earthworks] : a tract of grassland: as **a** : a large area of level or rolling land in the Mississippi valley that in its natural uncultivated state usu. has deep fertile soil, a cover of tall coarse grasses, and few trees **b** : one of the dry treeless plateaus into which the prairies proper merge on the west

prairie breaker *n* : a plow with a long low moldboard designed to cut a wide shallow furrow and turn the slice completely over

prairie chicken *n* : a grouse (*Tympanuchus cupido pinnatus*) of the Mississippi valley; *also* : a closely related American grouse (*T. pallidicinctus*)

prairie dog *n* : a colonial American burrowing rodent (genus *Cynomys*, esp. *C. ludovicianus* of the prairies) related to the marmots



prairie dog

prairie schooner *n* : a covered wagon used by pioneers in cross-country travel — called also *prairie wagon*

prairie soil *n* : any of a zonal group of soils developed in a temperate relatively humid climate under tall grass

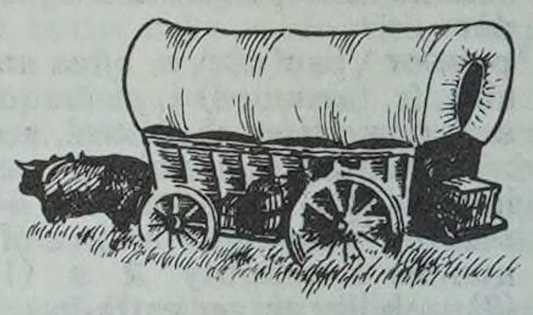
prairie wolf *n* : COYOTE

¹praise \'prāz\ *vb* **praised; prais·ing** [ME *praisen*, fr. MF *preisier* to prize, praise, fr. LL *pretiare* to prize, fr. L *pretium* price — more at PRICE] *vt* **1** : to express a favorable judgment of : COMMEND **2** : to glorify (a god or saint) esp. by the attribution of perfections ~ *vi* : to express praise — **prais·er** *n*

²praise *n* **1 a** : an expression of approval : COMMENDATION **b** : WORSHIP **2 a** : VALUE, MERIT **b** *archaic* : one that is praised

praise·wor·thy \'prāz-ˌwər-thē\ *adj* : LAUDABLE — **praise·wor·thi·ly** \-thə-lē\ *adv* — **praise·wor·thi·ness** \-thē-nəs\ *n*

Pra·krit \'präk-ˌrit, -rət\ *n* [Skt *prākṛta*, fr. *prākṛta* natural, vulgar] **1** : any or all of the ancient Indic languages or dialects other than Sanskrit — see INDO-EUROPEAN LANGUAGES table **2** : any of the modern Indic languages



prairie schooner

pra·line \'prä-ˌlēn, 'prā-, 'prȯ-\ *n* [F, fr. Count Plessis-*Praslin* †1675 F soldier] : a confection of nut kernels: **a** : almonds roasted in boiling sugar until brown and crisp **b** : a patty of creamy brown sugar and pecan meats

prall·tril·ler \'präl-ˌtril-ər\ *n* [G] : a musical ornament made by a quick alternation of a principal tone with the tone above

¹pram \'präm, 'pram\ *n* [D *praam*; akin to MLG *prām* pram] : a small lightweight nearly flat-bottomed boat with a broad transom and usu. squared-off bow

²pram \'pram\ *n* [by shortening & alter. fr. *perambulator*] *chiefly Brit* : BABY CARRIAGE

¹prance \'pran(t)s\ *vb* **pranced; pranc·ing** [ME *prauncen*] *vi* **1** : to spring from the hind legs or move by so doing **2** : to ride on a prancing horse **3** : to walk or move in a spirited manner : STRUT ⟨*prancing* up and down, sublimely pleased with himself — Norman Douglas⟩; *also* : to dance about : CAPER ⟨~ forward and back in rhythm to the music —Thomas Wolfe⟩ ~ *vt* : to cause (a horse) to prance — **pranc·er** \'pran(t)-sər\ *n* — **pranc·ing·ly** \-siŋ-lē\ *adv*

²prance *n* : an act or instance of prancing; *specif* : a prancing movement

pran·di·al \'pran-dē-əl\ *adj* [L *prandium* late breakfast, luncheon] : of or relating to a meal

¹prang \'praŋ\ *vt* [imit.] : to have an accident with : cause to crash

²prang *n* : ACCIDENT, CRASH

¹prank \'praŋk\ *n* [obs. *prank* to play tricks] : TRICK: **a** *obs* : a malicious act **b** : a mildly mischievous act : PRACTICAL JOKE **c** : a ludicrous act

²prank *vb* [prob. fr. D *pronken* to strut; akin to MHG *gebrunkel* glitter of metal] *vt* : to dress or adorn gaily or showily ~ *vi* : to show oneself off

prank·ish \'praŋ-kish\ *adj* **1** : full of pranks ⟨a ~ writer⟩ **2** : having the nature of a prank ⟨~ acts⟩ — **prank·ish·ly** *adv* — **prank·ish·ness** *n*

prank·ster \'praŋ(k)-stər\ *n* : one who plays pranks

prase \'prāz, 'prās\ *n* [F, fr. L *prasius*, fr. Gk *prasios*, fr. *prasios*, adj., leek green, fr. *prason* leek; akin to L *porrum* leek] : a chalcedony that is translucent and leek green

pra·seo·dym·i·um \ˌprā-zē-ō-'dim-ē-əm, ˌprā-sē-\ *n* [NL, alter. of *praseodidymium*, irreg. fr. Gk *prasios*, adj. + NL *didymium*] : a yellowish white trivalent metallic element of the rare-earth group used chiefly in the form of its salts in coloring glass greenish yellow — see ELEMENT table

¹prate \'prāt\ *vi* **prat·ed; prat·ing** [ME *praten*, fr. MD; akin to MLG *pratten* to pout] : to talk long and idly : CHATTER — **prat·er** *n* — **prat·ing·ly** \'prāt-iŋ-lē\ *adv*

²prate *n* : empty or meaningless talk

prat·fall \'prat-ˌfȯl\ *n* [*prat* (buttocks) + *fall*] **1** : a fall on the buttocks **2** : a humiliating mishap or blunder

pra·tin·cole \'prat-ᵊn-ˌkōl, 'prāt-, -iŋ-\ *n* [deriv. of L *pratum* meadow + *incola* inhabitant, fr. *in-* + *colere* to cultivate — more at PRAIRIE, WHEEL] : any of a genus (*Glareola*) of Old World limicoline birds

pra·tique \pra-'tēk\ *n* [F, lit., practice — more at PRACTICE] : clearance given an incoming ship by the health authority of a port

¹prat·tle \'prat-ᵊl\ *vb* **prat·tled; prat·tling** \'prat-liŋ, -ᵊl-iŋ\ [LG *pratelen*; akin to MD *praten* to prate] *vi* **1** : PRATE **2** : to utter or make meaningless sounds suggestive of the chatter of children : BABBLE ~ *vt* : to say in an unaffected or childish manner — **prattler** \'prat-lər, -ᵊl-ər\ *n* — **prat·tling·ly** \-liŋ-lē, -ᵊl-iŋ-\ *adv*

²prattle *n* **1** : trifling or empty talk **2** : a sound that is meaningless, repetitive, and suggestive of the chatter of children

prau \'praù, 'prä-ˌü\ *n* [Malay *pĕrahu*] : any of several usu. undecked Indonesian boats propelled by sails, oars, or paddles

¹prawn \'prȯn, 'prän\ *n* [ME *prane*] : any of numerous widely distributed edible decapod crustaceans (as of the genera *Pandalus* and *Peneus*) that resemble shrimps with large compressed abdomens; *also* : SHRIMP

²prawn *vi* : to fish for or with prawns — **prawn·er** *n*

prax·e·ol·o·gy \ˌprak-sē-'äl-ə-jē\ *n* [alter. of earlier *praxiology*, fr. *praxis* + *-o-* + *-logy*] : the study of human action and conduct — **prax·e·o·log·i·cal** \-sē-ə-'läj-i-kəl\ *adj*

prax·is \'prak-səs\ *n, pl* **prax·es** \-ˌsēz\ [ML, fr. Gk, doing, action, fr. *prassein* to pass through, practice — more at PRACTICAL] **1** : exercise or practice of an art, science, or skill **2** : customary practice or conduct

pray \'prā\ *vb* [ME *prayen*, fr. OF *preier*, fr. L *precari*, fr. *prec-*, *prex* request, prayer; akin to OHG *frāgēn* to ask, Skt *pṛcchati* he asks] *vt* **1** : ENTREAT, IMPLORE — often used as a function word in introducing a question, request, or plea **2** : to get or bring by praying ~ *vi* **1** : to request in a humble manner **2** : to address God or a god with adoration, confession, supplication, or thanksgiving

¹prayer \'pra(ə)r, 'pre(ə)r\ *n, often attrib* [ME, fr. OF *preiere*, fr. ML *precaria*, fr. L, fem. of *precarius* obtained by entreaty, fr. *prec-*, *prex*] **1 a** (1) : an address (as a petition) to God or a god in word or thought ⟨said a ~ for the success of the voyage⟩ (2) : a set order of words used in praying ⟨repeat a ~⟩ **b** : an earnest request **2** : the act or practice of praying to God or a god ⟨kneeling in ~⟩ **3** : a religious service consisting chiefly of prayers — often used in pl. **4** : something prayed for **5** : a slight chance ⟨tried hard but didn't have a ~⟩

²pray·er \'prā-ər, 'pre(-ə)r\ *n* [ME *prayere*, fr. *prayen* to pray + *-er*] : one that prays : SUPPLIANT

prayer beads *n pl* : a string of beads by which prayers are counted; *specif* : ROSARY

prayer book *n* : a book containing prayers and often other forms and directions for worship

prayer·ful \'pra(ə)r-fəl, 'pre(ə)r-\ *adj* **1** : DEVOUT **2** : EARNEST, SINCERE — **prayer·ful·ly** \-fə-lē\ *adv* — **prayer·ful·ness** *n*
prayer meeting *n* : a Protestant worship service usu. held on a week night — called also *prayer service*
prayer rug *n* : a small Oriental rug used by Muslims to kneel on when praying
prayer shawl *n* : TALLITH
prayer wheel *n* : a cylinder of wood or metal that revolves on an axis and contains written prayers and that is used in praying by Tibetan Buddhists
praying mantid *n* : MANTIS
praying mantis *n* : MANTIS
pre- *prefix* [ME, fr. OF & L; OF, fr. L *prae-*, fr. *prae* in front of, before — more at FOR] **1 a** (1) : earlier than : prior to : before ⟨*Pre*cambrian⟩ ⟨*pre*historic⟩ ⟨*pre*-English⟩ (2) : preparatory or prerequisite to ⟨*pre*medical⟩ ⟨*pre*journalism⟩ **b** : in advance : beforehand ⟨*pre*cancel⟩ ⟨*pre*pay⟩ **2 a** : in front of : anterior to ⟨*pre*axial⟩ ⟨*pre*molar⟩ **b** : front : anterior ⟨*pre*abdomen⟩
preach \'prēch\ *vb* [ME *prechen*, fr. OF *prechier*, fr. LL *praedicare*, fr. L, to proclaim publicly, fr. *prae-* pre- + *dicare* to proclaim — more at DICTION] *vi* **1** : to deliver a sermon **2** : to urge acceptance or abandonment of an idea or course of action; *specif* : to exhort in an officious or tiresome manner ~ *vt* **1** : to set forth in a sermon ⟨~ the gospel⟩ **2** : to advocate earnestly ⟨~*ed* revolution⟩ **3** : to deliver (as a sermon) publicly **4** : to bring, put, or affect by preaching ⟨~*ed* the . . . church out of debt —*Amer. Guide Series: Va.*⟩ — **preach·er** *n* — **preach·ing·ly** \'prē-chiŋ-lē\ *adv*
preach·ify \'prē-chə-ˌfī\ *vi* **-ified; -ify·ing** : to preach ineptly or tediously
preach·ment \'prēch-mənt\ *n* **1** : the act or practice of preaching **2** : SERMON, EXHORTATION; *specif* : a tedious or unwelcome one
preachy \'prē-chē\ *adj* **preach·i·er; -est** : marked by obvious moral exhortation : DIDACTIC — **preach·i·ly** \-chə-lē\ *adv* — **preach·i·ness** \-chē-nəs\ *n*
pre·ad·ap·ta·tion \'prē-ˌad-ˌap-'tā-shən\ *n* **1** : the possession by an organism or group of characters that are not adapted to the ancestral environment but favor its survival in some other environment **2** : a preadaptive character
pre·adapt·ed \ˌprē-ə-'dap-təd\ *adj* : characterized by preadaptation
pre·adap·tive \-'dap-tiv\ *adj* : of, relating to, or characterized by preadaptation
pre·ad·o·les·cence \'prē-ˌad-ᵊl-'es-ᵊn(t)s\ *n* : the period of human development just preceding adolescence; *specif* : the period between the approximate ages of 9 and 12 — **pre·ad·o·les·cent** \-ᵊnt\ *adj or n*
pre·ag·ri·cul·tur·al \'prē-ˌag-rə-'kəlch-(ə-)rəl\ *adj* : existing or occurring before the practice of agriculture by men
pre·am·ble \'prē-ˌam-bəl, prē-'\ *n* [ME, fr. MF *preambule*, fr. ML *preambulum*, fr. LL, neut. of *praeambulus* walking in front of, fr. L *prae-* + *ambulare* to walk] **1** : an introductory statement; *specif* : the introductory part of a constitution or statute that usu. states the reasons for and intent of the law **2** : an introductory fact or circumstance; *esp* : one indicating what is to follow
pre·am·pli·fi·er \(')prē-'am-plə-ˌfī(-ə)r\ *n* : an amplifier designed to amplify extremely weak signals from a device (as a microphone, phonograph pickup, tuner, or television camera) before the signals are fed to additional amplifier circuits
pre·ar·range \ˌprē-ə-'rānj\ *vt* : to arrange beforehand — **pre·ar·range·ment** \-'rānj-mənt\ *n*
pre·as·signed \ˌprē-ə-'sīnd\ *adj* : assigned beforehand
pre·atom·ic \-ə-'täm-ik\ *adj* : of or relating to a time before the use of the atom bomb and atomic energy
pre·ax·i·al \(')prē-'ak-sē-əl\ *adj* : situated in front of an axis of the body — **pre·ax·i·al·ly** \-ə-lē\ *adv*
preb·end \'preb-ənd\ *n* [ME *prebende*, fr. MF, fr. ML *praebenda*, fr. LL, subsistence allowance granted by the state, fr. L, fem. of *praebendus*, gerundive of *praebēre* to offer, fr. *prae-* + *habēre* to hold — more at GIVE] **1** : a stipend furnished by a cathedral or collegiate church to a clergyman (as a canon) in its chapter **2** : PREBENDARY — **pre·ben·dal** \pri-'ben-dᵊl, 'preb-ən-\ *adj*
preb·en·dary \'preb-ən-ˌder-ē\ *n, pl* **-dar·ies** **1** : a clergyman receiving a prebend for officiating and serving in the church **2** : an honorary canon in a cathedral chapter
pre·bind \(')prē-'bīnd\ *vt* **-bound** \-'baůnd\; **-bind·ing** **1** : to bind (a book) in durable materials esp. for circulating library use **2** : to give (a book) a durable original binding
pre·bi·o·log·i·cal \'prē-ˌbī-ə-'läj-i-kəl\ *also* **pre·bi·o·log·ic** \-ik\ *adj* : of, relating to, or being chemical or environmental precursors of the origin of life ⟨~ molecules⟩
pre·bi·ot·ic \ˌprē-bī-'ät-ik\ *adj* : PREBIOLOGICAL
prec *abbr* preceding
pre·cal·cu·lus \(')prē-'kal-kyə-ləs\ *adj* : relating to or being mathematical prerequisites for the study of calculus
Pre·cam·bri·an \(')prē-'kam-brē-ən\ *adj* : of, relating to, or being the earliest era of geological history equivalent to the Archeozoic and Proterozoic eras or the corresponding system of rocks — **Precambrian** *n*
¹pre·can·cel \(')prē-'kan(t)-səl\ *vt* : to cancel (a postage stamp) in advance of use — **pre·can·cel·la·tion** \ˌprē-ˌkan(t)-sə-'lā-shən\ *n*
²precancel *n* : a precanceled postage stamp
pre·can·cer·ous \(')prē-'kan(t)s-(ə-)rəs\ *adj* [ISV] : tending to become cancerous ⟨a ~ lesion⟩
pre·cap·il·lary \(')prē-'kap-ə-ˌler-ē, *Brit usu* ˌprə-kə-'pil-ə-rē\ *adj* : being on the arterial side of and immediately adjacent to a capillary
pre·car·i·ous \pri-'kar-ē-əs, -'ker-\ *adj* [L *precarius* obtained by entreaty, uncertain — more at PRAYER] **1** *archaic* : depending on the will or pleasure of another **2** : dependent on uncertain premises : DUBIOUS ⟨~ generalizations⟩ **3 a** : dependent on chance circumstances, unknown conditions, or uncertain developments **b** : characterized by a lack of security or stability that threatens with danger ***syn*** see DANGEROUS — **pre·car·i·ous·ly** *adv* — **pre·car·i·ous·ness** *n*
pre·cast \'prē-'kast\ *adj* : being concrete that is cast in the form of a structural element (as a panel or beam) before being placed in final position
prec·a·to·ry \'prek-ə-ˌtōr-ē, -ˌtȯr-\ *adj* [LL *precatorius*, fr. *precatus*, pp. of *precari* to pray — more at PRAY] : expressing a wish
pre·cau·tion \pri-'kȯ-shən\ *n* [F *précaution*, fr. LL *praecaution-*, *praecautio*, fr. L *praecautus*, pp. of *praecavēre* to guard against, fr. *prae-* + *cavēre* to be on one's guard — more at HEAR] **1** : care taken in advance : FORESIGHT ⟨warned of the need for ~⟩ **2** : a measure taken beforehand to prevent harm or secure good : SAFEGUARD — **pre·cau·tion·ary** \-shə-ˌner-ē\ *adj*
pre·cau·tious \-shəs\ *adj* : characterized by precaution
pre·ca·va \(')prē-'kā-və\ *n, pl* **-vae** \-(ˌ)vē\ [NL] : SUPERIOR VENA CAVA — **pre·ca·val** \-'kā-vəl\ *adj*
pre·cede \pri-'sēd\ *vb* **pre·ced·ed; pre·ced·ing** [ME *preceden*, fr. MF *preceder*, fr. L *praecedere*, fr. *prae-* pre- + *cedere* to go — more at CEDE] *vt* **1** : to surpass in rank, dignity, or importance **2** : to be, go, or come ahead or in front of **3** : to be earlier than **4** : to cause to be preceded : PREFACE ~ *vi* : to go or come before
pre·ce·dence \'pres-əd-ən(t)s, pri-'sēd-ᵊn(t)s\ *n* **1 a** *obs* : ANTECEDENT **b** : the fact of preceding in time **2 a** : the right to superior honor on a ceremonial or formal occasion **b** : the order of ceremonial or formal preference **c** : priority of importance : PREFERENCE ***syn*** see PRIORITY
pre·ce·den·cy \-ən-sē, -ᵊn-sē\ *n* : PRECEDENCE
¹pre·ce·dent \pri-'sēd-ᵊnt, 'pres-əd-ənt\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *praecedent-*, *praecedens*, prp. of *praecedere*] : prior in time, order, arrangement, or significance
²prec·e·dent \'pres-əd-ənt\ *n* **1** : an earlier occurrence of something similar **2 a** : something done or said that may serve as an example or rule to authorize or justify a subsequent act of the same or an analogous kind ⟨a verdict that had no ~⟩ **b** : the convention established by such a precedent or by long practice
pre·ced·ing \pri-'sēd-iŋ\ *adj* : that immediately precedes in time or place ⟨the ~ day⟩ ⟨~ paragraphs⟩
syn PRECEDING, ANTECEDENT, FOREGOING, PREVIOUS, PRIOR, FORMER, ANTERIOR *shared meaning element* : being before ***ant*** following
pre·cen·sor \(')prē-'sen(t)-sər\ *vt* : to censor (a publication or film) before its release to the public
pre·cen·tor \pri-'sent-ər\ *n* [LL *praecentor*, fr. L *praecentus*, pp. of *praecinere* to sing before, fr. *prae-* + *canere* to sing — more at CHANT] : a leader of the singing of a choir or congregation — **pre·cen·to·ri·al** \ˌprē-ˌsen-'tōr-ē-əl, -'tȯr-\ *adj* — **pre·cen·tor·ship** \pri-'sent-ər-ˌship\ *n*
pre·cept \'prē-ˌsept\ *n* [ME, fr. L *praeceptum*, fr. neut. of *praeceptus*, pp. of *praecipere* to take beforehand, instruct, fr. *prae-* + *capere* to take — more at HEAVE] **1** : a command or principle intended as a general rule of action **2** : an order issued by legally constituted authority to a subordinate official
pre·cep·tive \pri-'sep-tiv\ *adj* : giving precepts : DIDACTIC — **pre·cep·tive·ly** *adv*
pre·cep·tor \pri-'sep-tər, 'prē-ˌ\ *n* **1 a** : TEACHER, TUTOR **b** : the headmaster or principal of a school **2** : the head of a preceptory of Knights Templars — **pre·cep·tor·ship** \-tər-ˌship\ *n* — **pre·cep·tress** \-trəs\ *n*
¹pre·cep·to·ri·al \pri-ˌsep-'tōr-ē-əl, ˌprē-, -'tȯr-\ *adj* : of, relating to, or making use of preceptors
²preceptorial *n* : a college course that emphasizes independent reading, discussion in small groups, and individual conferences with the teacher
pre·cep·to·ry \pri-'sep-t(ə-)rē, 'prē-ˌ\ *n, pl* **-ries** **1** : a subordinate house or community of the Knights Templars; *broadly* : COMMANDERY 1 **2** : COMMANDERY 2
pre·cess \prē-'ses, 'prē-ˌ\ *vb* [back-formation fr. *precession*] *vi* : to progress with a movement of precession ~ *vt* : to cause to precess
pre·ces·sion \prē-'sesh-ən\ *n* [NL *praecession-*, *praecessio*, fr. ML, act of preceding, fr. L *praecessus*, pp. of *praecedere* to precede] : a comparatively slow gyration of the rotation axis of a spinning body about another line intersecting it so as to describe a cone caused by the application of a torque tending to change the direction of the rotation axis — **pre·ces·sion·al** \-'sesh-nəl, -ən-ᵊl\ *adj*
precession of the equinoxes : a slow westward motion of the equinoctial points along the ecliptic caused by the action of sun and moon upon the protuberant matter about the earth's equator
pre–Chel·le·an \(')prē-'shel-ē-ən\ *adj* : of or relating to a lower Paleolithic culture preceding the Abbevillian and characterized by crudely flaked stone hand axes
pre–Chris·tian \-'kris(h)-chən\ *adj* : of, relating to, or being a time before the beginning of the Christian era
pré·cieux \prā-syœ\ *or* **pré·cieuse** \-syœz\ *adj* [F *précieux*, masc., & *précieuse*, fem., lit., precious, fr. OF *precios*] : PRECIOUS 3
pre·cinct \'prē-ˌsiŋ(k)t\ *n* [ME, fr. ML *praecinctum*, fr. L, neut. of *praecinctus*, pp. of *praecingere* to gird about, fr. *prae-* pre- + *cingere* to gird — more at CINCTURE] **1** : a part of a territory with definite bounds or functions often established for administrative purposes : DISTRICT: as **a** : a subdivision of a county, town, city, or ward for election purposes **b** : a division of a city for police control **2** : an enclosure bounded by the walls of a building — often used in pl. **3** *pl* : the region immediately surrounding a place : ENVIRONS **4** : BOUNDARY — often used in pl. ⟨a ruined tower within the ~*s* of the squire's grounds —T. L. Peacock⟩
pre·ci·os·i·ty \ˌpres(h)-ē-'äs-ət-ē\ *n, pl* **-ties** **1** : fastidious refinement **2** : an instance of preciosity
¹pre·cious \'presh-əs\ *adj* [ME, fr. OF *precios*, fr. L *pretiosus*, fr. *pretium* price — more at PRICE] **1** : of great value or high price **2** : highly esteemed or cherished **3** : excessively refined : AFFECTED

4 : GREAT, THOROUGHGOING ⟨~ scoundrel⟩ ***syn*** see COSTLY — **pre·cious·ness** *n*

²precious *adv* : VERY, EXTREMELY ⟨has ~ little to say⟩

pre·cious·ly *adv* **1** : in a precious manner **2** : PRECIOUS

prec·i·pice \'pres(-ə-)pəs\ *n* [MF, fr. L *praecipitium*, fr. *praecipit-*, *praeceps* headlong, fr. *prae-* + *caput* head — more at HEAD] **1** : a very steep or overhanging place **2** : the brink of disaster

pre·cip·i·ta·ble \pri-'sip-ət-ə-bəl\ *adj* : capable of being precipitated

pre·cip·i·tance \pri-'sip-ət-ən(t)s\ *n* : PRECIPITANCY

pre·cip·i·tan·cy \-ən-sē\ *n* : undue hastiness or suddenness

¹pre·cip·i·tant \-ənt\ *adj* : PRECIPITATE — **pre·cip·i·tant·ly** *adv* — **pre·cip·i·tant·ness** *n*

²precipitant *n* : a precipitating agent; *esp* : one that causes the formation of a precipitate

¹pre·cip·i·tate \pri-'sip-ə-ˌtāt\ *vb* **-tat·ed; -tat·ing** [L *praecipitatus*, pp. of *praecipitare*, fr. *praecipit-*, *praeceps*] *vt* **1 a** : to throw violently : HURL ⟨the quandaries into which the release of nuclear energy has *precipitated* mankind —A. B. Arons⟩ **b** : to throw down **2** : to bring about esp. abruptly ⟨~ a scandal that would end with his expulsion —John Cheever⟩ **3 a** : to cause to separate from solution or suspension **b** : to cause (vapor) to condense and fall or deposit ~ *vi* **1 a** : to fall headlong **b** : to fall or come suddenly into some condition **2** : to move or act precipitately **3 a** : to separate from solution or suspension **b** : to condense from a vapor and fall as rain or snow — **pre·cip·i·ta·tive** \-ˌtāt-iv\ *adj* — **pre·cip·i·ta·tor** \-ˌtāt-ər\ *n*

²pre·cip·i·tate \pri-'sip-ət-ət, -ə-ˌtāt\ *n* [NL *praecipitatum*, fr. L, neut. of *praecipitatus*] **1** : a substance separated from a solution or suspension by chemical or physical change usu. as an insoluble amorphous or crystalline solid **2** : a product, result, or outcome of some process or action

³pre·cip·i·tate \pri-'sip-ət-ət\ *adj* **1** : exhibiting violent or unwise speed **2 a** : falling, flowing, or rushing with steep descent **b** : PRECIPITOUS — **pre·cip·i·tate·ly** *adv* — **pre·cip·i·tate·ness** *n*
syn PRECIPITATE, HEADLONG, ABRUPT, IMPETUOUS, SUDDEN *shared meaning element* : showing undue haste or unexpectedness ***ant*** deliberate

pre·cip·i·ta·tion \pri-ˌsip-ə-'tā-shən\ *n* **1** : the quality or state of being precipitate : HASTE **2** : an act, process, or instance of precipitating; *esp* : the process of forming a precipitate **3** : something precipitated: as **a** : a deposit on the earth of hail, mist, rain, sleet, or snow; *also* : the quantity of water deposited **b** : PRECIPITATE 1

pre·cip·i·tin \pri-'sip-ət-ən\ *n* [ISV, fr. *precipitate*] : an antibody that forms an insoluble precipitate when it unites with its antigen

pre·cip·i·tin·o·gen \pri-ˌsip-ə-'tin-ə-jən\ *n* : an antigen that stimulates the production of a specific precipitin — **pre·cip·i·tin·o·gen·ic** \-ˌtin-ə-'jen-ik\ *adj*

pre·cip·i·tous \pri-'sip-ət-əs\ *adj* [F *précipiteux*, fr. MF, fr. L *precipitium* precipice] **1** : PRECIPITATE 1 **2 a** : very steep, perpendicular, or overhanging in rise or fall ⟨a ~ slope⟩ **b** : having precipitous sides ⟨a ~ gorge⟩ **c** : having a very steep ascent ⟨a ~ street⟩ ***syn*** see STEEP — **pre·cip·i·tous·ly** *adv* — **pre·cip·i·tous·ness** *n*

pré·cis \prā-'sē, 'prā-ˌ(ˌ)sē\ *n, pl* **pré·cis** \-'sēz, -ˌ(ˌ)sēz\ [F, fr. *précis* precise] : a concise summary of essential points, statements, or facts

pre·cise \pri-'sīs\ *adj* [MF *precis*, fr. L *praecisus*, pp. of *praecidere* to cut off, fr. *prae-* + *caedere* to cut — more at CONCISE] **1** : exactly or sharply defined or stated **2** : minutely exact **3** : strictly conforming to a pattern, standard, or convention **4** : distinguished from every other : VERY ⟨at just that ~ moment⟩ ***syn*** see CORRECT ***ant*** imprecise, loose — **pre·cise·ly** *adv* — **pre·cise·ness** *n*

pre·ci·sian \pri-'sizh-ən\ *n* **1** : a person who stresses or practices scrupulous adherence to a strict standard esp. of religious observance or morality **2** : PURITAN 1 — **pre·ci·sian·ism** \-ə-ˌniz-əm\ *n*

¹pre·ci·sion \pri-'sizh-ən\ *n* **1** : the quality or state of being precise : EXACTNESS **2 a** : the degree of refinement with which an operation is performed or a measurement stated **b** : the accuracy (as in binary or decimal places) with which a number can be represented usu. expressed in terms of computer words ⟨double ~ arithmetic permits the representation of an expression by two computer words⟩ **3** : RELEVANCE 2 — **pre·ci·sion·ist** \-'sizh-(ə-)nəst\ *n*

²precision *adj* **1** : adapted for extremely accurate measurement or operation **2** : held to low tolerance in manufacture **3** : marked by precision of execution

pre·clin·i·cal \(')prē-'klin-i-kəl\ *adj* : of or relating to the period preceding clinical manifestations

pre·clude \pri-'klüd\ *vt* **pre·clud·ed; pre·clud·ing** [L *praecludere*, fr. *prae-* + *claudere* to close — more at CLOSE] **1** *archaic* : CLOSE **2** : to make impossible by necessary consequence ***syn*** see PREVENT — **pre·clu·sion** \-'klü-zhən\ *n* — **pre·clu·sive** \-'klü-siv, -ziv\ *adj* — **pre·clu·sive·ly** *adv*

pre·co·cial \pri-'kō-shəl\ *adj* [NL *praecoces* precocial birds, fr. L, pl. of *praecoc-*, *precox*] : capable of a high degree of independent activity from birth ⟨ducklings are ~⟩ — compare ALTRICIAL

pre·co·cious \pri-'kō-shəs\ *adj* [L *praecoc-*, *praecox* early ripening, precocious, fr. *prae-* + *coquere* to cook — more at COOK] **1** : exceptionally early in development or occurrence **2** : exhibiting mature qualities at an unusually early age — **pre·co·cious·ly** *adv* — **pre·co·cious·ness** *n* — **pre·coc·i·ty** \pri-'käs-ət-ē\ *n*

pre·cog·ni·tion \ˌprē-(ˌ)käg-'nish-ən\ *n* [LL *praecognition-*, *praecognitio*, fr. L *praecognitus*, pp. of *praecognoscere* to know beforehand, fr. *prae-* + *cognoscere* to know — more at COGNITION] : clairvoyance relating to an event or state not yet experienced — **pre·cog·ni·tive** \(')prē-'käg-nət-iv\ *adj*

pre·col·lege \'prē-'käl-ij\ *adj* : preceding and preparatory for college

pre·co·lo·nial \ˌprē-kə-'lō-nyəl, -nē-əl\ *adj* : of, relating to, or being the time before colonial status

pre–Co·lum·bi·an \ˌprē-kə-'ləm-bē-ən\ *adj* : preceding or belonging to the time before the arrival of Columbus in America

pre·con·ceive \ˌprē-kən-'sēv\ *vt* : to form (as an opinion) prior to actual knowledge or experience ⟨*preconceived* notions⟩

pre·con·cep·tion \-'sep-shən\ *n* **1** : a preconceived idea **2** : PREJUDICE

pre·con·cert \ˌprē-kən-'sərt\ *vt* : to settle by prior agreement

¹pre·con·di·tion \-'dish-ən\ *n* : PREREQUISITE

²precondition *vt* : to put in a proper or desired condition or frame of mind esp. in preparation

pre·con·fer·ence \'prē-'kän-f(ə-)rən(t)s, -fərn(t)s\ *n* : a conference held prior to a conference or convention : a preliminary conference

pre·con·scious \(')prē-'kän-chəs\ *adj* : not present in consciousness but capable of being recalled without encountering any inner resistance or repression — **pre·con·scious·ly** *adv*

pre·con·so·nan·tal \ˌprē-ˌkän(t)-sə-'nant-ᵊl\ *adj* : immediately preceding a consonant

pre·con·ven·tion \ˌprē-kən-'ven-chən\ *adj* : taking place prior to a convention ⟨~ campaigning⟩

pre·cook \(')prē-'kůk\ *vt* : to cook partially or entirely before final cooking or reheating

pre·cop·u·la·to·ry \-'käp-yə-lə-ˌtōr-ē, -ˌtȯr-\ *adj* : preceding copulation ⟨~ behavior⟩

pre·crit·i·cal \-'krit-i-kəl\ *adj* : prior to the development of critical capacity

pre·cur·sor \pri-'kər-sər, 'prē-ˌ\ *n* [L *praecursor*, fr. *praecursus*, pp. of *praecurrere* to run before, fr. *prae-* pre- + *currere* to run — more at CURRENT] **1 a** : one that precedes and indicates the approach of another **b** : PREDECESSOR **2** : a substance from which another substance is formed ***syn*** see FORERUNNER

pre·cur·so·ry \pri-'kərs-(ə-)rē\ *adj* : having the character of a precursor : PREMONITORY

pred *abbr* predicate

pre·da·ceous *or* **pre·da·cious** \pri-'dā-shəs\ *adj* [L *praedari* to prey upon (fr. *praeda* prey) + E *-aceous* or *-acious* (as in *rapacious*) — more at PREY] **1** : living by preying on other animals : PREDATORY **2** *usu predacious* : tending to devour or despoil : RAPACIOUS — **pre·da·ceous·ness** *n* — **pre·dac·i·ty** \-'das-ət-ē\ *n*

pre·date \(')prē-'dāt\ *vt* : ANTEDATE

pre·da·tion \pri-'dā-shən\ *n* [L *praedation-*, *praedatio*, fr. *praedatus*, pp. of *praedari*] **1** : the act of preying or plundering : DEPREDATION **2** : a mode of life in which food is primarily obtained by the killing and consuming of animals

predation pressure *n* : the effects of predation on a natural community esp. with respect to the survival of species preyed upon

pred·a·tor \'pred-ət-ər, -ə-ˌtȯ(ə)r\ *n* **1** : one that preys, destroys, or devours **2** : an animal that lives by predation

pred·a·to·ri·al \ˌpred-ə-'tōr-ē-əl, -'tȯr-\ *adj* : PREDATORY

pred·a·to·ry \'pred-ə-ˌtōr-ē, -ˌtȯr-\ *adj* **1 a** : of, relating to, or practicing plunder, pillage, or rapine **b** : showing a disposition to injure or exploit others for one's own gain **2** : living by predation : PREDACEOUS; *also* : adapted to predation — **pred·a·to·ri·ly** \ˌpred-ə-'tōr-ə-lē, -'tȯr-\ *adv*

pre·dawn \'prē-'dȯn, -'dän\ *n* : the time just before dawn

pre·de·cease \ˌprēd-i-'sēs\ *vb* **-ceased; -ceas·ing** *vt* : to die before (another person) ~ *vi* : to die first — **predecease** *n*

pre·de·ces·sor \'pred-ə-ˌses-ər, 'prēd-; ˌpred-ə-', ˌprēd-\ *n* [ME *predecessour*, fr. MF *predecesseur*, fr. LL *praedecessor*, fr. L *prae-* pre- + *decessor* retiring governor, fr. *decessus*, pp. of *decedere* to depart, retire from office — more at DECEASE] **1** : one that precedes; *esp* : a person who has previously occupied a position or office to which another has succeeded **2** *archaic* : ANCESTOR

pre·des·ig·nate \(')prē-'dez-ig-ˌnāt\ *vt* : to designate beforehand — **pre·des·ig·na·tion** \ˌprē-ˌdez-ig-'nā-shən\ *n*

pre·des·ti·nar·i·an \(ˌ)prē-ˌdes-tə-'ner-ē-ən\ *n* [*predestination* + *-arian*] : one who believes in predestination — **predestinarian** *adj* — **pre·des·ti·nar·i·an·ism** \-ē-ə-ˌniz-əm\ *n*

¹pre·des·ti·nate \prē-'des-tə-nət, -ˌnāt\ *adj* [ME, fr. L *praedestinatus*, pp. of *praedestinare*] : destined, fated, or determined beforehand

²pre·des·ti·nate \-ˌnāt\ *vt* **-nat·ed; -nat·ing** [ME *predestinaten*, fr. L *praedestinatus*, pp.] **1** : to foreordain to an earthly or eternal lot or destiny by divine decree **2** *archaic* : PREDETERMINE

pre·des·ti·na·tion \(ˌ)prē-ˌdes-tə-'nā-shən\ *n* **1** : the act of predestinating : the state of being predestinated **2** : the doctrine that God in consequence of his foreknowledge of all events infallibly guides those who are destined for salvation

pre·des·ti·na·tor \prē-'des-tə-ˌnāt-ər\ *n* **1** : one that predestinates **2** *archaic* : PREDESTINARIAN

pre·des·tine \(')prē-'des-tən\ *vt* [ME *predestinen*, fr. MF or L; MF *predestiner*, fr. L *praedestinare*, fr. *prae-* + *destinare* to determine — more at DESTINE] : to destine, decree, determine, appoint, or settle beforehand; *esp* : PREDESTINATE 1

pre·de·ter·mi·na·tion \ˌprēd-i-ˌtər-mə-'nā-shən\ *n* **1** : the act of predetermining : the state of being predetermined: as **a** : the ordaining of events beforehand **b** : a fixing or settling in advance **2** : a purpose formed beforehand

pre·de·ter·mine \-'tər-mən\ *vt* [LL *praedeterminare*, fr. L *prae-* + *determinare* to determine] **1 a** : FOREORDAIN, PREDESTINE **b** : to determine beforehand **2** : to impose a direction or tendency on beforehand

pre·de·ter·min·er \-'tərm-(ə-)nər\ *n* : a limiting noun modifier (as *both* or *all*) characterized by occurrence before the determiner in a noun phrase

pre·di·a·be·tes \ˌprē-ˌdī-ə-'bēt-ēz, -'bēt-əs\ *n* [*pre-* + *diabetes*] : an inapparent abnormal state that precedes the development of clinically evident diabetes — **pre·di·a·bet·ic** \-'bet-ik\ *adj or n*

pre·di·al \'prēd-ē-əl\ *adj* [ML *praedialis*, fr. L *praedium* landed property, fr. *praed-*, *praes* bondsman — more at PREST] : of or relating to land or its products

¹pred·i·ca·ble \'pred-i-kə-bəl\ *n* [ML *praedicabile*, fr. neut. of *praedicabilis*] : something that may be predicated; *esp* : one of the five most general kinds of attribution in traditional logic that include genus, species, difference, property, and accident

²predicable *adj* [ML *praedicabilis*, fr. LL *praedicare* to predicate] : capable of being asserted

pre·dic·a·ment \pri-'dik-ə-mənt, *1 is usu* 'pred-i-kə-\ *n* [ME, fr. LL *praedicamentum*, fr. *praedicare*] **1** : the character, status, or classification assigned by a predication; *specif* : CATEGORY 1 **2** : CONDITION, STATE; *esp* : a difficult, perplexing, or trying situation

[1]pred·i·cate \'pred-i-kət\ *n* [LL *praedicatum*, fr. neut. of *praedicatus*] **1 a** : something that is affirmed or denied of the subject in a proposition in logic ⟨in "paper is white", whiteness is the ~⟩ **b** : a term designating a property or relation **2** : the part of a sentence or clause that expresses what is said of the subject and that usu. consists of a verb with or without objects, complements, or adverbial modifiers — **pred·i·ca·tive** \-kət-iv, 'pred-ə-ˌkāt-\ *adj*

[2]pred·i·cate \'pred-ə-ˌkāt\ *vt* **-cat·ed; -cat·ing** [LL *praedicatus*, pp. of *praedicare* to assert, predicate logically, preach, fr. L, to proclaim publicly, assert — more at PREACH] **1 a** : AFFIRM, DECLARE **b** *archaic* : PREACH **2 a** : to assert to be a quality, attribute, or property — used with following *of* ⟨~*s* intelligence of man⟩ **b** : to make (a term) the predicate in a proposition **3** : to cause to be based ⟨his theory is *predicated* on recent findings⟩ **4** : IMPLY

[3]pred·i·cate \'pred-i-kət\ *adj* : completing the meaning of a copula ⟨~ adjective⟩ ⟨~ noun⟩

predicate calculus *n* : the branch of symbolic logic that uses symbols for quantifiers and for subjects and predicates of propositions as well as for unanalyzed propositions and logical connectives — called also *functional calculus*; compare PROPOSITIONAL CALCULUS

predicate nominative *n* : a noun or pronoun in the nominative or common case completing the meaning of a copula

pred·i·ca·tion \ˌpred-ə-'kā-shən\ *n* **1** *archaic* **a** : an act of proclaiming or preaching **b** : SERMON **2** : an act or instance of predicating: as **a** : the expression of action, state, or quality by a grammatical predicate **b** : the logical affirmation of something about another; *esp* : assignment of something to a class

pred·i·ca·to·ry \'pred-i-kə-ˌtōr-ē, -ˌtȯr-\ *adj* [LL *praedicatorius*, fr. *praedicatus*, pp. of *praedicare* to preach] : of or relating to preaching

pre·dict \pri-'dikt\ *vb* [L *praedictus*, pp. of *praedicere*, fr. *prae-* pre- + *dicere* to say — more at DICTION] *vt* : to declare in advance; *esp* : foretell on the basis of observation, experience, or scientific reason ~ *vi* : to make a prediction ***syn*** see FORETELL — **pre·dict·abil·i·ty** \-ˌdik-tə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* — **pre·dict·able** \-'dik-tə-bəl\ *adj* — **pre·dict·ably** \-blē\ *adv* — **pre·dic·tor** \-'dik-tər\ *n*

pre·dic·tion \pri-'dik-shən\ *n* **1** : an act of predicting **2** : something that is predicted : FORECAST — **pre·dic·tive** \-'dik-tiv\ *adj* — **pre·dic·tive·ly** *adv*

pre·di·gest \ˌprēd-ī-'jest, ˌprēd-ə-\ *vt* **1** : to subject to predigestion **2** : to simplify for easy use ⟨~*ed* classics for children⟩

pre·di·ges·tion \-'jes(h)-chən\ *n* : artificial partial digestion of food esp. for use in illness or impaired digestion

pre·di·lec·tion \ˌpred-ᵊl-'ek-shən, ˌprēd-\ *n* [F *prédilection*, fr. ML *praedilectus*, pp. of *praediligere* to love more, prefer, fr. L *prae-* + *diligere* to love — more at DILIGENT] : a prepossession in favor of something : TASTE 6 ***syn*** PREDILECTION, PREPOSSESSION, PREJUDICE, BIAS *shared meaning element* : an attitude of mind that predisposes one to choosing, or judging, or taking a stand without full consideration or knowledge ***ant*** aversion

pre·dis·pose \ˌprēd-is-'pōz\ *vt* **1** : to dispose in advance ⟨a good teacher ~*s* children to learn⟩ **2** : to make susceptible ⟨~ the miner to rheumatism —Lewis Mumford⟩ ~ *vi* : to bring about susceptibility

pre·dis·po·si·tion \ˌprē-ˌdis-pə-'zish-ən\ *n* : a condition of being predisposed : INCLINATION ⟨a hereditary ~ to disease⟩

pred·nis·o·lone \pred-'nis-ə-ˌlōn\ *n* [blend of *prednisone* and *-ol*] : a glucocorticoid $C_{21}H_{28}O_5$ that is a dehydrogenated analogue of cortisol and is used often in the form of an ester or methyl derivative esp. as an anti-inflammatory drug in the treatment of arthritis

pred·ni·sone \'pred-nə-ˌsōn *also* -ˌzōn\ *n* [prob. fr. *pregnane* ($C_{21}H_{36}$) + *diene* (compound containing two double bonds) + cort*isone*] : a glucocorticoid $C_{21}H_{26}O_5$ that is a dehydrogenated analogue of cortisone and is used as an anti-inflammatory agent esp. in the treatment of arthritis, as an antineoplastic agent, and as an immunosuppressant

pre·doc·tor·al \(')prē-'däk-t(ə-)rəl\ *adj* **1** : of or relating to the level before the doctoral in a program of academic study ⟨a ~ fellowship⟩ **2** : being engaged in predoctoral academic work

pre·dom·i·nance \pri-'däm(-ə)-nən(t)s\ *n* : the quality or state of being predominant

pre·dom·i·nan·cy \-nən-sē\ *n* : PREDOMINANCE

pre·dom·i·nant \-nənt\ *adj* [MF, fr. ML *praedominant-, praedominans*, prp. of *praedominari* to predominate, fr. L *prae-* + *dominari* to rule, govern — more at DOMINATE] : having superior strength, influence, or authority : PREVAILING ***syn*** see DOMINANT — **pre·dom·i·nant·ly** *adv*

[1]pre·dom·i·nate \-nət\ *adj* [alter. of *predominant*] : PREDOMINANT — **pre·dom·i·nate·ly** *adv*

[2]pre·dom·i·nate \pri-'däm-ə-ˌnāt\ *vb* [ML *praedominatus*, pp. of *praedominari*] *vi* **1** : to exert controlling power or influence : PREVAIL **2** : to hold advantage in numbers or quantity : PREPONDERATE ~ *vt* : to exert control over : DOMINATE — **pre·dom·i·na·tion** \-ˌdäm-ə-'nā-shən\ *n*

pree \'prē\ *vt* **preed; pree·ing** [short for *preve* to prove, test, fr. ME *preven*, fr. OF *preuv-*, stem of *prover* to prove] *Scot* : to taste tentatively : SAMPLE

pre·emer·gence \ˌprē-ə-'mər-jən(t)s\ *adj* : used or occurring before emergence of seedlings aboveground ⟨~ weed control⟩

pre·emer·gent \-jənt\ *adj* : PREEMERGENCE

pree·mie \'prē-mē\ *n* [*prem*ature + *-ie*] : a baby born prematurely

pre·em·i·nence \prē-'em-ə-nən(t)s\ *n* : the quality or state of being preeminent : SUPERIORITY

pre·em·i·nent \-nənt\ *adj* [LL *praeeminent-, praeeminens*, fr. L, prp. of *praeeminēre* to be outstanding, fr. *prae-* + *eminēre* to stand out — more at EMINENT] : having paramount rank, dignity, or importance : OUTSTANDING — **pre·em·i·nent·ly** *adv*

pre·em·ploy·ment \ˌprē-im-'plȯi-mənt\ *adj* : of, relating to, or occurring in the period prior to employment ⟨~ interviews⟩

pre·empt \prē-'em(p)t\ *vb* [back-formation fr. *preemption*] *vt* **1** : to acquire (as land) by preemption **2** : to seize upon to the exclusion of others : take for oneself ⟨the movement was then ~*ed* by a lunatic fringe⟩ **3** : to take the place of : REPLACE ⟨the program did not appear, having been ~*ed* by a baseball game —Robert MacNeil⟩ ~ *vi* : to make a preemptive bid in bridge ***syn*** see APPROPRIATE — **pre·emp·tor** \-'em(p)-tər\ *n*

pre·emp·tion \-'em(p)-shən\ *n* [ML *praeemptus*, pp. of *praeemere* to buy before, fr. L *prae-* pre- + *emere* to buy — more at REDEEM] **1 a** : the right of purchasing before others; *esp* : one given by the government to the actual settler upon a tract of public land **b** : the purchase of something under this right **2** : a prior seizure or appropriation : a taking possession before others

pre·emp·tive \-'em(p)-tiv\ *adj* **1 a** : of or relating to preemption **b** : having power to preempt **2** *of a bid in bridge* : higher than necessary and designed to shut out bids by the opponents **3** : giving a stockholder first option to purchase new stock in an amount proportionate to his existing holdings ⟨a ~ right⟩ **4** : marked by the seizing of the initiative : initiated by oneself ⟨a ~ attack⟩ — **pre·emp·tive·ly** *adv*

[1]preen \'prēn\ *n* [ME *prene*, fr. OE *prēon*; akin to MHG *pfrieme* awl] **1** *dial chiefly Brit* : PIN **2** *dial chiefly Brit* : BROOCH

[2]preen *vt, chiefly Scot* : [2]PIN

[3]preen *vb* [ME *preinen*] *vt* **1** : to trim or dress with or as if with a bill **2** : to dress or smooth (oneself) up : PRIMP **3** : to pride or congratulate (oneself) for achievement ~ *vi* **1** : to make oneself sleek **2** : GLOAT, SWELL ***syn*** see PRIDE — **preen·er** *n*

pre–en·gi·neered \ˌprē-ˌen-jə-'ni(ə)rd\ *adj* : constructed of or employing prefabricated modules ⟨a ~ building⟩

pre·ex·il·ian \ˌprē-eg-'zil-ē-ən, -'zil-yən\ *or* **pre·ex·il·ic** \-'zil-ik\ *adj* : previous to the exile of the Jews to Babylon in about 600 B.C.

pre·ex·ist \ˌprē-ig-'zist\ *vi* : to exist earlier or before ~ *vt* : ANTEDATE

pre·ex·is·tence \-'zis-tən(t)s\ *n* : existence in a former state or previous to something else; *specif* : existence of the soul before its union with the body — **pre·ex·is·tent** \-tənt\ *adj*

pref *abbr* **1** preface **2** preference **3** preferred **4** prefix

pre·fab \(')prē-'fab, 'prē-ˌ\ *n* : a prefabricated structure — **prefab** *adj*

pre·fab·ri·cate \(')prē-'fab-ri-ˌkāt\ *vt* **1** : to fabricate the parts of at a factory so that construction consists mainly of assembling and uniting standardized parts **2** : to give an artificial or synthetic quality to — **pre·fab·ri·ca·tion** \ˌprē-ˌfab-ri-'kā-shən\ *n*

[1]pref·ace \'pref-əs\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. ML *prephatia*, alter. of L *praefation-, praefatio* foreword, fr. *praefatus*, pp. of *praefari* to say beforehand, fr. *prae-* pre- + *fari* to say — more at BAN] **1** *often cap* : a variable doxology beginning with the Sursum Corda and ending with the Sanctus in traditional eucharistic liturgies **2** : the introductory remarks of a speaker or writer : FOREWORD **3** : APPROACH, PRELIMINARY

[2]preface *vb* **pref·aced; pref·ac·ing** *vi* : to make introductory remarks ~ *vt* **1** : to say or write as preface ⟨a note *prefaced* to the manuscript⟩ **2** : PRECEDE, HERALD **3** : to introduce by or begin with a preface **4** : to stand in front of ⟨a porch ~*s* the entrance⟩ **5** : to be a preliminary to — **pref·ac·er** *n*

pref·a·to·ri·al \ˌpref-ə-'tōr-ē-əl, -'tȯr-\ *adj* : PREFATORY — **pref·a·to·ri·al·ly** \-ē-ə-lē\ *adv*

pref·a·to·ry \'pref-ə-ˌtōr-ē, -ˌtȯr-\ *adj* [L *praefatus*, pp.] **1** : of, relating to, or constituting a preface **2** : located in front ***syn*** see PRELIMINARY — **pref·a·to·ri·ly** \ˌpref-ə-'tōr-ə-lē, -'tȯr-\ *adv*

pre·fect \'prē-ˌfekt\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *praefectus*, fr. pp. of *praeficere* to place at the head of, fr. *prae-* + *facere* to make — more at DO] **1** : any of various high officials or magistrates of differing functions and ranks in ancient Rome **2** : a chief officer or chief magistrate **3** : a student monitor in a private school

prefect apostolic *n* : a Roman Catholic clergyman and usu. a priest with quasi-episcopal jurisdiction over a district of a missionary territory

pre·fec·ture \'prē-ˌfek-chər\ *n* **1** : the office or term of office of a prefect **2** : the official residence of a prefect **3** : the district governed by a prefect — **pre·fec·tur·al** \-chə-rəl, pri-'\ *adj*

prefecture apostolic *n* : the district under a prefect apostolic

pre·fer \pri-'fər\ *vt* **pre·ferred; pre·fer·ring** [ME *preferren*, fr. MF *preferer*, fr. L *praeferre* to put before, prefer, fr. *prae-* + *ferre* to carry — more at BEAR] **1** *archaic* : to promote or advance to a rank or position **2** : to choose or esteem above another ⟨~*s* sports to reading⟩ **3** : to give (a creditor) priority **4** *archaic* : to put or set forward or before someone : RECOMMEND **5** : to bring or lay against someone ⟨won't ~ charges⟩ **6** : to bring forward or lay before one for consideration — **pre·fer·rer** *n*

pref·er·a·ble \'pref-(ə-)rə-bəl, 'pref-ər-bəl\ *adj* : having greater value or desirability : being preferred — **pref·er·a·bil·i·ty** \ˌpref-(ə-)rə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* — **pref·er·a·ble·ness** \'pref-(ə-)rə-bəl-nəs, 'pref-ər-bəl-\ *n* — **pref·er·a·bly** \-blē\ *adv*

pref·er·ence \'pref-ərn(t)s, 'pref-(ə-)rən(t)s\ *n* [F *préférence*, fr. ML *praeferentia*, fr. L *praeferent-, praeferens*, prp. of *praeferre*] **1 a** : the act of preferring : the state of being preferred **b** : the power or opportunity of choosing **2** : one that is preferred **3** : the act, fact, or principle of giving advantages to some over others **4** : priority in the right to demand and receive satisfaction of an obligation ***syn*** see CHOICE

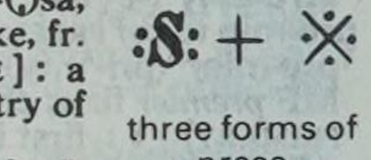
pref·er·en·tial \ˌpref-ə-'ren-chəl\ *adj* **1** : showing preference **2** : employing or creating a preference in trade relations **3** : designed to permit expression of preference among candidates ⟨a ~ primary⟩ **4** : giving preference esp. in hiring to union members ⟨a ~ shop⟩ — **pref·er·en·tial·ly** \-'rench-(ə-)lē\ *adv*

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pre·fer·ment \pri-'fər-mənt\ *n* **1 a** : advancement or promotion in dignity, office, or station **b** : a position or office of honor or profit **2** : priority or seniority in right esp. to receive payment or to purchase property on equal terms with others **3** : the act of bringing forward (as charges)
preferred stock *n* : stock guaranteed priority by a corporation's charter over common stock in the payment of dividends and usu. in the distribution of assets
pre·fig·u·ra·tion \(,)prē-,fig-(y)ə-'rā-shən\ *n* **1** : the act of prefiguring : the state of being prefigured **2** : something that prefigures
pre·fig·u·ra·tive \(')prē-'fig-(y)ə-rət-iv\ *adj* : of, relating to, or showing by prefiguration : FORESHOWING — **pre·fig·u·ra·tive·ly** *adv* — **pre·fig·u·ra·tive·ness** *n*
pre·fig·ure \(')prē-'fig-yər, *esp Brit* -'fig-ər\ *vt* [ME *prefiguren*, fr. LL *praefigurare*, fr. L *prae-* pre- + *figurare* to shape, picture, fr. *figura* figure] **1** : to show, suggest, or announce by an antecedent type, image, or likeness **2** : to picture or imagine beforehand : FORESEE — **pre·fig·ure·ment** \-mənt\ *n*
[1]pre·fix *vt* [ME *prefixen*, fr. MF *prefixer*, fr. *pre-* + *fixer* to fix, fr. *fix* fixed, fr. L *fixus* — more at FIX] **1** \(')prē-'fiks\ : to fix or appoint beforehand **2** \'prē-,, prē-'\ [*[2]prefix*] : to place in front : add as a prefix ⟨~ a syllable to a word⟩
[2]pre·fix \'prē-,fiks\ *n* [NL *praefixum*, fr. L, neut. of *praefixus*, pp. of *praefigere* to fasten before, fr. *prae-* + *figere* to fasten — more at DIKE] **1** : an affix attached to the beginning of a word, base, or phrase and serving to produce a derivative word or an inflectional form — compare SUFFIX **2** : a title used before a person's name — **pre·fix·al** \'prē-,fik-səl, prē-'\ *adj* — **pre·fix·al·ly** \-sə-lē\ *adv*
pre·flight \'prē-'flīt\ *adj* : preparing for or preliminary to flight
pre·fo·cus \(')prē-'fō-kəs\ *vt* : to focus beforehand (as automotive headlights before installation)
pre·form \'prē-'fȯ(ə)rm\ *vt* [L *praeformare*, fr. *prae-* + *formare* to form, fr. *forma* form] **1** : to form or shape beforehand **2** : to bring to approximate shape and size — **pre·form** \-,fȯrm\ *n*
pre·for·ma·tion \,prē-fȯr-'mā-shən\ *n* **1** : previous formation **2** : the now discredited theory that every germ cell contains the organism of its kind fully formed and that development consists merely in increase in size
[1]pre·fron·tal \(')prē-'frənt-ᵊl\ *adj* : anterior to or involving the anterior part of a frontal structure ⟨a ~ bone⟩
[2]prefrontal *n* : a prefrontal part (as a bone)
pre·gan·gli·on·ic \,prē-,gaŋ-glē-'än-ik\ *adj* : proximal to a ganglion; *specif* : of, relating to, or being a usu. medullated axon arising from a cell body in the central nervous system and terminating in an autonomic ganglion — compare POSTGANGLIONIC
preg·na·ble \'preg-nə-bəl\ *adj* [alter. of ME *prenable*, fr. MF — more at IMPREGNABLE] : vulnerable to capture ⟨a ~ fort⟩ — **preg·na·bil·i·ty** \,preg-nə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n*
preg·nan·cy \'preg-nən-sē\ *n, pl* **-cies** **1** : the condition of being pregnant : GESTATION **2** : the quality of being pregnant (as in meaning) **3** : an instance of being pregnant
[1]preg·nant \'preg-nənt\ *adj* [ME *preignant*, fr. MF, fr. prp. of *preindre* to press, fr. L *premere* — more at PRESS] *archaic* : COGENT
[2]pregnant *adj* [ME, fr. L *praegnant-*, *praegnans*, alter. of *praegnas*, fr. *prae-* pre- + *-gnas* (akin to *gignere* to produce) — more at KIN] **1** : abounding in fancy, wit, or resourcefulness : INVENTIVE ⟨all this has been said . . . by great and ~ artists —*Times Lit. Supp.*⟩ **2** : rich in significance or implication : MEANINGFUL, PROFOUND ⟨the ~ phrases of the Bible —Edmund Wilson⟩ ⟨a ~ pause⟩ **3** : containing unborn young within the body : GRAVID **4** : having possibilities of development or consequence : involving important issues : MOMENTOUS ⟨draw inspiration from the heroic achievements of that ~ age —Kemp Malone⟩ **5** *obs* : INCLINED, DISPOSED ⟨your own most ~ and vouchsafed ear —Shak.⟩ **6** : FULL, TEEMING ⟨all nature seemed ~ with life —L. F. Herreshoff⟩ ⟨student movements . . . ~ with political possibilities —Daniel James⟩ — **preg·nant·ly** *adv*
preg·nen·o·lone \preg-'nen-ᵊl-,ōn\ *n* [ISV *pregnene* ($C_{21}H_{34}$) + *-ol* + *-one*] : an unsaturated hydroxy steroid ketone $C_{21}H_{32}O_2$ that is formed by the oxidation of steroids (as cholesterol) and yields progesterone on dehydrogenation
pre·heat \(')prē-'hēt\ *vt* : to heat beforehand; *esp* : to heat (an oven) to a designated temperature before using for cooking — **pre·heat·er** *n*
pre·hen·sile \prē-'hen(t)-səl, -'hen-,sīl\ *adj* [F *préhensile*, fr. L *prehensus*, pp. of *prehendere* to grasp, fr. *prae-* + *-hendere* (akin to ON *geta* to get) — more at GET] **1** : adapted for seizing or grasping esp. by wrapping around ⟨~ tail⟩ **2** : gifted with mental grasp or moral or aesthetic perception — **pre·hen·sil·i·ty** \(,)prē-,hen-'sil-ət-ē\ *n*
pre·hen·sion \prē-'hen-chən\ *n* **1** : the act of taking hold, seizing, or grasping **2 a** : mental understanding : COMPREHENSION **b** : apprehension by the senses
pre·his·to·ri·an \,prē-(h)is-'tōr-ē-ən, -'tȯr-\ *n* : an archaeologist who specializes in prehistoric man and his culture
pre·his·tor·ic \,prē-(h)is-'tȯr-ik, -'tär-\ *or* **pre·his·tor·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or existing in times antedating written history **2** : of or relating to a language in a period of its development from which contemporary records of its sounds and forms have not been preserved — **pre·his·tor·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
pre·his·to·ry \(')prē-'his-t(ə-)rē\ *n* **1** : the study of prehistoric man **2** : a history of the antecedents of an event or situation **3** : the prehistoric period of man's evolution
pre·hom·i·nid \-'häm-ə-nəd\ *n* [deriv. of L *pre-* + *homin-*, *homo* man] : any of the extinct manlike primates that are often classified as a family (Prehominidae) — **prehominid** *adj*
pre·ig·ni·tion \,prē-ig-'nish-ən\ *n* : ignition in an internal-combustion engine while the inlet valve is open or before compression is completed
pre·in·duc·tion \,prē-in-'dək-shən\ *adj* : occurring prior to induction into military service ⟨a ~ physical⟩
pre·in·dus·tri·al \-'dəs-trē-əl\ *adj* : of, relating to, or occurring in a period prior to the development of large-scale industry
pre·judge \(')prē-'jəj\ *vt* [MF *prejuger*, fr. L *praejudicare*, fr. *prae-* + *judicare* to judge — more at JUDGE] : to judge before hearing or before full and sufficient examination — **pre·judg·er** *n* — **pre·judg·ment** \-'jəj-mənt\ *n*
[1]prej·u·dice \'prej-əd-əs\ *n* [ME, fr. OF, fr. L *praejudicium* previous judgment, damage, fr. *prae-* + *judicium* judgment — more at JUDICIAL] **1** : injury or damage resulting from some judgment or action of another in disregard of one's rights; *esp* : detriment to one's legal rights or claims **2 a** (1) : preconceived judgment or opinion (2) : an opinion or leaning adverse to anything without just grounds or before sufficient knowledge **b** : an instance of such judgment or opinion **c** : an irrational attitude of hostility directed against an individual, a group, a race, or their supposed characteristics ***syn*** see PREDILECTION
[2]prejudice *vt* **-diced; -dic·ing** **1** : to injure or damage by some judgment or action (as in a case of law) **2** : to cause to have prejudice
prej·u·diced \-dəst\ *adj* : having a prejudice or bias for or esp. against
prej·u·di·cial \,prej-ə-'dish-əl\ *adj* **1** : tending to injure or impair : DETRIMENTAL **2** : leading to premature judgment or unwarranted opinion — **prej·u·di·cial·ly** \-'dish-(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **prej·u·di·cial·ness** \-əl-nəs\ *n*
prej·u·di·cious \-'dish-əs\ *adj* : PREJUDICIAL — **prej·u·di·cious·ly** *adv*
prel·a·cy \'prel-ə-sē\ *n, pl* **-cies** **1** : the office or dignity of a prelate **2** : episcopal church government
pre·lap·sar·i·an \,prē-,lap-'ser-ē-ən\ *adj* [*pre-* + L *lapsus* slip, fall — more at LAPSE] : characteristic of or belonging to the time or state before the fall of man
prel·ate \'prel-ət *also* 'prē-,lāt\ *n* [ME *prelat*, fr. OF, fr. ML *praelatus*, lit., one receiving preferment, fr. L, (pp. of *praeferre* to prefer) fr. *prae-* + *latus*, pp. of *ferre* to carry — more at TOLERATE, BEAR] : an ecclesiastic (as a bishop or abbot) of superior rank
prelate nul·li·us \-nü-'lē-əs\ *n* [*nullius* fr. NL *nullius dioecesis* of no diocese] : a Roman Catholic prelate who is usu. a titular bishop and who has ordinary jurisdiction over a district independent of any diocese
prel·a·ture \'prel-ə-,chu̇(ə)r, -chər, -,t(y)u̇(ə)r\ *n* **1** : PRELACY 1 **2** : a body of prelates
pre·launch \'prē-'lȯnch, -'länch\ *adj* : preparing for or preliminary to launch (as of a spacecraft)
pre·lect \pri-'lekt\ *vi* [L *praelectus*, pp. of *praelegere*, fr. *prae-* + *legere* to read — more at LEGEND] : to discourse publicly : LECTURE — **pre·lec·tion** \-'lek-shən\ *n*
pre·li·ba·tion \,prē-lī-'bā-shən\ *n* [L *praelibation-*, *praelibatio*, fr. *praelibatus*, pp. of *praelibare* to taste beforehand, fr. *prae-* + *libare* to pour as an offering, taste — more at LIBATION] : FORETASTE
pre·lim \'prē-,lim, pri-'\ *n or adj* : PRELIMINARY
[1]pre·lim·i·nary \pri-'lim-ə-,ner-ē\ *n, pl* **-nar·ies** [F *préliminaires*, pl., fr. ML *praeliminaris*, adj., preliminary, fr. L *prae-* pre- + *limin-*, *limen* threshold — more at LIMB] : something that precedes or is introductory or preparatory: as **a** : a preliminary scholastic examination **b** *pl, Brit* : FRONT MATTER **c** : a minor match preceding the main event (as of a boxing card)
[2]preliminary *adj* : coming before and usu. forming a necessary prelude to something else ⟨held a ~ discussion to set up the agenda of the conference⟩ — **pre·lim·i·nar·i·ly** \-,lim-ə-'ner-ə-lē\ *adv*
syn PRELIMINARY, INTRODUCTORY, PREPARATORY, PREFATORY *shared meaning element* : serving to make ready the way for something that follows
pre·lit·er·ate \(')prē-'lit-ə-rət, -'li-trət\ *adj* **1** : antedating the use of writing **2** : not yet employing writing as a cultural medium — **preliterate** *n*
[1]pre·lude \'prel-,yüd, 'prā-,lüd, 'prel-,üd, 'prē-,lüd\ *n* [MF, fr. ML *praeludium*, fr. *praeludere* to play beforehand, fr. *prae-* + *ludere* to play — more at LUDICROUS] **1** : an introductory performance, action, or event preceding and preparing for the principal or a more important matter **2 a** : a musical section or movement introducing the theme or chief subject (as of a fugue or suite) or serving as an introduction to an opera or oratorio **b** : an opening voluntary **c** : a separate concert piece usu. for piano or orchestra and based entirely on a short motive
[2]prelude *vb* **pre·lud·ed; pre·lud·ing** *vi* : to give or serve as a prelude; *esp* : to play a musical introduction ~ *vt* **1** : to serve as prelude to **2** : to play as a prelude — **pre·lud·er** *n*
pre·lu·sion \pri-'lü-zhən\ *n* [L *praelusion-*, *praelusio*, fr. *praelusus*, pp. of *praeludere*] : PRELUDE, INTRODUCTION
pre·lu·sive \-'lü-siv, -ziv\ *adj* : constituting or having the form of a prelude : INTRODUCTORY — **pre·lu·sive·ly** *adv*
pre·lu·so·ry \-'lüs-(ə-)rē, -'lüz-\ *adj* : PRELUSIVE
prem *abbr* premium
pre·ma·lig·nant \,prē-mə-'lig-nənt\ *adj* : PRECANCEROUS
pre·man \'prē-'man, -,man\ *n* : a hypothetical ancient primate constituting the immediate ancestor of man : PREHOMINID
pre·mar·i·tal \(')prē-'mar-ət-ᵊl\ *adj* : existing or occurring before marriage
pre·mar·ket·ing \(')prē-'mär-kət-iŋ\ *adj* : existing or occurring prior to marketing ⟨~ clearance of a new drug⟩
pre·ma·ture \,prē-mə-'t(y)u̇(ə)r, -'chu̇(ə)r *also* ,prem-ə-\ *adj* [L *praematurus* too early, fr. *prae-* + *maturus* ripe, mature] : happening, arriving, existing, or performed before the proper or usual time; *esp* : born after a gestation period of less than 37 weeks ⟨~ babies⟩ — **premature** *n* — **pre·ma·ture·ly** *adv* — **pre·ma·ture·ness** *n* — **pre·ma·tu·ri·ty** \-'t(y)u̇r-ət-ē, -'chu̇r-\ *n*
pre·max·il·la \,prē-mak-'sil-ə\ *n* [NL] : either of a pair of bones of the upper jaw of vertebrates between and in front of the maxillae — **pre·max·il·lary** \(')prē-'mak-sə-,ler-ē, *chiefly Brit* ,prē-mak-'sil-ə-rē\ *adj or n*
[1]pre·med \'prē-'med\ *adj* : PREMEDICAL
[2]premed *n* : a premedical student or course of study
pre·me·di·an \(')prē-'mēd-ē-ən\ *or* **pre·me·di·al** \-ē-əl\ *adj* : lying in front of the middle (as of the body)

pre·med·i·cal \(')prē-'med-i-kəl\ *adj* : preceding and preparing for the professional study of medicine
pre·med·i·tate \pri-'med-ə-ˌtāt, 'prē-\ *vb* [L *praemeditatus*, pp. of *praemeditari*, fr. *prae-* + *meditari* to meditate] *vt* : to think about and revolve in the mind beforehand ~ *vi* : to think, consider, or deliberate beforehand — **pre·med·i·ta·tor** \-ˌtāt-ər\ *n*
pre·med·i·tat·ed *adj* : characterized by fully conscious willful intent and a measure of forethought and planning ⟨~ murder⟩ — **pre·med·i·tat·ed·ly** *adv*
pre·med·i·ta·tion \pri-ˌmed-ə-'tā-shən, ˌprē-\ *n* : an act or instance of premeditating; *specif* : consideration or planning of an act beforehand that shows intent to commit that act
pre·med·i·ta·tive \pri-'med-ə-ˌtāt-iv, 'prē-\ *adj* : given to or characterized by premeditation
pre·mei·ot·ic \ˌprē-mī-'ät-ik\ *adj* : of, occurring in, or typical of a stage prior to meiosis ⟨~ DNA synthesis⟩ ⟨~ tissue⟩
pre·men·stru·al \(')prē-'men(t)-strə(-wə)l\ *adj* : of, relating to, or occurring in the period just preceding menstruation — **pre·men·stru·al·ly** \-ē\ *adv*
pre·mie *var of* PREEMIE
[1]pre·mier \pri-'m(y)i(ə)r; 'prē-mē-ər, 'prem-ē-\ *adj* [ME *primier*, fr. MF *premier* first, chief, fr. L *primarius* of the first rank — more at PRIMARY] **1** : first in position, rank, or importance : PRINCIPAL **2** : first in time : EARLIEST
[2]premier *n* [F, fr. *premier*, adj.] : PRIME MINISTER
pre·mier dan·seur \prə-myā-dä[n]-sœr\ *n* [F] : the principal male dancer in a ballet company
[1]pre·miere \pri-'mye(ə)r, -'mi(ə)r; ˌprim-ē-'e(ə)r\ *n* [F *première*, fr. fem. of *premier* first] **1** : a first performance or exhibition ⟨the ~ of a play⟩ **2** : the leading lady of a group; *esp* : the chief actress of a theatrical cast
[2]premiere *or* **pre·mier** *like* [1]PREMIERE\ *vb* **pre·miered; pre·mier·ing** *vt* : to give a first public performance of ~ *vi* **1** : to have a first public performance **2** : to appear for the first time as a star performer
[3]premiere *adj* [alter. of [1]*premier*] : OUTSTANDING, CHIEF
pre·miere dan·seuse \prə-myer-dä[n]-sōēz\ *n* [F *première danseuse*] : the principal female dancer in a ballet company
pre·mier·ship \pri-'m(y)i(ə)r-ˌship; 'prē-mē-ər-, 'prem-ē-\ *n* : the position or office of a premier
pre·mil·le·nar·i·an·ism \'prē-ˌmil-ə-'ner-ē-ə-ˌniz-əm\ *n* : PREMILLENNIALISM — **pre·mil·le·nar·i·an** \-ē-ən\ *adj or n*
pre·mil·len·ni·al \ˌprē-mə-'len-ē-əl\ *adj* [*pre-* + *millennium*] **1** : coming before a millennium **2** : holding or relating to premillennialism — **pre·mil·len·ni·al·ly** \-ē-ə-lē\ *adv*
pre·mil·len·ni·al·ism \-ē-ə-ˌliz-əm\ *n* : the view that Christ's return will precede and usher in a future millennium of Messianic rule mentioned in Revelation — **pre·mil·len·ni·al·ist** \-ē-ə-ləst\ *n*
[1]prem·ise \'prem-əs\ *n* [In sense 1, fr. ME *premisse*, fr. MF, fr. ML *praemissa*, fr. L, fem. of *praemissus*, pp. of *praemittere* to place ahead, fr. *prae-* pre- + *mittere* to send; in other senses, fr. ME *premisses*, fr. ML *praemissa*, fr. L, neut. pl. of *praemissus* — more at SMITE] **1 a** : a proposition antecedently supposed or proved as a basis of argument or inference; *specif* : either of the first two propositions of a syllogism from which the conclusion is drawn **b** : something assumed or taken for granted : PRESUPPOSITION **2** *pl* : matters previously stated; *specif* : the preliminary and explanatory part of a deed or of a bill in equity **3** *pl* [fr. its being identified in the premises of the deed] **a** : a tract of land with the buildings thereon **b** : a building or part of a building usu. with its appurtenances (as grounds)
[2]pre·mise \'prem-əs *also* pri-'mīz\ *vt* **pre·mised; pre·mis·ing** **1 a** : to set forth beforehand as an introduction or a postulate **b** : to offer as a premise in an argument **2** : to presuppose or imply as preexistent : POSTULATE
[1]pre·mi·um \'prē-mē-əm\ *n* [L *praemium* booty, profit, reward, fr. *prae-* + *emere* to take, buy — more at REDEEM] **1 a** : a reward or recompense for a particular act **b** : a sum over and above a regular price paid chiefly as an inducement or incentive ⟨willing to pay a ~ for immediate delivery⟩ **c** : a sum in advance of or in addition to the nominal value of something ⟨bonds callable at a ~ of six percent⟩ **d** : something given free or at a reduced price with the purchase of a product or service **2** : the consideration paid for a contract of insurance **3** : a high value or a value in excess of that normally or usu. expected ⟨put a ~ on accuracy⟩
[2]premium *adj* : of exceptional quality or amount
[1]pre·mix \(')prē-'miks\ *vt* : to mix far in advance of use
[2]pre·mix \'prē-ˌmiks\ *n* : a mixture of ingredients (as the dry materials for a cake batter) prepared beforehand and designed to be later mixed with other ingredients (as liquids)
pre·mo·lar \(')prē-'mō-lər\ *adj* : situated in front of or preceding the molar teeth; *esp* : being or relating to those teeth of a mammal in front of the true molars and behind the canines when the latter are present — **premolar** *n*
pre·mon·ish \-'män-ish\ *vt, archaic* : FOREWARN ~ *vi, archaic* : to give warning in advance
pre·mo·ni·tion \ˌprē-mə-'nish-ən, ˌprem-ə-\ *n* [MF, fr. LL *praemonition-, praemonitio*, fr. L *praemonitus*, pp. of *praemonēre* to warn in advance, fr. *prae-* + *monēre* to warn — more at MIND] **1** : previous notice or warning : FOREWARNING **2** : anticipation of an event without conscious reason : PRESENTIMENT
pre·mon·i·to·ry \pri-'män-ə-ˌtōr-ē, -ˌtȯr-\ *adj* : giving warning ⟨a ~ symptom⟩ — **pre·mon·i·to·ri·ly** \-ˌmän-ə-'tōr-ə-lē, -'tȯr-\ *adv*
Pre·mon·stra·ten·sian \ˌprē-ˌmän(t)-strə-'ten-chən\ *n* [ML *praemonstratensis*, fr. *praemonstratensis* of Prémontré, fr. *Praemonstratus* Prémontré] : a member of an order of canons regular founded by St. Norbert at Prémontré near Laon, France, in 1120
pre·morse \pri-'mȯ(ə)rs\ *adj* [L *praemorsus*, fr. pp. of *praemordēre* to bite off in front, fr. *prae-* + *mordēre* to bite — more at SMART] : terminated abruptly but irregularly as if bitten off ⟨a ~ root⟩
pre·mune \(')prē-'myün\ *adj* [back-formation fr. *premunition*] : exhibiting premunition
pre·mu·ni·tion \ˌprē-myü-'nish-ən\ *n* [L *praemunition-, praemunitio* advance fortification, fr. *praemunitus*, pp. of *praemunire* to fortify in advance, fr. *prae-* + *munire* to fortify — more at MUNITION] **1** *archaic* : an advance provision of protection **2 a** : resistance to a disease due to the existence of its causative agent in a state of physiological equilibrium in the host **b** : immunity to a particular infection due to previous presence of the causative agent
pre·name \'prē-ˌnām\ *n* : FORENAME
pre·na·tal \(')prē-'nāt-ᵊl\ *adj* : occurring, existing, or being in a stage before birth — **pre·na·tal·ly** \-ᵊl-ē\ *adv*
[1]pre·nom·i·nate \(')prē-'näm-ə-nət\ *adj* [LL *praenominatus*, pp. of *praenominare* to name before, fr. L *prae-* + *nominare* to name — more at NOMINATE] *obs* : previously mentioned
[2]pre·nom·i·nate \-ˌnāt\ *vt, obs* : to mention previously — **pre·nom·i·na·tion** \(ˌ)prē-ˌnäm-ə-'nā-shən\ *n, obs*
pre·no·tion \(')prē-'nō-shən, 'prē-ˌ\ *n* [L *praenotion-, praenotio* preconception, fr. *prae-* + *notio* idea, conception — more at NOTION] **1** : PRESENTIMENT, PREMONITION **2** : PRECONCEPTION
[1]pren·tice \'prent-əs\ *n* [ME *prentis*, short for *apprentis*] : APPRENTICE 1, LEARNER
[2]prentice *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or characteristic of a prentice **2** : not fully skilled; *also* : lacking in finish or polish
[3]prentice *vt* **pren·ticed; pren·tic·ing** : APPRENTICE
pre·oc·cu·pan·cy \(')prē-'äk-yə-pən-sē\ *n* **1** : an act or the right of taking possession before another **2** : the condition of being completely busied or preoccupied
pre·oc·cu·pa·tion \(ˌ)prē-ˌäk-yə-'pā-shən\ *n* [L *praeoccupation-, praeoccupatio* act of seizing beforehand, fr. *praeoccupatus*, pp. of *praeoccupare* to seize beforehand, fr. *prae-* + *occupare* to seize, occupy] **1** : an act of preoccupying : the state of being preoccupied **2 a** : complete absorption of the mind or interests **b** : something that causes such absorption
pre·oc·cu·pied \(')prē-'äk-yə-ˌpīd\ *adj* **1 a** : lost in thought : ENGROSSED **b** : already occupied **2** : previously applied to another group and unavailable for use in a new sense — used of a biological generic or specific name
pre·oc·cu·py \-ˌpī\ *vt* [*pre-* + *occupy*] **1** : to engage or engross the interest or attention of beforehand or preferentially **2** : to take possession of or fill beforehand or before another
pre·op·er·a·tive \(')prē-'äp-(ə-)rət-iv, -'äp-ə-ˌrāt-\ *adj* : occurring during the period preceding a surgical operation — **pre·op·er·a·tive·ly** *adv*
pre·or·bit·al \-'ȯr-bət-ᵊl\ *adj* : occurring before going into orbit
pre·or·dain \ˌprē-ȯr-'dān\ *vt* : to decree or ordain in advance : FOREORDAIN — **pre·or·dain·ment** \-mənt\ *n* — **pre·or·di·na·tion** \(ˌ)prē-ˌȯrd-ᵊn-'ā-shən\ *n*
pre·ovi·po·si·tion \ˌprē-ˌō-və-pə-'zish-ən\ *adj* : of, relating to, or being the period before oviposition of the first eggs by an adult female (as of an insect)
pre·ovu·la·to·ry \(')prē-'äv-yə-lə-ˌtōr-ē, -ˌtȯr-, -'ōv-\ *adj* : occurring in or typical of the period immediately preceding ovulation
[1]prep \'prep\ *n* **1** *Brit* : preparation of lessons : HOMEWORK **2** : PREPARATORY SCHOOL **3** : a trial run in horse racing
[2]prep *vb* **prepped; prep·ping** *vi* : to attend preparatory school or engage in preparatory study or training ~ *vt* : to prepare for operation or examination
[3]prep *abbr* **1** preparatory **2** preposition
pre·pack·age \(')prē-'pak-ij\ *vt* : to package (as food or a manufactured article) before offering for sale to the consumer
prep·a·ra·tion \ˌprep-ə-'rā-shən\ *n* [ME *preparacion*, fr. MF *preparation*, fr. L *praeparation-, praeparatio*, fr. *praeparatus*, pp. of *praeparare*] **1** : the action or process of making something ready for use or service or of getting ready for some occasion, test, or duty **2** : a state of being prepared : READINESS **3** : a preparatory act or measure **4** : something that is prepared; *specif* : a medicinal substance made ready for use ⟨a ~ for colds⟩
[1]pre·par·a·tive \pri-'par-ət-iv\ *n* : something that prepares the way for or serves as a preliminary to something else : PREPARATION
[2]preparative *adj* : PREPARATORY — **pre·par·a·tive·ly** *adv*
pre·par·a·tor \pri-'par-ət-ər\ *n* : one that prepares; *specif* : one that prepares scientific specimens
[1]pre·pa·ra·to·ry \pri-'par-ə-ˌtōr-ē, -ˌtȯr- *also* 'prep-(ə-)rə-\ *adj* : preparing or serving to prepare for something : INTRODUCTORY
syn see PRELIMINARY — **pre·pa·ra·to·ri·ly** \pri-ˌpar-ə-'tōr-ə-lē, -'tȯr- *also* ˌprep-(ə-)rə-\ *adv*
[2]preparatory *adv* : by way of preparation : in a preparatory manner — usu. used with *to* ⟨took a deep breath ~ to drinking⟩
preparatory school *n* **1** : a usu. private school preparing students primarily for college **2** *Brit* : a private elementary school preparing students primarily for public schools
pre·pare \pri-'pa(ə)r, -'pe(ə)r\ *vb* **pre·pared; pre·par·ing** [ME *preparen*, fr. MF *preparer*, fr. L *praeparare*, fr. *prae-* pre- + *parare* to procure, prepare — more at PARE] *vt* **1** : to make ready beforehand for some purpose, use, or activity ⟨~ food for dinner⟩ ⟨~ children for school⟩ **2** : to work out the details of : plan in advance ⟨*preparing* his strategy for the coming campaign⟩ **3 a** : to put together : COMPOUND ⟨~ a prescription⟩ **b** : to put into written form ⟨~ a report⟩ ~ *vi* : to get ready ⟨*preparing* for a career in teaching⟩ — **pre·par·er** *n*
syn PREPARE, FIT, QUALIFY, CONDITION, READY *shared meaning element* : to make someone or something ready (as for a use or an activity)
pre·pared \-'pa(ə)rd, -'pe(ə)rd\ *adj* : subjected to a special process or treatment — **pre·pared·ly** \-lē; -'par-əd-lē, -'per-\ *adv*
pre·pared·ness \pri-'par-əd-nəs, -'per- *also* -'pa(ə)rd-nəs *or* -'pe(ə)rd-nəs\ *n* : the quality or state of being prepared; *specif* : a state of adequate preparation in case of war

pre·pay \(')prē-'pā\ *vt* **-paid** \-'pād\; **-pay·ing** : to pay or pay the charge on in advance — **pre·pay·ment** \-'pā-mənt\ *n*
prepd *abbr* prepared
pre·pense \pri-'pen(t)s\ *adj* [by shortening & alter. fr. earlier *purpensed*, fr. ME, pp. of *purpensen* to deliberate, premeditate, fr. MF *purpenser*, fr. OF, fr. *pur-* for + *penser* to think — more at PURCHASE, PENSIVE] : planned beforehand : PREMEDITATED — usu. used postpositively ⟨malice ~⟩ — **pre·pense·ly** *adv*
prepg *abbr* preparing
pre·plan \(')prē-'plan\ *vt* : to plan in advance ⟨~ the week's menus⟩ ~ *vi* : to make plans beforehand
pre·plant \'prē-'plant\ *also* **pre·plant·ing** \-iŋ\ *adj* : occurring or used before planting a crop ⟨~ soil fertilization⟩
prepn *abbr* preparation
pre·pon·der·ance \pri-'pän-d(ə-)rən(t)s\ *n* **1** : a superiority in weight or in power, importance, or strength **2 a** : a superiority or excess in number or quantity **b** : MAJORITY
pre·pon·der·an·cy \-d(ə-)rən-sē\ *n* : PREPONDERANCE
pre·pon·der·ant \pri-'pän-d(ə-)rənt\ *adj* **1** : having superior weight, force, or influence **2** : having greater prevalence ***syn*** see DOMINANT — **pre·pon·der·ant·ly** *adv*
¹pre·pon·der·ate \pri-'pän-də-ˌrāt\ *vb* **-at·ed; -at·ing** [L *praeponderatus*, pp. of *praeponderare*, fr. *prae-* + *ponder-*, *pondus* weight — more at PENDANT] *vt* **1** *archaic* : OUTWEIGH **2** *archaic* : to weigh down ~ *vi* **1 a** : to exceed in weight **b** : to descend or incline downward **2** : to exceed in influence, power, or importance : PREDOMINATE **3** : to exceed in numbers — **pre·pon·der·a·tion** \-ˌpän-də-'rā-shən, ˌprē-\ *n*
²pre·pon·der·ate \-'pän-də-rət\ *adj* : PREPONDERANT — **pre·pon·der·ate·ly** *adv*
prep·o·si·tion \ˌprep-ə-'zish-ən\ *n* [ME *preposicioun*, fr. L *praeposition-*, *praepositio*, fr. *praepositus*, pp. of *praeponere* to put in front, fr. *prae-* pre- + *ponere* to put — more at POSITION] : a linguistic form that combines with a noun, pronoun, or noun equivalent to form a phrase that typically has an adverbial, adjectival, or substantival relation to some other word — **prep·o·si·tion·al** \-'zish-nəl, -ən-ᵊl\ *adj* — **prep·o·si·tion·al·ly** \-ē\ *adv*
pre·pos·i·tive \pri-'päz-ət-iv, -'päz-tiv\ *adj* [LL *praepositivus*, fr. L *praepositus*] : put before : PREFIXED — **pre·pos·i·tive·ly** *adv*
pre·pos·sess \ˌprē-pə-'zes *also* -'ses\ *vt* **1** *obs* : to take previous possession of **2** : to cause to be preoccupied with an idea, belief, or attitude **3 a** : to influence beforehand for or against someone or something **b** : to induce to a favorable opinion beforehand
pre·pos·sess·ing *adj* **1** *archaic* : creating prejudice **2** : tending to create a favorable impression : ATTRACTIVE — **pre·pos·sess·ing·ly** \-iŋ-lē\ *adv* — **pre·pos·sess·ing·ness** *n*
pre·pos·ses·sion \ˌprē-pə-'zesh-ən *also* -'sesh-\ *n* **1** *archaic* : prior possession **2** : an attitude, belief, or impression formed beforehand : PREJUDICE **3** : an exclusive concern with one idea or object : PREOCCUPATION ***syn*** see PREDILECTION
pre·pos·ter·ous \pri-'päs-t(ə-)rəs\ *adj* [L *praeposterus*, lit., with the hindside in front, fr. *prae-* + *posterus* hinder, following — more at POSTERIOR] : contrary to nature, reason, or common sense : ABSURD — **pre·pos·ter·ous·ly** *adv* — **pre·pos·ter·ous·ness** *n*
pre·po·ten·cy \(')prē-'pōt-ᵊn-sē\ *n* **1** : the quality or state of being prepotent : PREDOMINANCE **2** : unusual ability of an individual or strain to transmit its characters to offspring because of homozygosity for numerous dominant genes
pre·po·tent \-ᵊnt\ *adj* [ME, fr. L *praepotent-*, *praepotens*, fr. *prae-* + *potens* powerful — more at POTENT] **1 a** : having exceptional power, authority, or influence : PREEMINENT **b** : exceeding others in power **2** : exhibiting genetic prepotency — **pre·po·tent·ly** *adv*
prep·pie \'prep-ē\ *n* [¹*prep* + *-ie*] *slang* : one who attends or has attended preparatory school
pre·pran·di·al \(')prē-'pran-dē-əl\ *adj* : of, relating to, or suitable for the time just before dinner ⟨a ~ drink⟩
¹pre·print \'prē-ˌprint, -'print\ *n* **1** : a printing of a speech or paper before its formal delivery; *esp* : an issue of a technical paper often in preliminary form before its publication in a journal **2** : something (as an advertisement) printed before the rest of the publication in which it is to appear
²pre·print \(')prē-'print\ *vt* **1** : to print and issue as a preprint ⟨~*ed* technical papers⟩ **2** : to print for use in a later printing
pre·pro·cess \(')prē-'präs-ˌes, -'prōs-, -əs\ *vt* : to do preliminary processing of (as data) — **pre·pro·ces·sor** \-ˌes-ər, -ə-sər, -ə-ˌsȯ(ə)r\ *n*
pre·pro·fes·sion·al \ˌprē-prə-'fesh-nəl, -ən-ᵊl\ *adj* : of or relating to the period preceding specific study for or practice of a profession
pre·pro·gram \-'prō-ˌgram, -grəm\ *vt* : to program in advance of some intended use
prep school *n* : PREPARATORY SCHOOL
pre·pu·ber·al \(')prē-'pyü-b(ə-)rəl\ *adj* : of or relating to prepuberty — **pre·pu·ber·al·ly** \-ē\ *adv*
pre·pu·ber·tal \-bərt-ᵊl\ *adj* : PREPUBERAL — **pre·pu·ber·tal·ly** \-ᵊl-ē\ *adv*
pre·pu·ber·ty \-bərt-ē\ *n* : the period immediately preceding puberty
pre·pu·bes·cence \ˌprē-pyü-'bes-ᵊn(t)s\ *n* : PREPUBERTY
pre·pu·bes·cent \-ᵊnt\ *adj* : PREPUBERAL
pre·pub·li·ca·tion \ˌprē-ˌpəb-lə-'kā-shən\ *adj* : of or relating to a period before the official publication date of a book ⟨~ price⟩
pre·puce \'prē-ˌpyüs\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *praeputium*, fr. *prae-* + *-putium* (akin to Belorussian *potka* penis)] : FORESKIN; *also* : a similar fold investing the clitoris — **pre·pu·tial** \prē-'pyü-shəl\ *adj*
pre·punch \(')prē-'pənch\ *vt* : to punch in advance of some anticipated use
Pre–Ra·pha·el·ite \(')prē-'raf-ē-ə-ˌlīt, -'rā-fē-, -'räf-ē-\ *n* **1 a** : a member of a brotherhood of artists formed in England in 1848 to restore the artistic principles and practices regarded as characteristic of Italian art before Raphael **b** : an artist or writer influenced by this brotherhood **2** : a modern artist dedicated to restoring early Renaissance ideals or methods **3** : an Italian painter active before the time of Raphael's fame and influence — **Pre-Raphaelite** *adj* — **Pre–Ra·pha·el·it·ism** \-ˌlīt-ˌiz-əm\ *n*
pre·re·cord \ˌprē-ri-'kȯ(ə)rd\ *vt* : to record (as a radio or television program) in advance of presentation or use
pre–reg·is·tra·tion \ˌprē-ˌrej-ə-'strā-shən\ *n* : a special registration (as for returning students) prior to an official registration period — **pre–reg·is·ter** \(')prē-'rej-ə-stər\ *vi*
pre·req·ui·site \(')prē-'rek-wə-zət\ *n* : something that is necessary to an end or to the carrying out of a function — **prerequisite** *adj*
pre·rog·a·tive \pri-'räg-ət-iv\ *n* [ME, fr. MF & L; MF, fr. L *praerogativa*, Roman century voting first in the comitia, privilege, fr. fem. of *praerogativus* voting first, fr. *praerogatus*, pp. of *praerogare* to ask for an opinion before another, fr. *prae-* + *rogare* to ask — more at RIGHT] **1 a** : an exclusive or special right, power, or privilege: as (1) : one belonging to an office or an official body (2) : one belonging to a person, group, or class of individuals (3) : one possessed by a nation as an attribute of sovereignty **b** : the discretionary power inhering in the British Crown **2** : a distinctive excellence — **pre·rog·a·tived** \-ivd\ *adj*
pres *abbr* **1** present **2** president
pre·sa \'prā-sə, -(ˌ)sä, -zə\ *n, pl* **pre·se** \-(ˌ)sā, -(ˌ)zā\ [It, lit., act of taking, fr. *prendere* to take, fr. L *prehendere* to grasp — more at PREHENSILE] : a mark or cue (as :S:) indicating the point of entry of the successive voice parts of a canon


three forms of prese

¹pres·age \'pres-ij, *archaic* pri-'sāj\ *n* [ME, fr. L *praesagium*, fr. *praesagire* to forebode, fr. *prae-* + *sagire* to perceive keenly — more at SEEK] **1** : something that foreshadows or portends a future event : OMEN **2** : an intuition or feeling of what is going to happen in the future **3** *archaic* : PROGNOSTICATION **4** : warning or indication of the future — **pre·sage·ful** \pri-'sāj-fəl\ *adj*
²pre·sage \'pres-ij, pri-'sāj\ *vb* **pre·saged; pre·sag·ing** *vt* **1** : to give an omen or warning of : FORESHADOW, PORTEND **2** : FORETELL, PREDICT **3** : to have a presentiment of ~ *vi* : to make or utter a prediction — **pre·sag·er** *n, obs*
pre·sanc·ti·fied \(')prē-'saŋ(k)-ti-ˌfīd\ *adj* : consecrated at a previous service — used of eucharistic elements
Presb *abbr* Presbyterian
presby- *or* **presbyo-** *comb form* [NL, fr. Gk *presby-* elder, fr. *presbys* old man] : old age ⟨*presby*opia⟩ ⟨*presby*ophrenia⟩
pres·by·ope \'prez-bē-ˌōp; 'pres-bē-, -pē-\ *n* [prob. fr. F, fr. Gk *presby-* + *ōps* eye — more at EYE] : a farsighted person
pres·by·opia \ˌprez-bē-'ō-pē-ə, ˌpres-\ *n* [NL] : a visual condition of old age in which loss of elasticity of the lens of the eye causes defective accommodation and inability to focus sharply for near vision — **pres·by·opic** \-'ō-pik, -'äp-ik\ *adj or n*
pres·by·ter \'prez-bət-ər, 'pres-\ *n* [LL, elder, priest — more at PRIEST] **1** : a member of the governing body of an early Christian church **2** : a member of the order of priests in churches having episcopal hierarchies including bishops, priests, and deacons **3** : ELDER 4b — **pres·byt·er·ate** \prez-'bit-ə-rət, pres-, -ˌrāt\ *n*
¹pres·by·te·ri·al \ˌprez-bə-'tir-ē-əl, ˌpres-\ *adj* : of or relating to presbyters or a presbytery — **pres·by·te·ri·al·ly** \-ē-ə-lē\ *adv*
²presbyterial *n, often cap* : an organization of Presbyterian women associated with a presbytery
¹Pres·by·te·ri·an \-ē-ən\ *adj* **1** *often not cap* : characterized by a graded system of representative ecclesiastical bodies (as presbyteries) exercising legislative and judicial powers **2** : of, relating to, or constituting a Protestant Christian church that is presbyterian in government and traditionally Calvinistic in doctrine — **Pres·by·te·ri·an·ism** \-ē-ə-ˌniz-əm\ *n*
²Presbyterian *n* : a member of a Presbyterian church
pres·by·tery \'prez-bə-ˌter-ē, 'pres-, -bə-trē\ *n, pl* **-ter·ies** [ME & LL; ME *presbytory* part of church reserved for clergy, fr. LL *presbyterium* group of presbyters, part of church reserved for clergy, fr. GK *presbyterion* group of presbyters, fr. *presbyteros* elder, priest — more at PRIEST] **1** : the part of a church reserved for the officiating clergy **2** : a ruling body in presbyterian churches consisting of the ministers and representative elders from congregations within a district **3** : the jurisdiction of a presbytery **4** : the house of a Roman Catholic parish priest
¹pre·school \'prē-'skül\ *adj* : of, relating to, or constituting the period in a child's life from infancy to the age of five or six that ordinarily precedes attendance at elementary school
²pre·school \-ˌskül\ *n* : NURSERY SCHOOL, KINDERGARTEN
pre·school·er \-'skü-lər\ *n* **1** : a child not yet old enough for school **2** : a child attending a preschool
pre·science \'prēsh-(ē-)ən(t)s, 'presh-; 'prēs-ē-ən(t)s, 'pres-\ *n* [ME, fr. LL *praescientia*, fr. L *praescient-*, *praesciens*, prp. of *praescire* to know beforehand, fr. *prae-* + *scire* to know — more at SCIENCE] : foreknowledge of events: **a** : divine omniscience **b** : human anticipation of the course of events : FORESIGHT — **pre·scient** \-(ē-)ənt, -ē-ənt\ *adj* — **pre·scient·ly** *adv*
pre·sci·en·tif·ic \ˌprē-ˌsī-ən-'tif-ik\ *adj* [*pre-* + *scientific*] : of, relating to, or having the characteristics of a period before the rise of modern science or a state prior to the application of the scientific method
pre·scind \pri-'sind\ *vb* [L *praescindere* to cut off in front, fr. *prae-* + *scindere* to cut — more at SHED] *vt* : to detach for purposes of thought ~ *vi* : to withdraw one's attention
pre·score \(')prē-'skō(ə)r, -'skȯ(ə)r\ *vt* : to record (as sound) in advance for use when the corresponding scenes are photographed in making movies
pre·scribe \pri-'skrīb\ *vb* **pre·scribed; pre·scrib·ing** [L *praescribere* to write at the beginning, dictate, order, fr. *prae-* + *scribere* to write — more at SCRIBE] *vi* **1** [ME *prescriben*, fr. ML *praescribere*, fr. L, to write at the beginning] : to claim a title to something by right of prescription **2** : to lay down a rule : DICTATE **3** : to write or give medical prescriptions **4** : to become by prescription invalid or unenforceable ~ *vt* **1 a** : to lay down as a guide, direction, or rule of action : ORDAIN **b** : to specify with authority **2** : to designate or order the use of as a remedy — **pre·scrib·er** *n*
pre·script \'prē-ˌskript, pri-'\ *adj* [ME, fr. L *praescriptus*, pp.] : prescribed as a rule — **pre·script** \'prē-ˌskript\ *n*

pre·scrip·tion \pri-'skrip-shən\ *n* [partly fr. ME *prescripcion* establishment of a claim, fr. MF *prescription*, fr. LL *praescription-*, *praescriptio*, fr. L, act of writing at the beginning, order, limitation of subject matter, fr. *praescriptus*, pp. of *praescribere*; partly fr. L *praescription-*, *praescriptio* order] **1 a** : the establishment of a claim of title to something under common law usu. by use and enjoyment for a period fixed by statute **b** : the right or title acquired under common law by such possession **2** : the process of making claim to something by long use and enjoyment **3** : the action of laying down authoritative rules or directions **4 a** : a written direction for a therapeutic or corrective agent; *specif* : one for the preparation and use of a medicine **b** : a prescribed medicine **5 a** : ancient or long continued custom **b** : a claim founded upon ancient custom or long continued use **6** : something prescribed as a rule

prescription drug *n* : a drug that can be obtained only by means of a physician's prescription

pre·scrip·tive \pri-'skrip-tiv\ *adj* **1** : serving to prescribe **2** : acquired by, founded on, or determined by prescription or by long-standing custom — **pre·scrip·tive·ly** *adv*

pre·se·lect \ˌprē-sə-'lekt\ *vt* : to choose in advance usu. on the basis of a particular criterion — **pre·se·lec·tion** \-'lek-shən\ *n*

pre·sell \(')prē-'sel\ *vt* **-sold** \-'sōld\; **-sell·ing** : to precondition by advertising and devices of salesmanship for a subsequent purchase

pres·ence \'prez-ᵊn(t)s\ *n* **1** : the fact or condition of being present **2 a** : the part of space within one's immediate vicinity **b** : the neighborhood of one of superior esp. royal rank **3** *archaic* : COMPANY 2a **4** : one that is present: as **a** : the actual person or thing that is present **b** : something present of a visible or concrete nature **5 a** : the bearing, carriage, or air of a person; *esp* : stately or distinguished bearing **b** : a quality of poise and effectiveness that enables a performer to achieve a close relationship with his audience **6** : something (as a spirit) felt or believed to be present

presence chamber *n* : the room where a great personage receives those entitled to come into his presence

presence of mind : self-control so maintained in an emergency or in an embarrassing situation that one can say and do the right thing

¹pres·ent \'prez-ᵊnt\ *n* [ME, fr. OF, fr. *presenter*] : something presented : GIFT

²pre·sent \pri-'zent\ *vb* [ME *presenten*, fr. OF *presenter*, fr. L *praesentare*, fr. *praesent-*, *praesens*, adj.] *vt* **1 a** : to bring or introduce into the presence of someone; *esp* : to introduce socially **b** : to bring (as a play) before the public **2** : to make a gift to **3** : to give or bestow formally **4 a** : to lay (as a charge) before a court as an object of inquiry **b** : to bring a formal public charge, indictment, or presentment against **5** : to nominate to a benefice **6** : to offer to view : SHOW **7** : to act the part of : PERFORM **8** : to aim, point, or direct (as a weapon) so as to face something or in a particular direction ~ *vi* **1** : to present a weapon **2** : to come forward or into view ***syn*** see GIVE — **pre·sent·er** *n*

³pres·ent \'prez-ᵊnt\ *adj* [ME, fr. OF, fr. L *praesent-*, *praesens*, fr. prp. of *praeesse* to be before one, fr. *prae-* pre- + *esse* to be — more at IS] **1** : now existing or in progress **2 a** : being in view or at hand **b** : existing in something mentioned or under consideration **3** : constituting the one actually involved, at hand, or being considered **4** : of, relating to, or constituting a verb tense that is expressive of present time or the time of speaking **5** *obs* : ATTENTIVE **6** *archaic* : INSTANT, IMMEDIATE — **pres·ent·ness** *n*

⁴pres·ent \'prez-ᵊnt\ *n* **1 a** *obs* : present occasion or affair **b** *pl* : the present words or statements; *specif* : the legal instrument or other writing in which these words are used **2 a** : the present tense of a language **b** : a verb form in the present tense **3** : the present time

pre·sent·able \pri-'zent-ə-bəl\ *adj* **1** : capable of being presented **2** : being in condition to be seen or inspected esp. by the critical — **pre·sent·abil·i·ty** \-ˌzent-ə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* — **pre·sent·able·ness** \-'zent-ə-bəl-nəs\ *n* — **pre·sent·ably** \-blē\ *adv*

pre·sent arms \pri-ˌzent-\ *n* [fr. the command present arms!] **1** : a position in the manual of arms in which the rifle is held vertically in front of the body **2** : a command to assume the position of present arms or to give a hand salute

pre·sen·ta·tion \ˌprē-ˌzen-'tā-shən, ˌprez-ᵊn-, ˌprēz-ᵊn-\ *n* **1 a** : the act of presenting **b** : the act, power, or privilege esp. of a patron of applying to the bishop or ordinary for the institution of one nominated to a benefice **2** : something presented: as **a** : a symbol or image that represents something **b** : something offered or given : GIFT **c** : something set forth for the attention of the mind **d** : a descriptive or persuasive account (as by a salesman of his product) **3** : the position in which the fetus lies in the uterus in labor with respect to the mouth of the uterus **4** : an immediate object of perception, cognition, or memory **5** *often cap* : a church feast on November 21 celebrating the presentation of the Virgin Mary in the temple **6** : the method by which radio, navigation, or radar information is given to the operator (as the pilot of an airplane) — **pre·sen·ta·tion·al** \-shnəl, -shən-ᵊl\ *adj*

pre·sen·ta·tive \pri-'zent-ət-iv, 'prez-ᵊn-ˌtāt-\ *adj* : known, knowing, or capable of being known directly rather than through cogitation

pres·ent–day \'prez-ᵊnt-'dā\ *adj* : now existing or occurring

pre·sen·tee \ˌprez-ᵊn-'tē, pri-ˌzen-\ *n* : one who is presented or to whom something is presented

pre·sen·tient \pri-'sen-ch(ē-)ənt, 'prē-; pri-'zen-\ *adj* [L *praesentient-*, *praesentiens*, prp. of *praesentire*] : having a presentiment

pre·sen·ti·ment \pri-'zent-ə-mənt\ *n* [F *pressentiment*, fr. MF, fr. *pressentir* to have a presentiment, fr. L *praesentire* to feel beforehand, fr. *prae-* + *sentire* to feel — more at SENSE] : a feeling that something will or is about to happen : PREMONITION — **pre·sen·ti·men·tal** \-ˌzent-ə-'ment-ᵊl\ *adj*

pres·ent·ly \'prez-ᵊnt-lē\ *adv* **1** *archaic* : at once **2** : before long : without undue delay **3** : at the present time : NOW
syn PRESENTLY, SHORTLY, SOON, DIRECTLY *shared meaning element* : after a little while

pre·sent·ment \pri-'zent-mənt\ *n* **1** : the act of presenting to an authority a formal statement of a matter to be dealt with; *specif* : the notice taken or statement made by a grand jury of an offense from their own knowledge without a bill of indictment laid before them **2** : the act of offering at the proper time and place a document (as a bill of exchange) that calls for acceptance or payment by another **3 a** : the act of presenting to view or consciousness **b** : something set forth, presented, or exhibited **c** : the aspect in which something is presented

present participle *n* : a participle that typically expresses present action in relation to the time expressed by the finite verb in its clause and that in English is formed with the suffix *-ing* and is used in the formation of the progressive tenses

present perfect *adj* : of, relating to, or constituting a verb tense that is formed in English with *have* and that expresses action or state completed at the time of speaking — **present perfect** *n*

present tense *n* : the tense of a verb that expresses action or state in the present time and is used of what occurs or is true at the time of speaking and of what is habitual or characteristic or is always or necessarily true, that is sometimes used to refer to action in the past (as in the historical present), and that is sometimes used for future events

pres·er·va·tion·ist \ˌprez-ər-'vā-sh(ə-)nəst\ *n* : one that advocates preservation (as of a biological species or a historical landmark)

¹pre·ser·va·tive \pri-'zər-vət-iv\ *adj* : having the power of preserving

²preservative *n* : something that preserves or has the power of preserving; *specif* : an additive used to protect against decay, discoloration, or spoilage

¹pre·serve \pri-'zərv\ *vb* **pre·served; pre·serv·ing** [ME *preserven*, fr. MF *preserver*, fr. ML *praeservare*, fr. LL, to observe beforehand, fr. L *prae-* + *servare* to keep, guard, observe — more at CONSERVE] *vt* **1** : to keep safe from injury, harm, or destruction : PROTECT **2 a** : to keep alive, intact, or free from decay **b** : MAINTAIN **3 a** : to keep or save from decomposition **b** : to can, pickle, or similarly prepare for future use **4** : to keep up and reserve for personal or special use ~ *vi* **1** : to make preserves **2** : to raise and protect game for purposes of sport **3** : to stand preserving (as by canning) ***syn*** see SAVE — **pre·serv·able** \-'zər-və-bəl\ *adj* — **pres·er·va·tion** \ˌprez-ər-'vā-shən\ *n* — **pre·serv·er** \pri-'zər-vər\ *n*

²preserve *n* **1** : fruit canned or made into jams or jellies or cooked whole or in large pieces in a syrup so as to keep its shape — often used in pl. **2** : an area restricted for the protection and preservation of natural resources (as animals or trees); *esp* : one used primarily for regulated hunting or fishing **3** : something regarded as reserved for certain persons

pre·set \(')prē-'set\ *vt* **-set; -set·ting** : to set beforehand — **pre·set·ta·ble** \-'set-ə-bəl\ *adj*

pre·shrunk \'prē-'shrəŋk, *esp South* -'srəŋk\ *adj* : of, relating to, or being material (as a textile fabric) subjected to a shrinking process during manufacture usu. to reduce later shrinking

pre·side \pri-'zīd\ *vi* **pre·sid·ed; pre·sid·ing** [L *praesidēre* to guard, preside over, lit., to sit in front of, sit at the head of, fr. *prae-* + *sedēre* to sit — more at SIT] **1 a** : to occupy the place of authority : act as president, chairman, or moderator **b** : to occupy a position similar to that of a president or chairman **2** : to exercise guidance, direction, or control **3** : to occupy a position of featured instrumental performer — usu. used with *at* ⟨*presided* at the organ⟩ — **pre·sid·er** *n*

pres·i·den·cy \'prez-əd-ən-sē, 'prez-dən- *also* 'prez-ə-ˌden(t)-sē\ *n, pl* **-cies** **1 a** : the office of president **b** (1) : the office of president of the U.S. (2) : the American governmental institution comprising the office of president and various associated administrative and policy-making agencies **2** : the term during which a president holds office **3** : the action or function of one that presides : SUPERINTENDENCE **4** : a Mormon executive council of the church or a stake consisting of a president and two counselors

pres·i·dent \'prez-əd-ənt, 'prez-dənt *also* 'prez-ə-ˌdent\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *praesident-*, *praesidens*, fr. prp. of *praesidēre*] **1** : an official chosen to preside over a meeting or assembly **2** : an appointed governor of a subordinate political unit **3** : the chief officer of an organization (as a corporation or institution) usu. entrusted with the direction and administration of its policies **4** : the presiding officer of a governmental body **5 a** : an elected official serving as both chief of state and chief political executive in a republic having a presidential government **b** : an elected official having the position of chief of state but usu. only minimal political powers in a republic having a parliamentary government — **pres·i·den·tial** \ˌprez-(ə-)'den-chəl\ *adj* — **pres·i·den·tial·ly** \-'dench-(ə-)lē\ *adv*

presidential government *n* : a system of government in which the president is constitutionally independent of the legislature

Presidents' Day *n* : WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY 2

pres·i·dent·ship \'prez-əd-ənt-ˌship, 'prez-dənt- *also* 'prez-ə-ˌdent-\ *n* : PRESIDENCY

pre·sid·i·al \pri-'sid-ē-əl, prī-, -'zid-\ *adj* [LL *praesidialis*, fr. L *praesidium* garrison, fr. *praesid-*, *praeses* guard, governor, fr. *praesidēre*] **1** : of, having, or constituting a garrison **2** : of or relating to a president : PRESIDENTIAL **3** [F *présidial*, fr. MF, alter. of *presidal*, fr. LL *praesidalis* of a provincial governor, fr. L *praesid-*, *praeses*] : PROVINCIAL 1

pre·sid·i·ary \-ē-ˌer-ē\ *adj* : PRESIDIAL 1

pre·si·dio \pri-'sēd-ē-ˌō, -'sid-, -'zēd-, -'zid-\ *n, pl* **-di·os** [Sp, fr. L *praesidium*] : a garrisoned place; *esp* : a military post or fortified settlement in areas currently or orig. under Spanish control

pre·sid·i·um \pri-'sid-ē-əm, prī-, -'zid-\ *n, pl* **-ia** \-ē-ə\ *or* **-iums** [Russ *prezidium*, fr. L *praesidium* garrison] : a permanent executive committee selected esp. in Communist countries to act for a larger body

pre·sig·ni·fy \(')prē-'sig-nə-ˌfī\ *vt* [L *praesignificare*, fr. *prae-* + *significare* to signify] : to intimate or signify beforehand : PRESAGE

[1]pre·soak \(')prē-'sōk\ *vt* : to soak beforehand

[2]pre·soak \'prē-'sōk\ *n* **1** : a preparation used in presoaking clothes **2** : an instance of presoaking

pre–So·crat·ic \ˌprē-sə-'krat-ik, -sō-\ *adj* : of or relating to Greek philosophers before Socrates — **pre–Socratic** *n*

[1]press \'pres\ *n* [ME *presse*, fr. OF, fr. *presser* to press] **1 a** : a crowd or crowded condition : THRONG **b** : a throngings or crowding forward or together **2 a** : an apparatus or machine by which a substance is cut or shaped, an impression of a body is taken, a material is compressed, pressure is applied to a body, liquid is expressed, or a cutting tool is fed into the work by pressure **b** : a building containing presses or a business using presses **3** : CLOSET, CUPBOARD **4 a** : an action of pressing or pushing : PRESSURE **b** : an aggressive pressuring defense employed in basketball often over the entire court area **5** : the properly smoothed and creased condition of a freshly pressed garment ⟨out of ~⟩ **6 a** : PRINTING PRESS **b** : the act or the process of printing **c** : a printing or publishing establishment **7 a** : the gathering and publishing or broadcasting of news : JOURNALISM **b** : newspapers, periodicals, and often radio and television news broadcasting **c** : news reporters, publishers, and broadcasters **d** : comment or notice in newspapers and periodicals ⟨is getting a good ~⟩ **8** : any of various pressure devices (as one for keeping sporting gear from warping when not in use) **9** : a lift in weight lifting in which the weight is raised to shoulder height and then smoothly extended overhead without assist from the legs — compare CLEAN AND JERK, SNATCH

[2]press *vb* [ME *pressen*, fr. MF *presser*, fr. L *pressare*, fr. *pressus* pp. of *premere* to press; akin to L *prelum* press and perh. to Russ *peret'* to press] *vt* **1** : to act upon through steady pushing or thrusting force exerted in contact : SQUEEZE **2 a** : ASSAIL, HARASS **b** : AFFLICT, OPPRESS **3 a** : to squeeze out the juice or contents of **b** : to squeeze with apparatus or instruments to a desired density, smoothness, or shape **4 a** : to exert influence on : CONSTRAIN **b** : to try hard to persuade : BESEECH, ENTREAT **5** : to move by means of pressure **6 a** : to lay stress or emphasis on **b** : to insist on or request urgently **7** : to follow through (a course of action) **8** : to clasp in affection or courtesy **9** : to make (a phonograph record) from a matrix ~ *vi* **1** : to crowd closely : MASS **2** : to force or push one's way **3** : to seek urgently : CONTEND **4** : to require haste or speed in action **5** : to exert pressure **6** : to take or hold a press **7** : to employ a press in basketball — **presser** *n*

[3]press *vb* [alter. of obs. *prest* (to enlist by giving pay in advance)] *vt* **1** : to force into service esp. in an army or navy : IMPRESS **2 a** : to take by authority esp. for public use : COMMANDEER **b** : to take and force into any usu. emergency service ~ *vi* : to impress men as soldiers or sailors

[4]press *n* **1** : impressment into service esp. in a navy **2** *obs* : a warrant for impressing recruits

press agent *n* [[1]*press*] : an agent employed to establish and maintain good public relations through publicity — **press–agent** *vb* — **press–agent·ry** \-'ā-jən-trē\ *n*

press·board \'pres-ˌbō(ə)rd, -ˌbȯ(ə)rd\ *n* **1** : a strong highly glazed composition board resembling vulcanized fiber **2** : IRONING BOARD; *esp* : a small one for sleeves

press box *n* : a space reserved for reporters (as at a stadium)

press conference *n* : an interview given by a public figure to newsmen by appointment

pressed \'prest\ *adj, of food* : shaped, molded, or having liquid or juices extracted under pressure ⟨~ duck⟩

press–gang \'pres-ˌgaŋ\ *n* [[4]*press*] : a detachment of men under command of an officer empowered to force men into military or naval service — **press–gang** *vt*

press·ing *adj* **1** : urgently important : CRITICAL **2** : EARNEST, WARM — **press·ing·ly** \-iŋ-lē\ *adv*

press·man \'pres-mən, -ˌman\ *n* **1** : an operator of a press; *esp* : the operator of a printing press **2** *Brit* : NEWSPAPERMAN

press·mark \-ˌmärk\ *n* [[1]*press* (closet)] *chiefly Brit* : a mark assigned to a book to indicate its location in a library

press of sail : the fullest amount of sail that a ship can crowd on — called also *press of canvas*

pres·sor \'pres-ˌȯ(ə)r, -ər\ *adj* [LL, one that presses, fr. L *pressus*, pp. of *premere* to press — more at PRESS] : raising or tending to raise blood pressure; *also* : involving vasoconstriction

press release *n* : HANDOUT 3

press·room \'pres-ˌrüm, -ˌrům\ *n* **1** : a room in a printing plant containing the printing presses **2** : a room (as at the White House) for the use of members of the press

press·run \-ˌrən, -'rən\ *n* : a continuous operation of a printing press producing a specified number of copies; *also* : the number of copies printed

[1]pres·sure \'presh-ər\ *n* **1 a** : the burden of physical or mental distress **b** : the constraint of circumstance : the weight of social or economic imposition **2** : the application of force to something by something else in direct contact with it : COMPRESSION **3** *archaic* : IMPRESSION, STAMP **4 a** : the action of a force against an opposing force **b** : the force or thrust exerted over a surface divided by its area **c** : ELECTROMOTIVE FORCE **5** : the stress or urgency of matters demanding attention : EXIGENCY ⟨people who work well under ~⟩ **6** : the force of selection that results from one or more agents and tends to reduce a population of organisms ⟨population ~⟩ ⟨predation ~⟩ **7** : atmospheric pressure **8** : a sensation aroused by moderate compression of a body part or surface

[2]pressure *vt* **pres·sured; pres·sur·ing** \-(ə-)riŋ\ **1** : to apply pressure to **2** : PRESSURIZE **3** : to cook in a pressure cooker

pressure cabin *n* : a pressurized cabin

pressure cooker *n* : an airtight utensil for quick cooking or preserving of foods by means of superheated steam under pressure — **pressure–cook** *vb*

pressure gauge *n* : a gauge for indicating fluid pressure

pressure group *n* : an interest group organized to influence public and esp. governmental policy but not to elect candidates to office

pressure point *n* : a point where a blood vessel runs near a bone and can be compressed (as to check bleeding) by the application of pressure against the bone

pressure suit *n* : an inflatable suit for high-altitude or space flight to protect the body from low pressure

pres·sur·iza·tion \ˌpresh-(ə-)rə-'zā-shən\ *n* : the action or process of pressurizing : the state of being pressurized

pres·sur·ize \'presh-ə-ˌrīz\ *vt* **-ized; -iz·ing** **1** : to maintain near-normal atmospheric pressure in during high-altitude or space flight (as by means of a supercharger) **2** : to apply pressure to **3** : to design to withstand pressure — **pres·sur·iz·er** *n*

press·work \'pres-ˌwərk\ *n* : the operation, management, or product of a printing press; *esp* : the branch of printing concerned with the actual transfer of ink from form or plates to paper

prest \'prest\ *adj* [ME, fr. OF, fr. L *praestus* — more at PRESTO] *obs* : READY

pre·ster·num \'prē-'stər-nəm\ *n* [NL] : the anterior segment of the sternum of a mammal : MANUBRIUM

pres·ti·dig·i·ta·tion \ˌpres-tə-ˌdij-ə-'tā-shən\ *n* [F, fr. *prestidigitateur* prestidigitator, fr. *preste* nimble, quick (fr. It *presto*) + L *digitus* finger — more at DIGIT] : SLEIGHT OF HAND, LEGERDEMAIN — **pres·ti·dig·i·ta·tor** \-'dij-ə-ˌtāt-ər\ *n*

pres·tige \pre-'stēzh, -'stēj\ *n, often attrib* [F, fr. MF, conjuror's trick, illusion, fr. LL *praestigium*, fr. L *praestigiae*, pl., conjuror's tricks, irreg. fr. *praestringere* to tie up, blindfold, fr. *prae-* + *stringere* to bind tight — more at STRAIN] **1** : standing or estimation in the eyes of people : weight or credit in general opinion **2** : commanding position in men's minds ***syn*** see INFLUENCE

pres·tige·ful \-fəl\ *adj* : PRESTIGIOUS 2

pres·ti·gious \pre-'stij-əs, *2 is oftener* -'stēj-\ *adj* [L *praestigiosus*, fr. *praestigiae*] **1** *archaic* : of, relating to, or marked by illusion, conjuring, or trickery **2** : having prestige : HONORED — **pres·ti·gious·ly** *adv* — **pres·ti·gious·ness** *n*

pres·tis·si·mo \pres-'tis-ə-ˌmō\ *adv or adj* [It, fr. *presto* + *-issimo* suffix denoting a high degree] : faster than presto — used as a direction in music

[1]pres·to \'pres-(ˌ)tō\ *adv or adj* [It, quick, quickly, fr. L *praestus* ready, fr. *praesto*, adv., on hand; akin to L *prae* before — more at FOR] **1** : at once : QUICKLY **2** : at a rapid tempo — used as a direction in music

[2]presto *n, pl* **prestos** : a presto musical passage or movement

[1]pre·stress \(')prē-'stres\ *vt* : to introduce internal stresses into (as a structural beam) to counteract the stresses that will result from applied load (as in incorporating cables under tension in concrete)

[2]pre·stress \'prē-'stres\ *n* **1** : the process of prestressing **2** : the stresses introduced in prestress **3** : the condition of being prestressed

pre·sum·able \pri-'zü-mə-bəl\ *adj* : capable of being presumed : acceptable as an assumption — **pre·sum·ably** \-blē\ *adv*

pre·sume \pri-'züm\ *vb* **pre·sumed; pre·sum·ing** [ME *presumen*, fr. LL & MF; LL *praesumere* to dare, fr. L, to anticipate, assume, fr. *prae-* + *sumere* to take; MF *presumer* to assume, fr. L *praesumere* — more at CONSUME] *vt* **1** : to undertake without leave or clear justification : DARE **2** : to expect or assume esp. with confidence **3** : to suppose to be true without proof ⟨*presumed* innocent until proved guilty⟩ **4** : to take for granted : IMPLY ~ *vi* **1** : to act or proceed presumptuously or on a presumption **2** : to go beyond what is right or proper — **pre·sum·er** *n*

pre·sum·ing *adj* : PRESUMPTUOUS — **pre·sum·ing·ly** \-'zü-miŋ-lē\ *adv*

pre·sump·tion \pri-'zəm(p)-shən\ *n* [ME *presumpcioun*, fr. OF *presumption*, fr. LL & L; LL *praesumption-, praesumptio* presumptuous attitude, fr. L, assumption, fr. *praesumptus*, pp. of *praesumere*] **1** : presumptuous attitude or conduct : AUDACITY **2 a** : an attitude or belief dictated by probability : ASSUMPTION **b** : the ground, reason, or evidence lending probability to a belief **3** : a legal inference as to the existence or truth of a fact not certainly known that is drawn from the known or proved existence of some other fact

pre·sump·tive \-'zəm(p)-tiv\ *adj* **1** : giving grounds for reasonable opinion or belief **2** : based on probability or presumption **3** : being an embryonic precursor with the potential for forming a particular structure or tissue in the normal course of development ⟨~ neural tissue⟩ — **pre·sump·tive·ly** *adv*

pre·sump·tu·ous \pri-'zəm(p)-ch(ə-w)əs, -shəs\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF *presumptueux*, fr. LL *praesumptuosus*, irreg. fr. *praesumptio*] : overstepping due bounds : taking liberties : OVERWEENING — **pre·sump·tu·ous·ly** *adv* — **pre·sump·tu·ous·ness** *n*

pre·sup·pose \ˌprē-sə-'pōz\ *vt* [ME *presupposen*, fr. MF *presupposer*, fr. ML *praesupponere* (perf. indic. *praesupposui*), fr. L *prae-* + ML *supponere* to suppose — more at SUPPOSE] **1** : to suppose beforehand **2** : to require as an antecedent in logic or fact — **pre·sup·po·si·tion** \(ˌ)prē-ˌsəp-ə-'zish-ən\ *n*

pre·syn·ap·tic \ˌprē-sə-'nap-tik\ *adj* : situated or occurring just before a nerve synapse — **pre·syn·ap·ti·cal·ly** \-ti-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

pre·tax \'prē-'taks\ *adj* : existing before provision for taxes

pre·teen \-'tēn\ *n* : a preadolescent child — **preteen** *adj*

pre·tend \pri-'tend\ *vb* [ME *pretenden*, fr. L *praetendere* to allege as an excuse, lit., to stretch in front of like a curtain, fr. *prae-* pre- + *tendere* to stretch — more at THIN] *vt* **1** : to give a false appearance of being, possessing, or performing : PROFESS ⟨does not ~ that he is a psychiatrist⟩ **2 a** : to make believe : FEIGN ⟨he ~*ed* deafness⟩ **b** : to claim, represent, or assert falsely ⟨~*ing* an emotion he could not really feel⟩ **3** : VENTURE, UNDERTAKE ~ *vi* **1** : to feign an action, part, or role in play **2** : to put in a claim ***syn*** see ASSUME

pre·tend·ed *adj* : professed or avowed but not genuine ⟨~ affection⟩ — **pre·tend·ed·ly** *adv*

pre·tend·er \pri-'ten-dər\ *n* : one that pretends: as **a** : one who lays claim to something; *specif* : a claimant to a throne who is held to have no just title **b** : one who makes a false or hypocritical show ⟨a ~ to spirituality —Elaine L. Lawrence⟩

pre·tense *or* **pre·tence** \'prē-ˌten(t)s, pri-'\ *n* [ME, fr. MF *pretensse*, fr. (assumed) ML *praetensa*, fr. LL, fem. of *praetensus*, pp. of L *praetendere*] **1** : a claim made or implied; *esp* : one not supported by fact **2** **a** : mere ostentation : PRETENTIOUSNESS ⟨confuse dignity with pomposity and ~ —Bennett Cerf⟩ **b** : a pretentious act or assertion **3** : an inadequate or insincere attempt to attain a certain condition or quality **4** : professed rather than real intention or purpose : PRETEXT ⟨was there under false ~s⟩ **5** : MAKE-BELIEVE, FICTION **6** : false show : SIMULATION ⟨saw through his ~ of indifference⟩

syn PRETENSE, PRETENSION, MAKE-BELIEVE *shared meaning element* : the offering of something false as real or true

¹pre·ten·sion \pri-'ten-chən\ *n* **1** : an allegation of doubtful value : PRETEXT **2** : a claim or an effort to establish a claim **3** : a claim or right to attention or honor because of merit **4** : ASPIRATION, INTENTION **5** : VANITY, PRETENTIOUSNESS ***syn*** see PRETENSE, AMBITION — **pre·ten·sion·less** \-ləs\ *adj*

²pre·ten·sion \(')prē-'ten-chən\ *vt* [*pre-* + *²tension*] : PRESTRESS

pre·ten·tious \pri-'ten-chəs\ *adj* [F *prétentieux*, fr. *prétention* pretension, fr. ML *praetention-*, *praetentio*, fr. L *praetentus*, pp. of *praetendere*] **1** : making usu. unjustified or excessive claims (as of value or standing) ⟨the ~ fraud who assumes a love of culture that is alien to him —Richard Watts⟩ **2** : making demands on one's skill, ability, or means : AMBITIOUS ⟨the ~ daring of the Green Mountain Boys in crossing the lake —*Amer. Guide Series: Vt.*⟩ ***syn*** see SHOWY — **pre·ten·tious·ly** *adv* — **pre·ten·tious·ness** *n*

pret·er·it *or* **pret·er·ite** \'pret-ə-rət\ *adj* [ME *preterit*, fr. MF, fr. L *praeteritus*, fr. pp. of *praeterire* to go by, pass, fr. *praeter* beyond, past, by (fr. compar. of *prae* before) + *ire* to go — more at FOR, ISSUE] **1** *archaic* : BYGONE, FORMER **2** : of, relating to, or constituting a verb tense that indicates action in the past without reference to duration, continuance, or repetition — **preterit** *n*

pre·ter·mi·nal \(')prē-'tərm-nəl, -ən-ᵊl\ *adj* : occurring before death

pre·ter·mis·sion \ˌprēt-ər-'mish-ən\ *n* [L *praetermission-*, *praetermissio*, fr. *praetermissus*, pp. of *praetermittere*] : the act or an instance of pretermitting : OMISSION

pre·ter·mit \-'mit\ *vt* **-mit·ted; -mit·ting** [L *praetermittere*, fr. *praeter* by, past + *mittere* to let go, send — more at SMITE] **1** : to let pass without mention or notice : OMIT **2** : to leave undone : NEGLECT **3** : to break off : SUSPEND

pre·ter·nat·u·ral \ˌprēt-ər-'nach(-ə)-rəl\ *adj* [ML *praeternaturalis*, fr. L *praeter naturam* beyond nature] **1** : existing outside of nature **2** : exceeding what is natural or regular : EXTRAORDINARY ⟨wits trained to ~ acuteness by the debates —G. L. Dickinson⟩ **3** : inexplicable by ordinary means; *esp* : PSYCHIC ⟨~ phenomena⟩ — **pre·ter·nat·u·ral·ly** \-rə-lē, -'nach-ər-lē\ *adv* — **pre·ter·nat·u·ral·ness** \-'nach(-ə)-rəl-nəs\ *n*

pre·test \(')prē-'\ *n* : a preliminary test serving for exploration rather than evaluation — **pretest** *vt*

pre·text \'prē-ˌtekst\ *n* [L *praetextus*, fr. *praetextus*, pp. of *praetexere* to assign as a pretext, lit., to weave in front, fr. *prae-* + *texere* to weave — more at TECHNICAL] : a purpose or motive alleged or an appearance assumed in order to cloak the real intention or state of affairs ***syn*** see APOLOGY

pre·tor, pre·to·ri·an *var of* PRAETOR, PRAETORIAN

pre·treat \(')prē-'trēt\ *vt* : to treat beforehand

¹pre·treat·ment \-mənt\ *n* : the process of pretreating

²pretreatment *adj* : occurring in or typical of the period prior to treatment

pret·ti·fy \'prit-i-ˌfī, 'půrt-, 'průt-\ *vt* **-fied; -fy·ing** : to make pretty — **pret·ti·fi·ca·tion** \ˌprit-i-fə-'kā-shən, ˌpůrt-, ˌprůt-\ *n*

pret·ti·ness \'prit-ē-nəs, 'půrt-, 'průt-\ *n* **1** : the quality or state of being pretty **2** : something pretty

¹pret·ty \'prit-ē, 'půrt-, 'průt-\ *adj* **pret·ti·er; -est** [ME *praty, prety*, fr. OE *prættig* tricky, fr. *prætt* trick; akin to ON *prettr* trick] **1** **a** : ARTFUL, CLEVER **b** : PAT, APT **2** **a** : pleasing by delicacy or grace **b** : having conventionally accepted elements of beauty **c** : appearing or sounding pleasant or nice but lacking strength, force, manliness, purpose, or intensity ⟨~ words that make no sense —Elizabeth B. Browning⟩ **3** **a** : MISERABLE, TERRIBLE ⟨a ~ mess you've gotten us into⟩ **b** *chiefly Scot* : STOUT **4** : moderately large : CONSIDERABLE ⟨a very ~ profit⟩ ***syn*** see BEAUTIFUL ***ant*** plain — **pret·ti·ly** \-ᵊl-ē\ *adv* — **pret·ty·ish** \-ē-ish\ *adj*

²pret·ty \ˌpůrt-ē, pərt-ē (*unstressed* pərt-), ˌprit-ē, ˌprůt-ē; *before "near(ly)" often without* -ē\ *adv* **1** : in some degree : MODERATELY ⟨~ cold weather⟩ **2** *archaic* : in a pretty manner : PRETTILY

³pret·ty \'prit-ē, 'půrt-ē, 'průt-ē\ *vt* **pret·tied; pret·ty·ing** : to make pretty — usu. used with *up* ⟨curtains to ~ up the room⟩

⁴pretty *like*³\ *n, pl* **pretties** **1** : a pretty person or thing **2** *pl* : dainty clothes; *esp* : LINGERIE

pre·tu·ber·cu·lous \ˌprē-t(y)ů-'bər-kyə-ləs\ *or* **pre·tu·ber·cu·lar** \-lər\ *adj* **1** : preceding the development of lesions definitely identifiable as tuberculous **2** : likely to develop tuberculosis

pret·zel \'pret-səl\ *n* [G *brezel*, deriv. of L *brachiatus* having branches like arms, fr. *brachium* arm — more at BRACE] : a brittle glazed and salted cracker typically having the form of a loose knot

prev *abbr* previous; previously

pre·vail \pri-'vā(ə)l\ *vi* [ME *prevailen*, fr. L *praevalēre*, fr. *prae-* pre- + *valēre* to be strong — more at WIELD] **1** : to gain ascendancy through strength or superiority : TRIUMPH **2** : to be or become effective or effectual **3** : to use persuasion successfully ⟨~*ed* on him to sing⟩ **4** : to be frequent : PREDOMINATE ⟨the west winds that ~ in the mountains⟩ **5** : to be or continue in use or fashion : PERSIST ⟨a custom that still ~*s*⟩ ***syn*** see INDUCE

pre·vail·ing \-'vā-liŋ\ *adj* **1** : having superior force or influence **2** **a** : most frequent ⟨~ winds⟩ **b** : generally current : COMMON — **pre·vail·ing·ly** \-liŋ-lē\ *adv*

syn PREVAILING, PREVALENT, RIFE, CURRENT *shared meaning element* : general (as in circulation, acceptance, or use) in a given place or at a given time

prev·a·lence \'prev(-ə)-lən(t)s\ *n* **1** : the quality or state of being prevalent **2** : the degree to which something is prevalent; *esp* : the percentage of a population that is affected with a particular disease at a given time

prev·a·lent \-lənt\ *adj* [L *praevalent-*, *praevalens* very powerful, fr. prp. of *praevalēre*] **1** *archaic* : POWERFUL **2** *archaic* : being in ascendancy : DOMINANT **3** : generally or widely accepted, practiced, or favored : WIDESPREAD ***syn*** see PREVAILING — **prevalent** *n* — **prev·a·lent·ly** *adv*

pre·var·i·cate \pri-'var-ə-ˌkāt\ *vi* **-cat·ed; -cat·ing** [L *praevaricatus*, pp. of *praevaricari* to walk crookedly, fr. *prae-* + *varicus* having the feet spread apart, fr. *varus* bent, knock-kneed; prob. akin to OE *wōh* crooked, L *vacillare* to sway, *vagus* wandering] : to deviate from the truth : EQUIVOCATE ***syn*** see LIE — **pre·var·i·ca·tion** \-ˌvar-ə-'kā-shən\ *n* — **pre·var·i·ca·tor** \-'var-ə-ˌkāt-ər\ *n*

pré·ve·nance \prā-və-näⁿs, prev-näⁿs\ *n* [F, fr. *prévenant*, prp. of *prévenir* to anticipate, fr. L *praevenire*] : attentiveness to or anticipation of others' needs

pre·ve·nient \pri-'vē-nyənt\ *adj* [L *praevenient-*, *praeveniens*, prp. of *praevenire*] : ANTECEDENT, ANTICIPATORY — **pre·ve·nient·ly** *adv*

pre·vent \pri-'vent\ *vb* [ME *preventen* to anticipate, fr. L *praeventus*, pp. of *praevenire* to come before, anticipate, forestall, fr. *prae-* + *venire* to come — more at COME] *vt* **1** *archaic* **a** : to be in readiness for (as an occasion) **b** : to meet or satisfy in advance **c** : to act ahead of **d** : to arrive before **2** *archaic* : to go before with spiritual guidance ⟨O let thy grace . . . ever ~, accompany, and follow me —Thomas Ken⟩ **3** : to deprive of power or hope of acting or succeeding **4** : to keep from happening or existing ⟨steps to ~ war⟩ **5** : to hold or keep back : HINDER, STOP — often used with *from* ~ *vi* : to interpose an obstacle — **pre·vent·abil·i·ty** \-ˌvent-ə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* — **pre·vent·able** *also* **pre·vent·ible** \-'vent-ə-bəl\ *adj* — **pre·vent·er** *n*

syn PREVENT, PRECLUDE, OBVIATE, AVERT, WARD OFF *shared meaning element* : to stop from advancing or occurring ***ant*** permit

pre·ven·ta·tive \-'vent-ət-iv\ *adj or n* : PREVENTIVE

pre·ven·tion \pri-'ven-chən\ *n* : the act of preventing or hindering

¹pre·ven·tive \-'vent-iv\ *n* : something that prevents; *esp* : something used to prevent disease

²preventive *adj* **1** : devoted to or concerned with prevention : PRECAUTIONARY ⟨~ steps against soil erosion⟩ **2** : undertaken to forestall anticipated hostile action ⟨~ war⟩ — **pre·ven·tive·ly** *adv* — **pre·ven·tive·ness** *n*

pre·ver·bal \(')prē-'vər-bəl\ *adj* **1** : occurring before the verb **2** : having not yet acquired the faculty of speech ⟨a ~ child⟩

¹pre·view \'prē-ˌvyü\ *vt* **1** : to see beforehand; *specif* : to view or to show in advance of public presentation **2** : to give a preliminary survey of

²preview *n* **1** : an advance showing or performance (as of a motion picture or play) **2** *also* **pre·vue** \-ˌvyü\ : a showing of snatches from a motion picture advertised for appearance in the near future **3** : a statement giving advance information : FORETASTE **4** : a preliminary survey

pre·vi·ous \'prē-vē-əs\ *adj* [L *praevius* leading the way, fr. *prae-* pre- + *via* way — more at VIA] **1** : going before in time or order **2** : acting too soon : PREMATURE ***syn*** see PRECEDING ***ant*** subsequent — **pre·vi·ous·ly** *adv* — **pre·vi·ous·ness** *n*

previous question *n* : a parliamentary motion that the pending question be put to an immediate vote without further debate or amendment and that if defeated has the effect of permitting resumption of debate

previous to *prep* : prior to : BEFORE

¹pre·vi·sion \prē-'vizh-ən\ *n* [LL *praevision-*, *praevisio*, fr. L *praevisus*, pp. of *praevidēre* to foresee, fr. *prae-* + *vidēre* to see — more at WIT] **1** : FORESIGHT, PRESCIENCE **2** : FORECAST, PROGNOSTICATION — **pre·vi·sion·al** \-'vizh-nəl, -ən-ᵊl\ *adj* — **pre·vi·sion·ary** \-'vizh-ə-ˌner-ē\ *adj*

²prevision *vt* **pre·vi·sioned; pre·vi·sion·ing** \-'vizh-(ə-)niŋ\ : FORESEE

pre·vo·cal·ic \ˌprē-vō-'kal-ik, -və-\ *adj* [ISV] : immediately preceding a vowel

pre·vo·ca·tion·al \ˌprē-vō-'kā-shnəl, -shən-ᵊl\ *adj* : given or required before admission to a vocational school

pre·war \'prē-'wȯ(ə)r\ *adj* : occurring or existing before a war

prexy \'prek-sē\ *also* **prex** \'preks\ *n, pl* **prex·ies** *also* **prex·es** [*prexy* fr. *prex*, by shortening & alter. fr. *president*] *slang* : PRESIDENT — used chiefly of a college president

¹prey \'prā\ *n, pl* **preys** [ME *preie*, fr. OF, fr. L *praeda;* akin to L *prehendere* to grasp, seize — more at PREHENSILE] **1** *archaic* : SPOIL, BOOTY **2** **a** : an animal taken by a predator as food **b** : one that is helpless or unable to resist attack : VICTIM ⟨was ~ to his own appetites⟩ **3** : the act or habit or preying

²prey *vi* [ME *preyen*, fr. OF *preier*, fr. L *praedari*, fr. *praeda*] **1** : to make raids for the sake of booty **2** **a** : to seize and devour prey **b** : to commit violence or robbery or fraud **3** : to have an injurious, destructive, or wasting effect — **prey·er** *n*

prf *abbr* proof

PRF *abbr* **1** pulse recurrence frequency **2** pulse repetition frequency

Pri·am \'prī-əm, -ˌam\ *n* [L *Priamus*, fr. Gk *Priamos*] : the father of Hector and Paris and king of Troy during the Trojan War

pri·a·pic \prī-'ā-pik, -'ap-ik\ *adj* [L *priapus* lecher, fr. *Priapus*] : PHALLIC

Pri·a·pus \prī-'ā-pəs\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *Priapos*] : the Roman god of male generative power

¹price \'prīs\ *n* [ME *pris*, fr. OF, fr. L *pretium* price, money; akin to Skt *prati-* against, in return — more at PROS-] **1** *archaic* : VALUE,

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ə abut ᵊ kitten ər further a back ā bake ä cot, cart
aů out ch chin e less ē easy g gift i trip ī life
j joke ŋ sing ō flow ȯ flaw ȯi coin th thin th this
ü loot ů foot y yet yü few yů furious zh vision

WORTH **2** **a** : the quantity of one thing that is exchanged or demanded in barter or sale for another **b** : the amount of money given or set as consideration for the sale of a specified thing **3** : the terms for the sake of which something is done or undertaken: as **a** : an amount sufficient to bribe one ⟨believed every man had his ~⟩ **b** : a reward for the apprehension or death of a person ⟨a man with a ~ on his head⟩ **4** : the cost at which something is obtained ⟨the ~ of freedom is restraint —J. Irwin Miller⟩

²price *vt* **priced; pric·ing** **1** : to set a price on **2** : to find out the price of **3** : to drive by raising prices excessively ⟨*priced* themselves out of the market⟩ — **pric·er** *n*

price–cut·ter \'prī-ˌskət-ər\ *n* : one that reduces prices esp. to a level designed to cripple competition

-priced \'prīst\ *adj comb form* : having (such) a price set ⟨low=*priced* merchandise⟩

price–earn·ings ratio \'prī-'sər-niŋz-\ *n* : a measure of the value of a common stock determined as the ratio of its market price to its earnings per share and usu. expressed as a simple numeral

price index *n* : an index number expressing the level of a group of commodity prices relative to the level of the prices of the same commodities during an arbitrarily chosen base period and used to indicate changes in the level of prices from one period to another

price·less \'prī-sləs\ *adj* **1** **a** : having a value beyond any price : INVALUABLE **b** : costly because of rarity or quality : PRECIOUS **2** : having worth in terms of other than market value **3** : surprisingly amusing, odd, or absurd ***syn*** see COSTLY

price support *n* : artificial maintenance of prices (as of a raw material) at some predetermined level usu. through government action

price tag *n* **1** : a tag on merchandise showing the price at which it is offered for sale **2** : PRICE, COST

price war *n* : a period of commercial competition characterized by the repeated cutting of prices below those of competitors

pric·ey *also* **pricy** \'prī-sē\ *adj* **pric·i·er; -est** *chiefly Brit* : EXPENSIVE ⟨a holiday abroad will be too ~ —Robin Dewhurst⟩

¹prick \'prik\ *n* [ME *prikke*, fr. OE *prica;* akin to MD *pric* prick] **1** : a mark or shallow hole made by a pointed instrument **2** **a** : a pointed instrument or weapon **b** : a sharp projecting organ or part **3** : an instance of pricking or the sensation of being pricked: as **a** : a nagging or sharp feeling of remorse, regret, or sorrow **b** : a slight sharply localized discomfort ⟨the ~ of a needle⟩ **4** : PENIS — usu. considered vulgar **5** : a disagreeable or contemptible person

²prick *vt* **1** : to pierce slightly with a sharp point **2** : to affect with anguish, grief, or remorse ⟨doubt began to ~ him —Philip Hale⟩ **3** : to ride, guide, or urge on with or as if with spurs : GOAD **4** : to mark, distinguish, or note by means of a small mark **5** : to trace or outline with punctures **6** : to remove (a young seedling) from the seedbed to another suitable for further growth **7** : to cause to be or stand erect ⟨a dog ~*ing* his ears⟩ ~ *vi* **1** **a** : to prick something or cause a pricking sensation **b** : to feel discomfort as if from being pricked **2** **a** : to urge a horse with the spur **b** : to ride fast **3** : THRUST **4** : to become directed upward : POINT — **prick up one's ears** : to listen intently

prick·er \'prik-ər\ *n* **1** : one that pricks: as **a** : a rider of horses **b** : a military light horseman **2** : BRIAR, PRICKLE, THORN

prick·et \'prik-ət\ *n* [ME *priket*, fr. *prikke*] **1** **a** : a spike on which a candle is stuck **b** : a candlestick with such a point **2** : a buck in his second year

¹prick·le \'prik-əl\ *n* [ME *prikle*, fr. OE *pricle;* akin to OE *prica* prick] **1** : a fine sharp process or projection; *esp* : a sharp pointed emergence arising from the epidermis or bark of a plant **2** : a prickling sensation

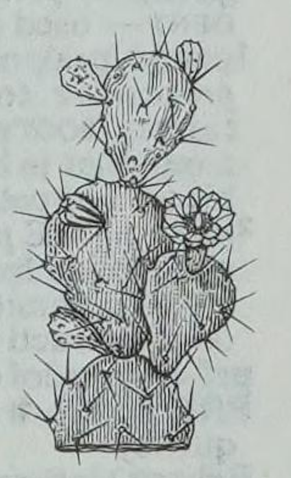
²prickle *vb* **prick·led; prick·ling** \-(ə-)liŋ\ *vt* **1** : to prick slightly **2** : to produce prickles in ~ *vi* : to cause or feel a prickling or stinging sensation : TINGLE

prick·ly \'prik-lē, -ə-lē\ *adj* **prick·li·er; -est** **1** : full of or covered with prickles; *esp* : distinguished from related kinds by the presence of prickles **2** : marked by prickling : STINGING ⟨a ~ sensation⟩ **3** **a** : TROUBLESOME, VEXATIOUS ⟨~ issues⟩ **b** : easily irritated ⟨had a ~ disposition⟩ — **prick·li·ness** *n*

prickly ash *n* : a prickly aromatic shrub or small tree (*Zanthoxylum americanum*) of the rue family with yellowish flowers

prickly heat *n* : a noncontagious cutaneous eruption of red pimples with intense itching and tingling caused by inflammation around the sweat ducts

prickly pear *n* : any of a large genus (*Opuntia*) of cacti with yellow flowers and flat or terete joints usu. studded with tubercles bearing spines or prickly hairs; *also* : its pulpy pear-shaped edible fruit



prickly pear

prickly poppy *n* : any of a genus (*Argemone*) of plants of the poppy family with prickly leaves and white or yellow flowers; *esp* : a yellow-flowered Mexican annual (*A. mexicana*)

pricky *adj* **prick·i·er; -est** : PRICKLY

¹pride \'prīd\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *prȳde*, fr. *prūd* proud — more at PROUD] **1** : the quality or state of being proud: as **a** : inordinate self-esteem : CONCEIT **b** : a reasonable or justifiable self-respect **c** : delight or elation arising from some act, possession, or relationship ⟨parental ~⟩ **2** : proud or disdainful behavior or treatment : DISDAIN **3** **a** : ostentatious display **b** : highest pitch : PRIME **4** : a source of pride : the best in a group or class ⟨this pup is the ~ of the litter⟩ **5** : a company of lions

²pride *vt* **prid·ed; prid·ing** : to indulge in pride
syn PRIDE, PLUME, PIQUE, PREEN *shared meaning element* : to congratulate (oneself) because of something one is, has, or has done or achieved

pride·ful \'prīd-fəl\ *adj* : full of pride: as **a** : DISDAINFUL, HAUGHTY **b** : EXULTANT, ELATED — **pride·ful·ly** \-fə-lē\ *adv* — **pride·ful·ness** *n*

prie–dieu \(')prē-'dyə(r), prē-dyœ\ *n, pl* **prie–dieux** \-'dyə(r)(z), -dyœ(z)\ [F, lit., pray God] **1** : a kneeling bench designed for use by a person at prayer and fitted with a raised shelf on which the elbows or a book may be rested **2** : a low armless upholstered chair with a high straight back

pri·er \'prī(-ə)r\ *n* : one that pries; *esp* : an inquisitive person

priest \'prēst\ *n* [ME *preist*, fr. OE *prēost*, modif. of LL *presbyter*, fr. Gk *presbyteros* elder, priest, compar. of *presbys* old man] : one authorized to perform the sacred rites of a religion esp. as a mediatory agent between man and God; *specif* : an Anglican, Eastern Orthodox, or Roman Catholic clergyman ranking below a bishop and above a deacon — **priest·ess** \'prē-stəs\ *n*

priest·hood \'prēst-ˌhůd, 'prē-ˌstůd\ *n* **1** : the office, dignity, or character of a priest **2** : the whole body of priests

priest·ly \'prēst-lē\ *adj* **1** : of or relating to a priest or the priesthood : SACERDOTAL **2** : characteristic of or befitting a priest — **priest·li·ness** *n*

priest–rid·den \'prē-ˌstrid-ᵊn\ *adj* : controlled or oppressed by a priest

¹prig \'prig\ *n* [*prig* (to steal)] : THIEF

²prig *n* [prob. fr. ¹*prig*] **1** *archaic* : FELLOW, PERSON **2** *archaic* : FOP **3** : one who offends or irritates by observance of proprieties (as of speech or manners) in a pointed manner or to an obnoxious degree — **prig·gery** \-ə-rē\ *n* — **prig·gish** \'prig-ish\ *adj* — **prig·gish·ly** *adv* — **prig·gish·ness** *n*

prig·gism \'prig-ˌiz-əm\ *n* : stilted adherence to convention

¹prill \'pril\ *vt* [perh. fr. E dial. *prill* (a running stream)] **1** : to convert (as a molten solid) into spherical pellets **2** : to make (as granular material) free flowing

²prill *n* : prilled material : a prilled substance

¹prim \'prim\ *vt* **primmed; prim·ming** [origin unknown] **1** : to give a prim or demure expression to ⟨*primming* her thin lips after every mouthful —John Buchan⟩ **2** : to dress primly

²prim *adj* **prim·mer; prim·mest** **1** **a** : stiffly formal and proper : DECOROUS **b** : PRUDISH **2** : NEAT, TRIM ⟨~ hedges⟩ — **prim·ly** *adv* — **prim·ness** *n*

³prim *abbr* **1** primary **2** primitive

pri·ma ballerina \ˌprē-mə-\ *n* [It, leading ballerina] : the principal female dancer in a ballet company

pri·ma·cy \'prī-mə-sē\ *n* **1** : the state of being first (as in importance, order, or rank) : PREEMINENCE ⟨the ~ of intellectual and esthetic over materialistic values —T. R. McConnell⟩ **2** : the office, rank, or preeminence of an ecclesiastical primate

pri·ma don·na \ˌprim-ə-'dän-ə, ˌprē-mə-\ *n, pl* **prima donnas** [It, lit., first lady] **1** : a principal female singer in an opera or concert organization **2** : an extremely sensitive, vain, or undisciplined person

¹pri·ma fa·cie \ˌprī-mə-'fā-shə, -s(h)ē *also* -s(h)ē-ˌē\ *adv* [L] : at first view : on the first appearance ⟨the arguments . . . seem *prima facie* true —*Trans-Action*⟩

²prima facie *adj* **1** : true, valid, or sufficient at first impression : APPARENT ⟨the theory . . . gives a *prima facie* solution —R. J. Butler⟩ **2** : SELF-EVIDENT **3** : legally sufficient to establish a fact or a case unless disproved ⟨*prima facie* evidence⟩

pri·mal \'prī-məl\ *adj* [ML *primalis*, fr. L *primus* first — more at PRIME] **1** : ORIGINAL, PRIMITIVE ⟨village life continued in its ~ innocence —Van Wyck Brooks⟩ **2** : first in importance : FUNDAMENTAL ⟨our ~ concern⟩ — **pri·mal·i·ty** \prī-'mal-ət-ē\ *n*

pri·mar·i·ly \prī-'mer-ə-lē *also* prə-\ *adv* **1** : for the most part : CHIEFLY ⟨has now become ~ a residential town —S. P. B. Mais⟩ **2** : in the first place : ORIGINALLY

¹pri·ma·ry \'prī-ˌmer-ē, 'prīm-(ə-)rē\ *adj* [LL *primarius* basic, primary, fr. L, principal, fr. *primus*] **1** **a** : first in order of time or development : PRIMITIVE ⟨the ~ stage of civilization⟩ **b** : of or relating to formations of the Paleozoic and earlier periods **2** **a** : of first rank, importance, or value : PRINCIPAL ⟨the ~ purpose⟩ **b** : BASIC, FUNDAMENTAL ⟨security is a ~ need⟩ **c** : of, relating to, or constituting the principal quills of a bird's wing **d** : of or relating to agriculture, forestry, and the extractive industries or their products **e** : expressive of present or future time ⟨~ tense⟩ **f** : of, relating to, or constituting the strongest of the three or four degrees of stress recognized by most linguists ⟨the first syllable of *basketball* carries ~ stress⟩ **3** **a** : DIRECT, FIRSTHAND ⟨~ sources of information⟩ **b** : not derivable from other colors, odors, or tastes **c** : preparatory to something else in a continuing process ⟨~ instruction⟩ **d** : of or relating to a primary school ⟨~ education⟩ **e** : belonging to the first group or order in successive divisions, combinations, or ramifications ⟨~ nerves⟩ **f** : of, relating to, or constituting the inducing current or its circuit in an induction coil or transformer **g** : directly derived from ores ⟨~ metals⟩ **h** : of, relating to, or being the amino acid sequence in proteins ⟨~ protein structure⟩ **4** : resulting from the substitution of one of two or more atoms or groups in a molecule; *esp* : being or characterized by a carbon atom united by a single valence to only one chain or ring member **5** : of, relating to, involving, or derived from primary meristem ⟨~ tissue⟩ ⟨~ growth⟩ **6** : of, relating to, or involved in the production of organic substances by green plants ⟨~ productivity⟩

²primary *n, pl* **-ries** **1** : something that stands first in rank, importance, or value : FUNDAMENTAL — usu. used in pl. **2** **a** [short for *primary planet*] : a planet as distinguished from its satellites **b** : the brighter component of a double star **3** : one of the usu. 9 or 10 strong quills on the distal joint of a bird's wing — see BIRD illustration **4** **a** : PRIMARY COLOR **b** : a primary-color sensation **5** **a** : CAUCUS **b** : an election in which qualified voters nominate or express a preference for a particular candidate or group of candidates for political office, choose party officials, or select delegates for a party convention

primary atypical pneumonia *n* : a usu. mild pneumonia believed to be caused by a virus

primary cell *n* : a cell that converts chemical energy into electrical energy by irreversible chemical reactions

primary coil *n* : the coil through which the inducing current passes in an induction coil or transformer

primary color *n* : any of a set of colors from which all other colors may be derived

primary consumer *n* : HERBIVORE
primary meristem *n* : meristem consisting of direct derivatives of embryonic cells that are always active in growth
primary root *n* : the root of a plant that develops first and originates from the radicle
primary school *n* **1** : a school usu. including the first three grades of elementary school but sometimes also including kindergarten **2** : ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
primary syphilis *n* : the first stage of syphilis that is marked by the development of a chancre and the spread of the causative spirochete in the tissues of the body
primary wall *n* : the first-formed wall of a plant cell that is produced around the protoplast and usu. has plasmodesmata
pri·mate \'prī-ˌmāt *or esp for 1* -mət\ *n* [ME *primat*, fr. OF, fr. ML *primat-, primas* archbishop, fr. L, leader, fr. *primus*] **1** *often cap* : a bishop who has precedence in a province, group of provinces, or a nation **2** *archaic* : one first in authority or rank : LEADER **3** : any of an order (Primates) of mammals comprising man together with the apes, monkeys, and related forms (as lemurs and tarsiers) — **pri·mate·ship** \-ˌship\ *n* — **pri·ma·tial** \prī-'mā-shəl\ *adj*
pri·ma·tol·o·gy \ˌprī-mə-'täl-ə-jē\ *n* : the study of primates esp. other than recent man — **pri·ma·to·log·i·cal** \-mət-ᵊl-'äj-i-kəl\ *adj* — **pri·ma·tol·o·gist** \-mə-'täl-ə-jəst\ *n*
¹prime \'prīm\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *prīm*, fr. L *prima hora* first hour] **1 a** *often cap* : the second of the canonical hours **b** : the first hour of the day **2 a** : the earliest stage **b** : SPRING **c** : YOUTH **3** : the most active, thriving, or successful stage or period ⟨in the ~ of his life⟩ **4** : the chief or best individual or part : PICK ⟨~ of the flock, and choicest of the stall —Alexander Pope⟩ **5** : a positive integer that has no factor except itself and one **6 a** : the first note or tone of a musical scale : TONIC **b** : the interval between two notes on the same staff degree **7** : the symbol ′
²prime *adj* [ME, fr. MF, fem. of *prin* first, fr. L *primus*; akin to L *prior*] **1** : first in time : ORIGINAL **2 a** : having no factor except itself and one ⟨3 is a ~ number⟩ **b** : having no common factor except one ⟨12 and 25 are relatively ~⟩ **3 a** : first in rank, authority, or significance : PRINCIPAL **b** : having the highest quality or value ⟨~ television time⟩ **c** : of the highest grade regularly marketed — used of meat and esp. beef **4** : not deriving from something else : PRIMARY — **prime·ly** *adv* — **prime·ness** *n*
³prime *vb* **primed; prim·ing** [prob. fr. ¹*prime*] *vt* **1** : FILL, LOAD **2** : to prepare for firing by supplying with priming or a primer **3** : to apply the first color, coating, or preparation to ⟨~ a wall⟩ **4** : to put into working order by filling or charging with something ⟨~ a pump with water⟩ **5** : to instruct beforehand : COACH ⟨*primed* the witness⟩ **6** : STIMULATE ~ *vi* : to become prime — **prime the pump** : to take steps to encourage the growth or functioning of something
prime cost *n* : the combined total of raw material and direct labor costs incurred in production
prime meridian *n* : the meridian of 0° longitude which runs through the original site of the Royal Observatory at Greenwich, England, and from which other longitudes are reckoned east and west
prime minister *n* **1** : the chief minister of a ruler or state **2** : the official head of a cabinet or ministry; *esp* : the chief executive of a parliamentary government — **prime ministership** *n* — **prime ministry** *n*
prime mover *n* [trans. of ML *primus motor*] **1** : the self-moved being that is the source of all motion **2 a** : an initial source of motive power (as a windmill, water wheel, turbine, or internal-combustion engine) designed to receive and modify force and motion as supplied by some natural source and apply them to drive machinery **b** : a powerful tractor or truck usu. with all-wheel drive **3** : the original or most effective force in an undertaking or work ⟨education is . . . a *prime mover* of cultural and societal change —R. C. Buck⟩
¹prim·er \'prim-ər, *esp Brit* 'prī-mər\ *n* [ME, fr. ML *primarium*, fr. LL, neut. of *primarius* primary] **1** : a small book for teaching children to read **2** : a small introductory book on a subject
²prim·er \'prī-mər\ *n* **1 a** : a device for priming; *esp* : a cap, tube, or wafer containing percussion powder or compound used to ignite an explosive charge **b** : a molecule (as a DNA) whose presence is required for formation of more molecules of the same kind **2** : material used in priming a surface — called also *prime coat*
prime rate *n* : an interest rate at which preferred customers can borrow from banks and which is the lowest commercial interest rate available at a particular time and place — called also *prime interest rate*
pri·me·ro \pri-'me(ə)r-(ˌ)ō, -'mi(ə)r-\ *n* [modif. of Sp *primera*] : a card game popular in the 16th and 17th centuries
pri·me·val \prī-'mē-vəl\ *adj* [L *primaevus*, fr. *primus* first + *aevum* age — more at AYE] **1** : of or relating to the earliest ages ⟨100 acres of ~ forest which has never felt an ax —Mary R. Zimmer⟩ **2** : existing in or persisting from the beginning (as of a solar system or universe) ⟨a ~ gas cloud⟩ — **pri·me·val·ly** \-və-lē\ *adv*
prim·ing *n* **1** : the act of one that primes **2** : the explosive used in priming a charge **3** : ²PRIMER 2
pri·mip·a·ra \prī-'mip-ə-rə\ *n, pl* **-ras** *or* **-rae** \-ˌrē, -ˌrī\ [L, fr. *primus* first + *-para*] **1** : an individual bearing a first offspring **2** : an individual that has borne only one offspring — **pri·mi·par·i·ty** \ˌprī-mə-'par-ət-ē\ *n* — **pri·mip·a·rous** \prī-'mip-ə-rəs\ *adj*
¹prim·i·tive \'prim-ət-iv\ *adj* [ME *primitif*, fr. L *primitivus*, fr. *primitus* originally, fr. *primus* first — more at PRIME] **1 a** : not derived : ORIGINAL, PRIMARY **b** : assumed as a basis; *esp* : AXIOMATIC ⟨~ concepts⟩ **2 a** : of or relating to the earliest age or period : PRIMEVAL ⟨the ~ church⟩ **b** : closely approximating an early ancestral type : little evolved **c** : belonging to or characteristic of an early stage of development : CRUDE, RUDIMENTARY ⟨~ technology⟩ **d** : of, relating to, or constituting the assumed parent speech of related languages ⟨~ Germanic⟩ **3 a** : ELEMENTAL, NATURAL ⟨the noble savage endowed with ~ virtue —Oscar Handlin⟩ **b** : of, relating to, or produced by a relatively simple people or culture ⟨~ art⟩ **c** : NAIVE **d** (1) : SELF-TAUGHT, UNTUTORED ⟨~ craftsmen⟩ (2) : produced by a self-taught artist ⟨a ~ painting⟩ — **prim·i·tive·ly** *adv* — **prim·i·tive·ness** *n* — **prim·i·tiv·i·ty** \ˌprim-ə-'tiv-ət-ē\ *n*
²primitive *n* **1 a** : something primitive; *specif* : a primitive idea, term, or proposition **b** : a root word **2 a** (1) : an artist of an early period of a culture or artistic movement (2) : a later imitator or follower of such an artist **b** (1) : a self-taught artist (2) : an artist whose work is marked by directness and naiveté **c** : a work of art produced by a primitive artist **3 a** : a member of a primitive people **b** : an unsophisticated person
primitive area *n* : a tract within a U.S. national forest set aside for preservation in natural condition with no alteration or development beyond measures for fire prevention being permitted
prim·i·tiv·ism \'prim-ət-iv-ˌiz-əm\ *n* **1 a** : belief in the superiority of a simple way of life close to nature **b** : belief in the superiority of nonindustrial society to that of the present **2** : the style of art of primitive peoples or primitive artists — **prim·i·tiv·ist** \-iv-əst\ *n or adj* — **prim·i·tiv·is·tic** \ˌprim-ət-iv-'is-tik\ *adj*
¹pri·mo \'prē-(ˌ)mō, 'prī-\ *adv* [L, fr. *primus*] : in the first place
²pri·mo \'prē-(ˌ)mō\ *n, pl* **primos** [It, fr. *primo* first, fr. L *primus*] : the first or leading part (as in a duet or trio)
pri·mo·gen·i·tor \ˌprī-mō-'jen-ət-ər\ *n* [LL, fr. L *primus* + *genitor* begetter, fr. *genitus*, pp. of *gignere* to beget — more at KIN] : ANCESTOR, FOREFATHER
pri·mo·gen·i·ture \-'jen-ə-ˌchu̇(ə)r, -i-chər, -ə-ˌt(y)u̇(ə)r\ *n* [LL *primogenitura*, fr. L *primus* + *genitura* birth, fr. *genitus*, pp.] **1** : the state of being the firstborn of the children of the same parents **2** : an exclusive right of inheritance belonging to the eldest son
pri·mor·di·al \prī-'mȯrd-ē-əl\ *adj* [ME, fr. LL *primordialis*, fr. L *primordium* origin, fr. neut. of *primordius* original, fr. *primus* first + *ordiri* to begin — more at PRIME, ORDER] **1 a** : first created or developed : PRIMEVAL **b** : earliest formed in the growth of an individual or organ : PRIMITIVE **2** : FUNDAMENTAL, PRIMARY ⟨~ human joys —Sir Winston Churchill⟩ — **pri·mor·di·al·ly** \-ē-ə-lē\ *adv*
pri·mor·di·um \-ē-əm\ *n, pl* **-dia** \-ē-ə\ [NL, fr. L] : the rudiment or commencement of a part or organ
primp \'primp\ *vb* [perh. alter. of ¹*prim*] *vt* : to dress, adorn, or arrange in a careful or finicky manner ~ *vi* : to dress or groom oneself carefully ⟨~*s* for hours before a date⟩
prim·rose \'prim-ˌrōz\ *n* [ME *primerose*, fr. MF] : any of a genus (*Primula* of the family Primulaceae, the primrose family) of perennial herbs with large tufted basal leaves and showy variously colored flowers
primrose path *n* **1** : a path of ease or pleasure and esp. sensual pleasure ⟨himself the *primrose path* of dalliance treads —Shak.⟩ **2** : a path of least resistance
primrose yellow *n* **1** : a light to moderate greenish yellow **2** : a light to moderate yellow
prim·u·la \'prim-yə-lə\ *n* [ML, fr. *primula veris*, lit., firstling of spring] : PRIMROSE
pri·mum mo·bi·le \ˌprī-məm-'mō-bə-lē, ˌprē-\ *n, pl* **primum mobiles** [ME, fr. ML, lit., first moving thing] : the outermost concentric sphere conceived in medieval astronomy as carrying the spheres of the fixed stars and the planets in its daily revolution
pri·mus \'prī-məs\ *n, often cap* [ML, one who is first, magnate, fr. L, first — more at PRIME] : the presiding bishop of the Scottish Episcopal Church
pri·mus in·ter pa·res \'prī-mə-ˌsint-ər-'par-ēz, 'prē-\ *n* [L] : first among equals
prin *abbr* **1** principal **2** principle
prince \'prin(t)s\ *n* [ME, fr. OF, fr. L *princip-, princeps*, lit., one who takes the first part, fr. *primus* first + *capere* to take — more at HEAVE] **1 a** : MONARCH, KING **b** : the ruler of a principality or state **2** : a male member of a royal family; *esp* : a son of the king **3** : a nobleman of varying rank and status **4** : a person of high rank or of high standing in his class or profession — **prince·ship** \'prin(t)s-ˌship\ *n*
Prince Al·bert \prin-'sal-bərt\ *n* [Prince *Albert* Edward (later Edward VII king of England) †1910] : a long double-breasted frock coat
prince charming *n* [*Prince Charming*, hero of the fairy tale *Cinderella* by Charles Perrault] : a suitor who fulfills the dreams of his beloved; *also* : a man of often specious charm toward women
prince consort *n, pl* **princes consort** : the husband of a reigning female sovereign
prince·dom \'prin(t)s-dəm, -təm\ *n* **1** : the jurisdiction, sovereignty, rank, or estate of a prince **2** : PRINCIPALITY 3 — usu. used in pl.
prince·kin \'prin(t)-skən\ *n* : a diminutive prince
prince·let \'prin(t)-slət\ *n* : PRINCELING
prince·li·ness \-slē-nəs\ *n* **1** : princely conduct or character **2** : LUXURY, MAGNIFICENCE
prince·ling \'prin(t)-sliŋ\ *n* : a petty or insignificant prince
prince·ly \'prin(t)-slē\ *adj* **prince·li·er; -est** **1** : of or relating to a prince : ROYAL **2** : befitting a prince : NOBLE, MAGNIFICENT ⟨~ manners⟩ ⟨a ~ sum⟩ — **princely** *adv*
Prince of Wales \-'wā(ə)lz\ : the male heir apparent to the British throne — used as a title only after it has been specif. conferred by the sovereign
prince's–feath·er \'prin(t)-səz-ˌfeth-ər\ *n* : a showy annual plant (*Amaranthus hybridus hypochondriacus*) of the amaranth family often cultivated for its dense usu. red spikes of bloom
¹prin·cess \'prin(t)-səs, 'prin-ˌses, (*usual Brit*) prin-'ses\ *n* **1** *archaic* : a woman having sovereign power **2** : a female member of a royal family; *esp* : a daughter or granddaughter of a sovereign **3**

: the consort of a prince **4** : one very outstanding in a specified respect ⟨a ~ of a seamstress⟩ ⟨a winding ~ of a river⟩

²princess *like* ¹\ *or* **prin·cesse** \prin-'ses\ *adj* [F *princesse* princess, fr. *prince*] : close-fitting and usu. with gores from neck to flaring hemline ⟨a ~ gown⟩

princess royal *n, pl* **princesses royal** : the eldest daughter of a sovereign

¹prin·ci·pal \'prin(t)-s(ə-)pəl, -sə-bəl\ *adj* [ME, fr. OF, fr. L *principalis*, fr. *princip-, princeps*] **1** : most important, consequential, or influential : CHIEF **2** : of, relating to, or constituting principal or a principal — **prin·ci·pal·ly** \-ē, 'prin(t)-splē\ *adv*

²principal *n* **1** : a person who has controlling authority or is in a leading position: as **a** : a chief or head man or woman **b** : the chief executive officer of an educational institution (as a high school) **c** : one who employs another to act for him subject to his general control and instruction; *specif* : the person from whom an agent's authority derives **d** : the chief or an actual participant in a crime **e** : the person primarily or ultimately liable on a legal obligation **f** : a leading performer : STAR **2** : a matter or thing of primary importance: as **a** (1) : a capital sum placed at interest, due as a debt, or used as a fund (2) : the corpus of an estate, portion, devise, or bequest **b** : the construction that gives shape and strength to a roof and is usu. one of several trusses; *broadly* : the most important member of a piece of framing — **prin·ci·pal·ship** \'prin(t)-s(ə-)pəl-ˌship, -sə-bəl-\ *n*

principal diagonal *n* : the diagonal in a square matrix that runs from upper left to lower right

prin·ci·pal·i·ty \ˌprin(t)-sə-'pal-ət-ē\ *n, pl* **-ties** **1 a** : the state, office, or authority of a prince **b** : the position or responsibilities of a principal (as of a school) **2** : the territory or jurisdiction of a prince : the country that gives title to a prince **3** : an angel of the third lowest rank in the Dionysian hierarchy — usu. used in pl.

principal parts *n pl* : a series of verb forms from which all the other forms of a verb can be derived including in English the infinitive, the past tense, and the present and past participles

prin·cip·i·al \prin-'sip-ē-əl\ *adj* [L *principium*] : INITIAL, PRIMARY

prin·cip·i·um \prin-'sip-ē-əm, priŋ-'kip-\ *n, pl* **-ia** \-ē-ə\ [L, beginning, basis] : a fundamental principle

prin·ci·ple \'prin(t)-s(ə-)pəl, -sə-bəl\ *n* [ME, modif. of MF *principe*, fr. L *principium* beginning, fr. *princip-, princeps* one taking the first part — more at PRINCE] **1 a** : a comprehensive and fundamental law, doctrine, or assumption **b** (1) : a rule or code of conduct (2) : habitual devotion to right principles ⟨a man of ~⟩ **c** : the laws or facts of nature underlying the working of an artificial device **2** : a primary source : ORIGIN **3** : an underlying faculty or endowment : an ingredient (as a chemical) that exhibits or imparts a characteristic quality ⟨such ~*s* of human nature as greed and curiosity⟩ **4** *cap, Christian Science* : a divine principle : GOD — **in principle** : with respect to fundamentals ⟨prepared to accept the proposition *in principle*⟩

prin·ci·pled \-s(ə-)pəld, -sə-bəld\ *adj* : exhibiting, based on, or characterized by principle — often used in combination ⟨high=*principled*⟩

prin·cox \'prin-ˌkäks, 'priŋ-\ *n* [origin unknown] *archaic* : a pert youth : COXCOMB

prink \'priŋk\ *vb* [prob. alter. of ²*prank*] : PRIMP — **prink·er** *n*

¹print \'print\ *n* [ME *preinte*, fr. OF, fr. *preint*, pp. of *preindre* to press, fr. L *premere* — more at PRESS] **1 a** : a mark made by pressure : IMPRESSION **b** : something impressed with a print or formed in a mold **2** : a device or instrument for impressing or forming a print **3 a** : printed state or form **b** : the printing industry **4** : printed matter **5** : printed letters : TYPE **6 a** (1) : a copy made by printing (2) : a reproduction of an original work of art (as a painting) made by a photomechanical process (3) : an original work of art (as a woodcut, etching, or lithograph) intended for graphic reproduction and produced by or under the supervision of the artist who designed it **b** : cloth with a pattern or figured design applied by printing; *also* : an article of such cloth **c** : a photographic copy; *esp* : one made from a negative — **in print** : procurable from the publisher — **out of print** : not procurable from the publisher

²print *vt* **1 a** : to impress something in or on **b** : to stamp (as a mark) in or on something **2 a** : to make a copy of by impressing paper against an inked printing surface **b** (1) : to impress (as wallpaper) with a design or pattern (2) : to impress (a pattern or design) on something **c** : to publish in print **3** : to write in letters shaped like those of ordinary roman text type **4** : to make (a positive picture) on sensitized photographic surface from a negative or a positive ~ *vi* **1 a** : to work as a printer **b** : to produce printed matter **2** : to produce something in printed form

print·able \'print-ə-bəl\ *adj* **1** : capable of being printed or of being printed from **2** : considered fit to publish — **print·abil·i·ty** \ˌprin(t)-ə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n*

printed circuit *n* : a circuit for electronic apparatus made by depositing conductive material in continuous paths from terminal to terminal on an insulating surface

printed matter *n* : matter printed by any of various mechanical processes that is eligible for mailing at a special rate

print·er \'print-ər\ *n* : one that prints: as **a** : a person engaged in printing **b** : a device used for printing; *esp* : a machine for printing from photographic negatives **c** : a device (as a chain printer) that produces printout

printer's devil *n* : an apprentice in a printing office

printer's mark *n* : IMPRINT b

print·ery \'print-ə-rē\ *n, pl* **-er·ies** : PRINTING OFFICE

print·ing *n* **1** : reproduction in printed form **2** : the art, practice, or business of a printer **3** : IMPRESSION 4c **4** *pl* : paper to be printed on

printing ink *n* : ink made for use in printing

printing office *n* : an establishment where printing is done

printing press *n* : a machine that produces printed copies

print·less \'print-ləs\ *adj* : making, bearing, or taking no imprint

print·mak·ing \-ˌmā-kiŋ\ *n* : the design and production of prints by an artist — **print·mak·er** \-kər\ *n*

print·out \'print-ˌaůt\ *n* : a printed record produced automatically (as by a computer)

print out \(')print-'aůt\ *vt* : to make a printout of

¹pri·or \'prī(-ə)r\ *n* [ME, fr. OE & MF, fr. ML, fr. LL, administrator, fr. L, former, superior] **1** : the superior ranking next to the abbot of a monastery **2** : the superior of a house or group of houses of any of various religious communities — **pri·or·ate** \'prī-ə-rət\ *n* — **pri·or·ship** \'prī(-ə)r-ˌship\ *n*

²pri·or \'prī(-ə)r\ *adj* [L, former, superior, compar. of OL *pri* before; akin to L *priscus* ancient, *prae* before — more at FOR] **1** : earlier in time or order **2** : taking precedence (as in importance) ***syn*** see PRECEDING — **pri·or·ly** *adv*

pri·or·ess \'prī-ə-rəs\ *n* : a nun corresponding in rank to a prior

pri·or·i·ty \prī-'ȯr-ət-ē, -'är-\ *n, pl* **-ties** **1 a** (1) : the quality or state of being prior (2) : precedence in date or position of publication — used of taxa **b** (1) : superiority in rank, position, or privilege (2) : legal precedence in exercise of rights over the same subject matter **2** : a preferential rating; *esp* : one that allocates rights to goods and services usu. in limited supply **3** : something meriting prior attention

syn PRIORITY, PRECEDENCE *shared meaning element* : the act, the fact, or the right of preceding another

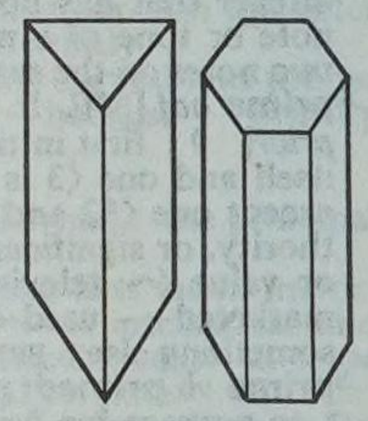
prior to *prep* : in advance of : BEFORE

pri·o·ry \'prī-(ə-)rē\ *n, pl* **-ries** : a religious house under a prior or prioress

prise \'prīz\ *chiefly Brit var of* PRIZE

pri·sere \'prī-ˌsi(ə)r\ *n* [¹*pri*mary + *sere*] : the succession of vegetational stages that occurs in passing from bare earth or water to a climax community

prism \'priz-əm\ *n* [LL *prismat-, prisma*, fr. Gk, lit., anything sawn, fr. *priein* to saw] **1** : a polyhedron with two polygonal faces lying in parallel planes and with the other faces parallelograms — see VOLUME table **2 a** : a transparent body that is bounded in part by two nonparallel plane faces and is used to deviate or disperse a beam of light **b** : a prism-shaped decorative glass luster **3** : a crystal form whose faces are parallel to one axis; *esp* : one whose faces are parallel to the vertical axis



prisms 1

pris·mat·ic \priz-'mat-ik\ *adj* **1** : relating to, resembling, or constituting a prism **2 a** : formed by a prism **b** : resembling the colors formed by refraction of light through a prism ⟨~ effects⟩ **3** : highly colored : BRILLIANT **4** : having such symmetry that a general form with faces cutting all axes at unspecified intercepts is a prism ⟨~ crystals⟩ — **pris·mat·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

pris·ma·toid \'priz-mə-ˌtȯid\ *n* [LL *prismat-, prisma* prism] : a polyhedron that has all of its vertexes in two parallel planes — **pris·ma·toi·dal** \ˌpriz-mə-'tȯid-ᵊl\ *adj*

pris·moid \'priz-ˌmȯid\ *n* : a prismatoid with two parallel similar and not congruent bases and faces that are trapezoids — **pris·moi·dal** \priz-'mȯid-ᵊl\ *adj*

¹pris·on \'priz-ᵊn\ *n* [ME, fr. OF, fr. L *prehension-, prehensio* act of seizing, fr. *prehensus*, pp. of *prehendere* to seize — more at PREHENSILE] **1** : a state of confinement or captivity **2** : a place of confinement: as **a** : a building in which persons are confined for safe custody while on trial for an offense or for punishment after trial and conviction **b** : an institution for the imprisonment of persons convicted of serious crimes : PENITENTIARY

²prison *vt* : IMPRISON, CONFINE

prison camp *n* **1** : a camp for the confinement of reasonably trustworthy prisoners usu. employed on government projects **2** : a camp for prisoners of war

pris·on·er \'priz-nər, -ᵊn-ər\ *n* : a person deprived of his liberty and kept under involuntary restraint, confinement, or custody; *esp* : one on trial or in prison

prisoner of war : a person captured in war; *esp* : a member of the armed forces of a nation who is taken by the enemy during combat

prisoner's base *n* : a game in which players on each of two teams seek to tag and imprison players of the other team who have ventured out of their home territory

prison fever *n* : typhus fever

pris·sy \'pris-ē\ *adj* **pris·si·er; -est** [prob. blend of *prim* and *sissy*] : being prim and precise : FINICKY — **pris·si·ly** \'pris-ə-lē\ *adv* — **pris·si·ness** \'pris-ē-nəs\ *n*

pris·tane \'pris-ˌtān\ *n* [L *pristis* shark, sawfish; fr. its occurrence in the liver oils of sharks] : an isoprenoid hydrocarbon $C_{19}H_{40}$ that usu. accompanies phytane

pris·tine \'pris-ˌtēn *also* pris-'tēn, *esp Brit* 'pris-ˌtīn\ *adj* [L *pristinus*; akin to L *prior*] **1** : belonging to the earliest period or state ⟨the hypothetical ~ lunar atmosphere⟩ **2 a** : uncorrupted by civilization ⟨~ innocence⟩ **b** : free from soil or decay : being fresh and clean — **pris·tine·ly** *adv*

prith·ee \'prith-ē, 'prith-\ *interj* [alter. of (*I*) *pray thee*] *archaic* — used to express a wish or request

priv *abbr* **1** private; privately **2** privative

pri·va·cy \'prī-və-sē, *Brit also* 'priv-ə-\ *n, pl* **-cies** **1 a** : the quality or state of being apart from company or observation : SECLUSION **b** : freedom from unauthorized intrusion ⟨one's right to ~⟩ **2** *archaic* : a place of seclusion **3** : SECRECY

pri·vat·do·cent *or* **pri·vat·do·zent** \pri-'vät-dō(t)-ˌsent\ *n* [G *privatdozent*, fr. *privat* private + *dozent* teacher] : an unsalaried university lecturer or teacher in German-speaking countries remunerated directly by students' fees

¹pri·vate \'prī-vət\ *adj* [ME *privat*, fr. L *privatus*, fr. pp. of *privare* to deprive, release, fr. *privus* private, set apart; akin to L *pro* for — more at FOR] **1 a** : intended for or restricted to the use of a particular person, group, or class ⟨a ~ park⟩ **b** : belonging to or concerning an individual person, company, or interest ⟨a ~ house⟩ **c** (1) : restricted to the individual or arising independently of others ⟨~ opinion⟩ (2) : carried on by the individual independently of the usual institutions ⟨~ study⟩; *also* : being educated by

independent study or a tutor or in a private school ⟨~ students⟩ **d** : not general in effect ⟨a ~ statute⟩ **e** : of, relating to, or receiving hospital service in which the patient has more privileges than a semiprivate or ward patient **2 a** (1) : not holding public office or employment ⟨a ~ citizen⟩ (2) : not related to one's official position : PERSONAL ⟨~ correspondence⟩ **b** : being a private ⟨a ~ soldier⟩ **3 a** : withdrawn from company or observation : SEQUESTERED ⟨a ~ retreat⟩ **b** : not known or intended to be known publicly : SECRET **c** : unsuitable for public use or display — **private·ly** *adv* — **pri·vate·ness** *n*

²private *n* **1** *archaic* : one not in public office **2** *obs* : PRIVACY **3 a** : a person of low rank in various organizations (as a police or fire department) **b** : an enlisted man of the lowest rank in the marine corps or of one of the two lowest ranks in the army — **in private** : not openly or in public

private detective *n* : a person concerned with the maintenance of lawful conduct or the investigation of crime either as a regular employee of a private interest (as a hotel) or as a contractor for fees

private enterprise *n* : FREE ENTERPRISE

pri·va·teer \ˌprī-və-ˈti(ə)r\ *n* **1** : an armed private ship commissioned to cruise against the commerce or warships of an enemy **2** : the commander or one of the crew of a privateer — **privateer** *vi*

private eye *n* : PRIVATE DETECTIVE

private first class *n* : an enlisted man ranking in the army above a private and below a corporal and in the marine corps above a private and below a lance corporal

private investigator *n* : PRIVATE DETECTIVE

private law *n* : a branch of law concerned with private persons, property, and relationships — compare PUBLIC LAW

private parts *n pl* : the external genital and excretory organs

private school *n* : a school that is established, conducted, and primarily supported by a nongovernmental agency

private treaty *n* : a sale of property on terms determined by conference of the seller and buyer — compare AUCTION

pri·va·tion \prī-ˈvā-shən\ *n* [ME *privacion*, fr. MF *privation*, fr. L *privation-*, *privatio*, fr. *privatus*, pp. of *privare*] **1** : an act or instance of depriving : DEPRIVATION **2** : the state of being deprived; *esp* : lack of what is needed for existence

pri·vat·ism \ˈprī-və-ˌtiz-əm\ *n* [*private*] : the attitude of being uncommitted to or avoiding involvement in anything beyond one's immediate interests

¹priv·a·tive \ˈpriv-ət-iv\ *n* : a privative term, expression, or proposition; *also* : a privative prefix or suffix

²privative *adj* : constituting or predicating privation or absence of a quality ⟨*a-*, *un-*, *non-* are ~ prefixes⟩ ⟨*blind* is a ~ term⟩ — **priv·a·tive·ly** *adv*

priv·et \ˈpriv-ət\ *n* [origin unknown] : an ornamental shrub (*Ligustrum vulgare*) of the olive family with half-evergreen leaves and small white flowers widely used for hedges; *broadly* : any of various similar shrubs of the same genus

¹priv·i·lege \ˈpriv(-ə)-lij\ *n* [ME, fr. OF, fr. L *privilegium* law for or against a private person, fr. *privus* private + *leg-*, *lex* law — more at LEGAL] : a right or immunity granted as a peculiar benefit, advantage, or favor : PREROGATIVE; *esp* : such a right or immunity attached specif. to a position or an office

²privilege *vt* **-leged; -leg·ing** : to grant a privilege to

priv·i·leged \-lijd\ *adj* **1** : having or enjoying one or more privileges ⟨~ classes⟩ **2** : not subject to the usual rules or penalties because of some special circumstance; *esp* : not subject to disclosure in a court of law ⟨a ~ communication⟩ **3** : having a plenary indulgence attached to a mass celebrated thereon ⟨a ~ altar⟩

priv·i·ly \ˈpriv-ə-lē\ *adv* : in a privy manner : PRIVATELY, SECRETLY

priv·i·ty \ˈpriv-ət-ē\ *n, pl* **-ties** [ME *privite*, fr. OF, fr. ML *privitat-*, *privatas*, fr. L *privus* private — more at PRIVATE] **1** : private or joint knowledge of a private matter; *esp* : cognizance implying concurrence **2 a** : a relationship between persons who successively have a legal interest in the same right or property **b** : an interest in a transaction, contract, or legal action to which one is not a party arising out of a relationship to one of the parties

¹privy \ˈpriv-ē\ *adj* [ME *prive*, fr. OF *privé*, fr. L *privatus* private] **1** : belonging or relating to a person in his individual rather than his official capacity **2 a** : PRIVATE, WITHDRAWN **b** : SECRET **3** : admitted as one sharing in a secret ⟨~ to the conspiracy⟩

²privy *n, pl* **priv·ies** **1** : a person having a legal interest of privity **2 a** : a small building having a bench with holes through which the user may evacuate and usu. lacking means of automatic discharge **b** : TOILET 3b

privy council *n* **1** *archaic* : a secret or private council **2** *cap P&C* : a body of officials and dignitaries chosen by the British monarch as an advisory council to the Crown usu. functioning through its committees **3** : a usu. appointive advisory council to an executive — **privy councillor** *n*

privy purse *n, often cap both Ps* : an allowance for the private expenses of the British sovereign

prix fixe \ˈprē-ˈfēks, -ˈfiks\ *n* [F, fixed price] **1** : TABLE D'HÔTE **2** : the price charged for a table d'hôte meal

¹prize \ˈprīz\ *n* [ME *pris* prize, price — more at PRICE] **1** : something offered or striven for in competition or in contests of chance; *also* : PREMIUM 1d **2** : something exceptionally desirable **3** *archaic* : a contest for a reward : COMPETITION

²prize *adj* **1 a** : awarded or worthy of a prize **b** : awarded as a prize **c** : entered for the sake of a prize ⟨a ~ drawing⟩ **2** : outstanding of a kind ⟨raised ~ hogs⟩

³prize *vt* **prized; priz·ing** [ME *prisen*, fr. MF *prisier*, fr. LL *pretiare*, fr. L *pretium* price, value — more at PRICE] **1** : to estimate the value of : RATE **2** : to value highly : ESTEEM ***syn*** see APPRECIATE

⁴prize *n* [ME *prise*, fr. OF, act of taking, fr. *prendre* to take, fr. L *prehendere* — more at PREHENSILE] **1** : something taken by force, stratagem, or threat; *esp* : property lawfully captured at sea in time of war **2** : an act of capturing or taking; *esp* : the wartime capture of a ship and its cargo at sea ***syn*** see SPOIL

⁵prize \ˈprīz\ *vt* **prized; priz·ing** [*prize* (lever)] : to press, force, or move with a lever : PRY

prize·fight \ˈprīz-ˌfīt\ *n* : a professional boxing match — **prize·fight·er** \-ər\ *n*

prize·fight·ing \-iŋ\ *n* : ²BOXING

prize money *n* **1** : a part of the proceeds of a captured ship formerly divided among the officers and men making the capture **2** : money offered in prizes

priz·er \ˈprī-zər\ *n, archaic* : one that contends for a prize

prize·win·ner \ˈprīz-ˌwin-ər\ *n* : a winner of a prize

prize·win·ning \-ˌwin-iŋ\ *adj* : having won or of a quality to win a prize ⟨a ~ design⟩

PRN *abbr* [L *pro re nata*] for the emergency; as needed

¹pro \ˈprō\ *n, pl* **pros** [ME, fr. L, prep., for — more at FOR] **1** : an argument or evidence in affirmation ⟨an appraisal of the ~s and cons⟩ **2** : the affirmative side or one holding it

²pro *adv* [*pro-*] : on the affirmative side : in affirmation ⟨much has been written ~ and con⟩

³pro \(ˌ)prō\ *prep* [L] : in favor of : FOR

⁴pro \ˈprō\ *n or adj* : PROFESSIONAL

PRO *abbr* public relations officer

¹pro- *prefix* [ME, fr. OF, fr. L, fr. Gk, before, forward, forth, for, fr. *pro* — more at FOR] **1 a** : earlier than : prior to : before ⟨*pro*thalamion⟩ **b** : rudimentary : PROT- ⟨*pro*nucleus⟩ **2 a** : located in front of or at the front of : anterior to ⟨*pro*cephalic⟩ ⟨*pro*ventriculus⟩ **b** : front : anterior ⟨*pro*thorax⟩ **3** : projecting ⟨*pro*gnathous⟩

²pro- *prefix* [L *pro* in front of, before, for — more at FOR] **1** : taking the place of : substituting for ⟨*pro*cathedral⟩ ⟨*pro*caine⟩ **2** : favoring : supporting : championing ⟨*pro*-American⟩

proa \ˈprō-ə\ *var of* PRAU

pro·ac·tive \(ˈ)prō-ˈak-tiv\ *adj* [L *pro-* forward] : involving modification by a factor which precedes that which is modified ⟨~ inhibition of memory⟩

prob *abbr* **1** probable; probably **2** problem

prob·a·bi·lism \ˈpräb-ə-bə-ˌliz-əm\ *n* [F *probabilisme*, fr. L *probabilis* probable] **1** : a theory that certainty is impossible esp. in the sciences and that probability suffices to govern belief and action **2** : a theory that in disputed moral questions any solidly probable course may be followed even though an opposed course is or appears more probable — **prob·a·bi·list** \-ləst\ *adj or n*

prob·a·bi·lis·tic \ˌpräb-ə-bə-ˈlis-tik\ *adj* **1** : of or relating to probabilism **2** : of, relating to, or based on probability

prob·a·bil·i·ty \ˌpräb-ə-ˈbil-ət-ē\ *n, pl* **-ties** **1** : the quality or state of being probable **2** : something (as an occurrence or circumstance) that is probable **3 a** (1) : the ratio of the number of outcomes in an exhaustive set of equally likely outcomes that produce a given event to the total number of possible outcomes (2) : the chance that a given event will occur **b** : a branch of mathematics concerned with the study of probabilities **4** : a logical relation between statements such that evidence confirming one confirms the other to some degree

probability density *n* : PROBABILITY DENSITY FUNCTION; *also* : a particular value of a probability density function

probability density function *n* **1** : PROBABILITY FUNCTION **2** : a function of a continuous random variable whose integral over an interval gives the probability that its value will fall within the interval

probability distribution *n* : PROBABILITY FUNCTION; *also* : PROBABILITY DENSITY FUNCTION 2

probability function *n* : a function of a discrete random variable that gives the probability that a specified value will occur

prob·a·ble \ˈpräb-(ə-)bəl\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *probabilis*, fr. *probare* to test, approve, prove — more at PROVE] **1** : supported by evidence strong enough to establish presumption but not proof ⟨a ~ hypothesis⟩ **2** : establishing a probability ⟨~ evidence⟩ **3** : likely to be or become true or real ⟨~ events⟩ — **prob·a·bly** \ˈpräb-(ə-)blē, ˈpräb-lē\ *adv*

syn PROBABLE, POSSIBLE, LIKELY *shared meaning element* : being such as may become true or actual ***ant*** certain, improbable

probable cause *n* : a reasonable ground for supposing that a criminal charge is well-founded

pro·band \ˈprō-ˌband, prō-ˈ\ *n* [L *probandus*, gerundive of *probare*] : SUBJECT 3c(2)

pro·bang \ˈprō-ˌbaŋ\ *n* [origin unknown] : a slender flexible rod with a sponge on one end used esp. for removing obstructions from the esophagus

¹pro·bate \ˈprō-ˌbāt, *esp Brit* -bit\ *n* [ME *probat*, fr. L *probatum*, neut. of *probatus*, pp. of *probare*] **1 a** : the action or process of proving before a competent judicial authority that a document offered for official recognition and registration as the last will and testament of a deceased person is genuine **b** : the judicial determination of the validity of a will **2** : the officially authenticated copy of a probated will

²pro·bate \-ˌbāt\ *vt* **pro·bat·ed; pro·bat·ing** **1** : to establish (a will) by probate as genuine and valid **2** : to put (a convicted offender) on probation

probate court *n* : a court that has jurisdiction chiefly over the probate of wills and administration of deceased persons' estates

pro·ba·tion \prō-ˈbā-shən\ *n* **1** : critical examination and evaluation or subjection to such examination and evaluation **2 a** : subjection of an individual to a period of testing and trial to ascertain fitness (as for a job or school) **b** : the action of suspending the sentence of a convicted offender and giving him freedom during good behavior under the supervision of a probation officer **c** : the state or a period of being subject to probation — **pro·ba·tion·al** \-shnəl, -shən-ᵊl\ *adj* — **pro·ba·tion·al·ly** \-ē\ *adv* — **pro·ba·tion·ary** \-shə-ˌner-ē\ *adj*

pro·ba·tion·er \-sh(ə-)nər\ *n* **1** : one (as a newly admitted student nurse) whose fitness is being tested during a trial period **2** : a convicted offender on probation
probation officer *n* : an officer appointed to investigate, report on, and supervise the conduct of convicted offenders on probation
pro·ba·tive \'prō-bət-iv\ *adj* **1** : serving to test or try : EXPLORATORY **2** : serving to prove : SUBSTANTIATING
pro·ba·to·ry \'prō-bə-ˌtōr-ē, -ˌtȯr-\ *adj* : PROBATIVE
¹probe \'prōb\ *n* [ML *proba* examination, fr. L *probare*] **1** : a slender surgical instrument for examining a cavity **2 a** : a pointed metal tip for making electrical contact with a circuit element being checked **b** : a device used to penetrate or send back information esp. from outer space **c** : a pipe on the receiving airplane thrust into the drogue of the delivering airplane in air refueling **3 a** : the action of probing **b** : a penetrating or critical investigation : INQUIRY **c** : a tentative exploratory advance or survey
²probe *vb* **probed; prob·ing** *vt* **1** : to examine with or as if with a probe **2** : to investigate thoroughly ~ *vi* : to make an exploratory investigation ***syn*** see ENTER — **prob·er** *n*
pro·ben·e·cid \prō-'ben-ə-səd\ *n* [irreg. fr. *pro*pyl + *benz*oic a*cid*] : a drug $C_{13}H_{19}NO_4S$ that acts on renal tubular function and is used to inhibit the excretion of some drugs (as penicillin) and to increase the excretion of urates in gout
prob·it \'präb-ət\ *n* [*prob*ability un*it*] : a unit of measurement of statistical probability based on deviations from the mean of a normal distribution
pro·bi·ty \'prō-bət-ē\ *n* [MF *probité*, fr. L *probitat-, probitas*, fr. *probus* honest — more at PROVE] : adherence to the highest principles and ideals : UPRIGHTNESS ***syn*** see HONESTY
¹prob·lem \'präb-ləm, 'präb-ᵊm, -ˌlem\ *n* [ME *probleme*, fr. MF, fr. L *problema*, fr. Gk *problēma*, lit., something thrown forward, fr. *proballein* to throw forward, fr. *pro-* forward + *ballein* to throw — more at PRO-, DEVIL] **1 a** : a question raised for inquiry, consideration, or solution **b** : a proposition in mathematics or physics stating something to be done **2 a** : an intricate unsettled question **b** : a source of perplexity, distress, or vexation ***syn*** see MYSTERY
²problem *adj* **1** : dealing with a problem of human conduct or social relationship ⟨a ~ play⟩ **2** : difficult to deal with ⟨a ~ child⟩
prob·lem·at·ic \ˌpräb-lə-'mat-ik\ *or* **prob·lem·at·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj* **1 a** : difficult to solve or decide : PUZZLING **b** : not definite or settled ⟨their future remains ~⟩ **c** : open to question or debate : QUESTIONABLE **2** : expressing or supporting a possibility ***syn*** see DOUBTFUL — **prob·lem·at·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
pro·bos·ci·de·an \prə-ˌbäs-ə-'dē-ən\ *or* **pro·bos·cid·i·an** \prə-ˌbäs-'id-ē-ən, (ˌ)prō-\ *n* [deriv. of L *proboscid-, proboscis*] : any of an order (Proboscidea) of large mammals comprising the elephants and extinct related forms — **proboscidean** *adj*
pro·bos·cis \prə-'bäs-əs\ *n, pl* **-boscises** *also* **-bos·ci·des** \-'bäs-ə-ˌdēz\ [L, fr. Gk *proboskis*, fr. *pro-* + *boskein* to feed; akin to Lith *gauja* herd] **1 a** : the trunk of an elephant; *also* : any long flexible snout **b** : the human nose esp. when prominent **2** : any of various elongated or extensible tubular processes (as the sucking organ of a butterfly) of the oral region of an invertebrate
proc *abbr* proceedings
pro·caine \'prō-ˌkān\ *n* [ISV ²*pro-* + *cocaine*] : a basic ester $C_{13}H_{20}N_2O_2$ of para-aminobenzoic acid; *also* : its crystalline hydrochloride used as a local anesthetic
pro·cam·bi·um \(')prō-'kam-bē-əm\ *n* [NL] : the part of a plant meristem that forms cambium and primary vascular tissues — **pro·cam·bi·al** \-bē-əl\ *adj*
pro·cary·ote \(')prō-'kar-ē-ˌōt\ *n* [*pro-* + Gk *karyōtos* provided with nuts — more at EUCARYOTE] : a cellular organism (as a bacterium or a blue-green alga) that does not have a distinct nucleus — compare EUCARYOTE — **pro·cary·ot·ic** \ˌprō-ˌkar-ē-'ät-ik\ *adj*
pro·ca·the·dral \ˌprō-kə-'thē-drəl\ *n* : a parish church used as a cathedral
pro·ce·dur·al \prə-'sēj-(ə-)rəl\ *adj* : of or relating to procedure esp. of courts or other bodies administering substantive law — **pro·ce·dur·al·ly** \-ē\ *adv*
pro·ce·dure \prə-'sē-jər\ *n* [F *procédure*, fr. MF, fr. *proceder*] **1 a** : a particular way of accomplishing something or of acting **b** : a step in a procedure **2** : a series of steps followed in a regular definite order ⟨legal ~⟩ **3 a** : a traditional or established way of doing things **b** : PROTOCOL 3
pro·ceed \prō-'sēd, prə-\ *vi* [ME *proceden*, fr. MF *proceder*, fr. L *procedere*, fr. *pro-* forward + *cedere* to go — more at PRO-, CEDE] **1** : to come forth from a source : ISSUE **2 a** : to continue after a pause or interruption **b** : to go on in an orderly regulated way **3 a** : to begin and carry on an action, process, or movement **b** : to be in the process of being accomplished **4** : to move along a course : ADVANCE ***syn*** see SPRING
pro·ceed·ing *n* **1** : PROCEDURE **2** *pl* : EVENTS, HAPPENINGS **3** *pl* : legal action ⟨divorce ~s⟩ **4** : AFFAIR, TRANSACTION **5** *pl* : an official record of things said or done
pro·ceeds \'prō-ˌsēdz\ *n pl* **1** : the total amount brought in ⟨the ~ of a sale⟩ **2** : the net amount received (as for a check or from an insurance settlement) after deduction of any discount or charges
pro·ce·phal·ic \ˌprō-sə-'fal-ik\ *adj* : relating to, forming, or situated on or near the front of the head
pro·cer·coid \(')prō-'sər-ˌkȯid\ *n* [*pro-* + Gk *kerkos* tail] : the solid first parasitic larva of some tapeworms that develops usu. in the body cavity of a copepod
¹pro·cess \'präs-ˌes, 'prōs-, -əs\ *n, pl* **pro·cess·es** \-ˌes-əz, -ə-səz, -ə-ˌsēz\ [ME *proces*, fr. MF, fr. L *processus*, fr. *processus*, pp. of *procedere*] **1 a** : PROGRESS, ADVANCE **b** : something going on : PROCEEDING **2 a** : a natural phenomenon marked by gradual changes that lead toward a particular result ⟨the ~ of growth⟩ **b** : a series of actions or operations conducing to an end; *esp* : a continuous operation or treatment esp. in manufacture **3 a** : the whole course of proceedings in a legal action **b** : the summons, mandate, or writ used by a court to compel the appearance of the defendant in a legal action or compliance with its orders **4** : a prominent or projecting part of an organism or organic structure ⟨a bone ~⟩ **5** : ⁵CONK
²process *vt* **1 a** : to proceed against by law : PROSECUTE **b** (1) : to take out a summons against (2) : to serve a summons on **2 a** : to subject to a special process or treatment (as in the course of manufacture) **b** : to work (hair) into a conk
³process *adj* **1** : treated or made by a special process esp. when involving synthesis or artificial modification **2** : made by or used in a mechanical or photomechanical duplicating process **3** : of or involving illusory effects usu. introduced during processing of the film ⟨a ~ motion-picture scene⟩
⁴pro·cess \prə-'ses\ *vi* [back-formation fr. ¹*procession*] *chiefly Brit* : to move in a procession
pro·cess cheese \ˌpräs-ˌes-, ˌprōs-, -əs-\ *n* : a cheese made by blending several lots of cheese
pro·cess·ible *or* **pro·cess·able** \'präs-ˌes-ə-bəl, 'prōs-\ *adj* : suitable for processing : capable of being processed — **pro·cess·ibil·i·ty** *or* **pro·cess·abil·i·ty** \ˌpräs-ˌes-ə-'bil-ət-ē, ˌprōs-\ *n*
¹pro·ces·sion \prə-'sesh-ən\ *n* **1 a** : continuous forward movement : PROGRESSION **b** : EMANATION ⟨the Holy Ghost's ~ from the Father⟩ **2 a** : a group of individuals moving along in an orderly often ceremonial way **b** : SUCCESSION, SEQUENCE
²procession *vi, archaic* : to go in procession
¹pro·ces·sion·al \prə-'sesh-nəl, -ən-ᵊl\ *n* **1** : a book containing material for a procession **2** : a musical composition (as a hymn) designed for a procession **3** : a ceremonial procession
²processional *adj* : of, relating to, or moving in a procession — **pro·ces·sion·al·ly** \-ē\ *adv*
pro·ces·sor \'präs-ˌes-ər, 'prōs-\ *n* **1** : one that processes ⟨food ~⟩ **2 a** (1) : COMPUTER (2) : the part of a computer system that operates on data — called also *central processing unit* **b** : a computer program (as a compiler) that puts another program into a form acceptable to the computer
process printing *n* : a method of printing from halftone plates in usu. three or more colors so that nearly any hue may be reproduced
pro·cès–ver·bal \prō-ˌsā-vər-'bäl, -(ˌ)ver-\ *n, pl* **pro·cès–ver·baux** \-'bō\ [F, lit., verbal trial] : an official written record
pro·claim \prō-'klām, prə-\ *vt* [ME *proclamen*, fr. MF or L; MF *proclamer*, fr. L *proclamare*, fr. *pro-* before + *clamare* to cry out — more at PRO-, CLAIM] **1 a** : to declare publicly, typically insistently, proudly, or defiantly and in either speech or writing : ANNOUNCE **b** : to give outward indication of : SHOW **2** : to declare or declare to be solemnly, officially, or formally ⟨~ an amnesty⟩ ⟨~ the country a republic⟩ **3** : to praise or glorify openly or publicly : EXTOL ***syn*** see DECLARE — **pro·claim·er** *n*
proc·la·ma·tion \ˌpräk-lə-'mā-shən\ *n* [ME *proclamacion*, fr. MF *proclamation*, fr. L *proclamation-, proclamatio*, fr. *proclamatus*, pp. of *proclamare*] **1** : the action of proclaiming : the state of being proclaimed **2** : something proclaimed; *specif* : an official formal public announcement
pro·cli·max \(')prō-'klī-ˌmaks\ *n* : an ecological community that suggests a climax in stability and permanence but is not primarily the product of climate
pro·clit·ic \prō-'klit-ik\ *adj* [NL *procliticus*, fr. Gk *pro-* + LL *-cliticus* (as in *encliticus* enclitic)] : of, relating to, or constituting a word or particle without sentence stress that is accentually dependent upon a following stressed word and is pronounced with it as a phonetic unit — **proclitic** *n*
pro·cliv·i·ty \prō-'kliv-ət-ē\ *n, pl* **-ties** [L *proclivitas*, fr. *proclivis* sloping, prone, fr. *pro-* forward + *clivus* hill — more at PRO-, DECLIVITY] : an inclination or predisposition toward something; *esp* : a strong inherent inclination toward something objectionable ***syn*** see LEANING
Proc·ne \'präk-nē\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *Prokně*] : the wife of Tereus changed into a swallow while fleeing with her sister from Tereus
pro·con·sul \(')prō-'kän(t)-səl\ *n* [ME, fr. L, fr. *pro consule* for a consul] **1** : a governor or military commander of an ancient Roman province **2** : an administrator in a modern colony, dependency, or occupied area usu. with wide powers — **pro·con·su·lar** \-s(ə-)lər\ *adj* — **pro·con·su·late** \-s(ə-)lət\ *n* — **pro·con·sul·ship** \-səl-ˌship\ *n*
pro·cras·ti·nate \p(r)ə-'kras-tə-ˌnāt, prō-\ *vb* **-nat·ed; -nat·ing** [L *procrastinatus*, pp. of *procrastinare*, fr. *pro-* forward + *crastinus* of tomorrow, fr. *cras* tomorrow] *vt* : to put off intentionally and habitually ~ *vi* : to put off intentionally and reprehensibly the doing of something that should be done — **pro·cras·ti·na·tion** \-ˌkras-tə-'nā-shən\ *n* — **pro·cras·ti·na·tor** \-'kras-tə-ˌnāt-ər\ *n*
pro·cre·ant \'prō-krē-ənt\ *adj* **1** : producing offspring **2** *archaic* : of or relating to procreation
pro·cre·ate \-ˌāt\ *vb* **-at·ed; -at·ing** [L *procreatus*, pp. of *procreare*, fr. *pro-* forth + *creare* to create — more at PRO-, CREATE] *vt* : to beget or bring forth (offspring) : PROPAGATE ~ *vi* : to beget or bring forth offspring : REPRODUCE — **pro·cre·ation** \ˌprō-krē-'ā-shən\ *n* — **pro·cre·ative** \'prō-krē-ˌāt-iv\ *adj* — **pro·cre·ator** \-ˌāt-ər\ *n*
pro·crus·te·an \p(r)ə-'krəs-tē-ən, prō-\ *adj, often cap* **1** : of, relating to, or typical of Procrustes **2** : marked by arbitrary often ruthless disregard of individual differences or special circumstances
procrustean bed *n, often cap P* : a scheme or pattern into which someone or something is arbitrarily forced
Pro·crus·tes \p(r)ə-'krəs-(ˌ)tēz, prō-\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *Prokroustēs*] : a giant of Eleusis who forced travelers to fit one of two unequally long beds by stretching their bodies or cutting off their legs
pro·cryp·tic \(')prō-'krip-tik\ *adj* [*pro-* (as in *protect*) + *cryptic*] : of, relating to, or being a concealing pattern or shade of coloring esp. in insects
proc·to·dae·um \ˌpräk-tə-'dē-əm\ *n, pl* **-daea** \-'dē-ə\ *or* **-dae·ums** [NL, fr. Gk *prōktos* anus + *hodos* way — more at CEDE] : the posterior ectodermal part of the alimentary canal formed in the embryo by invagination of the outer body wall
proc·tol·o·gy \präk-'täl-ə-jē\ *n* [Gk *prōktos* anus + E *-logy*] : a branch of medicine dealing with the structure and diseases of the anus, rectum, and sigmoid colon — **proc·to·log·ic** \ˌpräk-tə-'läj-

ik\ *or* **proc·to·log·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj* — **proc·tol·o·gist** \präk-'täl-ə-jəst\ *n*

proc·tor \'präk-tər\ *n* [ME *procutour* procurator, proctor, alter. of *procuratour*] : SUPERVISOR, MONITOR; *specif* : one appointed to supervise students (as at an examination) — **proctor** *vb* — **proc·to·ri·al** \präk-'tōr-ē-əl, -'tȯr-\ *adj* — **proc·tor·ship** \'präk-tər-ˌship\ *n*

pro·cum·bent \prō-'kəm-bənt\ *adj* [L *procumbent-, procumbens*, prp. of *procumbere* to fall or lean forward, fr. *pro-* forward + *-cumbere* to lie down — more at HIP] **1** : being or having stems that trail along the ground without rooting **2** : lying face down

proc·u·ra·tion \ˌpräk-yə-'rā-shən\ *n* [ME *procuratioun*, fr. MF *procuration*, fr. L *procuration-, procuratio*, fr. *procuratus*, pp. of *procurare*] **1 a** : the act of appointing another as one's agent or attorney **b** : the authority vested in one so appointed **2** : the action of obtaining something (as supplies) : PROCUREMENT

proc·u·ra·tor \'präk-yə-ˌrāt-ər\ *n* **1** : one that manages another's affairs : AGENT **2** : an officer of the Roman empire entrusted with management of the financial affairs of a province and often having administrative powers as agent of the emperor — **proc·u·ra·to·ri·al** \ˌpräk-yə-rə-'tōr-ē-əl, -'tȯr-\ *adj*

pro·cure \prə-'kyu̇(ə)r, prō-\ *vb* **pro·cured; pro·cur·ing** [ME *procuren*, fr. LL *procurare*, fr. L, to take care of, fr. *pro-* for + *cura* care] *vt* **1 a** : to get possession of : obtain by particular care and effort **b** : to get and make available for promiscuous sexual intercourse **2** : to bring about : ACHIEVE ~ *vi* : to procure women ***syn*** see GET — **pro·cur·able** \-'kyu̇r-ə-bəl\ *adj* — **pro·cur·ance** \-ən(t)s\ *n* — **pro·cure·ment** \-'kyu̇(ə)r-mənt\ *n*

pro·cur·er \-'kyu̇r-ər\ *n* : one that procures; *esp* : PANDER — **pro·cur·ess** \-əs\ *n*

Pro·cy·on \'prō-sē-ˌän, 'präs-ē-, -ən\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *Prokyōn*, lit., fore≈dog; fr. its rising before the Dog Star] : a first-magnitude star in Canis Minor

[1]prod \'präd\ *vt* **prod·ded; prod·ding** [origin unknown] **1 a** : to thrust a pointed instrument into : PRICK **b** : to incite to action : STIR **2** : to poke or stir as if with a prod — **prod·der** *n*

[2]prod *n* **1** : a pointed instrument used to prod **2** : an incitement to act

[3]prod *abbr* production

[1]prod·i·gal \'präd-i-gəl\ *adj* [L *prodigus*, fr. *prodigere* to drive away, squander, fr. *pro-, prod-* forth + *agere* to drive — more at PRO-, AGENT] **1** : recklessly extravagant **2** : characterized by wasteful expenditure : LAVISH **3** : yielding abundantly : LUXURIANT ***syn*** see PROFUSE ***ant*** parsimonious, frugal — **prod·i·gal·i·ty** \ˌpräd-ə-'gal-ət-ē\ *n* — **prod·i·gal·ly** \'präd-i-g(ə-)lē\ *adv*

[2]prodigal *n* : one who spends or gives lavishly and foolishly ***syn*** see SPENDTHRIFT

pro·di·gious \prə-'dij-əs\ *adj* **1 a** *obs* : being an omen : PORTENTOUS **b** *archaic* : resembling or befitting a prodigy : STRANGE, UNUSUAL **2** : exciting amazement or wonder **3** : extraordinary in bulk, quantity, or degree : ENORMOUS ***syn*** see MONSTROUS — **pro·di·gious·ly** *adv* — **pro·di·gious·ness** *n*

prod·i·gy \'präd-ə-jē\ *n, pl* **-gies** [L *prodigium* omen, monster, fr. *pro-, prod-* + *-igium* (akin to *aio* I say) — more at ADAGE] **1 a** : a portentous event : OMEN **b** : something extraordinary or inexplicable **2 a** : an extraordinary, marvelous, or unusual accomplishment, deed, or event **b** : a highly talented child

pro·dro·mal \(')prō-'drō-məl\ *or* **pro·drom·ic** \-'dräm-ik\ *adj* : PRECURSORY; *esp* : marked by prodromes

pro·drome \'prō-ˌdrōm\ *n, pl* **pro·dro·ma·ta** \(')prō-'drō-mət-ə\ *or* **pro·dromes** \'prō-ˌdrōmz\ [F, lit., precursor, fr. Gk *prodromos*, fr. *pro-* before + *dromos* running — more at PRO-, DROMEDARY] : a premonitory symptom of disease

[1]pro·duce \prə-'d(y)üs, prō-\ *vb* **pro·duced; pro·duc·ing** [ME (Sc) *producen*, fr. L *producere*, fr. *pro-* forward + *ducere* to lead — more at TOW] *vt* **1** : to offer to view or notice : EXHIBIT **2** : to give birth or rise to : YIELD **3** : to extend in length, area, or volume ⟨~ a side of a triangle⟩ **4** : to present to the public on the stage or screen or over radio or television **5** : to give being, form, or shape to : MAKE; *esp* : MANUFACTURE **6** : to accrue or cause to accrue ~ *vi* : to bear, make, or yield something — **pro·duc·ible** \-'d(y)ü-sə-bəl\ *adj*

[2]pro·duce \'präd-(ˌ)üs, 'prōd- *also* -(ˌ)yüs\ *n* **1 a** : something produced **b** : the amount produced : YIELD **2** : agricultural products and esp. fresh fruits and vegetables as distinguished from grain and other staple crops **3** : the progeny usu. of a female animal

pro·duced \prə-'d(y)üst, prō-\ *adj* : disproportionately elongated ⟨a ~ leaf⟩

pro·duc·er \prə-'d(y)ü-sər, prō-\ *n* **1** : one that produces; *esp* : one that grows agricultural products or manufactures crude materials into articles of use **2** : a furnace or apparatus that produces combustible gas to be used for fuel by circulating air or a mixture of air and steam through a layer of incandescent fuel **3** : a person who supervises or finances the production of a stage or screen production or radio or television program **4** : an organism (as a green plant) which produces its own organic compounds from simple precursors (as carbon dioxide and inorganic nitrogen) and many of which are food sources for other organisms — compare CONSUMER b

producer gas *n* : gas made in a producer and consisting chiefly of carbon monoxide, hydrogen, and nitrogen

producer goods *n pl* : goods (as tools and raw materials) that are used to produce other goods and satisfy human wants only indirectly

prod·uct \'präd-(ˌ)əkt\ *n* [in sense 1, fr. ME, fr. ML *productum*, fr. L, something produced, fr. neut. of *productus*, pp. of *producere;* in other senses, fr. L *productum*] **1** : the number or expression resulting from the multiplication together of two or more numbers or expressions **2** : something produced **3** : the amount, quantity, or total produced **4** : CONJUNCTION 5

pro·duc·tion \prə-'dək-shən, prō-\ *n* **1 a** : something produced : PRODUCT **b** (1) : a literary or artistic work (2) : a work presented on the stage or screen or over the air **c** : an exaggerated action **2 a** : the act or process of producing **b** : the creation of utility; *esp* : the making of goods available for human wants **3** : total output esp. of a commodity or an industry — **pro·duction·al** \-shnəl, -shən-ᵊl\ *adj*

production control *n* : systematic planning, coordinating, and directing of all manufacturing activities and influences to insure having goods made on time, of adequate quality, and at reasonable cost

production line *n* : LINE 6j

pro·duc·tive \prə-'dək-tiv, prō-\ *adj* **1** : having the quality or power of producing esp. in abundance ⟨~ fishing waters⟩ **2** : effective in bringing about : ORIGINATIVE ⟨investigating committees have been ~ of much good —R. K. Carr⟩ **3 a** : yielding or furnishing results, benefits, or profits **b** : yielding or devoted to the satisfaction of wants or the creation of utilities **4** : continuing to be used in the formation of new words or constructions ⟨*un-* is a ~ prefix⟩ **5** : raising mucus or sputum (as from the bronchi) ⟨a ~ cough⟩ — **pro·duc·tive·ly** *adv* — **pro·duc·tive·ness** *n*

pro·duc·tiv·i·ty \(ˌ)prō-ˌdək-'tiv-ət-ē, ˌpräd-(ˌ)ək-, prə-ˌdək-\ *n* **1** : the quality or state of being productive **2** : rate of production esp. of food by fixation of solar energy by producer organisms

pro·em \'prō-ˌem\ *n* [ME *proheme*, fr. MF, fr. L *prooemium*, fr. Gk *prooimion*, fr. *pro-* + *oimē* song] **1** : preliminary comment : PREFACE **2** : PRELUDE — **pro·emi·al** \prō-'ē-mē-əl, -'em-ē-\ *adj*

pro·en·zyme \(')prō-'en-ˌzīm\ *n* [ISV] : ZYMOGEN

pro·es·trus \(')prō-'es-trəs\ *n* [NL] : a period immediately preceding estrus characterized by preparatory physiological changes

[1]prof \'präf\ *n, slang* : PROFESSOR

[2]prof *abbr* professor; professional

pro·fa·na·tion \ˌpräf-ə-'nā-shən, ˌprō-fə-\ *n* : the act or an instance of profaning

syn PROFANATION, DESECRATION, SACRILEGE *shared meaning element* : a violation or misuse of something normally held sacred

pro·fa·na·to·ry \prō-'fan-ə-ˌtōr-ē, prə-, -'fā-nə-, -ˌtȯr-\ *adj* : tending to profane : DESECRATING

[1]pro·fane \prō-'fān, prə-\ *vt* **pro·faned; pro·fan·ing** **1** : to treat (something sacred) with abuse, irreverence, or contempt : DESECRATE, VIOLATE **2** : to debase by a wrong, unworthy, or vulgar use — **pro·fan·er** *n*

[2]profane *adj* [ME *prophane*, fr. MF, fr. L *profanus*, fr. *pro-* before + *fanum* temple — more at PRO-, FEAST] **1** : not concerned with religion or religious purposes : SECULAR **2** : not holy because unconsecrated, impure, or defiled : UNSANCTIFIED **3** : serving to debase or defile what is holy : IRREVERENT **4 a** : not among the initiated **b** : not possessing esoteric or expert knowledge — **pro·fane·ly** *adv* — **pro·fane·ness** \-'fān-nəs\ *n*

pro·fan·i·ty \prō-'fan-ət-ē, prə-\ *n, pl* **-ties** **1 a** : the quality or state of being profane **b** : the use of profane language **2 a** : profane language **b** : an utterance of profane language

pro·fess \prə-'fes, prō-\ *vb* [in sense 1, fr. ME *professen*, fr. *profes*, adj., having professed one's vows, fr. OF, fr. LL *professus*, fr. L, pp. of *profiteri* to profess, confess, fr. *pro-* before + *fateri* to acknowledge; in other senses, fr. L *professus*, pp. — more at CONFESS] *vt* **1** : to receive formally into a religious community following a novitiate by acceptance of the required vows **2 a** : to declare or admit openly or freely : AFFIRM **b** : to declare in words or appearances only : PRETEND **3** : to confess one's faith in or allegiance to **4** : to practice or claim to be versed in (a calling or profession) ~ *vi* **1** : to make a profession or avowal **2** *obs* : to profess friendship

pro·fessed \-'fest\ *adj* **1** : openly and freely declared or acknowledged : AFFIRMED **2** : professing to be qualified; *also* : EXPERT

pro·fessed·ly \prə-'fes-əd-lē, -'fest-lē\ *adv* **1** : by profession or declaration : AVOWEDLY **2** : with pretense : ALLEGEDLY

pro·fes·sion \prə-'fesh-ən\ *n* **1** : the act of taking the vows of a religious community **2** : an act of openly declaring or publicly claiming a belief, faith, or opinion : PROTESTATION **3** : an avowed religious faith **4 a** : a calling requiring specialized knowledge and often long and intensive academic preparation **b** : a principal calling, vocation, or employment **c** : the whole body of persons engaged in a calling

[1]pro·fes·sion·al \prə-'fesh-nəl, -ən-ᵊl\ *adj* **1 a** : of, relating to, or characteristic of a profession **b** : engaged in one of the learned professions **c** : characterized by or conforming to the technical or ethical standards of a profession **2 a** : participating for gain or livelihood in an activity or field of endeavor often engaged in by amateurs **b** : engaged in by persons receiving financial return ⟨~ football⟩ **3** : following a line of conduct as though it were a profession ⟨a ~ patriot⟩ — **pro·fes·sion·al·ly** \-ē\ *adv*

[2]professional *n* : one that engages in a pursuit or activity professionally

pro·fes·sion·al·ism \-ˌiz-əm\ *n* **1** : the conduct, aims, or qualities that characterize or mark a profession or a professional person **2** : the following of a profession (as athletics) for gain or livelihood

pro·fes·sion·al·ize \-ˌīz\ *vt* **-ized; -iz·ing** : to give a professional character to — **pro·fes·sion·al·iza·tion** \-ˌfesh-nə-lə-'zā-shən, -ən-ᵊl-ə-\ *n*

pro·fes·sor \prə-'fes-ər\ *n* **1** : one that professes, avows, or declares **2 a** : a faculty member of the highest academic rank at an institution of higher education **b** : a teacher at a university, college, or sometimes secondary school **c** : one that teaches or professes special knowledge of an art, sport, or occupation requiring skill — **pro·fes·so·ri·al** \ˌprō-fə-'sōr-ē-əl, ˌpräf-ə-, -'sȯr-\ *adj* — **pro·fes·so·ri·al·ly** \-ē-ə-lē\ *adv*

pro·fes·sor·ate \prə-'fes-ə-rət\ *n* : the office, term of office, or position of a professor

pro·fes·so·ri·at \ˌprō-fə-ˈsōr-ē-ət, ˌpräf-ə-, -ˈsȯr-, -ē-ˌat\ *or* **pro·fes·so·ri·ate** \-ət, -ˌāt\ *n* [modif. of F *professorat*, fr. *professeur* professor, fr. L *professor*, fr. *professus*] **1** : the body of college and university teachers at an institution or in society **2** : PROFESSORSHIP

pro·fes·sor·ship \prə-ˈfes-ər-ˌship\ *n* : the office, duties, or position of an academic professor

¹prof·fer \ˈpräf-ər\ *vt* **prof·fered; prof·fer·ing** \-(ə-)riŋ\ [ME *profren*, fr. AF *profrer*, fr. OF *poroffrir*, fr. *por-* forth (fr. L *pro-*) + *offrir* to offer — more at PRO-] : to present for acceptance : TENDER, OFFER

²proffer *n* : OFFER, SUGGESTION

pro·fi·cien·cy \prə-ˈfish-ən-sē\ *n* **1** : advancement in knowledge or skill : PROGRESS **2** : the quality or state of being proficient

pro·fi·cient \prə-ˈfish-ənt\ *adj* [L *proficient-*, *proficiens*, prp. of *proficere* to go forward, accomplish, fr. *pro-* forward + *facere* to make — more at PRO-, DO] : well advanced in an art, occupation, or branch of knowledge — **proficient** *n* — **pro·fi·cient·ly** *adv*

syn PROFICIENT, ADEPT, SKILLED, SKILLFUL, EXPERT *shared meaning element* : having or manifesting the knowledge and experience needed for success in a trade or profession

¹pro·file \ˈprō-ˌfīl\ *n* [It *profilo*, fr. *profilare* to draw in outline, fr. *pro-* forward (fr. L) + *filare* to spin, fr. LL — more at FILE] **1** : a representation of something in outline; *esp* : a human head or face represented or seen in a side view **2** : an outline seen or represented in sharp relief : CONTOUR **3** : a side or sectional elevation: as **a** : a drawing showing a vertical section of the ground **b** : a vertical section of a soil exposing its various zones or inclusions **4** : a set of data often in graphic form portraying the significant features of something ⟨a corporation's earnings ~⟩; *esp* : a graph representing the extent to which an individual exhibits traits or abilities as determined by tests or ratings **5** : a concise biographical sketch ***syn*** see OUTLINE

²profile *vt* **pro·filed; pro·fil·ing** **1** : to represent in profile or by a profile : produce (as by drawing, writing, or graphing) a profile of **2** : to shape the outline of by passing a cutter around — **pro·fil·er** *n*

¹prof·it \ˈpräf-ət\ *n, often attrib* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *profectus* advance, profit, fr. *profectus*, pp. of *proficere*] **1** : a valuable return : GAIN **2** : the excess of returns over expenditure in a transaction or series of transactions; *esp* : the excess of the selling price of goods over their cost **3** : net income usu. for a given period of time **4** : the ratio of profit for a given year to the amount of capital invested or to the value of sales **5** : the compensation accruing to entrepreneurs for the assumption of risk in business enterprise as distinguished from wages or rent — **prof·it·less** \-ləs\ *adj*

²profit *vi* **1** : to be of service or advantage : AVAIL **2** : to derive benefit : GAIN ~ *vt* : to be of service to : BENEFIT

prof·it·able \ˈpräf-ət-ə-bəl, ˈpräf-tə-bəl\ *adj* : affording profits : yielding advantageous returns or results ***syn*** see BENEFICIAL ***ant*** unprofitable — **prof·it·abil·i·ty** \ˌpräf-ət-ə-ˈbil-ət-ē\ *n* — **prof·it·able·ness** \ˈpräf-ət-ə-bəl-nəs\ *n* — **prof·it·ably** \-blē\ *adv*

profit and loss *n* : a summary account used at the end of an accounting period to collect the balances of the nominal accounts so that the net profit or loss may be shown

prof·i·teer \ˌpräf-ə-ˈti(ə)r\ *n* : one who makes what is considered an unreasonable profit esp. on the sale of essential goods during times of emergency — **profiteer** *vi*

profit sharing *n* : a system or process under which employees receive a part of the profits of an industrial or commercial enterprise

profit system *n* : FREE ENTERPRISE

prof·li·ga·cy \ˈpräf-li-gə-sē\ *n* : the quality or state of being profligate

¹prof·li·gate \ˈpräf-li-gət, -lə-ˌgāt\ *adj* [L *profligatus*, fr. pp. of *profligare* to strike down, fr. *pro-* forward, down + *-fligare* (akin to *fligere* to strike); akin to Gk *thlibein* to squeeze] **1** : completely given up to dissipation and licentiousness **2** : wildly extravagant : PRODIGAL — **prof·li·gate·ly** *adv*

²profligate *n* : a person given to wildly extravagant and usu. grossly self-indulgent expenditure ***syn*** see SPENDTHRIFT

pro·flu·ent \ˈpräf-ˌlü-ənt, ˈprōf-; prō-ˈflü-\ *adj* [ME, fr. L *profluent-*, *profluens*, prp. of *profluere* to flow forth, fr. *pro-* forth + *fluere* to flow — more at PRO-, FLUENT] : flowing copiously or smoothly

pro forma \(ˈ)prō-ˈfȯr-mə\ *adj* [L] **1** : made or carried out in a perfunctory manner or as a formality **2** : provided in advance to prescribe form or describe items ⟨*pro forma* invoice⟩

¹pro·found \prə-ˈfau̇nd, prō-\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF *profond* deep, fr. L *profundus*, fr. *pro-* before + *fundus* bottom — more at PRO-, BOTTOM] **1 a** : having intellectual depth and insight **b** : difficult to fathom or understand **2 a** : extending far below the surface **b** : coming from, reaching to, or situated at a depth : DEEP-SEATED ⟨a ~ sigh⟩ **3 a** : characterized by intensity of feeling or quality **b** : all encompassing : COMPLETE ⟨~ sleep⟩ ***syn*** see DEEP ***ant*** shallow — **pro·found·ly** \-ˈfau̇n-(d)lē\ *adv* — **pro·found·ness** \-ˈfau̇n(d)-nəs\ *n*

²profound *n, archaic* : something that is very deep; *specif* : the depths of the sea

pro·fun·di·ty \prə-ˈfən-dət-ē\ *n, pl* **-ties** [ME *profundite*, fr. MF *profundité*, fr. L *profunditat-*, *profunditas* depth, fr. *profundus*] **1 a** : intellectual depth **b** : something profound or abstruse **2** : the quality or state of being very profound or deep

pro·fuse \prə-ˈfyüs, prō-\ *adj* [ME, fr. L *profusus*, pp. of *profundere* to pour forth, fr. *pro-* forth + *fundere* to pour — more at FOUND] **1** : pouring forth liberally : EXTRAVAGANT ⟨~ in their thanks⟩ **2** : exhibiting great abundance : BOUNTIFUL ⟨a ~ harvest⟩ — **pro·fuse·ly** *adv* — **pro·fuse·ness** *n*

syn PROFUSE, LAVISH, PRODIGAL, LUXURIANT, LUSH, EXUBERANT *shared meaning element* : giving or given out in great abundance ***ant*** spare, scanty, scant

pro·fu·sion \-ˈfyü-zhən\ *n* **1** : lavish expenditure : EXTRAVAGANCE **2** : the quality or state of being profuse **3** : lavish display

¹prog \ˈpräg\ *vi* **progged; prog·ging** [origin unknown] *chiefly dial* : to search about; *esp* : FORAGE

²prog *n, chiefly dial* : FOOD, VICTUALS

pro·ga·mete \ˌprō-gə-ˈmēt, (ˈ)prō-ˈgam-ˌēt\ *n* [ISV] : a cell giving rise to gametes: **a** : OOCYTE **b** : SPERMATOCYTE

pro·gen·i·tor \prō-ˈjen-ət-ər, prə-\ *n* [ME, fr. MF *progeniteur*, fr. L *progenitor*, fr. *progenitus*, pp. of *progignere* to beget, fr. *pro-* forth + *gignere* to beget — more at KIN] **1 a** : an ancestor in the direct line : FOREFATHER **b** : a biologically ancestral form **2** : PRECURSOR, ORIGINATOR ⟨~s of socialist ideas —*Times Lit. Supp.*⟩

prog·e·ny \ˈpräj-(ə-)nē\ *n, pl* **-nies** [ME *progenie*, fr. OF, fr. L *progenies*, fr. *progignere*] **1 a** : DESCENDANTS, CHILDREN **b** : offspring of animals or plants **2** : OUTCOME, PRODUCT **3** : a body of followers, disciples, or successors

pro·ges·ta·tion·al \ˌprō-ˌjes-ˈtā-shnəl, -shən-ᵊl\ *adj* : preceding pregnancy or gestation; *esp* : of, relating to, inducing, or constituting the modifications of the female mammalian system associated with ovulation and corpus luteum formation ⟨~ hormones⟩

pro·ges·ter·one \prō-ˈjes-tə-ˌrōn\ *n* [*progestin* + *sterol* + *-one*] : a steroid progestational hormone $C_{21}H_{30}O_2$

pro·ges·tin \-ˈjes-tən\ *n* [*pro-* + *gestation* + *-in*] : a progestational hormone; *esp* : PROGESTERONE

pro·ges·to·gen \-tə-jən\ *n* [*progestational* + *-ogen* (as in *estrogen*)] : any of several progestational steroids (as progesterone)

pro·glot·tid \(ˈ)prō-ˈglät-əd\ *n* [NL *proglottis*] : a segment of a tapeworm containing both male and female reproductive organs — **pro·glot·ti·de·an** \ˌprō-ˌglät-ə-ˈdē-ən, ˌprō-glä-ˈtid-ē-\ *adj*

pro·glot·tis \(ˈ)prō-ˈglät-əs\ *n, pl* **-glot·ti·des** \-ˈglät-ə-ˌdēz\ [NL *proglottid-*, *proglottis*, fr. Gk *proglōttis* tip of the tongue, fr. *pro-* + *glōtta* tongue — more at GLOSS] : PROGLOTTID

prog·na·thic \präg-ˈnath-ik, -ˈnā-thik\ *adj* : PROGNATHOUS

prog·na·thism \ˈpräg-nə-ˌthiz-əm, präg-ˈnā-\ *n* : prognathous condition

prog·na·thous \-thəs\ *adj* : having the jaws projecting beyond the upper part of the face

prog·no·sis \präg-ˈnō-səs\ *n, pl* **-no·ses** \-ˌsēz\ [LL, fr. Gk *prognōsis*, lit., foreknowledge, fr. *progignōskein* to know before, fr. *pro-* + *gignōskein* to know — more at KNOW] **1** : the prospect of recovery as anticipated from the usual course of disease or peculiarities of the case **2** : FORECAST, PROGNOSTICATION

prog·nos·tic \präg-ˈnäs-tik\ *n* [ME *pronostique*, fr. MF, fr. L *prognosticum*, fr. Gk *prognōstikon*, fr. neut. of *prognōstikos* foretelling, fr. *progignōskein*] **1** : something that foretells : PORTENT **2** : PROGNOSTICATION, PROPHECY — **prognostic** *adj*

prog·nos·ti·cate \präg-ˈnäs-tə-ˌkāt\ *vt* **-cat·ed; -cat·ing** **1** : to foretell from signs or symptoms : PREDICT **2** : FORESHOW, PRESAGE ***syn*** see FORETELL — **prog·nos·ti·ca·tive** \-ˌkāt-iv\ *adj* — **prog·nos·ti·ca·tor** \-ˌkāt-ər\ *n*

prog·nos·ti·ca·tion \(ˌ)präg-ˌnäs-tə-ˈkā-shən\ *n* **1** : an indication in advance : FORETOKEN **2 a** : an act, the fact, or the power of prognosticating : FORECAST **b** : FOREBODING

pro·grade \ˈprō-ˈgrād\ *adj* [L *pro-* forward + *gradi* to go — more at PRO-, GRADE] : being or relating to orbital or rotational motion of a body that is in the same direction as that of another celestial body ⟨~ orbit of a satellite⟩

¹pro·gram *or* **pro·gramme** \ˈprō-ˌgram, -grəm\ *n* [F *programme* agenda, public notice, fr. Gk *programma*, fr. *prographein* to write before, fr. *pro-* before + *graphein* to write] **1** [LL *programma*, fr. Gk] : a public notice **2 a** : a brief usu. printed outline of the order to be followed, of the feature or features to be presented, and the persons participating (as in a public exercise, performance, or entertainment) **b** : the performance of a program; *esp* : a performance broadcast on radio or television **3** : a plan or system under which action may be taken toward a goal **4** : CURRICULUM **5** : PROSPECTUS, SYLLABUS **6 a** : a plan for the programming of a mechanism (as a computer) **b** : a sequence of coded instructions that can be inserted into a mechanism (as a computer) or that is part of an organism **7** : matter for programmed instruction

²program *also* **programme** *vt* **-grammed** *or* **-gramed; -gramming** *or* **-gram·ing** **1 a** : to arrange or furnish a program of or for : BILL **b** : to enter in a program **2** : to work out a sequence of operations to be performed by (a mechanism) : provide with a program **3** : to insert a program for (a particular action) into or as if into a mechanism — **pro·gram·ma·bil·i·ty** \(ˌ)prō-ˌgram-ə-ˈbil-ət-ē\ *n* — **pro·gram·ma·ble** \ˈprō-ˌgram-ə-bəl\ *adj*

program director *n* : one in charge of planning and scheduling program material for a radio or television station or network

pro·gram·mat·ic \ˌprō-grə-ˈmat-ik\ *adj* **1** : relating to program music **2** : of, resembling, or having a program — **pro·gram·mat·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

pro·grammed *or* **pro·gramed** \ˈprō-ˌgramd, -grəmd\ *adj* **1** : of or relating to learning by means of programmed instruction **2** : produced in the form of programmed instruction

programmed instruction *n* : instruction through information given in small steps with each requiring a correct response by the learner before going on to the next step

pro·gram·mer *also* **pro·gram·er** \ˈprō-ˌgram-ər, -grə-mər\ *n* : one that programs: as **a** : one that prepares and tests programs for mechanisms **b** : a person or device that programs a mechanism **c** : one that prepares educational programs

pro·gram·ming *or* **pro·gram·ing** \-ˌgram-iŋ, -grə-miŋ\ *n* : the planning, scheduling, or performing of a program

program music *n* : music intended to suggest a sequence of images or incidents

¹prog·ress \ˈpräg-rəs, -ˌres, *chiefly Brit* ˈprō-ˌgres\ *n* [ME, fr. L *progressus* advance, fr. *progressus*, pp. of *progredi* to go forth, fr. *pro-* forward + *gradi* to go — more at PRO-, GRADE] **1 a** (1) : a royal journey marked by pomp and pageant (2) : a state procession **b** : a tour or circuit made by an official (as a judge) **c** : an expedition, journey, or march through a region **2** : a forward or onward movement (as to an objective or to a goal) : ADVANCE **3** : gradual betterment; *esp* : the progressive development of mankind — **in progress** : going on : OCCURRING

²pro·gress \prə-ˈgres\ *vi* **1** : to move forward : PROCEED **2** : to develop to a higher, better, or more advanced stage

pro·gres·sion \prə-ˈgresh-ən\ *n* **1** : a sequence of numbers in which each term is related to its predecessor by a uniform law **2**

a : the action or process of progressing : ADVANCE **b** : a continuous and connected series : SEQUENCE **3 a** : succession of musical tones or chords **b** : the movement of musical parts in harmony **c** : SEQUENCE 2c — **pro·gres·sion·al** \-'gresh-nəl, -ən-ᵊl\ *adj*

pro·gres·sion·ist \-'gresh-(ə-)nəst\ *n* : one who believes in progress; *esp* : one who believes in the continuous progress of the human race or of society

pro·gres·sist \'präg-rəs-əst, -ˌres-; prə-'gres-\ *n* **1** : PROGRESSIONIST **2** : PROGRESSIVE 1

¹pro·gres·sive \prə-'gres-iv\ *adj* **1 a** : of, relating to, or characterized by progress **b** : making use of or interested in new ideas, findings, or opportunities **c** : of, relating to, or constituting an educational theory marked by emphasis on the individual child, informality of classroom procedure, and encouragement of self-expression **2** : of, relating to, or characterized by progression **3** : moving forward or onward : ADVANCING **4** : increasing in extent or severity ⟨a ~ disease⟩ **5** *often cap* : of or relating to political Progressives **6** : of, relating to, or constituting a verb form that expresses action or state in progress at the time of speaking or a time spoken of — **pro·gres·sive·ly** *adv* — **pro·gres·sive·ness** *n*

²progressive *n* **1 a** : one that is progressive **b** : one believing in moderate political change and esp. social improvement by governmental action **2** *cap* : a member of any of various U.S. political parties: as **a** : a member of a predominantly agrarian minor party that around 1912 split off from the Republicans; *specif* : BULL MOOSE **b** : a follower of Robert M. La Follette in the presidential campaign of 1924 **c** : a follower of Henry A. Wallace in the presidential campaign of 1948

Progressive Conservative *adj* : of or relating to a major political party in Canada traditionally advocating economic nationalism and close ties with the United Kingdom and the Commonwealth — **Progressive Conservative** *n*

progressive jazz *n* : jazz characterized by harmonic, contrapuntal, and rhythmic experimentation

pro·gres·siv·ism \prə-'gres-iv-ˌiz-əm\ *n* **1** : the principles or beliefs of progressives **2** *cap* : the political and economic doctrines advocated by the Progressives **3** : the theories of progressive education — **pro·gres·siv·ist** \-iv-əst\ *n or adj* — **pro·gres·siv·is·tic** \-ˌgres-iv-'is-tik\ *adj*

pro·hib·it \prō-'hib-ət, prə-\ *vt* [ME *prohibiten*, fr. L *prohibitus*, pp. of *prohibēre* to hold away, fr. *pro-* forward + *habēre* to hold] **1** : to forbid by authority : ENJOIN **2 a** : to prevent from doing something **b** : PRECLUDE ***syn*** see FORBID ***ant*** permit

pro·hi·bi·tion \ˌprō-ə-'bish-ən *also* ˌprō-hə-\ *n* **1** : the act of prohibiting by authority **2** : an order to restrain or stop **3** *often cap* : the forbidding by law of the manufacture, transportation, and sale of alcoholic liquors except for medicinal and sacramental purposes

pro·hi·bi·tion·ist \-'bish-(ə-)nəst\ *n* : one who favors the prohibition of the sale or manufacture of alcoholic liquors; *specif, cap* : a member of a minor U.S. political party advocating prohibition

pro·hib·i·tive \prō-'hib-ət-iv, prə-\ *adj* **1** : tending to prohibit or restrain **2** : tending to preclude the use or acquisition of something — **pro·hib·i·tive·ly** *adv* — **pro·hib·i·tive·ness** *n*

pro·hib·i·to·ry \-'hib-ə-ˌtōr-ē, -ˌtȯr-\ *adj* : PROHIBITIVE

¹proj·ect \'präj-ˌekt, -ikt\ *n* [ME *proiecte*, modif. of MF *pourjet*, fr. *pourjeter* to throw out, spy, plan, fr. *pour-* (fr. L *porro* forward) + *jeter* to throw; akin to Gk *pro* forward — more at FOR, JET] **1** : a specific plan or design : SCHEME **2** *obs* : IDEA **3** : a planned undertaking: as **a** : a definitely formulated piece of research **b** : a large usu. government-supported undertaking **c** : a task or problem engaged in usu. by a group of students to supplement and apply classroom studies **4** : a group of houses or apartments built and arranged according to a single plan ***syn*** see PLAN

²pro·ject \prə-'jekt\ *vb* [partly modif. of MF *pourjeter*; partly fr. L *projectus*, pp. of *proicere* to throw forward, fr. *pro-* + *jacere* to throw — more at JET] *vt* **1 a** : to devise in the mind : DESIGN **b** : to plan, figure, or estimate for the future ⟨~ expenditures for the coming year⟩ **2** : to throw or cast forward ⟨~ a missile⟩ **3** : to put or set forth : present for consideration **4** : to cause to protrude **5** : to cause (light or shadow) to fall into space or (an image) to fall on a surface ⟨~ a beam of light⟩ **6** : to reproduce (as a point, line, or area) on a surface by motion in a prescribed direction **7** : to communicate vividly esp. to an audience **8** : to attribute (something in one's own mind) to a person, group, or object ⟨a nation is an entity on which one can ~ many of the worst of one's instincts —*Times Lit. Supp.*⟩ ~ *vi* : to jut out : PROTRUDE — **pro·ject·able** \-'jek-tə-bəl\ *adj*

¹pro·jec·tile \prə-'jek-tᵊl *also* -ˌtīl, *chiefly Brit* 'präj-ik-ˌtīl\ *n* **1** : a body projected by external force and continuing in motion by its own inertia; *esp* : a missile for a weapon (as a firearm) **2** : a self-propelling weapon (as a rocket)

²projectile *adj* **1** : projecting or impelling forward ⟨a ~ force⟩ **2** : capable of being thrust forward

pro·jec·tion \prə-'jek-shən\ *n* **1 a** : a systematic presentation of intersecting coordinate lines on a flat surface upon which features from the curved surface of the earth or the celestial sphere may be mapped **b** : the process or technique of reproducing a spatial object upon a plane or curved surface by projecting its points; *also* : the graphic reproduction so formed **2** : a transforming change **3** : the act of throwing or shooting forward : EJECTION **4** : the forming of a plan : SCHEMING **5 a** (1) : a jutting out (2) : a part that juts out **b** : a view of a building or architectural element **6 a** : the act of perceiving a mental object as spatially and sensibly objective; *also* : something so perceived **b** : the attribution of one's own ideas, feelings, or attitudes to other people or to objects; *esp* : the externalization of blame, guilt, or responsibility as a defense against anxiety **7** : the display of motion pictures by projecting an image from them upon a screen **8 a** : the act of communicating or conveying a vivid image esp. to an audience ⟨she excels in genuine stage ~ — Stark Young⟩ **b** : control of the volume, clarity, and distinctness of a voice to gain greater audibility **9** : an estimate of future possibilities based on a current trend — **pro·jec·tion·al** \-shnəl, -shən-ᵊl\ *adj*

syn PROJECTION, PROTRUSION, PROTUBERANCE, BULGE *shared meaning element* : an extension beyond the normal line or surface

projection booth *n* : a booth in a theater or hall for housing and operating a projector and esp. a motion-picture projector

pro·jec·tion·ist \prə-'jek-sh(ə-)nəst\ *n* : one that makes projections: as **a** : MAPMAKER **b** : one that operates a motion-picture projector or television equipment

projection room *n* **1** : PROJECTION BOOTH **2** : a room equipped with a projector and screen for the private viewing of motion pictures

pro·jec·tive \prə-'jek-tiv\ *adj* **1** : relating to, produced by, or involving geometric projection **2** : jutting out : PROJECTING **3** : of or relating to a test or device designed to analyze the psychodynamic constitution of an individual — **pro·jec·tive·ly** *adv*

projective geometry *n* : a branch of geometry that deals with the properties of configurations that are unaltered by projection

pro·jec·tor \prə-'jek-tər\ *n* **1** : one that plans a project; *specif* : PROMOTER **2** : one that projects: as **a** : a device for projecting a beam of light **b** : an optical instrument for projecting an image upon a surface **c** : a machine for projecting motion pictures on a screen **3** : an imagined line from an object to a surface along which projection takes place

pro·jet \prō-'zhā, 'prō-ˌ\ *n, pl* **projets** \-'zhā(z), -ˌzhā(z)\ [F, fr. MF *pourjet*] **1** : PLAN: *esp* : a draft of a proposed measure or treaty **2** : a projected or proposed design

prokaryote, prokaryotic *var of* PROCARYOTE, PROCARYOTIC

pro·lac·tin \prō-'lak-tən\ *n* [²*pro-* + *lact-* + *-in*] : a protein hormone of the anterior lobe of the pituitary that induces lactation

pro·la·min *or* **pro·la·mine** \'prō-lə-mən, -ˌmēn\ *n* [ISV *proline* + *ammonia* + *-in, -ine*] : any of various simple proteins found esp. in seeds and insoluble in absolute alcohol or water

pro·lan \'prō-ˌlan\ *n* [G, fr. L *proles* progeny] : either of two gonadotrophic hormones: **a** : FOLLICLE-STIMULATING HORMONE **b** : LUTEINIZING HORMONE

¹pro·lapse \prō-'laps, 'prō-ˌ\ *n* [NL *prolapsus*, fr. LL, fall, fr. L *prolapsus*, pp. of *prolabi* to fall or slide forward, fr. *pro-* forward + *labi* to slide — more at PRO-, SLEEP] : the falling down or slipping of a body part from its usual position or relations

²pro·lapse \prō-'laps\ *vi* **pro·lapsed; pro·laps·ing** : to undergo prolapse

pro·late \'prō-ˌlāt\ *adj* [L *prolatus* (pp. of *proferre* to bring forward, extend) fr. *pro-* forward + *latus*, pp. of *ferre* to carry] : EXTENDED: *esp* : elongated in the direction of a line joining the poles ⟨a ~ spheroid⟩

prole \'prōl\ *n* : PROLETARIAN

pro·leg \'prō-ˌleg, -ˌlāg\ *n* : a fleshy leg that occurs on an abdominal segment of some insect larvae but not in the adult

pro·le·gom·e·non \ˌprō-li-'gäm-ə-ˌnän, -nən\ *n, pl* **-e·na** \-nə\ [Gk, neut. pres. pass. part. of *prolegein* to say beforehand, fr. *pro-* before + *legein* to say] : prefatory remarks; *specif* : a formal essay or critical discussion serving to introduce and interpret an extended work — **pro·le·gom·e·nous** \-nəs\ *adj*

pro·lep·sis \prō-'lep-səs\ *n, pl* **-lep·ses** \-ˌsēz\ [Gk *prolēpsis*, fr. *prolambanein* to take beforehand, fr. *pro-* before + *lambanein* to take — more at LATCH] : ANTICIPATION: as **a** : the representation or assumption of a future act or development as if presently existing or accomplished **b** : the application of an adjective to a noun in anticipation of the result of the action of the verb (as in "while yon slow oxen turn the *furrowed* plain") — **pro·lep·tic** \-'lep-tik\ *adj*

¹pro·le·tar·i·an \ˌprō-lə-'ter-ē-ən\ *n* [L *proletarius*, fr. *proles* progeny, fr. *pro-* forth + *-olescere* (fr. *alescere* to grow) — more at OLD] : a member of the proletariat

²proletarian *adj* : of, relating to, or representative of the proletariat

pro·le·tar·i·an·iza·tion \-ˌter-ē-ə-nə-'zā-shən\ *n* : reduction to a proletarian status or level

pro·le·tar·i·an·ize \-'ter-ē-ə-ˌnīz\ *vt* **-ized; -iz·ing** : to cause to undergo proletarianization

pro·le·tar·i·at \ˌprō-lə-'ter-ē-ət, -'tar-, -ē-ˌat\ *n* [F *prolétariat*, fr. L *proletarius*] **1** : the lowest social or economic class of a community **2** : the laboring class; *esp* : the class of industrial workers who lack their own means of production and hence sell their labor to live

¹pro·lif·er·ate \prə-'lif-ə-ˌrāt\ *vb* **-at·ed; -at·ing** [back-formation fr. *proliferation*, fr. F *prolifération*, fr. *prolifférer* to proliferate, fr. *prolifère* proliferous, fr. L *proles* + *-fer* -ferous] *vi* **1** : to grow by rapid production of new parts, cells, buds, or offspring **2** : to increase in number as if by proliferating : MULTIPLY ~ *vt* : to cause to grow by proliferating — **pro·lif·er·a·tion** \-ˌlif-ə-'rā-shən\ *n* — **pro·lif·er·a·tive** \-'lif-ə-ˌrāt-iv\ *adj*

²pro·lif·er·ate \-'lif-ə-rət, -ˌrāt\ *adj* [back-formation fr. *proliferation*] **1** : developing a leafy shoot from a normally terminal organ ⟨~ flowers⟩ **2** : increased in number or quantity

pro·lif·er·ous \prə-'lif-(ə-)rəs\ *adj* **1** : reproducing freely by vegetative means (as offsets, bulbils, gemmae) **2** : undergoing proliferation; *specif* : producing a cluster of branchlets from a larger branch ⟨a ~ coral⟩ — **pro·lif·er·ous·ly** *adv*

pro·lif·ic \prə-'lif-ik\ *adj* [F *prolifique*, fr. L *proles* progeny] **1** : producing young or fruit esp. freely : FRUITFUL **2** *archaic* : causing abundant growth, generation, or reproduction **3** : marked by abundant inventiveness or productivity ⟨a ~ writer⟩ ***syn*** see FERTILE ***ant*** barren, unfruitful — **pro·lif·i·ca·cy** \-'lif-i-kə-sē\ *n* — **pro·lif·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **pro·lif·ic·ness** \-ik-nəs\ *n*

pro·li·fic·i·ty \ˌprō-lə-'fis-ət-ē\ *n* : prolific power or character

pro·line \'prō-ˌlēn\ *n* [G *prolin*] : an amino acid $C_5H_9NO_2$ that can be synthesized by animals from glutamate

pro·lix \prō-'liks, 'prō-(,)\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF & L; MF *prolixe*, fr. L *prolixus* extended, fr. *pro-* forward + *liquēre* to be fluid — more at LIQUID] **1** : unduly prolonged or drawn out **2** : given to verbosity and diffuseness in speaking or writing : LONG-WINDED ***syn*** see WORDY — **pro·lix·ly** *adv*

pro·lix·i·ty \prō-'lik-sət-ē\ *n* : the quality or state of being prolix

pro·loc·u·tor \prō-'läk-yət-ər\ *n* [L, fr. *pro-* for + *locutor* speaker, fr. *locutus*, pp. of *loqui* to speak] **1** : one who speaks for another : SPOKESMAN **2** : presiding officer : CHAIRMAN

pro·lo·gize \'prō-ˌlȯg-ˌīz, -ˌläg-; -lə-ˌjīz\ *or* **pro·logu·ize** \-ˌlȯg-ˌīz, -ˌläg-\ *vi* **-lo·gized** *or* **-logu·ized; -lo·giz·ing** *or* **-logu·iz·ing** : to write or speak a prologue

pro·logue *also* **pro·log** \'prō-ˌlȯg, -ˌläg\ *n* [ME *prolog*, fr. OF *prologue*, fr. L *prologus* preface to a play, fr. Gk *prologos* part of a Greek play preceding the entry of the chorus, fr. *pro-* before + *legein* to speak — more at PRO-, LEGEND] **1** : the preface or introduction to a literary work **2 a** : a speech often in verse addressed to the audience by an actor at the beginning of a play **b** : the actor speaking such a prologue **3** : an introductory or preceding event or development

pro·long \prə-'lȯŋ\ *vt* [ME *prolongen*, fr. MF *prolonguer*, fr. LL *prolongare*, fr. L *pro-* forward + *longus* long] **1** : to lengthen in time : CONTINUE **2** : to lengthen in extent, scope, or range ***syn*** see EXTEND ***ant*** curtail — **pro·long·er** \-'lȯŋ-ər\ *n*

pro·lon·gate \prə-'lȯŋ-ˌgāt, prō-\ *vt* **-gat·ed; -gat·ing** : PROLONG

pro·lon·ga·tion \(ˌ)prō-ˌlȯŋ-'gā-shən, prə-\ *n* **1** : an extension or lengthening in time or duration **2** : an expansion or continuation in extent, scope, or range

pro·lo·ther·a·py \ˌprō-lō-'ther-ə-pē\ *n* [*prol*iferation + *-o-* + *therapy*] : the rehabilitation of an incompetent structure (as a ligament or tendon) by the induced proliferation of new cells

pro·lu·sion \prō-'lü-zhən\ *n* [L *prolusion-*, *prolusio*, fr. *prolusus*, pp. of *proludere* to play beforehand, fr. *pro-* before + *ludere* to play — more at LUDICROUS] **1** : a preliminary trial or exercise : PRELUDE **2** : an introductory and often tentative discourse — **pro·lu·so·ry** \-'lüs-(ə-)rē, -'lüz-\ *adj*

1prom \'präm\ *n* [short for *promenade*] **1** : a formal dance given by a high school or college class **2** *Brit* : PROMENADE 2

2prom *abbr* promontory

1prom·e·nade \ˌpräm-ə-'nād, -'näd\ *n* [F, fr. *promener* to take for a walk, fr. L *prominare* to drive forward, fr. *pro-* forward + *minare* to drive — more at AMENABLE] **1** : a leisurely walk or ride esp. in a public place for pleasure or display **2** : a place for strolling **3 a** : a ceremonious opening of a formal ball consisting of a grand march of all the guests **b** : a figure in a square dance in which couples move counterclockwise in a circle

2promenade *vb* **-nad·ed; -nad·ing** *vi* **1** : to take or go on a promenade **2** : to perform a promenade in a dance ~ *vt* : to walk about in or on — **prom·e·nad·er** *n*

promenade deck *n* : an upper deck or an area on a deck of a passenger ship where passengers stroll

Pro·me·the·an \prə-'mē-thē-ən\ *adj* : of, relating to, or resembling Prometheus, his experiences, or his art; *esp* : daringly original or creative

Pro·me·theus \-ˌth(y)üs, -thē-əs\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *Promētheus*] : a Titan who according to Greek myth stole fire from heaven, gave it to man, and was consequently put to extreme torture by Zeus

pro·me·thi·um \-thē-əm\ *n* [NL, fr. L *Prometheus*] : a metallic element of the rare-earth group obtained as a fission product of uranium or from neutron-irradiated neodymium — see ELEMENT table

prom·i·nence \'präm(-ə)-nən(t)s\ *n* **1** : the quality, state, or fact of being prominent or conspicuous : SALIENCE **2** : something prominent : PROJECTION ⟨a rocky ~⟩ **3** : a mass of gas resembling a cloud that arises from the chromosphere of the sun

prom·i·nent \-nənt\ *adj* [L *prominent-*, *prominens*, fr. prp. of *prominēre* to jut forward, fr. *pro-* forward + *-minēre* (akin to *mont-*, *mons* mountain) — more at MOUNT] **1** : standing out or projecting beyond a surface or line : PROTUBERANT **2 a** : readily noticeable : CONSPICUOUS **b** : widely and popularly known : LEADING ***syn*** see NOTICEABLE — **prom·i·nent·ly** *adv*

pro·mis·cu·ity \ˌpräm-əs-'kyü-ət-ē, prə-ˌmis-\ *n, pl* **-ities** **1** : a miscellaneous mixture or mingling of persons or things **2** : promiscuous sexual behavior

pro·mis·cu·ous \prə-'mis-kyə-wəs\ *adj* [L *promiscuus*, fr. *pro-* forth + *miscēre* to mix — more at PRO-, MIX] **1** : composed of all sorts of persons or things **2** : not restricted to one class, sort, or person : INDISCRIMINATE ⟨a ~ and unprincipled attack on radicalism —A. M. Schlesinger *b*1917⟩; *specif* : not restricted to one sexual partner **3** : CASUAL, IRREGULAR ⟨~ eating habits⟩ — **pro·mis·cu·ous·ly** *adv* — **pro·mis·cu·ous·ness** *n*

1prom·ise \'präm-əs\ *n* [ME *promis*, fr. L *promissum*, fr. neut. of *promissus*, pp. of *promittere* to send forth, promise, fr. *pro-* forth + *mittere* to send — more at PRO-, SMITE] **1 a** : a declaration that one will do or refrain from doing something specified **b** : a legally binding declaration that gives the person to whom it is made a right to expect or to claim the performance or forbearance of a specified act **2** : ground for expectation usu. of success, improvement, or excellence ⟨show ~⟩ **3** : something that is promised

2promise *vb* **prom·ised; prom·is·ing** *vt* **1** : to pledge oneself to do, bring about, or provide ⟨~ aid⟩ **2** *archaic* : WARRANT, ASSURE **3** *chiefly dial* : BETROTH **4** : to suggest beforehand : FORETOKEN ⟨dark clouds ~ rain⟩ ~ *vi* **1** : to make a promise **2** : to give ground for expectation : be imminent

promised land *n* : a place or condition believed to promise final satisfaction or realization of hopes

prom·is·ee \ˌpräm-ə-'sē\ *n* : a person to whom a promise is made

prom·is·ing \'präm-ə-siŋ\ *adj* : full of promise : likely to succeed or to yield good results — **prom·is·ing·ly** \-siŋ-lē\ *adv*

prom·i·sor \ˌpräm-ə-'sȯ(ə)r\ *also* **prom·is·er** \'präm-ə-sər\ *n* : one who makes a promise

prom·is·so·ry \'präm-ə-ˌsōr-ē, -ˌsȯr-\ *adj* [ML *promissorius*, fr. L *promissus*, pp.] : containing or conveying a promise or assurance

promissory note *n* : a written promise to pay at a fixed or determinable future time a sum of money to a specified individual or to bearer

prom·on·to·ry \'präm-ən-ˌtōr-ē, -ˌtȯr-\ *n, pl* **-ries** [L *promunturium*, *promonturium*; prob. akin to *prominēre* to jut forth — more at PROMINENT] **1 a** : a high point of land or rock projecting into a body of water : HEADLAND **b** : a prominent mass of land (as a bluff) overlooking or projecting into a lowland **2** : a bodily prominence

pro·mot·able \prə-'mōt-ə-bəl\ *adj* **1** : capable of being advanced in rank, dignity, or position ⟨~ managerial manpower⟩ **2** : capable of being promoted for consumer acceptance esp. through advertising — **pro·mot·abil·i·ty** \-ˌmōt-ə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n*

pro·mote \prə-'mōt\ *vt* **pro·mot·ed; pro·mot·ing** [L *promotus*, pp. of *promovēre*, lit., to move forward, fr. *pro-* forward + *movēre* to move] **1 a** : to advance in station, rank, or honor : RAISE **b** : to change (a pawn) into a piece in chess by moving to the eighth rank **c** : to advance (a student) from one grade to the next higher grade **2 a** : to contribute to the growth or prosperity of : FURTHER ⟨~ international understanding⟩ **b** : to help bring (as an enterprise) into being : LAUNCH **c** : to present (merchandise) for public acceptance through advertising and publicity **3** *slang* : to get possession of by doubtful means or by ingenuity ***syn*** see ADVANCE ***ant*** impede

pro·mot·er \-'mōt-ər\ *n* **1** : one that promotes; *esp* : one who assumes the financial responsibilities of a sporting event (as a boxing match) including contracting with the principals, renting the site, and collecting gate receipts **2** *obs* : PROSECUTOR **3** : a substance that in very small amounts is able to increase the activity of a catalyst

pro·mo·tion \prə-'mō-shən\ *n* **1** : the act or fact of being raised in position or rank : PREFERMENT **2** : the act of furthering the growth or development of something; *esp* : the furtherance of the acceptance and sale of merchandise through advertising and publicity — **pro·mo·tion·al** \-shnəl, -shən-ᵊl\ *adj*

pro·mo·tive \-'mōt-iv\ *adj* **1** : tending to further or encourage **2** : serving to promote : PROMOTIONAL — **pro·mo·tive·ness** *n*

1prompt \'präm(p)t\ *vt* [ME *prompten*, fr. ML *promptare*, fr. L *promptus* prompt] **1** : to move to action : INCITE ⟨curiosity ~*ed* him to ask the question⟩ **2** : to assist (one acting or reciting) by suggesting or saying the next words of something forgotten or imperfectly learned : CUE **3** : to serve as the inciting cause of : URGE ⟨~*s* the question: has the danger of a severe recession passed? —S. H. Slichter⟩ — **prompt·er** *n*

2prompt *adj* : of or relating to prompting actors

3prompt *adj* [ME, fr. MF or L; MF, fr. L *promptus* ready, prompt, fr. pp. of *promere* to bring forth, fr. *pro-* forth + *emere* to take — more at REDEEM] **1** : being ready and quick to act as occasion demands **2** : performed readily or immediately ⟨~ assistance⟩ ***syn*** see QUICK — **prompt·ly** \'präm(p)-tlē, 'präm-plē\ *adv* — **prompt·ness** \'prämt-nəs, 'prämp-nəs\ *n*

4prompt *n, pl* **prompts** \'präm(t)s, 'prämps\ **1** [1*prompt*] : the act or an instance of prompting : REMINDER **2** [3*prompt*] : a limit of time given for payment of an account for goods purchased; *also* : the contract by which this time is fixed

prompt·book \'prämt-ˌbu̇k, 'prämp-ˌbu̇k\ *n* : a copy of a play with directions for performance used by a theater prompter

promp·ti·tude \'präm(p)-tə-ˌt(y)üd\ *n* [ME, fr. MF or LL; MF, fr. LL *promptitudo*, fr. L *promptus*] : the quality or habit of being prompt : PROMPTNESS

prompt side *n* **1** : the side of the stage to the right of an actor facing the audience **2** : the side of the stage adjacent to the prompter's corner

pro·mul·gate \'präm-əl-ˌgāt; prō-'məl-, prə-', 'prō-(ˌ)\ *vt* **-gat·ed; -gat·ing** [L *promulgatus*, pp. of *promulgare*] **1** : to make known by open declaration : PROCLAIM **2 a** : to make known or public the terms of (a proposed law) **b** : to put (a law) into action or force ***syn*** see DECLARE — **pro·mul·ga·tion** \ˌpräm-əl-'gā-shən; ˌprō-(ˌ)məl-, (ˌ)prō-ˌ, prə-ˌ\ *n* — **pro·mul·ga·tor** \'präm-əl-ˌgāt-ər; prō-'məl-, prə-', 'prō-(ˌ)\ *n*

pron *abbr* **1** pronoun **2** pronounced **3** pronunciation

pro·nate \'prō-ˌnāt\ *vt* **pro·nat·ed; pro·nat·ing** [LL *pronatus*, pp. of *pronare* to bend forward, fr. L *pronus*] : to rotate (as the hand or forearm) so as to bring the palm facing downward or backward; *broadly* : to rotate (a joint or part) forward and toward the midline — **pro·na·tion** \prō-'nā-shən\ *n*

pro·na·tor \'prō-ˌnāt-ər\ *n* : a muscle that produces pronation

prone \'prōn\ *adj* [ME, fr. L *pronus* bent forward, tending; akin to L *pro* forward — more at FOR] **1** : having a tendency or inclination : DISPOSED ⟨man is ~ to error⟩ ⟨is ~ to overlook such things⟩ **2** : having the front or ventral surface downward — **prone** *adv* — **prone·ly** *adv* — **prone·ness** \'prōn-nəs\ *n*

syn PRONE, SUPINE, PROSTRATE, RECUMBENT *shared meaning element* : lying down

pro·neph·ros \(')prō-'nef-rəs, -ˌräs\ *n* [NL, fr. Gk *pro-* + *nephros* kidney — more at NEPHRITIS] : a member of the anterior pair of the three pairs of embryonic renal organs of higher vertebrates — **pro·neph·ric** \-rik\ *adj*

1prong \'prȯŋ, 'präŋ\ *n* [ME *pronge*] **1** : FORK **2** : a tine of a fork **3** : a slender pointed or projecting part: as **a** : a fang of a tooth **b** : a point of an antler — **pronged** \'prȯŋd, 'präŋd\ *adj*

2prong *vt* : to stab, pierce, or break up with a pronged device

prong·horn \'prȯŋ-ˌhȯ(ə)rn, 'präŋ-\ *n, pl* **pronghorn** *also* **prong·horns** : a ruminant mammal



pronghorn

PROOFREADERS' MARKS

⌫ or ⌫ or ⌫	delete; take it out
⁀	close up; print as one word
⌫	delete and close up
^ or > or ʌ	caret; insert here (something
#	insert a space
eq#	space evenly where indicated
stet	let marked text stand as set
tr	transpose; change order the / used to separate two or more marks and often as a concluding stroke at the end of an insertion
[⌊	set farther to the left
] ⌋	set farther to the right
⁀	set æ or fl as ligatures æ or fl
=	straighten alignment
‖ ‖	straighten or align
x	imperfect or broken character
□	indent or insert em quad space
¶	begin a new paragraph
(sp)	spell out ⟨set 5 lbs. as five pounds⟩
cap	set in capitals ⟨CAPITALS⟩
sm cap or s.c.	set in small capitals ⟨SMALL CAPITALS⟩
lc	set in lowercase ⟨lowercase⟩
ital	set in italic ⟨*italic*⟩
rom	set in *roman* ⟨roman⟩
bf	set in boldface ⟨**boldface**⟩
= or -/ or ⁀ or /H/	hyphen
1/N or en or /N/	en dash ⟨1965–72⟩
1/M or em or /M/	em — or long — dash
∨	superscript or superior ⟨^{3} as in πr^2⟩
∧	subscript or inferior ⟨$_{2}$ as in H_2O⟩
⁀ or ⁀	centered ⟨· for a centered dot in $p \cdot q$⟩
ʻ	comma
ʼ	apostrophe
⊙	period
; or ;/	semicolon
: or (:)	colon
“ ” or ‘ ’	quotation marks
(/)	parentheses
[/]	brackets
OK/?	query to author: has this been set as intended?
⊥ or ⊥ [1]	push down a work-up
⌀ [1]	turn over an inverted letter
wf [1]	wrong font; a character of the wrong size or esp. style

[1] The last three symbols are unlikely to be needed in marking proofs of photocomposed matter.

(*Antilocapra americana*) of treeless parts of western No. America that resembles an antelope — called also *pronghorn antelope*

pro·nom·i·nal \prō-'näm-ən-ᵊl, -'näm-nəl\ *adj* [LL *pronominalis*, fr. L *pronomin-*, *pronomen*] **1 :** of, relating to, or constituting a pronoun **2 :** resembling a pronoun in identifying or specifying without describing ⟨the ~ adjective *this* in *this* dog⟩ — **pro·nom·i·nal·ly** \-ē\ *adv*

pro·noun \'prō-ˌnaůn\ *n* [ME *pronom*, fr. L *pronomin-*, *pronomen*, fr. *pro-* for + *nomin-*, *nomen* name — more at PRO-, NAME] **:** a word belonging to one of the major form classes in any of a great many languages that is used as a substitute for a noun or noun equivalent, takes noun constructions, and refers to persons or things named or understood in the context

pro·nounce \prə-'naůn(t)s\ *vb* **pro·nounced; pro·nounc·ing** [ME *pronouncen*, fr. MF *prononcier*, fr. L *pronuntiare*, fr. *pro-* forth + *nuntiare* to report, fr. *nuntius* messenger — more at PRO-] *vt* **1 :** to declare officially or ceremoniously ⟨the minister *pronounced* them man and wife⟩ **2 :** to declare authoritatively or as an opinion ⟨doctors *pronounced* him fit to resume duties⟩ **3 a :** to employ the organs of speech to produce ⟨~ these words⟩; *esp* **:** to say correctly ⟨I can't ~ his name⟩ **b :** to represent in printed characters the spoken counterpart of (an orthographic representation) ⟨both dictionaries ~ *clique* the same⟩ **4 :** RECITE ⟨speak the speech, I pray you, as I *pronounced* it to you —Shak.⟩ ~ *vi* **1 :** to pass judgment **2 :** to produce the components of spoken language — **pro·nounce·abil·i·ty** \-ˌnaůn(t)-sə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* — **pro·nounce·able** \-'naůn(t)-sə-bəl\ *adj* — **pro·nounc·er** *n*

pro·nounced \-'naůn(t)st\ *adj* **:** strongly marked **:** DECIDED — **pro·nounced·ly** \-'naůn(t)-səd-lē, -'naůn(t)s-tlē\ *adv*

pro·nounce·ment \prə-'naůn(t)-smənt\ *n* **1 :** a usu. formal declaration of opinion **2 :** an authoritative announcement

pro·nounc·ing *adj* **:** relating to or indicating pronunciation ⟨a ~ dictionary⟩

pron·to \'prän-ˌtō\ *adv* [Sp, fr. L *promptus* prompt] **:** without delay

pro·nu·cle·us \(')prō-'n(y)ü-klē-əs\ *n* [NL] **:** either of the gamete nuclei which contribute to the formation of the zygote nucleus and which are in the stage after completion of maturation and entry of a sperm into the egg — **pro·nu·cle·ar** \-klē-ər\ *adj*

pro·nun·ci·a·men·to \prō-ˌnən(t)-sē-ə-'ment-(ˌ)ō\ *n, pl* **-tos** *or* **-toes** [Sp *pronunciamiento*, fr. *pronunciar* to pronounce, fr. L *pronuntiare*] **:** PROCLAMATION, PRONOUNCEMENT

pro·nun·ci·a·tion \prə-ˌnən(t)-sē-'ā-shən\ *n* [ME *pronunciacion*, fr. MF *prononciation*, fr. L *pronuntiation-*, *pronuntiatio*, fr. *pronuntiatus*, pp. of *pronuntiare*] **:** the act or manner of pronouncing something — **pro·nun·ci·a·tion·al** \-shnəl, -shən-ᵊl\ *adj*

¹proof \'prüf\ *n* [ME, alter. of *preove*, fr. OF *preuve*, fr. LL *proba*, fr. L *probare* to prove — more at PROVE] **1 a :** the cogency of evidence that compels acceptance by the mind of a truth or a fact **b :** the process or an instance of establishing the validity of a statement esp. by derivation from other statements in accordance with accepted or stipulated principles of reasoning **2** *obs* **:** EXPERIENCE **3 :** an act, effort, or operation designed to establish or discover a fact or truth **:** TEST **4** *archaic* **:** the quality or state of having been tested or tried; *esp* **:** unyielding hardness **5 :** evidence operating to determine the finding or judgment of a tribunal **6 a :** an impression (as from type) taken for correction or examination **b :** a proof impression of an engraving, etching, or lithograph **c :** a coin that is struck from a highly-polished die on a polished planchet, is not intended for circulation, and sometimes differs in metallic content from that of coins of identical design struck for circulation **d :** a test photographic print made from a negative **7 :** a test applied to articles or substances to determine whether they are of standard or satisfactory quality **8 a :** the minimum alcoholic strength of proof spirit **b :** strength with reference to the standard for proof spirit; *specif* **:** alcoholic strength indicated by a number that is twice the percent by volume of alcohol present ⟨whiskey of 90 ~ is 45% alcohol⟩

²proof *adj* **1 :** designed for or successful in resisting or repelling — often used in combination ⟨water*proof*⟩ **2 :** used in proving or testing or as a standard of comparison **3 :** of standard strength or quality or alcoholic content

³proof *vt* **1 a :** to make or take a proof or test of **b :** PROOFREAD **2 :** to bring (dough) to the proper lightness **3 :** to give a resistant quality to — **proof·er** *n*

proof·like \'prü-ˌflīk\ *adj* **:** resembling a proof coin esp. because of a mirrorlike surface

proof·read \'prü-ˌfrēd\ *vt* [back-formation fr. *proofreader*] **:** to read and mark corrections in (a proof) — **proof·read·er** *n*

proof·room \'prü-ˌfrüm, -ˌfrům\ *n* **:** a room in which proofreading is done

proof spirit *n* **:** alcoholic liquor or mixture of alcohol and water that contains one half of its volume of alcohol of a specific gravity 0.7939 at 60°F

¹prop \'präp\ *n* [ME *proppe*, fr. MD, stopper; akin to MLG *proppe* stopper] **:** something that props or sustains **:** SUPPORT

²prop *vt* **propped; prop·ping 1 a :** to support by placing something under or against — often used with *up* **b :** to support by placing against something **2 :** SUSTAIN, STRENGTHEN

³prop *n* **:** PROPERTY 3

⁴prop *n* **:** PROPELLER

⁵prop *abbr* **1** property **2** proposition **3** proprietor

prop- *comb form* [ISV, fr. *propionic* (*acid*)] **:** related to propionic acid ⟨*prop*ane⟩ ⟨*prop*yl⟩

[1]pro·pae·deu·tic \ˌprō-pi-'d(y)üt-ik\ *n* [Gk *propaideuein* to teach beforehand, fr. *pro-* before + *paideuein* to teach, fr. *paid-, pais* child — more at PRO-, FEW] : preparatory study or instruction
[2]propaedeutic *adj* : needed as preparation for learning or study
pro·pa·gan·da \ˌpräp-ə-'gan-də, ˌprō-pə-\ *n* [NL, fr. *Congregatio de propaganda fide* Congregation for propagating the faith, organization established by Pope Gregory XV] **1** *cap* : a congregation of the Roman curia having jurisdiction over missionary territories and related institutions **2** : the spreading of ideas, information, or rumor for the purpose of helping or injuring an institution, a cause, or a person **3** : ideas, facts, or allegations spread deliberately to further one's cause or to damage an opposing cause; *also* : a public action having such an effect
pro·pa·gan·dism \-'gan-ˌdiz-əm\ *n* : the action, practice, or art of propagating doctrines or of spreading or employing propaganda — **pro·pa·gan·dist** \-dəst\ *n or adj* — **pro·pa·gan·dis·tic** \-ˌgan-'dis-tik\ *adj* — **pro·pa·gan·dis·ti·cal·ly** \-ti-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
pro·pa·gan·dize \-'gan-ˌdīz\ *vb* **-dized; -diz·ing** *vt* : to subject to propaganda ~ *vi* : to carry on propaganda
prop·a·gate \'präp-ə-ˌgāt\ *vb* **-gat·ed; -gat·ing** [L *propagatus*, pp. of *propagare* to set slips, propagate, fr. *propages* slip, offspring, fr. *pro-* before + *pangere* to fasten — more at PRO-, PACT] *vt* **1** : to cause to continue or increase by sexual or asexual reproduction **2** : to pass along to offspring **3 a** : to cause to spread out and affect a greater number or greater area : EXTEND **b** : PUBLICIZE **c** : TRANSMIT ~ *vi* **1** : to multiply sexually or asexually **2** : INCREASE, EXTEND **3** : to travel through space or a material — used of wave energy (as light, sound, or radio waves) — **prop·a·ga·ble** \'präp-ə-gə-bəl\ *adj* — **prop·a·ga·tive** \-ˌgāt-iv\ *adj* — **prop·a·ga·tor** \-ˌgāt-ər\ *n*
prop·a·ga·tion \ˌpräp-ə-'gā-shən\ *n* : the act or action of propagating: as **a** : increase (as of a kind of organism) in numbers **b** : the spreading of something (as a belief) abroad or into new regions : DISSEMINATION **c** : enlargement or extension (as of a crack) in a solid body — **prop·a·ga·tion·al** \-shnəl, -shən-ᵊl\ *adj*
prop·a·gule \'präp-ə-ˌgyü(ə)l\ *n* [NL *propagulum*, fr. L *propages* slip] : a structure (as a cutting, a seed, or a spore) that propagates a plant
pro·pane \'prō-ˌpān\ *n* [ISV *prop-* + *-ane*] : a heavy flammable gaseous paraffin hydrocarbon C_3H_8 found in crude petroleum and natural gas and used esp. as fuel and in chemical synthesis
pro·par·oxy·tone \ˌprō-pə-'räk-si-ˌtōn, ˌprō-ˌpar-'äk-\ *adj* [Gk *proparoxytonos*, fr. *pro-* + *paroxytonos* paroxytone] : having or characterized by an acute accent or by stress on the antepenult — **proparoxytone** *n*
pro·pel \prə-'pel\ *vt* **pro·pelled; pro·pel·ling** [ME *propellen*, fr. L *propellere*, fr. *pro-* before + *pellere* to drive — more at FELT] **1** : to drive forward or onward by means of a force that imparts motion **2** : to urge on : MOTIVATE ***syn*** see PUSH
[1]pro·pel·lant *or* **pro·pel·lent** \-'pel-ənt\ *adj* : capable of propelling
[2]propellant *also* **propellent** *n* : something that propels: as **a** : an explosive for propelling projectiles **b** : fuel plus oxidizer used by a rocket engine **c** : a gas in a pressure bottle for expelling the contents when the pressure is released
pro·pel·ler *also* **pro·pel·lor** \prə-'pel-ər\ *n* : one that propels; *specif* : SCREW PROPELLER
pro·pend \prō-'pend\ *vi* [L *propendēre*, fr. *pro-* before + *pendēre* to hang — more at PENDANT] *obs* : INCLINE
pro·pense \prō-'pen(t)s\ *adj* [L *propensus*, pp. of *propendēre*] *archaic* : leaning or inclining toward : DISPOSED
pro·pen·si·ty \prə-'pen(t)-sət-ē\ *n, pl* **-ties** : an intense and often urgent natural inclination ***syn*** see LEANING
[1]prop·er \'präp-ər\ *adj* [ME *propre* proper, own, fr. OF, fr. L *proprius* own] **1** : marked by suitability, rightness, or appropriateness : FIT **2 a** : appointed for the liturgy of a particular day **b** : belonging to one : OWN **c** : referring to one individual only **d** : represented heraldically in natural color **3** : belonging characteristically to a species or individual : PECULIAR **4** : very good : EXCELLENT **5** *chiefly Brit* : UTTER, ABSOLUTE **6** *chiefly dial* : BECOMING, HANDSOME **7** : strictly limited to a specified thing, place, or idea ⟨the city ~⟩ **8 a** : strictly accurate : CORRECT **b** *archaic* : VIRTUOUS, RESPECTABLE **c** : strictly decorous : GENTEEL **9** : being a mathematical subset (as a subgroup) that does not contain all the elements of the inclusive set from which it is derived ***syn*** see FIT ***ant*** improper — **prop·er·ness** *n*
[2]proper *n* **1** : the parts of the Mass that vary according to the liturgical calendar **2** : the part of a missal or breviary containing the proper of the Mass and the offices proper to the holy days of the liturgical year
[3]proper *adv, chiefly dial* : in a thorough manner : COMPLETELY
proper adjective *n* : an adjective that is formed from a proper noun and that is usu. capitalized in English
pro·per·din \prō-'pərd-ᵊn\ *n* [prob. fr. [1]*pro-* + L *perdere* to destroy + E *-in* — more at PERDITION] : a serum protein that participates in destruction of bacteria, neutralization of viruses, and lysis of red blood cells
proper fraction *n* : a fraction in which the numerator is less or of lower degree than the denominator
prop·er·ly \'präp-ər-lē\ *adv* : in a proper manner: as **a** : in a fit manner : SUITABLY **b** : strictly in accordance with fact : CORRECTLY **c** *chiefly Brit* : to the full extent : UTTERLY
proper noun *n* : a noun that designates a particular being or thing, does not take a limiting modifier, and is usu. capitalized in English — called also *proper name*
prop·er·tied \'präp-ərt-ēd\ *adj* : possessing property
prop·er·ty \'präp-ərt-ē\ *n, pl* **-ties** [ME *proprete*, fr. MF *propreté*, fr. L *proprietat-, proprietas*, fr. *proprius* own] **1 a** : a quality or trait belonging and esp. peculiar to an individual or thing **b** : an effect that an object has on another object or on the senses **c** : VIRTUE 3 **d** : an attribute common to all members of a class **2 a** : something owned or possessed; *specif* : a piece of real estate **b** : the exclusive right to possess, enjoy, and dispose of a thing : OWNERSHIP **c** : something to which a person has a legal title **3** : an article or object used in a play or motion picture except painted scenery and costumes — **prop·er·ty·less** \-ē-ləs\ *adj*
property damage insurance *n* : insurance protecting against all or part of an individual's legal liability for damage done (as by his automobile) to the property of another
property man *n* : one who is in charge of stage properties
property right *n* : a legal right or interest in or against specific property
property tax *n* : a tax levied on real or personal property
pro·phage \'prō-ˌfāj, -ˌfäzh\ *n* : an intracellular form of a bacteriophage in which it is harmless to the host, is usu. integrated into the hereditary material of the host, and reproduces when the host does
pro·phase \-ˌfāz\ *n* [ISV] **1** : the initial phase of mitosis in which chromosomes are condensed from the resting form and split into paired chromatids **2** : the initial stage of meiosis in which the chromosomes become visible, homologous pairs of chromosomes undergo synapsis and become shortened and thickened, individual chromosomes become visibly double as paired chromatids, chiasmata occur, and the nuclear membrane disappears — compare DIAKINESIS, DIPLOTENE, LEPTOTENE, PACHYTENE, ZYGOTENE — **pro·pha·sic** \(')prō-'fā-zik\ *adj*
proph·e·cy *also* **proph·e·sy** \'präf-ə-sē\ *n, pl* **-cies** *also* **-sies** [ME *prophecie*, fr. OF, fr. LL *prophetia*, fr. Gk *prophēteia*, fr. *prophētēs* prophet] **1** : the function or vocation of a prophet; *specif* : the inspired declaration of divine will and purpose **2** : an inspired utterance of a prophet **3** : a prediction of something to come
proph·e·sy \'präf-ə-ˌsī\ *vb* **-sied; -sy·ing** [ME *prophesien*, fr. MF *prophesier*, fr. OF, fr. *prophecie*] *vt* **1** : to utter by or as if by divine inspiration **2** : to predict with assurance or on the basis of mystic knowledge **3** : FORESHOW, PREFIGURE ~ *vi* **1** : to speak as if divinely inspired **2** : to give instruction in religious matters : PREACH **3** : to make a prediction ***syn*** see FORETELL — **proph·e·si·er** \-ˌsī(-ə)r\ *n*
proph·et \'präf-ət\ *n* [ME *prophete*, fr. OF, fr. L *propheta*, fr. Gk *prophētēs*, fr. *pro* for + *phanai* to speak — more at FOR, BAN] **1** : one who utters divinely inspired revelations; *specif, often cap* : the writer of one of the prophetic books of the Old Testament **2** : one gifted with more than ordinary spiritual and moral insight; *esp* : an inspired poet **3** : one who foretells future events : PREDICTOR ⟨a weather ~⟩ **4** : an effective or leading spokesman for a cause, doctrine, or group ⟨he is first the student and then the ~ of power —Alfred Kazin⟩ **5** *Christian Science* **a** : a spiritual seer **b** : disappearance of material sense before the conscious facts of spiritual Truth — **proph·et·ess** \-ət-əs\ *n*
pro·phet·ic \prə-'fet-ik\ *or* **pro·phet·i·cal** \-'fet-i-kəl\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or characteristic of a prophet or prophecy **2** : foretelling events : PREDICTIVE — **pro·phet·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
Proph·ets \'präf-əts\ *n pl* : the second part of the Jewish scriptures — see BIBLE table
[1]pro·phy·lac·tic \ˌprō-fə-'lak-tik *also* ˌpräf-ə-\ *adj* [Gk *prophylaktikos*, fr. *prophylassein* to keep guard before, fr. *pro-* before + *phylassein* to guard, fr. *phylak-, phylax* guard] **1** : guarding from or preventing disease **2** : tending to prevent or ward off : PREVENTIVE ⟨the purpose of this volume is ~ rather than remedial — Knight Dunlap⟩ — **pro·phy·lac·ti·cal·ly** \-ti-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
[2]prophylactic *n* : something that is prophylactic: as **a** : something (as a condom) for preventing venereal infection **b** : a contraceptive device
pro·phy·lax·is \-'lak-səs\ *n, pl* **-lax·es** \-'lak-ˌsēz\ [NL, fr. Gk *prophylaktikos*] : measures designed to preserve health (as of the body or of society) and prevent the spread of disease
[1]pro·pine \prə-'pēn, -'pīn\ *vt* **pro·pined; pro·pin·ing** [ME *propinen*, fr. MF *propiner*, fr. L *propinare* to present, drink to someone's health, fr. Gk *propinein* lit., to drink first, fr. *pro-* [1]*pro-* + *pinein* to drink — more at POTABLE] *chiefly Scot* **1** : to present or give esp. as a token of friendship **2** : PLEDGE 2
[2]propine *n, Scot* : a gift in return for a favor
pro·pin·qui·ty \prə-'piŋ-kwət-ē\ *n* [ME *propinquite*, fr. L *propinquitat-, propinquitas* kinship, proximity, fr. *propinquus* near, akin, fr. *prope* near — more at APPROACH] **1** : nearness of blood : KINSHIP **2** : nearness in place or time : PROXIMITY
pro·pi·o·nate \'prō-pē-ə-ˌnāt\ *n* [ISV] : a salt or ester of propionic acid
pro·pi·on·ic acid \ˌprō-pē-ˌän-ik-\ *n* [ISV [1]*pro-* + Gk *piōn* fat; akin to L *opimus* fat — more at FAT] : a liquid sharp-odored fatty acid $C_3H_6O_2$ found in milk and distillates of wood, coal, and petroleum
pro·pi·ti·ate \prō-'pish-ē-ˌāt\ *vt* **-at·ed; -at·ing** [L *propitiatus*, pp. of *propitiare*, fr. *propitius* propitious] : to gain or regain the favor or goodwill of : APPEASE, CONCILIATE — **pro·pi·ti·a·ble** \-ē-ə-bəl\ *adj* — **pro·pi·ti·a·tor** \-ē-ˌāt-ər\ *n*
pro·pi·ti·a·tion \prō-ˌpis(h)-ē-'ā-shən\ *n* **1** : the act of propitiating **2** : something that propitiates; *specif* : an atoning sacrifice
pro·pi·tia·to·ry \prō-'pish-(ē-)ə-ˌtōr-ē, -ˌtȯr-\ *adj* **1** : of or relating to propitiation **2** : intended to propitiate : EXPIATORY
pro·pi·tious \prə-'pish-əs\ *adj* [ME *propicious*, fr. L *propitius*, fr. *pro-* for + *petere* to seek — more at PRO-, FEATHER] **1** : favorably disposed : BENEVOLENT **2** : being of good omen : AUSPICIOUS ⟨~ sign⟩ **3** : tending to favor : ADVANTAGEOUS ***syn*** see FAVORABLE ***ant*** unpropitious, adverse — **pro·pi·tious·ly** *adv* — **pro·pi·tious·ness** *n*
prop·jet engine \ˌpräp-ˌjet-\ *n* : TURBO-PROPELLER ENGINE
pro·plas·tid \(')prō-'plas-təd\ *n* [ISV] : a minute cytoplasmic body from which a plastid is formed
prop·man \'präp-ˌman\ *n* : PROPERTY MAN
prop·o·lis \'präp-ə-ləs\ *n* [L, fr. Gk, fr. *pro-* for + *polis* city — more at PRO-, POLICE] : a brownish resinous material of waxy consistency collected by bees from the buds of trees and used as a cement
pro·pone \prə-'pōn\ *vt* **pro·poned; pro·pon·ing** [ME (Sc) *proponen*, fr. L *proponere* — more at PROPOUND] **1** *Scot* : PROPOSE, PROPOUND **2** *Scot* : to put forward (a defense)
pro·po·nent \prə-'pō-nənt, 'prō-ˌ\ *n* [L *proponent-, proponens*, prp. of *proponere*] : one who argues in favor of something : ADVOCATE
[1]pro·por·tion \p(r)ə-'pōr-shən, -'pȯr-\ *n* [ME *proporcion*, fr. MF *proportion*, fr. L *proportion-, proportio*, fr. *pro* for + *portion-, portio*

portion — more at FOR] **1** : the relation of one part to another or to the whole with respect to magnitude, quantity, or degree : RATIO **2** : harmonious relation of parts to each other or to the whole : BALANCE, SYMMETRY **3** : a relation of equality of two ratios in which the first of the four terms divided by the second equals the third divided by the fourth (as in $4/2=10/5$) **4 a** : proper or equal share ⟨each did his ~ of the work⟩ **b** : QUOTA, PERCENTAGE **5** : SIZE, DIMENSION

²proportion *vt* **pro·por·tioned; pro·por·tion·ing** \-sh(ə-)niŋ\ **1** : to adjust (a part or thing) in size relative to other parts or things **2** : to make the parts of harmonious or symmetrical **3** : APPORTION, ALLOT

pro·por·tion·able \-sh(ə-)nə-bəl\ *adj, archaic* : PROPORTIONAL, PROPORTIONATE — **pro·por·tion·ably** \-blē\ *adv, archaic*

¹pro·por·tion·al \p(r)ə-'pōr-shnəl, -'pȯr-, -shən-ᵊl\ *adj* **1 a** : being in proportion : PROPORTIONATE **b** : having the same or a constant ratio **2** : regulated or determined in size or degree with reference to proportions ⟨a ~ system of immigration quotas⟩ — **pro·por·tion·al·i·ty** \-ˌpōr-shə-'nal-ət-ē, -ˌpȯr-\ *n* — **pro·por·tion·al·ly** \-'pōr-shnə-lē, -'pȯr-, -shən-ᵊl-ē\ *adv*

²proportional *n* : a number or quantity in a proportion

proportional parts *n pl* : fractional parts of the difference between successive entries in a table for use in linear interpolation

proportional representation *n* : an electoral system designed to represent in a legislative body each political group or party in proportion to its actual voting strength in the electorate

proportional tax *n* : a tax in which the tax rate remains constant regardless of the amount of the tax base

¹pro·por·tion·ate \p(r)ə-'pōr-sh(ə-)nət, -'pȯr-\ *adj* : being in proportion — **pro·por·tion·ate·ly** *adv*

²pro·por·tion·ate \-shə-ˌnāt\ *vt* **-at·ed; -at·ing** : to make proportionate : PROPORTION

pro·pos·al \prə-'pō-zəl\ *n* **1** : an act of putting forward or stating something for consideration **2 a** : something proposed : SUGGESTION **b** : OFFER; *specif* : an offer of marriage

pro·pose \prə-'pōz\ *vb* **pro·posed; pro·pos·ing** [ME *proposen*, fr. MF *proposer*, fr. L *proponere* (perf. indic. *proposui*) — more at PROPOUND] *vi* **1** : to form or put forward a plan or intention ⟨man ~s, but God disposes⟩ **2** *obs* : to engage in talk or discussion **3** : to make an offer of marriage ~ *vt* **1 a** : to set before the mind (as for discussion, imitation, or action) ⟨*proposed* a plan for settling the dispute⟩ **b** : to set before someone and esp. oneself as an aim or intent ⟨*proposed* to spend the summer in study⟩ **2 a** : to set forth for acceptance or rejection ⟨~ terms for peace⟩ ⟨~ a topic for debate⟩ **b** : to recommend to fill a place or vacancy : NOMINATE ⟨agreed to ~ him for membership⟩ **c** : to offer as a toast ⟨~ the health of the ladies⟩ — **pro·pos·er** *n*

syn PROPOSE, PROPOUND, POSE *shared meaning element* : to set before the mind for consideration

¹prop·o·si·tion \ˌpräp-ə-'zish-ən\ *n* **1 a** : something offered for consideration or acceptance : PROPOSAL; *specif* : a request for sexual intercourse **b** : the point to be discussed or maintained in argument usu. stated in sentence form near the outset **c** : a theorem or problem to be demonstrated or performed **2 a** : an expression in language or signs of something that can be believed, doubted, or denied or is either true or false **b** : the objective meaning of a proposition **3** : a project or situation requiring some action — **prop·o·si·tion·al** \-'zish-nəl, -ən-ᵊl\ *adj*

²proposition *vt* **prop·o·si·tioned; prop·o·si·tion·ing** \-'zish-(ə-)niŋ\ : to make a proposal to; *specif* : to suggest sexual intercourse to

propositional calculus *n* : the branch of symbolic logic that uses symbols for unanalyzed propositions and logical connectives only — called also *sentential calculus*; compare PREDICATE CALCULUS

propositional function *n* **1** : SENTENTIAL FUNCTION **2** : something that is designated or expressed by a sentential function

pro·pos·i·tus \prō-'päz-ət-əs\ *n, pl* **-i·ti** \-ə-ˌtī\ [NL, fr. L, pp. of *proponere*] : the person immediately concerned : SUBJECT

pro·pound \prə-'paünd\ *vt* [alter. of earlier *propone*, fr. ME (Sc) *proponen*, fr. L *proponere* to display, propound, fr. *pro-* before + *ponere* to put, place — more at PRO-, POSITION] : to offer for discussion or consideration ***syn*** see PROPOSE — **pro·pound·er** *n*

pro·prae·tor *or* **pro·pre·tor** \(ˌ)prō-'prēt-ər\ *n* [L *propraetor*, fr. *pro-* (as in *proconsul*) + *praetor*] : a praetor of ancient Rome sent out to govern a province

pro·pran·o·lol \prō-'pran-ə-ˌlȯl, -ˌlōl\ *n* [prob. alter. of earlier *propanolol*, fr. *propanol* (propyl alcohol) + *-ol*] : a beta-adrenergic blocking agent $C_{16}H_{21}NO_2$ used in the treatment of abnormal heart rhythms and angina pectoris

¹pro·pri·etary \p(r)ə-'prī-ə-ˌter-ē\ *n, pl* **-etar·ies** **1 a** : PROPRIETOR, OWNER **b** : an owner or grantee of a proprietary colony **2** : a body of proprietors **3** : a drug that is protected by secrecy, patent, or copyright against free competition as to name, product, composition, or process of manufacture

²proprietary *adj* [LL *proprietarius*, fr. L *proprietas* property — more at PROPERTY] **1** : of, relating to, or characteristic of a proprietor ⟨~ rights⟩ **2** : made and marketed by one having the exclusive right to manufacture and sell ⟨a ~ process⟩ **3** : privately owned and managed ⟨a ~ clinic⟩

proprietary colony *n* : a colony granted to a proprietor with full prerogatives of government

pro·pri·etor \p(r)ə-'prī-ət-ər\ *n* [alter. of ¹*proprietary*] **1** : PROPRIETARY 1b **2 a** : one who has the legal right or exclusive title to something : OWNER **b** : one having an interest (as control or present use) less than absolute and exclusive right — **pro·pri·etor·ship** \-ˌship\ *n* — **pro·pri·etress** \-'prī-ə-trəs\ *n*

pro·pri·ety \p(r)ə-'prī-ət-ē\ *n, pl* **-eties** [ME *propriete*, fr. MF *propriété* property, quality of a person or thing — more at PROPERTY] **1** *obs* : true nature **2** *obs* : a special characteristic : PECULIARITY **3** : the quality or state of being proper **4 a** : the standard of what is socially acceptable in conduct or speech : DECORUM **b** : fear of offending against conventional rules of behavior esp. as between the sexes **c** *pl* : the customs and manners of polite society

pro·prio·cep·tion \ˌprō-prē-ō-'sep-shən\ *n* [*proprioceptive* + *-ion*] : the reception of stimuli produced within the organism

pro·prio·cep·tive \-'sep-tiv\ *adj* [L *proprius* own + E *-ceptive* (as in *receptive*)] : of, relating to, or being stimuli arising within the organism

pro·prio·cep·tor \-tər\ *n* : a sensory receptor excited by proprioceptive stimuli

prop root *n* : a root that serves as a prop or support to the plant

pro·pto·sis \(ˌ)prō-'tō-səs, präp-'tō-\ *n* [NL, fr. LL, falling forward, fr. Gk *proptōsis*, fr. *propiptein* to fall forward, fr. *pro-* + *piptein* to fall — more at PRO-, FEATHER] : forward projection or displacement esp. of the eyeball

pro·pul·sion \prə-'pəl-shən\ *n* [L *propulsus*, pp. of *propellere* to propel] **1** : the action or process of propelling **2** : something that propels

pro·pul·sive \-'pəl-siv\ *adj* [L *propulsus*] : tending or having power to propel

pro·pyl \'prō-pəl\ *n* : either of two isomeric alkyl radicals C_3H_7 derived from propane or an isomer — **pro·pyl·ic** \prō-'pil-ik\ *adj*

pro·py·lae·um \ˌpräp-ə-'lē-əm, ˌprōp-\ *n, pl* **-laea** \-'lē-ə\ [L, fr. Gk *propylaion*, fr. *pro-* before + *pylē* gate — more at PRO-] : a vestibule or entrance of architectural importance before a building or enclosure — often used in pl.

pro·pyl·ene \'prō-pə-ˌlēn\ *n* : a flammable gaseous hydrocarbon C_3H_6 obtained by cracking petroleum hydrocarbons and used chiefly in organic synthesis

propylene glycol *n* : a sweet hygroscopic viscous liquid $C_3H_8O_2$ made esp. from propylene and used esp. as an antifreeze and solvent and in brake fluids

pro ra·ta \(ˌ)prō-'rāt-ə, -'rät-, -'rat-\ *adv* [L] : proportionately according to an exactly calculable factor (as share or liability) — **pro rata** *adj*

pro·rate \(ˌ)prō-'rāt\ *vb* **pro·rat·ed; pro·rat·ing** [*pro rata*] *vt* : to divide, distribute, or assess proportionately ~ *vi* : to make a pro rata distribution

pro·ra·tion \prō-'rā-shən\ *n* : an act or an instance of prorating; *specif* : the limitation of production of crude oil or gas to some fractional part of the total productive capacity of each producer

pro·ro·gate \'prōr-ō-ˌgāt, 'prȯr-\ *vt* **-gat·ed; -gat·ing** : PROROGUE — **pro·ro·ga·tion** \ˌprōr-ō-'gā-shən, ˌprȯr-\ *n*

pro·rogue \p(r)ə-'rōg\ *vb* **pro·rogued; pro·rogu·ing** [ME *prorogen*, fr. MF *proroguer*, fr. L *prorogare*, fr. *pro-* before + *rogare* to ask — more at PRO-, RIGHT] *vt* **1** : DEFER, POSTPONE **2** : to terminate a session of (as a British parliament) by royal prerogative ~ *vi* : to suspend or end a legislative session ***syn*** see ADJOURN

¹pros *pl of* PRO

²pros *abbr* prosody

pros- *prefix* [LL, fr. Gk, fr. *proti, pros* face to face with, towards, in addition to, near; akin to Skt *prati-* near, towards, against, in return, Gk *pro* before — more at FOR] **1** : near : toward ⟨*pros*enchyma⟩ **2** : in front ⟨*pros*encephalon⟩

pro·sa·ic \prō-'zā-ik\ *adj* [LL *prosaicus*, fr. L *prosa* prose] **1 a** : characteristic of prose as distinguished from poetry : FACTUAL **b** : DULL, UNIMAGINATIVE **2** : belonging to or suitable for the everyday world — **pro·sa·i·cal·ly** \-'zā-ə-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

syn PROSAIC, PROSY, MATTER-OF-FACT *shared meaning element* : having a plain practical unimaginative quality or character

pro·sa·ism \'prō-(ˌ)zā-ˌiz-əm\ *n* **1** : a prosaic manner, style, or quality **2** : a prosaic expression

pro·sa·ist *n* [L *prosa* prose] **1** \'prō-(ˌ)zā-əst, -zā-ˌist\ : a prose writer **2** \prō-'zā-əst\ : a prosaic person

pro·sa·teur \ˌprō-zə-'tər\ *n* [F, fr. It *prosatore*, fr. ML *prosator*, fr. L *prosa*] : a writer of prose

pro·sce·ni·um \prō-'sē-nē-əm\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *proskēnion* front of the building forming the background for a dramatic performance, stage, fr. *pro-* + *skēnē* building forming the background for a dramatic performance — more at SCENE] **1 a** : the stage of an ancient Greek or Roman theater **b** : the part of a modern stage in front of the curtain **c** : the wall that separates the stage from the auditorium and provides the arch that frames it **2** : FOREGROUND

proscenium arch *n* : the arch that encloses the opening in the proscenium wall through which the spectator sees the stage

pro·sciut·to \prō-'shü-(ˌ)tō\ *n, pl* **-ti** \-(ˌ)tē\ *or* **-tos** [It, alter. of obs. *presciutto*] : dry-cured spiced Italian ham usu. sliced very thin

pro·scribe \prō-'skrīb\ *vt* **pro·scribed; pro·scrib·ing** [L *proscribere* to publish, proscribe, fr. *pro-* before + *scribere* to write — more at SCRIBE] **1 a** : to publish the name of (a person) as condemned to death with his property forfeited to the state **b** : OUTLAW **2** : to condemn or forbid as harmful : PROHIBIT — **pro·scrib·er** *n*

pro·scrip·tion \prō-'skrip-shən\ *n* [ME *proscripcion*, fr. L *proscription-, proscriptio*, fr. *proscriptus*, pp. of *proscribere*] **1** : the act of proscribing : the state of being proscribed **2** : an imposed restraint or restriction : PROHIBITION — **pro·scrip·tive** \-'skrip-tiv\ *adj* — **pro·scrip·tive·ly** *adv*

¹prose \'prōz\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *prosa*, fr. fem. of *prorsus, prosus*, straightforward, being in prose, contr. of *proversus*, pp. of *provertere* to turn forward, fr. *pro-* forward + *vertere* to turn — more at PRO-, WORTH] **1 a** : the ordinary language of men in speaking or writing **b** : a literary medium distinguished from poetry esp. by its greater irregularity and variety of rhythm and its closer correspondence to the patterns of everyday speech **2** : a prosaic style, quality, character, or condition : ORDINARINESS, MATTER-OF-FACTNESS

²prose *vi* **prosed; pros·ing** **1** : to write prose **2** : to write or speak in a dull prosaic manner

[3]prose *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or written in prose **2** : MATTER-OF-FACT, PROSAIC ⟨dry, ~ people of superior intelligence —Mary McCarthy⟩

pro·sec·tor \prō-'sek-tər\ *n* [prob. fr. F *prosecteur*, fr. LL *prosector* anatomist, fr. L *prosectus*, pp. of *prosecare* to cut away, fr. *pro-* forth + *secare* to cut — more at PRO-, SAW] : one that makes dissections for anatomic demonstrations — **pro·sec·to·ri·al** \ˌprō-ˌsek-'tōr-ē-əl, -'tȯr-\ *adj*

pros·e·cute \'präs-i-ˌkyüt\ *vb* **-cut·ed; -cut·ing** [ME *prosecuten*, fr. L *prosecutus*, pp. of *prosequi* to pursue — more at PURSUE] *vt* **1** : to follow to the end : pursue until finished ⟨was . . . ordered to ~ the war with . . . vigor —Marjory S. Douglas⟩ **2** : to engage in : PERFORM **3 a** : to pursue for redress or punishment of a crime or violation of law in due legal form before a legal tribunal ⟨*prosecuted* them for fraud⟩ **b** : to institute legal proceedings with reference to ⟨~ a claim⟩ ~ *vi* : to institute and carry on a legal suit or prosecution — **pros·e·cut·able** \-ˌkyüt-ə-bəl\ *adj*

prosecuting attorney *n* : an attorney who conducts proceedings in a court on behalf of the government : DISTRICT ATTORNEY

pros·e·cu·tion \ˌpräs-i-'kyü-shən\ *n* **1** : the act or process of prosecuting; *specif* : the institution and continuance of a criminal suit involving the process of pursuing formal charges against an offender to final judgment **2** : the party by whom criminal proceedings are instituted or conducted **3** *obs* : PURSUIT

pros·e·cu·tor \'präs-i-ˌkyüt-ər\ *n* **1** : a person who institutes an official prosecution before a court **2** : PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

[1]pros·e·lyte \'präs-ə-ˌlīt\ *n* [ME *proselite*, fr. LL *proselytus* proselyte, alien resident, fr. Gk *prosēlytos*, fr. *pros* near + *-ēlytos* (akin to *elthein* to go); akin to Gk *elaunein* to drive — more at PROS-, ELASTIC] : a new convert; *specif* : a convert to Judaism

[2]proselyte *vb* **-lyt·ed; -lyt·ing** *vt* : to convert from one religion, belief, or party to another ~ *vi* **1** : to make proselytes **2** : to recruit members esp. by the offer of special inducements

pros·e·ly·tism \'präs-ə-ˌlīt-ˌiz-əm, 'präs-(ə-)lə-ˌtiz-\ *n* **1** : the act of becoming or condition of being a proselyte : CONVERSION **2** : the act or process of proselyting

pros·e·ly·tize \'präs-(ə-)lə-ˌtīz\ *vb* **-tized; -tiz·ing** : PROSELYTE — **pros·e·ly·ti·za·tion** \ˌpräs-(ə-)lət-ə-'zā-shən, ˌpräs-ə-ˌlīt-\ *n* — **pros·e·ly·tiz·er** \'präs-(ə-)lə-ˌtī-zər\ *n*

pro·sem·i·nar \(')prō-'sem-ə-ˌnär\ *n* : a directed course of study conducted in the manner of a graduate seminar but often open to advanced undergraduate students

pros·en·ceph·a·lon \ˌpräs-ˌen-'sef-ə-ˌlän, -lən\ *n* [NL] : FOREBRAIN — **pros·en·ce·phal·ic** \-sə-'fal-ik\ *adj*

pros·en·chy·ma \prä-'seŋ-kə-mə\ *n, pl* **pros·en·chy·ma·ta** \ˌpräs-ᵊn-'kim-ət-ə, -'kīm-\ *or* **prosenchymas** [NL] : a tissue of higher plants composed of elongated cells with little protoplasm and specialized for conduction and support — **pros·en·chy·ma·tous** \ˌpräs-ᵊn-'kim-ət-əs, -'kīm-\ *adj*

prose poem *n* : a work in prose that has some of the qualities of a poem — **prose poet** *n*

pros·er \'prō-zər\ *n* **1** : a writer of prose **2** : one who talks or writes tediously

Pro·ser·pi·na \prə-'sər-pə-nə\ *or* **Pros·er·pine** \'präs-ər-ˌpīn\ *n* [L *Proserpina*] : PERSEPHONE

pro·sit \'prō-zət, -sət\ *or* **prost** \'prōst\ *interj* [G, fr. L *prosit* may it be beneficial, fr. *prodesse* to be useful — more at PROUD] — used to wish good health esp. before drinking

pro·so \'prō-(ˌ)sō\ *n* [Russ] : MILLET 1a

proso·branch \'präs-ə-ˌbraŋk\ *n, pl* **-branchs** [NL *Prosobranchia*, group name, fr. *proso-* in front (fr. Gk *prosō* forward) + *branchia*] : any of a subclass (Streptoneura, Prosobranchia, or Prosobranchiata) of gastropods that have the loop of visceral nerves twisted into a figure 8, the sexes usu. separate, and usu. an operculum

pro·sod·ic \prə-'säd-ik *also* -'zäd-\ *or* **pro·sod·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj* : of or relating to prosody — **pro·sod·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

pros·o·dy \'präs-əd-ē *also* 'präz-\ *n, pl* **-dies** [ME, fr. L *prosodia* accent of a syllable, fr. Gk *prosōidia* song sung to instrumental music, accent, fr. *pros* in addition to + *ōidē* song — more at PROS-, ODE] **1** : the study of versification; *esp* : the systematic study of metrical structure : METRICS **2** : a particular system, theory, or style of versification — **pros·o·dist** \-əd-əst\ *n*

pro·so·ma \(')prō-'sō-mə\ *n* [NL, fr. Gk *pro-* + *sōma* body; akin to L *tumēre* to swell — more at THUMB] : the anterior region of the body of an invertebrate when not readily analyzable into its primitive segmentation; *esp* : CEPHALOTHORAX — **pro·so·mal** \-məl\ *adj*

pros·o·pog·ra·phy \ˌpräs-ə-'päg-rə-fē\ *n* [NL *prosopographia*, fr. Gk *prosōpon* person + *-graphia* -graphy] : a study that identifies and relates a group of persons or characters within a particular historical or literary context — **pros·o·po·graph·i·cal** \-pə-'graf-i-kəl\ *adj*

pro·so·po·poe·ia \prə-ˌsō-pə-'pē-(y)ə, ˌpräs-ə-pə-\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *prosōpopoiia*, fr. *prosōpon* mask, person (fr. *pros-* + *ōps* face) + *poiein* to make — more at EYE, POET] **1** : a figure of speech in which an imaginary or absent person is represented as speaking or acting **2** : PERSONIFICATION

[1]pros·pect \'präs-ˌpekt\ *n* [ME, fr. L *prospectus* view, prospect, fr. *prospectus*, pp. of *prospicere* to look forward, exercise foresight, fr. *pro-* forward + *specere* to look — more at PRO-, SPY] **1** : EXPOSURE 2b **2 a** (1) : an extensive view (2) : a mental consideration : SURVEY **b** : a place that commands an extensive view : LOOKOUT **c** : something extended to the view : SCENE **d** *archaic* : a sketch or picture of a scene **3** *obs* : ASPECT **4 a** : the act of looking forward : ANTICIPATION **b** : a mental picture of something to come : VISION **c** : something that is awaited or expected : POSSIBILITY **d** *pl* (1) : financial expectations (2) : CHANCES **5 a** : a place showing signs of containing a mineral deposit **b** : a partly developed mine **c** : the mineral yield of a tested sample of ore or gravel **6 a** : a potential buyer or customer **b** : a likely candidate

syn PROSPECT, OUTLOOK, ANTICIPATION, FORETASTE *shared meaning element* : an advance realization of something to come

[2]pros·pect \'präs-ˌpekt, *chiefly Brit* prəs-'\ *vi* : to explore an area esp. for mineral deposits ~ *vt* : to inspect (a region) for mineral deposits; *broadly* : EXPLORE — **pros·pec·tor** \-ˌpek-tər, -'pek-\ *n*

pro·spec·tive \prə-'spek-tiv *also* 'prä-ˌ, prō-', prä-'\ *adj* **1** : likely to come about : EXPECTED ⟨the ~ benefits of this law⟩ **2** : likely to be or become ⟨a ~ mother⟩ — **pro·spec·tive·ly** *adv*

pro·spec·tus \prə-'spek-təs, prä-\ *n* [L, prospect] **1** : a preliminary printed statement that describes an enterprise (as a business or publication) and that is distributed to prospective buyers, investors, or participants **2** : something (as a statement or situation) that forecasts the course or nature of something not yet existent or developed

pros·per \'präs-pər\ *vb* **pros·pered; pros·per·ing** \-p(ə-)riŋ\ [ME *prosperen*, fr. MF *prosperer*, fr. L *prosperare* to cause to succeed, fr. *prosperus* favorable] *vi* **1** : to succeed in an enterprise or activity; *esp* : to achieve economic success **2** : to become strong and flourishing ~ *vt* : to cause to succeed or thrive ***syn*** see SUCCEED

pros·per·i·ty \prä-'sper-ət-ē\ *n* : the condition of being successful or thriving; *esp* : economic well-being

Pros·pero \'präs-pə-ˌrō\ *n* : the rightful duke of Milan in Shakespeare's *The Tempest*

pros·per·ous \'präs-p(ə-)rəs\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF *prospereux*, fr. *prosperer* to prosper + *-eux* -ous] **1** : AUSPICIOUS, FAVORABLE **2 a** : marked by success or economic well-being **b** : enjoying vigorous and healthy growth : FLOURISHING — **pros·per·ous·ly** *adv* — **pros·per·ous·ness** *n*

pros·ta·glan·din \ˌpräs-tə-'glan-dən\ *n* [*prostate gland* + *-in*; fr. its occurrence in the sexual glands of animals] : any of various oxygenated unsaturated cyclic fatty acids of animals that may perform a variety of hormonelike actions (as in controlling blood pressure or smooth muscle contraction)

[1]pros·tate \'präs-ˌtāt\ *n* : PROSTATE GLAND

[2]pros·tate \'präs-ˌtāt\ *also* **pros·tat·ic** \prä-'stat-ik\ *adj* [NL *prostata* prostate gland, fr. Gk *prostatēs*, fr. *proïstanai* to put in front, fr. *pro-* before + *histanai* to cause to stand — more at PRO-, STAND] : of, relating to, or being the prostate gland

pros·ta·tec·to·my \ˌpräs-tə-'tek-tə-mē\ *n, pl* **-mies** : surgical removal of the prostate gland

prostate gland *n* : a firm partly muscular partly glandular body that is situated about the base of the mammalian male urethra and secretes an alkaline viscid fluid which is a major constituent of the ejaculatory fluid

prostatic utricle *n* : a small blind pouch that projects from the posterior wall of the urethra into the prostate

pros·ta·tism \'präs-tə-ˌtiz-əm\ *n* : disease of the prostate; *esp* : a disorder resulting from obstruction of the bladder neck by an enlarged prostate

pros·ta·ti·tis \ˌpräs-tə-'tīt-əs\ *n* [NL] : inflammation of the prostate gland

pros·the·sis \präs-'thē-səs, 'präs-thə-\ *n, pl* **-the·ses** \-ˌsēz\ [NL, fr. Gk, addition, fr. *prostithenai* to add to, fr. *pros-* in addition to + *tithenai* to put — more at PROS-, DO] : an artificial device to replace a missing part of the body

pros·thet·ic \präs-'thet-ik\ *adj* **1** : of or relating to a prosthesis or prosthetics **2** : of, relating to, or constituting a nonprotein group of a conjugated protein — **pros·thet·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

pros·thet·ics \-iks\ *n pl but sing or pl in constr* : the surgical and dental specialties concerned with the artificial replacement of missing parts

prosth·odon·tics \ˌpräs-thə-'dänt-iks\ *n pl but sing or pl in constr* [NL *prosthodontia*, fr. *prosthesis* + *-odontia*] : prosthetic dentistry

prosth·odon·tist \-'dänt-əst\ *n* : a specialist in prosthodontics

[1]pros·ti·tute \'präs-tə-ˌt(y)üt\ *vt* **-tut·ed; -tut·ing** [L *prostitutus*, pp. of *prostituere*, fr. *pro-* before + *statuere* to station — more at PRO-, STATUTE] **1** : to offer indiscriminately for sexual intercourse esp. for money **2** : to devote to corrupt or unworthy purposes : DEBASE ⟨~ one's talents⟩ — **pros·ti·tu·tor** \-ˌt(y)üt-ər\ *n*

[2]prostitute *adj* : devoted to corrupt purposes : PROSTITUTED

[3]prostitute *n* **1 a** : a woman who engages in promiscuous sexual intercourse esp. for money : WHORE **b** : a male who engages in sexual practices for money **2** : a person (as a writer or painter) who deliberately debases himself or his talents (as for money)

pros·ti·tu·tion \ˌpräs-tə-'t(y)ü-shən\ *n* **1** : the act or practice of indulging in promiscuous sexual relations esp. for money **2** : the state of being prostituted : DEBASEMENT

pro·sto·mi·um \prō-'stō-mē-əm\ *n, pl* **-mia** \-mē-ə\ [NL, fr. Gk *pro-* + *stoma* mouth — more at STOMACH] : the portion of the head of various worms and mollusks that is situated in front of the mouth and is usu. considered to be nonmetameric — **pro·sto·mi·al** \-mē-əl\ *adj*

[1]pros·trate \'präs-ˌtrāt\ *adj* [ME *prostrat*, fr. L *prostratus*, pp. of *prosternere*, fr. *pro-* before + *sternere* to spread out, throw down — more at STREW] **1 a** : stretched out with face on the ground in adoration or submission **b** : extended in a horizontal position : FLAT **2** : lacking in vitality or will : OVERCOME **3** : trailing on the ground : PROCUMBENT ⟨~ shrub⟩ ***syn*** see PRONE

[2]pros·trate \'präs-ˌtrāt, *esp Brit* präs-'\ *vt* **pros·trat·ed; pros·trat·ing** **1** : to throw or put into a prostrate position **2** : to put (oneself) in a humble and submissive posture or state ⟨the whole town had to ~ itself in official apology —Claudia Cassidy⟩ **3** : to reduce to submission, helplessness, or exhaustion : OVERCOME ⟨*prostrated* with grief⟩

pros·tra·tion \prä-'strā-shən\ *n* **1 a** : the act of assuming a prostrate position **b** : the state of being in a prostrate position : ABASEMENT **2 a** : complete physical or mental exhaustion : COLLAPSE **b** : the process of being made powerless or the condition of powerlessness ⟨the country suffered economic ~ after the war⟩

prosy \'prō-zē\ *adj* **pros·i·er; -est** [[1]*prose*] : lacking in qualities that seize the attention or strike the imagination : COMMONPLACE; *esp* : tediously dull in speech or manner ***syn*** see PROSAIC — **pros·i·ly** \-zə-lē\ *adv* — **pros·i·ness** \-zē-nəs\ *n*

Prot *abbr* Protestant

prot- *or* **proto-** *comb form* [ME *protho-*, fr. MF, fr. LL *proto-*, fr. Gk *prōt-*, *prōto-*, fr. *prōtos;* akin to Gk *pro* before — more at FOR] **1 a** : first in time ⟨*proto*lithic⟩ ⟨*proto*nymph⟩ **b** : beginning : giving rise to ⟨*proto*planet⟩ **2 a** : first or lowest of a series and as such usu. having the smallest relative amount of a (specified) element or radical ⟨*proto*xide⟩ **b** : parent substance of a (specified) substance ⟨*prot*actinium⟩ **3** : first formed : primary ⟨*proto*xylem⟩ **4** *cap* : relating to or constituting the recorded or assumed language that is ancestral to a language or to a group of related languages or dialects ⟨*Proto*-Indo-European⟩

prot·ac·tin·i·um \ˌprōt-ˌak-ˈtin-ē-əm\ *n* [NL] : a shiny metallic radioelement of relatively short life — see ELEMENT table

pro·tag·o·nist \prō-ˈtag-ə-nəst\ *n* [Gk *prōtagōnistēs*, fr. *prōt-* prot- + *agōnistēs* competitor at games, actor, fr. *agōnizesthai* to compete, fr. *agōn* contest, competition at games — more at AGONY] **1** : one who takes the leading part in a drama, novel, or story **2** : the leader of a cause : CHAMPION **3** : a muscle that by its contraction actually causes a particular movement

prot·amine \ˈprōt-ə-ˌmēn\ *n* [ISV *prot-* + *amine*] : any of various strongly basic proteins of relatively low molecular weight that are associated with nucleic acids, can be obtained in quantity from sperm cells, and typically contain much arginine

prot·a·sis \ˈprät-ə-səs\ *n, pl* **-a·ses** \-ˌsēz\ [LL, fr. Gk, premise of a syllogism, conditional clause, fr. *proteinein* to stretch out before, put forward, fr. *pro-* + *teinein* to stretch — more at THIN] **1** : the introductory part of a play or narrative poem **2** : the subordinate clause of a conditional sentence — compare APODOSIS — **pro·tat·ic** \prä-ˈtat-ik, prō-\ *adj*

prote- *or* **proteo-** *comb form* [ISV, fr. F *protéine*] : protein ⟨*proteol*ysis⟩ ⟨*proteose*⟩

pro·tea \ˈprōt-ē-ə\ *n* [NL, genus name, fr. L *Proteus* Proteus] : any of a genus (*Protea* of the family Proteaceae, the protea family) of evergreen shrubs often grown for their showy bracts and dense flower heads

pro·te·an \ˈprōt-ē-ən, prō-ˈtē-\ *adj* **1** : of or resembling Proteus : VARIABLE **2** : readily assuming different shapes or roles **3** : displaying great diversity

pro·te·ase \ˈprōt-ē-ˌās, -ˌāz\ *n* [ISV] : PROTEINASE, PEPTIDASE

pro·tect \prə-ˈtekt\ *vt* [L *protectus*, pp. of *protegere*, fr. *pro-* in front + *tegere* to cover — more at PRO-, THATCH] **1 a** : to cover or shield from injury or destruction : GUARD **b** : to save from contingent financial loss **2** : to shield or foster by a protective tariff ***syn*** see DEFEND — **pro·tec·tive** \-ˈtek-tiv\ *adj* — **pro·tec·tive·ly** *adv* — **pro·tec·tive·ness** *n*

pro·tec·tant \prə-ˈtek-tənt\ *n* : a protecting agent

pro·tec·tion \prə-ˈtek-shən\ *n* **1** : the act of protecting : the state of being protected **2 a** : one that protects **b** : supervision or support of one that is smaller and weaker **3** : the freeing of the producers of a country from foreign competition in their home market by restrictions (as high duties) on foreign competitive goods **4 a** : immunity from prosecution purchased by criminals through bribery **b** : money extorted by racketeers posing as a protective association **5** : COVERAGE 2a

pro·tec·tion·ist \-sh(ə-)nəst\ *n* : an advocate of government economic protection for domestic producers through restrictions on foreign competitors — **pro·tec·tion·ism** \-shə-ˌniz-əm\ *n* — **protectionist** *adj*

protective tariff *n* : a tariff intended primarily to protect domestic producers rather than to yield revenue — compare REVENUE TARIFF

pro·tec·tor \prə-ˈtek-tər\ *n* **1 a** : one that protects : GUARDIAN **b** : a device used to prevent injury : GUARD **2 a** : one having the care of a kingdom during the king's minority : REGENT **b** : the executive head of the Commonwealth of England, Scotland, and Ireland from 1653 to 1659 — called also *Lord Protector of the Commonwealth* — **pro·tec·tor·ship** \-ˌship\ *n* — **pro·tec·tress** \-ˈtek-trəs\ *n*

pro·tec·tor·al \-ˈtek-t(ə-)rəl\ *adj* : of or relating to a protector or protectorate

pro·tec·tor·ate \-ˈtek-t(ə-)rət\ *n* **1 a** : government by a protector **b** : the government of England (1653–59) under the Cromwells **c** : the rank, office, or period of rule of a protector **2 a** : the relationship of superior authority assumed by one power or state over a dependent one **b** : the dependent political unit in such a relationship

pro·tec·to·ry \-t(ə-)rē\ *n, pl* **-ries** : an institution for the protection and care usu. of homeless or delinquent children

pro·té·gé \ˈprōt-ə-ˌzhā, ˌprōt-ə-ˈ\ *n* [F, fr. pp. of *protéger* to protect, fr. L *protegere*] : a man under the care and protection of an influential person usu. for the furthering of his career

pro·té·gée \ˈprōt-ə-ˌzhā, ˌprōt-ə-ˈ\ *n* [F, fem. of *protégé*] : a female protégé

pro·teid \ˈprō-ˌtēd, ˈprōt-ē-əd\ *also* **pro·teide** \ˈprō-ˌtīd, ˈprōt-ē-ˌīd\ *n* [ISV, fr. *protein*] : PROTEIN 1

pro·tein \ˈprō-ˌtēn, ˈprōt-ē-ən\ *n, often attrib* [F *protéine*, fr. LGk *prōteios* primary, fr. Gk *prōtos* first — more at PROT-] **1** : any of numerous naturally occurring extremely complex combinations of amino acids that contain the elements carbon, hydrogen, nitrogen, oxygen, usu. sulfur, and occas. other elements (as phosphorus or iron), are essential constituents of all living cells, and are synthesized from raw materials by plants but assimilated as separate amino acids by animals **2** : the total nitrogenous material in plant or animal substances

pro·tein·aceous \ˌprōt-ᵊn-ˈā-shəs, ˌprō-ˌtēn-, ˌprōt-ē-ən-\ *adj* : of, relating to, resembling, or being protein

pro·tein·ase \ˈprōt-ᵊn-ˌās, ˈprō-ˌtēn-, ˈprōt-ē-ən-, -ˌāz\ *n* [ISV] : an enzyme that hydrolyzes proteins esp. to peptides

pro·tein·ate \-ˌāt\ *n* : a compound of a protein ⟨silver ~⟩

pro·tein·uria \ˌprōt-ᵊn-ˈ(y)u̇r-ē-ə, ˌprō-ˌtēn-, ˌprōt-ē-ən-\ *n* [NL, fr. ISV *protein* + NL *-uria*] : the presence of protein in the urine — **pro·tein·uric** \-ˈ(y)u̇r-ik\ *adj*

pro tem \(ˈ)prō-ˈtem\ *adv* : pro tempore

pro tem·po·re \prō-ˈtem-pə-rē\ *adv* [L] : for the time being

pro·tend \prō-ˈtend\ *vb* [ME *protenden*, fr. L *protendere*, fr. *pro-* + *tendere* to stretch — more at THIN] *vt* **1** *archaic* : to stretch forth **2** *archaic* : EXTEND ~ *vi, archaic* : to stick out : PROTRUDE

pro·ten·sive \-ˈten(t)-siv\ *adj* [L *protensus*, pp. of *protendere*] **1** *archaic* : having continuance in time **2** *archaic* : having lengthwise extent or extensiveness — **pro·ten·sive·ly** *adv*

pro·teo·clas·tic \ˌprōt-ē-ō-ˈklas-tik\ *adj* [*prote-* + Gk *klan* to break — more at HALT] : PROTEOLYTIC

pro·te·ol·y·sis \ˌprōt-ē-ˈäl-ə-səs\ *n* [NL] : the hydrolysis of proteins or peptides with formation of simpler and soluble products

pro·teo·lyt·ic \ˌprōt-ē-ə-ˈlit-ik\ *adj* : of, relating to, or producing proteolysis

pro·te·ose \ˈprōt-ē-ˌōs, -ˌōz\ *n* [ISV] : any of various water-soluble protein derivatives formed by partial hydrolysis of proteins

pro·ter·an·thous \ˌprät-ə-ˈran(t)-thəs, ˌprōt-\ *adj* [Gk *proteros* + *anthos* flower — more at ANTHOLOGY] : having flowers appearing before the leaves — **pro·ter·an·thy** \ˈprät-ə-ˌran(t)-thē, ˈprōt-\ *n*

Pro·tero·zo·ic \ˌprät-ə-rə-ˈzō-ik, ˌprōt-\ *adj* [Gk *proteros* former, earlier (fr. *pro* before) + ISV *-zoic* — more at FOR] : of, relating to, or being an era of geological history that includes the interval between the Archeozoic and the Paleozoic, perhaps exceeds in length all of subsequent geological time, and is marked by rocks that contain a few fossils indicating the existence of annelid worms and algae; *also* : relating to the system of rocks formed in this era — see GEOLOGIC TIME table — **Proterozoic** *n*

¹pro·test \ˈprō-ˌtest\ *n* **1** : a solemn declaration of opinion and usu. of dissent: as **a** : a sworn declaration that payment of a note or bill has been refused and that all responsible signers or debtors are liable for resulting loss or damage **b** : a formal declaration of dissent by a member to an act or resolution of a legislature; *esp* : one made by a member of the House of Lords **c** : a declaration made esp. before or while paying that a tax is illegal and that payment is not voluntary **d** : a solemn declaration of disapproval **2** : the act of protesting; *esp* : a usu. organized public demonstration of disapproval ⟨staged a ~ against the war⟩ **3 a** : a complaint, objection, or display of unwillingness usu. to an idea or a course of action ⟨went to the dentist under ~⟩ **b** : a gesture of extreme disapproval **4** : an objection made to an official or a governing body of a sport

²pro·test \prə-ˈtest, ˈprō-ˌ, prō-ˈ\ *vb* [ME *protesten*, fr. MF *protester*, fr. L *protestari*, fr. *pro-* forth + *testari* to call to witness — more at PRO-, TESTAMENT] *vt* **1** : to make solemn declaration or affirmation of **2** : to execute or have executed a formal protest against (as a bill or note) **3** : to make a protest against **4** : to offer objection to in words or acts ~ *vi* **1** : to make a protestation **2** : to make or enter a protest ***syn*** **1** see ASSERT **2** see OBJECT ***ant*** agree — **pro·test·er** *or* **pro·tes·tor** \-ˈtes-tər, -ˌtes-\ *n*

¹prot·es·tant \ˈprät-əs-tənt, *2 is also* prə-ˈtes-\ *n* [MF, fr. L *protestant-*, *protestans*, prp. of *protestari*] **1** *cap* **a** : one of a group of German princes and cities presenting a defense of freedom of conscience against an edict of the Diet of Spires in 1529 intended to suppress the Lutheran movement **b** : a Christian denying the universal authority of the Pope and affirming the Reformation principles of justification by faith alone, the priesthood of all believers, and the primacy of the Bible as the only source of revealed truth **c** : a Christian not of a Catholic or Eastern church **2** : one who makes or enters a protest — **Prot·es·tant·ism** \ˈprät-əs-tənt-ˌiz-əm\ *n*

²protestant *adj* **1** *cap* : of or relating to Protestants, their churches, or their religion **2** : making or sounding a protest ⟨the two ~ ladies up and marched out —*Time*⟩

pro·tes·ta·tion \ˌprät-əs-ˈtā-shən, ˌprō-ˌtes-, ˌprōt-əs-, ˌprät-ˌes-\ *n* : the act of protesting : a solemn declaration or avowal

pro·te·us \ˈprōt-ē-əs\ *n, pl* **-tei** \-ē-ˌī\ [NL, genus name, fr. L, Proteus] : any of a genus (*Proteus*) of aerobic gram-negative usu. motile bacteria that include saprophytes in decaying organic matter and forms associated with gastrointestinal disorders

Pro·teus \ˈprō-ˌt(y)üs, ˈprōt-ē-əs\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *Prōteus*] : a Greek sea god capable of assuming different forms

pro·tha·la·mi·on \ˌprō-thə-ˈlā-mē-ən, -ˌän\ *or* **pro·tha·la·mi·um** \-mē-əm\ *n, pl* **-mia** \-mē-ə\ [NL, fr. Gk *pro-* + *-thalamion* (as in *epithalamion*)] : a song in celebration of a marriage

pro·thal·li·um \prō-ˈthal-ē-əm\ *n, pl* **-thal·lia** \-ē-ə\ [NL, fr. *pro-* + *thallus*] **1** : the gametophyte of a pteridophyte (as a fern) that is typically a small flat green thallus attached to the soil by rhizoids **2** : a greatly reduced structure of a seed plant corresponding to the pteridophyte prothallium — **pro·thal·li·al** \-ē-əl\ *adj*

pro·thal·lus \(ˈ)prō-ˈthal-əs\ *n* [NL, fr. *pro-* + *thallus*] : PROTHALLIUM

proth·e·sis \ˈpräth-ə-səs\ *n, pl* **-e·ses** \-ˌsēz\ [LL, alter. of *prosthesis*, fr. Gk, lit., addition — more at PROSTHESIS] : the addition of a sound to the beginning of a word (as in Old French *estat* — whence English *estate* — from Latin *status*) — **pro·thet·ic** \prä-ˈthet-ik\ *adj*

prothe·tely \ˈpräth-ə-ˌtel-ē\ *n* [perh. fr. Gk *protithe*nai to put before (fr. *pro-* + *tithenai* to put) + *telein* to complete, perfect, fr. *telos* end — more at DO, WHEEL] : relatively precocious differentiation of a structure usu. associated with a later stage of development — **prothe·tel·ic** \ˌpräth-ə-ˈtel-ik\ *adj*

pro·tho·no·ta·ry \prō-ˈthän-ə-ˌter-ē, ˌprō-thə-ˈnōt-ə-rē\ *or* **pro·to·no·ta·ry** \prō-ˈtän-ə-ˌter-ē, ˌprōt-ə-ˈnōt-ə-rē\ *n, pl* **-ries** [ME *prothonotarie*, fr. LL *protonotarius*, fr. *prot-* + L *notarius* notary] : a chief clerk of any of various courts of law — **pro·tho·no·tar·i·al** \prō-ˌthän-ə-ˈter-ē-əl, ˌpro-thə-nō-ˈter-ē-əl\ *adj*

pro·tho·rac·ic \ˌprō-thə-ˈras-ik\ *adj* : of or relating to the prothorax

prothoracic gland *n* : one of a pair of thoracic endocrine organs in some insects that control molting
pro·tho·rax \(ˈ)prō-ˈthō(ə)r-ˌaks, -ˈthȯ(ə)r-\ *n* [NL *prothorac-, prothorax*, fr. ¹*pro-* + *thorax*] : the anterior segment of the thorax of an insect — see INSECT illustration
pro·throm·bin \(ˈ)prō-ˈthräm-bən\ *n* [ISV] : a plasma protein produced in the liver in the presence of vitamin K and converted into thrombin in the clotting of blood
pro·tist \ˈprōt-əst, ˈprō-ˌtist\ *n* [deriv. of Gk *prōtistos* very first, primal, fr. superl. of *prōtos* first — more at PROT-] : any of a kingdom or other group (Protista) of unicellular or acellular organisms comprising bacteria, protozoans, various algae and fungi, and sometimes viruses — **pro·tis·tan** \prō-ˈtis-tən\ *adj or n*
pro·ti·um \ˈprōt-ē-əm, ˈprō-shē-\ *n* [NL, fr. Gk *prōtos* first] : the ordinary light hydrogen isotope of atomic mass 1
proto- — see PROT-
pro·to·col \ˈprōt-ə-ˌkȯl, -ˌkōl, -ˌkäl, -kəl\ *n* [MF *prothocole*, fr. ML *protocollum*, fr. LGk *prōtokollon* first sheet of a papyrus roll bearing data of manufacture, fr. Gk *prōt-* prot- + *kollan* to glue together, fr. *kolla* glue; akin to MD *helen* to glue] **1** : an original draft, minute, or record of a document or transaction **2 a** : a preliminary memorandum often formulated and signed by diplomatic negotiators as a basis for a final convention or treaty **b** : the records or minutes of a diplomatic conference or congress that show officially the agreements arrived at by the negotiators **3** : a code prescribing strict adherence to correct etiquette and precedence (as in diplomatic exchange and in the military services) **4** : the plan of a scientific experiment or treatment
pro·to·derm \ˈprōt-ə-ˌdərm\ *n* [ISV] : DERMATOGEN — **pro·to·der·mal** \ˌprōt-ə-ˈdər-məl\ *adj*
pro·to·gal·axy \ˌprōt-ō-ˈgal-ək-sē\ *n* : a hypothetical cloud of gas believed to have condensed into stars and formed the galaxies
pro·to·his·to·ry \-ˈhis-t(ə-)rē\ *n* [ISV] : the study of man in the times that immediately antedate recorded history — **pro·to·his·to·ri·an** \-(h)is-ˈtōr-ē-ən, -ˈtȯr-\ *n* — **pro·to·his·tor·ic** \-ˈtȯr-ik, -ˈtär-\ *adj*
pro·to·hu·man \-ˈhyü-mən, -ˈyü-\ *adj* : of, relating to, or resembling an early primitive human or a manlike primate — **protohuman** *n*
pro·to·lan·guage \ˈprōt-ō-ˌlaŋ-gwij\ *n* : an assumed or recorded ancestral language
pro·to·lith·ic \ˌprōt-ə-ˈlith-ik\ *adj* : of or relating to the earliest period of the Stone Age : EOLITHIC
pro·to·mar·tyr \ˈprōt-ō-ˌmärt-ər\ *n* [ME *prothomartir*, fr. MF, fr. LL *protomartyr*, fr. LGk *prōtomartyr-, prōtomartys*, fr. Gk *prōt-* + *martyr-, martys* martyr] : the first martyr in a cause or region
pro·ton \ˈprō-ˌtän\ *n* [Gk *prōton*, neut. of *prōtos* first — more at PROT-] : an elementary particle that is identical with the nucleus of the hydrogen atom, that along with neutrons is a constituent of all other atomic nuclei, that carries a positive charge numerically equal to the charge of an electron, and that has a mass of 1.672×10^{-24} gram — **pro·ton·ic** \prō-ˈtän-ik\ *adj*
pro·ton·ate \ˈprōt-ə-ˌnāt\ *vb* **-at·ed; -at·ing** *vt* : to add a proton to ~ *vi* : to acquire an additional proton — **pro·ton·ation** \ˌprōt-ə-ˈnā-shən\ *n*
pro·to·ne·ma \ˌprōt-ə-ˈnē-mə\ *n, pl* **-ne·ma·ta** \-ˈnē-mət-ə, -ˈnem-ət-\ [NL *protonemat-, protonema*, fr. *prot-* + Gk *nēma* thread — more at NEMAT-] : the primary usu. filamentous thalloid stage of the gametophyte in mosses and in some liverworts comparable to the prothallium in ferns — **pro·to·ne·mal** \-ˈnē-məl\ *adj* — **pro·to·ne·ma·tal** \-ˈnē-mət-ᵊl, -ˈnem-ət-\ *adj*
protonotary apostolic *or* **prothonotary apostolic** *n, pl* **protonotaries apostolic** *or* **prothonotaries apostolic** : a priest of the chief college of the papal curia who keeps records of consistories and canonizations and signs papal bulls; *also* : an honorary member of this college
pro·ton–syn·chro·tron \ˈprō-ˌtän-ˈsiŋ-k(r)ə-ˌträn, -ˈsin-\ *n* : a synchrotron in which protons are accelerated by means of frequency modulation of the radio-frequency accelerating voltage so that they have energies of billions of electron volts
pro·to·nymph \ˈprōt-ə-ˌnim(p)f\ *n* : any of various acarids in their first developmental stage — **pro·to·nymph·al** \ˌprōt-ə-ˈnim(p)-fəl\ *adj*
pro·to·path·ic \ˌprōt-ə-ˈpath-ik\ *adj* [ISV, fr. MGk *prōtopathēs* affected first, fr. Gk *prōt-* prot- + *pathos* experience, suffering — more at PATHOS] : of, relating to, or being cutaneous sensory reception responsive only to rather gross stimuli
pro·to·phlo·em \-ˈflō-ˌem\ *n* : the first-formed phloem that develops from procambium, consists of narrow thin-walled cells capable of a limited amount of stretching, and is usu. associated with a region of rapid growth
pro·to·plan·et \ˈprōt-ō-ˌplan-ət\ *n* : a hypothetical whirling gaseous mass within a giant cloud of gas and dust that rotates around a sun and is believed to give rise to a planet
pro·to·plasm \ˈprōt-ə-ˌplaz-əm\ *n* [G *protoplasma*, fr. *prot-* + NL *plasma*] **1** : the organized colloidal complex of organic and inorganic substances (as proteins and water) that constitutes the living nucleus, cytoplasm, plastids, and mitochondria of the cell and is regarded as the only form of matter in which the vital phenomena are manifested **2** : CYTOPLASM — **pro·to·plas·mic** \ˌprōt-ə-ˈplaz-mik\ *adj*
pro·to·plast \ˈprōt-ə-ˌplast\ *n* [MF *protoplaste*, fr. LL *protoplastus* first man, fr. Gk *prōtoplastos* first formed, fr. *prōt-* prot- + *plastos* formed, fr. *plassein* to mold — more at PLASTER] **1** : one that is formed first : PROTOTYPE **2 a** : the nucleus, cytoplasm, and plasma membrane of a cell constituting a living unit distinct from inert walls and inclusions **b** : ENERGID — **pro·to·plas·tic** \ˌprōt-ə-ˈplas-tik\ *adj*
pro·to·por·phy·rin \ˌprōt-ō-ˈpȯr-f(ə-)rən\ *n* [ISV] : a purple porphyrin acid $C_{34}H_{34}N_4O_4$ obtained from hemin or heme by removal of bound iron
pro·to·star \ˈprōt-ō-ˌstär\ *n* : a hypothetical cloud of dust and atoms in space believed to develop into a star
pro·to·stele \ˈprōt-ə-ˌstēl, ˌprōt-ə-ˈstē-lē\ *n* : a stele forming a solid rod with the phloem surrounding the xylem — **pro·to·ste·lic** \ˌprōt-ə-ˈstē-lik\ *adj*
pro·to·troph \ˈprōt-ə-ˌtrōf, -ˌträf\ *n* [back-formation fr. *prototrophic*] : a prototrophic individual
pro·to·tro·phic \ˌprōt-ə-ˈtrō-fik\ *adj* [ISV] : deriving nutriment from inorganic sources — **pro·to·tro·phy** \prō-ˈtä-trə-fē\ *n*
pro·to·typ·al \ˌprōt-ə-ˈtī-pəl\ *adj* : of, relating to, or constituting a prototype : ARCHETYPAL
pro·to·type \ˈprōt-ə-ˌtīp\ *n* [F, fr. Gk *prōtotypon*, fr. neut. of *prōtotypos* archetypal, fr. *prōt-* + *typos* type] **1** : an original model on which something is patterned : ARCHETYPE **2** : an individual that exhibits the essential features of a later type **3** : a standard or typical example **4** : a first full-scale and usu. functional form of a new type or design of a construction (as an airplane)
pro·to·typ·i·cal \ˌprōt-ə-ˈtip-i-kəl\ *also* **pro·to·typ·ic** \-ik\ *adj* : PROTOTYPAL — **pro·to·typ·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
pro·to·xy·lem \ˌprōt-ə-ˈzī-ləm, -ˌlem\ *n* : the first-formed xylem developing from procambium and consisting of narrow cells with annular, spiral, or scalariform wall thickenings
pro·to·zo·al \ˌprōt-ə-ˈzō-əl\ *adj* : of or relating to protozoans
pro·to·zo·an \-ˈzō-ən\ *n* [NL *Protozoa*, phylum name, fr. *prot-* + *-zoa*] : any of a phylum or subkingdom (Protozoa) of minute protoplasmic acellular or unicellular animals which have varied morphology and physiology and often complex life cycles which are represented in almost every kind of habitat, and some of which are serious parasites of man and domestic animals — **protozoan** *adj* — **pro·to·zo·ic** \-ˈzō-ik\ *adj*
pro·to·zo·ol·o·gy \-zō-ˈäl-ə-jē, -zə-ˈwäl-\ *n* [NL *Protozoa* + ISV *-logy*] : a branch of zoology dealing with protozoans — **pro·to·zoo·log·i·cal** \-ˌzō-ə-ˈläj-i-kəl\ *adj* — **pro·to·zo·ol·o·gist** \-zō-ˈäl-ə-jəst, -zə-ˈwäl-\ *n*
pro·to·zo·on \-ˈzō-ˌän\ *n, pl* **-zoa** \-ˈzō-ə\ [NL, fr. sing. of *Protozoa*] : PROTOZOAN
pro·tract \prō-ˈtrakt, p(r)ə-\ *vt* [L *protractus*, pp. of *protrahere*, lit., to draw forward, fr. *pro-* forward + *trahere* to draw — more at PRO-, DRAW] **1** *archaic* : DELAY, DEFER **2** : to prolong in time or space **3** : to lay down the lines and angles of with scale and protractor : PLOT **4** : to extend forward or outward ***syn*** see EXTEND ***ant*** curtail — **pro·trac·tive** \-ˈtrak-tiv\ *adj*
protracted meeting *n* : a revival meeting extending over a period of time
pro·trac·tile \-ˈtrak-tᵊl, -ˌtīl\ *adj* [L *protractus*] : capable of being thrust out ⟨~ jaws⟩
pro·trac·tion \-ˈtrak-shən\ *n* [LL *protraction-, protractio* act of drawing out, fr. *protractus*] **1** : the act of protracting : the state of being protracted **2** : the drawing to scale of an area of land
pro·trac·tor \-ˈtrak-tər\ *n* **1 a** : one that protracts, prolongs, or delays **b** : a muscle that extends a part **2** : an instrument that is used for laying down and measuring angles in drawing and plotting
pro·trep·tic \prō-ˈtrep-tik\ *n* [LL *protrepticus* hortatory, encouraging, fr. Gk *protreptikos*, fr. *protrepein* to turn forward, urge on, fr. *pro-* + *trepein* to turn — more at TROPE] : an utterance (as a speech) designed to instruct and persuade — **protreptic** *adj*
pro·trude \prō-ˈtrüd\ *vb* **pro·trud·ed; pro·trud·ing** [L *protrudere*, fr. *pro-* + *trudere* to thrust — more at THREAT] *vt* **1** *archaic* : to thrust forward **2** : to cause to project or stick out ~ *vi* : to jut out from the surrounding surface or context ⟨a handkerchief *protruding* from his breast pocket⟩ — **pro·tru·si·ble** \-ˈtrü-sə-bəl, -zə-\ *adj*
pro·tru·sion \prō-ˈtrü-zhən\ *n* [L *protrusus*, pp. of *protrudere*] **1** : the act of protruding : the state of being protruded **2** : something (as a part or excrescence) that protrudes ***syn*** see PROJECTION
pro·tru·sive \-ˈtrü-siv, -ziv\ *adj* **1** *archaic* : thrusting forward **2** : PROMINENT, PROTUBERANT ⟨a ~ jaw⟩ **3** : OBTRUSIVE, PUSHING ⟨a coarse ~ manner⟩ — **pro·tru·sive·ly** *adv* — **pro·tru·sive·ness** *n*
pro·tu·ber·ance \prō-ˈt(y)ü-b(ə-)rən(t)s\ *n* **1** : the quality or state of being protuberant **2** : something that is protuberant ***syn*** see PROJECTION
pro·tu·ber·ant \-b(ə-)rənt\ *adj* [LL *protuberant-, protuberans*, prp. of *protuberare* to bulge out, fr. L *pro-* forward + *tuber* hump, swelling] **1** : thrusting out from a surrounding or adjacent surface often as a rounded mass : PROMINENT **2** : forcing itself into consciousness : OBTRUSIVE — **pro·tu·ber·ant·ly** *adv*
proud \ˈpraůd\ *adj* [ME, fr. OE *prūd*, prob. fr. OF *prod, prud, prou* capable, good, valiant, fr. LL *prode* advantage, advantageous, back-formation fr. L *prodesse* to be advantageous, fr. *pro-*, *prod-* for, in favor + *esse* to be — more at PRO-, IS] **1** : feeling or showing pride: as **a** : having or displaying excessive self-esteem **b** : much pleased : EXULTANT **c** : having proper self-respect **2 a** : marked by stateliness : MAGNIFICENT **b** : giving reason for pride : GLORIOUS ⟨the ~*est* moment in her life⟩ **3** : VIGOROUS, SPIRITED ⟨a ~ steed⟩ — **proud·ly** *adv*
syn PROUD, ARROGANT, HAUGHTY, LORDLY, INSOLENT, OVERBEARING, SUPERCILIOUS, DISDAINFUL *shared meaning element* : showing or feeling superiority toward others ***ant*** humble, ashamed
proud flesh *n* : an excessive growth of granulation tissue (as in an ulcer)
proud·ful \ˈpraůd-fəl\ *adj, chiefly dial* : marked by or full of pride
proud·heart·ed \-ˈhärt-əd\ *adj* : proud in spirit : HAUGHTY
prov *abbr* **1** province; provincial **2** provisional
Prov *abbr* Proverbs
prov·able \ˈprü-və-bəl\ *adj* : capable of being proved — **prov·able·ness** *n* — **prov·ably** \-blē\ *adv*
pro·vas·cu·lar \(ˈ)prō-ˈvas-kyə-lər\ *adj* : of, relating to, or being procambium
prove \ˈprüv\ *vb* **proved; proved** *or* **prov·en** \ˈprü-vən, *Brit also* ˈprō-\; **prov·ing** \ˈprü-viŋ\ [ME *proven*, fr. OF *prover*, fr. L *probare* to test, approve, prove, fr. *probus* good, honest, fr. *pro-* for, in favor + *-bus* (akin to OE *bēon* to be)] *vt* **1** *archaic* : EXPERIENCE ⟨we will all the pleasures ~ —Christopher Marlowe⟩ **2 a** : to test the quality of : try out ⟨the exception ~*s* the rule⟩ **b** : to try or ascertain by an experiment or a standard; *esp* : to subject to a technical

testing process **c** : to make a test of (as a mineral vein) — usu. used with *up* or *out* **3 a** : to establish the truth or validity of by evidence or demonstration ⟨*proved* her innocence⟩ ⟨young people need to ~ themselves as competent adults⟩ **b** : to check the correctness of (as an arithmetic operation) **4 a** : to ascertain the genuineness of : VERIFY; *specif* : to obtain probate of (a will) **b** : PROOF 1 ~ *vi* : to turn out esp. after trial or test ⟨the new drug *proved* to be very effective⟩ — **prov·er** \'prü-vər\ *n*

prov·e·nance \'präv(-ə)-nən(t)s, -ˌnän(t)s\ *n* [F, fr. *provenir* to come forth, originate, fr. L *provenire*, fr. *pro-* forth + *venire* to come — more at PRO-, COME] : ORIGIN, SOURCE

Pro·ven·çal \ˌpräv-ən-'säl, ˌprōv-, -ˌän-; prə-'ven(t)-səl\ *n* [MF, fr. *provençal* of Provence, fr. *Provence*] **1** : a native or inhabitant of Provence **2** : a Romance language spoken in southeastern France — **Provençal** *adj*

prov·en·der \'präv-ən-dər\ *n* [ME, fr. MF *provende, provendre*, fr. ML *provenda*, alter. of *praebenda* prebend] **1** : dry food for domestic animals : FEED **2** : FOOD, VICTUALS

pro·ve·nience \prə-'vē-nyən(t)s, -nē-ən(t)s\ *n* [alter. of *provenance*] : ORIGIN, SOURCE

prov·en·ly \'prü-vən-lē, *Brit also* 'prō-\ *adv* : demonstrably as stated : without doubt or uncertainty

pro·ven·tric·u·lus \ˌprō-ven-'trik-yə-ləs\ *n, pl* **-li** \-ˌlī, -ˌlē\ [NL] **1** : the glandular or true stomach of a bird that is situated between the crop and gizzard **2** : a muscular dilatation of the foregut in most mandibulate insects that is armed internally with chitinous teeth or plates for triturating food **3** : the thin-walled sac in front of the gizzard of an earthworm

prove out *vi* : to turn out to be adequate or satisfactory

¹prov·erb \'präv-ˌərb\ *n* [ME *proverbe*, fr. MF, fr. L *proverbium*, fr. *pro-* + *verbum* word — more at WORD] **1** : a brief popular epigram or maxim : ADAGE **2** : BYWORD 4

²proverb *vt* **1** *obs* : to provide with a proverb **2** : to speak of proverbially ⟨am I not sung and ~*ed* . . . in every street —John Milton⟩

pro–verb \'prō-ˌvərb, -'vərb\ *n* : a form of the verb *do* used to avoid repetition of a full verb ⟨the word *do* in "act as I do" is a ~⟩

pro·ver·bi·al \prə-'vər-bē-əl\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or resembling a proverb **2** : that has become a proverb or byword : commonly spoken of — **pro·ver·bi·al·ly** \-ə-lē\ *adv*

Prov·erbs \'präv-ˌərbz\ *n pl but sing in constr* : a collection of moral sayings and counsels forming a book of canonical Jewish and Christian Scripture — see BIBLE table

pro·vide \prə-'vīd\ *vb* **pro·vid·ed; pro·vid·ing** [ME *providen*, fr. L *providēre*, lit., to see ahead, fr. *pro-* forward + *vidēre* to see — more at PRO-, WIT] *vi* **1** : to take precautionary measures ⟨~ for the common defense —*U.S. Constitution*⟩ **2** : to make a proviso or stipulation ⟨the constitution . . . ~*s* for an elected two-chamber legislature —*Current Biog.*⟩ **3** : to supply what is needed for sustenance or support ⟨~*s* for a large family⟩ ~ *vt* **1** *archaic* : to procure in advance : PREPARE **2 a** : to fit out : EQUIP ⟨~ the children with new shoes⟩ **b** : to supply for use : AFFORD, YIELD ⟨a string quartet *provided* the entertainment⟩ ⟨curtains ~ privacy⟩ **3** : STIPULATE

pro·vid·ed *conj* [pp. of *provide*] : on condition that : with the understanding : IF

prov·i·dence \'präv-əd-ən(t)s, -ə-ˌden(t)s\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *providentia*, fr. *provident-, providens*] **1 a** *often cap* : divine guidance or care **b** *cap* : God conceived as the power sustaining and guiding human destiny **2** : the quality or state of being provident

prov·i·dent \-əd-ənt, -ə-ˌdent\ *adj* [L *provident-, providens*, fr. prp. of *providēre*] **1** : making provision for the future : PRUDENT **2** : FRUGAL, SAVING — **prov·i·dent·ly** *adv*

prov·i·den·tial \ˌpräv-ə-'den-chəl\ *adj* **1** *archaic* : marked by foresight : PRUDENT **2** : of, relating to, or determined by Providence **3** : occurring by or as if by an intervention of Providence : OPPORTUNE ⟨a ~ escape⟩ ***syn*** see LUCKY — **prov·i·den·tial·ly** \-'dench-(ə-)lē\ *adv*

pro·vid·er \prə-'vīd-ər\ *n* : one that provides; *esp* : one that provides for his family

pro·vid·ing *conj* [prp. of *provide*] : on condition that : in case

prov·ince \'präv-ən(t)s\ *n* [F, fr. L *provincia*] **1 a** : a country or region brought under the control of the ancient Roman government **b** : an administrative district or division of a country **c** *pl* : all of a country except the metropolis **2 a** : a division of a country forming the jurisdiction of an archbishop or metropolitan **b** : a territorial unit of a religious order **3 a** : a biogeographic division of less rank than a region **b** : an area that exhibits essential continuity of geological history; *also* : one characterized by particular structural or petrological features **4 a** : proper or appropriate function or scope : SPHERE **b** : a department of knowledge or activity ***syn*** see FUNCTION

¹pro·vin·cial \prə-'vin-chəl\ *n* **1** : the superior of a province of a Roman Catholic religious order **2** : one living in or coming from a province **3 a** : a person of local or restricted interests or outlook **b** : a person lacking urban polish or refinement

²provincial *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or coming from a province **2 a** : limited in outlook : NARROW **b** : lacking the polish of urban society : UNSOPHISTICATED **3** : of or relating to a decorative style (as in furniture) marked by simplicity, informality, and relative plainness — **pro·vin·cial·ly** \-'vinch-(ə-)lē\ *adv*

pro·vin·cial·ism \-chə-ˌliz-əm\ *n* **1** : a dialectal or local word, phrase, or idiom **2** : the quality or state of being provincial

pro·vin·cial·ist \-'vinch-(ə-)ləst\ *n* : a native or inhabitant of a province

pro·vin·ci·al·i·ty \prə-ˌvin-chē-'al-ət-ē\ *n, pl* **-ties** **1** : PROVINCIALISM 2 **2** : an act or instance of provincialism

pro·vin·cial·ize \-'vin-chə-ˌlīz\ *vt* **-ized; -iz·ing** : to make provincial — **pro·vin·cial·iza·tion** \-ˌvinch-(ə-)lə-'zā-shən\ *n*

proving ground *n* **1** : a place designed for or used in scientific experimentation or testing **2** : a place where something new is tried out

pro·vi·rus \(ˌ)prō-'vī-rəs\ *n* [NL] : a noninfectious intracellular form of a virus that behaves in the host cell like a plasmagene — **pro·vi·ral** \-rəl\ *adj*

¹pro·vi·sion \prə-'vizh-ən\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. LL & L; LL *provision-, provisio* act of providing, fr. L, foresight, fr. *provisus*, pp. of *providēre* to see ahead] **1 a** : the act or process of providing **b** : the quality or state of being prepared beforehand **c** : a measure taken beforehand : PREPARATION ⟨lack of proper ~ for replacements —Alzada Comstock⟩ **2** : a stock of needed materials or supplies; *esp* : a stock of food : VICTUALS — usu. used in pl. **3** : PROVISO, STIPULATION

²provision *vt* **pro·vi·sioned; pro·vi·sion·ing** \-'vizh-(ə-)niŋ\ : to supply with provisions

¹pro·vi·sion·al \prə-'vizh-nəl, -ən-ᵊl\ *adj* : serving for the time being : TEMPORARY — **pro·vi·sion·al·ly** \-ē\ *adv*

²provisional *n* : a postage stamp for use until a regular issue appears

pro·vi·sion·ary \prə-'vizh-ə-ˌner-ē\ *adj* : PROVISIONAL

pro·vi·sion·er \-'vizh-(ə-)nər\ *n* : a furnisher of provisions

pro·vi·so \prə-'vī-(ˌ)zō\ *n, pl* **-sos** *or* **-soes** [ME, fr. ML *proviso quod* provided that] **1** : an article or clause (as in a contract) that introduces a condition **2** : a conditional stipulation : PROVISION

pro·vi·so·ry \-'vīz-(ə-)rē\ *adj* **1** : containing or subject to a proviso : CONDITIONAL **2** : PROVISIONAL

pro·vi·ta·min \(ˌ)prō-'vīt-ə-mən\ *n* : a precursor of a vitamin convertible into the vitamin in an organism

provocateur *n* : AGENT PROVOCATEUR

prov·o·ca·tion \ˌpräv-ə-'kā-shən\ *n* [ME *provocacioun*, fr. MF *provocation*, fr. L *provocation-, provocatio*, fr. *provocatus*, pp. of *provocare*] **1** : the act of provoking : INCITEMENT **2** : something that provokes, arouses, or stimulates

pro·voc·a·tive \prə-'väk-ət-iv\ *adj* : serving or tending to provoke, excite, or stimulate — **provocative** *n* — **pro·voc·a·tive·ly** *adv* — **pro·voc·a·tive·ness** *n*

pro·voke \prə-'vōk\ *vt* **pro·voked; pro·vok·ing** [ME *provoken*, fr. MF *provoquer*, fr. L *provocare*, fr. *pro-* forth + *vocare* to call — more at PRO-, VOICE] **1 a** *archaic* : AROUSE, STIR **b** : to incite to anger : INCENSE **2 a** : to call forth : EVOKE **b** : to stir up purposely : INDUCE **c** : to provide the needed stimulus for
syn **1** PROVOKE, EXCITE, STIMULATE, PIQUE, QUICKEN *shared meaning element* : to rouse one into doing or feeling or to produce by so rousing a person ***ant*** gratify
2 see IRRITATE

pro·vok·ing \-'vō-kiŋ\ *adj* : causing mild anger : ANNOYING — **pro·vok·ing·ly** \-kiŋ-lē\ *adv*

pro·vo·lo·ne \ˌprō-və-'lō-nē\ *n* [It, aug. of *provola*, a kind of cheese] : a hard smooth cheese of Italian origin that is made from curd that has been heated and kneaded, molded into various shapes, hung in strings to cure, and often smoked

pro·vost \'prō-ˌvōst, 'präv-əst, 'prō-vəst, *esp attrib* ˌprō-(ˌ)vō\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *profost* & OF *provost*, fr. ML *propositus*, alter. of *praepositus*, fr. L, one in charge, director, fr. pp. of *praeponere* to place at the head — more at PREPOSITION] **1** : the chief dignitary of a collegiate or cathedral chapter **2** : the chief magistrate of a Scottish burgh **3** : the keeper of a prison **4** : a high-ranking university administrative officer

provost court *n* : a military court usu. for the trial of minor offenses within an occupied hostile territory

provost guard *n* : a police detail of soldiers under the authority of the provost marshal

provost marshal *n* : an officer who supervises the military police of a command

¹prow \'praù\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF *prou* — more at PROUD] *archaic* : VALIANT, GALLANT

²prow \'praù, *archaic* 'prō\ *n* [MF *proue*, prob. fr. OIt dial. *prua*, fr. L *prora*, fr. Gk *prōira*] **1** : the bow of a ship : STEM **2** : a pointed projecting front part (as of an airplane)

prow·ess \'praù-əs *also* 'prō-\ *n* [ME *prouesse*, fr. OF *proesse*, fr. *prou* valiant — more at PROUD] **1** : distinguished bravery; *esp* : military valor and skill **2** : extraordinary ability ⟨his ~ on the football field⟩ ***syn*** see HEROISM

¹prowl \'praù(ə)l\ *vb* [ME *prollen*] *vi* : to move about or wander stealthily ⟨submarines were ~*ing* along our coast —Owen Wister⟩ ~ *vt* : to roam over in a predatory manner ⟨they ~*ed* the premises —Cedric Adams⟩ — **prowl·er** \'praù-lər\ *n*

²prowl *n* : an act or instance of prowling — **on the prowl** : in search of something; *specif* : in search of a sexual partner ⟨his fourth wife had just left him, and he was *on the prowl* again —Mary McCarthy⟩

prowl car *n* : SQUAD CAR

prox *abbr* proximo

prox·e·mics \präk-'sē-miks\ *n pl but sing or pl in constr* [*prox*imity + *-emics* (as in *phonemics*)] : a branch of study dealing with the personal and cultural spatial needs of man and his interaction with his environing space — **prox·e·mic** \-mik\ *adj*

prox·i·mal \'präk-sə-məl\ *adj* [L *proximus*] **1** : situated close to : NEAREST, PROXIMATE **2** : next to or nearest the point of attachment or origin, a central point, or the point of view; *esp* : located toward the center of the body — compare DISTAL — **prox·i·mal·ly** \-mə-lē\ *adv*

proximal convoluted tubule *n* : the convoluted portion of the vertebrate nephron that lies between Bowman's capsule and the loop of Henle, is made up of a single layer of cuboidal cells with striated borders, and is held to be concerned esp. with resorption of sugar, sodium and chloride ions, and water from the glomerular filtrate — called also *proximal tubule*

prox·i·mate \'präk-sə-mət\ *adj* [L *proximatus*, pp. of *proximare* to approach, fr. *proximus* nearest, next, superl. of *prope* near — more at APPROACH] **1 a** : very near : CLOSE **b** : soon forthcoming : IMMINENT **2** : next preceding or following ⟨an interest in ~, rather than ultimate, goals —Reinhold Niebuhr⟩ — **prox·i·mate·ly** *adv* — **prox·i·mate·ness** *n*

prox·im·i·ty \präk-'sim-ət-ē\ *n* [MF *proximité*, fr. L *proximitat-*, *proximitas*, fr. *proximus*] : the quality or state of being proximate

proximity fuze *n* : an electronic device that detonates a projectile within effective range of the target by means of the radio waves sent out from a tiny radio set in the nose of the projectile and reflected back to the set from the target

prox·i·mo \'präk-sə-ˌmō\ *adj* [L *proximo mense* in the next month] : of or occurring in the next month after the present

proxy \'präk-sē\ *n, pl* **prox·ies** [ME *procucie*, contr. of *procuracie*, fr. AF, fr. ML *procuratia*, alter. of L *procuratio* procuration] **1** : the agency, function, or office of a deputy who acts as a substitute for another **2 a** : authority or power to act for another **b** : a document giving such authority; *specif* : a power of attorney authorizing a specified person to vote corporate stock **3** : a person authorized to act for another : PROCURATOR — **proxy** *adj*

proxy marriage *n* : a marriage celebrated in the absence of one of the contracting parties who authorizes a proxy to represent him at the ceremony

prude \'prüd\ *n* [F, good woman, prudish woman, short for *prude-femme* good woman, fr. OF *prode femme*] : a person who is excessively or priggishly attentive to propriety or decorum; *esp* : a woman who shows or affects extreme modesty

pru·dence \'prüd-ᵊn(t)s\ *n* **1** : the ability to govern and discipline oneself by the use of reason **2** : sagacity or shrewdness in the management of affairs **3** : skill and good judgment in the use of resources **4** : caution or circumspection as to danger or risk

pru·dent \-ᵊnt\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *prudent-*, *prudens*, contr. of *provident-*, *providens* — more at PROVIDENT] : characterized by, arising from, or showing prudence: as **a** : marked by wisdom or judiciousness **b** : shrewd in the management of practical affairs **c** : marked by circumspection : DISCREET **d** : PROVIDENT, FRUGAL ***syn*** see WISE — **pru·dent·ly** *adv*

pru·den·tial \prü-'den-chəl\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or proceeding from prudence **2** : exercising prudence esp. in business matters — **pru·den·tial·ly** \-'dench-(ə-)lē\ *adv*

prud·ery \'prüd-(ə-)rē\ *n, pl* **-er·ies** **1** : the characteristic quality or state of a prude **2** : a prudish act or remark

prud·ish \'prüd-ish\ *adj* : marked by prudery : PRIGGISH — **prud·ish·ly** *adv* — **prud·ish·ness** *n*

pru·inose \'prü-ə-ˌnōs\ *adj* [L *pruinosus* covered with hoarfrost, fr. *pruina* hoarfrost] : covered with whitish dust or bloom ⟨~ stems⟩

¹prune \'prün\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, plum, fr. L *prunum* — more at PLUM] : a plum dried or capable of drying without fermentation

²prune *vb* **pruned; prun·ing** [ME *prouynen*, fr. MF *proignier*, prob. alter. of *provigner* to layer, fr. *provain* layer, fr. L *propagin-*, *propago*, fr. *pro-* forward + *pangere* to fix — more at PRO-, PACT] *vt* **1** : to cut off or cut back parts of for better shape or more fruitful growth **2 a** : to reduce by eliminating superfluous matter ⟨*pruned* the text⟩ **b** : to remove as superfluous ⟨~ away all ornamentation⟩ **c** : to effect a reduction in ⟨~ the budget⟩ ~ *vi* : to cut away what is unwanted — **prun·er** *n*

pru·nel·la \prü-'nel-ə\ *also* **pru·nelle** \-'nel\ *n* [F *prunelle*, lit., sloe, fr. dim. of *prune* plum] **1** : a twilled woolen dress fabric **2** : a heavy woolen fabric used for the uppers of shoes

pruning hook *n* : a pole bearing a curved blade for pruning plants

pru·ri·ence \'průr-ē-ən(t)s\ *n* : the quality or state of being prurient

pru·ri·en·cy \-ən-sē\ *n* : PRURIENCE

pru·ri·ent \-ənt\ *adj* [L *prurient-*, *pruriens*, prp. of *prurire* to itch, crave, be wanton; akin to L *pruna* glowing coal, Skt *ploṣati* he singes] **1** : marked by restless craving **2 a** : having lascivious thoughts or desires : LEWD **b** : arousing such thoughts or desires — **pru·ri·ent·ly** *adv*

pru·rig·i·nous \prü-'rij-ə-nəs\ *adj* [L *pruriginosus* having the itch, fr. *prurigin-*, *prurigo*] : resembling, caused by, affected with, or being prurigo

pru·ri·go \prü-'rī-(ˌ)gō, -'rē-\ *n* [NL, fr. L, itch, fr. *prurire*] : a chronic inflammatory skin disease marked by itching papules

pru·rit·ic \-'rit-ik\ *adj* : of, relating to, or marked by itching

pru·ri·tus \-'rīt-əs, -'rēt-\ *n* [L, fr. *pruritus*, pp. of *prurire*] : ITCH 1

Prus·sian blue \ˌprəsh-ən-\ *n* [*Prussia*, Germany] **1** : any of numerous blue iron pigments formerly regarded as ferric ferrocyanide **2** : a dark blue crystalline hydrated ferric ferrocyanide $Fe_4[Fe(CN)_6]_3.xH_2O$ used as a test for ferric iron **3** : a variable color averaging a moderate to strong greenish blue

Prus·sian·ism \'prəsh-ə-ˌniz-əm\ *n* : the practices or policies (as the advocacy of militarism) held to be typically Prussian

prus·sian·ize \-ˌnīz\ *vt* **-ized; -iz·ing** *often cap* : to make Prussian in character or principle (as in authoritarian control or rigid discipline) — **prus·sian·iza·tion** \ˌprəsh-ə-nə-'zā-shən\ *n*

prus·si·ate \'prəs-ē-ˌāt\ *n* [F, fr. (*acide*) *prussique*] **1** : a salt of hydrocyanic acid : CYANIDE **2 a** : FERROCYANIDE **b** : FERRICYANIDE

pru·tah *or* **pru·ta** \prü-'tä\ *n, pl* **pru·toth** *or* **pru·tot** \-'tōt(h), -'tōs\ [NHeb *pĕrūṭāh*, fr. LHeb, a small coin] **1** : a monetary unit of Israel equivalent to $^1/_{1000}$ pound **2** : a coin representing one prutah

¹pry \'prī\ *vi* **pried; pry·ing** [ME *prien*] : to look closely or inquisitively; *esp* : to make a nosy or presumptuous inquiry

²pry *vt* **pried; pry·ing** [alter. of ⁵*prize*] **1** : to raise, move, or pull apart with a pry or lever : PRIZE **2** : to extract, detach, or open with difficulty ⟨*pried* the secret out of his sister⟩

³pry *n* **1** : a tool for prying **2** : LEVERAGE

pry·er *var of* PRIER

pry·ing *adj* : impertinently or officiously inquisitive or interrogatory ***syn*** see CURIOUS — **pry·ing·ly** \-iŋ-lē\ *adv*

Ps *or* **Psa** *abbr* Psalms

PS *abbr* **1** [L *postscriptum*] postscript **2** power supply **3** public school

psalm \'säm, 'sälm\ *n, often cap* [ME, fr. OE *psealm*, fr. LL *psalmus*, fr. Gk *psalmos*, lit., twanging of a harp, fr. *psallein* to pluck, play a stringed instrument] : a sacred song or poem used in worship; *esp* : one of the biblical hymns collected in the Book of Psalms

psalm·book \-ˌbůk\ *n, archaic* : PSALTER

psalm·ist \'säm-əst, 'säl-məst\ *n* : a writer or composer of esp. biblical psalms

psalm·o·dy \'säm-əd-ē, 'säl-məd-\ *n* [ME *psalmodie*, fr. LL *psalmodia*, fr. LGk *psalmōidia*, lit., singing to the harp, fr. *psalmos* + *aidein* to sing — more at ODE] **1** : the act, practice, or art of singing psalms in worship **2** : a collection of psalms

Psalms \'sämz, 'sälmz\ *n pl but sing in constr* : a collection of sacred poems forming a book of canonical Jewish and Christian Scripture — see BIBLE table

Psal·ter \'sȯl-tər\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *psalter* & OF *psaltier*, fr. LL *psalterium*, fr. LGk *psaltērion*, fr. Gk, psaltery] : the Book of Psalms; *also* : a collection of Psalms for liturgical or devotional use

psal·te·ri·um \sȯl-'tir-ē-əm\ *n, pl* **-ria** \-ē-ə\ [NL, fr. LL, psalter; fr. the resemblance of the folds to the pages of a book] : OMASUM

psal·tery *also* **psal·try** \'sȯl-t(ə-)rē\ *n, pl* **-ter·ies** *also* **-tries** [ME *psalterie*, fr. MF, fr. L *psalterium*, fr. Gk *psaltērion*, fr. *psallein* to play on a stringed instrument] : an ancient musical instrument resembling the zither

p's and q's \ˌpēz-ᵊn-'kyüz\ *n pl* [fr. the phrase *mind one's p's and q's*, alluding to the difficulty a child learning to write has in distinguishing between *p* and *q*] **1** : something (as one's manners) that one should be mindful of ⟨better watch his *p's and q's* when I get a six-gun of my own —Jean Stafford⟩ **2** : best behavior ⟨being on her *p's and q's* for two solid days was too much —Guy McCrone⟩

PSAT *abbr* Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test

psec *abbr* picosecond

pse·phol·o·gy \sē-'fäl-ə-jē\ *n* [Gk *psēphos* pebble, ballot, vote; fr. the use of pebbles by the ancient Greeks in voting] : the scientific study of elections — **pse·pho·log·i·cal** \ˌsē-fə-'läj-i-kəl\ *adj* — **pse·phol·o·gist** \sē-'fäl-ə-jəst\ *n*

pseud *abbr* pseudonym; pseudonymous

pseud- *or* **pseudo-** *comb form* [ME, fr. LL, fr. Gk, fr. *pseudēs*] : false : spurious ⟨*pseud*axis⟩ ⟨*pseudo*classic⟩ ⟨*pseudo*podium⟩

pseud·epi·graph \sü-'dep-ə-ˌgraf\ *n* : PSEUDEPIGRAPHON 2

pseud·epig·ra·phon \ˌsüd-i-'pig-rə-ˌfän\ *n, pl* **-pha** \-fə\ [NL, sing. of *pseudepigrapha*, fr. Gk, neut. pl. of *pseudepigraphos* falsely inscribed, fr. *pseud-* + *epigraphein* to inscribe — more at EPIGRAM] **1** *pl* : APOCRYPHA **2** : any of various pseudonymous or anonymous Jewish religious writings of the period 200 B.C. to 200 A.D.; *esp* : one of such writings (as the Psalms of Solomon) not included in any canon of biblical Scripture — usu. used in pl.

pseud·epig·ra·phy \-fē\ *n* [Gk *pseudepigraphos*] : the ascription of false names of authors to works

pseu·do \'süd-(ˌ)ō\ *adj* [ME, fr. *pseudo-*] : being apparently rather than actually as stated : SHAM, SPURIOUS ⟨distinction between true and ~ humanism —K. F. Reinhardt⟩

pseu·do·al·lele \ˌsüd-ō-ə-'lē(ə)l\ *n* : any of two or more closely linked genes that act usu. as if a single member of an allelic pair but occas. undergo crossing-over and recombination — **pseu·do·al·le·lic** \-'lē-lik, -'lel-ik\ *adj* — **pseu·do·al·lel·ism** \-'lē(ə)l-ˌiz-əm, -'lel-ˌiz-\ *n*

pseu·do·cho·lin·es·ter·ase \'süd-ō-ˌkō-lə-'nes-tə-ˌrās, -ˌrāz\ *n* : CHOLINESTERASE 2

pseu·do·clas·sic \ˌsüd-ō-'klas-ik\ *adj* : pretending to be or erroneously regarded as classic — **pseudoclassic** *n*

pseu·do·clas·si·cism \-'klas-ə-ˌsiz-əm\ *n* : imitative representation of classicism in literature and art

pseu·do·coel \'süd-ə-ˌsēl\ *n* : a body cavity that is not a product of gastrulation and is not lined with a well-defined mesodermal membrane

pseu·do·coe·lom·ate \ˌsüd-ō-'sē-lə-ˌmāt\ *adj* [*pseud-* + *coelomate*] : having a body cavity that is a pseudocoel — **pseudocoelomate** *n*

pseu·do·cy·e·sis \-sī-'ē-səs\ *n* [NL, fr. *pseud-* + *cyesis* pregnancy, fr. Gk *kyēsis*, fr. *kyein* to be pregnant — more at CAVE] : a psychosomatic state that occurs without conception and is marked by some of the physical symptoms and changes in hormonal balance of pregnancy

pseu·do·mo·nad \ˌsüd-ə-'mō-ˌnad, -nəd\ *n* [NL *Pseudomonad-*, *Pseudomonas*, genus name] : any of a genus (*Pseudomonas*) of short rod-shaped bacteria many of which produce a greenish fluorescent water-soluble pigment and some of which are saprophytes or plant or animal pathogens

pseu·do·mo·nas \-nəs\ *n, pl* **-mo·na·des** \-'mō-nə-ˌdēz, -'män-ə-\ [NL, genus name, fr. *pseud-* + *monad-*, *monas* monad] : PSEUDOMONAD

pseu·do·morph \'süd-ə-ˌmȯrf\ *n* [prob. fr. F *pseudomorphe*, fr. *pseud-* + *-morphe* -morph] **1** : a mineral having the characteristic outward form of another species **2** : a deceptive or irregular form — **pseu·do·mor·phic** \ˌsüd-ə-'mȯr-fik\ *adj* — **pseu·do·mor·phism** \-ˌfiz-əm\ *n* — **pseu·do·mor·phous** \-fəs\ *adj*

pseu·do·my·ce·li·um \'süd-ō-mī-'sē-lē-əm\ *n* [NL] : a cellular association which occurs among higher bacteria and yeasts and in which cells form chains resembling small mycelia — **pseu·do·my·ce·li·al** \-lē-əl\ *adj*

pseud·onym \'süd-ᵊn-ˌim\ *n* [F *pseudonyme*, fr. Gk *pseudōnymos* bearing a false name] : a fictitious name; *esp* : PEN NAME

pseud·onym·i·ty \ˌsüd-ᵊn-'im-ət-ē\ *n* : the use of a pseudonym; *also* : the fact or state of being signed with a pseudonym

pseud·on·y·mous \sü-'dän-ə-məs\ *adj* [Gk *pseudōnymos*, fr. *pseud-* + *onoma*, *onyma* name] : bearing or using a fictitious name ⟨a ~ report⟩; *also* : being a pseudonym — **pseud·on·y·mous·ly** *adv* — **pseud·on·y·mous·ness** *n*

pseu·do·pa·ren·chy·ma \ˌsüd-ō-pə-'reŋ-kə-mə\ *n* [NL] : compactly interwoven short-celled filaments in a thallophyte that resemble parenchyma of higher plants — **pseu·do·par·en·chy·ma·tous** \-ˌpar-ən-'kim-ət-əs, -'kī-mət-\ *adj*

pseu·do·pod \'süd-ə-ˌpäd\ *n* [NL *pseudopodium*] **1** : PSEUDOPODIUM **2** : a supposed or apparent psychic projection (as from a medium's body) — **pseu·dop·o·dal** \sü-'däp-əd-ᵊl\ *or* **pseu·do·po·di·al** \ˌsüd-ə-'pōd-ē-əl\ *adj*

pseu·do·po·di·um \ˌsüd-ə-'pōd-ē-əm\ *n* [NL] **1** : a temporary protrusion or retractile process of the protoplasm of a cell that serves a locomotor or food-gathering function **2** : a slender leafless branch of the gametophyte in various mosses that often bears gemmae

pseu·do·preg·nan·cy \ˌsüd-ō-'preg-nən-sē\ *n* **1** : PSEUDOCYESIS **2** : an anestrous state resembling pregnancy that occurs in various mammals usu. after an infertile copulation — **pseu·do·preg·nant** \-nənt\ *adj*

pseu·do·ran·dom \-'ran-dəm\ *adj* : being or involving numbers that are selected by a definite computational process (as one involving a computer) but that satisfy one or more standard tests for statistical randomness

pseu·do·salt \'süd-ō-ˌsȯlt\ *n* : a compound analogous in formula to a salt but not ionized as such

pseu·do·sci·ence \ˌsüd-ō-'sī-ən(t)s\ *n* : a system of theories, assumptions, and methods erroneously regarded as scientific — **pseu·do·sci·en·tif·ic** \-ˌsī-ən-'tif-ik\ *adj* — **pseu·do·sci·en·tist** \-'sī-ənt-əst\ *n*

pseu·do·scor·pi·on \-'skȯr-pē-ən\ *n* [NL *Pseudoscorpiones*, group name, fr. *pseud-* + L *scorpion-*, *scorpio* scorpion] : any of an order (Pseudoscorpiones, Pseudoscorpionida, or Pseudoscorpionidea) of minute arachnids that have no caudal sting and feed on minute animals (as insects and mites)

pseu·do·so·phis·ti·ca·tion \'süd-ō-sə-ˌfis-tə-'kā-shən\ *n* : false or feigned sophistication — **pseu·do·so·phis·ti·cat·ed** \-sə-'fis-ti-ˌkāt-əd\ *adj*

pseu·do·tu·ber·cu·lo·sis \-t(y)ü-ˌbər-kyə-'lō-səs\ *n* [NL] : any of several diseases that are characterized by the formation of granulomas resembling tubercular nodules but are not caused by the tubercle bacillus

psf *abbr* pounds per square foot

PSG *abbr* platoon sergeant

pshaw \'shȯ\ *interj* — used to express irritation, disapproval, contempt, or disbelief

¹psi \'sī, 'psī\ *n* [LGk, fr. Gk *psei*] : the 23d letter of the Greek alphabet — see ALPHABET table

²psi *abbr* pounds per square inch

psig *abbr* pounds per square inch gauge

psi·lo·cy·bin \ˌsī-lə-'sī-bən\ *n* [NL *Psilocybe*, genus name + *-in*] : a hallucinogenic organic compound $C_{12}H_{17}N_2O_4P$ obtained from a fungus (*Psilocybe mexicana*)

psi·lo·phyte \'sī-lə-ˌfīt\ *n* [NL *Psilophyton*, genus of plants, fr. Gk *psilos* bare, mere + *phyton* plant — more at PHYT-] : any of an order (Psilophytales) of Paleozoic simple dichotomously branched plants of Europe and eastern Canada that include the oldest known land plants with vascular structure — **psi·lo·phyt·ic** \ˌsī-lə-'fit-ik\ *adj*

psit·ta·ceous \sə-'tā-shəs, si-\ *adj* [L *psittacus* parrot] **1** : PSITTACINE **2** : resembling a parrot ⟨~ chatter⟩

psit·ta·cine \'sit-ə-ˌsīn\ *adj* [L *psittacinus*, fr. *psittacus* parrot, fr. Gk *psittakos*] : of or relating to the parrots — **psittacine** *n*

psit·ta·co·sis \ˌsit-ə-'kō-səs\ *n* [NL, fr. L *psittacus*] : an infectious disease of birds caused by a rickettsia (*Miyagawanella psittaci*), marked by diarrhea and wasting, and transmissible to man in whom it usu. occurs as an atypical pneumonia accompanied by high fever — **psit·ta·co·tic** \-'kät-ik, -'kōt-\ *adj*

pso·cid \'sō-səd\ *n* [deriv. of NL *Psocus*, genus of lice] : any of an order (Corrodentia) of minute usu. winged primitive insects (as a book louse)

pso·ri·a·sis \sə-'rī-ə-səs\ *n* [NL, fr. Gk *psōriasis*, fr. *psōrian* to have the itch, fr. *psōra* itch; akin to Gk *psēn* to rub] : a chronic skin disease characterized by circumscribed red patches covered with white scales — **pso·ri·at·ic** \ˌsōr-ē-'at-ik, ˌsȯr-\ *adj or n*

PST *abbr* Pacific standard time

¹psych *also* **psyche** \'sīk\ *vt* [by shortening] **1** : PSYCHOANALYZE **2 a** : to anticipate correctly the intentions or actions of : OUTGUESS **b** : to analyze or figure out (as a problem or course of action) ⟨I ~*ed* it all out by myself and decided —David Hulburd⟩ **3 a** : to make psychologically uneasy : INTIMIDATE, SCARE ⟨pressure doesn't ~ me —Jerry Quarry⟩ — often used with *out* **b** : to make (oneself) psychologically ready for performance — usu. used with *up* ⟨~*ed* himself up for the race⟩

²psych *abbr* psychology

psych- *or* **psycho-** *comb form* [Gk, fr. *psychē* breath, principle of life, life, soul; akin to Gk *psychein* to breathe, blow, cool, Skt *babhasti* he blows] **1** : soul : spirit ⟨*psycho*gnosis⟩ **2 a** : mind : mental processes and activities ⟨*psycho*dynamic⟩ ⟨*psycho*logy⟩ **b** : psychological methods ⟨*psycho*analysis⟩ ⟨*psycho*therapy⟩ **c** : brain ⟨*psycho*surgery⟩ **d** : mental and ⟨*psycho*somatic⟩

psych·as·the·nia \ˌsī-kəs-'thē-nē-ə\ *n* [NL] : an incapacity to resolve doubts or uncertainties or to resist phobias, obsessions, or compulsions that one knows are irrational — **psych·as·then·ic** \-'then-ik\ *adj or n*

Psy·che \'sī-kē\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *psychē* soul] **1** : a princess loved by Cupid **2** *not cap* [Gk *psychē*] **a** : SOUL, SELF **b** : MIND

psy·che·de·lia \ˌsī-kə-'dēl-yə\ *n* [NL, fr. E *psychedelic* + NL *-ia*] : the world of people or items associated with psychedelic drugs

¹psy·che·del·ic \ˌsī-kə-'del-ik\ *adj* [Gk *psychē* soul + *dēloun* to show] **1 a** : of, relating to, or being drugs (as LSD) capable of producing abnormal psychic effects (as hallucinations) and sometimes psychic states resembling mental illness **b** : produced by or associated with the use of psychedelic drugs ⟨a ~ experience⟩ ⟨hippies escaping to their ~ lairs —T. E. Mullaney⟩ **2 a** : imitating or reproducing effects (as distorted or bizarre images or sounds) resembling those produced by psychedelic drugs ⟨a ~ light show⟩ **b** (1) : brightly colored ⟨ferryboats soon will take on a ~ look, with an overall coat of orange and touches of red and yellow — *N.Y. Times*⟩ (2) *of colors* : FLUORESCENT — **psy·che·del·i·cal·ly** \-'del-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

²psychedelic *n* **1** : a psychedelic drug (as LSD) **2 a** : a user or an advocate of psychedelic drugs **b** : a person with psychedelic social and cultural interests and orientation

Psy·che knot \ˌsī-kē-\ *n* [fr. the frequent representation of Psyche in works of art with this style] : a woman's hair style in which the hair is brushed back and twisted into a conical coil usu. just above the nape

psy·chi·a·try \sə-'kī-ə-trē, sī-\ *n* [prob. fr. (assumed) NL *psychiatria*, fr. *psych-* + *-iatria* -iatry] : a branch of medicine that deals with mental, emotional, or behavioral disorders — **psy·chi·at·ric** \ˌsī-kē-'a-trik\ *adj* — **psy·chi·at·ri·cal·ly** \-tri-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **psy·chi·a·trist** \sə-'kī-ə-trəst, sī-\ *n*

¹psy·chic \'sī-kik\ *also* **psy·chi·cal** \-ki-kəl\ *adj* [Gk *psychikos* of the soul, fr. *psychē* soul] **1** : of or relating to the psyche : PSYCHOGENIC **2** : lying outside the sphere of physical science or knowledge : immaterial, moral, or spiritual in origin or force **3** : sensitive to nonphysical or supernatural forces and influences : marked by extraordinary or mysterious sensitivity, perception, or understanding — **psy·chi·cal·ly** \-ki-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

²psychic *n* **1 a** : a person apparently sensitive to nonphysical forces **b** : MEDIUM 2d **2** : psychic phenomena

psychic energizer *n* : a drug with marked antidepressant properties that is used esp. to relieve depressive syndromes

psy·cho \'sī-(ˌ)kō\ *n, pl* **psychos** [short for *psychoneurotic*] : a victim of severe mental or emotional disorder; *esp* : a psychoneurotic person — **psycho** *adj*

psy·cho·acous·tic \ˌsī-kō-ə-'kü-stik\ *adj* : of or relating to psychoacoustics

psy·cho·acous·tics \-stiks\ *n pl but sing in constr* : a branch of science dealing with hearing, the sensations produced by sounds, and the problems of communication

psy·cho·ac·tive \ˌsī-kō-'ak-tiv\ *adj* : affecting the mind or behavior ⟨~ drugs⟩

psy·cho·anal·y·sis \ˌsī-kō-ə-'nal-ə-səs\ *n* [ISV] : a method of analyzing psychic phenomena and treating emotional disorders that emphasizes the importance of the patient's talking freely about himself while under treatment and esp. about early childhood experiences and about his dreams — **psy·cho·an·a·lyst** \-'an-ᵊl-əst\ *n*

psy·cho·an·a·lyt·ic \-ˌan-ᵊl-'it-ik\ *or* **psy·cho·an·a·lyt·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj* : of, relating to, or employing psychoanalysis or its principles and techniques — **psy·cho·an·a·lyt·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

psy·cho·an·a·lyze \-'an-ᵊl-ˌīz\ *vt* : to treat by means of psychoanalysis

psy·cho·bi·og·ra·phy \-bī-'äg-rə-fē, -bē-\ *n* : PSYCHOGRAPH 2 — **psy·cho·bio·graph·i·cal** \-ˌbī-ə-'graf-i-kəl\ *adj*

psy·cho·bi·ol·o·gy \-bī-'äl-ə-jē\ *n* [ISV] : the study of mental life and behavior in relation to other biological processes — **psy·cho·bi·o·log·ic** \-ˌbī-ə-'läj-ik\ *or* **psy·cho·bi·o·log·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj* — **psy·cho·bi·ol·o·gist** \-bī-'äl-ə-jəst\ *n*

psy·cho·chem·i·cal \-'kem-i-kəl\ *n* : a psychoactive chemical — **psychochemical** *adj*

psy·cho·dra·ma \ˌsī-kə-'dräm-ə, -'dram-\ *n* : an extemporized dramatization designed to afford catharsis and social relearning for one or more of the participants from whose life history the plot is abstracted — **psy·cho·dra·mat·ic** \-kō-drə-'mat-ik\ *adj*

psy·cho·dy·nam·ics \ˌsī-kō-dī-'nam-iks, -də-\ *n* **1** : the psychology of mental or emotional forces or processes developing esp. in early childhood and their effects on behavior and mental states **2** : explanation or interpretation (as of behavior or mental states) in terms of mental or emotional forces or processes **3** : motivational forces acting esp. at the unconscious level — **psy·cho·dy·nam·ic** \-ik\ *adj* — **psy·cho·dy·nam·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

psy·cho·gen·e·sis \ˌsī-kə-'jen-ə-səs\ *n* [NL] **1** : the origin and development of mental functions, traits, or states **2** : development from mental as distinguished from physical origins — **psy·cho·ge·net·ic** \-jə-'net-ik\ *adj*

psy·cho·gen·ic \-'jen-ik\ *adj* : originating in the mind or in mental or emotional conflict — **psy·cho·gen·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

psy·chog·no·sis \ˌsī-kəg-'nō-səs, -ˌkäg-\ *also* **psy·chog·no·sy** \sī-'käg-nə-sē\ *n, pl* **-no·ses** \-'nō-ˌsēz\ *also* **-no·sies** \-nə-sēz\ [NL *psychognosis*, fr. *psych-* + *-gnosis*] : the study of the psyche in relation to character

psy·cho·graph \'sī-kə-ˌgraf\ *n* **1** : PROFILE 4 **2** : a biography written from a psychodynamic point of view; *also* : a character analysis

psy·cho·ki·ne·sis \ˌsī-kō-kə-'nē-səs, -kī-\ *n* [NL, fr. *psych-* + Gk *kinēsis* motion — more at KINESIOLOGY] : movement of physical objects by the mind without use of physical means — compare PRECOGNITION, TELEKINESIS — **psy·cho·ki·net·ic** \-'net-ik\ *adj*

psychol *abbr* psychologist; psychology

psy·cho·lin·guist \ˌsī-kō-'liŋ-gwəst\ *n* : a student or specialist in psycholinguistics

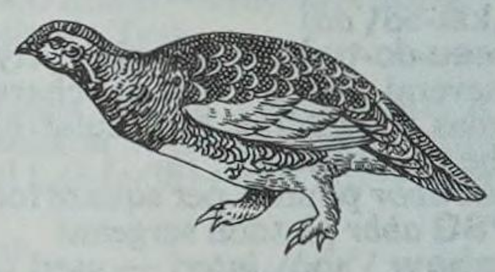
psy·cho·lin·guis·tics \-liŋ-'gwis-tiks\ *n pl but sing in constr* : the study of linguistic behavior as conditioning and conditioned by psychological factors — **psy·cho·lin·guis·tic** \-tik\ *adj*

psy·cho·log·i·cal \ˌsī-kə-'läj-i-kəl\ *also* **psy·cho·log·ic** \-ik\ *adj* **1 a** : of or relating to psychology **b** : MENTAL **2** : directed toward the will or toward the mind specif. in its conative function ⟨~ warfare⟩ — **psy·cho·log·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

psychological hedonism *n* : the theory that conduct is fundamentally motivated by the pursuit of pleasure or the avoidance of pain

psychological moment *n* : the occasion when the mental atmosphere is most certain to be favorable to the full effect of an action or event

psy·chol·o·gism \sī-'käl-ə-ˌjiz-əm\ *n* : a theory that applies psychological conceptions to the interpretation of historical events or logical thought
psy·chol·o·gize \-ˌjīz\ *vb* **-gized; -giz·ing** *vt* : to explain or interpret in psychological terms ~ *vi* : to speculate in psychological terms or upon psychological motivations
psy·chol·o·gy \-jē\ *n, pl* **-gies** [NL *psychologia*, fr. *psych-* + *-logia* -logy] **1** : the science of mind and behavior **2 a** : the mental or behavioral characteristics of an individual or group **b** : the study of mind and behavior in relation to a particular field of knowledge or activity **3** : a treatise on psychology — **psy·chol·o·gist** \-jəst\ *n*
psy·cho·met·ric \ˌsī-kə-'me-trik\ *adj* : of or relating to psychometrics or psychometry — **psy·cho·met·ri·cal·ly** \-tri-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
psy·cho·met·rics \-'me-triks\ *n pl but sing in constr* : the psychological theory or technique of mental measurement
psy·chom·e·try \sī-'käm-ə-trē\ *n* **1** : divination of facts concerning an object or its owner through contact with or proximity to the object **2** : PSYCHOMETRICS
psy·cho·mo·tor \ˌsī-kə-'mōt-ər\ *adj* [ISV] : of or relating to motor action directly proceeding from mental activity
psy·cho·neu·ro·sis \ˌsī-kō-n(y)u̇-'rō-səs\ *n* [NL] : NEUROSIS; *esp* : a neurosis based on emotional conflict in which an impulse that has been blocked seeks expression in a disguised response or symptom — **psy·cho·neu·rot·ic** \-'rät-ik\ *adj or n*
psy·cho·path \'sī-kə-ˌpath\ *n* [ISV] : a mentally ill or unstable person; *esp* : a person having a psychopathic personality
[1]psy·cho·path·ic \ˌsī-kə-'path-ik\ *adj* : of, relating to, or characterized by psychopathy — **psy·cho·path·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
[2]psychopathic *n* : PSYCHOPATH
psychopathic personality *n* **1** : an emotionally and behaviorally disordered state characterized by clear perception of reality except for the individual's social and moral obligations and often by the pursuit of immediate personal gratification in criminal acts, drug addiction, or sexual perversion **2** : an individual having a psychopathic personality
psy·cho·pa·thol·o·gy \ˌsī-kō-pə-'thäl-ə-jē, -pa-\ *n* [ISV *psych-* + *pathology*] : the study of psychologic and behavioral dysfunction occurring in mental disorder or in social disorganization; *also* : such dysfunction — **psy·cho·patho·log·ic** \ˌsī-kō-ˌpath-ə-'läj-ik\ *or* **psy·cho·patho·log·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj* — **psy·cho·patho·log·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **psy·cho·pa·thol·o·gist** \-pə-'thäl-ə-jəst, -pa-\ *n*
psy·chop·a·thy \sī-'käp-ə-thē\ *n* [ISV] : mental disorder; *esp* : extreme mental disorder marked usu. by egocentric and antisocial activity
psy·cho·phar·ma·ceu·ti·cal \'sī-kō-ˌfär-mə-'süt-i-kəl\ *n* : a drug having an effect on the mental state of the user
psy·cho·phar·ma·col·o·gy \-mə-'käl-ə-jē\ *n* : the study of the effect of drugs on the mind and behavior — **psy·cho·phar·ma·co·log·i·cal** \-mə-kə-'läj-i-kəl\ *or* **psy·cho·phar·ma·co·log·ic** \-ik\ *adj* — **psy·cho·phar·ma·col·o·gist** \-'käl-ə-jəst\ *n*
psy·cho·phys·i·cal \ˌsī-kō-'fiz-i-kəl\ *adj* : of or relating to psychophysics; *also* : sharing mental and physical qualities — **psy·cho·phys·i·cal·ly** \-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
psychophysical parallelism *n* : a theory that parallel physical and psychical events do not interact
psy·cho·phys·ics \ˌsī-kō-'fiz-iks\ *n pl but sing in constr* [ISV] : a branch of psychology that studies the effect of physical processes (as intensity of stimulation) upon the mental processes of an organism — **psy·cho·phys·i·cist** \-'fiz-(ə-)səst\ *n*
psy·cho·phys·i·o·log·i·cal \'sī-kō-ˌfiz-ē-ə-'läj-i-kəl\ *or* **psy·cho·phys·i·o·log·ic** \-ik\ *adj* **1** : of or relating to physiological psychology **2** : combining or involving mental and bodily processes — **psy·cho·phys·i·o·log·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
psy·cho·phys·i·ol·o·gy \-ē-'äl-ə-jē\ *n* [ISV] : PHYSIOLOGICAL PSYCHOLOGY — **psy·cho·phys·i·ol·o·gist** \-jəst\ *n*
psy·cho·sex·u·al \ˌsī-kō-'seksh-(ə-)wəl, -'sek-shəl\ *adj* **1** : of or relating to the mental, emotional, and behavioral aspects of sexual development **2** : of or relating to mental or emotional attitudes concerning sexual activity **3** : of or relating to the physiological psychology of sex — **psy·cho·sex·u·al·ly** \-ē\ *adv*
psy·cho·sex·u·al·i·ty \-ˌsek-shə-'wal-ət-ē\ *n* : the psychic factors of sex
psy·cho·sis \sī-'kō-səs\ *n, pl* **-cho·ses** \-ˌsēz\ [NL] : fundamental mental derangement (as paranoia) characterized by defective or lost contact with reality — **psy·chot·ic** \-'kät-ik\ *adj or n* — **psy·chot·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
psy·cho·so·cial \ˌsī-kō-'sō-shəl\ *adj* **1** : involving both psychological and social aspects ⟨~ adjustment in marriage⟩ **2** : relating social conditions to mental health ⟨~ medicine⟩ — **psy·cho·so·cial·ly** \-'sōsh-(ə-)lē\ *adv*
[1]psy·cho·so·mat·ic \ˌsī-kə-sə-'mat-ik\ *adj* [ISV] **1** : of, relating to, or resulting from the interaction and interdependence of psychological and somatic factors ⟨~ medicine⟩ ⟨a ~ illness⟩ **2** : of or relating to psychosomatics or psychosomatic disorders — **psy·cho·so·mat·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
[2]psychosomatic *n* : one who evidences bodily symptoms or bodily and mental symptoms as a result of mental conflict
psy·cho·so·mat·ics \ˌsī-kə-sə-'mat-iks\ *n pl but sing in constr* : a branch of medical science dealing with interrelationships between the mind or emotions and the body and esp. with the relation of psychic conflict to somatic symptomatology
psy·cho·sur·gery \ˌsī-kō-'sərj-(ə-)rē\ *n* : cerebral surgery employed in treating psychic symptoms — **psy·cho·sur·geon** \-'sər-jən\ *n* — **psy·cho·sur·gi·cal** \-'sər-ji-kəl\ *adj*
psy·cho·ther·a·peu·tic \-ˌther-ə-'pyüt-ik\ *adj* [ISV] : of or relating to psychotherapy — **psy·cho·ther·a·peu·ti·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
psy·cho·ther·a·peu·tics \-iks\ *n pl but sing or pl in constr* : PSYCHOTHERAPY
psy·cho·ther·a·py \-'ther-ə-pē\ *n* [ISV] : treatment of mental or emotional disorder or of related bodily ills by psychological means — **psy·cho·ther·a·pist** \-pəst\ *n*
psy·chot·o·gen \sī-'kät-ə-jən\ *n* [*psychotic* + *-o-* + *-gen*] : a chemical agent (as a drug) that induces a psychotic state — **psy·chot·o·gen·ic** \(ˌ)sī-ˌkät-ə-'jen-ik\ *adj*
[1]psy·choto·mi·met·ic \sī-ˌkät-ō-mə-'met-ik, -mī-\ *adj* [*psychotic* + *-o-* + *mimetic*] : of, relating to, involving, or inducing psychotic alteration of behavior and personality ⟨~ drugs⟩ — **psy·choto·mi·met·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
[2]psychotomimetic *n* : a psychotomimetic agent (as a drug)
psy·cho·tro·pic \ˌsī-kə-'trō-pik\ *adj* : acting on the mind
psychro- *comb form* [Gk, fr. *psychros*, fr. *psychein* to cool — more at PSYCH-] : cold ⟨*psychro*meter⟩
psy·chrom·e·ter \sī-'kräm-ət-ər\ *n* [ISV] : a hygrometer consisting essentially of two similar thermometers with the bulb of one being kept wet so that the cooling that results from evaporation makes it register a lower temperature than the dry one and with the difference between the readings constituting a measure of the dryness of the atmosphere — **psy·chro·met·ric** \ˌsī-krə-'me-trik\ *adj* — **psy·chrom·e·try** \sī-'kräm-ə-trē\ *n*
psy·chro·phil·ic \ˌsī-krō-'fil-ik\ *adj* : thriving at a relatively low temperature ⟨~ bacteria⟩
psyl·la \'sil-ə\ *n* [NL, genus name, fr. Gk, flea; akin to L *pulex* flea, Skt *pluṣi*] : any of various plant lice (family Psyllidae) including economically important plant pests — compare PEAR PSYLLA
psyl·lid \'sil-əd\ *n* [deriv. of NL *Psylla*] : PSYLLA — **psyllid** *adj*
pt *abbr* **1** part **2** payment **3** pint **4** point **5** port
Pt *symbol* platinum
PT *abbr* **1** Pacific time **2** physical therapy **3** physical training
pta *abbr* peseta
PTA *abbr* Parent-Teacher Association
ptar·mi·gan \'tär-mi-gən\ *n, pl* **-gan** *or* **-gans** [modif. of ScGael *tārmachan*] : any of various grouses (genus *Lagopus*) of northern regions with completely feathered feet


ptarmigan

P T boat \(')pē-'tē-\ *n* [*p*atrol *t*orpedo] : a high-speed 60 to 100 foot motorboat usu. equipped with torpedoes, machine guns, and depth charges — called also *PT*
PTC \ˌpē-ˌtē-'sē\ *n* : PHENYLTHIOCARBAMIDE
pte *abbr, Brit* private
pterid- *or* **pterido-** *comb form* [Gk *pterid-, pteris;* akin to Gk *pteron* wing, feather — more at FEATHER] : fern ⟨*pterid*oid⟩ ⟨*pterido*logy⟩
pter·i·dine \'ter-ə-ˌdēn\ *n* [ISV *pter-* (fr. Gk *pteron*) + *-id* + *-ine;* fr. its being a factor in the pigments of butterfly wings] : a yellow crystalline bicyclic base $C_6H_4N_4$ that is a structural constituent esp. of various animal pigments
pter·i·doid \'ter-ə-ˌdȯid\ *adj* : related to or resembling a fern
pter·i·dol·o·gy \ˌter-ə-'däl-ə-jē\ *n* : the study of ferns — **pter·i·do·log·i·cal** \ˌter-ə-də-'läj-i-kəl\ *adj* — **pter·i·dol·o·gist** \-'däl-ə-jəst\ *n*
pte·ri·do·phyte \tə-'rid-ə-ˌfīt, 'ter-əd-ō-\ *n* [deriv. of Gk *pterid-, pteris* fern + *phyton* plant — more at PHYT-] : any of a division (Pteridophyta) of vascular plants (as a fern) that have roots, stems, and leaves but lack flowers or seeds — **pte·ri·do·phyt·ic** \tə-ˌrid-ə-'fit-ik, ˌter-əd-ō-\ *or* **pter·i·doph·y·tous** \ˌter-ə-'däf-ət-əs\ *adj*
pte·ri·do·sperm \tə-'rid-ə-ˌspərm, 'ter-əd-ō-\ *n* [ISV] : SEED FERN
pter·in \'ter-ən\ *n* [ISV *pter-* (fr. Gk *pteron* wing) + *-in*] : a compound that contains the bicyclic ring system characteristic of pteridine
ptero·dac·tyl \ˌter-ə-'dak-tᵊl\ *n* [NL *Pterodactylus*, genus of reptiles, fr. Gk *pteron* wing + *daktylos* finger — more at FEATHER] : any of an order (Pterosauria) of extinct flying reptiles existing from the Lower Jurassic nearly to the close of the Mesozoic and having a featherless wing membrane that extends from the side of the body along the arm to the end of the greatly enlarged fourth digit — **ptero·dac·ty·loid** \-tə-ˌlȯid\ *adj* — **ptero·dac·ty·lous** \-ləs\ *adj*
pte·ro·ic acid \tə-ˌrō-ik-\ *n* [*pterin* + *-oic*] : a crystalline amino acid $C_{14}H_{12}N_6O_3$ formed with glutamic acid by hydrolysis of folic acid or other pteroylglutamic acids
ptero·pod \'ter-ə-ˌpäd\ *n* [NL *Pteropoda*, group name, fr. Gk *pteron* wing + NL *-poda*] : any of a group (Pteropoda) of small gastropod mollusks having the anterior lobes of the foot expanded into broad thin winglike organs with which they swim — **pteropod** *adj* — **pte·rop·o·dan** \tə-'räp-əd-ən\ *adj or n*
ptero·saur \'ter-ə-ˌsȯ(ə)r\ *n* [deriv. of Gk *pteron* wing + *sauros* lizard] : PTERODACTYL
pter·o·yl·glu·tam·ic acid \'ter-ə-ˌwil-glü-ˌtam-ik-\ *n* [ISV *pteroyl* (the radical $(C_{13}H_{11}N_6O)CO$) + *glutamic*] : an acid that is a conjugate of pteroic acid and glutamic acid; *esp* : FOLIC ACID
pter·y·goid \'ter-ə-ˌgȯid\ *adj* [NL *pterygoides*, fr. Gk *pterygoeidēs*, lit., shaped like a wing, fr. *pteryg-, pteryx* wing; akin to Gk *pteron* wing — more at FEATHER] : of, relating to, or lying in the region of the inferior part of the sphenoid bone of the vertebrate skull — **pterygoid** *n*
pterygoid bone *n* : a horizontally placed bone or group of bones of the upper jaw or roof of the mouth in most lower vertebrates
pterygoid process *n* : a process extending downward from each side of the sphenoid bone in man and other mammals
pter·y·la \'ter-ə-lə\ *n, pl* **-lae** \-ˌlē, -ˌlī\ [NL, fr. Gk *pteron* + *hylē* wood, forest] : one of the definite areas of the skin of a bird on which feathers grow
ptg *abbr* printing
pti·san \tiz-'an, 'tiz-ᵊn\ *n* [ME *tisane*, fr. MF, fr. L *ptisana* — more at TISANE] : a decoction of barley with other ingredients; *broadly* : TEA, TISANE
PTO *abbr* please turn over
Ptol·e·ma·ic \ˌtäl-ə-'mā-ik\ *adj* [Gk *Ptolemaikos*, fr. *Ptolemaios* Ptolemy] **1** : of or relating to Ptolemy the geographer and astronomer who flourished at Alexandria about A.D. 130 **2** : of or relating to the Greco-Egyptian Ptolemies ruling Egypt from 323 B.C. to 30 B.C.

Ptolemaic system *n* [after Ptolemy the astronomer] : the system of planetary motions according to which the earth is at the center with the sun, moon, and planets revolving around it
Ptol·e·ma·ist \ˌtäl-ə-ˈmā-əst\ *n* : an adherent of the Ptolemaic system
pto·maine \ˈtō-ˌmān, tō-ˈ\ *n* [It *ptomaina,* fr. Gk *ptōma* fall, fallen body, corpse, fr. *piptein* to fall — more at FEATHER] : any of various organic bases which are formed by the action of putrefactive bacteria on nitrogenous matter and some of which are poisonous
ptomaine poisoning *n* : food poisoning caused by bacteria or bacterial products
pto·sis \ˈtō-səs\ *n, pl* **pto·ses** \-ˌsēz\ [NL, fr. Gk *ptōsis* act of falling, fr. *piptein*] : a sagging or prolapse of an organ or part; *esp* : a drooping of the upper eyelid
PTV *abbr* public television
pty *abbr* proprietary
pty·a·lin \ˈtī-ə-lən\ *n* [Gk *ptyalon* saliva, fr. *ptyein* to spit — more at SPEW] : an amylase found in the saliva of many animals
pty·a·lism \-ˌli-zəm\ *n* [NL *ptyalismus,* fr. Gk *ptyalismos,* fr. *ptyalizein* to salivate, fr. *ptyalon*] : an excessive flow of saliva
Pu *symbol* plutonium
PU *abbr* pickup
¹pub \ˈpəb\ *n* **1** *chiefly Brit* : PUBLIC HOUSE 2 **2** : an establishment where alcoholic beverages are sold and consumed
²pub *abbr* **1** public **2** publication **3** published; publisher; publishing
pub crawler *n* : one who goes from bar to bar
pu·ber·tal \ˈpyü-bərt-ᵊl\ *or* **pu·ber·al** \ˈpyü-bə-rəl\ *adj* [*pubertal* fr. *puberty; puberal* fr. ML *puberalis,* fr. L *puber*] : of or relating to puberty
pu·ber·ty \ˈpyü-bərt-ē\ *n* [ME *puberte,* fr. L *pubertas,* fr. *puber* pubescent] **1** : the condition of being or the period of becoming first capable of reproducing sexually marked by maturing of the genital organs, development of secondary sex characteristics, and in the human and in higher primates by the first occurrence of menstruation in the female **2** : the age at which puberty occurs often construed legally as 14 in boys and 12 in girls
pu·ber·u·lent \pyü-ˈber-(y)ə-lənt\ *adj* [L *puber* pubescent + E *-ulent* (as in *pulverulent*)] : covered with fine pubescence
pu·bes \ˈpyü-(ˌ)bēz\ *n, pl* **pubes** [NL, fr. L, manhood, body hair, pubic region; akin to L *puber* pubescent] **1** : the hair that appears on the lower part of the hypogastric region at puberty **2** : the pubic region
pu·bes·cence \pyü-ˈbes-ᵊn(t)s\ *n* **1** : the quality or state of being pubescent **2** : a pubescent covering or surface
pu·bes·cent \-ᵊnt\ *adj* [L *pubescent-, pubescens,* prp. of *pubescere* to reach puberty, become covered as with hair, fr. *pubes*] **1** : arriving at or having reached puberty **2** : covered with fine soft short hairs — compare VILLOUS
pu·bic \ˈpyü-bik\ *adj* : of, relating to, or situated in or near the region of the pubes or the pubis
pu·bis \ˈpyü-bəs\ *n, pl* **pu·bes** \-(ˌ)bēz\ [NL *os pubis,* lit., bone of the pubic region] : the ventral and anterior of the three principal bones composing either half of the pelvis
publ *abbr* **1** publication **2** published; publisher
¹pub·lic \ˈpəb-lik\ *adj* [ME *publique,* fr. MF, fr. L *publicus,* prob. alter. of *poplicus,* fr. *populus* the people] **1 a** : of, relating to, or affecting all the people or the whole area of a nation or state ⟨~ law⟩ **b** : of or relating to a government **c** : of, relating to, or being in the service of the community or nation ⟨an eminent figure in ~ life⟩ ⟨~ affairs⟩ **2 a** : of or relating to mankind in general : UNIVERSAL **b** : GENERAL, POPULAR **3** : of or relating to business or community interests as opposed to private affairs : SOCIAL **4** : devoted to the general or national welfare : HUMANITARIAN **5 a** : accessible to or shared by all members of the community **b** : capitalized in shares that can be freely traded on the open market ⟨a ~ company⟩ — compare CLOSE CORPORATION **6 a** : exposed to general view : OPEN **b** : WELL-KNOWN, PROMINENT **c** : PERCEPTIBLE, MATERIAL — **pub·lic·ness** *n*
²public *n* **1** : a place accessible or visible to the public — usu. used in the phrase *in public* **2** : the people as a whole : POPULACE **3** : a group of people having common interests or characteristics; *specif* : the group at which a particular activity or enterprise aims
public–address system *n* : an apparatus including a microphone and loudspeakers used for broadcasting to a large audience in an auditorium or out of doors
pub·li·can \ˈpəb-li-kən\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *publicanus* tax farmer, fr. *publicum* public revenue, fr. neut. of *publicus*] **1 a** : a Jewish tax collector for the ancient Romans **b** : a collector of taxes or tribute **2** *chiefly Brit* : the licensee of a public house
public assistance *n* : government aid to needy, blind, aged, or disabled persons and to dependent children
pub·li·ca·tion \ˌpəb-lə-ˈkā-shən\ *n* [ME *publicacioun,* fr. MF *publication,* fr. LL *publication-, publicatio,* fr. L *publicatus,* pp. of *publicare*] **1** : the act or process of publishing **2** : a published work
public defender *n* : a lawyer usu. holding public office whose duty is to defend accused persons unable to pay for legal assistance
public domain *n* **1** : land owned directly by the government **2** : the realm embracing property rights that belong to the community at large, are unprotected by copyright or patent, and are subject to appropriation by anyone
public health *n* : the art and science dealing with the protection and improvement of community health by organized community effort and including preventive medicine and sanitary and social science
public house *n* **1** : INN, HOSTELRY **2** *chiefly Brit* : a licensed saloon or bar
pub·li·cist \ˈpəb-lə-səst\ *n* **1 a** : an expert in international law **b** : an expert or commentator on public affairs **2** : one that publicizes; *specif* : PRESS AGENT
pub·lic·i·ty \(ˌ)pə-ˈblis-ət-ē, -ˈblis-tē\ *n* **1** : the quality or state of being public **2 a** : an act or device designed to attract public interest; *specif* : information with news value issued as a means of gaining public attention or support **b** : the dissemination of information or promotional material **c** : paid advertising **d** : public attention or acclaim
pub·li·cize \ˈpəb-lə-ˌsīz\ *vt* **-cized; -ciz·ing** : to give publicity to
public land *n* : land owned by a government; *specif* : that part of the U.S. public domain subject to sale or disposal under the homestead laws
public law *n* **1** : a legislative enactment affecting the public at large **2** : a branch of law concerned with regulating the relations of individuals with the government and the organization and conduct of the government itself — compare PRIVATE LAW
pub·lic·ly \ˈpəb-li-klē\ *adv* **1** : in a manner observable by or in a place accessible to the public : OPENLY **2 a** : by the people generally **b** : by a government
public officer *n* : a person who holds a post to which he has been legally elected or appointed and who exercises governmental functions
public relations *n pl but usu sing in constr* : the business of inducing the public to have understanding for and goodwill toward a person, firm, or institution; *also* : the degree of understanding and goodwill achieved
public sale *n* : AUCTION 1
public school *n* **1** : an endowed secondary boarding school in Great Britain offering a classical curriculum and preparation for the universities or public service **2** : a free tax-supported school controlled by a local governmental authority
public servant *n* : a government official or employee
public service *n* **1** : the business of supplying a commodity (as electricity or gas) or service (as transportation) to any or all members of a community **2** : a service rendered in the public interest **3** : governmental employment; *esp* : CIVIL SERVICE
public–service corporation *n* : a quasi-public corporation
public speaking *n* **1** : the act or process of making speeches in public **2** : the art or science of effective oral communication with an audience ⟨took a course in *public speaking*⟩
pub·lic–spir·it·ed \ˌpəb-lik-ˈspir-ət-əd\ *adj* : motivated by devotion to the general welfare — **pub·lic–spir·it·ed·ness** *n*
public television *n* : television that provides cultural, informational, and instructional programs for the public and that does not promote the sale of a product or service except for identifying the donors of program funds
public utility *n* : a business organization (as a public-service corporation) performing a public service and subject to special governmental regulation
public works *n pl* : works (as schools, highways, docks) constructed for public use or enjoyment esp. when financed and owned by the government
pub·lish \ˈpəb-lish\ *vb* [ME *publishen,* modif. of MF *publier,* fr. L *publicare,* fr. *publicus*] *vt* **1 a** : to make generally known **b** : to make public announcement of **2 a** : to place before the public : DISSEMINATE **b** : to produce or release for publication; *specif* : PRINT **c** : to issue the work of (an author) ~ *vi* **1** : to put out an edition **2** : to have one's work accepted for publication ⟨a ~*ing* scholar⟩ ***syn*** see DECLARE — **pub·lish·able** \-ə-bəl\ *adj*
pub·lish·er \-ər\ *n* : one that publishes; *esp* : a person or corporation whose business is publishing
pub·lish·ing \-iŋ\ *n* : the business or profession of the commercial production and issuance of literature, information, musical scores or sometimes recordings, or art ⟨newspaper ~⟩ ⟨microfilm ~⟩
puc·coon \(ˈ)pə-ˈkün\ *n* [fr. *puccoon* (in some Algonquian language of Virginia)] **1** : any of several American plants (as bloodroot) yielding a red or yellow pigment **2** : a pigment from a puccoon
puce \ˈpyüs\ *n* [F, lit., flea, fr. L *pulic-, pulex* — more at PSYLLA] : a dark red
¹puck \ˈpək\ *n* [ME *puke,* fr. OE *pūca;* akin to ON *pūki* devil] **1** *archaic* : an evil spirit : DEMON **2** : a mischievous sprite : HOBGOBLIN; *specif, cap* : ROBIN GOODFELLOW
²puck *n* [E dial. *puck* to poke, hit, alter. of E ²*poke*] : a vulcanized rubber disk used in ice hockey
pucka *var of* PUKKA
¹puck·er \ˈpək-ər\ *vb* **puck·ered; puck·er·ing** \-(ə-)riŋ\ [prob. irreg. fr. ¹*poke*] *vi* : to become wrinkled or constricted ~ *vt* : to contract into folds or wrinkles
²pucker *n* : a fold or wrinkle in a normally even surface
puck·ery \ˈpək-(ə-)rē\ *adj* : that puckers or causes puckering
puck·ish \ˈpək-ish\ *adj* [¹*puck*] : IMPISH, WHIMSICAL — **puck·ish·ly** *adv* — **puck·ish·ness** *n*
pud \ˈpůd\ *n, Brit* : PUDDING
PUD *abbr* pickup and delivery
pud·ding \ˈpůd-iŋ\ *n* [ME] **1** : BLOOD SAUSAGE **2 a** (1) : a boiled or baked soft food usu. with a cereal base ⟨corn ~⟩ (2) : a dessert of a soft, spongy, or thick creamy consistency ⟨chocolate ~⟩ **b** : a dish often containing suet or having a suet crust and orig. boiled in a bag ⟨steak and kidney ~⟩
pudding stone *n* : CONGLOMERATE
¹pud·dle \ˈpəd-ᵊl\ *n* [ME *podel;* akin to LG *pudel* puddle, OE *pudd* ditch] **1** : a very small pool of usu. dirty or muddy water **2 a** : an earthy mixture (as of clay, sand, and gravel) worked while wet into a compact mass that becomes impervious to water when dry **b** : a thin mixture of soil and water for puddling plants
²puddle *vb* **pud·dled; pud·dling** \ˈpəd-liŋ, -ᵊl-iŋ\ *vi* : to dabble or wade around in a puddle ~ *vt* **1** : to make muddy or turbid : MUDDLE **2 a** : to work (a wet mixture of earth or concrete) into a dense impervious mass **b** : to subject (iron) to the process of puddling **3 a** : to strew with puddles **b** : to compact (soil) esp. by working when too wet **c** : to dip the roots of (a plant) in a thin mud before transplanting — **pud·dler** \-lər, -ᵊl-ər\ *n*

puddle duck *n* : DABBLER b
pud·dling \'pəd-liŋ, -ᵊl-iŋ\ *n* : the process of converting pig iron into wrought iron or rarely steel by subjecting it to heat and frequent stirring in a furnace in the presence of oxidizing substances
pu·den·cy \'pyüd-ᵊn-sē\ *n* [L *pudentia*, fr. *pudent-*, *pudens*, prp. of *pudēre* to be ashamed, make ashamed] : MODESTY
pu·den·dum \pyü-'den-dəm\ *n, pl* **-da** \-də\ [NL, sing. of L *pudenda*, fr. neut. pl. of *pudendus*, gerundive of *pudēre* to be ashamed] : the external genital organs of a human being and esp. of a woman — usu. used in pl. — **pu·den·dal** \-dᵊl\ *adj*
pudgy \'pəj-ē\ *adj* **pudg·i·er; -est** [origin unknown] : being short and plump : CHUBBY — **pudg·i·ness** *n*
pueb·lo \pü-'eb-(,)lō, 'pweb-, pyü-'eb-\ *n, pl* **-los** [Sp, village, lit., people, fr. L *populus*] **1 a** : the communal dwelling of an Indian village of Arizona, New Mexico, and adjacent areas consisting of contiguous flat-roofed stone or adobe houses in groups sometimes several stories high **b** : an Indian village of the southwestern U.S. **2** *cap* **a** : a group of Amerindian peoples of the southwestern U.S. **b** : a member of any of these peoples
pu·er·ile \'pyù(-ə)r-əl, -ˌīl\ *adj* [F or L; F *puéril*, fr. L *puerilis*, fr. *puer* boy, child; akin to Gk *pais* boy, child — more at FEW] **1** : JUVENILE **2** : CHILDISH, SILLY ⟨~ remarks⟩ — **pu·er·ile·ly** \-ə(l)-lē, -ˌīl-lē\ *adv* — **pu·er·il·i·ty** \ˌpyù(-ə)r-'il-ət-ē\ *n*
pu·er·il·ism \'pyù(-ə)r-ə-ˌliz-əm, 'pyù(-ə)r-ˌī-\ *n* : childish behavior esp. as a symptom of mental disorder
pu·er·per·al \pyü-'ər-p(ə-)rəl\ *adj* [L *puerpera* woman in childbirth, fr. *puer* child + *parere* to give birth to — more at PARE] : of or relating to parturition ⟨~ infection⟩
puerperal fever *n* : an abnormal condition that results from infection of the placental site following delivery or abortion and is characterized in mild form by fever but in serious cases may spread through the uterine wall or pass into the bloodstream — called also *childbed fever, puerperal sepsis*
pu·er·pe·ri·um \ˌpyü-ər-'pir-ē-əm\ *n, pl* **-ria** \-ē-ə\ [L, fr. *puerpera*] : the condition of a woman immediately following childbirth
¹puff \'pəf\ *vb* [ME *puffen*, fr. OE *pyffan*, of imit. origin] *vi* **1 a** (1) : to blow in short gusts (2) : to exhale forcibly **b** : to breathe hard : PANT **c** : to emit small whiffs or clouds (as of smoke) **2** : to speak or act in a scornful, conceited, or exaggerated manner **3 a** : to become distended : SWELL — usu. used with *up* **b** : to open or appear in or as if in a puff **4** : to form a chromosomal puff ~ *vt* **1** : to emit, propel, blow, or expel by or as if by puffs : WAFT **2 a** : to distend with or as if with air or gas : INFLATE **b** : to make proud or conceited : ELATE **c** (1) : to praise extravagantly and usu. with exaggeration (2) : ADVERTISE
²puff *n* **1 a** : an act or instance of puffing : WHIFF **b** : a slight explosive sound accompanying a puff **c** : a perceptible cloud or aura emitted in a puff **d** : DRAW 1a **2** : a light round hollow pastry made of puff paste **3 a** : a slight swelling : PROTUBERANCE **b** : a fluffy mass: as (1) : POUF 2 (2) : a small fluffy pad for applying cosmetic powder (3) : a soft loose roll of hair (4) : a quilted bed covering **4** : a commendatory notice or review **5** : an enlarged region of a chromosome that is associated with intensely active genes involved in RNA synthesis — **puff·i·ness** \'pəf-ē-nəs\ *n* — **puffy** \'pəf-ē\ *adj*
puff adder *n* : HOGNOSE SNAKE
puff·ball \'pəf-ˌbȯl\ *n* : any of various globose and often edible fungi (esp. family Lycoperdaceae) that discharge ripe spores in a smokelike cloud when pressed or struck — see FUNGUS illustration
puff·er \'pəf-ər\ *n* **1** : one that puffs **2** : GLOBEFISH; *broadly* : any of various similar fishes (order Plectognathi)
puff·ery \'pəf-(ə-)rē\ *n* : flattering publicity : exaggerated commendation esp. for promotional purposes
puf·fin \'pəf-ən\ *n* [ME *pophyn*] : any of several sea birds (genera *Fratercula* and *Lunda*) having a short neck and a deep grooved parti-colored laterally compressed bill


puffin

puff paste *n* : a rich dough containing a large quantity of butter that is used in making light flaky pastries
¹pug \'pəg\ *n* [obs. *pug* (hobgoblin, monkey)] **1** : a small sturdy compact dog of a breed of Asiatic origin with a close coat, tightly curled tail, and broad wrinkled face **2 a** : PUG NOSE **b** : a close knot or coil of hair : BUN
²pug *vt* **pugged; pug·ging** [perh. alter. of *²poke*] **1** : to plug or pack with a substance (as clay or mortar) esp. for deadening sound **2** : to work and mix (as clay) when wet esp. to make more homogeneous and easier to handle (as in throwing or molding wares)
³pug *n* [by shortening & alter. fr. *pugilist*] : ¹BOXER
⁴pug *n* [Hindi *pag* foot] : FOOTPRINT; *esp* : a print of a wild mammal
pug·ga·ree *or* **pug·a·ree** *or* **pug·gree** \'pəg-(ə-)rē\ *n* [Hindi *pagṛī* turban] : a light scarf wrapped around a sun helmet
pu·gi·lism \'pyü-jə-ˌliz-əm\ *n* [L *pugil* boxer; akin to L *pugnus* fist — more at PUNGENT] : ²BOXING — **pu·gi·lis·tic** \ˌpyü-jə-'lis-tik\ *adj*
pu·gi·list \'pyü-jə-ləst\ *n* : FIGHTER; *esp* : a professional boxer
pug·mark \'pəg-ˌmärk\ *n* : ⁴PUG
pug mill *n* [²*pug*] : a machine in which materials (as clay and water) are mixed, blended, or kneaded into a desired consistency
pug·na·cious \ˌpəg-'nā-shəs\ *adj* [L *pugnac-*, *pugnax*, fr. *pugnare* to fight — more at PUNGENT] : having a belligerent nature : TRUCULENT, COMBATIVE ***syn*** see BELLIGERENT ***ant*** pacific — **pug·na·cious·ly** *adv* — **pug·na·cious·ness** *n* — **pug·nac·i·ty** \-'nas-ət-ē\ *n*
pug nose *n* [¹*pug*] : a nose having a slightly concave bridge and flattened nostrils — **pug-nosed** \'pəg-'nōzd\ *adj*
puis·ne \'pyü-nē\ *adj* [MF *puisné* younger — more at PUNY] *chiefly Brit* : inferior in rank ⟨~ judge⟩ — **puisne** *n*
puis·sance \'pwis-ᵊn(t)s, 'pyü-ə-sən(t)s, pyü-'is-ᵊn(t)s\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. OF, fr. *puissant* powerful, fr. *poeir* to be able, be powerful — more at POWER] : STRENGTH, POWER — **puis·sant** \-ᵊnt, -sənt\ *adj* — **puis·sant·ly** *adv*
puke \'pyük\ *vb* **puked; puk·ing** [perh. imit.] : VOMIT — **puke** *n*
puk·ka \'pək-ə\ *adj* [Hindi *pakkā* cooked, ripe, solid, fr. Skt *pakva*; akin to Gk *pessein* to cook — more at COOK] : GENUINE, AUTHENTIC; *also* : FIRST-CLASS
pul \'pül\ *n, pl* **puls** \'pülz\ *or* **pu·li** \'pü-lē\ [Per *pūl*] — see *afghani* at MONEY table
Pu·las·ki \pə-'las-kē, pyü-\ *n* [Edward C. *Pulaski*, 20th cent. Am forest ranger] : a single-bit ax with an adz-shaped hoe extending from the back
pul·chri·tude \'pəl-krə-ˌt(y)üd\ *n* [ME, fr. L *pulchritudin-*, *pulchritudo*, fr. *pulchr-*, *pulcher* beautiful] : physical comeliness
pul·chri·tu·di·nous \ˌpəl-krə-'t(y)üd-nəs, -ᵊn-əs\ *adj* : having or marked by pulchritude
pule \'pyü(ə)l\ *vi* **puled; pul·ing** [prob. imit.] : WHINE, WHIMPER — **pul·er** *n*
pu·li \'pùl-ē, 'pyül-\ *n, pl* **pu·lik** \-ik\ *or* **pulis** \-ēz\ [Hung] : an intelligent vigorous medium-sized farm dog of a Hungarian breed with a long usu. corded coat
pu·li·cide \'pyü-lə-ˌsīd\ *n* [blend of L *pulic-*, *pulex* flea and E *-cide*] : an agent used for destroying fleas
Pu·lit·zer prize \ˌpùl-ət-sər-, ˌpyü-lət-\ *n* : any of various annual prizes (as for outstanding literary or journalistic achievement) established by the will of Joseph Pulitzer
¹pull \'pùl\ *vb* [ME *pullen*, fr. OE *pullian*] *vt* **1 a** : to draw out from the skin ⟨~ feathers from a rooster's tail⟩ **b** : to pluck from a plant or by the roots ⟨~ flowers⟩ ⟨~ turnips⟩ **c** : EXTRACT ⟨~ a tooth⟩ **2 a** : to exert force upon so as to cause or tend to cause motion toward the force **b** : to stretch (cooling candy) repeatedly ⟨~ taffy⟩ **c** : to strain abnormally ⟨~ a tendon⟩ **d** : to hold back (a racehorse) from winning **e** : to work (an oar) by drawing back strongly **3** : to hit (a ball) toward the left from a right-handed swing or toward the right from a left-handed swing **4** : to draw apart : REND, TEAR **5** : to print (as a proof) by impression **6** : REMOVE ⟨~ a crankshaft⟩ ⟨~*ed* the pitcher in the third inning⟩ **7** : to bring (a weapon) into the open ⟨~*ed* a knife⟩ **8** : COMMIT, PERPETRATE ⟨~ a robbery⟩ **9** : to draw the support or attention of : ATTRACT ⟨~ votes⟩ ~ *vi* **1 a** : to use force in drawing, dragging, or tugging **b** : to move esp. through the exercise of mechanical energy ⟨the car ~*ed* out of the driveway⟩ **c** (1) : to take a drink (2) : to draw hard in smoking ⟨~*ed* at his pipe⟩ **d** : to strain against the bit **2** : to draw a gun **3** : to admit of being pulled **4** : to feel or express strong sympathy : ROOT ⟨~*ing* for his team to win⟩ **5** *of an offensive lineman in football* : to move back from the line of scrimmage and toward one flank to provide blocking for a ballcarrier — **pull·er** *n*
syn PULL, DRAW, DRAG, HAUL, TUG *shared meaning element* : to cause to move toward or after an applied force
— **pull a fast one** : to perpetrate a trick or fraud — **pull a punch** *or* **pull punches** : to refrain from using all the force at one's disposal — **pull oneself together** : to regain one's self-possession — **pull one's leg** : to deceive someone playfully : HOAX — **pull one's teeth** : to make one harmless — **pull one's weight** : to do one's full share of the work — **pull stakes** *or* **pull up stakes** : to move out : LEAVE — **pull strings** *or* **pull wires** : to exert secret influence or control — **pull the rug from under** : to remove support or assistance from — **pull the string** : to throw a slow pitch — **pull the wool over one's eyes** : to blind to the true situation : HOODWINK — **pull together** : to work in harmony : COOPERATE
²pull *n, often attrib* **1 a** : the act or an instance of pulling **b** (1) : a draft of liquid (2) : an inhalation of smoke **c** : the effort expended in moving ⟨a long ~ uphill⟩ **d** : force required to overcome resistance to pulling ⟨trigger ~⟩ **2 a** : ADVANTAGE **b** : special influence **3** : PROOF 6a **4** : a device for pulling something or for operating by pulling ⟨drawer ~⟩ **5** : a force that attracts, compels, or influences : ATTRACTION
pull away *vi* **1** : to draw oneself back or away : WITHDRAW **2** : to move off or ahead
pull·back \'pùl-ˌbak\ *n* : a pulling back; *esp* : an orderly withdrawal of troops from a position or area
pull down *vt* **1 a** : DEMOLISH, DESTROY **b** : to hunt down : OVERCOME **2 a** : to bring to a lower level : REDUCE **b** : to depress in health, strength, or spirits **3** : to draw as wages or salary
pul·let \'pùl-ət\ *n* [ME *polet* young fowl, fr. MF *poulet*, fr. OF, dim. of *poul* cock, fr. LL *pullus*, fr. L, young of an animal, chicken, sprout — more at FOAL] : a young hen; *specif* : a hen of the common fowl less than a year old
pul·ley \'pùl-ē\ *n, pl* **pulleys** [ME *pouley*, fr. MF *poulie*, prob. deriv. of Gk *polos* axis, pole] **1** : a sheave or small wheel with a grooved rim and with or without the block in which it runs used singly with a rope or chain to change the direction and point of application of a pulling force and in various combinations to increase the applied force esp. for lifting weights **2** : a pulley or pulleys with ropes to form a tackle that constitutes one of the simple machines **3** : a wheel used to transmit power by means of a band, belt, cord, rope, or chain passing over its rim
pull in *vt* **1** : CHECK, RESTRAIN **2** : ARREST ~ *vi* : to arrive at a destination or come to a stop
Pull·man \'pùl-mən\ *n* [George M. *Pullman*] **1** : a railroad passenger car with specially comfortable furnishings for day or esp. for night travel **2** : a large suitcase — called also *Pullman case*
pull off *vt* : to carry out despite difficulties : accomplish successfully against odds
pul·lo·rum disease \pə-'lōr-əm-, -'lȯr-\ *n* [NL *pullorum* (specific epithet of *Salmonella pullorum*), fr. L, of chickens (gen. pl. of *pullus*)] : a destructive typically diarrheal salmonellosis of the chicken and less often other birds caused by a bacterium (*Salmonella pullorum*) which is transmitted either through the egg or from chick to chick
pull·out \'pùl-ˌaůt\ *n* **1** : something that can be pulled out **2** : the action in which an airplane goes from a dive to horizontal flight **3** : PULLBACK

pull out \půl-'aůt\ *vi* **1** : LEAVE, DEPART **2** : WITHDRAW **3** : to emerge or escape from difficulty
[1]pull-over \'půl-ˌō-vər\ *adj* : put on by being pulled over the head
[2]pullover \'půl-ˌō-vər\ *n* : a pullover garment
pull over \pů-'lō-vər\ *vi* : to steer one's vehicle to the side of the road
pull round *vt* : to restore to good health ~ *vi* : to regain one's health
pull through *vt* : to help through a dangerous or difficult situation ~ *vi* : to survive a dangerous or difficult situation
pul·lu·late \'pəl-yə-ˌlāt\ *vi* **-lat·ed; -lat·ing** [L *pullulatus*, pp. of *pullulare*, fr. *pullulus*, dim. of *pullus* chicken, sprout] **1 a** : GERMINATE, SPROUT **b** : to breed or produce freely **2** : SWARM, TEEM — **pul·lu·la·tion** \ˌpəl-yə-'lā-shən\ *n*
pull–up \'půl-ˌəp\ *n* : CHIN-UP
pull up \půl-'əp\ *vt* **1** : CHECK, REBUKE **2** : to bring to a stop : HALT ~ *vi* **1 a** : to check oneself **b** : to come to a halt : STOP **2** : to draw even with others in a race
pul·mo·nary \'půl-mə-ˌner-ē, 'pəl-\ *adj* [L *pulmonarius*, fr. *pulmon-*, *pulmo* lung; akin to Gk *pleumōn* lung] **1** : relating to, functioning like, or associated with the lungs **2** : PULMONATE **3** : carried on by the lungs
pulmonary artery *n* : an artery that conveys venous blood from the heart to the lungs — see HEART illustration
pulmonary vein *n* : a valveless vein that returns oxygenated blood from the lungs to the heart
[1]pul·mo·nate \'půl-mə-ˌnāt, 'pəl-\ *adj* [L *pulmon-*, *pulmo* lung] **1** : having lungs or organs resembling lungs **2** : of or relating to a large order (Pulmonata) of gastropod mollusks having a lung or respiratory sac and comprising most land snails and slugs and many freshwater snails
[2]pulmonate *n* : a pulmonate gastropod
pul·mon·ic \půl-'män-ik, ˌpəl-\ *adj* [L *pulmon-*, *pulmo*] : PULMONARY
pul·mo·tor \'půl-ˌmōt-ər, 'pəl-\ *n* [fr. *Pulmotor*, a trademark] : a respiratory apparatus for pumping oxygen or air into and out of the lungs (as of an asphyxiated person)
[1]pulp \'pəlp\ *n* [MF *poulpe*, fr. L *pulpa* flesh, pulp] **1 a** (1) : the soft, succulent part of a fruit usu. composed of mesocarp (2) : stem pith when soft and spongy **b** : a soft mass of vegetable matter (as of apples) from which most of the water has been extracted by pressure **c** : the soft sensitive tissue that fills the central cavity of a tooth **d** : a material prepared by chemical or mechanical means from various materials (as rags but chiefly from wood) and used in making paper and cellulose products **2** : pulverized ore mixed with water **3 a** : pulpy condition or character **b** : something in such a condition or having such a character **4** : a magazine or book using rough-surfaced paper made of wood pulp and often dealing with sensational material — **pulp·i·ness** \'pəl-pē-nəs\ *n* — **pulpy** \'pəl-pē\ *adj*
[2]pulp *vt* **1** : to reduce to pulp : cause to appear pulpy **2** : to deprive of the pulp **3** : to produce or reproduce (written matter) in pulp form ~ *vi* : to become pulp or pulpy — **pulp·er** *n*
pulp·al \'pəl-pəl\ *adj* : of or relating to pulp esp. of a tooth ⟨a ~ abscess⟩ — **pulp·al·ly** \'pəl-pə-lē\ *adv*
pul·pit \'půl-ˌpit *also* 'pəl-, -pət\ *n* [ME, fr. LL *pulpitum*, fr. L, staging, platform] **1** : an elevated platform or high reading desk used in preaching or conducting a worship service **2 a** : the preaching profession **b** : a preaching position
pulp·wood \'pəlp-ˌwůd\ *n* : a wood (as of aspen, hemlock, pine, or spruce) used in making pulp for paper
pul·que \'pül-ˌkā; 'pül-kē, 'půl-\ *n* [MexSp] : a fermented drink made in Mexico from the juice of various magueys
pul·sant \'pəl-sənt\ *adj* : pulsating with activity
pul·sar \'pəl-ˌsär\ *n* [*pulse* + *-ar* (as in *quasar*)] : a celestial source of pulsating radio waves characterized by a short interval (as .033 or 3.5 seconds) between pulses and uniformity of the repetition rate of the pulses
pul·sate \'pəl-ˌsāt *also* ˌpəl-'\ *vi* **pul·sat·ed; pul·sat·ing** [L *pulsatus*, pp. of *pulsare*, fr. *pulsus*, pp. of *pellere*] **1** : to exhibit a pulse : BEAT **2** : to throb or move rhythmically : VIBRATE
pul·sa·tile \'pəl-sət-ᵊl, -sə-ˌtīl\ *adj* : marked by pulsation
pul·sa·tion \ˌpəl-'sā-shən\ *n* **1** : rhythmical throbbing or vibrating (as of an artery); *also* : a single beat or throb **2** : a periodically recurring alternate increase and decrease of a quantity (as pressure, volume, or voltage)
pul·sa·tor \'pəl-ˌsāt-ər, ˌpəl-ᵊ\ *n* : something (as a pulsometer pump) that beats or throbs in working
pul·sa·to·ry \'pəl-sə-ˌtōr-ē, -ˌtȯr-\ *adj* : capable of or characterized by pulsation : THROBBING
[1]pulse \'pəls\ *n* [ME *puls*, fr. OF *pouls* porridge, fr. L *pult-*, *puls*; akin to L *pollen* fine flour — more at POLLEN] : the edible seeds of various leguminous crops (as peas, beans, or lentils); *also* : a plant yielding pulse
[2]pulse *n* [ME *puls*, fr. MF *pouls*, fr. L *pulsus*, lit., beating, fr. *pulsus*, pp. of *pellere* to drive, push, beat — more at FELT] **1** : a regular throbbing caused in the arteries by the contractions of the heart; *also* : a single excursion of such throbbing **2 a** : underlying sentiment or opinion or an indication of it **b** : VITALITY **3 a** : rhythmical beating, vibrating, or sounding **b** : BEAT, THROB **4 a** : a transient variation of a quantity (as electrical current or voltage) whose value is normally constant **b** (1) : an electromagnetic wave or modulation thereof of brief duration (2) : a brief disturbance of pressure in a medium; *esp* : a sound wave or short train of sound waves
[3]pulse *vb* **pulsed; puls·ing** *vi* : to exhibit a pulse or pulsation : THROB ~ *vt* **1** : to drive by or as if by a pulsation **2** : to cause to pulsate **3 a** : to produce or modulate (as electromagnetic waves) in the form of pulses ⟨*pulsed* waves⟩ **b** : to cause (an apparatus) to produce pulses — **puls·er** *n*
pulse–jet engine \ˌpəls-ˌjet-\ *n* : a jet engine having in its forward end intermittent air-inlet valves designed to produce a pulsating thrust by the intermittent flow of hot gases
pul·sim·e·ter \ˌpəl-'sim-ət-ər\ *n* : an instrument for measuring the pulse and esp. its force and rate
pul·sion \'pəl-shən\ *n* [LL *pulsion-*, *pulsio*, fr. L *pulsus*, pp.] : PROPULSION
pul·som·e·ter \ˌpəl-'säm-ət-ər\ *n* [ISV] : a pump with valves for raising water by steam and atmospheric pressure without intervention of a piston
pulv *abbr* [L *pulvis*] powder
pul·ver·a·ble \'pəlv-(ə-)rə-bəl\ *adj* : capable of being pulverized
pul·ver·ize \'pəl-və-ˌrīz\ *vb* **-ized; -iz·ing** [MF *pulveriser*, fr. LL *pulverizare*, fr. L *pulver-*, *pulvis* dust, powder — more at POLLEN] *vt* **1** : to reduce (as by crushing, beating, or grinding) to very small particles : ATOMIZE **2** : ANNIHILATE, DEMOLISH ~ *vi* : to become pulverized — **pul·ver·iz·able** \-ˌrī-zə-bəl\ *adj* — **pul·ver·i·za·tion** \ˌpəlv-(ə-)rə-'zā-shən\ *n* — **pul·ver·iz·er** \'pəl-və-ˌrī-zər\ *n*
pul·ver·u·lent \ˌpəl-'ver-(y)ə-lənt\ *adj* [L *pulverulentus* dusty, fr. *pulver-*, *pulvis*] **1** : consisting of or reducible to fine powder **2** : being or looking dusty : CRUMBLY
pul·vil·lus \ˌpəl-'vil-əs\ *n*, *pl* **-vil·li** \-'vil-ˌī, -(ˌ)ē\ [NL, fr. L, dim. of *pulvinus* cushion] : one of the lobed hairy adhesive organs that terminate the feet of true flies
pul·vi·nus \ˌpəl-'vī-nəs, -'vē-\ *n*, *pl* **-vi·ni** \-'vī-ˌnī, -'vē-(ˌ)nē\ [NL, fr. L, cushion] : a mass of large thin-walled cells surrounding a vascular strand at the base of a petiole or petiolule and functioning in turgor movements of leaves or leaflets
pu·ma \'p(y)ü-mə\ *n*, *pl* **pumas** *also* **puma** [Sp, fr. Quechua] : COUGAR; *also* : the fur or pelt of a cougar
[1]pum·ice \'pəm-əs\ *n* [ME *pomis*, fr. MF, fr. L *pumic-*, *pumex* — more at FOAM] : a volcanic glass full of cavities and very light in weight used esp. in powder form for smoothing and polishing — **pu·mi·ceous** \pyü-'mish-əs, ˌpə-\ *adj*
[2]pumice *vt* **pum·iced; pum·ic·ing** : to dress or finish with pumice
pum·ic·ite \'pəm-ə-ˌsīt\ *n* **1** : PUMICE **2** : an abrasive that is a gritty volcanic dust
pum·mel \'pəm-əl\ *vb* **-meled** *or* **-melled; -mel·ing** *or* **-mel·ling** \-(ə-)liŋ\ [alter. of *pommel*] : POUND, BEAT
[1]pump \'pəmp\ *n* [ME *pumpe*, *pompe*, fr. MLG *pumpe* or MD *pompe*, prob. fr. Sp *bomba*, of imit. origin] **1** : a device that raises, transfers, or compresses fluids or that attenuates gases esp. by suction or pressure or both **2** : HEART **3** : an act or the process of pumping **4** : electromagnetic radiation for pumping atoms or molecules **5** : a mechanism (as the sodium pump) for pumping atoms, ions, or molecules
[2]pump *vt* **1 a** : to raise (as water) with a pump **b** : to draw fluid from with a pump **2** : to pour forth, deliver, or draw with or as if with a pump ⟨~*ed* money into the economy⟩ ⟨~ new life into the classroom⟩ **3 a** : to question persistently **b** : to elicit by persistent questioning **4 a** : to operate by manipulating a lever **b** : to manipulate as if operating a pump handle ⟨~*ed* his hand warmly⟩ **5** : to fill with air by means of a pump or bellows **6** : to transport (as ions) against a concentration gradient by the expenditure of energy **7 a** : to raise (atoms or molecules) to a higher energy level by exposure to usu. electromagnetic radiation at one of the resonant frequencies so that reemission may occur at another frequency resulting in amplification or sustained oscillation **b** : to expose (as a laser, semiconductor, or crystal) to radiation in the process of pumping ~ *vi* **1** : to work a pump : raise or move a fluid with a pump **2** : to move in a manner that resembles the action or operation of a pump handle **3** : to spurt out intermittently
[3]pump *n* [origin unknown] : a low shoe that is not fastened on and that grips the foot chiefly at the toe and heel
pumped storage *n* : a hydroelectric system in which electricity is generated during periods of greatest consumption by the use of water that has been pumped into a reservoir at a higher altitude during periods of low consumption
pump·er \'pəm-pər\ *n* : one that pumps; *esp* : a fire truck equipped with a pump
pum·per·nick·el \'pəm-pər-ˌnik-əl\ *n* [G] : a dark coarse sourdough bread made of unbolted rye flour
pump·kin \'pəŋ-kən, 'pəm(p)-kən\ *n*, *often attrib* [alter. of earlier *pumpion*, modif. of F *popon*, *pompon* melon, pumpkin, fr. L *pepon-*, *pepo*, fr. Gk *pepōn*, fr. *pepōn* ripened; akin to Gk *pessein* to cook, ripen — more at COOK] **1 a** : the usu. round deep yellow fruit of a vine (*Cucurbita pepo*) of the gourd family widely cultivated as food **b** : WINTER CROOKNECK **c** *Brit* : any of various large-fruited winter squashes (*C. maxima*) **2** : a usu. hairy prickly vine that produces pumpkins
pump·kin·seed \-ˌsēd\ *n* **1** : a small brilliantly colored No. American freshwater sunfish (*Lepomis gibbosus*) **2** : BLUEGILL
pump priming *n* : government investment expenditures designed to induce a self-sustaining expansion of economic activity
[1]pun \'pən\ *n* [perh. fr. It *puntiglio* fine point, quibble — more at PUNCTILIO] : the humorous use of a word in such a way as to suggest different meanings or applications or of words having the same or nearly the same sound but different meanings
[2]pun *vi* **punned; pun·ning** : to make puns
pu·na \'pü-nə\ *n* [AmerSp, fr. Quechua] **1** : a treeless windswept tableland or basin in the higher Andes **2** : a cold mountain wind in Peru
[1]punch \'pənch\ *vb* [ME *punchen*, fr. MF *poinçonner* to prick, stamp, fr. *poinçon* puncheon] *vt* **1 a** : PROD, POKE **b** : DRIVE, HERD ⟨~*ing* cattle⟩ **2 a** : to strike with a forward thrust esp. of the fist **b** : to drive or push forcibly by or as if by a punch **c** : to hit (a ball) with less than a full swing **3** : to emboss, cut, perforate, or make with or as if with a punch **4** : to strike or press

sharply the operating mechanism of ~ *vi* : to perform the action of punching something ***syn*** see STRIKE — **punch·er** *n*

²punch *n* **1** : the action of punching **2** : a quick blow with or as if with the fist **3** : effective energy or forcefulness ⟨an opening paragraph with a lot of ~⟩ ⟨a minority group with no political ~⟩ — **punch·less** \'pənch-ləs\ *adj* — **to the punch** : to the first blow or to decisive action — usu. used with *beat*

³punch *n* [prob. short for *puncheon*] **1 a** : a tool usu. in the form of a short rod of steel that is variously shaped at one end for different operations (as forming, perforating, embossing, or cutting) **b** : a short tapering steel rod for driving the heads of nails below a surface **c** : a steel die faced with a letter in relief that is forced into a softer metal to form an intaglio matrix from which foundry type is cast **d** : a device for cutting holes or notches in paper or cardboard **2** : a hole or notch from a perforating operation

⁴punch *n* [perh. fr. Hindi *pā̃c* five, fr. Skt *pañca;* akin to Gk *pente* five; fr. the number of ingredients] : a hot or cold beverage usu. composed of wine or alcoholic liquor, citrus juice, spices, tea, and water; *also* : a beverage composed of nonalcoholic liquids

Punch–and–Judy show \ˌpən-chən-'jüd-ē-\ *n* : a traditional puppet show in which the little hook-nosed humpback Punch fights comically with his wife Judy

punch·ball \'pənch-ˌbȯl\ *n* : baseball adapted to playing in small areas and marked by the use of a rubber ball hit with a closed fist instead of a bat

punch·board \-ˌbō(ə)rd, -ˌbȯ(ə)rd\ *n* : a small board that has many holes each filled with a rolled-up printed slip to be punched out on payment of a nominal sum in an effort to obtain a slip that entitles the player to a designated prize

punch bowl *n* : a large bowl from which a beverage (as punch) is served

punch card *n* : a card with holes punched in particular positions each with its own signification for use in data processing; *also* : a similar card with holes and notches cut along the edge — called also *Hollerith card, punched card*

punch–drunk \'pənch-ˌdrəŋk\ *adj* [²*punch*] **1** : suffering cerebral injury from many minute brain hemorrhages as a result of repeated head blows received in boxing **2** : behaving as if punch-drunk : DAZED, CONFUSED

¹pun·cheon \'pən-chən\ *n* [ME *ponson,* fr. MF *poinçon* pointed tool, king post (perh. fr. its being marked by the builder with a pointed tool), fr. (assumed) VL *punction-, punctio* pointed tool, fr. *punctiare* to prick, fr. L *punctus,* pp. of *pungere* to prick — more at PUNGENT] **1** : a pointed tool for piercing or for working on stone **2 a** : a short upright framing timber **b** : a split log or heavy slab with the face smoothed **3** : a figured stamp die or punch used esp. by goldsmiths, cutlers, and engravers

²puncheon *n* [ME *poncion,* fr. MF *ponchon, poinçon,* of unknown origin] **1** : a large cask of varying capacity **2** : any of various units of liquid capacity (as a unit equal to 70 gallons)

punch in *vi* : to record the time of one's arrival or beginning work by punching a time clock

pun·chi·nel·lo \ˌpən-chə-'nel-(ˌ)ō\ *n* [modif. of It dial. *polecenella*] **1** *cap* : a fat short humpbacked clown or buffoon in Italian puppet shows **2** *pl* **-los** : a squat grotesque person



Punchinello

punching bag *n* : a stuffed or inflated bag that is usu. suspended for free movement and that is punched for exercise or for training in boxing

punch line *n* : the sentence, statement, or phrase (as in a joke) that makes the point

punch–out \'pən-ˌchau̇t\ *n* : a part of a surface marked off by perforations so that it may be forced out

punch out \ˌpən-'chau̇t\ *vi* : to record the time of one's stopping work or departure by punching a time clock

punch press *n* : a press equipped with cutting, shaping, or combination dies for working on material (as metal)

punch–up \'pən-ˌchəp\ *n, Brit* : FISTFIGHT

punchy \'pən-chē\ *adj* **punch·i·er; -est** **1** : having punch : FORCEFUL **2** : PUNCH-DRUNK

punc·tate \'pəŋ(k)-ˌtāt\ *adj* [NL *punctatus,* fr. L *punctum* point — more at POINT] **1** : marked with minute spots or depressions ⟨a ~ leaf⟩ **2** : occurring in dots or points ⟨~ skin lesions⟩ — **punc·ta·tion** \ˌpəŋ(k)-'tā-shən\ *n*

punc·til·io \ˌpəŋ(k)-'til-ē-ˌō\ *n, pl* **-i·os** [It & Sp; It *puntiglio* point of honor, scruple, fr. Sp *puntillo,* fr. dim. of *punto* point, fr. L *punctum*] **1** : a minute detail of conduct in a ceremony or in observance of a code **2** : careful observance of forms (as in social conduct)

punc·til·i·ous \-ē-əs\ *adj* : marked by or concerned about precise exact accordance with the details of codes or conventions ***syn*** see CAREFUL — **punc·til·i·ous·ly** *adv* — **punc·til·i·ous·ness** *n*

punc·tu·al \'pən(k)-chə(-wə)l\ *adj* [ML *punctualis,* fr. L *punctus* pricking, point, fr. *punctus,* pp. of *pungere* to prick — more at PUNGENT] **1** : relating to or having the nature of a point **2** : being to the point : POINTED **3** : PUNCTILIOUS **4 a** : being on time : PROMPT ⟨a ~ businessman⟩ **b** : characterized by regular occurrence ⟨the ~ . . . small drop of water dripping somewhere in the rear —Thomas Wolfe⟩ — **punc·tu·al·i·ty** \ˌpəŋ(k)-chə-'wal-ət-ē\ *n* — **punc·tu·al·ly** \'pəŋ(k)-chə(-wə)-lē\ *adv* — **punc·tu·al·ness** \-chə(-wə)l-nəs\ *n*

punc·tu·ate \'pəŋ(k)-chə-ˌwāt\ *vb* **-at·ed; -at·ing** [ML *punctuatus,* pp. of *punctuare* to point, provide with punctuation marks, fr. L *punctus* point] *vt* **1** : to mark or divide (written matter) with punctuation marks **2** : to break into or interrupt at intervals ⟨the steady click of her needles *punctuated* the silence —Edith Wharton⟩ ~ *vi* : to use punctuation marks — **punc·tu·a·tor** \-ˌwāt-ər\ *n*

punc·tu·a·tion \ˌpəŋ-(k)-chə-'wā-shən\ *n* **1** : the act of punctuating : the state of being punctuated **2** : the act or practice of inserting standardized marks or signs in written matter to clarify the meaning and separate structural units; *also* : a system of punctuation

PUNCTUATION MARKS

,	comma
;	semicolon
:	colon
.	period *or* full stop
—	dash *or* em dash
–	dash *or* en dash
~	swung dash
-	hyphen
⸗	double hyphen
?	question mark *or* interrogation point
¿ ?	question marks, Spanish
!	exclamation point
¡ !	exclamation points, Spanish
'	apostrophe
( )	parentheses *or* curves
[ ]	brackets *or* square brackets
⟨ ⟩	brackets, angle
{ }	braces
" "	quotation marks
« » *or* » « *or* „ "	quotation marks, European
' '	quotation marks, single
. . . *or* . . . . *or* *** *or* ——	ellipsis
. . . *or*	suspension points

punctuation mark *n* : any of various standardized marks or signs used in punctuation

¹punc·ture \'pəŋ(k)-chər\ *n* [L *punctura,* fr. *punctus,* pp. of *pungere*] **1** : an act of puncturing **2** : a hole, slight wound, or other perforation made by puncturing **3** : a minute depression

²puncture *vb* **punc·tured; punc·tur·ing** \'pəŋ(k)-chə-riŋ, 'pəŋ(k)-shriŋ\ *vt* **1** : to pierce with a pointed instrument or object **2** : to cause a puncture in **3** : to make useless or ineffective as if by a puncture : DESTROY ⟨failures *punctured* his confidence⟩ ~ *vi* : to become punctured

punc·tured *adj* : having the surface covered with minute indentations or dots : PUNCTATE

puncture vine *n* : a European annual prostrate weed (*Tribulus terrestris* of the family Zygophyllaceae) that has been introduced into the western U.S. and has compound leaves and hard spiny pods noted for puncturing automobile tires and for lowering the quality of hay and forage crops — called also *caltrop, puncture-weed*

pun·dit \'pən-dət\ *n* [Hindi *paṇḍit,* fr. Skt *paṇḍita,* fr. *paṇḍita* learned] **1** : PANDIT **2** : a learned man : TEACHER **3** : one who gives opinions in an authoritative manner : AUTHORITY, CRITIC

pun·dit·ry \-də-trē\ *n* : the learning, methods, or pronouncements of pundits

pung \'pəŋ\ *n* [short for earlier *tow-pong,* of Algonquian origin; akin to Micmac *tobâgun* drag made with skin] *NewEng* : a sleigh with a box-shaped body

pun·gen·cy \'pən-jən-sē\ *n* : the quality or state of being pungent

pun·gent \-jənt\ *adj* [L *pungent-, pungens,* prp. of *pungere* to prick, sting; akin to L *pugnus* fist, *pugnare* to fight, Gk *pygmē* fist] **1** : having a stiff and sharp point ⟨~ leaves⟩ **2** : sharply painful; *also* : POIGNANT **3 a** : marked by a sharp incisive quality : CAUSTIC ⟨a ~ denunciation⟩ **b** : being to the point : highly expressive ⟨~ prose⟩ **4** : causing a sharp or irritating sensation; *esp* : ACRID — **pun·gent·ly** *adv*

syn PUNGENT, PIQUANT, POIGNANT, RACY *shared meaning element* : sharp and stimulating to the mind or senses ***ant*** bland

¹Pu·nic \'pyü-nik\ *adj* [L *punicus,* fr. *Poenus* inhabitant of Carthage, modif. of Gk *Phoinix* Phoenician] **1** : of or relating to Carthage or the Carthaginians **2** : FAITHLESS, TREACHEROUS

²Punic *n* : the Phoenician dialect of ancient Carthage

pun·ish \'pən-ish\ *vb* [ME *punisshen,* fr. MF *puniss-,* stem of *punir,* fr. L *punire,* fr. *poena* penalty — more at PAIN] *vt* **1 a** : to impose a penalty on for a fault, offense, or violation **b** : to inflict a penalty for the commission of (an offense) in retribution or retaliation **2 a** : to deal with roughly or harshly **b** : to inflict injury on : HURT ~ *vi* : to inflict punishment — **pun·ish·abil·i·ty** \ˌpən-ish-ə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* — **pun·ish·able** \'pən-ish-ə-bəl\ *adj* — **pun·ish·er** *n*

syn PUNISH, CHASTISE, CASTIGATE, CHASTEN, DISCIPLINE, CORRECT *shared meaning element* : to inflict a penalty on in requital for wrongdoing ***ant*** excuse, pardon

pun·ish·ment \'pən-ish-mənt\ *n* **1** : the act of punishing **2 a** : suffering, pain, or loss that serves as retribution **b** : a penalty inflicted on an offender through judicial procedure **3** : severe, rough, or disastrous treatment ⟨the fighter had been subjected to heavy ~ in his losing bout —*N.Y. Times*⟩

pu·ni·tion \pyü-'nish-ən\ *n* [ME *punicion,* fr. MF *punition,* fr. L *punition-, punitio,* fr. *punitus*] : PUNISHMENT

pu·ni·tive \'pyü-nət-iv\ *adj* [F *punitif,* fr. ML *punitivus,* fr. L *punitus,* pp. of *punire*] : inflicting, involving, or aiming at punishment — **pu·ni·tive·ly** *adv* — **pu·ni·tive·ness** *n*

punitive damages *n pl* : damages awarded in excess of normal compensation to the plaintiff to punish a defendant for a serious wrong

Pun·jabi \ˌpən-'jäb-ē, -'jab-\ *n* [Hindi *pañjābī*, fr. *pañjābī* of Punjab, fr. Per, fr. *Pañjāb* Punjab] **1** : a native or inhabitant of the Punjab region of northwestern India **2** : PANJABI 1 — **Punjabi** *adj*

[1]punk \'pəŋk\ *n* [origin unknown] **1** *archaic* : PROSTITUTE **2** [prob. partly fr. [3]*punk*] : NONSENSE, FOOLISHNESS **3 a** : a young inexperienced person : BEGINNER, NOVICE; *esp* : a young man **b** : a usu. petty gangster, hoodlum, or ruffian

[2]punk *adj* **1** : very poor : INFERIOR ⟨played a ~ game⟩ **2** : being in poor health ⟨said that she was feeling ~⟩

[3]punk *n* [perh. alter. of *spunk*] **1** : wood so decayed as to be dry, crumbly, and useful for tinder **2** : a dry spongy substance prepared from fungi (genus *Fomes*) and used to ignite fuses esp. of fireworks

pun·kah \'pəŋ-kə\ *n* [Hindi *pākhā*] : a fan used esp. in India that consists of a canvas-covered frame suspended from the ceiling and that is operated by a cord

pun·kie *also* **pun·ky** \'pəŋ-kē\ *n, pl* **punkies** [D dial. *punki*, fr. Delaware *punk*, lit., fine ashes, powder] : BITING MIDGE

pun·kin *var of* PUMPKIN

punky \'pəŋ-kē\ *adj* **punk·i·er; -est** **1** : of, relating to, or resembling punk **2** : burning slowly : SMOLDERING — **punk·i·ness** *n*

pun·ny *adj* **pun·ni·er; -est** : constituting or involving a pun

pun·ster \'pən(t)-stər\ *n* : one who is given to punning

[1]punt \'pənt\ *n* [(assumed) ME, fr. OE, fr. L *ponton-, ponto* — more at PONTOON] : a long narrow flat-bottomed boat with square ends usu. propelled with a pole

[2]punt *vt* : to propel (as a punt) with a pole

[3]punt *vi* [F *ponter*, fr. *ponte* point in some games, play against the banker, fr. Sp *punto* point, fr. L *punctum* — more at POINT] **1** : to play at a gambling game against the banker **2** *Brit* : GAMBLE

[4]punt *vb* [origin unknown] *vt* : to kick (a football or soccer ball) with the top of the foot before the ball which is dropped from the hands hits the ground ~ *vi* : to punt a ball

[5]punt *n* : the act or an instance of punting a ball: as **a** : a kick used by a goalkeeper in soccer to clear the ball **b** : a kick used in football to give the opposing team possession of the ball away from the line of scrimmage esp. when a first down seems unlikely

punt·er \'pənt-ər\ *n* : one that punts: as **a** *chiefly Brit* : one that gambles; *esp* : one that bets against a bookmaker **b** : one that uses a punt in boating **c** : one that punts a ball

punt formation *n* : an offensive football formation in which a back making a punt stands approximately 10 yards behind the line and the other backs are in blocking position close to the line

pun·ty \'pənt-ē\ *n, pl* **punties** [F *pontil*] : a metal rod used for fashioning hot glass

pu·ny \'pyü-nē\ *adj* **pu·ni·er; -est** [MF *puisné* younger, lit., born afterward, fr. *puis* afterward + *né* born] : slight or inferior in power, size, or importance : WEAK — **pu·ni·ly** \'pyün-ᵊl-ē\ *adv* — **pu·ni·ness** \'pyü-nē-nəs\ *n*

[1]pup \'pəp\ *n* [short for *puppy*] : a young dog; *also* : one of the young of various animals (as a seal or rat)

[2]pup *vi* **pupped; pup·ping** : to give birth to pups

pu·pa \'pyü-pə\ *n, pl* **pu·pae** \-(ˌ)pē, -ˌpī\ *or* **pupas** [NL, fr. L *pupa* girl, doll] : an intermediate usu. quiescent stage of a metamorphic insect (as a bee, moth, or beetle) that occurs between the larva and the imago, is usu. enclosed in a cocoon or case, and undergoes internal changes by which larval structures are replaced by those typical of the imago — **pu·pal** \'pyü-pəl\ *adj*

pu·par·i·um \pyü-'par-ē-əm, -'per-\ *n, pl* **pu·par·ia** \-ē-ə\ [NL, fr. *pupa*] : the outer shell formed from the larval skin that covers a coarctate pupa — **pu·par·i·al** \-ē-əl\ *adj*

pu·pate \'pyü-ˌpāt\ *vi* **pu·pat·ed; pu·pat·ing** : to become a pupa : pass through a pupal stage — **pu·pa·tion** \pyü-'pā-shən\ *n*

pup·fish \'pəp-ˌfish\ *n* : any of several cyprinodont fishes (esp. *Cyprinodon nevadensis* and *C. diabolis*) of warm streams and springs of the western U.S.

[1]pu·pil \'pyü-pəl\ *n* [ME *pupille* minor ward, fr. MF, fr. L *pupillus* male ward (fr. dim. of *pupus* boy) & *pupilla* female ward, fr. dim. of *pupa* girl, doll, puppet] **1** : a child or young person in school or in the charge of a tutor or instructor : STUDENT **2** : one who has been taught or influenced by a famous or distinguished person

[2]pupil *n* [MF *pupille*, fr. L *pupilla*, fr. dim. of *pupa* doll; fr. the tiny image of oneself seen reflected in another's eye] : the contractile usu. round aperture in the iris of the eye — **pu·pil·ar** \-pə-lər\ *adj* — **pu·pil·lary** \-ˌler-ē\ *adj*

pu·pil·age *or* **pu·pil·lage** \'pyü-pə-lij\ *n* : the state or period of being a pupil

pu·pip·a·rous \pyü-'pip-ə-rəs\ *adj* [NL *pupa* + E *-i-* + *-parous*] **1** : producing mature larvae that are ready to pupate at birth **2** : of or relating to a division (Pupipara) of two-winged flies with pupiparous larvae

pup·pet \'pəp-ət\ *n* [ME *popet*, fr. MF *poupette*, dim. of (assumed) *poupe* doll, fr. L *pupa*] **1 a** : a small-scale figure (as of a person or animal) usu. with a cloth body and hollow head that fits over and is moved by the hand **b** : MARIONETTE **2** : DOLL 1 **3** : one whose acts are controlled by an outside force or influence

pup·pe·teer \ˌpəp-ə-'ti(ə)r\ *n* : one who manipulates puppets

pup·pet·ry \'pəp-ə-trē\ *n, pl* **-ries** **1** : the production or creation of puppets or puppet shows **2** : the art of manipulating puppets

pup·py \'pəp-ē\ *n, pl* **puppies** [ME *popi*, fr. MF *poupée* doll, toy, fr. (assumed) *poupe* doll] : a young domestic dog; *specif* : one less than a year old

puppy dog *n* : a domestic dog; *esp* : one having the lovable attributes of a puppy

pup·py·ish \'pəp-ē-ish\ *adj* : of, relating to, or characteristic of a puppy

puppy love *n* : transitory affection felt by a boy or girl for one of the opposite sex

pup tent *n* : a wedge-shaped shelter tent usu. without flooring or sidewalls

Pu·ra·na \pù-'rän-ə\ *n, often cap* [Skt *purāṇa*, fr. *purāṇa* ancient, fr. *purā* formerly; akin to OE *fore*] : one of a class of Hindu sacred writings chiefly from A.D. 300 to A.D. 750 comprising popular myths and legends and other traditional lore — **Pu·ra·nic** \-ik\ *adj*

pur·blind \'pər-ˌblīnd\ *adj* [ME *pur blind*, fr. *pur* purely, wholly, fr. *pur* pure] **1 a** *obs* : wholly blind **b** : partly blind **2** : lacking in vision, insight, or understanding : OBTUSE — **pur·blind·ly** \-ˌblīn-(d)lē\ *adv* — **pur·blind·ness** \-ˌblīn(d)-nəs\ *n*

[1]pur·chase \'pər-chəs\ *vb* **pur·chased; pur·chas·ing** [ME *purchacen*, fr. OF *purchacier* to seek to obtain, fr. *por-, pur-* for, forward (modif. of L *pro-*) + *chacier* to pursue, chase — more at PRO-] *vt* **1 a** *archaic* : GAIN, ACQUIRE **b** : to acquire (real estate) by means other than descent or inheritance **c** : to obtain by paying money or its equivalent : BUY **d** : to obtain by labor, danger, or sacrifice **2** : to apply a device for obtaining a mechanical advantage to (as something to be moved); *also* : to move by a purchase **3** : to constitute the means for buying ⟨our dollars ~ less each year⟩ ~ *vi* : to purchase something — **pur·chas·able** \-chə-sə-bəl\ *adj* — **pur·chas·er** *n*

[2]purchase *n* **1** : an act or instance of purchasing **2** : something obtained esp. for a price in money or its equivalent **3 a** (1) : a mechanical hold or advantage applied to the raising or moving of heavy bodies (2) : an apparatus or device by which advantage is gained **b** (1) : an advantage used in applying one's power (2) : a means of exerting power

pur·dah \'pərd-ə\ *n* [Hindi *parda*, lit., screen, veil] : seclusion of women from public observation among Muslims and some Hindus esp. in India

pure \'pyù(ə)r\ *adj* **pur·er; pur·est** [ME *pur*, fr. OF, fr. L *purus*; akin to Skt *punāti* he cleanses, MIr *ūr* fresh, green] **1 a** (1) : unmixed with any other matter ⟨~ gold⟩ (2) : free from dust, dirt, or taint ⟨~ food⟩ (3) : SPOTLESS, STAINLESS **b** : free from harshness or roughness and being in tune — used of a musical tone **c** *of a vowel* : characterized by no appreciable alteration of articulation during utterance **2 a** : SHEER, UNMITIGATED ⟨~ folly⟩ **b** (1) : ABSTRACT, THEORETICAL (2) : a priori ⟨~ mechanics⟩ **c** : not directed toward exposition of reality or solution of practical problems ⟨~ literature⟩ **d** : being nonobjective and to be appraised on formal and technical qualities only ⟨~ form⟩ **3 a** (1) : free from what vitiates, weakens, or pollutes (2) : containing nothing that does not properly belong **b** : free from moral fault or guilt **c** : marked by chastity : CONTINENT **d** (1) : of pure blood and unmixed ancestry (2) : homozygous in and breeding true for one or more characters **e** : ritually clean ***syn*** see CHASTE ***ant*** impure, immoral — **pure·ness** *n*

pure·blood \'pyù(ə)r-ˌbləd\ *or* **pure–blood·ed** \-'bləd-əd\ *adj* : of unmixed ancestry : PUREBRED — **pure·blood** \-ˌbləd\ *n*

pure·bred \-'bred\ *adj* : bred from members of a recognized breed, strain, or kind without admixture of other blood over many generations — **pure·bred** \-ˌbred\ *n*

pure democracy *n* : democracy in which the power is exercised directly by the people rather than through representatives

[1]pu·ree \pyù-'rā, -'rē\ *n* [F, fr. MF, fr. fem. of *puré*, pp. of *purer* to purify, strain, fr. L *purare* to purify, fr. *purus*] **1** : a paste or thick liquid suspension usu. produced by rubbing cooked food through a sieve **2** : a thick soup made of pureed vegetables

[2]puree *vt* **pu·reed; pu·ree·ing** : to reduce to a pulp by cooking and then rub through a sieve

pure imaginary *n* : the product of a real number other than zero and the imaginary unit

pure·ly \'pyù(ə)r-lē\ *adv* **1** : without admixture of anything injurious or foreign **2** : SIMPLY, MERELY ⟨read ~ for relaxation⟩ **3** : in a chaste or innocent manner **4** : WHOLLY, COMPLETELY ⟨a selection based ~ on merit⟩

pur·fle \'pər-fəl\ *vt* **pur·fled; pur·fling** \-f(ə-)liŋ\ [ME *purfilen*, fr. MF *porfiler*] : to ornament the border or edges of — **purfle** *n*

pur·ga·tion \ˌpər-'gā-shən\ *n* : the act or result of purging

[1]pur·ga·tive \'pər-gət-iv\ *adj* [ME *purgatif*, fr. MF, fr. LL *purgativus*, fr. L *purgatus*, pp.] : purging or tending to purge

[2]purgative *n* : a purging medicine : CATHARTIC

pur·ga·to·ri·al \ˌpər-gə-'tōr-ē-əl, -'tȯr-\ *adj* **1** : cleansing of sin : EXPIATORY **2** : of or relating to purgatory

pur·ga·to·ry \'pər-gə-ˌtōr-ē, -ˌtȯr-\ *n, pl* **-ries** [ME, fr. AF or ML; AF *purgatorie*, fr. ML *purgatorium*, fr. LL, neut. of *purgatorius* purging, fr. L *purgatus*, pp. of *purgare*] **1** : an intermediate state after death for expiatory purification; *specif* : a place or state of punishment wherein according to Roman Catholic doctrine the souls of those who die in God's grace may make satisfaction for past sins and so become fit for heaven **2** : a place or state of temporary suffering or misery ⟨the return trip was absolute ~⟩

[1]purge \'pərj\ *vb* **purged; purg·ing** [ME *purgen*, fr. OF *purgier*, fr. L *purigare, purgare* to purify, purge, fr. *purus* pure + *-igare* (akin to *agere* to drive, do) — more at ACT] *vt* **1 a** : to clear of guilt **b** : to free from moral or ceremonial defilement **2 a** : to cause evacuation from (as the bowels) **b** (1) : to make free of an unwanted substance (as an impurity or a foreign material) ⟨~ a cabin of gas⟩ (2) : to free (as a boiler) of sediment or relieve (as a steam pipe) of trapped air by bleeding **c** (1) : to rid (as a nation or party) by a purge (2) : to get rid of (as undesirable persons) : ELIMINATE ~ *vi* **1** : to become purged **2** : to have or produce frequent evacuations **3** : to cause purgation — **purg·er** *n*

[2]purge *n* **1 a** : an act or instance of purging **b** : the removal of elements or members regarded as undesirable and esp. as treacherous or disloyal **2** : something that purges; *esp* : PURGATIVE

pu·ri·fi·ca·tion \ˌpyùr-ə-fə-'kā-shən\ *n* : the act or an instance of purifying or of being purified

pu·ri·fi·ca·tor \'pyùr-ə-fə-ˌkāt-ər\ *n* **1** : one that purifies **2** : a linen cloth used to wipe the chalice after celebration of the Eucharist

pu·ri·fi·ca·to·ry \pyůr-'if-i-kə-ˌtōr-ē, 'pyůr-(ə-)fə-kə-, -ˌtȯr-\ *adj* : serving, tending, or intended to purify

pu·ri·fy \'pyůr-ə-ˌfī\ *vb* **-fied; -fy·ing** [ME *purifien*, fr. MF *purifier*, fr. L *purificare*, fr. L *purus* + *-ificare* -ify] *vt* : to make pure: as **a** : to clear from material defilement or imperfection **b** : to free from guilt or moral or ceremonial blemish **c** : to free from undesirable elements ~ *vi* : to grow or become pure or clean — **pu·ri·fi·er** \-ˌfī(-ə)r\ *n*

Pu·rim \'půr-(ˌ)im, půr-'\ *n* [Heb *pūrīm*, lit., lots; fr. the casting of lots by Haman (Esth 9:24–26)] : a Jewish holiday celebrated on the 14th of Adar in commemoration of the deliverance of the Jews from the massacre plotted by Haman

pu·rine \'pyů(ə)r-ˌēn\ *n* [G *purin*, fr. L *purus* pure + NL *uricus* uric, fr. E *uric*] **1** : a crystalline base $C_5H_4N_4$ that is the parent of compounds of the uric-acid group **2** : a derivative of purine; *esp* : a base (as adenine or guanine) that is a constituent of DNA or RNA

pur·ism \'pyů(ə)r-ˌiz-əm\ *n* **1** : rigid adherence to or insistence on purity or nicety esp. in use of words **2** : an example of purism; *esp* : a word, phrase, or sense used chiefly by purists

pur·ist \'pyůr-əst\ *n* : one who adheres strictly and often excessively to a tradition; *esp* : one preoccupied with the purity of a language and its protection from the use of foreign or altered forms — **pu·ris·tic** *adj*

¹pu·ri·tan \'pyůr-ət-ᵊn\ *n* [prob. fr. LL *puritas* purity] **1** *cap* : a member of a 16th and 17th century Protestant group in England and New England opposing as unscriptural the ceremonial worship and the prelacy of the Church of England **2** : one who practices or preaches a more rigorous or professedly purer moral code than that which prevails

²puritan *adj, often cap* : of or relating to puritans, the Puritans, or puritanism

pu·ri·tan·i·cal \ˌpyůr-ə-'tan-i-kəl\ *adj* **1** : PURITAN **2** : of, relating to, or characterized by a rigid morality : SEVERE, AUSTERE ⟨~ censors of literature⟩ — **pu·ri·tan·i·cal·ly** \-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

pu·ri·tan·ism \'pyůr-ət-ᵊn-ˌiz-əm\ *n* **1** *cap* : the beliefs and practices characteristic of the Puritans **2** : strictness and austerity esp. in matters of religion or conduct

pu·ri·ty \'pyůr-ət-ē\ *n* [ME *purete*, fr. OF *pureté*, fr. LL *puritat-*, *puritas*, fr. L *purus* pure] **1** : the quality or state of being pure **2** : SATURATION 4a

Pur·kin·je cell \(ˌ)pər-ˌkin-jē-\ *n* [Johannes E. *Purkinje*] : any of numerous nerve cells that occupy the middle layer of the cerebellar cortex and are characterized by a large globose body with massive dendrites directed outward and a single slender axon directed inward

Purkinje fiber *n* [J. E. *Purkinje*] : any of the modified cardiac muscle fibers that have few nuclei, granulated central cytoplasm, and sparse peripheral striations and make up a network of conducting tissue in the myocardium

¹purl \'pər(-ə)l\ *n* [obs. *pirl* (to twist)] **1** : gold or silver thread or wire for embroidering or edging **2** : the intertwisting of thread that knots a stitch usu. along an edge **3** : PURL STITCH

²purl *vt* **1 a** : to embroider with gold or silver thread **b** : to edge or border with gold or silver embroidery **2** : to knit in purl stitch ~ *vi* : to do knitting in purl stitch

³purl *n* [perh. of Scand origin; akin to Norw *purla* to ripple] **1** : a purling or swirling stream or rill **2** : a gentle murmur or movement (as of purling water)

⁴purl *vi* **1** : EDDY, SWIRL **2** : to make a soft murmuring sound like that of a purling stream

pur·lieu \'pərl-ˌ(y)ü\ *n* [ME *purlewe* land severed from an English royal forest by perambulation, fr. AF *puralé* perambulation, fr. OF *puraler* to go through, fr. *pur-* for, through + *aler* to go — more at PURCHASE, ALLEY] **1 a** : a frequently visited place : HAUNT **b** *pl* : CONFINES, BOUNDS **2 a** : an outlying or adjacent district **b** *pl* : ENVIRONS, NEIGHBORHOOD

pur·lin \'pər-lən\ *n* [origin unknown] : a horizontal member in a roof supporting the rafters

pur·loin \(ˌ)pər-'lȯin, 'pər-ˌ\ *vt* [ME *purloinen* to put away, render ineffectual, fr. AF *purloigner*, fr. OF *porloigner* to put off, delay, fr. *por-* forward + *loing* at a distance, fr. L *longe*, fr. *longus* long — more at PURCHASE] : to appropriate wrongfully and often by a breach of trust ***syn*** see STEAL — **pur·loin·er** *n*

purl stitch *n* [¹*purl*] : a knitting stitch usu. made with the yarn at the front of the work by inserting the right needle into the front of a loop on the left needle from the right, catching the yarn with the right needle, and bringing it through to form a new loop — compare KNIT STITCH

pu·ro·my·cin \ˌpyůr-ə-'mīs-ᵊn\ *n* [*pur*ine + *-o-* + *-mycin*] : an antibiotic $C_{22}H_{29}N_7O_5$ that is obtained from an actinomycete (*Streptomyces alboniger*) and is used esp. as a potent inhibitor of protein synthesis in microorganisms and mammalian cells

¹pur·ple \'pər-pəl\ *adj* **pur·pler** \-p(ə-)lər\; **pur·plest** \-p(ə-)ləst\ [ME *purpel*, alter. of *purper*, fr. OE *purpuran* of purple, gen. of *purpure* purple color, fr. L *purpura*, fr. Gk *porphyra*] **1** : IMPERIAL, REGAL **2** : of the color purple **3 a** : highly rhetorical : ORNATE **b** : marked by profanity

²purple *n* **1 a** (1) : TYRIAN PURPLE (2) : any of various colors that fall about midway between red and blue in hue **b** (1) : cloth dyed purple (2) : a garment of such color; *esp* : a purple robe worn as an emblem of rank or authority **c** (1) : a mollusk (as of the genus *Purpura*) yielding a purple dye and esp. the Tyrian purple of ancient times (2) : a pigment or dye that colors purple **2 a** : imperial or regal rank or power **b** : high rank or station

³purple *vb* **pur·pled; pur·pling** \-p(ə-)liŋ\ *vt* : to make purple ~ *vi* : to become purple

Purple Heart *n* : a U.S. military decoration awarded to any member of the armed forces wounded or killed in action

purple loosestrife *n* : a marsh herb (*Lythrum salicaria*) of Europe and the eastern U.S. that has a long spike of purple flowers

purple passage *n* [trans. of L *pannus purpureus* purple patch; fr. the traditional splendor of purple cloth as contrasted with more shabby materials] **1** : a passage conspicuous for brilliance or effectiveness in a work that is dull, commonplace, or uninspired **2** : a piece of obtrusively ornate writing — called also *purple patch*

purple scale *n* : a brownish or purplish armored scale (*Lepidosaphes beckii*) that is destructive to citrus fruit

pur·plish \'pər-p(ə-)lish\ *adj* : somewhat purple

pur·ply \'pər-p(ə-)lē\ *adj* : PURPLISH

¹pur·port \'pər-ˌpō(ə)rt, -ˌpȯ(ə)rt\ *n* [ME, fr. AF, content, tenor, fr. *purporter* to contain, fr. OF *porporter* to convey, fr. *por-* forward + *porter* to carry — more at PURCHASE, PORT] : meaning conveyed, professed, or implied : IMPORT; *also* : SUBSTANCE, GIST

²pur·port \(ˌ)pər-'pō(ə)rt, -'pȯ(ə)rt\ *vt* **1** : to have the often specious appearance of being, intending, or claiming (something implied or inferred) : PROFESS ⟨a book that ~s to be an objective analysis⟩ **2** : INTEND, PURPOSE

pur·port·ed *adj* : REPUTED, RUMORED — **pur·port·ed·ly** *adv*

¹pur·pose \'pər-pəs\ *n* [ME *purpos*, fr. OF, fr. *purposer* to purpose, fr. L *proponere* (perf. indic. *proposui*) to propose — more at PROPOSE] **1 a** : something set up as an object or end to be attained : INTENTION **b** : RESOLUTION, DETERMINATION **2** : a subject under discussion or an action in course of execution ***syn*** see INTENTION — **on purpose** : by intent : INTENTIONALLY

²purpose *vt* **pur·posed; pur·pos·ing** : to propose as an aim to oneself

pur·pose·ful \'pər-pəs-fəl\ *adj* **1** : full of determination ⟨a ~ man⟩ **2** : having a purpose or aim : MEANINGFUL ⟨~ activities⟩ — **pur·pose·ful·ly** \-fə-lē\ *adv* — **pur·pose·ful·ness** *n*

pur·pose·less \-ləs\ *adj* : having no purpose : AIMLESS, MEANINGLESS — **pur·pose·less·ly** *adv* — **pur·pose·less·ness** *n*

pur·pose·ly \-lē\ *adv* : with a deliberate or express purpose

pur·po·sive \'pər-pə-siv, (ˌ)pər-'pō-\ *adj* **1** : serving or effecting a useful function though not as a result of planning or design **2** : having or tending to fulfill a conscious purpose or design : PURPOSEFUL — **pur·po·sive·ly** *adv* — **pur·po·sive·ness** *n*

pur·pu·ra \'pər-p(y)ə-rə\ *n* [NL, fr. L, purple color] : any of several hemorrhagic states characterized by patches of purplish discoloration resulting from extravasation of blood into the skin and mucous membranes — **pur·pu·ric** \ˌpər-'pyů(ə)r-ik\ *adj*

pur·pure \'pər-pyər\ *n* [ME, fr. OE, purple] : the heraldic color purple

¹purr \'pər\ *n* [imit.] : a low vibratory murmur typical of an apparently contented or pleased cat

²purr *vi* **1** : to make a purr **2 a** : to speak in a manner that resembles a purr **b** : to speak in a malicious catty manner — **purr·ing·ly** \-iŋ-lē\ *adv*

¹purse \'pərs\ *n* [ME *purs*, fr. OE, modif. of ML *bursa*, fr. LL, oxhide, fr. Gk *byrsa*] **1 a** (1) : a small bag for money (2) : a receptacle (as a pocketbook) for carrying money and often other small objects **b** : a receptacle (as a pouch) shaped like a purse **2 a** : RESOURCES, FUNDS **b** : a sum of money offered as a prize or present; *also* : the total amount of money offered in prizes for a given event — **purse·like** \-ˌlīk\ *adj*

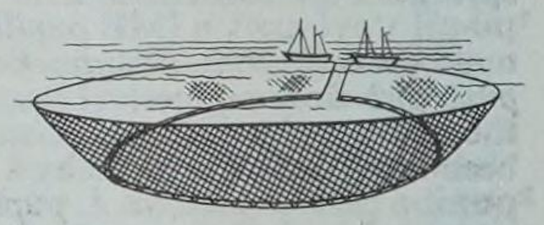
²purse *vt* **pursed; purs·ing** **1** : to put into a purse **2** : PUCKER, KNIT

purse crab *n* : a land crab (*Birgus latro*) that is widely distributed about islands of the tropical Indian and Pacific oceans where it burrows in the soil and feeds on coconuts and that is related to the hermit crabs but distinguished by its large size and broad symmetrical abdomen with edible oily flesh

purse–proud \'pər-ˌspraůd\ *adj* : proud because of one's wealth esp. in the absence of other distinctions

purs·er \'pər-sər\ *n* **1** : an official on a ship responsible for papers and accounts and on a passenger ship also for the comfort and welfare of passengers **2** : an official on an airliner responsible esp. for the comfort and welfare of passengers

purse seine *n* : a large seine designed to be set by two boats around a school of fish and so arranged that after the ends have been brought together the bottom can be closed — **purse seiner** *n*



purse seine

purse strings *n pl* : financial resources

purs·lane \'pər-slən, -ˌslān\ *n* [ME, fr. MF *porcelaine*, fr. LL *porcillagin-*, *porcillago*, alter. of L *porcillaca*, alter. of *portulaca*] : any of a family (Portulacaceae, the purslane family) of usu. succulent herbs having perfect regular flowers with 2 sepals and 4 to 5 hypogynous petals; *esp* : a fleshy-leaved trailing plant (*Portulaca oleracea*) with tiny yellow flowers that is a common troublesome weed but is sometimes eaten as a potherb or in salads

pur·su·ance \pər-'sü-ən(t)s\ *n* : the act of pursuing; *esp* : a carrying out or into effect : PROSECUTION ⟨in ~ of his duties⟩

pur·su·ant to \-ənt-\ *prep* : in carrying out : in conformance to : according to

pur·sue \pər-'sü\ *vb* **pur·sued; pur·su·ing** [ME *pursuen*, fr. AF *pursuer*, fr. OF *poursuir*, fr. L *prosequi*, fr. *pro-* forward + *sequi* to follow — more at PRO-, SUE] *vt* **1** : to follow in order to overtake, capture, kill, or defeat **2** : to find or employ measures to obtain or accomplish : SEEK ⟨~ a goal⟩ **3** : to proceed along ⟨~s a northern course⟩ **4 a** : to engage in ⟨~ a hobby⟩ **b** : to follow up ⟨~ an argument⟩ **5** : to continue to afflict : HAUNT ⟨was *pursued* by horrible memories⟩ **6** : COURT, ¹CHASE 1c ⟨*pursued* by dozens of women⟩ ~ *vi* : to go in pursuit ***syn*** see FOLLOW — **pur·su·er** *n*

pur·suit \pər-'süt\ *n* [ME, fr. OF *poursuite*, fr. *poursuir*] **1** : the act of pursuing **2** : an activity that one engages in as a vocation, profession, or avocation : OCCUPATION

pursuit plane *n* : a fighter plane designed for pursuit of enemy airplanes

pur·sui·vant \'pər-s(w)i-vənt\ *n* [ME *pursevant* attendant of a herald, fr. MF *poursuivant*, lit., follower, fr. prp. of *poursuir*, *poursuivre* to pursue] **1** : an officer of arms ranking below a herald but having similar duties **2** : FOLLOWER, ATTENDANT

[1]pur·sy \'pəs-ē, 'pər-sē\ *or* **pus·sy** \'pəs-ē\ *adj* **pur·si·er** *or* **pus·si·er; -est** [ME *pursy*, fr. AF *pursif*, alter. of MF *polsif*, fr. *poulser*, *polser* to beat, push, pant — more at PUSH] **1** : short-winded esp. because of corpulence **2** : FAT — **pur·si·ness** *n*

[2]pursy \'pər-sē\ *adj* **purs·i·er; -est** [*purse*] **1** : having a puckered appearance **2** : PURSE-PROUD

pur·te·nance \'pərt-nən(t)s, -ᵊn-ən(t)s\ *n* [ME, lit., appendage, modif. of MF *partenance*, fr. *partenir* to pertain — more at PERTAIN] : ENTRAILS, PLUCK

pu·ru·lence \'pyůr-(y)ə-lən(t)s\ *n* : the quality or state of being purulent; *also* : PUS

pu·ru·lent \-lənt\ *adj* [L *purulentus*, fr. *pur-*, *pus* pus] **1** : containing, consisting of, or being pus ⟨a ~ discharge⟩ **2** : accompanied by suppuration

pur·vey \(ˌ)pər-'vā, 'pər-ˌ\ *vt* **pur·veyed; pur·vey·ing** [ME *purveien*, fr. MF *porveeir*, fr. L *providēre* to provide] **1** : to supply (as provisions) usu. as a matter of business **2** : CIRCULATE, DISSEMINATE

pur·vey·ance \-ən(t)s\ *n* : the act or process of purveying or procuring

pur·vey·or \-ər\ *n* **1** : one that purveys **2** : VICTUALLER, CATERER

pur·view \'pər-ˌvyü\ *n* [ME *purveu*, fr. AF *purveu est* it is provided (opening phrase of a statute)] **1 a** : the body or enacting part of a statute **b** : the limit, purpose, or scope of a statute **2** : the range or limit of authority, competence, responsibility, concern, or intention **3** : range of vision, understanding, or cognizance

pus \'pəs\ *n* [L *pur-*, *pus* — more at FOUL] : thick opaque usu. yellowish white fluid matter formed by suppuration and composed of exudate containing leukocytes, tissue debris, and microorganisms

Pus \'půs\ *n* [Hindi *pūs*, fr. Skt *puṣya*] : a month of the Hindu year — see MONTH table

Pu·sey·ism \'pyü-zē-ˌiz-əm, -sē-\ *n* [Edward Bouverie *Pusey*] : TRACTARIANISM — **Pu·sey·ite** \-ˌīt\ *n*

[1]push \'půsh\ *vb* [ME *pusshen*, fr. OF *poulser* to beat, push, fr. L *pulsare*, fr. *pulsus*, pp. of *pellere* to drive, strike — more at FELT] *vt* **1 a** : to press against with force in order to drive or impel **b** : to move or endeavor to move away or ahead by steady pressure without striking **2 a** : to thrust forward, downward, or outward **b** : to hit (a baseball) to the opposite side of a baseball field — compare PULL **3 a** : to press or urge forward to completion **b** : to urge or press the advancement, adoption, or practice of ⟨~*ed* a bill in the legislature⟩; *specif* : to make aggressive efforts to sell ⟨a drive to ~ canned goods⟩ **c** : to engage in the illicit sale of (narcotics) **4** : to bear hard upon so as to involve in difficulty ⟨grinding poverty ~*ed* them to the breaking point⟩ **5** : to approach in age or number ⟨the old man was ~*ing* seventy-five⟩ ~ *vi* **1** : to press against something with steady force in or as if in order to impel **2** : to press forward energetically against opposition **3** : to exert oneself continuously, vigorously, or obtrusively to gain an end ⟨unions ~*ing* for higher wages⟩

syn PUSH, THRUST, SHOVE, PROPEL *shared meaning element* : to use force on so as to cause to move ahead or aside

— **push one's luck** : to take an increasing risk

[2]push *n* **1** : a vigorous effort to attain an end : DRIVE: **a** : a military assault or offensive **b** : an advance that overcomes obstacles **c** : a campaign to promote a product **2** : a time for action : EMERGENCY **3 a** : an act of pushing : SHOVE **b** (1) : a physical force steadily applied in a direction away from the body exerting it ⟨the ~ of the water against the wharf⟩ (2) : a nonphysical pressure : INFLUENCE, URGE **c** : vigorous enterprise or energy **4 a** : an exertion of influence to promote another's interests **b** : stimulation to activity : IMPETUS

push around *vt* : to impose on contemptuously

push·ball \'půsh-ˌbȯl\ *n* : a game in which each of two sides endeavors to push an inflated leather-covered ball six feet in diameter across its opponents' goal; *also* : the ball used

push–bike \-ˌbīk\ *n, Brit* : a pedal bicycle — called also *push bicycle*

push broom *n* : a long-handled wide brush that is designed to be pushed and is used for sweeping

push–button *adj* : using or dependent on complex and more or less self-operating mechanisms that are put in operation by a simple act comparable to pushing a button ⟨~ warfare⟩

push button *n* : a small button or knob that when pushed operates something esp. by closing an electric circuit

push·cart \'půsh-ˌkärt\ *n* : a cart or barrow pushed by hand

push·chair \-ˌche(ə)r, -ˌcha(ə)r\ *n, chiefly Brit* : STROLLER

push·down \-ˌdaůn\ *n* : a store of data (as in a computer) from which the most recently stored item must be the first retrieved — called also *pushdown list, pushdown stack*

push·er \'půsh-ər\ *n* : one that pushes; *esp* : one that pushes illegal drugs

push·ful \-fəl\ *adj* : PUSHING — **push·ful·ness** *n*

push·ing *adj* **1** : marked by ambition, energy, enterprise, and initiative **2** : marked by tactless forwardness or officious intrusiveness ***syn*** see AGGRESSIVE

push off *vi* : to set out ⟨we *pushed off* for home⟩

push on *vi* : to continue on one's way : PROCEED

push·over \'půsh-ˌō-vər\ *n* **1** : an opponent who is easy to defeat or a victim who is capable of no effective resistance ⟨so kind, warmhearted and open that she's . . . a ~ for rivals —Virginia Bird⟩ **2** : someone unable to resist an attraction or appeal : SUCKER **3** : something accomplished without difficulty : SNAP

push·pin \-ˌpin\ *n* : a pin that has a roughly cylindrical head and that is easily inserted into or withdrawn from a surface (as a map) with the fingers

push–pull \-'půl\ *adj* : constituting or relating to an arrangement of two transistors or electron tubes such that an alternating input causes them to send current through a load alternately ⟨a ~ circuit⟩ — **push–pull** *n*

Push·tu \'pəsh-(ˌ)tü\ *var of* PASHTO

push–up \'půsh-ˌəp\ *n* : a conditioning exercise performed in a prone position by raising and lowering the body with the straightening and bending of the arms while keeping the back straight and supporting the body on the hands and toes

pushy \'půsh-ē\ *adj* **push·i·er; -est** : aggressive often to an objectionable degree : FORWARD — **push·i·ly** \'půsh-ə-lē\ *adv* — **push·i·ness** \'půsh-ē-nəs\ *n*

pu·sil·la·nim·i·ty \ˌpyü-sə-lə-'nim-ət-ē *also* ˌpyü-zə-\ *n* : the quality or state of being pusillanimous : COWARDLINESS

pu·sil·lan·i·mous \-'lan-ə-məs\ *adj* [LL *pusillanimis*, fr. L *pusillus* very small (dim. of *pusus* small child) + *animus* spirit; akin to L *puer* child — more at PUERILE, ANIMATE] : lacking courage and resolution : marked by contemptible timidity — **pu·sil·lan·i·mous·ly** *adv*

[1]puss \'půs\ *n* [origin unknown] **1** : CAT **2** : GIRL

[2]puss *n* [IrGael *pus* mouth, fr. MIr *bus*] *slang* : FACE

puss·ley \'pəs-lē\ *n* [by alter.] : PURSLANE

[1]pussy \'půs-ē\ *n, pl* **puss·ies** **1** : PUSS **2** : a catkin of the pussy willow

[2]pus·sy \'pəs-ē\ *adj* **pus·si·er; -est** : full of or resembling pus

[3]pus·sy \'pəs-ē\ *var of* PURSY

[4]pus·sy \'půs-ē\ *n, pl* **pussies** [earlier *puss* (perh. of LG or Scand origin) + *-y*; akin to ON *pūss* pocket, pouch, LG *pūse* vulva, OE *pusa* bag, Gk *byein* to stuff, plug] **1** : VULVA — usu. considered vulgar **2 a** : SEXUAL INTERCOURSE — usu. considered vulgar **b** : the female partner in sexual intercourse — usu. considered vulgar

pussy·cat \'půs-ē-ˌkat\ *n* : CAT

pussy·foot \'půs-ē-ˌfůt\ *vi* **1** : to tread or move warily or stealthily **2** : to refrain from committing oneself — **pussy·foot·er** *n*

pussy·toes \'půs-ē-ˌtōz\ *or* **puss·y's–toes** \-ēz-\ *n pl but sing or pl in constr* : any of a genus (*Antennaria*) of woolly or hoary composite herbs that are natives mostly of temperate regions and have small whitish discoid flower heads and a pappus formed of club-shaped bristles

pussy willow \ˌpůs-ē-\ *n* : a willow (as the American *Salix discolor*) having large cylindrical silky aments



pussy willow

[1]pus·tu·lant \'pəs-chə-lənt, 'pəs-t(y)ə-\ *adj* : producing pustules

[2]pustulant *n* : an agent (as a chemical) that induces pustule formation

pus·tu·lar \-lər\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or resembling pustules **2** : covered with pustular prominences : PUSTULATE

pus·tu·late \-lət, -ˌlāt\ *or* **pus·tu·lat·ed** \-ˌlāt-əd\ *adj* : covered with pustules

pus·tu·la·tion \ˌpəs-chə-'lā-shən, ˌpəs-t(y)ə-\ *n* **1** : the act of producing pustules : the state of having pustules **2** : PUSTULE

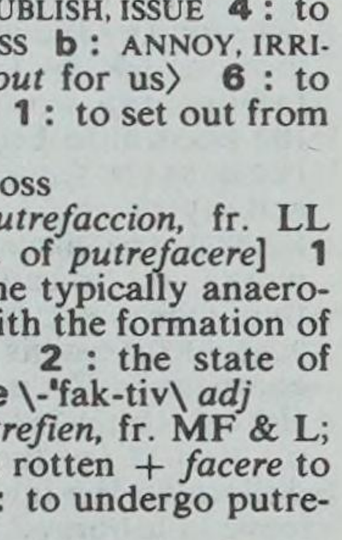
pus·tule \'pəs-(ˌ)chü(ə)l, -(ˌ)t(y)ü(ə)l\ *n* [ME, fr. L *pustula* — more at FOG] **1** : a small circumscribed elevation of the skin containing pus and having an inflamed base **2** : a small often distinctively colored elevation or spot resembling a blister or pimple

[1]put \'půt\ *vb* **put; put·ting** [ME *putten*; akin to OE *putung* instigation, MD *poten* to plant] *vt* **1 a** : to place in a specified position or relationship : LAY ⟨~ the book on the table⟩ **b** : to move in a specified direction **c** (1) : to send (as a weapon or missile) into or through something : THRUST (2) : to throw with an overhand pushing motion ⟨~ the shot⟩ **d** : to bring into a specified state or condition ⟨a reapportionment . . . that was ~ into effect at the September primaries —*Current Biog.*⟩ **2 a** : to cause to endure or suffer something : SUBJECT ⟨~ him to death⟩ **b** : IMPOSE, INFLICT ⟨~ a special tax on luxuries⟩ **3 a** : to set before one for judgment or decision ⟨~ the question⟩ **b** : to call for a formal vote on ⟨~ the motion⟩ **4 a** (1) : to turn into language or literary form ⟨~ his feelings into words⟩ (2) : to translate into another language ⟨~ the poem into English⟩ (3) : ADAPT ⟨lyrics ~ to music⟩ **b** : EXPRESS, STATE ⟨*putting* it mildly⟩ **5 a** : to devote (oneself) to an activity or end ⟨~ himself to winning back their confidence⟩ **b** : APPLY ⟨~ his mind to the problem⟩ **c** : ASSIGN ⟨~ them to work⟩ **d** : to cause to perform an action : URGE ⟨~ the horse over the fence⟩ **e** : IMPEL, INCITE ⟨~ them into a frenzy⟩ **6 a** : REPOSE, REST ⟨~*s* his faith in reason⟩ **b** : INVEST ⟨~ his money in the company⟩ **7 a** : to give as an estimate ⟨~ the time as about eleven⟩ **b** : ATTACH, ATTRIBUTE ⟨~*s* a high value on his friendship⟩ **c** : IMPUTE ⟨~ the blame on his partner⟩ **8** : BET, WAGER ⟨~ two dollars on the favorite⟩ ~ *vi* **1** : to start in motion : GO; *esp* : to leave in a hurry **2** *of a ship* : to take a specified course ⟨~ down the river⟩ — **put forth** **1 a** : ASSERT, PROPOSE **b** : to make public : ISSUE **2** : to bring into action : EXERT **3** : to produce or send out by growth ⟨*put forth* leaves⟩ **4** : to start out — **put forward** : PROPOSE ⟨*put forward* a theory⟩ — **put in mind** : REMIND — **put one's finger on** : IDENTIFY ⟨*put his finger on* the cause of the trouble⟩ — **put one's foot down** : to take a firm stand — **put one's foot in one's mouth** : to make a tactless or embarrassing blunder — **put paid to** *Brit* : to finish off : wipe out — **put the arm on** *or* **put the bite on** : to ask for money — **put the finger on** : to inform on ⟨*put the finger on* . . . heroin pushers —Barrie Zwicker⟩ — **put to bed** : to make the final preparations for printing (as a newspaper) — **put together** **1** : to create as a unified whole : CONSTRUCT **2** : ADD, COMBINE — **put to it** : to give difficulty to : press hard ⟨had been *put to it* to keep up⟩ — **put two and two together** : to draw the proper inference from given premises

[2]put *n* **1** : a throw made with an overhand pushing motion; *specif* : the act or an instance of putting the shot **2** : an option to sell a specified amount of a security (as a stock) or commodity (as wheat) at a fixed price at or within a specified time — compare [2]CALL 3d

[3]put *adj* : being in place : FIXED, SET ⟨stay ~ until I call⟩

put about *vi, of a ship* : to change direction : go on another tack ~ *vt* : to cause to change course or direction
put across *vt* **1** : to achieve or carry through by deceit or trickery **2** : to convey effectively or forcefully
put-and-take \ˌpůt-ᵊn-ˈtāk\ *n* : any of various games of chance played with a teetotum or with dice in which players contribute to a pool and take from it according to the instructions on the top or dice
pu·ta·tive \ˈpyüt-ət-iv\ *adj* [ME, fr. LL *putativus*, fr. L *putatus*, pp. of *putare* to think — more at PAVE] **1** : commonly accepted or supposed **2** : assumed to exist or to have existed — **pu·ta·tive·ly** *adv*
put away *vt* **1 a** : DISCARD, RENOUNCE ⟨to *put* grief *away* is disloyal to the memory of the departed —H. A. Overstreet⟩ **b** : DIVORCE **2** : to eat or drink up : CONSUME **3 a** : to confine esp. in a mental institution **b** : BURY **c** : KILL
put by *vt* **1** *archaic* : REJECT **2** : to lay aside : SAVE
put-down \ˈpůt-ˌdaůn\ *n* : an act or instance of putting down; *esp* : a humiliating remark : SQUELCH
put down \ˌpůt-ˈdaůn, ˈpůt-\ *vt* **1** : to bring to an end : STOP ⟨*put down* a riot⟩ **2 a** : DEPOSE, DEGRADE **b** : DISPARAGE, BELITTLE ⟨mentioned his poetry only to *put* it *down*⟩ **c** : DISAPPROVE, CRITICIZE ⟨was *put down* for the way she dressed⟩ **d** : HUMILIATE, SQUELCH ⟨*put* him *down* with a sharp retort⟩ **3** : to make ineffective : CHECK ⟨*put down* the gossip⟩ **4 a** : to put in writing ⟨*put* it *down* truthfully⟩ **b** : to enter in a list ⟨*put* me *down* for a donation⟩ **5 a** : to place in a category ⟨I *put* him *down* as a hypochondriac —O. S. J. Gogarty⟩ **b** : ATTRIBUTE ⟨*put* it *down* to inexperience⟩ **6** : CONSUME ⟨*putting down* helping after helping — Carson McCullers⟩ **7** : to pack or preserve for future use — **put down roots** : to establish a permanent residence
put in *vt* **1** : to make a formal offer or declaration of ⟨*put in* a plea of guilty⟩ **2** : to come in with : INTERPOSE ⟨*put in* a word for his brother⟩ **3** : to spend (time) at some occupation or job ⟨*put in* six hours at the office⟩ **4** : PLANT ⟨*put in* a crop⟩ ~ *vi* **1** : to call at or enter a place; *esp* : to enter a harbor or port **2** : to make an application, request, or offer — often used with *for* ⟨had to retire and *put in* for a pension —Seymour Nagan⟩
put·log \ˈpůt-ˌlȯg, ˈpət-, -ˌläg\ *n* [prob. alter. of earlier *putlock*, perh. fr. ³*put* + *lock*] : one of the short timbers that support the flooring of a scaffold
put off *vt* **1** : DISCONCERT, REPEL **2 a** : to hold back to a later time **b** : to induce to wait ⟨*put* the bill collector *off*⟩ **3** : to take off : rid oneself of **4** : to sell or pass fraudulently
¹put-on \ˌpůt-ˌȯn, -ˌän\ *adj* : PRETENDED, ASSUMED
²put-on \ˈpůt-ˌȯn, -ˌän\ *n* : an instance of putting someone on ⟨conversational ~*s* are related to old-fashioned joshing —Jacob Brackman⟩; *also* : PARODY, SPOOF ⟨a kind of *put-on* of every pretentious film ever made —C. A. Ridley⟩
put on \(ˈ)půt-ˈȯn, -ˈän\ *vt* **1 a** : to dress oneself in : DON **b** : to make part of one's appearance or behavior **c** : FEIGN ⟨*put* a saintly manner *on*⟩ **2** : to cause to act or operate : APPLY ⟨*put on* more speed⟩ **3 a** : ADD ⟨*put on* weight⟩ **b** : EXAGGERATE, OVERSTATE ⟨he's *putting* it *on* when he makes such claims⟩ **4** : PERFORM, PRODUCE ⟨*put on* a play⟩ **5 a** : to mislead deliberately esp. for amusement ⟨the interviewer . . . must be put down — or possibly, *put on* —Melvin Maddocks⟩ **b** : KID ⟨you're *putting* me *on*⟩
put-out \ˈpůt-ˌaůt\ *n* : the retiring of a base runner or batter by a defensive player in baseball
put out \ˌpůt-ˈaůt, ˈpůt-\ *vt* **1** : EXERT, USE ⟨*put out* considerable effort⟩ **2** : EXTINGUISH ⟨*put* the fire *out*⟩ **3** : PUBLISH, ISSUE **4** : to produce for sale **5 a** : DISCONCERT, EMBARRASS **b** : ANNOY, IRRITATE **c** : INCONVENIENCE ⟨don't *put* yourself *out* for us⟩ **6** : to cause to be out (as in baseball or cricket) ~ *vi* **1** : to set out from shore **2** : to make an effort
put over *vt* **1** : DELAY, POSTPONE **2** : to put across
pu·tre·fac·tion \ˌpyü-trə-ˈfak-shən\ *n* [ME *putrefaccion*, fr. LL *putrefaction-*, *putrefactio*, fr. L *putrefactus*, pp. of *putrefacere*] **1** : the decomposition of organic matter; *esp* : the typically anaerobic splitting of proteins by bacteria and fungi with the formation of foul-smelling incompletely oxidized products **2** : the state of being putrefied : CORRUPTION — **pu·tre·fac·tive** \-ˈfak-tiv\ *adj*
pu·tre·fy \ˈpyü-trə-ˌfī\ *vb* **-fied; -fy·ing** [ME *putrefien*, fr. MF & L; MF *putrefier*, fr. L *putrefacere*, fr. *putrēre* to be rotten + *facere* to make — more at DO] *vt* : to make putrid ~ *vi* : to undergo putrefaction ***syn*** see DECAY
pu·tres·cence \pyü-ˈtres-ᵊn(t)s\ *n* : the state of being putrescent
pu·tres·cent \-ᵊnt\ *adj* [L *putrescent-*, *putrescens*, prp. of *putrescere* to grow rotten, fr. *putrēre*] **1** : undergoing putrefaction : becoming putrid **2** : of or relating to putrefaction
pu·tres·ci·ble \-ˈtres-ə-bəl\ *adj* : liable to become putrid
pu·tres·cine \-ˈtres-ˌēn\ *n* [ISV, fr. L *putrescere*] : a crystalline slightly poisonous ptomaine $C_4H_{12}N_2$ that is formed by decarboxylation of ornithine, occurs widely but scantily in living things, and is found esp. in putrid flesh
pu·trid \ˈpyü-trəd\ *adj* [L *putridus*, fr. *putrēre* to be rotten, fr. *puter*, *putris* rotten; akin to L *putēre* to stink] **1 a** : being in a state of putrefaction : ROTTEN **b** : of, relating to, or characteristic of putrefaction : FOUL ⟨a ~ odor⟩ **2 a** : morally corrupt **b** : totally objectionable ***syn*** see MALODOROUS — **pu·trid·i·ty** \pyü-ˈtrid-ət-ē\ *n* — **pu·trid·ly** \ˈpyü-trəd-lē\ *adv* — **pu·trid·ness** *n*
putsch \ˈpůch\ *n* [G] : a secretly plotted and suddenly executed attempt to overthrow a government
putsch·ist \ˈpůch-əst\ *n* : one who takes part in a putsch
putt \ˈpət\ *n* [alter. of ²*put*] : a golf stroke made on a putting green to cause the ball to roll into or near the hole — **putt** *vb*
put·tee \ˌpə-ˈtē, pů-; ˈpət-ē\ *n* [Hindi *paṭṭī* strip of cloth, fr. Skt *paṭṭikā*] **1** : a cloth strip wrapped around the leg from ankle to knee **2** : a usu. leather legging secured by a strap or catch or by laces



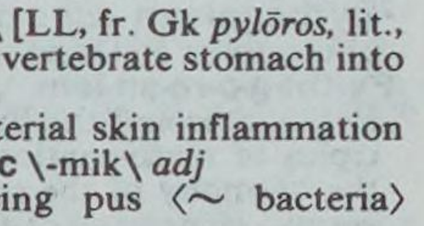
puttees

¹put·ter \ˈpůt-ər\ *n* : one that puts ⟨a ~ of questions⟩
²putt·er \ˈpət-ər\ *n* **1** : a golf club used in putting **2** : one that putts
³put·ter \ˈpət-ər\ *vi* [alter. of *potter*] **1** : to move or act aimlessly or idly **2** : to work at random : TINKER — **put·ter·er** \-ər-ər\ *n*
put through *vt* **1** : to carry to a successful conclusion ⟨*put through* a number of reforms⟩ **2 a** : to make a telephone connection for **b** : to obtain a connection for (a telephone call)
putt·ing green \ˈpət-iŋ-\ *n* : a smooth grassy area at the end of a golf fairway containing the hole into which the ball must be played
put to *vi, of a ship* : to put in to shore (as for shelter)
¹put·ty \ˈpət-ē\ *n, pl* **putties** [F *potée*, lit., potful, fr. OF, fr. *pot* — more at POTAGE] **1** : a pasty substance consisting of hydrated lime and water **2** : a polishing material containing chiefly an oxide of tin **3 a** : a cement usu. made of whiting and boiled linseed oil beaten or kneaded to the consistency of dough and used esp. in fastening glass in sashes and stopping crevices in woodwork **b** : any of various substances resembling such cement in appearance, consistency, or use: as (1) : an acid-resistant mixture of ferric oxide and boiled linseed oil (2) : a mixture of red and white lead and boiled linseed oil used as a lute in pipe fitting **4** : a light brownish gray to light grayish brown textile color **5** : one who is easily manipulated ⟨is ~ in her hands⟩
²putty *vt* **put·tied; put·ty·ing** : to use putty on or apply putty to
put·ty·root \ˈpət-ē-ˌrůt, -ˌrůt\ *n* : a No. American orchid (*Aplectrum hyemale*) having a slender naked rootstock and producing brown flowers
put-up \ˌpůt-ˌəp\ *adj* : arranged secretly beforehand
put up \ˌpůt-ˈəp, ˈpůt-\ *vt* **1 a** : to place in a container or receptacle ⟨*put* his lunch *up* in a bag⟩ **b** : to put away (a sword) in a scabbard : SHEATHE **c** : to prepare so as to preserve for later use : CAN **d** : to put in storage **2** : to start (game) from cover **3** : to nominate for election **4** : to offer up (as a prayer) **5** : SET 17 **6** : to offer for public sale ⟨*puts* his possessions *up* for auction⟩ **7** : to give food and shelter to : ACCOMMODATE **8** : to arrange (as a plot or scheme) with others ⟨*put up* a job to steal the jewels⟩ **9** : BUILD, ERECT **10 a** : to make a display of ⟨*put up* a bluff⟩ **b** : to carry on ⟨*put up* a struggle against odds⟩ **11 a** : CONTRIBUTE, PAY **b** : to offer as a prize or stake **12** : to increase the amount of : RAISE ~ *vi* : LODGE — **put up to** : INCITE, INSTIGATE ⟨they *put* him *up to* playing the prank⟩ — **put up with** : to endure or tolerate without complaint or attempt at reprisal
put-up-on \ˈpůt-ə-ˌpȯn, -ˌpän\ *adj* : imposed upon : taken advantage of
¹puz·zle \ˈpəz-əl\ *vb* **puz·zled; puz·zling** \-(ə-)liŋ\ [origin unknown] *vt* **1** : to offer or represent to (a person or his mind) a problem difficult to solve or a situation difficult to resolve : challenge mentally ⟨a schoolmaster *puzzled* by a hard sum —R. W. Emerson⟩; *also* : to exert (as oneself) over such a problem or situation ⟨they *puzzled* their wits to find a solution⟩ **2** *archaic* : COMPLICATE, ENTANGLE **3** : to solve with difficulty or ingenuity ⟨~ out an answer to a riddle⟩ ~ *vi* **1** : to be uncertain as to action or choice **2** : to attempt a solution of a puzzle by guesswork or experiment — **puz·zler** \-(ə-)lər\ *n*

syn PUZZLE, PERPLEX, BEWILDER, DISTRACT, NONPLUS, CONFOUND, DUMBFOUND *shared meaning element* : to baffle and disturb mentally. PUZZLE implies presentation of a problem difficult to solve ⟨a persistent fever which *puzzled* her doctor⟩ PERPLEX adds a suggestion of worry and uncertainty especially about making a necessary decision ⟨new and *perplexing* challenges face higher education today —M. S. Eisenhower⟩ BEWILDER often implies perplexity but it stresses a confusion of mind that hampers clear and decisive thinking ⟨the *bewildering* confusion of our times —Matthew Arnold⟩ DISTRACT implies agitation or uncertainty induced by conflicting preoccupations or interests ⟨that conflict of races and religions which had so long *distracted* the island —T. B. Macaulay⟩ NONPLUS implies a bafflement that makes orderly planning or deciding impossible ⟨doing the unexpected in a way likely to *nonplus* a conventionally-minded enemy —*Times Lit. Supp.*⟩ CONFOUND implies temporary mental paralysis caused by astonishment or profound abasement ⟨so spoke the son of God; and Satan stood a while as mute, *confounded* —John Milton⟩ DUMBFOUND suggests intense but momentary confounding; often the idea of astonishment is so stressed that *dumbfound* becomes a near synonym of *astound* ⟨I was *dumbfounded* to hear him say that I was on a quixotic enterprise —William Lawrence⟩

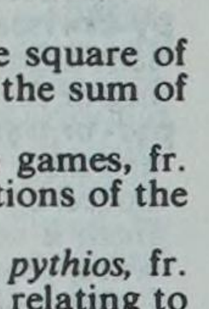
²puzzle *n* **1** : the state of being puzzled : PERPLEXITY **2 a** : something that puzzles **b** : a question, problem, or contrivance designed for testing ingenuity ***syn*** see MYSTERY
puz·zle·head·ed \ˌpəz-əl-ˈhed-əd\ *adj* : having or based on confused attitudes or ideas — **puz·zle·head·ed·ness** *n*
puz·zle·ment \ˈpəz-əl-mənt\ *n* **1** : the state of being puzzled : PERPLEXITY **2** : PUZZLE
PV *abbr* polyvinyl
PVA *abbr* polyvinyl acetate
PVC *abbr* polyvinyl chloride
pvt *abbr* private
PVT *abbr* pressure, volume, temperature
PW *abbr* prisoner of war
PWA *abbr* Public Works Administration
pwr *abbr* power
pwt *abbr* pennyweight
PX *abbr* **1** please exchange **2** post exchange
py- *or* **pyo-** *comb form* [Gk, fr. *pyon* pus — more at FOUL] : pus ⟨*py*emia⟩ ⟨*pyo*rrhea⟩
pya \pē-ˈ(y)ä\ *n* [Burmese] — see *kyat* at MONEY table
pyc·nid·i·um \pik-ˈnid-ē-əm\ *n, pl* **-ia** \-ē-ə\ [NL, fr. Gk *pyknos* dense; akin to Gk *pyka* thickly, Alb *puth* kiss] : a flask-shaped spore fruit bearing conidiophores and conidia on the interior and occurring in various imperfect fungi and ascomycetes — **pyc·nid·i·al** \-ē-əl\ *adj*

pyc·no·go·nid \pik-'näg-ə-nəd, ˌpik-nə-'gän-əd\ *n* [deriv. of Gk *pyknos* + *gony* knee — more at KNEE] : SEA SPIDER
pyc·nom·e·ter \pik-'näm-ət-ər\ *n* [Gk *pyknos* + ISV *-meter*] : a standard vessel often provided with a thermometer for measuring and comparing the densities of liquids or solids
pye–dog \'pī-ˌdȯg, -'dȯg\ *n* [prob. by shortening and alter. fr. *pariah dog*] : a half-wild dog common about Asian villages
pyel- *or* **pyelo-** *comb form* [NL, pelvis, fr. Gk *pyelos* trough; akin to Gk *plein* to sail — more at FLOW] : renal pelvis ⟨*pyelo*graphy⟩
py·eli·tis \ˌpī-ə-'līt-əs\ *n* [NL] : inflammation of the lining of the renal pelvis
py·elo·ne·phri·tis \ˌpī-(ə-)lō-ni-'frīt-əs\ *n* [NL] : inflammation of both the lining of the pelvis and the parenchyma of the kidney — **py·elo·ne·phrit·ic** \-'frit-ik\ *adj*
py·emia \pī-'ē-mē-ə\ *n* [NL] : septicemia caused by pus-forming bacteria and accompanied by multiple abscesses — **py·emic** \-mik\ *adj*
py·gid·i·um \pī-'jid-ē-əm\ *n, pl* **-ia** \-ē-ə\ [NL, fr. Gk *pygidion*, dim. of *pygē* rump; akin to L *pustula* pustule] : a caudal structure or the terminal body region of various invertebrates — **py·gid·i·al** \-ē-əl\ *adj*
pyg·mae·an *or* **pyg·me·an** \pig-'mē-ən, 'pig-mē-\ *adj* [L *pygmaeus*] : PYGMY
Pyg·ma·lion \pig-'māl-yən, -'mā-lē-ən\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *Pygmaliōn*] : a king of Cyprus who made a female figure of ivory that was brought to life for him by Aphrodite
pyg·moid \'pig-ˌmȯid\ *adj* : resembling or having the characteristics of the Pygmies
pyg·my \'pig-mē\ *n, pl* **pygmies** [ME *pigmei*, fr. L *pygmaeus* of a pygmy, dwarfish, fr. Gk *pygmaios*, fr. *pygmē* fist, measure of length — more at PUNGENT] **1** *often cap* : one of a race of dwarfs described by ancient Greek authors **2** *cap* : one of a small people of equatorial Africa ranging under five feet in height **3** : a short insignificant person : DWARF — **pygmy** *adj*
pyg·my·ish \-mē-ish\ *adj* : having the characteristics of a pygmy
pyg·my·ism \-ˌiz-əm\ *n* : a stunted or dwarfish condition
py·ja·mas \pə-'jä-məz\ *chiefly Brit var of* PAJAMAS
pyk·nic \'pik-nik\ *adj* [ISV, fr. Gk *pyknos* dense, stocky — more at PYCNIDIUM] : characterized by shortness of stature, broadness of girth, and powerful muscularity : ENDOMORPHIC 2b — **pyknic** *n*
py·lon \'pī-ˌlän, -lən\ *n* [Gk *pylōn*, fr. *pylē* gate] **1 a** : a usu. massive gateway **b** : an ancient Egyptian gateway building in a truncated pyramidal form **c** : a monumental mass flanking an entranceway or an approach to a bridge **2** : a tower for supporting either end of a wire over a long span; *broadly* : any of various towerlike structures **3** : a projection (as a post or tower) marking a prescribed course of flight for an airplane **4** : a rigid structure on the outside of an aircraft for supporting something (as an engine, tank, or bomb) — see AIRPLANE illustration **5** : a conical marker used on a road (as for directing traffic)
py·lo·ric \pī-'lōr-ik, pə-, -'lȯr-\ *adj* : of or relating to the pylorus; *also* : of, relating to, or situated in or near the posterior part of the stomach
py·lo·rus \-əs\ *n, pl* **py·lo·ri** \-'lō(ə)r-ˌī, -(ˌ)ē\ [LL, fr. Gk *pylōros*, lit., gatekeeper, fr. *pylē*] : the opening from the vertebrate stomach into the intestine
pyo·der·ma \ˌpī-ə-'dər-mə\ *n* [NL] : a bacterial skin inflammation marked by pus-filled lesions — **pyo·der·mic** \-mik\ *adj*
pyo·gen·ic \-'jen-ik\ *adj* [ISV] : producing pus ⟨~ bacteria⟩ : marked by pus production
py·or·rhea \ˌpī-ə-'rē-ə\ *n* [NL] : a discharge of pus; *specif* : purulent inflammation of the sockets of the teeth leading usu. to loosening of the teeth — **py·or·rhe·al** \-'rē-əl\ *adj*
pyr- *or* **pyro-** *comb form* [ME, fr. MF, fr. LL, fr. Gk, fr. *pyr* — more at FIRE] **1** : fire : heat ⟨*pyro*meter⟩ ⟨*pyr*heliometer⟩ **2 a** : produced by or as if by the action of heat ⟨*pyro*electricity⟩ **b** : derived from a corresponding ortho acid by loss usu. of one molecule of water from two molecules of acid ⟨*pyro*phosphoric acid⟩ **3** : fever ⟨*pyro*toxin⟩
pyr·acan·tha \ˌpī-rə-'kan(t)-thə\ *n* [NL, genus name, fr. Gk *pyrakantha*, a tree, fr. *pyr-* + *akantha* thorn — more at ACANTH-] : any of a small genus (*Pyracantha*) of Eurasian thorny evergreen or half-evergreen shrubs of the rose family with alternate leaves, corymbs of white flowers, and small reddish pomes
py·ral·id \pī-'ral-əd\ *n* [deriv. of L *pyralis*, fly fabled as living in fire, fr. Gk, fr. *pyr* fire] : any of a very large heterogeneous family (Pyralidae) of mostly small slender long-legged moths — **pyralid** *adj*
py·ral·i·did \pī-'ral-əd-əd, -ə-ˌdid\ *n* [deriv. of L *pyralis*] : PYRALID — **pyralidid** *adj*
¹pyr·a·mid \'pir-ə-ˌmid\ *n* [L *pyramid-*, *pyramis*, fr. Gk, of unknown origin] **1 a** : an ancient massive structure found esp. in Egypt having typically a square ground plan, outside walls in the form of four triangles that meet in a point at the top, and inner sepulchral chambers **b** : a structure or object of similar form **2** : a polyhedron having for its base a polygon and for faces triangles with a common vertex — see VOLUME table **3** : a crystalline form each face of which intersects the vertical axis and either two lateral axes or in the tetragonal system one lateral axis **4** : an anatomical structure resembling a pyramid: as **a** : one of the conical masses that project from the renal medulla into the kidney pelvis **b** : either of two large bundles of motor fibers from the cerebral cortex that reach the medulla oblongata and are continuous with the pyramidal tracts of the spinal cord **5** : an immaterial structure built on a broad supporting base and narrowing gradually to an apex ⟨the socioeconomic ~⟩ — **py·ra·mi·dal** \pə-'ram-əd-ᵊl, ˌpir-ə-'mid-\ *adj* — **py·ra·mi·dal·ly** \-ē\ *adv* — **pyr·a·mid·i·cal** \ˌpir-ə-'mid-i-kəl\ *adj*


pyramids 2

²pyramid *vi* **1** : to speculate (as on a security or commodity exchange) by using paper profits as margin for additional transactions **2** : to increase rapidly and progressively step by step on a broad base ~ *vt* **1** : to arrange or build up as if on the base of a pyramid **2** : to use (as profits) in speculative pyramiding **3** : to increase the impact of (as a tax assessed at the production level) on the ultimate consumer by treating as a cost subject to markup ⟨they ~ every cost, with middlemen, tariffs, taxes, and overheads —D. D. Eisenhower⟩
pyramidal tract *n* : any of four columns of motor fibers that run in pairs on each side of the spinal cord and are continuations of the pyramids of the medulla oblongata
Py·ram·i·don \pə-'ram-ə-ˌdän\ *trademark* — used for aminopyrine
Pyr·a·mus \'pir-ə-məs\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *Pyramos*] : a legendary youth of Babylon who dies for love of Thisbe
py·ran \'pī(ə)r-ˌan\ *n* [ISV] : either of two cyclic compounds C_5H_6O that contain five carbon atoms and one oxygen atom in the ring
py·ra·noid \'pī-rə-ˌnȯid\ *adj* : derived from or related to the pyrans
py·ra·nose \'pī-rə-ˌnōs, -ˌnōz\ *n* [ISV *pyran* + *-ose*] : a monosaccharide in the form of a cyclic hemiacetal containing a pyranoid ring
py·ran·o·side \pī-'ran-ə-ˌsīd\ *n* : a glycoside containing the pyranoid ring
pyr·ar·gy·rite \pī-'rär-jə-ˌrīt\ *n* [G *pyrargyrit*, fr. Gk *pyr-* + *argyros* silver — more at ARGENT] : a mineral Ag_3SbS_3 consisting of silver antimony sulfide that occurs in rhombohedral crystals or massive and has a dark red or black color with a metallic adamantine luster
pyre \'pī(ə)r\ *n* [L *pyra*, fr. Gk, fr. *pyr* fire — more at FIRE] : a combustible heap for burning a dead body as a funeral rite; *broadly* : a pile of material to be burned ⟨a ~ of dead leaves⟩
py·rene \'pī(ə)r-ˌēn, pī-'rēn\ *n* [NL *pyrena*, fr. Gk *pyrēn* stone of a fruit; akin to Gk *pyros* wheat — more at FURZE] : the stone of a drupelet; *broadly* : a small hard nutlet
py·re·noid \pī-'rē-ˌnȯid, 'pī-rə-\ *n* [ISV, fr. NL *pyrena*] : one of the protein bodies in the chromatophores of various lower organisms (as some algae) that act as centers for starch deposition
py·re·thrin \pī-'rē-thrən, -'reth-rən\ *n* [ISV, fr. L *pyrethrum*] : either of two oily liquid esters $C_{21}H_{28}O_3$ and $C_{22}H_{28}O_5$ that have insecticidal properties and that occur esp. in pyrethrum flowers
py·re·throid \-'rē-ˌthrȯid, -'reth-ˌrȯid\ *n* [*pyrethrin* + *-oid*] : any of various synthetic compounds that are related to the pyrethrins and resemble them in insecticidal properties — **pyrethroid** *adj*
py·re·thrum \pī-'rē-thrəm, -'reth-rəm\ *n* [L, pellitory, fr. Gk *pyrethron*, fr. *pyr* fire] **1** : any of several chrysanthemums with finely divided often aromatic leaves including ornamentals as well as important sources of insecticides **2** : an insecticide consisting of the dried heads of any of several Old World chrysanthemums
py·ret·ic \pī-'ret-ik\ *adj* [NL *pyreticus*, fr. Gk *pyretikos*, fr. *pyretos* fever, fr. *pyr*] : of or relating to fever : FEBRILE
Py·rex \'pī(ə)r-ˌeks\ *trademark* — used for glass and glassware that contains appreciable oxide of boron and is resistant to heat, chemicals, and electricity
py·rex·ia \pī-'rek-sē-ə\ *n* [NL, fr. Gk *pyressein* to be feverish, fr. *pyretos*] : abnormal elevation of body temperature : FEVER — **py·rex·i·al** \-sē-əl\ *adj* — **py·rex·ic** \-sik\ *adj*
pyr·he·li·om·e·ter \'pī(ə)r-ˌhē-lē-'äm-ət-ər, 'pi(ə)r-\ *n* [ISV] : an instrument for measuring the sun's radiant energy as received at the earth — **pyr·he·lio·met·ric** \-lē-ə-'me-trik\ *adj*
py·ric \'pī-rik, 'pir-ik\ *adj* [F *pyrique*, fr. Gk *pyr*] : resulting from, induced by, or associated with burning
pyr·i·dine \'pir-ə-ˌdēn\ *n* [*pyr-* + *-id* + *-ine*] : a toxic water-soluble flammable liquid base C_5H_5N of pungent odor that is obtained by distillation of bone oil or as a by-product of coking, is the parent of many naturally occurring organic compounds, and is used as a solvent and a denaturant for alcohol and in the manufacture of pharmaceuticals and waterproofing agents
pyr·i·dox·al \ˌpir-ə-'däk-ˌsal\ *n* [ISV, fr. *pyridoxine*] : a crystalline aldehyde $C_8H_9NO_3$ of the vitamin B_6 group that occurs as a phosphate active as a coenzyme
pyr·i·dox·amine \ˌpir-ə-'däk-sə-ˌmēn\ *n* [ISV *pyridoxine* + *amine*] : a crystalline amine $C_8H_{12}N_2O_2$ of the vitamin B_6 group that occurs as a phosphate active as a coenzyme
pyr·i·dox·ine *also* **pyr·i·dox·in** \ˌpir-ə-'däk-ˌsēn, -sən\ *n* [*pyridine* + *ox-* + *-ine*] : a crystalline phenolic alcohol $C_8H_{11}NO_3$ of the vitamin B_6 group found esp. in cereals and convertible in the organism into pyridoxal and pyridoxamine
pyr·i·form \'pir-ə-ˌfȯrm\ *adj* [NL *pyriformis*, fr. ML *pyrum* pear (alter. of L *pirum*) + L *-iformis* -iform — more at PEAR] : having the form of a pear
py·ri·meth·amine \ˌpī-rə-'meth-ə-ˌmēn\ *n* [*pyrim*idine + *eth*yl + *amine*] : a folic acid antagonist $C_{12}H_{13}ClN_4$ used in the treatment of malaria and of toxoplasmosis
py·rim·i·dine \pī-'rim-ə-ˌdēn, pə-\ *n* [ISV, alter. of *pyridine*] **1** : a feeble organic base $C_4H_2N_2$ of penetrating odor **2** : a derivative of pyrimidine; *esp* : a base (as cytosine, thymine, or uracil) that is a constituent of DNA or RNA
py·rite \'pī-ˌrīt\ *n* [L *pyrites*] : a common mineral that consists of iron disulfide FeS_2, has a pale brass-yellow color and metallic luster, and is burned in making sulfur dioxide and sulfuric acid
py·rites \pə-'rīt-ēz, pī-; 'pī-ˌrīts\ *n, pl* **py·rites** [L, flint, fr. Gk *pyritēs* of or in fire, fr. *pyr* fire] : any of various metallic-looking sulfides of which pyrite is the commonest — **py·rit·ic** \-'rit-ik\ *adj*
py·ro·cat·e·chol \ˌpī-rō-'kat-ə-ˌkȯl, -ˌkōl\ *n* [ISV *pyr-* + *catechol* ($C_{15}H_{14}O_6$)] : a crystalline phenol $C_6H_6O_2$ obtained by pyrolysis of various natural substances (as resins and lignins) but usu. made synthetically and used esp. as a photographic developer and in organic synthesis

py·ro·cel·lu·lose \ˌpī-rō-ˈsel-yə-ˌlōs, -ˌlōz\ *n* : cellulose nitrate that is of lower degree of nitration than guncotton and is used in smokeless powders
Py·ro·ce·ram \ˌpī-rō-sə-ˈram\ *trademark* — used for glass-ceramic materials and articles made from them
py·ro·chem·i·cal \-ˈkem-i-kəl\ *adj* : relating to or involving chemical activity at high temperatures — **py·ro·chem·i·cal·ly** \-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
py·ro·clas·tic \-ˈklas-tik\ *adj* : formed by or involving fragmentation as a result of volcanic or igneous action
py·ro·elec·tric·i·ty \ˈpī-ˌrō-ə-ˌlek-ˈtris-ət-ē, -ˈtris-tē\ *n* [ISV] : a state of electrical polarization produced (as in a crystal) by a change of temperature — **py·ro·elec·tric** \-ˈlek-trik\ *adj*
py·ro·gal·lic acid \ˌpī-rō-ˌgal-ik-, -ˌgȯ-lik-\ *n* [ISV] : PYROGALLOL
py·ro·gal·lol \-ˈgal-ˌȯl, -ˌōl; -ˈgȯ-ˌlȯl, -ˌlōl\ *n* [ISV *pyrogallic* (acid) + *-ol*] : a poisonous bitter crystalline phenol $C_6H_7O_3$ with weak acid properties that is obtained usu. by pyrolysis of gallic acid and used esp. as a mild reducing agent (as in photographic developing)
py·ro·gen \ˈpī-rə-jən\ *n* [ISV] : a fever-producing substance
py·ro·gen·ic \ˌpī-rō-ˈjen-ik\ *adj* [ISV] **1** : producing or produced by heat or fever **2** : of or relating to igneous origin — **py·ro·ge·nic·i·ty** \ˌpī-rō-jə-ˈnis-ət-ē\ *n*
py·rog·e·nous \pī-ˈräj-ə-nəs\ *adj* : PYROGENIC
py·ro·la \pī-ˈrō-lə\ *n* [NL, genus name] : any of a genus (*Pyrola*) of short-stemmed perennial herbs that have basal persistent leaves and racemes of white, pink, or purple pentamerous flowers containing 10 straight or declined stamens
py·ro·lig·ne·ous \ˌpī-rō-ˈlig-nē-əs\ *adj* [F *pyroligneux*, fr. *pyr-* + *ligneux* woody, fr. L *lignosus*, fr. *lignum* wood — more at LIGNEOUS] : obtained by destructive distillation of wood
pyroligneous acid *n* : an acid reddish brown aqueous liquid containing chiefly acetic acid, methanol, wood oils, and tars
py·ro·lu·site \ˌpī-rō-ˈlü-ˌsīt\ *n* [G *pyrolusit*, fr. Gk *pyr-* + *lousis* washing, fr. *louein* to wash — more at LYE] : a mineral MnO_2 consisting of manganese dioxide that is of an iron-black or dark steel-gray color and metallic luster, is usu. soft, and is the most important ore of manganese
py·rol·y·sate \pī-ˈräl-ə-ˌzāt, -ˌsāt\ *or* **py·rol·y·zate** \-ˌzāt\ *n* : a product of pyrolysis
py·rol·y·sis \pī-ˈräl-ə-səs\ *n* [NL] : chemical change brought about by the action of heat — **py·ro·lyt·ic** \ˌpī-rə-ˈlit-ik\ *adj* — **py·ro·lyt·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
py·ro·lyze \ˈpī-rə-ˌlīz\ *vt* **-lyzed; -lyz·ing** : to subject to pyrolysis — **py·ro·lyz·able** \-ˌlī-zə-bəl\ *adj* — **py·ro·lyz·er** *n*
py·ro·man·cy \-ˌman(t)-sē\ *n* [ME *pyromancie*, fr. MF, fr. LL *pyromantia*, fr. Gk *pyromanteia*, fr. *pyr* fire + *manteia* divination — more at -MANCY] : divination by means of fire or flames
py·ro·ma·nia \ˌpī-rō-ˈmā-nē-ə, -nyə\ *n* [NL] : an irresistible impulse to start fires — **py·ro·ma·ni·ac** \-nē-ˌak\ *n* — **py·ro·ma·ni·a·cal** \-mə-ˈnī-ə-kəl\ *adj*
py·ro·met·al·lur·gy \-ˈmet-ᵊl-ˌər-jē, *esp Brit* mə-ˈtal-ər-\ *n* [ISV] : chemical metallurgy depending on heat action (as roasting and smelting) — **py·ro·met·al·lur·gi·cal** \-ˌmet-ᵊl-ˈər-ji-kəl\ *adj*
py·rom·e·ter \pī-ˈräm-ət-ər\ *n* [ISV] : an instrument for measuring temperatures esp. when beyond the range of mercurial thermometers usu. by the increase of electric resistance in a metal, by the generation of electric current by a thermocouple, or by the increase in intensity of light radiated by an incandescent body — **py·ro·met·ric** \ˌpī-rə-ˈme-trik\ *adj* — **py·ro·met·ri·cal·ly** \-tri-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **py·rom·e·try** \pī-ˈräm-ə-trē\ *n*
py·ro·mor·phite \ˌpī-rə-ˈmȯr-ˌfīt\ *n* [G *pyromorphit*, fr. Gk *pyr-* + *morphē* form] : a mineral $Pb_5(PO_4)_3Cl$ consisting essentially of a lead chloride and phosphate and occurring in green, yellow, brown, gray, or white crystals or masses
py·ro·nine \ˈpī-rə-ˌnēn\ *n* [ISV *pyr-* + *-on* + *-ine*] : any of several basic xanthene dyes used chiefly as biological stains
py·ro·nin·o·phil·ic \ˌpī-rə-ˌnē-nə-ˈfil-ik\ *adj* : staining selectively with pyronines ⟨~ cells⟩
py·rope \ˈpī(ə)r-ˌōp\ *n* [ME *pirope*, a red gem, fr. MF, fr. L *pyropus*, a red bronze, fr. Gk *pyrōpos*, lit., fiery-eyed, fr. *pyr-* + *ōp-*, *ōps* eye — more at EYE] : a magnesium-aluminum garnet that is deep red in color and is frequently used as a gem
py·ro·phor·ic \ˌpī-rə-ˈfȯr-ik, -ˈfär-\ *adj* [NL *pyrophorus*, fr. Gk *pyrophoros* fire-bearing, fr. *pyr-* + *-phoros* carrying, from *pherein* to carry] **1** : igniting spontaneously **2** : emitting sparks when scratched or struck esp. with steel
py·ro·phos·phate \-ˈfäs-ˌfāt\ *n* : a salt or ester of pyrophosphoric acid — **py·ro·phos·phat·ic** \-fäs-ˈfat-ik\ *adj*
py·ro·phos·pho·ric acid \-fäs-ˌfȯr-ik-, -ˌfär-; -ˌfäs-f(ə-)rik-\ *n* [ISV] : a crystalline acid $H_4P_2O_7$ formed when orthophosphoric acid is heated or prepared in the form of salts by heating acid salts of orthophosphoric acid
py·ro·phyl·lite \ˌpī-rō-ˈfil-ˌīt, pī-ˈräf-ə-ˌlīt\ *n* [G *pyrophyllit*, fr. Gk *pyr-* + *phyllon* leaf — more at BLADE] : a white or greenish mineral $AlSi_2O_5(OH)$ that is a hydrous aluminum silicate, resembles talc, occurs in a foliated form or in compact masses, and is used esp. in ceramic wares
py·ro·sis \pī-ˈrō-səs\ *n* [NL, fr. Gk *pyrōsis* burning, fr. *pyroun* to burn, fr. *pyr* fire — more at FIRE] : HEARTBURN
py·ro·sul·fu·ric acid \-ˌsəl-ˌfyůr-ik-\ *n* [ISV] : an unstable crystalline acid $H_2S_2O_7$ usu. handled commercially as a thick oily fuming liquid and converted to sulfuric acid when mixed with water
[1]py·ro·tech·nic \ˌpī-rə-ˈtek-nik\ *also* **py·ro·tech·ni·cal** \-ni-kəl\ *adj* [F *pyrotechnique*, fr. Gk *pyr* fire + *technē* art] : of or relating to pyrotechnics — **py·ro·tech·ni·cal·ly** \-ni-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
[2]pyrotechnic *n* **1 a** : FIREWORK **b** : any of various similar devices (as for igniting a rocket or producing an explosion) **2** : a combustible substance used in a firework
py·ro·tech·nics \ˌpī-rə-ˈtek-niks\ *n pl* **1** *sing or pl in constr* : the art of making or the manufacture and use of fireworks **2 a** : a display of fireworks **b** : a spectacular display (as of oratory or extreme virtuosity) ⟨his verbal ~ are entertaining —*Times Lit. Supp.*⟩ — **py·ro·tech·nist** \-ˈtek-nəst\ *n*
py·rox·ene \pī-ˈräk-ˌsēn, pə-\ *n* [F *pyroxène*, fr. Gk *pyr-* + *xenos* stranger] : any of a group of igneous-rock-forming silicate minerals that contain calcium, sodium, magnesium, iron, or aluminum, usu. occur in short prismatic crystals or massive, are often laminated, and vary in color from white to dark green or black — **py·rox·e·nic** \ˌpī-ˌräk-ˈsēn-ik, pə-, -ˈsen-\ *adj* — **py·rox·e·noid** \pī-ˈräk-sə-ˌnȯid, pə-\ *adj or n*
py·rox·e·nite \pī-ˈräk-sə-ˌnīt, pə-\ *n* : an igneous rock that is free from olivine and is composed essentially of pyroxene — **py·rox·e·nit·ic** \-ˌräk-sə-ˈnit-ik\ *adj*
py·rox·y·lin \pī-ˈräk-sə-lən, pə-\ *n* [ISV *pyr-* + Gk *xylon* wood] **1** : a flammable mixture of cellulose nitrates usu. with less than 12.5 percent nitrogen that is less explosive than guncotton, soluble in a mixture of ether and alcohol or other organic solvents, and used esp. in making plastics and coatings (as lacquers) **2** : a pyroxylin product
Pyr·rha \ˈpir-ə\ *n* [L, fr. Gk] : the wife of Deucalion
pyr·rhic \ˈpir-ik\ *n* [L *pyrrhichius*, fr. Gk (*pous*) *pyrrhichios*, fr. *pyrrhichē*, a kind of dance] : a metrical foot consisting of two short or unaccented syllables — **pyrrhic** *adj*
Pyr·rhic victory \ˌpir-ik-\ *n* [*Pyrrhus*, king of Epirus who sustained heavy losses in defeating the Romans] : a victory won at excessive cost
Pyr·rho·nism \ˈpir-ə-ˌniz-əm\ *n* [F *pyrrhonisme*, fr. *Pyrrhon* Pyrrho, 4th cent. B.C. Gk philosopher, fr. Gk *Pyrrhōn*] **1** : the doctrines of a school of ancient extreme skeptics who suspended judgment on every proposition — compare ACADEMICISM **2** : total or radical skepticism — **Pyr·rho·nist** \-nəst\ *n*
pyr·rho·tite \ˈpir-ə-ˌtīt\ *n* [modif. of G *pyrrhotin*, fr. Gk *pyrrhotēs* redness; fr. *pyrrhos* red, fr. *pyr* fire — more at FIRE] : a bronze-colored mineral FeS of metallic luster that consists of ferrous sulfide and is attracted by the magnet
pyr·rhu·lox·ia \ˌpir-(y)ə-ˈläk-sē-ə\ *n* [NL, genus name, fr. *Pyrrhula*, genus of finches + *Loxia*, genus constituted by the crossbills] : a large showy finch (*Pyrrhuloxia sinuata*) of the southwestern U.S. and Mexico having a gray back and a breast and crest which are rose-colored in the male and yellowish in the female
Pyr·rhus \ˈpir-əs\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *Pyrrhos*] : NEOPTOLEMUS
pyr·role \ˈpi(ə)r-ˌōl\ *also* **pyr·rol** \-ˌȯl, -ˌōl\ *n* [Gk *pyrrhos* red, fr. *pyr* fire — more at FIRE] : a toxic liquid heterocyclic compound C_4H_5N that has a ring consisting of four carbon atoms and one nitrogen atom, polymerizes readily in air, and is the parent compound of many biologically important substances (as bile pigments, porphyrins, and chlorophyll); *broadly* : a derivative of pyrrole — **pyr·rol·ic** \pir-ˈō-lik\ *adj*
py·ru·vate \pī-ˈrü-ˌvāt\ *n* : a salt or ester of pyruvic acid
py·ru·vic acid \pī-ˌrü-vik-\ *n* [ISV *pyr-* + L *uva* grape; fr. its importance in fermentation — more at UVULA] : a 3-carbon keto acid $C_3H_4O_3$ that is an intermediate in carbohydrate metabolism and can be formed either from glucose after phosphorylation or from glycogen by glycolysis
[1]Py·thag·o·re·an \pə-ˌthag-ə-ˈrē-ən, (ˌ)pī-\ *n* : one of a group professing to be followers of the Greek philosopher Pythagoras
[2]Pythagorean *adj* : of, relating to, or associated with the Greek philosopher Pythagoras, his philosophy, or the Pythagoreans
Py·thag·o·re·an·ism \-ˌiz-əm\ *n* : the doctrines and theories of Pythagoras and the Pythagoreans who developed some basic principles of mathematics and astronomy, originated the doctrine of the harmony of the spheres, and believed in metempsychosis, the eternal recurrence of things, and the mystical significance of numbers
Pythagorean theorem *n* : a theorem in geometry: the square of the length of the hypotenuse of a right triangle equals the sum of the squares of the lengths of the other two sides
Pyth·i·ad \ˈpith-ē-ˌad, -ē-əd\ *n* [Gk *Pythia*, the Pythian games, fr. neut. pl. of *pythios*] : the 4-year period between celebrations of the Pythian games in ancient Greece
[1]Pyth·i·an \ˈpith-ē-ən\ *adj* [L *pythius* of Delphi, fr. Gk *pythios*, fr. *Pythō* Pytho, former name of Delphi, Greece] **1** : of or relating to Delphi or its oracle of Apollo **2** : of or relating to games celebrated at Delphi every four years
[2]Pythian *n* : KNIGHT OF PYTHIAS
Pyth·i·as \ˈpith-ē-əs\ *n* [Gk] : a legendary Greek who is nearly executed while standing as a voluntary hostage for his condemned friend Damon
py·thon \ˈpī-ˌthän, -thən\ *n* [L, monstrous serpent killed by Apollo, fr. Gk *Pythōn*] : a large constricting snake (as a boa); *esp* : any of a genus (*Python*) that includes the largest of recent snakes — **py·thon·ine** \ˈpī-thə-ˌnīn\ *adj*
py·thon·ess \ˈpī-thə-nəs, ˈpith-ə-\ *n* [ME *Phitonesse*, fr. MF *pithonisse*, fr. LL *pythonissa*, fr. Gk *Pythōn*, spirit of divination, fr. *Pythō*, seat of the Delphic oracle] **1** : a woman who practices divination **2** : a prophetic priestess of Apollo — **py·thon·ic** \pī-ˈthän-ik\ *adj*
py·uria \pī-ˈyůr-ē-ə\ *n* [NL] : pus in the urine; *also* : a condition characterized by pus in the urine
pyx \ˈpiks\ *n* [ME, fr. ML *pyxis*, fr. L, box, fr. Gk — more at BOX] **1** : a container for the reserved host; *esp* : a small round metal receptacle used to carry the Eucharist to the sick **2** : a box used in a mint for deposit of sample coins reserved for testing weight and fineness
pyx·id·i·um \pik-ˈsid-ē-əm\ *n, pl* **-id·ia** \-ē-ə\ [NL, fr. Gk *pyxidion*, dim. of *pyxis*] **1** : a capsular fruit that dehisces so that the upper part falls off like a cap **2** : CAPSULE 2b


pyxidium 1

pyx·ie \ˈpik-sē\ *n* [by shortening & alter. fr. NL *Pyxidanthera*, genus name] : a creeping evergreen shrub (*Pyxidanthera barbulata*) of the sandy pine barrens of the Atlantic coast of the U.S. that is related to the true heaths and has usu. white star-shaped flowers
pyxie moss *n* : PYXIE
pyx·is \ˈpik-səs\ *n, pl* **pyx·i·des** \-sə-ˌdēz\ [NL, fr. L, box] : PYXIDIUM 1



[1]q \'kyü\ *n, pl* **q's** *or* **qs** \'kyüz\ *often cap, often attrib* **1 a** : the 17th letter of the English alphabet **b** : a graphic representation of this letter **c** : a speech counterpart of orthographic *q* **2** : a graphic device for reproducing the letter *q* **3** : one designated *q* esp. as the 17th in order or class **4** : something shaped like the letter Q

[2]q *abbr, often cap* **1** quart **2** quartile **3** quarto **4** queen **5** query **6** question **7** quetzal **8** quintal **9** quire

QB *abbr* queen's bench

Q–boat \'kyü-ˌbōt\ *n* : Q-SHIP

QC *abbr* queen's counsel

QD *abbr* [L *quaque die*] daily

QDA *abbr* quantity discount agreement

QED *abbr* **1** quantum electrodynamics **2** [L *quod erat demonstrandum*] which was to be demonstrated

QEF *abbr* [L *quod erat faciendum*] which was to be done

QEI *abbr* [L *quod erat inveniendum*] which was to be found out

QF *abbr* quick-firing

Q fever \'kyü-\ *n* [*query*] : a mild disease characterized by high fever, chills, and muscular pains, caused by a rickettsia (*Coxiella burnetii*), and transmitted by raw milk, by contact, or by ticks

QID *abbr* [L *quater in die*] four times a day

qin·tar \k(y)in-'tär\ *n* [Alb] — see *lek* at MONEY table

qi·vi·ut \'kē-vē-ˌüt\ *n* [Esk] : the wool of the undercoat of the musk-ox

Qld *or* **Q'land** *abbr* Queensland

QM *abbr* **1** [L *quoque matutino*] every morning **2** quartermaster

QMC *abbr* quartermaster corps

QMG *abbr* quartermaster general

qoph \'kōf\ *n* [Heb *qōph*] : the 19th letter of the Hebrew alphabet — see ALPHABET table

qp *or* **q pl** *abbr* [L *quantum placet*] as much as you please

qq *abbr* questions

qq v *abbr* [L *quae vide*] which (*pl*) see

qr *abbr* **1** quarter **2** quire

QS *abbr* [L *quantum sufficit*] as much as suffices

Q–ship \'kyü-ˌship\ *n* : an armed ship disguised as a merchant or fishing ship and used to decoy enemy submarines into gun range

QSO \ˌkyü-(ˌ)es-'ō\ *n* : QUASI-STELLAR OBJECT

[1]qt \'kyü-'tē\ *n, often cap Q & T* [abbr.] : QUIET — usu. used in the phrase *on the qt*

[2]qt *abbr* **1** quantity **2** quart

qtd *abbr* quartered

qto *abbr* quarto

qty *abbr* quantity

qu *or* **ques** *abbr* question

qua \'kwä *also* 'kwā\ *prep* [L, which way, as, fr. abl. sing. fem. of *qui* who — more at WHO] : in the capacity or character of : AS ⟨the belief that all men ~ men have certain essential rights —W. K. Frankena⟩

[1]quack \'kwak\ *vi* [imit.] : to make the characteristic cry of a duck

[2]quack *n* : a noise made by quacking

[3]quack *n* [short for *quacksalver*] **1** : a pretender to medical skill **2** : CHARLATAN 2 — **quack·ish** \-ish\ *adj*

[4]quack *vi* : to play the quack

[5]quack *adj* : of, relating to, or characteristic of a quack; *esp* : pretending to cure diseases

quack·ery \'kwak-(ə-)rē\ *n* : the practices or pretensions of a quack

quack grass \'kwak-\ *n* [alter. of *quick grass*, alter. of *quitch grass*] : a European grass (*Agropyron repens*) that is naturalized throughout No. America as a weed and spreads by creeping rhizomes — called also *couch grass, quitch, twitch, witchgrass*

quack·sal·ver \'kwak-ˌsal-vər\ *n* [obs. D (now *kwakzalver*)] : CHARLATAN, QUACK

[1]quad \'kwäd\ *n* : QUADRANGLE

[2]quad *n* [short for *quadrat*] : a type-metal space that is 1 en or more in width

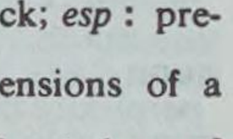
[3]quad *vt* **quad·ded; quad·ding** : to fill out (as a typeset line) with quads

[4]quad *n* : QUADRUPLET

[5]quad *abbr* quadrant

quad·ran·gle \'kwäd-ˌraŋ-gəl\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. LL *quadriangulum*, fr. L, neut. of *quadriangulus* quadrangular, fr. *quadri-* + *angulus* angle] **1** : QUADRILATERAL **2 a** : a four-sided enclosure esp. when surrounded by buildings **b** : the buildings enclosing a quadrangle **3** : a tract of country represented by one atlas sheet (as published by the U.S. Geological Survey) — **qua·dran·gu·lar** \kwä-'draŋ-gyə-lər\ *adj*

quad·rant \'kwäd-rənt\ *n* [ME, fr. L *quadrant-, quadrans* fourth part; akin to L *quattuor* four — more at FOUR] **1 a** : an instrument for measuring altitudes consisting commonly of a graduated arc of 90° with an index or vernier and usu. having a plumb line or spirit level for fixing the vertical or horizontal direction **b** : a device or mechanical part shaped like or suggestive of the quadrant of a circle **2 a** : an arc of 90° that is one quarter of a circle **b** : the area bounded by a quadrant and two radii **3 a** : any of the four parts into which a plane is divided by rectangular coordinate axes lying in that plane **b** : any of the four quarters into which something is divided by two real or imaginary lines that intersect each other at right angles — **qua·dran·tal** \kwä-'drant-ᵊl\ *adj*



quadrants 2

Qua·dran·tid \kwä-'drant-əd\ *n* [NL *Quadrant-, Quadrans* (*Muralis*) mural quadrant, a group of stars in the constellation Draco from which the shower appears to radiate] : one of the shooting stars constituting the meteoric shower that recurs near the 3d of January

qua·draph·o·ny \kwä-'draf-ə-nē\ *n* [irreg. fr. *quadri-* + *-phony*] : the transmission, recording, or reproduction of sound by techniques that utilize four transmission channels — **quad·ra·phon·ic** \ˌkwäd-rə-'fän-ik\ *adj*

quad·rat \'kwäd-rət, -ˌrat\ *n* [alter. of [2]*quadrate*] **1** : [2]QUAD **2** : a usu. rectangular plot used for ecological or population studies

[1]quad·rate \'kwäd-ˌrāt, -rət\ *adj* [ME, fr. L *quadratus*, pp. of *quadrare* to make square, fit; akin to L *quattuor*] **1** : being square or approximately square **2** *of a heraldic cross* : expanded into a square at the junction of the arms — see CROSS illustration **3** : of, relating to, or constituting a bony or cartilaginous element of each side of the skull to which the lower jaw is articulated in most vertebrates below mammals

[2]quadrate *n* **1** : an approximately square or cubical area, space, or body **2** : a quadrate bone

[3]quad·rate \'kwäd-ˌrāt\ *vi* **quad·rat·ed; quad·rat·ing** *archaic* : AGREE, CORRESPOND

qua·drat·ic \kwä-'drat-ik\ *adj* : involving terms of the second degree at most ⟨~ function⟩ — **quadratic** *n* — **qua·drat·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

quadratic form *n* : a homogeneous polynomial of the second degree ⟨$x^2 + 5xy + y^2$ is a *quadratic form*⟩

qua·drat·ics \kwä-'drat-iks\ *n pl but sing or pl in constr* : a branch of algebra dealing with quadratic equations

quad·ra·ture \'kwäd-rə-ˌchu̇(ə)r, -chər, -ˌt(y)u̇(ə)r\ *n* **1** : the process of finding a square equal in area to a given area **2 a** : a configuration in which two celestial bodies have a separation of 90 degrees **b** : either of two points on an orbit in a middle position between the syzygies

qua·dren·ni·al \kwä-'dren-ē-əl\ *adj* **1** : consisting of or lasting for four years **2** : occurring or being done every four years — **quadrennial** *n* — **qua·dren·ni·al·ly** \-ē-ə-lē\ *adv*

qua·dren·ni·um \-ē-əm\ *n, pl* **-ni·ums** *or* **-nia** \-ē-ə\ [L *quadriennium*, fr. *quadri-* + *annus* year — more at ANNUAL] : a period of four years

quadri- *or* **quadr-** *or* **quadru-** *comb form* [ME, fr. L; akin to L *quattuor* four] **1 a** : four ⟨*quadri*lingual⟩ ⟨*quadru*mana⟩ **b** : square ⟨*quadri*c⟩ **2** : fourth ⟨*quadri*centennial⟩

quad·ric \'kwäd-rik\ *adj* [ISV] : QUADRATIC ⟨~ surface⟩ — used where there are more than two variables — **quadric** *n*

quad·ri·cen·ten·ni·al \ˌkwäd-rə-sen-'ten-ē-əl\ *n* : a 400th anniversary or its celebration

quad·ri·ceps \'kwäd-rə-ˌseps\ *n* [NL *quadricipit-, quadriceps*, fr. *quadri-* + *-cipit-, -ceps* (as in *bicipit-, biceps* biceps] : the great extensor muscle of the front of the thigh divided above into four parts

quad·ri·cip·i·tal \ˌkwäd-rə-'sip-ət-ᵊl\ *adj* : of, relating to, or being a quadriceps

quad·ri·fid \'kwäd-rə-fəd, -ˌfid\ *adj* [L *quadrifidus*, fr. *quadri-* + *-fidus* -fid] : divided or deeply cleft into four parts ⟨a ~ petal⟩

qua·dri·ga \kwä-'drē-gə\ *n, pl* **-gae** \-ˌgī\ [L, sing. of *quadrigae* team of four, contr. of *quadrijugae*, fem. pl. of *quadrijugus* yoked four abreast, fr. *quadri-* + *jungere* to yoke, join — more at JOIN] : a chariot drawn by four horses abreast

[1]quad·ri·lat·er·al \ˌkwäd-rə-'lat-ə-rəl, -'la-trəl\ *adj* [prob. fr. (assumed) NL *quadrilateralis*, fr. L *quadrilaterus*, fr. *quadri-* + *later-, latus* side] : having four sides

[2]quadrilateral *n* **1** : a polygon of four sides **2** : a combination or group that involves four parts or individuals

[1]qua·drille \kwä-'dril, k(w)ə-\ *n* [F, group of knights engaged in a carrousel, variant of ombre, fr. Sp *cuadrilla* troop] **1** : a 4-handed variant of ombre popular esp. in the 18th century **2** : a square dance for four couples made up of five or six figures chiefly in $^6/_8$ and $^2/_4$ time; *also* : music for this dance

[2]quadrille *adj* [F *quadrillé*] : marked with squares or rectangles

qua·dril·lion \kwä-'dril-yən\ *n* [F, fr. MF, fr. *quadri-* + *-illion* (as in *million*)] — see NUMBER table — **quadrillion** *adj* — **qua·drillionth** \-yən(t)th\ *adj or n*

quad·ri·par·tite \ˌkwäd-rə-'pär-ˌtīt\ *adj* [ME, fr. L *quadripartitus*, fr. *quadri-* + *partitus*, pp. of *partire* to divide, fr. *part-, pars* part] **1** : consisting of or divided into four parts **2** : shared or participated in by four parties or persons ⟨a ~ agreement⟩

quad·ri·ple·gic \ˌkwäd-rə-'plē-jik\ *n* [*quadriplegia*, fr. NL] : one affected with paralysis of both arms and both legs —**quad·ri·ple·gia** \-j(ē)ə\ *n*

[1]quad·ri·va·lent \-'vā-lənt\ *adj* [ISV] **1** : TETRAVALENT 1 **2** : composed of four homologous chromosomes synapsed in meiotic prophase

[2]quadrivalent *n* : a quadrivalent chromosomal group

qua·driv·i·al \kwä-'driv-ē-əl\ *adj* **1** : of or relating to the quadrivium **2** : having four ways or roads meeting in a point

qua·driv·i·um \-ē-əm\ *n* [LL, fr. L, crossroads, fr. *quadri-* + *via* way — more at VIA] : a group of studies consisting of arithmetic, music, geometry, and astronomy and forming the upper division of the seven liberal arts in medieval universities — compare TRIVIUM

qua·droon \kwä-'drün\ *n* [modif. of Sp *cuarterón*, fr. *cuarto* fourth, fr. L *quartus*] : a person of one-quarter Negro ancestry

qua·dru·ma·na \kwä-'drü-mə-nə\ *n pl* [NL, fr. *quadri-* + L *manus* hand — more at MANUAL] : primates excluding man considered as a group distinguished by hand-shaped feet — **qua·dru·ma·nal** \-mən-ᵊl\ *adj* — **quad·ru·mane** \'kwäd-rü-ˌmān\ *adj or n* — **qua·dru·ma·nous** \kwä-'drü-mə-nəs\ *adj*

qua·drum·vir \kwä-'drəm-vər\ *n* [back-formation fr. *quadrumvirate*] : a member of a quadrumvirate

qua·drum·vi·rate \-və-rət\ *n* [*quadri-* + *-umvirate* (as in *triumvirate*)] : a group or association of four men

quad·ru·ped \'kwäd-rə-ˌped\ *n* [L *quadruped-, quadrupes*, fr. *quadruped-, quadrupes*, adj., having four feet, fr. *quadri-* + *ped-, pes* foot

— more at FOOT] : an animal having four feet — **quadruped** *adj* — **qua·dru·pe·dal** \kwä-'drü-pəd-ᵊl, ˌkwäd-rə-'ped-\ *adj*

¹qua·dru·ple \kwä-'drüp-əl, -'drəp-; 'kwäd-rəp-\ *vb* **qua·dru·pled; qua·dru·pling** \-(ə-)liŋ\ *vt* : to make four times as great or as many ~ *vi* : to become four times as great or as numerous

²quadruple *n* : a sum four times as great as another

³quadruple *adj* [MF or L; MF, fr. L *quadruplus*, fr. *quadri-* + *-plus* multiplied by — more at DOUBLE] **1** : having four units or members **2** : being four times as great or as many **3** : marked by four beats per measure ⟨~ meter⟩ — **qua·dru·ply** \-'drüp-lē, -'drəp-, -rəp-\ *adv*

qua·dru·plet \kwä-'drəp-lət, -'drüp-; 'kwäd-rəp-\ *n* **1** : one of four offspring born at one birth **2** : a combination of four of a kind **3** : a group of four musical notes to be performed in the time ordinarily given to three of the same kind

¹qua·dru·pli·cate \kwä-'drü-pli-kət\ *adj* [L *quadruplicatus*, pp. of *quadruplicare* to quadruple, fr. *quadruplic-*, *quadruplex* fourfold, fr. *quadri-* + *-plic-*, *-plex* fold — more at SIMPLE] **1** : consisting of or existing in four corresponding or identical parts or examples ⟨~ invoices⟩ **2** : being the fourth of four things exactly alike

²qua·dru·pli·cate \-plə-ˌkāt\ *vt* **-cat·ed; -cat·ing** **1** : to make quadruple or fourfold **2** : to prepare in quadruplicate — **qua·dru·pli·ca·tion** \-ˌdrü-plə-'kā-shən\ *n*

³qua·dru·pli·cate \kwä-'drü-pli-kət\ *n* **1** : one of four things exactly alike; *specif* : one of four identical copies **2** : four copies all alike — used with *in* ⟨typed in ~⟩

quad·ru·plic·i·ty \ˌkwäd-rü-'plis-ət-ē\ *n* [L *quadruplic-*, *quadruplex* fourfold + E *-ity*] : the state of being quadruple

quad·ru·pole \'kwäd-rə-ˌpōl\ *n* [ISV *quadri-* + *pole*] : a system composed of two dipoles of equal but oppositely directed moment

quaere *n* [L, imper. of *quaerere* to seek, question] *archaic* : QUERY

quaes·tor \'kwes-tər, 'kwē-stər\ *n* [ME *questor*, fr. L *quaestor*, fr. *quaestus*, pp. of *quaerere*] : one of numerous ancient Roman officials concerned chiefly with financial administration

¹quaff \'kwäf, 'kwaf\ *vb* [origin unknown] *vi* : to drink deeply ~ *vt* : to drink (a beverage) deeply — **quaff·er** *n*

²quaff *n* : a deep drink

quag \'kwag, 'kwäg\ *n* [origin unknown] : MARSH, BOG

quag·ga \'kwag-ə, 'kwäg-\ *n* [obs. Afrik (now *kwagga*)] : an extinct wild ass (*Equus quagga*) of southern Africa related to the zebras

quag·gy \'kwag-ē, 'kwäg-\ *adj* **1** : MARSHY **2** : FLABBY, YIELDING

quag·mire \'kwag-ˌmī(ə)r, 'kwäg-\ *n* **1** : soft miry land that shakes or yields under the foot **2** : a difficult or precarious position : PREDICAMENT

qua·hog *also* **qua·haug** \'kō-ˌhȯg, 'kwȯ-, 'kwō-, -ˌhäg\ *n* [Narraganset *poquaûhock*] : a thick-shelled American clam (*Mercenaria mercenaria*)

quai \'kā\ *n* [F] : QUAY

quaich *or* **quaigh** \'kwāk\ *n* [ScGael *cuach*] *chiefly Scot* : a small shallow drinking vessel with ears for use as handles

¹quail \'kwā(ə)l\ *n, pl* **quail** *or* **quails** [ME *quaille*, fr. MF, fr. ML *quaccula*, of imit. origin] **1** : any of various Old World gallinaceous birds (genus *Coturnix*); *esp* : a migratory game bird (*C. coturnix* syn. *C. communis*) **2** : any of various small American game birds (order Galliformes); *esp* : BOBWHITE

²quail *vb* [ME *quailen* to curdle, fr. MF *quailler*, fr. L *coagulare* — more at COAGULATE] *vi* **1 a** *chiefly dial* : WITHER, DECLINE **b** : to give way ⟨his courage never ~*ed*⟩ **2** : to recoil in dread or terror : COWER ⟨the strongest ~ before financial ruin —Samuel Butler †1902⟩ ~ *vt, archaic* : to make fearful ***syn*** see RECOIL

quaint \'kwānt\ *adj* [ME *cointe*, fr. OF, fr. L *cognitus*, pp. of *cognoscere* to know — more at COGNITION] **1** *obs* : EXPERT, SKILLED **2 a** : marked by skillful design ⟨~ with many a device in India ink — Herman Melville⟩ **b** : marked by beauty or elegance ⟨a body so fantastic, trim, and ~ —William Cowper⟩ **3 a** : unusual or different in character or appearance : ODD ⟨figures of fun, ~ people —Herman Wouk⟩ **b** : pleasingly or strikingly old-fashioned or unfamiliar — **quaint·ly** *adv* — **quaint·ness** *n*

¹quake \'kwāk\ *vi* **quaked; quak·ing** [ME *quaken*, fr. OE *cwacian*] **1** : to shake or vibrate usu. from shock or instability **2** : to tremble or shudder usu. from cold or fear

²quake *n* : an instance of shaking or trembling (as of the earth or moon); *esp* : EARTHQUAKE

quak·er \'kwā-kər\ *n* **1** : one that quakes **2** *cap* : FRIEND 5 — **Quak·er·ish** \'kwā-k(ə-)rish\ *adj* — **Quak·er·ism** \-kə-ˌriz-əm\ *n* — **Quak·er·ly** \-kər-lē\ *adj*

Quaker gun *n* [fr. opposition to war as a basic Quaker tenet] : a dummy piece of artillery usu. made of wood

quak·er–la·dies \ˌkwā-kər-'lād-ēz\ *n pl* : BLUETS

quaking aspen *n* : an aspen (*Populus tremuloides*) of the U.S. and Canada that has small suborbicular leaves with flattened petioles and finely serrate margins

qual *abbr* qualitative

qua·le \'kwäl-ē, -ˌā\ *n, pl* **qua·lia** \'kwäl-ē-ə\ [L, neut. of *qualis* of what kind] **1** : a property (as redness) considered apart from things having the property : UNIVERSAL **2** : a property as it is experienced as distinct from any source it might have in a physical object

qual·i·fi·able \'kwäl-ə-ˌfī-ə-bəl\ *adj* : capable of qualifying or being qualified

qual·i·fi·ca·tion \ˌkwäl-ə-fə-'kā-shən\ *n* **1** : a restriction in meaning or application : a limiting modification ⟨this statement stands without ~⟩ **2 a** *obs* : NATURE **b** *archaic* : CHARACTERISTIC **3 a** : a quality or skill that fits a person (as for an office) ⟨the applicant with the best ~*s*⟩ **b** : a condition that must be complied with (as for the attainment of a privilege) ⟨a ~ for membership⟩

qual·i·fied \'kwäl-ə-ˌfīd\ *adj* **1 a** : fitted (as by training or experience) for a given purpose : COMPETENT **b** : having complied with the specific requirements or precedent conditions (as for an office or employment) : ELIGIBLE **2** : limited or modified in some way ⟨~ approval⟩ ***syn*** see ABLE ***ant*** unqualified — **qual·i·fied·ly** \-ˌfī(-ə)d-lē\ *adv*

qual·i·fi·er \-ˌfī(-ə)r\ *n* : one that qualifies: as **a** : one that satisfies requirements or meets a specified standard **b** : a word (as an adjective) or word group that limits or modifies the meaning of another word (as a noun) or word group

qual·i·fy \'kwäl-ə-ˌfī\ *vb* **-fied; -fy·ing** [MF *qualifier*, fr. ML *qualificare*, fr. L *qualis*] *vt* **1 a** : to reduce from a general to a particular or restricted form : MODIFY **b** : to make less harsh or strict : MODERATE **c** : to alter the strength or flavor of **d** : to limit or modify the meaning of (as a noun) **2** : to characterize by naming an attribute : DESCRIBE ⟨cannot ~ it as . . . either glad or sorry — T. S. Eliot⟩ **3 a** : to fit by training, skill, or ability for a special purpose **b** (1) : to declare competent or adequate : CERTIFY (2) : to invest with legal capacity : LICENSE ~ *vi* **1** : to be fit (as for an office) **2** : to acquire legal or competent power or capacity ⟨has just *qualified* as a lawyer⟩ **3 a** : to exhibit a required degree of ability in a preliminary contest ⟨*qualified* earlier today for the semifinals⟩ **b** : to fire a score that makes one eligible for the award of a marksmanship badge ***syn*** see MODERATE, PREPARE

qual·i·ta·tive \'kwäl-ə-ˌtāt-iv\ *adj* : of, relating to, or involving quality or kind — **qual·i·ta·tive·ly** *adv*

qualitative analysis *n* : chemical analysis designed to identify the components of a substance or mixture

qual·i·ty \'kwäl-ət-ē\ *n, pl* **-ties** [ME *qualite*, fr. OF *qualité*, fr. L *qualitat-*, *qualitas*, fr. *qualis* of what kind; akin to L *qui* who — more at WHO] **1 a** : peculiar and essential character : NATURE ⟨her ethereal ~ —Gay Talese⟩ **b** : an inherent feature : PROPERTY ⟨had a ~ of stridence, dissonance —Roald Dahl⟩ **c** : CAPACITY, ROLE ⟨in the ~ of reader and companion —Joseph Conrad⟩ **2 a** : degree of excellence : GRADE ⟨the ~ of competing air service — *Current Biog.*⟩ **b** : superiority in kind ⟨proclaimed the ~ of his wife —Compton Mackenzie⟩ **3 a** : social status : RANK **b** : ARISTOCRACY **4 a** : a distinguishing attribute : CHARACTERISTIC ⟨the star ~ she radiates —*Current Biog.*⟩ **b** *archaic* : an acquired skill : ACCOMPLISHMENT **5** : the character in a logical proposition of being affirmative or negative **6** : vividness of hue **7 a** : TIMBRE **b** : the identifying character of a vowel sound determined chiefly by the resonance of the vocal chambers in uttering it **8** : the attribute of an elementary sensation that makes it fundamentally unlike any other sensation

syn QUALITY, STATURE, CALIBER *shared meaning element* : distinctive properties or character (as of merit or superiority)

quality control *n* : an aggregate of activities (as design analysis and statistical sampling with inspection for defects) designed to ensure adequate quality in manufactured products

quality point *n* : one of the points assigned to each course credit (as in a college) in accordance with the letter grade earned in the course — called also *quality credit, grade point*

quality point average *n* : the average obtained by dividing the total number of quality points earned by the total number of credits attempted — called also *grade point average*

qualm \'kwäm, 'kwälm *also* 'kwȯm\ *n* [origin unknown] **1** : a sudden attack of illness, faintness, or nausea **2 a** : a sudden or sharp and distressing fit (as of fear or depression) **b** : a sudden access of usu. disturbing emotion ⟨a ~ of homesickness⟩ **3** : a feeling of uneasiness about a point of conscience, honor, or propriety — **qualmy** \-ē\ *adj*

syn QUALM, SCRUPLE, COMPUNCTION, DEMUR *shared meaning element* : a misgiving about what one is doing or is going to do

qualm·ish \-ish\ *adj* **1 a** : feeling qualms : NAUSEATED **b** : overly scrupulous : SQUEAMISH **2** : of, relating to, or producing qualms — **qualm·ish·ly** *adv* — **qualm·ish·ness** *n*

qua·mash \'kwäm-ish\ *var of* CAMAS

quan·da·ry \'kwän-d(ə-)rē\ *n, pl* **-ries** [origin unknown] : a state of perplexity or doubt

quant *abbr* quantitative

quan·tal \'kwänt-ᵊl\ *adj* **1** [L *quanti* how many, pl. of *quantus*] : of, relating to, or having only two experimental alternatives (as dead or alive, all or none) **2** [*quantum*] : of or relating to a quantum

quan·ta·some \'kwänt-ə-ˌsōm\ *n* [prob. fr. *quanta*, pl. of *quantum* + *³-some*] : one of the chlorophyll-containing spheroids found in the grana of chloroplasts

quan·ti·fi·ca·tion \ˌkwänt-ə-fə-'kā-shən\ *n* : the operation of quantifying — **quan·ti·fi·ca·tion·al** \-shnəl, -shən-ᵊl\ *adj* — **quan·ti·fi·ca·tion·al·ly** \-ē\ *adv*

quan·ti·fi·er \'kwänt-ə-ˌfī(-ə)r\ *n* **1** : a prefixed operator that binds the variables in a logical formula by specifying their quantity **2** : a limiting noun modifier (as *five* in "the five young men") expressive of quantity and characterized by occurrence before the descriptive adjectives in a noun phrase

quan·ti·fy \-ˌfī\ *vt* **-fied; -fy·ing** [ML *quantificare*, fr. L *quantus* how much] **1 a** (1) : to limit by a quantifier (2) : to bind by prefixing a quantifier **b** : to make explicit the logical quantity of **2** : to determine, express, or measure the quantity of — **quan·ti·fi·able** \-ˌfī-ə-bəl\ *adj*

quan·ti·tate \'kwän(t)-ə-ˌtāt\ *vt* **-tat·ed; -tat·ing** [back-formation fr. *quantitative*] **1** : to measure or estimate the quantity of; *esp* : to measure or determine precisely **2** : to express in quantitative terms — **quan·ti·ta·tion** \ˌkwän(t)-ə-'tā-shən\ *n*

quan·ti·ta·tive \'kwän(t)-ə-ˌtāt-iv\ *adj* [ML *quantitativus*, fr. L *quantitat-*, *quantitas* quantity + *-ivus* -ive] **1** : of, relating to, or expressible in terms of quantity **2** : of, relating to, or involving the measurement of quantity or amount **3** : based on quantity; *specif, of classical verse* : based on temporal quantity or duration of sounds — **quan·ti·ta·tive·ly** *adv* — **quan·ti·ta·tive·ness** *n*

quantitative analysis *n* : chemical analysis designed to determine the amounts or proportions of the components of a substance

quantitative inheritance *n* : genic inheritance of a character (as skin color in man) controlled by a group of genes at different loci with each allelic pair having a specific quantitative effect

quan·ti·ty \'kwän(t)-ət-ē\ *n, pl* **-ties** [ME *quantite*, fr. OF *quantité*, fr. L *quantitat-*, *quantitas*, fr. *quantus* how much, how large; akin to L *quam* how, as, *quando* when, *qui* who — more at WHO] **1 a** : an indefinite amount or number **b** : a determinate or estimated amount ⟨precise *quantities* of four nucleic acids —*Current Biog.*⟩ **c** : total amount or number **d** : a considerable amount or number

— often used in pl. ⟨generous *quantities* of luck —H. E. Putsch⟩ **2 a** : the aspect in which a thing is measurable in terms of greater, less, or equal or of increasing or decreasing magnitude **b** : the subject of a mathematical operation **c** : a factor to take into account ⟨an unknown ~ . . . as attorney general —Tom Wicker⟩ **3 a** : duration and intensity of speech sounds as distinct from their individual quality or phonemic character; *specif* : the relative length or brevity of a prosodic syllable in some languages (as Greek and Latin) **b** : the relative duration or time length of a speech sound or sound sequence **4** : the character of a logical proposition as being universal, particular, or singular

quantity theory *n* : a theory in economics: changes in the price level tend to vary directly and in the value of money inversely with the amount of money in circulation and the velocity of its circulation

quan·tize \'kwän-ˌtīz\ *vt* **quan·tized; quan·tiz·ing** [*quantum*] **1** : to subdivide (as energy) into small but measurable increments **2** : to calculate or express in terms of quantum mechanics — **quan·ti·za·tion** \ˌkwänt-ə-'zā-shən\ *n* — **quan·tiz·er** \'kwän-ˌtī-zər\ *n*

quan·tum \'kwänt-əm\ *n, pl* **quan·ta** \'kwänt-ə\ [L, neut. of *quantus* how much] **1 a** : QUANTITY, AMOUNT **b** : PORTION, PART **c** : gross quantity : BULK **2 a** : one of the very small increments or parcels into which many forms of energy are subdivided **b** : one of the small subdivisions of a quantized physical magnitude (as magnetic movement)

quantum jump *n* **1** : an abrupt transition (as of an electron, an atom, or a molecule) from one discrete energy state to another **2** : an abrupt change or sudden increase

quantum mechanics *n pl but sing or pl in constr* : a general mathematical theory dealing with the interactions of matter and radiation in terms of observable quantities only — **quantum mechanical** *adj* — **quantum mechanically** *adv*

quantum number *n* : any of a set of integers or odd half integers that indicate the magnitude of various discrete quantities (as electric charge) of a particle or system and that serve to define its state

quantum theory *n* : a theory in physics based on the concept of the subdivision of radiant energy into finite quanta and applied to numerous processes involving transference or transformation of energy in an atomic or molecular scale

quar *abbr* quarterly

quar·an·tin·able \'kwȯr-ən-ˌtē-nə-bəl, 'kwär-\ *adj* : subject to or constituting grounds for quarantine ⟨a ~ disease⟩

¹quar·an·tine \'kwȯr-ən-ˌtēn, 'kwär-\ *n* [It *quarantina*, fr. MF *quarantaine*, fr. OF, fr. *quarante* forty, fr. L *quadraginta*, fr. *quadra-* (akin to *quattuor* four) + *-ginta* (akin to *viginti* twenty) — more at FOUR, VIGESIMAL] **1** : a period of 40 days **2 a** : a term during which a ship arriving in port and suspected of carrying contagious disease is held in isolation from the shore **b** : a regulation placing a ship in quarantine **c** : a place where a ship is detained during quarantine **3 a** : a restraint upon the activities or communication of persons or the transport of goods designed to prevent the spread of disease or pests **b** : a place in which persons under quarantine are kept **4** : a state of enforced isolation

²quarantine *vb* **-tined; -tin·ing** *vt* **1** : to detain in or exclude by quarantine **2** : to isolate from normal relations or communication ⟨~ an aggressor⟩ ~ *vi* : to establish or declare a quarantine

quare \'kwa(ə)r, 'kwe(ə)r, 'kwär\ *dial var of* ¹QUEER

quark \'kwärk\ *n* [coined by Murray Gell-Mann *b*1929 Am physicist] : a hypothetical particle that carries a fractional electric charge and that is held to be a constituent of known elementary particles

¹quar·rel \'kwȯr(-ə)l, 'kwär(-ə)l\ *n* [ME, fr. MF & OF; MF, square of glass, fr. OF, square-headed arrow, building stone, fr. (assumed) VL *quadrellum*, dim. of L *quadrum* square; akin to L *quattuor* four — more at FOUR] **1** : a square-headed bolt or arrow esp. for a crossbow **2** : a small quadrangular building member (as a diamond-shaped pane of glass)

²quarrel *n* [ME *querele*, fr. MF, complaint, fr. L *querela*, fr. *queri* to complain — more at WHEEZE] **1** : a ground of dispute or complaint ⟨have no ~ with a different approach⟩ **2** : a usu. verbal conflict between antagonists : ALTERCATION

syn QUARREL, WRANGLE, ALTERCATION, SQUABBLE, SPAT, TIFF *shared meaning element* : a dispute marked by anger or discord

³quarrel *vi* **-reled** *or* **-relled; -rel·ing** *or* **-rel·ling** **1 a** : to find fault ⟨many people ~ with the idea —*Johns Hopkins Mag.*⟩ **2** : to contend or dispute actively ⟨~*ed* frequently with his superiors — *London Calling*⟩ — **quar·rel·er** *or* **quar·rel·ler** *n*

quar·rel·some \'kwȯr(-ə)l-səm, 'kwär(-ə)l-\ *adj* : apt or disposed often petty manner : CONTENTIOUS ***syn*** see BELLIGERENT — **quar·rel·some·ly** *adv* — **quar·rel·some·ness** *n*

quar·ri·er \'kwȯr-ē-ər, 'kwär-\ *n* : a worker in a stone quarry

¹quar·ry \'kwȯr-ē, 'kwär-\ *n, pl* **quarries** [ME *querre* entrails of game given to the hounds, fr. MF *cuiriee*] **1** *obs* : a heap of the game killed in a hunt **2** : GAME; *specif* : game hunted with hawks **3** : PREY

²quarry *n, pl* **quarries** [ME *quarey*, alter. of *quarrere*, fr. MF *quarriere*, fr. (assumed) OF *quarre* squared stone, fr. L *quadrum* square] **1** : an open excavation usu. for obtaining building stone, slate, or limestone **2** : a rich source

³quarry *vb* **quar·ried; quar·ry·ing** *vt* **1** : to dig or take from or as if from a quarry ⟨~ marble⟩ **2** : to make a quarry in ⟨~ a hill⟩ ~ *vi* : to delve in or as if in a quarry

⁴quarry *n, pl* **quarries** [alter. of ¹*quarrel*] : a diamond-shaped pane of glass, stone, or tile

quar·ry·ing *n* : the business, occupation, or act of extracting useful material (as building stone) from quarries

quar·ry·man \'kwȯr-ē-mən, 'kwär-\ *n* : QUARRIER

quart \'kwȯ(ə)rt\ *n* [ME, one fourth of a gallon, fr. MF *quarte*, fr. OF, fr. fem. of *quart*, adj., fourth, fr. L *quartus*; akin to L *quattuor* four — more at FOUR] **1** — see WEIGHT table **2 a** : a vessel or measure having a capacity of one quart **b** : any of various units for bottled wine; *esp* : a unit for champagne containing 26 fluid ounces

¹quar·tan \'kwȯrt-ᵊn\ *adj* [ME *quarteyne*, fr. OF (*fievre*) *quartaine* quartan fever, fr. L (*febris*) *quartana*, fr. *quartanus* of the fourth, fr. *quartus*] : occurring every fourth day reckoning inclusively; *specif* : recurring at approximately 72-hour intervals

²quartan *n* : an intermittent fever that recurs at approximately 72-hour intervals; *esp* : a quartan malaria

¹quar·ter \'kwȯ(r)t-ər\ *n* [ME, fr. OF *quartier*, fr. L *quartarius*, fr. *quartus* fourth] **1** : one of four equal parts into which something is divisible : a fourth part ⟨in the top ~ of his class⟩ **2** : any of various units of capacity or weight equal to or derived from one fourth of some larger unit **3** : any of various units of length or area equal to one fourth of some larger unit **4** : the fourth part of a measure of time: as **a** : one of a set of four 3-month divisions of a year ⟨business was up during the third ~⟩ **b** : a school term of about 12 weeks **c** : QUARTER HOUR ⟨a ~ after three⟩ **5 a** : a coin worth a quarter of a dollar **b** : the sum of 25 cents **6** : one limb of a quadruped with the adjacent parts; *esp* : one fourth part of the carcass of a slaughtered animal including a leg **7 a** : the region or direction lying under any of the four divisions of the horizon **b** : one of the four parts into which the horizon is divided or the cardinal point corresponding to it **c** : a compass point or direction other than the cardinal points **d** (1) : a person or group not definitely specified ⟨financial help from many ~*s* — *Current Biog.*⟩ (2) : a point, direction, or place not definitely identified ⟨the view to the rear ~ —*Consumer Reports*⟩ **8 a** : a division or district of a town or city ⟨he describes the immigrant ~ —Alfred Kazin⟩ **b** : the inhabitants of such a quarter **9 a** : an assigned station or post **b** *pl* : an assembly of a ship's company for ceremony, drill, or emergency **c** *pl* : living accommodations : LODGINGS ⟨show you to your ~*s*⟩ **10** : merciful consideration of an opponent; *specif* : the clemency of not killing a defeated enemy **11** : a fourth part of the moon's period **12** : the side of a horse's hoof between the toe and the heel — see HOOF illustration **13 a** : any of the four parts into which a heraldic field is divided **b** : a bearing or charge occupying the first fourth part of a heraldic field **14** : the state of two machine parts that are exactly at right angles to one another or are spaced about a circle so as to subtend a right angle at the center of the circle **15 a** : the stern area of a ship's side **b** : the part of the yardarm outside the slings **16** : one side of the upper of a shoe or boot from heel to vamp **17** : one of the four equal periods into which the playing time of some games is divided

²quarter *vt* **1 a** : to divide into four equal or nearly equal parts **b** : to separate into either more or fewer than four parts ⟨~ an orange⟩ **c** *archaic* : to divide (a human body) into four parts **2** : to provide with lodging or shelter **3** : to crisscross (an area) in many directions **4 a** : to arrange or bear (as different coats of arms) quarterly on one escutcheon **b** : to add (a coat of arms) to others on one escutcheon **c** : to divide (as by stripes) a shield into distinct sections **5** : to adjust or locate (as cranks) at right angles in a machine ~ *vi* **1** : LODGE, DWELL **2** : to crisscross a district **3** : to change from one quarter to another ⟨the moon ~*s*⟩ **4** : to strike on a ship's quarter ⟨the wind was ~*ing*⟩

³quarter *adj* : consisting of or equal to a quarter

quar·ter·age \'kwȯ(r)t-ə-rij\ *n* : a quarterly payment, tax, wage, or allowance

¹quar·ter·back \'kwȯ(r)t-ər-ˌbak\ *n* : an offensive back in football who usu. lines up behind the center, calls the signals, and directs the offensive play of his team

²quarterback *vt* **1** : to direct the offensive play of (as a football team) **2** : to give executive direction to : BOSS ⟨~*ed* the original buying syndicate —*Time*⟩ ~ *vi* : to play quarterback

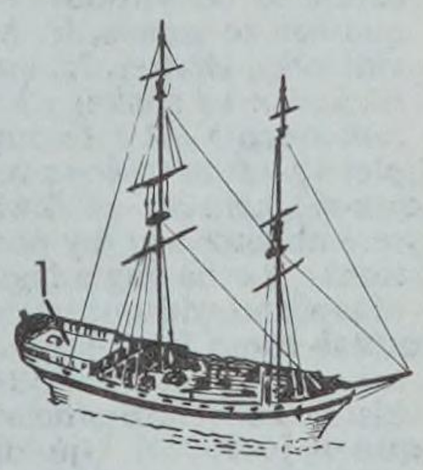
quarterback sneak *n* : a usu. quick run with the ball by a quarterback into the middle of the offensive line

quar·ter–bound \ˌkwȯ(r)t-ər-'baůnd\ *adj, of a book* : bound in material of two qualities with the material of better quality on the spine only — **quarter binding** *n*

quarter crack *n* : a sand crack usu. in a horse's forefoot

quarter day *n* : the day which begins a quarter of the year and on which a quarterly payment often falls due

quar·ter·deck \'kwȯ(r)t-ər-ˌdek\ *n* **1** : the stern area of a ship's upper deck **2** : a part of a deck on a naval vessel set aside by the captain for ceremonial and official use



1, quarterdeck 1

¹quar·ter·fi·nal \ˌkwȯ(r)t-ər-'fīn-ᵊl\ *adj* **1** : being next to the semifinal in an elimination tournament **2** : of or participating in a quarterfinal

²quarterfinal *n* **1** : a quarterfinal match **2** *pl* : a quarterfinal round — **quar·ter·fi·nal·ist** \-ᵊl-əst\ *n*

quarter horse *n* [fr. its high speed for distances up to a quarter of a mile] : an alert cobby muscular horse capable of high speed for short distances and of great endurance under the saddle

quarter hour *n* **1** : fifteen minutes **2** : any of the quarter points of an hour **3** : a unit of academic credit representing an hour of class (as lecture class) or three hours of laboratory work each week for an academic quarter

¹quar·ter·ing \'kwȯ(r)t-ə-riŋ\ *n* **1 a** : the division of an escutcheon containing different coats of arms into four or more compartments **b** : a quarter of an escutcheon or the coat of arms on it **2** : a line of usu. noble or distinguished ancestry

²quartering *adj* **1** : coming from a point well abaft the beam of a ship but not directly astern ⟨~ waves⟩ **2** : lying at right angles
¹quar·ter·ly \ˈkwȯ(r)t-ər-lē\ *adv* **1** : in heraldic quarters or quarterings **2** : at 3-month intervals
²quarterly *adj* **1** : computed for or payable at 3-month intervals ⟨~ premium⟩ **2** : recurring, issued, or spaced at 3-month intervals **3** : divided into heraldic quarters or compartments
³quarterly *n, pl* **-lies** : a periodical published four times a year
Quarterly Meeting *n* : an organizational unit of the Society of Friends usu. composed of several Monthly Meetings
quar·ter·mas·ter \ˈkwȯ(r)t-ər-ˌmas-tər\ *n* **1** : a petty officer who attends to a ship's helm, binnacle, and signals **2** : an army officer who provides clothing and subsistence for a body of troops
quar·tern \ˈkwȯ(r)t-ərn\ *n* [ME *quarteron*, fr. OF, quarter of a pound, quarter of a hundred, fr. *quartier* quarter] : a fourth part
quartern loaf *n* [fr. its being made from a quartern (¼ peck) of flour] *Brit* : a loaf of bread weighing about four pounds
quarter note *n* : a musical note with the time value of ¼ of a whole note — see NOTE illustration
quar·ter–phase \ˌkwȯ(r)t-ər-ˈfāz\ *adj* : DIPHASE
quarter rest *n* : a musical rest corresponding in time value to a quarter note
quar·ter·sawed \ˌkwȯ(r)t-ər-ˈsȯd\ *also* **quar·ter·sawn** \-ˈsȯn\ *adj* : sawed from quartered logs so that the annual rings are nearly at right angles to the wide face — used of boards and planks
quarter section *n* : a tract of land that is half a mile square and contains 160 acres in the U.S. government system of land surveying
quarter sessions *n pl* **1** : an English local court with limited original and appellate criminal and sometimes civil jurisdiction and often administrative functions held quarterly usu. by two justices of the peace in a county or by a recorder in a borough **2** : a local court with criminal jurisdiction and sometimes administrative functions in some states of the U.S.
quar·ter·staff \ˈkwȯ(r)t-ər-ˌstaf\ *n, pl* **-staves** \-ˌstavz, -ˌstāvz\ : a long stout staff formerly used as a weapon and wielded with one hand in the middle and the other between the middle and the end
quarter tone *n* **1** : a musical interval of one half a semitone **2** : a tone at an interval of one quarter
quar·tet *also* **quar·tette** \kwȯr-ˈtet\ *n* [It *quartetto*, fr. *quarto* fourth, fr. L *quartus* — more at QUART] **1** : a musical composition for four instruments or voices **2** : a group or set of four; *esp* : the performers of a quartet
quar·tic \ˈkwȯrt-ik\ *adj* [L *quartus* fourth] : of the fourth degree ⟨~ equation⟩ — **quartic** *n*
quar·tile \ˈkwȯr-ˌtīl, ˈkwȯrt-ᵊl\ *n* [ISV, fr. L *quartus*] : the value that marks the boundary between two consecutive intervals in a frequency distribution of four intervals with each containing one quarter of the total population
quar·to \ˈkwȯrt-(ˌ)ō\ *n, pl* **quartos** [L, abl. of *quartus* fourth] **1** : the size of a piece of paper cut four from a sheet; *also* : paper or a page of this size **2** : a book printed on quarto pages
quartz \ˈkwȯ(ə)rts\ *n* [G *quarz*] : a mineral SiO_2 consisting of a silicon dioxide that occurs in colorless and transparent or colored hexagonal crystals and also in crystalline masses — **quartz·ose** \ˈkwȯrt-ˌsōs\ *adj*
quartz battery *n* : STAMP MILL — called also *quartz mill*
quartz glass *n* : vitreous silica prepared from pure quartz and noted for its transparency to ultraviolet radiation
quartz·if·er·ous \kwȯrt-ˈsif-(ə-)rəs\ *adj* : bearing quartz
quartz–iodine lamp *n* : an incandescent lamp that has a quartz bulb and a tungsten filament with the bulb containing iodine which reacts with the vaporized tungsten to prevent excessive blackening of the bulb
quartz·ite \ˈkwȯrt-ˌsīt\ *n* [ISV] : a compact granular rock composed of quartz and derived from sandstone by metamorphism — **quartz·it·ic** \kwȯrt-ˈsit-ik\ *adj*
qua·sar \ˈkwā-ˌzär *also* -ˌsär\ *n* [*quasi*-stel*lar* radio source] : QUASI-STELLAR RADIO SOURCE
quash \ˈkwäsh, ˈkwȯsh\ *vt* [ME *quassen*, fr. MF *casser*, *quasser* to annul, fr. LL *cassare*, fr. L *cassus* void, without effect; akin to L *carēre* to be without — more at CASTE; in sense *2*, partly fr. ME *quashen* to smash, fr. MF *quasser*, *casser*, fr. L *quassare*, to shake violently, shatter, fr. *quassus*, pp. of *quatere* to shake; akin to OE *hūdenian* to shake] **1** : to nullify esp. by judicial action ⟨~ an indictment⟩ **2** : to suppress or extinguish summarily and completely : SUBDUE ⟨~ a rebellion⟩ ***syn*** see CRUSH
qua·si \ˈkwā-ˌzī, -ˌsī; ˈkwäz-ē, ˈkwäs-; ˈkwā-zē\ *adj* **1** : having some resemblance usu. by possession of certain attributes ⟨a ~ corporation⟩ **2** : having a legal status only by operation or construction of law and without reference to intent ⟨a ~ contract⟩
quasi- *comb form* [L *quasi* as if, as it were, approximately, fr. *quam* as + *si* if — more at QUANTITY, SO] : in some sense or degree ⟨*quasi*-historical⟩ ⟨*quasi*-officially⟩
qua·si–ju·di·cial \-jü-ˈdish-əl\ *adj* **1** : having a partly judicial character by possession of the right to hold hearings on and conduct investigations into disputed claims and alleged infractions of rules and regulations and to make decisions in the general manner of courts ⟨~ bodies⟩ **2** : essentially judicial in character but not within the judicial power or function esp. as constitutionally defined ⟨~ review⟩ — **qua·si–ju·di·cial·ly** \-ˈdish-(ə-)lē\ *adv*
qua·si–leg·is·la·tive \-ˈlej-ə-ˌslāt-iv\ *adj* **1** : having a partly legislative character by possession of the right to make rules and regulations having the force of law ⟨a ~ agency⟩ **2** : essentially legislative in character but not within the legislative power or function esp. as constitutionally defined ⟨~ powers⟩
Qua·si·mo·do \ˌkwäs-i-ˈmōd-(ˌ)ō, ˌkwäz-\ *n* [ML *quasi modo geniti infantes* as newborn babes (words of the introit for Low Sunday)] : LOW SUNDAY
qua·si·par·ti·cle \-ˈpärt-i-kəl; *see* QUASI\ *n* : a composite entity (as a vibration in a solid) that is analogous in its behavior to a single particle
qua·si–pub·lic \-ˈpəb-lik\ *adj* : essentially public (as in services rendered) although under private ownership or control
quasi–stellar object *n* : QUASI-STELLAR RADIO SOURCE
qua·si–stel·lar radio source \-ˈstel-ər-\ *n* : any of various very distant celestial objects that resemble stars but emit unusually bright blue and ultraviolet light and radio waves
quas·sia \ˈkwäsh-ə\ *n* [NL, genus name, fr. *Quassi* 18th cent. Surinam Negro slave who discovered the medicinal value of quassia] : a drug from the heartwood of various tropical trees of the ailanthus family used esp. as a bitter tonic and remedy for roundworms in children and as an insecticide
qua·ter·cen·te·na·ry \ˌkwät-ər-sen-ˈten-ə-rē, -ˈsent-ᵊn-ˌer-ē, -sen-ˈtē-nə-rē\ *n* [L *quater* four times + E *centenary* — more at QUATERNION] : a year marking a 400th anniversary
¹qua·ter·na·ry \ˈkwät-ə(r)-ˌner-ē, kwə-ˈtər-nə-rē\ *adj* [L *quaternarius*, fr. *quaterni* four each] **1 a** : of, relating to, or consisting of four units or members **b** : of, relating to, or being a number system with a base of four **2** *cap* : of, relating to, or being the geological period from the end of the Tertiary to the present time or the corresponding system of rocks **3** : consisting of, containing, or being an atom united by four bonds to carbon atoms
²quaternary *n, pl* **-ries** **1** : a member of a group fourth in order or rank **2** *cap* : the Quaternary period or system of rocks
quaternary ammonium compound *n* : any of numerous strong bases and their salts derived from ammonium by replacement of the hydrogen atoms with organic radicals and important esp. as surface-active agents, disinfectants, and drugs
qua·ter·ni·on \kwə-ˈtər-nē-ən, kwä-\ *n* [ME *quaternyoun*, fr. LL *quaternion-*, *quaternio*, fr. L *quaterni* four each, fr. *quater* four times; akin to L *quattuor* four — more at FOUR] **1** : a set of four parts, things, or persons **2 a** : a generalized complex number that is composed of a real number and a vector and that depends on one real and three imaginary units **b** *pl* : the calculus of quaternions
qua·ter·ni·ty \kwə-ˈtər-nət-ē, kwä-\ *n, pl* **-ties** [LL *quaternitas*, fr. L *quaterni* four each] : a union of a group or set of four
qua·train \ˈkwä-ˌtrān, kwä-ˈ\ *n* [F, fr. MF, fr. *quatre* four, fr. L *quattuor*] : a unit or group of four lines of verse
qua·tre·foil \ˈkat-ər-ˌfȯil, ˈka-trə-\ *n* [ME *quaterfoil* set of four leaves, fr. MF *quatre* + ME *-foil* (as in *trefoil*)] **1** : a conventionalized representation of a flower with four petals or of a leaf with four leaflets **2** : a 4-lobed foliation in architecture
quat·tro·cen·to \ˌkwä-trō-ˈchen-(ˌ)tō\ *n, often cap* [It, lit., four hundred, fr. *quattro* four (fr. L *quattuor*) + *cento* hundred — more at CINQUECENTO] : the 15th century esp. with reference to Italian literature and art
quat·tu·or·de·cil·lion \ˌkwät-ə-ˌwȯr-di-ˈsil-yən\ *n, often attrib* [L *quattuordecim* fourteen (fr. *quattuor* four + *decem* ten) + E *-illion* (as in *million*) — more at TEN] — see NUMBER table
¹qua·ver \ˈkwā-vər\ *vb* **qua·vered; qua·ver·ing** \ˈkwāv-(ə-)riŋ\ [ME *quaveren*, freq. of *quaven* to tremble] *vi* **1** : TREMBLE, SHAKE ⟨~*ing* inwardly⟩ **2** : TRILL **3** : to utter sound in tremulous tones ~ *vt* : to utter quaveringly — **qua·ver·ing·ly** \ˈkwāv-(ə-)riŋ-lē\ *adv* — **qua·very** \-(ə-)rē\ *adj*
²quaver *n* **1** : EIGHTH NOTE **2** : TRILL 1 **3** : a tremulous sound
quay \ˈkē, ˈk(w)ā\ *n* [alter. of earlier *key*, fr. ME, fr. MF *cai*, of Celt origin; akin to Corn *kē* hedge, fence; akin to OE *hecg* hedge] : a stretch of paved bank or a solid artificial landing place beside navigable water for convenience in loading and unloading ships
quay·age \-ij\ *n* **1** : a charge for use of a quay **2** : room on or for quays **3** : a system of quays
quay·side \-ˌsīd\ *n* : land bordering a quay
Que *abbr* Quebec
quean \ˈkwēn, ˈkwān\ *n* [ME *quene*, fr. OE *cwene*; akin to OE *cwēn* woman, queen] **1** : a disreputable woman; *specif* : PROSTITUTE **2** *chiefly Scot* : WOMAN; *esp* : one that is young or unmarried
quea·sy *also* **quea·zy** \ˈkwē-zē\ *adj* **quea·si·er; -est** [ME *coysy*, *qwesye*] **1** : full of doubt : HAZARDOUS **2 a** : causing nausea ⟨~ motion⟩ **b** : suffering from nausea : NAUSEATED **3 a** : causing uneasiness **b** (1) : DELICATE, SQUEAMISH (2) : ill at ease — **quea·si·ly** \-zə-lē\ *adv* — **quea·si·ness** \-zē-nəs\ *n*
Que·bec \kwi-ˈbek *also* ki-\ — a communications code word for the letter *q*
Que·be·cois *or* **Qué·be·cois** \ˌkā-bə-ˈkwä, -ˌbe-\ *n, pl* **Quebecois** *or* **Québecois** \-ˈkwä(z)\ [F *Québecois*, fr. *Québec* Quebec] : a native or inhabitant of Quebec; *specif* : a French-speaking native or inhabitant of Quebec
que·bra·cho \kā-ˈbräch-(ˌ)ō, ki-\ *n* [AmerSp, alter. of *quiebracha*, fr. Sp *quiebra* it breaks + *hacha* ax] **1** : any of several trees of southern So. America with hard wood: as **a** : a tree (*Aspidosperma quebracho*) of the dogbane family which occurs in Argentina and Chile and whose dried bark is used as a respiratory sedative in dyspnea and in asthma **b** : a chiefly Argentine tree (*Schinopsis lorentzii*) of the sumac family with dense wood rich in tannins **2 a** : the wood of a quebracho **b** : a tannin-rich extract of the Argentine quebracho used in tanning leather
Que·chua \ˈkech-(ə-)wə, kə-ˈchü-ə\ *n, pl* **Quechua** *or* **Quechuas** [Sp, fr. Quechua *kkechúwa* plunderer, robber] **1 a** : a member of an Amerindian people of central Peru **b** : a group of peoples constituting the dominant element of the Inca Empire **2 a** : the language of the Quechua people widely spoken by other Indian peoples of Peru, Bolivia, Ecuador, Chile, and Argentina **b** : a language family comprising the Quechua language — **Que·chu·an** \-(ə-)wən, -ˈchü-ən\ *adj or n*
¹queen \ˈkwēn\ *n* [ME *quene*, fr. OE *cwēn* woman, wife, queen; akin to Goth *qens* wife, Gk *gynē* woman, wife] **1 a** : the wife or widow of a king **b** : the wife or widow of a tribal chief **2 a** : a female monarch **b** : a female chieftain **3 a** : a woman eminent in rank, power, or attractions ⟨a movie ~⟩ **b** : a goddess or a thing personified as female and having supremacy in a specified realm **c** : an attractive girl or woman; *esp* : a beauty contest winner **4** : the most privileged piece of each color in a set of chessmen having the power to move in any direction across any number of unoccupied squares **5** : a playing card marked with a stylized figure of a queen **6** : the fertile fully developed female of social bees, ants, and termites whose function is to lay eggs — see HONEY-

BEE illustration **7** : a mature female cat kept esp. for breeding **8** : HOMOSEXUAL

²queen *vi* **1** : to act like a queen; *esp* : to put on airs — usu. used with *it* ⟨~*s* it over her friends⟩ **2** : to become a queen in chess ~ *vt* : to promote (a pawn) to a queen in chess

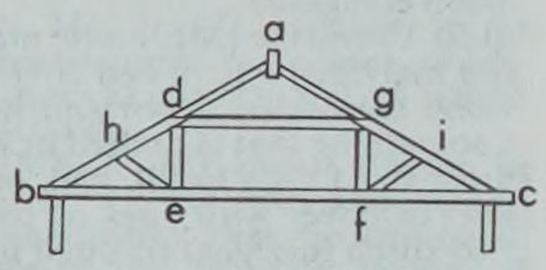
Queen Anne \kwē-'nan\ *adj* [*Queen Anne* of England] **1** : of, relating to, or having the characteristics of a style of furniture prevalent in England under Dutch influence esp. during the first half of the 18th century that is marked by extensive use of upholstery, marquetry, and Oriental fabrics **2** : of, relating to, or having the characteristics of a style of English building of the early 18th century characterized by modified classic ornament and the use of red brickwork in which even relief ornament is carved

Queen Anne's lace *n* : WILD CARROT

queen consort *n, pl* **queens consort** : the wife of a reigning king

queen mother *n* : a queen dowager who is mother of the reigning sovereign

queen post *n* : one of two vertical tie posts in a truss (as of a roof)



de, gf queen posts; *bc* beam; *dg* straining beam; *bd, cg* principal rafters; *ba, ca* rafters, *eh, fi* struts

queen regent *n, pl* **queens regent** : a queen ruling in behalf of another or in her own right

queen regnant *n, pl* **queens regnant** : a queen reigning in her own right

Queen's Bench *n* — used instead of *King's Bench* when the British monarch is a queen

Queen's Counsel *n* — used instead of *King's Counsel* when the British monarch is a queen

queen·ship \'kwēn-ˌship\ *n* **1** : the rank, dignity, or state of being a queen **2** : a regal quality like that of a queen

queen·side \-ˌsīd\ *n* : the side of a chessboard containing the file on which the queen sits at the beginning of the game

queen–size *adj* **1** : having dimensions of approximately 60 inches by 80 inches — used of a bed; compare FULL-SIZE, KING-SIZE, TWIN-SIZE **2** : of a size that fits a queen-size bed ⟨a ~ sheet⟩

queen substance *n* : a pheromone that is secreted by queen bees, is consumed by worker bees, and inhibits the development of their ovaries

queen truss *n* : a truss framed with queen posts

¹queer \'kwi(ə)r\ *adj* [origin unknown] **1 a** : differing in some odd way from what is usual or normal **b** (1) : ECCENTRIC, UNCONVENTIONAL (2) : mildly insane : TOUCHED **c** : absorbed or interested to an extreme or unreasonable degree : OBSESSED **d** : sexually deviate : HOMOSEXUAL **2 a** : WORTHLESS, COUNTERFEIT ⟨~ money⟩ **b** : QUESTIONABLE, SUSPICIOUS **3** : not quite well — **queer·ish** \-ish\ *adj* — **queer·ly** *adv* — **queer·ness** *n*

²queer *vt* **1** : to spoil the effect or success of ⟨~ one's plans⟩ **2** : to put or get into an embarrassing or disadvantageous situation

³queer *n* : one that is queer; *esp* : HOMOSEXUAL

¹quell \'kwel\ *vt* [ME *quellen* to kill, quell, fr. OE *cwellan* to kill; akin to OHG *quellen* to torture, kill, *quāla* torment, Gk *belonē* needle] **1** : to thoroughly overwhelm and reduce to submission or passivity ⟨~ a riot⟩ **2** : QUIET, PACIFY ⟨~ fears⟩ ***syn*** see CRUSH ***ant*** foment — **quell·er** *n*

²quell *n* [ME, fr. *quellen*] **1** *obs* : SLAUGHTER **2** *archaic* : the power of quelling

quench \'kwench\ *vb* [ME *quenchen*, fr. OE *-cwencan;* akin to OE *-cwincan* to vanish, OFris *quinka*] *vt* **1 a** : to put out (as a fire or light) : EXTINGUISH **b** : to put out the light or fire of ⟨~ glowing coals with water⟩ **c** : to cool (as heated metal) suddenly by immersion (as in oil or water); *broadly* : to cause to lose heat or warmth ⟨you have ~*ed* the warmth of France toward you —Alfred Tennyson⟩ **2 a** : to bring (something immaterial) to an end typically by satisfying, damping, cooling, or decreasing ⟨a rational understanding of the laws of nature can ~ impossible desires — Lucius Garvin⟩ ⟨the praise that ~*es* all desire to read the book — T. S. Eliot⟩ **b** : to terminate by or as if by destroying : ELIMINATE ⟨the Commonwealth party ~*ed* a whole generation of play-acting —Margery Bailey⟩ ⟨~ a rebellion⟩ **c** : to relieve or satisfy with liquid ⟨~*ed* his thirst at a wayside spring⟩ ~ *vi* **1** : to become extinguished : COOL **2** : to become calm : SUBSIDE ***syn*** see CRUSH — **quench·able** \'kwen-chə-bəl\ *adj* — **quench·er** *n* — **quench·less** \'kwench-ləs\ *adj*

quer·ce·tin \'kwər-sət-ən\ *n* [ISV, fr. L *quercetum* oak forest, fr. *quercus* oak — more at FIR] : a yellow crystalline pigment $C_{15}H_{10}O_7$ occurring usu. in the form of glycosides in various plants

quer·cit·ron \'kwər-ˌsi-trən, ˌkwər-'\ *n* [blend of NL *Quercus* (genus name) and ISV *citron*] **1** : a large timber oak (*Quercus velutina*) of the eastern and central U.S. **2** : the bark of a quercitron that is rich in tannin and yellow coloring matter and is used in tanning and dyeing

que·rist \'kwi(ə)r-əst, 'kwe(ə)r-\ *n* [L *quaerere* to ask] : one who inquires

quern \'kwərn\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *cweorn;* akin to OHG *quirn* mill, OSlav *žrŭny*] : a primitive hand mill for grinding grain

quer·u·lous \'kwer-(y)ə-ləs *also* 'kwir-\ *adj* [L *querulus*, fr. *queri* to complain] **1** : habitually complaining **2** : FRETFUL, WHINING ⟨a ~ voice⟩ — **quer·u·lous·ly** *adv* — **quer·u·lous·ness** *n*

¹que·ry \'kwi(ə)r-ē, 'kwe(ə)r-\ *n, pl* **queries** [alter. of earlier *quere*, fr. L *quaere*, imper. of *quaerere* to ask] **1** : QUESTION, INQUIRY **2** : a question in the mind : DOUBT **3** : QUESTION MARK

²query *vt* **que·ried; que·ry·ing** **1** : to put as a question **2** : to ask questions about esp. in order to resolve a doubt **3** : to ask questions of esp. with a desire for authoritative information **4** : to mark with a query ***syn*** see ASK — **que·ri·er** *n*

¹quest \'kwest\ *n* [ME, search, pursuit, investigation, inquest, fr. MF *queste* search, pursuit, fr. (assumed) VL *quaesta*, fr. L, fem. of *quaestus*] **1 a** : a jury of inquest **b** : INVESTIGATION **2** : an act or instance of seeking: **a** : PURSUIT, SEARCH **b** : a chivalrous enterprise in medieval romance usu. involving an adventurous journey **3** *obs* : ones who search or make inquiry

²quest *vi* **1** *of a dog* **a** : to search a trail **b** : BAY **2** : to go on a quest ~ *vt* **1** : to search for **2** : to ask for — **quest·er** *n*

¹ques·tion \'kwes(h)-chən\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *quaestion-, quaestio*, fr. *quaesitus, quaestus*, pp. of *quaerere* to seek, ask] **1 a** (1) : an interrogative expression often used to test knowledge (2) : an interrogative sentence or clause **b** : a subject or aspect in dispute or open for discussion : ISSUE; *broadly* : PROBLEM, MATTER **c** (1) : a subject or point of debate or a proposition to be voted on in a meeting (2) : the bringing of such to a vote **d** : the specific point at issue **2 a** : an act or instance of asking : INQUIRY **b** : INTERROGATION; *also* : a judicial or official investigation **c** : torture as part of an examination **d** (1) : OBJECTION, DISPUTE ⟨true beyond ~⟩ (2) : room for doubt or objection ⟨little ~ of his skill⟩ (3) : CHANCE, POSSIBILITY ⟨no ~ of escape⟩

²question *vt* **1** : to ask a question of or about **2** : to interrogate intensively : CROSS-EXAMINE **3 a** : DOUBT, DISPUTE **b** : to subject to analysis : EXAMINE ~ *vi* : to ask questions : INQUIRE ***syn*** see ASK — **ques·tion·er** *n*

ques·tion·able \'kwes(h)-chə-nə-bəl, *rapid* 'kwesh-nə-\ *adj* **1** *obs* : inviting inquiry **2** *obs* : liable to judicial inquiry or action **3** : affording reason for being doubted, questioned, or challenged : not certain or exact : PROBLEMATIC ⟨milk of ~ purity⟩ ⟨a ~ decision⟩ **4** : attended by well-grounded suspicions of being immoral, crude, false, or unsound : DUBIOUS ⟨~ motives⟩ ***syn*** see DOUBTFUL ***ant*** authoritative, unquestionable — **ques·tion·able·ness** *n* — **ques·tion·ably** \-blē\ *adv*

ques·tion·ary \'kwes(h)-chə-ˌner-ē\ *n, pl* **-ar·ies** : QUESTIONNAIRE

ques·tion·less \'kwes(h)-chən-ləs\ *adj* **1** : INDUBITABLE, UNQUESTIONABLE **2** : UNQUESTIONING

question mark *n* **1** : a mark ? used in writing and printing at the conclusion of a sentence to indicate a direct question **2** : something unknown, unknowable, or uncertain

ques·tion·naire \ˌkwes(h)-chə-'na(ə)r, -'ne(ə)r\ *n* [F, fr. *questionner* to question, fr. MF, fr. *question*, n.] **1** : a set of questions for obtaining statistically useful or personal information from individuals **2** : a written or printed questionnaire often with spaces for answers **3** : a survey made by the use of a questionnaire

question time *n* : a period in a session of a British parliamentary body during which members may put to a minister questions on matters concerning his department

ques·tor \'kwes-tər\ *var of* QUAESTOR

quet·zal \ket-'säl, -'sal\ *n, pl* **quetzals** *or* **quet·za·les** \-'säl-(ˌ)ās, -'sal-\ [AmerSp, fr. Nahuatl *quetzaltototl*, fr. *quetzalli* brilliant tail feather + *tototl* bird] **1** : a Central American trogon (*Pharomachrus mocino*) that has brilliant plumage and in the male long upper tail coverts **2** — see MONEY table



quetzal 1

Quet·zal·coatl \ket-'säl-ˌkwät-ᵊl, -'sal-, -kə-ˌwät-\ *n* [Nahuatl] : a chief Toltec and Aztec god identified with the wind and air and represented by means of a feathered serpent

¹queue \'kyü\ *n* [F, lit., tail, fr. L *cauda, coda*] **1** : a braid of hair usu. worn hanging at the back of the head **2** : a waiting line esp. of persons or vehicles

²queue *vb* **queued; queu·ing** *or* **queue·ing** *vt* : to arrange or form in a queue ~ *vi* : to line up or wait in a queue — **queu·er** *n*

¹quib·ble \'kwib-əl\ *n* [prob. dim. of obs. *quib* (quibble)] **1** : an evasion of or shift from the point : EQUIVOCATION **2** : a minor objection or criticism

²quibble *vb* **quib·bled; quib·bling** \-(ə-)liŋ\ *vi* **1** : EQUIVOCATE **2 a** : CAVIL, CARP **b** : BICKER ~ *vt* : to subject to quibbles — **quib·bler** \-(ə-)lər\ *n*

quiche \'kēsh\ *n* [F, fr. G dial. (Lorraine) *küche*, dim. of *kuchen* cake, fr. OHG *kuocho* — more at CAKE] : a pastry shell filled with a rich egg and cream custard and various other ingredients (as ham, seafood, or vegetables)

quiche Lor·raine \-lə-'rān, -lȯ-\ *n* [F, fr. *lorraine*, fem. of *lorrain* of Lorraine] : a quiche containing cheese and crisp bacon bits

¹quick \'kwik\ *adj* [ME *quik*, fr. OE *cwic;* akin to ON *kvikr* living, L *vivus* living, *vivere* to live, Gk *bios, zōē* life] **1** *archaic* : not dead : LIVING, ALIVE **2** : acting or capable of acting with speed: as **a** (1) : fast in understanding, thinking, or learning : mentally agile ⟨a ~ mind⟩ ⟨~ thinking⟩ (2) : reacting to stimuli with speed and keen sensitivity (3) : aroused immediately and intensely ⟨~ tempers⟩ **b** (1) : fast in development or occurrence ⟨a ~ succession of events⟩ (2) : done or taking place with rapidity ⟨gave them a ~ look⟩ **c** : marked by speed, readiness, or promptness of physical movement ⟨walked with ~ steps⟩ **d** : inclined to hastiness (as in action or response) ⟨too ~ to criticize⟩ **e** : capable of being easily and speedily prepared ⟨a ~ and tasty dinner⟩ **3** *archaic* **a** : not stagnant : RUNNING, FLOWING **b** : MOVING, SHIFTING ⟨~ mud⟩ **4** *archaic* : FIERY, GLOWING **5** *obs* **a** : PUNGENT **b** : CAUSTIC **6** *archaic* : PREGNANT **7** : having a sharp angle ⟨a ~ turn in the road⟩ — **quick·ly** *adv* — **quick·ness** *n*

syn **1** see FAST ***ant*** sluggish

2 QUICK, PROMPT, READY, APT *shared meaning element* : able to respond without delay or hesitation or indicative of such ability. QUICK stresses instancy of response and is likely to connote native rather than acquired power ⟨very *quick* in perception⟩ ⟨a keen *quick* mind⟩ PROMPT is more likely to connote training and discipline that fits one for instant response ⟨*prompt* insight into the

workings of complex apparatus —F. H. Garrison〉 READY suggests facility or fluency in response 〈reading maketh a full man, conference a *ready* man —Francis Bacon〉 APT stresses the possession of qualities (as intelligence, a particular talent, or a strong bent) that makes quick effective response possible 〈an *apt* student〉 〈her answer was *apt* and to the point〉 ***ant*** sluggish

²quick *adv* : in a quick manner

³quick *n* **1 quick** *pl* : living beings **2** [prob. of Scand origin; akin to ON *kvika* sensitive flesh, fr. *kvikr* living] **a** : a painfully sensitive spot or area of flesh (as that underlying a fingernail or toenail) **b** : the inmost sensibilities 〈hurt to the ~ by the remark〉 **c** : the very center of something : HEART **3** *archaic* : LIFE 11

quick assets *n pl* : cash, accounts receivable, and other current assets excluding inventories

quick bread *n* : bread made with a leavening agent (as baking powder or baking soda) that permits immediate baking of the dough or batter mixture 〈biscuits and muffins are *quick bread*〉

quick·en \'kwik-ən\ *vb* **quick·ened; quick·en·ing** \-(ə-)niŋ\ *vt* **1 a** : to make alive : REVIVE **b** : to cause to be enlivened : STIMULATE **2** *archaic* **a** : KINDLE **b** : to cause to burn more intensely **3** : to make more rapid : HASTEN, ACCELERATE 〈~*ed* her steps〉 **4 a** : to make (a curve) sharper **b** : to make (a slope) steeper ~ *vi* **1** : to quicken something **2** : to come to life; *esp* : to enter into a phase of active growth and development 〈seeds ~*ing* in the soil〉 **3** : to reach the stage of gestation at which fetal motion is felt **4** : to shine more brightly 〈watched the dawn ~*ing* in the east〉 **5** : to become more rapid 〈her pulse ~*ed* at the sight〉 — **quick·en·er** \-(ə-)nər\ *n*

syn **1** QUICKEN, ANIMATE, ENLIVEN, VIVIFY *shared meaning element* : to make alive or lively ***ant*** deaden
2 see PROVOKE ***ant*** arrest

quick–freeze \'kwik-'frēz\ *vt* **-froze** \-'frōz\; **-fro·zen** \-'frōz-ᵊn\; **-freez·ing** : to freeze (food) for preservation so rapidly that ice crystals formed are too small to rupture the cells and the natural juices and flavor are preserved

quick·ie \'kwik-ē\ *n* : something done or made in a hurry

quick kick *n* : a punt in football on first, second, or third down made from a running or passing formation and designed to take the opposing team by surprise

quick·lime \'kwik-ˌlīm\ *n* : the first solid product that is obtained by calcining limestone and that develops great heat and becomes crumbly when treated with water

quick–lunch \-'lənch\ *n* : a luncheonette specializing in short-order food

quick·sand \'kwik-ˌsand\ *n* : sand readily yielding to pressure; *esp* : a deep mass of loose sand mixed with water into which heavy objects readily sink

quick·set \-ˌset\ *n, chiefly Brit* : plant cuttings set in the ground to grow esp. in a hedgerow; *also* : a hedge or thicket esp. of hawthorn grown from quickset

quick·sil·ver \-ˌsil-vər\ *n* : MERCURY 2a — **quicksilver** *adj*

quick·step \-ˌstep\ *n* : a spirited march tune usu. accompanying a march in quick time

quick–tem·pered \-'tem-pərd\ *adj* : easily angered : IRASCIBLE

quick time *n* : a rate of marching in which 120 steps each 30 inches in length are taken in one minute

quick–wit·ted \'kwik-'wit-əd\ *adj* : quick in perception and understanding : mentally alert ***syn*** see INTELLIGENT — **quick–wit·ted·ly** *adv* — **quick–wit·ted·ness** *n*

¹quid \'kwid\ *n, pl* **quid** *also* **quids** [origin unknown] *Brit* : a pound sterling

²quid *n* [E dial., cud, fr. ME *quide*, fr. OE *cwidu* — more at CUD] : a cut or wad of something chewable

quid·di·ty \'kwid-ət-ē\ *n, pl* **-ties** [ML *quidditas* essence, lit., whatness, fr. L *quid* what, neut. of *quis* who — more at WHO] **1 a** : a trifling point : QUIBBLE **b** : CROTCHET, ECCENTRICITY **2** : whatever makes something to be of the type that it is : ESSENCE

quid·nunc \'kwid-ˌnəŋk\ *n* [L *quid nunc* what now?] : one who seeks to know all the latest news or gossip : BUSYBODY

quid pro quo \ˌkwid-ˌprō-'kwō\ *n* [NL, something for something] : something given or received for something else

qui·es·cence \kwī-'es-ᵊn(t)s, kwē-\ *n* : the quality or state of being quiescent

qui·es·cent \-ᵊnt\ *adj* [L *quiescent-, quiescens*, prp. of *quiescere* to become quiet, rest, fr. *quies*] **1** : being at rest : INACTIVE **2** : causing no trouble or symptoms 〈~ gallstones〉 ***syn*** see LATENT — **qui·es·cent·ly** *adv*

¹qui·et \'kwī-ət\ *n* [ME, fr. L *quiet-, quies* rest, quiet — more at WHILE] : the quality or state of being quiet : TRANQUILLITY — **on the quiet** : in a secretive manner

²quiet *adj* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *quietus*, fr. pp. of *quiescere*] **1 a** : marked by little or no motion or activity : CALM 〈a ~ sea〉 **b** : GENTLE, EASYGOING 〈a ~ temperament〉 **c** : not disturbed : not interfered with 〈~ reading〉 **d** : enjoyed in peace and relaxation 〈a ~ cup of tea〉 **2 a** : free from noise or uproar : STILL **b** : UNOBTRUSIVE, CONSERVATIVE 〈~ clothes〉 **3** : SECLUDED 〈a ~ nook〉 — **qui·et·ly** *adv* — **qui·et·ness** *n*

³quiet *adv* : in a quiet manner 〈a *quiet*-running engine〉

⁴quiet *vt* **1** : to cause to be quiet : CALM **2** : to make secure by freeing from dispute or question 〈~ title to a property〉 ~ *vi* : to become quiet — usu. used with *down* — **qui·et·er** *n*

qui·et·en \'kwī-ət-ᵊn\ *vb* **qui·et·ened; qui·et·en·ing** \-ət-niŋ, -ᵊn-iŋ\ *chiefly Brit* : QUIET

qui·et·ism \'kwī-ət-ˌiz-əm\ *n* **1 a** : a system of religious mysticism teaching that perfection and spiritual peace are attained by annihilation of the will and passive absorption in contemplation of God and divine things **b** : a passive withdrawn attitude or policy toward the world or worldly affairs **2** : a state of calmness or passivity — **qui·et·ist** \-ət-əst\ *adj or n*

qui·etude \'kwī-ə-ˌt(y)üd\ *n* [MF, fr. LL *quietudo*, fr. L *quietus*] : a quiet state : REPOSE

qui·etus \kwī-'ēt-əs\ *n* [ME *quietus est*, fr. ML, he is quit, formula of discharge from obligation] **1** : final settlement (as of a debt) **2** : removal from activity; *esp* : DEATH **3** : something that quiets or represses

quiff \'kwif\ *n* [origin unknown] *Brit* : a prominent forelock

¹quill \'kwil\ *n* [ME *quil* hollow reed, bobbin; akin to MHG *kil* large feather] **1 a** (1) : a bobbin, spool, or spindle on which filling yarn is wound (2) : a hollow shaft often surrounding another shaft and used in various mechanical devices **b** : a roll of dried bark 〈cinnamon ~*s*〉 **2 a** (1) : the hollow horny barrel of a feather (2) : FEATHER; *esp* : one of the large stiff feathers of the wing or tail **b** : one of the hollow sharp spines of a porcupine or hedgehog **3** : something made from or resembling the quill of a feather; *esp* : a pen for writing **4** : a float for a fishing line

²quill *vt* **1** : to pierce with quills **2 a** : to wind (thread or yarn) on a quill **b** : to make a series of small rounded ridges in (cloth)

quill·back \'kwil-ˌbak\ *n, pl* **quillback** *or* **quillbacks** : any of several suckers; *esp* : a small fish (*Carpiodes cyprinus*) of central and eastern No. America that has the first ray of the dorsal fin much elongated

¹quilt \'kwilt\ *n* [ME *quilte* mattress, quilt, fr. OF *cuilte*, fr. L *culcita* mattress] **1** : a bed coverlet of two layers of cloth filled with wool, cotton, or down and held in place by stitched designs **2** : something that is quilted or resembles a quilt

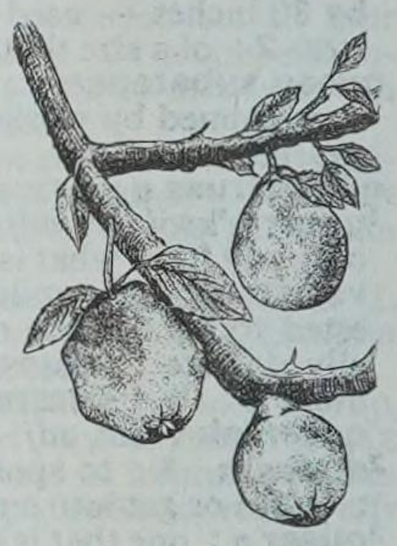
²quilt *vt* **1 a** : to fill, pad, or line like a quilt **b** (1) : to stitch, sew, or cover with lines or patterns like those used in quilts (2) : to stitch (designs) through layers of cloth **c** : to fasten between two pieces of material **2** : to stitch or sew in layers with padding in between ~ *vi* **1** : to make quilts **2** : to do quilted work — **quilt·er** *n*

quilt·ing *n* **1** : the process of quilting **2** : material that is quilted or used for making quilts

quin- *or* quino- *comb form* [Sp *quina* — more at QUININE] **1** : cinchona : cinchona bark 〈*quino*line〉 **2** : quinone 〈*quino*id〉

quin·a·crine \'kwin-ə-ˌkrēn\ *n* [*quin-* + *acridine*] : an antimalarial drug derived from acridine and used esp. as the dihydrochloride $C_{23}H_{30}ClN_3O.2HCl.2H_2O$

quince \'kwin(t)s\ *n* [ME *quynce* quinces, pl. of *coyn, quyn* quince, fr. MF *coin*, fr. L *cydonium*, fr. Gk *kydōnion*] **1** : the fruit of a central Asiatic tree (*Cydonia oblonga*) of the rose family that resembles a hard-fleshed yellow apple and is used for marmalade, jelly, and preserves **2** : the tree that bears quinces



quince 1

quin·cun·cial \kwin-'kən-chəl\ *or* **quin·cunx·ial** \-'kəŋ(k)-sē-əl\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or arranged in a quincunx **2** : having the members of a pentamerous bud or flower so imbricated that two are exterior, two are interior, and one has one edge exterior and one interior — **quin·cun·cial·ly** \-'kən-chə-lē\ *adv*

quin·cunx \'kwin-ˌkəŋ(k)s\ *n* [L *quincunc-, quincunx*, lit., five twelfths, fr. *quinque* five + *uncia* twelfth part — more at FIVE, OUNCE] **1** : an arrangement of five things with one at each corner and one in the middle of a square or rectangle **2** : a quincuncial arrangement of plant parts

quin·de·cil·lion \ˌkwin-di-'sil-yən\ *n, often attrib* [L *quindecim* fifteen (fr. *quinque* five + *decem* ten) + E *-illion* (as in *million*) — more at TEN] — see NUMBER table

quin·i·dine \'kwin-ə-ˌdēn\ *n* [ISV, fr. *quinine*] : an alkaloid $C_{20}H_{24}N_2O_2$ stereoisomeric with and resembling quinine that is used in treating cardiac rhythm irregularities

qui·nie·la \kēn-'yel-ə\ *or* **qui·nel·la** \kē-'nel-ə\ *n* [AmerSp *quiniela*, a game of chance resembling a lottery] : a system of betting (as on dog races) in which the bettor must pick the first and second place finishers but need not designate their order of finish in order to win — compare PERFECTA

qui·nine \'kwī-ˌnīn *also* 'kwin-ˌīn *or* kwin-'īn *or* k(w)in-'ēn\ *n* [Sp *quina* cinchona, short for *quinaquina*, fr. Quechua] **1** : a bitter crystalline alkaloid $C_{20}H_{24}N_2O_2$ from cinchona bark used in medicine **2** : a salt of quinine used as an antipyretic, antimalarial, antiperiodic, and bitter tonic

quinine water *n* : a carbonated beverage flavored with a small amount of quinine, lemon, and lime

qui·noa \kē-'nō-ə\ *n* [Sp, fr. Quechua *quinua*] : a pigweed (*Chenopodium quinoa*) of the high Andes whose seeds are ground and widely used as food in Peru

quin·oid \'kwin-ˌȯid\ *n* : a quinonoid compound

qui·noi·dine \kwə-'nȯid-ᵊn\ *n* [ISV] : a bitter brownish resinous mixture of alkaloids obtained as a by-product in the extraction of cinchona bark for crystalline alkaloids and formerly used as a quinine substitute

quin·o·line \'kwin-ᵊl-ˌēn\ *n* [ISV *quin-* + *-ol* + *-ine*] **1** : a pungent oily nitrogenous base C_9H_7N that is obtained usu. by distillation of coal tar or by synthesis from aniline and is the parent compound of many alkaloids, drugs, and dyes **2** : a derivative of quinoline

qui·none \kwin-'ōn, 'kwin-ˌ\ *n* [ISV *quinine* + *-one*] **1** : either of two isomeric cyclic crystalline compounds $C_6H_4O_2$ that are di-keto derivatives of dihydro-benzene **2** : any of various usu. yellow, orange, or red quinonoid compounds including several that are biologically important as coenzymes, hydrogen acceptors, or vitamins

qui·no·noid \kwin-'ō-ˌnȯid, 'kwin-ə-\ *or* **quin·oid** \'kwin-ˌȯid\ *adj* : resembling quinone esp. in having a benzene nucleus containing two double bonds within the nucleus

Quin·qua·ge·si·ma \ˌkwiŋ-kə-'jes-ə-mə, -'jā-zə-\ *n* [ML, fr. L, fem. of *quinquagesimus* fiftieth, fr. *quinquaginta* fifty, fr. *quinque* + *-ginta* (akin to *viginti* twenty — more at VIGESIMAL); fr. its being approximately 50 days before Easter] : the Sunday before Lent

quinque- *or* quinqu- *comb form* [L, fr. *quinque* — more at FIVE] : five 〈*quinque*foliolate〉

quin·quen·ni·al \kwin-'kwen-ē-əl, kwiŋ-\ *adj* **1** : consisting of or lasting for five years **2** : occurring or being done every five years — **quinquennial** *n* — **quin·quen·ni·al·ly** \-ē-ə-lē\ *adv*
quin·quen·ni·um \-ē-əm\ *n, pl* **-ni·ums** *or* **-nia** \-ē-ə\ [L, fr. *quinque-* + *annus* year — more at ANNUAL] : a period of five years
quin·que·va·lent *also* **quin·qui·va·lent** \ˌkwiŋ-kwi-'vā-lənt\ *adj* : PENTAVALENT
quin·sy \'kwin-zē\ *n* [ME *quinesie*, fr. MF *quinancie*, fr. LL *cynanche*, fr. Gk *kynanchē*, fr. *kyn-, kyōn* dog + *anchein* to strangle — more at HOUND, ANGER] : a severe inflammation of the throat or adjacent parts with swelling and fever
quint \'kwint\ *n* : QUINTUPLET
quin·tain \'kwint-ᵊn\ *n* [ME *quintaine*, fr. MF, fr. L *quintana* street in a Roman camp separating the fifth maniple from the sixth where military exercises were performed, fr. fem. of *quintanus* fifth in rank, fr. *quintus* fifth] : an object to be tilted at; *esp* : a post with a revolving crosspiece that has a target at one end and a sandbag at the other end
quin·tal \'kwint-ᵊl, 'kant-\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. ML *quintale*, fr. Ar *qinṭār*, fr. LGk *kentēnarion*, fr. LL *centenarium*, fr. L, neut. of *centenarius* consisting of a hundred — more at CENTENARY] **1** : HUNDREDWEIGHT **2** — see METRIC SYSTEM table
quin·tes·sence \kwin-'tes-ᵊn(t)s\ *n* [ME, fr. MF *quinte essence*, fr. ML *quinta essentia*, lit., fifth essence] **1** : the fifth and highest element in ancient and medieval philosophy that permeates all nature and is the substance composing the heavenly bodies **2** : the essence of a thing in its purest and most concentrated form **3** : the most typical example or representative — **quint·es·sen·tial** \ˌkwint-ə-'sen-chəl\ *adj*
quin·tet *also* **quin·tette** \kwin-'tet\ *n* [*quintet* fr. It *quintetto*, fr. *quinto* fifth, fr. L *quintus*; *quintette* fr. F, fr. It *quintetto*] **1** : a musical composition or movement for five instruments or voices **2** : a group or set of five: as **a** : the performers of a quintet **b** : a basketball team
¹quin·tic \'kwint-ik\ *adj* [L *quintus* fifth] : of the fifth degree
²quintic *n* : a polynomial or a polynomial equation of the fifth degree
quin·tile \'kwin-ˌtīl\ *n* [L *quintus* + E *-ile*] : any of the four values that divide the items of a frequency distribution into five classes
quin·til·lion \kwin-'til-yən\ *n* [L *quintus* + E *-illion* (as in *million*)] — see NUMBER table — **quintillion** *adj* — **quin·til·lionth** \-yən(t)th\ *adj or n*
¹quin·tu·ple \kwin-'t(y)üp-əl, -'təp-; 'kwint-əp-\ *adj* [MF, fr. LL *quintuplex*, fr. L *quintus* fifth + *-plex* -fold; akin to L *quinque* five — more at FIVE, SIMPLE] **1** : having five units or members **2** : being five times as great or as many **3** : marked by five beats per measure ⟨~ meter⟩ — **quintuple** *n*
²quintuple *vb* **quin·tu·pled; quin·tu·pling** \-(ə-)liŋ\ *vt* : to make five times as great or as many ~ *vi* : to become five times as much or as numerous
quin·tu·plet \kwin-'təp-lət, -'t(y)üp-; 'kwint-əp-\ *n* **1** : a combination of five of a kind **2** : one of five offspring born at one birth
¹quin·tu·pli·cate \kwin-'t(y)ü-pli-kət\ *adj* [L *quintuplicatus*, pp. of *quintuplicare* to quintuple, fr. *quintuplic-, quintuplex* quintuple] **1** : consisting of or existing in five corresponding or identical parts or examples ⟨~ invoices⟩ **2** : being the fifth of five things exactly alike ⟨file the ~ copy⟩
²quintuplicate *n* **1** : one of five things exactly alike; *specif* : one of five identical copies **2** : five copies all alike — used with *in* ⟨typed in ~⟩
³quin·tu·pli·cate \-plə-ˌkāt\ *vt* **-cat·ed; -cat·ing** **1** : to make quintuple or fivefold **2** : to prepare in quintuplicate
¹quip \'kwip\ *n* [earlier *quippy*, perh. fr. L *quippe* indeed, to be sure (often ironical), fr. *quid* what — more at QUIDDITY] **1 a** : a clever usu. taunting remark : GIBE **b** : a witty or funny observation or response usu. made on the spur of the moment **2** : QUIBBLE, EQUIVOCATION **3** : something strange, droll, curious, or eccentric : ODDITY ***syn*** see JEST — **quip·ster** \-stər\ *n*
²quip *vb* **quipped; quip·ping** *vi* : to make quips : GIBE ~ *vt* : to jest or gibe at
qui·pu \'kē-(ˌ)pü\ *n* [Sp *quipo*, fr. Quechua *quipu*] : a device made of a main cord with smaller varicolored cords attached and knotted and used by the ancient Peruvians (as for calculating)
¹quire \'kwī(ə)r\ *n* [ME *quair* four sheets of paper folded once, collection of sheets, fr. MF *quaer*, fr. (assumed) VL *quadernum*, alter. of L *quaterni* four each, set of four — more at QUATERNION] : a collection of 24 or sometimes 25 sheets of paper of the same size and quality : one twentieth of a ream
²quire *var of* CHOIR
Qui·ri·nus \kwə-'rī-nəs, -'rē-\ *n* [L] : an early state god of the Romans later identified with Romulus
¹quirk \'kwərk\ *n* [origin unknown] **1 a** : an abrupt twist or curve **b** : a peculiar trait : IDIOSYNCRASY **c** : ACCIDENT, VAGARY **2** : a groove separating a bead or other molding from adjoining members — **quirk·i·ly** \'kwər-kə-lē\ *adv* — **quirk·i·ness** \-kē-nəs\ *n* — **quirky** \-kē\ *adj*
²quirk *vb* : CURL, TWIST
¹quirt \'kwərt\ *n* [MexSp *cuarta*] : a riding whip with a short handle and a rawhide lash
²quirt *vt* : to strike or drive with a quirt
quis·ling \'kwiz-liŋ\ *n* [Vidkun *Quisling* †1945 Norw politician] : a traitor who collaborates with the invaders of his country esp. by serving in a puppet government — **quis·ling·ism** \-liŋ-ˌiz-əm\ *n*
¹quit \'kwit\ *adj* [ME *quite, quit*, fr. OF *quite*] : released from obligation, charge, or penalty; *esp* : FREE
²quit *vb* **quit** *also* **quit·ted; quit·ting** [ME *quiten, quitten*, fr. MF *quiter, quitter*, fr. OF, fr. *quite* free of, released, lit., at rest, fr. L *quietus* quiet, at rest] *vt* **1** : to set free : RELIEVE, RELEASE ⟨~ oneself of fear⟩ **2** : to make full payment of : pay up ⟨~ a debt⟩ **3** : CONDUCT, ACQUIT ⟨the youths ~ themselves like men⟩ **4 a** : to depart from or out of **b** : to leave the company of **c** : to relinquish, abandon, or give over (as a way of thinking, acting, or living) : FORSAKE **d** : to give up (an action, activity, or employment) : LEAVE ⟨~ a job⟩ ~ *vi* **1** : to cease normal, expected, or necessary action **2** : to give up employment **3** : to give up : admit defeat ***syn*** see GO, STOP
³quit *n* : the act of quitting a job
quitch \'kwich\ *n* [(assumed) ME *quicche*, fr. OE *cwice*; akin to OHG *quecca* couch grass, OE *cwic* living — more at QUICK] : QUACK GRASS
quit-claim \'kwit-ˌklām\ *vt* : to release or relinquish a legal claim to; *esp* : to release a claim to or convey by a quitclaim deed — **quitclaim** *n*
quitclaim deed *n* : a legal instrument used to release one person's right, title, or interest to another without providing a guarantee or warranty of title
quite \'kwīt\ *adv* [ME, fr. *quite*, adj., quit] **1** : WHOLLY, COMPLETELY ⟨not ~ all⟩ **2** : to an extreme : POSITIVELY ⟨~ sure⟩ **3** : to a considerable extent : RATHER ⟨~ near⟩
quit·rent \'kwit-ˌrent\ *n* : a fixed rent payable to a feudal superior in commutation of services; *specif* : a fixed rent due from a socage tenant
quits \'kwits\ *adj* [ME, quit, prob. fr. ML *quittus*, alter. of L *quietus* at rest] : being on even terms by repayment or requital
quit·tance \'kwit-ᵊn(t)s\ *n* **1 a** : discharge from a debt or an obligation **b** : a document evidencing quittance **2** : RECOMPENSE, REQUITAL
quit·ter \'kwit-ər\ *n* : one that quits; *esp* : one that gives up too easily : DEFEATIST
quit·tor \'kwit-ər\ *n* [ME *quiture* pus, prob. fr. OF, act of boiling, fr. L *coctura*, fr. *coctus*, pp. of *coquere* to cook — more at COOK] : a purulent inflammation of the feet esp. of horses and asses affecting chiefly the cartilage
¹quiv·er \'kwiv-ər\ *n* [ME, fr. OF *quivre*, of Gmc origin; akin to OE *cocer* quiver, OHG *kohharī*] **1** : a case for carrying or holding arrows **2** : the arrows in a quiver
²quiver *vi* **quiv·ered; quiv·er·ing** \-(ə-)riŋ\ [ME *quiveren*, prob. fr. *quiver* agile, quick, fr. (assumed) OE *cwifer*] : to shake or move with a slight trembling motion
³quiver *n* : the act or action of quivering : TREMOR
qui vive \kē-'vēv\ *n* [F *qui-vive*, fr. *qui vive ?* long live who ?, challenge of a French sentry] **1** : CHALLENGE **2** : ALERT, LOOKOUT — used in the phrase *on the qui vive*
qui·xote \'kwik-sət, kē-'(h)ōt-ē\ *n, often cap* [Don *Quixote*] : a quixotic person — **quix·o·tism** \'kwik-sə-ˌtiz-əm\ *n* — **quix·o·try** \-sə-trē\ *n*
quix·ot·ic \kwik-'sät-ik\ *adj* [Don *Quixote*, hero of the novel *Don Quixote de la Mancha* (1605, 1615) by Cervantes] : idealistic to an impractical degree; *esp* : marked by rash lofty romantic ideas or extravagantly chivalrous action — **quix·ot·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj* — **quix·ot·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
¹quiz \'kwiz\ *n, pl* **quiz·zes** [origin unknown] **1** : an eccentric person **2** : PRACTICAL JOKE **3** : the act or action of quizzing; *specif* : a short oral or written test
²quiz *vt* **quizzed; quiz·zing** **1** : to make fun of : MOCK **2** : to look at inquisitively **3** : to question closely — **quiz·zer** *n*
quiz·mas·ter \'kwiz-ˌmas-tər\ *n* : one who puts the questions to contestants in a quiz show
quiz show *n* : an entertainment program (as on radio or television) in which contestants answer questions — called also *quiz program*
quiz·zi·cal \'kwiz-i-kəl\ *adj* **1** : slightly eccentric : ODD **2** : marked or characterized by bantering or teasing **3** : INQUISITIVE, QUESTIONING — **quiz·zi·cal·i·ty** \ˌkwiz-ə-'kal-ət-ē\ *n* — **quiz·zi·cal·ly** \'kwiz-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
quod \'kwäd\ *n* [origin unknown] *slang Brit* : PRISON
quod·li·bet \'kwäd-lə-ˌbet\ *n* [ME, fr. ML *quodlibetum*, fr. L *quodlibet*, neut. of *quilibet* any whatever, fr. *qui* who, what + *libet* it pleases, fr. *libēre* to please — more at WHO, LOVE] **1** : a philosophical or theological point proposed for disputation; *also* : a disputation on such a point **2** : a whimsical combination of familiar melodies or texts
¹quoin \'k(w)ȯin\ *n* [alter. of ¹*coin*] **1 a** : a solid exterior angle (as of a building) usu. distinguished from the adjoining surfaces by material texture, color, size, or projection **b** : one of the blocks forming a quoin **2** : the keystone or a voussoir of an arch **3** : a wooden or expandable metal block used by printers to lock up a form within a chase
²quoin *vt* **1** : to equip (a type form) with quoins **2** : to provide with quoins ⟨~*ed* walls⟩
¹quoit \'kwāt, 'k(w)ȯit\ *n* [ME *coite*] **1** : a flattened ring of iron or circle of rope used in a throwing game **2** *pl but sing in constr* : a game in which the quoits are thrown at an upright pin in an attempt to ring the pin or come as near to it as possible
²quoit *vt* : to throw like a quoit
quon·dam \'kwän-dəm, -ˌdam\ *adj* [L, at one time, formerly, fr. *quom, cum* when; akin to L *qui* who — more at WHO] : FORMER, SOMETIME ⟨a ~ friend⟩
Quon·set \ˌkwän(t)-sət, ˌkwän-zət\ *trademark* — used for a prefabricated shelter set on a foundation of bolted steel trusses and built of a semicircular arching roof of corrugated metal insulated with wood fiber
quo·rum \'kwōr-əm, 'kwȯr-\ *n* [ME, quorum of justices of the peace, fr. L, of whom, gen. pl. of *qui* who; fr. the wording of the commission formerly issued to justices of the peace] **1** : the number usu. a majority of officers or members of a body that when duly assembled is legally competent to transact business **2** : a select group **3** : a Mormon body comprising those in the same grade of priesthood
quot *abbr* quotation

quo·ta \'kwōt-ə\ *n* [ML, fr. L *quota pars* how great a part] **1** : a proportional part or share; *esp* : the share or proportion assigned to each in a division or to each member of a body **2** : the number or amount constituting a proportional share
quot·able \'kwōt-ə-bəl *also* 'kōt-\ *adj* : fit for or worth quoting
quo·ta·tion \kwō-'tā-shən *also* kō-\ *n* **1** : something that is quoted; *esp* : a passage referred to, repeated, or adduced **2 a** : the act or process of quoting **b** (1) : the naming or publishing of current bids and offers or prices of securities or commodities (2) : the bids, offers, or prices so named or published; *esp* : the highest bid and lowest offer for a particular security in a given market at a particular time
quotation mark *n* : one of a pair of punctuation marks " " or ' ' used chiefly to indicate the beginning and the end of a quotation in which the exact phraseology of another or of a text is directly cited
¹quote \'kwōt *also* 'kōt\ *vb* **quot·ed; quot·ing** [ML *quotare* to mark the number of, number references, fr. L *quotus* of what number or quantity, fr. *quot* how many, (as) many as; akin to L *qui* who — more at WHO] *vt* **1 a** : to speak or write (a passage) from another usu. with credit acknowledgment **b** : to repeat a passage from esp. in substantiation or illustration **2** : to cite in illustration ⟨~ cases⟩ **3 a** : to name (the current price or bid-offer spread) of a commodity, stock, or bond **b** : to give exact information on **4** : to set off by quotation marks ~ *vi* : to inform a hearer or reader that matter following is quoted
syn QUOTE, CITE, REPEAT *shared meaning element* : to say or write again something already said or written by another
²quote *n* **1** : QUOTATION **2** : QUOTATION MARK — often used orally to indicate the beginning of a direct quotation
quoth \(')kwōth\ *vb past* [ME, past of *quethen* to say, fr. OE *cwethan;* akin to OHG *quedan* to say] *archaic* : SAID — used chiefly in the first and third persons with a postpositive subject
quotha \'kwō-thə\ *interj* [alter. of *quoth he*] *archaic* — used esp. to express surprise or contempt
quo·tid·i·an \kwō-'tid-ē-ən\ *adj* [ME *cotidian*, fr. MF, fr. L *quotidianus, cotidianus*, fr. *quotidie* every day, fr. *quot* (as) many as + *dies* day — more at DEITY] **1** : occurring every day ⟨~ fever⟩ **2 a** : belonging to each day : EVERYDAY ⟨~ routine⟩ **b** : COMMONPLACE, ORDINARY ⟨~ drabness⟩ ***syn*** see DAILY
quo·tient \'kwō-shənt\ *n* [ME *quocient*, modif. of L *quotiens* how many times, fr. *quot* how many] **1** : the number resulting from the division of one number by another **2** : the numerical ratio usu. multiplied by 100 between a test score and a measurement on which that score might be expected largely to depend **3** : QUOTA, SHARE
quotient group *n* : a group whose elements are the cosets of a normal subgroup of a given group
quotient ring *n* : a ring whose elements are the cosets of an ideal in a given ring
quo war·ran·to \ˌkwō-wə-'rānt-(ˌ)ō, -'rant-; (')kwō-'wȯr-ənt-ˌō, -'wär-\ *n* [ML, by what warrant; fr. the wording of the writ] **1 a** : an English writ formerly requiring a person to show by what authority he exercises a public office, franchise, or liberty **b** : a legal proceeding for a like purpose begun by an information **2** : the legal action begun by a quo warranto
Qur·'an *or* **Qur·an** \kə-'ran, -'rän; kù(ə)r-'an, -'än\ *var of* KORAN
qursh *n, pl* **qursh** \'kù(ə)rsh\ [Ar. *qirsh*] — see *riyal* at MONEY table
qv *abbr* [L *quod vide*] which see
qy *abbr* query

R

¹r \'är\ *n, pl* **r's** *or* **rs** \'ärz\ *often cap, often attrib* **1 a** : the 18th letter of the English alphabet **b** : a graphic representation of this letter **c** : a speech counterpart of orthographic *r* **2** : a graphic device for reproducing the letter *r* **3** : one designated *r* esp. as the 18th in order or class **4** : something shaped like the letter R
²r *abbr, often cap* **1** rabbi **2** radius **3** rain **4** range **5** Rankine **6** rare **7** real **8** Reaumur **9** red **10** Republican **11** resistance **12** right **13** river **14** roentgen **15** rook **16** rough **17** ruble **18** run **19** rupee
³r *symbol* correlation coefficient
¹R \'är\ *adj* [restricted] *of a motion picture* : of such a nature that admission is restricted to persons over a specified age (as 17) unless accompanied by a parent or guardian — compare G, PG, X
²R *symbol* **1** radical — used esp. of a univalent hydrocarbon radical **2** recipe **3** registered trademark — often enclosed in a circle
¹Ra \'rä, 'rō\ *n* [Egypt *r'*] : the Egyptian sun-god and chief deity
²Ra *symbol* radium
RA *abbr* **1** regular army **2** right ascension **3** Royal Academician; Royal Academy
RAAF *abbr* Royal Australian Air Force
ra·ba·to \rə-'bät-(ˌ)ō\ *n, pl* **-tos** [modif. of MF *rabat*, lit., act of turning down] : a wide lace-edged collar of the early 17th century often stiffened to stand high at the back
¹rab·bet \'rab-ət\ *n* [ME *rabet*, fr. MF *rabat* act of beating down, fr. OF *rabattre* to beat down, reduce — more at REBATE] : a channel, groove, or recess cut out of the edge or face of any body; *esp* : one intended to receive another member (as a panel)
²rabbet *vt* **1** : to cut a rabbet in **2** : to unite the edges of in a rabbet joint ~ *vi* : to become joined by a rabbet
rabbet joint *n* : a joint formed by fitting together rabbeted boards or timbers
rab·bi \'rab-ˌī\ *n* [LL, fr. Gk *rhabbi*, fr. Heb *rabbī* my master, fr. *rabh* master + *-ī* my] **1** : MASTER, TEACHER — used by Jews as a term of address **2** : a Jew qualified to expound and apply the halakah and other Jewish law **3** : a Jew trained and ordained for professional religious leadership; *specif* : the official leader of a Jewish congregation
rab·bin \'rab-ən\ *n* [F] : RABBI
rab·bin·ate \'rab-ə-nət, -ˌnāt\ *n* **1** : the office or tenure of a rabbi **2** : the whole body of rabbis
rab·bin·ic \rə-'bin-ik, ra-\ *or* **rab·bin·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj* **1** : of or relating to rabbis or their writings **2** : of or preparing for the rabbinate **3** : comprising or belonging to any of several sets of Hebrew characters simpler than the square Hebrew letters — **rab·bin·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
Rabbinic Hebrew *n* : the Hebrew used esp. by medieval rabbis
rab·bin·ism \'rab-ə-ˌniz-əm\ *n* : rabbinic teachings and traditions
¹rab·bit \'rab-ət\ *n, pl* **rabbit** *or* **rabbits** *often attrib* [ME *rabet*] **1 a** : a small long-eared mammal (*Oryctolagus cuniculus*) that is related to the ordinary hares but differs from them in producing naked young and in its burrowing habits **b** : HARE **2** : the pelt of a rabbit **3** : WELSH RABBIT **4 a** : a figure of a rabbit sped mechanically along the edge of a dog track as an object of pursuit **b** : a runner on a track team who sets a fast pace for a teammate in the first part of a long-distance race — **rab·bity** \-ē\ *adj*
²rabbit *vi* : to hunt rabbits — **rab·bit·er** *n*
rabbit brush *n* : any of several low branching shrubs (genus *Chrysothamnus* and esp. *C. nauseosus*) of the alkali plains of western No. America that are characterized by linear entire leaves and clusters of golden yellow flowers
rabbit ears *n pl* : an indoor dipole television antenna consisting of two usu. extensible rods connected to a base to form a V shape
rab·bit·eye \'rab-ət-ˌī\ *n* : a blueberry (*Vaccinium ashei*) of the southeastern U.S.
rabbit fever *n* : TULAREMIA
rabbit punch *n* : a short chopping blow delivered to the back of the neck or the base of the skull
rab·bit·ry \'rab-ə-trē\ *n, pl* **-ries** : a place where domestic rabbits are kept; *also* : a rabbit-raising enterprise
¹rabble \'rab-əl\ *n* [ME *rabel* pack of animals] **1** : a disorganized or confused collection of things **2 a** : a disorganized or disorderly crowd of people : MOB **b** : the lowest class of people
²rabble *vt* **rab·bled; rab·bling** \-(ə-)liŋ\ : to insult or assault by or as a mob
³rabble *n* [F *râble* fire shovel, fr. ML *rotabulum*, alter. of L *rutabulum*, fr. *rutus*, pp. of *ruere* to dig up — more at RUG] : an iron bar with the end bent for use like a rake in puddling iron; *also* : a similar device used in a melting, refining, or roasting furnace
⁴rabble *vt* **rab·bled; rab·bling** \-(ə-)liŋ\ : to stir or skim with a rabble — **rab·bler** \'rab-(ə-)lər\ *n*
rab·ble·ment \'rab-əl-mənt\ *n* **1** : RABBLE **2** : DISTURBANCE
rab·ble–rous·er \'rab-əl-ˌraù-zər\ *n* : one that stirs up (as to hatred or violence) the masses of the people : DEMAGOGUE
Ra·be·lai·sian \ˌrab-ə-'lā-zhən, -zē-ən\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or characteristic of Rabelais or his works **2** : marked by gross robust humor, extravagance of caricature, or bold naturalism
Ra·bi \'rəb-ē\ *n* [Ar *rabīʿ*] : either of two months of the Muhammadan year: **a** : the 3d month **b** : the 4th month — see MONTH table
ra·bic \'rā-bik\ *adj* : of or relating to rabies
ra·bid \'rab-əd *also* 'rā-bəd\ *adj* [L *rabidus* mad, fr. *rabere*] **1 a** : extremely violent : FURIOUS **b** : going to extreme lengths in expressing or pursuing a feeling, interest, or opinion **2** : affected with rabies — **ra·bid·i·ty** \rə-'bid-ət-ē, ra-, rā-\ *n* — **ra·bid·ly** \'rab-əd-lē *also* 'rā-bəd-\ *adv* — **ra·bid·ness** *n*
ra·bies \'rā-bēz\ *n, pl* **rabies** [NL, fr. L, madness, fr. *rabere* to rave — more at RAGE] : an acute virus disease of the nervous system of warm-blooded animals usu. transmitted through the bite of a rabid animal

rac·coon \ra-'kün *also* rə-\ *n, pl* **raccoon** *or* **raccoons** [*ärähkun* (in some Algonquian language of Virginia)] **1 a** : a small flesh-eating mammal (*Procyon lotor*) of No. America that is chiefly gray, has a bushy ringed tail, and lives chiefly in trees **b** : the pelt of this animal **2** : any of several animals resembling or related to the raccoon



raccoon 1a

[1]race \'rās\ *n* [ME *ras,* fr. ON *rās;* akin to OE *rǣs* rush, L *rorarii* skirmishers, Gk *erōē* rush] **1** *chiefly Scot* : the act of running **2 a** : a strong or rapid current of water through a narrow channel **b** : a heavy or choppy sea **c** : a watercourse used industrially **d** : the current flowing in such a course **3 a** : a set course or duration of time **b** : the course of life **4 a** : a contest of speed **b** *pl* : a meeting in which several races (as for horses) are run **c** : a contest or rivalry involving progress toward a goal ⟨pennant ~⟩ **5** : a track or channel in which something rolls or slides; *specif* : a groove (as for the balls) in a bearing **6** : SLIPSTREAM

[2]race *vb* **raced; rac·ing** *vi* **1** : to compete in a race **2** : to go or move at top speed or out of control **3** : to revolve too fast under a diminished load ~ *vt* **1** : to engage in a race with **2 a** : to enter in a race **b** : to drive at high speed **c** : to transport or propel at maximum speed **3** : to speed (as an engine) without a working load or with the transmission disengaged

[3]race *n* [MF, generation, fr. OIt *razza*] **1** : a breeding stock of animals **2 a** : a family, tribe, people, or nation belonging to the same stock **b** : a class or kind of people unified by community of interests, habits, or characteristics ⟨the English ~⟩ **3 a** : an actually or potentially interbreeding group within a species; *also* : a taxonomic category (as a subspecies) representing such a group **b** : BREED **c** : a division of mankind possessing traits that are transmissible by descent and sufficient to characterize it as a distinct human type **4** *obs* : inherited temperament or disposition **5** : distinctive flavor, taste, or strength

race·course \'rā-ˌskō(ə)rs, -ˌskȯ(ə)rs\ *n* **1** : a course for racing **2** : RACEWAY 1

race·horse \'rās-ˌhȯ(ə)rs\ *n* : a horse bred or kept for racing

ra·ce·mate \rā-'sē-ˌmāt, rə-; 'ras-ə-\ *n* **1** : a salt or ester of racemic acid **2** : a racemic compound or mixture

ra·ceme \rā-'sēm, rə-\ *n* [L *racemus* bunch of grapes] : a simple inflorescence (as in the lily-of-the-valley) in which the flowers are borne on short stalks of about equal length at equal distances along an elongated axis and open in succession toward the apex — see INFLORESCENCE illustration

ra·ce·mic \-'sē-mik\ *adj* : of, relating to, or constituting a compound or mixture that is composed of equal amounts of dextrorotatory and levorotatory forms of the same compound and is optically inactive

ra·ce·mi·za·tion \rā-ˌsē-mə-'zā-shən, rə-; ˌras-ə-mə-\ *n* : the action or process of changing from an optically active compound into a racemic compound or mixture — **ra·ce·mize** \rā-'sē-ˌmīz, rə-; 'ras-ə-\ *vb*

ra·ce·mose \'ras-ə-ˌmōs; rā-'sē-, rə-\ *adj* [L *racemosus* full of clusters, fr. *racemus*] : having or growing in the form of a raceme

racemose gland *n* : a compound gland of freely branching ducts that end in acini

rac·er \'rā-sər\ *n* **1** : one that races or is used for racing **2** : any of various active American snakes (genus *Coluber* and *Mastigophis*); *esp* : BLACK RACER

race riot *n* : a riot caused by racial dissensions or hatreds

race runner *n* : a No. American lizard (*Cnemidophorus sexlineatus*) that moves swiftly

race·track \'rā-ˌstrak\ *n* : a usu. oval course on which races are run

race·track·er \'rā-ˌstrak-ər\ *n* : one who frequents a racetrack

race·way \'rā-ˌswā\ *n* **1** : a canal for a current of water **2** : a channel for loosely holding electrical wires in buildings **3** : [1]RACE 5 **4** : a course for racing; *esp* : a track for harness racing

rach·et \'rach-ət\ *var of* RATCHET

rachi- *or* **rachio-** *comb form* [Gk *rhachi-,* fr. *rhachis;* akin to Gk *rhachos* thorn, Lith *ražas* stubble] : spine ⟨*rachi*odont⟩

ra·chi·odont \'rā-kē-ō-ˌdänt, 'rak-ē-\ *adj* : having gular teeth that are modified vertebral spines ⟨a ~ snake⟩

ra·chis \'rā-kəs, 'rak-əs\ *n, pl* **ra·chis·es** *also* **ra·chi·des** \'rak-ə-ˌdēz, 'rā-kə-\ [NL *rachid-, rachis,* modif. of Gk *rhachis*] **1** : SPINAL COLUMN **2** : an axial structure: as **a** (1) : the elongated axis of an inflorescence (2) : an extension of the petiole of a compound leaf that bears the leaflets **b** : the distal part of the shaft of a feather that bears the web

ra·chit·ic \rə-'kit-ik\ *adj* : RICKETY

ra·chi·tis \rə-'kīt-əs\ *n* [NL, fr. Gk *rhachitis* disease of the spine, fr. *rhachis*] : RICKETS

ra·cial \'rā-shəl\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or based on a race **2** : existing or occurring between races — **ra·cial·ly** \-shə-lē\ *adv*

ra·cial·ism \'rā-shə-ˌliz-əm\ *n* : RACISM — **ra·cial·ist** \-ləst\ *n* — **ra·cial·is·tic** \ˌrā-shə-'lis-tik\ *adj*

rac·ing \'rā-siŋ\ *n* : the sport or profession of engaging in or holding races

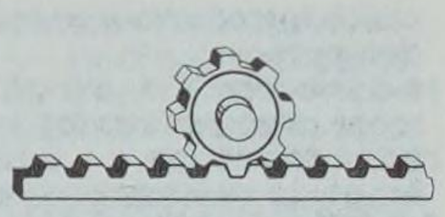
racing form *n* : an information sheet giving pertinent data about horse races

rac·ism \'rā-ˌsiz-əm *also* -ˌshiz-\ *n* **1** : a belief that race is the primary determinant of human traits and capacities and that racial differences produce an inherent superiority of a particular race **2** : racial prejudice or discrimination — **rac·ist** \-səst *also* -shəst\ *n*

[1]rack \'rak\ *n* [ME *rak,* prob. of Scand origin; akin to Sw dial. *rak* wreck; akin to OE *wrecan* to drive — more at WREAK] : a wind-driven mass of high often broken clouds

[2]rack *vi* : to fly or scud in high wind

[3]rack *n* [ME, prob. fr. MD *rec* framework; akin to OE *reccan* to stretch, Gk *oregein* — more at RIGHT] **1** : a framework for holding fodder for livestock **2** : an instrument of torture on which a body is stretched **3 a** (1) : a cause of anguish or pain (2) : acute suffering **b** : the action of straining or wrenching **4** : a framework, stand, or grating on or in which articles are placed **5** : a frame placed in a stream to stop fish and floating or suspended matter **6 a** : a bar with teeth on one face for gearing with a pinion or worm gear **b** : a notched bar used as a ratchet to engage with a pawl, click, or detent **7** : a pair of antlers **8** : a triangular frame used to set up the balls in a pool game; *also* : the balls as set up — **on the rack** : under great mental or emotional stress



rack 6a with pinion

[4]rack *vt* **1** : to torture on the rack **2** : to cause to suffer torture, pain, or anguish **3 a** : to stretch or strain violently ⟨~*ed* his brains⟩ **b** : to raise (rents) oppressively **c** : to harass or oppress with high rents or extortions **4** : to work or treat (material) on a rack **5** : to work by a rack and pinion or worm so as to extend or contract ⟨~ a camera⟩ **6** : to seize (as parallel ropes of a tackle) together **7** : to place (as pool balls) in a rack ~ *vi* : to become forced out of shape or out of plumb ***syn*** see AFFLICT — **rack·er** *n*

[5]rack *vt* [ME *rakken,* fr. OProv *arraca*] : to draw off (as wine) from the lees

[6]rack *vi* [prob. alter. of [1]*rock*] *of a horse* : to go at a rack

[7]rack *n* : either of two gaits of a horse: **a** : PACE 4b **b** : a fast showy usu. artificial 4-beat gait

[8]rack *n* [perh. fr. [3]*rack*] **1** : the neck and spine of a forequarter of veal, pork, or esp. mutton **2** : the rib section of a foresaddle of lamb used for chops or as a roast — see LAMB illustration

[9]rack *n* [alter. of *wrack*] : DESTRUCTION ⟨~ and ruin⟩

[1]rack·et *also* **rac·quet** \'rak-ət\ *n* [MF *raquette,* fr. Ar *rāḥah* palm of the hand] **1 a** : a lightweight implement that consists of a netting (as of nylon) stretched in an oval open frame with a handle attached and that is used for striking the ball in any of various games (as tennis, racquets, or badminton) **b** : a paddle used in table tennis **2** *usu* **racquets** *pl but sing in constr* : a game for two or four players with ball and racket on a four-walled court

[2]racket *n* [prob. imit.] **1** : confused clattering noise : CLAMOR **2 a** : social whirl or excitement **b** : the strain of exciting or trying experiences **3 a** : a fraudulent scheme, enterprise, or activity **b** : a usu. illegitimate enterprise made workable by bribery or intimidation **c** : an easy and lucrative means of livelihood **d** *slang* : OCCUPATION, BUSINESS

[3]racket *vi* **1** : to engage in active social life **2** : to move with or make a racket

[1]rack·e·teer \ˌrak-ə-'ti(ə)r\ *n* : one who extorts money or advantages by threats of violence, by blackmail, or by unlawful interference with business or employment

[2]racketeer *vi* : to carry on a racket ~ *vt* : to practice extortion on

rack·ety \'rak-ət-ē\ *adj* **1** : NOISY **2** : FLASHY, ROWDY **3** : RICKETY

rack·le \'rak-əl\ *adj* [ME *rakel*] *chiefly Scot* : IMPETUOUS, HEADSTRONG

rack railway *n* : a railway having between its rails a rack that meshes with a gear wheel or pinion of the locomotive for traction on steep grades

rack–rent *vt* : to subject to rack rent

rack rent *n* [[4]*rack*] **1** : an excessive or unreasonably high rent **2** *Brit* : the highest rent that can be earned on a property

rack–rent·er \'rak-'rent-ər\ *n* : one that pays or exacts rack rent

rack up *vt* : SCORE ⟨*racked up* 30 points in the first half⟩

ra·clette \ra-'klet, rä-\ *n* [F, fr. *racler* to scrape] : a Swiss dish consisting of cheese melted over a fire and then scraped onto bread or boiled potatoes; *also* : the cheese used in this dish

ra·con \'rā-ˌkän\ *n* [*ra*dar bea*con*] : RADAR BEACON

ra·con·teur \ˌrak-ˌän-'tər, -ən-\ *n* [F, fr. MF, fr. *raconter* to tell, fr. OF, fr. *re-* + *aconter, acompter* to tell, count — more at ACCOUNT] : one who excels in telling anecdotes

ra·coon *var of* RACCOON

[1]racy \'rā-sē\ *adj* **rac·i·er; -est** [[3]*race*] **1** : having the distinctive quality of something in its original or most characteristic form **2 a** : full of zest or vigor **b** : having a strongly marked quality : PIQUANT ⟨a ~ flavor⟩ **c** : RISQUÉ, SUGGESTIVE ***syn*** see PUNGENT — **rac·i·ly** \'rā-sə-lē\ *adv* — **rac·i·ness** \-sē-nəs\ *n*

[2]racy *adj* **rac·i·er; -est** : having a body fitted for racing : long-bodied and lean

[1]rad \'rad\ *n* [*radiation*] : a unit of absorbed dose of ionizing radiation equal to an energy of 100 ergs per gram of irradiated material

[2]rad *abbr* **1** radical **2** radio **3** radius **4** radix

Rad *abbr* Radnorshire

ra·dar \'rā-ˌdär\ *n, often attrib* [*ra*dio *d*etecting *a*nd *r*anging] : a radio device or system for locating an object by means of ultrahigh-frequency radio waves reflected from the object and received, observed, and analyzed by the receiving part of the device in such a way that characteristics (as distance and direction) of the object may be determined

radar astronomy *n* : astronomy dealing with investigations of celestial bodies in the solar system by comparing the characteristics of a reflected radar wave with the characteristics of one transmitted from the earth

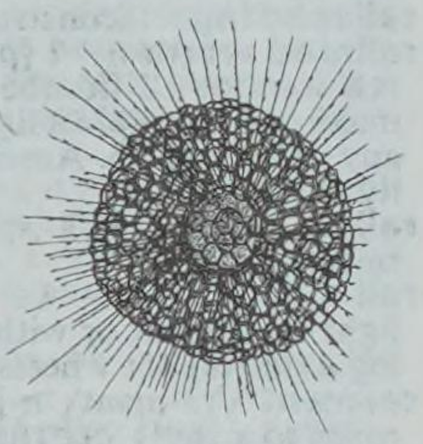
radar beacon *n* : a radar transmitter that upon receiving a radar signal emits a signal which reinforces the normal reflected signal or

which introduces a code into the reflected signal esp. for identification purposes
ra·dar·scope \'rā-ˌdär-ˌskōp\ *n* [*radar* + oscillo*scope*] : the oscilloscope or screen serving as the visual indicator in a radar receiver
radar telescope *n* : a radar transmitter-receiver with an antenna for use in radar astronomy
¹rad·dle \'rad-ᵊl\ *n* [prob. alter. of *ruddle*] : RED OCHER
²raddle *vt* **rad·dled; rad·dling** \'rad-liŋ, -ᵊl-iŋ\ : to mark or paint with raddle
³raddle *vt* **rad·dled; rad·dling** \'rad-liŋ, -ᵊl-iŋ\ [E dial. *raddle* (supple stick interwoven with others as in making a fence)] : to twist together : INTERWEAVE
rad·dled \'rad-ᵊld\ *adj* [origin unknown] **1** : being in a state of confusion : lacking composure **2** : broken down : WORN
radi- *or* **radio-** *comb form* [F, fr. L *radius* ray] **1 a** : radial : radially ⟨*radio*symmetrical⟩ **b** : radial and ⟨*radio*bicipital⟩ **2 a** : radiant energy : radiation ⟨*radio*active⟩ ⟨radio*paque*⟩ **b** : radioactive ⟨*radio*element⟩ **c** : radium : X rays ⟨*radio*therapy⟩ **d** : radioactive isotopes esp. as produced artifically ⟨*radio*carbon⟩ **e** : radio ⟨*radio*telegraphy⟩
¹ra·di·al \'rād-ē-əl\ *adj* [ML *radialis*, fr. L *radius* ray] **1** : arranged or having parts arranged like rays ⟨the ~ form of a starfish⟩ **2 a** : relating to, placed like, or moving along a radius **b** : characterized by divergence from a center **3** : of, relating to, or adjacent to a bodily radius ⟨the thumb is on the ~ aspect of the hand⟩ **4** : developing uniformly around a central axis ⟨~ cleavage of an egg⟩ — **ra·di·al·ly** \-ē-ə-lē\ *adv*
²radial *n* **1 a** : a radial part **b** : RAY **2** : a body part (as an artery) lying near or following the course of the radius **3** : a pneumatic tire in which the ply cords that extend to the beads are laid at approximately 90 degrees to the center line of the tread — called also *radial-ply tire, radial tire*
ra·di·a·le \ˌrād-ē-'al-(ˌ)ē, -'āl-, -'äl-\ *n, pl* **-lia** \-ē-ə\ [NL, fr. ML, neut. of *radialis*] : a bone or cartilage of the carpus that articulates with the radius; *specif* : the navicular in man
radial engine *n* : a usu. internal-combustion engine with cylinders arranged radially like the spokes of a wheel
radial symmetry *n* : the condition of having similar parts regularly arranged around a central axis — **radially symmetrical** *adj*
ra·di·an \'rād-ē-ən\ *n* : a unit of plane angular measurement that is equal to the angle at the center of a circle subtended by an arc equal in length to the radius
ra·di·ance \'rād-ē-ən(t)s\ *n* **1** : the quality or state of being radiant **2** : a deep pink **3** : the flux density of radiant energy per unit solid angle and per unit projected area of radiating surface
ra·di·an·cy \-ən-sē\ *n* : RADIANCE
¹ra·di·ant \'rād-ē-ənt\ *adj* **1 a** : radiating rays or reflecting beams of light **b** : vividly bright and shining : GLOWING **2** : marked by or expressive of love, confidence, or happiness **3 a** : emitted or transmitted by radiation **b** : emitting or relating to radiant heat **4** : of, relating to, or exhibiting biological radiation ***syn*** see BRIGHT — **ra·di·ant·ly** *adv*
²radiant *n* : something that radiates: as **a** : a point in the heavens at which the visible parallel paths of meteors appear to meet when traced backward **b** : a point or object from which light emanates **c** : the part of a gas or electric heater that becomes incandescent
radiant energy *n* : energy traveling as a wave motion; *specif* : the energy of electromagnetic waves
radiant flux *n* : the rate of emission or transmission of radiant energy
radiant heat *n* : heat transmitted by radiation as contrasted with that transmitted by conduction or convection ⟨*radiant heat* from the sun⟩
radiant heating *n* : PANEL HEATING
¹ra·di·ate \'rād-ē-ˌāt\ *vb* **-at·ed; -at·ing** [L *radiatus*, pp. of *radiare*, fr. *radius* ray] *vi* **1** : to send out rays : shine brightly **2 a** : to issue in rays **b** : to evolve by radiation **3** : to proceed in a direct line from or toward a center ~ *vt* **1** : to send out in rays **2** : IRRADIATE, ILLUMINATE **3** : to spread abroad or around as if from a center
²ra·di·ate \'rād-ē-ət, -ē-ˌāt\ *adj* : having rays or radial parts: as **a** : having ray flowers **b** : characterized by radial symmetry : radially symmetrical — **ra·di·ate·ly** *adv*
ra·di·a·tion \ˌrād-ē-'ā-shən\ *n* **1 a** : the action or process of radiating **b** (1) : the process of emitting radiant energy in the form of waves or particles (2) : the combined processes of emission, transmission, and absorption of radiant energy **2 a** : something that is radiated **b** : energy radiated in the form of waves or particles **3** : radial arrangement **4** : biological evolution in a group of organisms that is characterized by spreading into different environments and by divergence of structure **5** : RADIATOR — **ra·di·a·tion·al** \-shnəl, -shən-ᵊl\ *adj* — **ra·di·a·tion·less** \-shən-ləs\ *adj* — **ra·di·a·tive** \'rād-ē-ˌāt-iv\ *adj*
radiation sickness *n* : sickness that results from exposure to radiation and is commonly marked by fatigue, nausea, vomiting, loss of teeth and hair, and in more severe cases by damage to blood-forming tissue with decrease in red and white blood cells and with bleeding
ra·di·a·tor \'rād-ē-ˌāt-ər\ *n* : one that radiates: as **a** : any of various devices (as a nest of pipes or tubes) for heating external objects or cooling internal substances **b** : a transmitting antenna
¹rad·i·cal \'rad-i-kəl\ *adj* [ME, fr. LL *radicalis*, fr. L *radic-, radix* root — more at ROOT] **1** : of, relating to, or proceeding from a root: as **a** (1) : of or growing from the root of a plant ⟨~ tubers⟩ (2) : growing from the base of a stem, from a rootlike stem, or from a stem that does not rise above the ground ⟨~ leaves⟩ **b** : of, relating to, or constituting a linguistic root **c** : of or relating to a mathematical root **d** : designed to remove the root of a disease or all diseased tissue ⟨~ surgery⟩ **2** : of or relating to the origin : FUNDAMENTAL **3 a** : marked by a considerable departure from the usual or traditional : EXTREME **b** : tending or disposed to make extreme changes in existing views, habits, conditions, or institutions **c** : of, relating to, or constituting a political group associated with views, practices, and policies of extreme change **d** : advocating extreme measures to retain or restore a political state of affairs ⟨the ~ right⟩ — **rad·i·cal·ness** *n*
²radical *n* **1 a** : a root part **b** : a basic principle : FOUNDATION **2 a** : ROOT 6 **b** : a sound or letter belonging to a radical **3** : one who is radical **4 a** : a single replaceable atom of the reactive atomic form of an element **b** : a group of atoms that is replaceable by a single atom, that is capable of remaining unchanged during a series of reactions, or that may show a definite transitory existence in the course of a reaction **5 a** : RADICAL EXPRESSION **b** : RADICAL SIGN
radical expression *n* : a mathematical expression involving radical signs
rad·i·cal·ism \'rad-i-kə-ˌliz-əm\ *n* **1** : the quality or state of being radical **2** : the doctrines or principles of radicals
rad·i·cal·ize \-kə-ˌlīz\ *vt* **-ized; -iz·ing** : to make radical esp. in politics — **rad·i·cal·iza·tion** \ˌrad-i-kə-lə-'zā-shən\ *n*
rad·i·cal·ly \'rad-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* **1** : in origin or essence **2** : in a radical or extreme manner
radical sign *n* : the sign placed before an expression to denote that the square root is to be extracted or that some other root is to be extracted when a corresponding index is placed over the sign
rad·i·cand \'rad-ə-ˌkand\ *n* [L *radicandum*, neut. of *radicandus*, gerundive of *radicari*] : the quantity under a radical sign
rad·i·cate \'rad-ə-ˌkāt\ *vt* **-cat·ed; -cat·ing** [ME *radicaten*, fr. L *radicatus*, pp. of *radicari* to take root, fr. *radic-, radix* root] : to cause to take root
radices *pl of* RADIX
rad·i·cle \'rad-i-kəl\ *n* [L *radicula*, dim. of *radic-, radix*] **1** : the lower part of the axis of a plant embryo or seedling: **a** : the embryonic root of a seedling **b** : HYPOCOTYL **c** : the hypocotyl and the root together **2** : the rootlike beginning of an anatomical vessel or part **3** : RADICAL — **ra·dic·u·lar** \ra-'dik-yə-lər\ *adj*
radii *pl of* RADIUS
¹ra·dio \'rād-ē-ˌō\ *n, pl* **ra·di·os** [short for *radiotelegraphy*] **1 a** : the wireless transmission and reception of electric impulses or signals by means of electromagnetic waves **b** : the use of these waves for the wireless transmission of electric impulses into which sound is converted **2** : a radio message **3** : a radio receiving set **4 a** : a radio transmitting station **b** : a radio broadcasting organization **c** : the radio broadcasting industry **d** : communication by radio
²radio *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or operated by radiant energy **2** : of or relating to electric currents or phenomena of frequencies between about 15,000 and 10^{11} per second **3 a** : of, relating to, or used in radio or a radio set **b** : specializing in radio or associated with the radio industry **c** (1) : transmitted by radio (2) : making or participating in radio broadcasts **d** : controlled or directed by radio
³radio *vt* **1** : to send or communicate by radio **2** : to send a radio message to ~ *vi* : to send or communicate something by radio
ra·dio·ac·tive \ˌrād-ē-ō-'ak-tiv\ *adj* [ISV] : of, caused by, or exhibiting radioactivity — **ra·dio·ac·tive·ly** *adv*
ra·dio·ac·tiv·i·ty \-ak-'tiv-ət-ē\ *n* [ISV] : the property possessed by some elements (as uranium) of spontaneously emitting alpha or beta rays and sometimes also gamma rays by the disintegration of the nuclei of atoms
radio astronomy *n* : astronomy dealing with electromagnetic radiations of radio frequency received from outside the earth's atmosphere
ra·dio·au·to·graph \ˌrād-ē-ō-'ȯt-ə-ˌgraf\ *n* : AUTORADIOGRAPH — **ra·dio·au·to·graph·ic** \-ˌȯt-ə-'graf-ik\ *adj* — **ra·dio·au·tog·ra·phy** \-ō-ȯ-'täg-rə-fē\ *n*
radio beacon *n* : a radio transmitting station that transmits special radio signals for use (as on a landing field) in determining the direction or position of those receiving them
ra·dio·bi·ol·o·gy \ˌrād-ē-ō-bī-'äl-ə-jē\ *n* : a branch of biology dealing with the interaction of biological systems and radiant energy or radioactive materials — **ra·dio·bi·o·log·i·cal** \-ˌbī-ə-'läj-i-kəl\ *or* **ra·dio·bi·o·log·ic** \-ik\ *adj* — **ra·dio·bi·o·log·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **ra·dio·bi·ol·o·gist** \-bī-'äl-ə-jəst\ *n*
ra·dio·broad·cast \-'brȯd-ˌkast\ *vt* : to broadcast (as music) by radio — **ra·dio·broad·cast·er** *n*
ra·dio·broad·cast·ing *n* : the act or process of radiobroadcasting something : an instance of such broadcasting
radio car *n* : an automobile equipped with radio communication
ra·dio·car·bon \ˌrād-ē-ō-'kär-bən\ *n* [ISV] : radioactive carbon; *esp* : CARBON 14
ra·dio·cast \'rād-ē-ō-ˌkast\ *vt* [*radio-* + broad*cast*] : RADIOBROADCAST — **ra·dio·cast·er** *n*
ra·dio·chem·is·try \ˌrād-ē-ō-'kem-ə-strē\ *n* : a branch of chemistry dealing with radioactive substances and phenomena including tracer studies — **ra·dio·chem·i·cal** \-'kem-i-kəl\ *adj* — **ra·dio·chem·i·cal·ly** \-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **ra·dio·chem·ist** \-'kem-əst\ *n*
radio compass *n* : a direction finder used in navigation
ra·dio·ecol·o·gy \ˌrād-ē-ō-i-'käl-ə-jē\ *n* : the study of the interaction of ecological communities and radiations or radioactive substances — **ra·dio·eco·log·i·cal** \-ˌē-kə-'läj-i-kəl, -ˌek-ə-\ *adj* — **ra·dio·ecol·o·gist** \-i-'käl-ə-jəst\ *n*
ra·dio·el·e·ment \-'el-ə-mənt\ *n* [ISV] : a radioactive element
radio frequency *n* : an electromagnetic wave frequency intermediate between audio frequencies and infrared frequencies used esp. in radio and television transmission
radio galaxy *n* : a galaxy containing a source from which radio energy is detected
ra·dio·gen·ic \ˌrād-ē-ō-'jen-ik\ *adj* : produced by radioactivity
ra·dio·gram \'rād-ē-ō-ˌgram\ *n* **1** : RADIOGRAPH **2** : a message transmitted by radiotelegraphy **3** *Brit* : a combined radio receiver and record player
¹ra·dio·graph \-ˌgraf\ *n* : a picture produced on a sensitive surface by a form of radiation other than light; *specif* : an X ray or gamma ray photograph — **ra·dio·graph·ic** \ˌrād-ē-ō-'graf-ik\ *adj* — **ra·dio·graph·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
²radiograph *vt* : to make a radiograph of

RADIO FREQUENCIES

CLASS	ABBREVIATION	RANGE
extremely low frequency	ELF	30 to 300 hertz
voice frequency	VF	300 to 3000 hertz
very low frequency	VLF	3 to 30 kilohertz
low frequency	LF	30 to 300 kilohertz
medium frequency	MF	300 to 3000 kilohertz
high frequency	HF	3 to 30 megahertz
very high frequency	VHF	30 to 300 megahertz
ultrahigh frequency	UHF	300 to 3000 megahertz
superhigh frequency	SHF	3 to 30 gigahertz
extremely high frequency	EHF	30 to 300 gigahertz

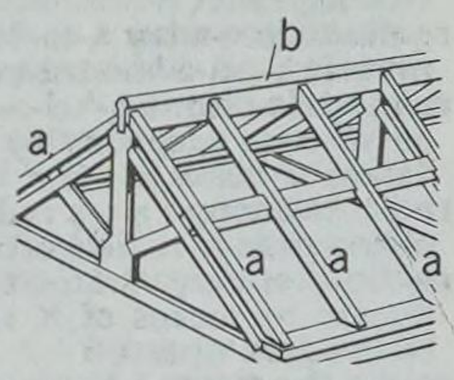
[3]radiograph *vt* [*radio-* + tele*graph*] : to send a radiogram to
ra·di·og·ra·phy \ˌrād-ē-ˈäg-rə-fē\ *n* [ISV] : the art, act, or process of making radiographs
ra·dio·im·mu·no·as·say \ˈrād-ē-ˌō-im-yə-nō-ˈas-ˌā, -im-ˌyü-, -a-ˈsā\ *n* : immunoassay of a substance (as insulin) that has been radioactively labeled
ra·dio·iso·tope \ˌrād-ē-ō-ˈī-sə-ˌtōp\ *n* [ISV] : a radioactive isotope — **ra·dio·iso·to·pic** \-ˌī-sə-ˈtäp-ik, -ˈtōp-ik\ *adj* — **ra·dio·iso·to·pi·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
ra·dio·la·bel \-ˈlā-bəl\ *vt* : LABEL 2
ra·di·o·lar·i·an \ˌrād-ē-ō-ˈlar-ē-ən, -ˈler-\ *n* [deriv. of LL *radiolus* small sunbeam, fr. dim. of L *radius* ray — more at RAY] : any of a large order (Radiolaria) of marine protozoans having a siliceous skeleton of spicules and radiating threadlike pseudopodia


radiolarian

ra·dio·lo·ca·tion \-lō-ˈkā-shən\ *n* : the detection or the determination of the position and course of distant objects by radar
ra·dio·log·i·cal \ˌrād-ē-ə-ˈläj-i-kəl\ *or* **ra·dio·log·ic** \-ik\ *adj* **1** : of or relating to radiology **2** : of or relating to nuclear radiation — **ra·dio·log·i·cal·ly** \-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
ra·di·ol·o·gist \ˌrād-ē-ˈäl-ə-jəst\ *n* : a specialist in the use of radiant energy
ra·di·ol·o·gy \-jē\ *n* : the science of radioactive substances and high-energy radiations; *also* : the use of radiant energy (as X rays and radium) in the diagnosis and treatment of disease
ra·dio·lu·cen·cy \ˌrād-ē-ō-ˈlüs-ᵊn-sē\ *n* : the quality or state of being permeable to radiation — **ra·dio·lu·cent** \-ᵊnt\ *adj*
ra·di·ol·y·sis \ˌrād-ē-ˈäl-ə-səs\ *n* [NL] : chemical decomposition by the action of radiation — **ra·dio·lyt·ic** \-ē-ə-ˈlit-ik\ *adj*
ra·dio·man \ˈrād-ē-ō-ˌman\ *n* : a radio operator or technician
ra·dio·me·te·or·o·graph \ˈrād-ē-ō-ˌmēt-ē-ˈȯr-ə-ˌgraf, -är-\ *n* : RADIOSONDE
ra·di·om·e·ter \ˌrād-ē-ˈäm-ət-ər\ *n* : an instrument for measuring the intensity of radiant energy by the torsional twist of suspended vanes that are blackened on one side and exposed to a source of radiant energy; *also* : an instrument for measuring electromagnetic or acoustic radiation — **ra·di·om·e·try** \-ə-trē\ *n*
ra·dio·met·ric \ˌrād-ē-ō-ˈme-trik\ *adj* [ISV] **1** : relating to, using, or measured by a radiometer **2** : of or relating to the measurement of geologic time by means of the rate of disintegration of radioactive elements — **ra·dio·met·ri·cal·ly** \-tri-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
ra·dio·mi·met·ic \-mə-ˈmet-ik, -mī-\ *adj* [ISV] : producing effects similar to those of radiation
ra·di·on·ics \ˌrād-ē-ˈän-iks\ *n pl but sing in constr* [*radio-* + electr*onics*] : ELECTRONICS
ra·dio·nu·clide \ˌrād-ē-ō-ˈn(y)ü-ˌklīd\ *n* : a radioactive nuclide
ra·di·opaque \ˌrād-ē-ō-ˈpāk\ *adj* : being opaque to various forms of radiation (as X rays)
ra·dio·phar·ma·ceu·ti·cal \ˈrād-ē-ō-ˌfär-mə-ˈsüt-i-kəl\ *n* : a radioactive drug used for diagnostic or therapeutic purposes
ra·dio·phone \ˈrād-ē-ə-ˌfōn\ *n* **1** : an apparatus for the production of sound by radiant energy **2** : RADIOTELEPHONE
ra·dio·pho·to \ˌrād-ē-ō-ˈfōt-(ˌ)ō\ *n* **1** *also* **ra·dio·pho·to·graph** \-ˈfōt-ə-ˌgraf\ : a picture transmitted by radio **2** : the process of transmitting a picture by radio
ra·dio·pro·tec·tive \-prə-ˈtek-tiv\ *adj* : serving to protect or aiding in protecting against the injurious effect of radiations ⟨~ drugs⟩ — **ra·dio·pro·tec·tion** \-ˈtek-shən\ *n*
radio range *n* : a radio facility aiding in the navigation of airplanes
ra·dio·scop·ic \ˌrād-ē-ō-ˈskäp-ik\ *adj* : of or relating to radioscopy
ra·di·os·co·py \-ˈäs-kə-pē\ *n* [ISV] : direct observation of objects opaque to light by means of some other form of radiant energy
ra·dio·sen·si·tive \ˌrād-ē-ō-ˈsen(t)-sət-iv, -ˈsen(t)-stiv\ *adj* : sensitive to the effects of radiant energy ⟨~ cancer cells⟩ — **ra·dio·sen·si·tiv·i·ty** \-ˌsen(t)-sə-ˈtiv-ət-ē\ *n*
ra·dio·sonde \ˈrād-ē-ō-ˌsänd\ *n* [ISV] : a miniature radio transmitter that is carried (as by an unmanned balloon) aloft with instruments for broadcasting (as by means of precise tone signals) the humidity, temperature, and pressure
radio spectrum *n* : the region of the electromagnetic spectrum usu. including frequencies below 30,000 megacycles in which radio or radar transmission and detection techniques may be used
radio star *n* : a cosmic radio source of very small dimensions and relatively strong radiation
ra·dio·stron·tium \ˌrād-ē-ō-ˈsträn-ch(ē-)əm, -ˈstränt-ē-əm\ *n* [NL] : radioactive strontium; *esp* : STRONTIUM 90
ra·dio·sym·met·ri·cal \-sə-ˈme-tri-kəl\ *adj* : having the property of radial symmetry; *specif* : ACTINOMORPHIC
ra·dio·tele·graph \-ˈtel-ə-ˌgraf\ *n* [ISV] : WIRELESS TELEGRAPHY — **ra·dio·tele·graph·ic** \-ˌtel-ə-ˈgraf-ik\ *adj* — **ra·dio·te·leg·ra·phy** \-tə-ˈleg-rə-fē\ *n*
ra·dio·te·lem·e·try \-tə-ˈlem-ə-trē\ *n* : TELEMETRY — **ra·dio·tele·met·ric** \-ˌtel-ə-ˈme-trik\ *adj*
ra·dio·tele·phone \-ˈtel-ə-ˌfōn\ *n* [ISV] : an apparatus for carrying on wireless telephony by radio waves — **ra·dio·te·le·pho·ny** \-tə-ˈlef-ə-nē, -ˈtel-ə-ˌfō-nē\ *n*
radio telescope *n* : a radio receiver-antenna combination used for observation in radio astronomy
ra·dio·ther·a·py \ˌrād-ē-ō-ˈther-ə-pē\ *n* [ISV] : the treatment of disease by means of X rays or radioactive substances — **ra·dio·ther·a·pist** \-pəst\ *n*
ra·dio·tho·ri·um \-ˈthōr-ē-əm, -ˈthȯr-\ *n* [NL] : a radioactive isotope of thorium with the mass number 228
ra·dio·trac·er \ˈrād-ē-ō-ˌtrā-sər\ *n* : a radioactive tracer
ra·dio–ul·na \ˌrād-ē-ō-ˈəl-nə\ *n* [NL] : a bone in the forelimb of an amphibian (as a frog) that represents the fused radius and ulna of higher forms
radio wave *n* : an electromagnetic wave with radio frequency
rad·ish \ˈrad-ish, ˈred-\ *n* [ME, alter. of OE *rædic*, fr. L *radic-, radix* root, radish — more at ROOT] : the pungent fleshy root of a plant (*Raphanus sativus*) of the mustard family usu. eaten raw; *also* : the plant that produces radishes
ra·di·um \ˈrād-ē-əm\ *n, often attrib* [NL, fr. L *radius* ray] : an intensely radioactive shining white metallic element that resembles barium chemically, occurs in combination in minute quantities in minerals (as pitchblende or carnotite), emits alpha particles and gamma rays to form radon, and is used chiefly in luminous materials and in the treatment of cancer — see ELEMENT table
radium therapy *n* : RADIOTHERAPY
ra·di·us \ˈrād-ē-əs\ *n, pl* **ra·dii** \-ē-ˌī\ *also* **ra·di·us·es** [L, ray, radius] **1 a** : the bone on the thumb side of the human forearm; *also* : a corresponding part of vertebrates above fishes **b** : the third and usu. largest vein of an insect's wing **2** : a line segment extending from the center of a circle or sphere to the curve or surface **3 a** : the length of a radius ⟨a truck with a short turning ~⟩ **b** : the circular area defined by a stated radius **c** : a bounded or circumscribed area **4** : a radial part **5** : the distance from a center line or point to an axis of rotation **6** : an imaginary radial plane dividing the body of a radially symmetrical animal into similar parts
radius of curvature : the reciprocal of the curvature of a curve
radius vector *n* **1 a** : a line segment or its length from a fixed point to a variable point **b** : the linear polar coordinate of a variable point **2** : a straight line joining the center of an attracting body (as the sun) with that of a body (as a planet) in orbit around it
ra·dix \ˈrād-iks\ *n, pl* **ra·di·ces** \ˈrād-ə-ˌsēz, ˈrad-\ *or* **ra·dix·es** \ˈrād-ik-səz\ [L, root] **1** : BASE 5d **2** : the primary source **3** : the root of a plant **4** : RADICLE; *esp* : a root of a cranial or spinal nerve
RADM *abbr* rear admiral
ra·dome \ˈrā-ˌdōm\ *n* [*ra*dar *dome*] : a plastic housing sheltering the antenna assembly of a radar set esp. on an airplane
ra·don \ˈrā-ˌdän\ *n* [ISV, fr. *radium*] : a heavy radioactive stable gaseous element formed by disintegration of radium — see ELEMENT table
rad·u·la \ˈraj-ə-lə\ *n, pl* **-lae** \-ˌlē, -ˌlī\ *also* **-las** [NL, fr. L, scraper, fr. *radere* to scrape — more at RAT] : a horny band or ribbon in mollusks other than bivalves that bears minute teeth on its dorsal surface and tears up food and draws it into the mouth — **rad·u·lar** \-lər\ *adj*
RAF *abbr* Royal Air Force
raff \ˈraf\ *n* [ME *raf* rubbish] : RIFFRAFF
raf·fia \ˈraf-ē-ə\ *n* [Malagasy *rafia*] : the fiber of the raffia palm used for tying plants and making baskets and hats
raffia palm *n* : a pinnate-leaved palm (*Raphia ruffia*) of Madagascar that is valued for the fiber from its leafstalks
raf·fi·nose \ˈraf-ə-ˌnōs, -ˌnōz\ *n* [F, fr. *raffiner* to refine, fr. *re-* + *affiner* to make fine, fr. *a-* ad- (fr. L *ad-*) + *fin* fine] : a crystalline slightly sweet sugar $C_{18}H_{32}O_{16}$ obtained commercially from cottonseed meal and present in many plant products
raff·ish \ˈraf-ish\ *adj* **1** : marked by or suggestive of flashy vulgarity or crudeness **2** : marked by a careless unconventionality : RAKISH — **raff·ish·ly** *adv* — **raff·ish·ness** *n*
[1]raf·fle \ˈraf-əl\ *n* [ME *rafle*, a dice game, fr. MF] : a lottery in which the prize is won by one of numerous persons buying chances
[2]raffle *vb* **raf·fled; raf·fling** \ˈraf-(ə-)liŋ\ *vi* : to engage in a raffle ~ *vt* : to dispose of by means of a raffle ⟨~ off a turkey⟩
[3]raffle *n* [prob. fr. F *rafle* act of snatching, sweeping, fr. MF *rafle, raffe*, fr. MHG *raffen* to snatch; akin to OE *hreppan* to touch, *hearpe* harp — more at HARP] : RUBBISH; *specif* : a jumble or tangle of nautical equipment
raf·fle·sia \rə-ˈflē-zh(ē-)ə, ra-\ *n* [NL, fr. Sir Stamford *Raffles* †1826 E colonial administrator] : any of a genus (*Rafflesia* of the family Rafflesiaceae) of Malaysian dicotyledonous plants that are parasitic in other plants and have fleshy usu. foul-smelling apetalous flowers emerging from the host, imbricated scales in place of leaves, and no stems
[1]raft \ˈraft\ *n* [ME *rafte* rafter, raft, fr. ON *raptr* rafter] **1 a** : a collection of logs or timber fastened together for conveyance by water **b** : a flat structure for support or transportation on water **2** : a floating cohesive mass **3** : an aggregation of animals (as waterfowl) resting on the water
[2]raft *vt* **1** : to transport in the form of or by means of a raft **2** : to make into a raft ~ *vi* : to travel by raft

3raft *n* [alter. (influenced by 1*raft*) of *raff* (jumble)] : a large collection

1raf·ter \'raf-tər\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *ræfter;* akin to ON *raptr* rafter] : any of the parallel beams that support a roof



a rafters, *b* ridgepole

2raft·er \'raf-tər\ *n* [2*raft*] : one who maneuvers logs into position and binds them into rafts

rafts·man \'raf(t)-smən\ *n* : a man engaged in rafting

1rag \'rag\ *n* [ME *ragge,* fr. (assumed) OE *ragg,* fr. ON *rögg* tuft, shagginess — more at RUG] **1 a** : a waste piece of cloth **b** *pl* : clothes usu. in poor or ragged condition **2** : something resembling a rag **3** : NEWSPAPER **4** : the stringy axis and white fibrous membrane of a citrus fruit

2rag *n* [origin unknown] **1** : any of various hard rocks **2** : a large roofing slate that is rough on one side

3rag *vt* **ragged** \'ragd\; **rag·ging** [origin unknown] **1** : to rail at : SCOLD **2** : TORMENT, TEASE

4rag *n, chiefly Brit* : an outburst of boisterous fun; *also* : PRANK

5rag *n* [short for *ragtime*] : a composition in ragtime

ra·ga \'räg-ə\ *n* [Skt *rāga,* lit., color, tone] **1** : one of the ancient traditional melodic patterns or modes in Indian music **2** : an improvisation based on a traditional raga — compare TALA

rag·a·muf·fin \'rag-ə-ˌməf-ən\ *n* [*Ragamoffyn,* a demon in *Piers Plowman* (1393), attributed to William Langland] : a ragged often disreputable person; *esp* : a poorly clothed often dirty child

rag·bag \'rag-ˌbag\ *n* **1** : a bag for scraps **2** : a miscellaneous collection

rag doll *n* **1** : a stuffed usu. painted cloth doll **2** : a rolled strip of moist cloth for testing the germination of seed

1rage \'rāj\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. LL *rabia,* fr. L *rabies* rage, madness, fr. *rabere* to be mad; akin to Skt *rabhas* violence] **1 a** : violent and uncontrolled anger **b** : a fit of violent wrath **c** *archaic* : INSANITY **2** : violent action (as of wind or sea) **3** : an intense feeling : PASSION **4** : a fad pursued with intense enthusiasm ⟨was all the ~⟩ ***syn*** see ANGER, FASHION

2rage *vi* **raged; rag·ing** **1** : to be in a rage **2** : to be in tumult **3** : to prevail uncontrollably

rag·ged \'rag-əd\ *adj* **1** : roughly unkempt **2** : having an irregular edge or outline **3 a** : torn or worn to tatters **b** : worn out from stress and strain ⟨ran herself ~⟩ **4** : wearing tattered clothes **5 a** : STRAGGLY **b** : executed in an irregular or uneven manner **c** *of a sound* : HARSH, DISSONANT — **rag·ged·ly** *adv* — **rag·ged·ness** *n*

ragged robin *n* : a perennial herb (*Lychnis floscuculi*) cultivated for its pink flowers with narrow-lobed petals

rag·gedy \'rag-əd-ē\ *adj* : RAGGED

rag·gle \'rag-əl\ *n* [*raggle* (to cut a raggle in)] : a groove cut in masonry

rag·gle–tag·gle \'rag-əl-ˌtag-əl\ *adj* [irreg. fr. *ragtag*] : MOTLEY

ra·gi \'rag-ē, 'räg-\ *n* [Hindi *rāgi*] : an East Indian cereal grass (*Eleusine coracana*) yielding a staple food crop in the Orient; *also* : the seeds of ragi used for food

rag·ing \'rā-jiŋ\ *adj* **1** : causing great pain or distress **2** : VIOLENT, WILD **3** : EXTRAORDINARY, TREMENDOUS

rag·lan \'rag-lən\ *n* [F.J.H. Somerset, Baron *Raglan* †1855 Brit field marshal] : a loose overcoat with raglan sleeves

raglan sleeve *n* : a sleeve that extends to the neckline with slanted seams from the underarm to the neck

rag·man \'rag-ˌman\ *n* : a man who collects or deals in rags

ra·gout \ra-'gü\ *n* [F *ragoût,* fr. *ragoûter* to revive the taste, fr. *re-* + *a-* ad- (fr. L *ad-*) + *goût* taste, fr. L *gustus;* akin to L *gustare* to taste — more at CHOOSE] **1** : well-seasoned meat and vegetables cooked in a thick sauce **2** : MIXTURE, MÉLANGE

rag·pick·er \'rag-ˌpik-ər\ *n* : one who collects rags and refuse for a livelihood

rag·tag \'rag-ˌtag\ *adj* [*ragtag and bobtail*] **1** : RAGGED, UNKEMPT **2** : RAMSHACKLE

ragtag and bobtail *n* [1*rag* + 1*tag*] : RABBLE

rag·time \'rag-ˌtīm\ *n* [prob. fr. *ragged* + *time*] **1** : rhythm characterized by strong syncopation in the melody with a regularly accented accompaniment **2** : music having ragtime rhythm

rag·weed \-ˌwēd\ *n* **1** : any of various chiefly No. American weedy composite herbs (genus *Ambrosia*) that produce highly allergenic pollen **2** : FRANSERIA

rag·wort \-ˌwərt, -ˌwȯ(ə)rt\ *n* : any of several composite herbs (genus *Senecio*); *esp* : TANSY RAGWORT

rah \'rä, 'rȯ\ *interj* : HURRAH — used esp. to cheer on a team

rah–rah \'rä-(ˌ)rä, 'rȯ-(ˌ)rȯ\ *adj* [redupl. of *rah*] : marked by the enthusiastic expression of college spirit

1raid \'rād\ *n* [Sc dial., fr. OE *rād* ride, raid — more at ROAD] **1 a** : a hostile or predatory incursion **b** : a surprise attack by a small force **2 a** : a brief foray outside one's usual sphere **b** : a sudden invasion by officers of the law **c** : a daring operation against a competitor **3** : the act of mulcting public money **4** : an attempt by professional operators to depress stock prices by concerted selling

2raid *vt* : to make a raid on ~ *vi* : to conduct or take part in a raid

raid·er \'rād-ər\ *n* : one that raids: as **a** : a fast lightly armed ship operating against merchant shipping **b** : a soldier specially trained for close-range fighting

1rail \'rā(ə)l\ *n* [ME *raile,* fr. MF *reille* ruler, bar, fr. L *regula* ruler, fr. *regere* to keep straight, direct, rule — more at RIGHT] **1 a** : a bar extending from one post or support to another and serving as a guard or barrier **b** : a structural member or support **2 a** : RAILING 1 **b** : a light structure serving as a guard at the outer edge of a ship's deck **c** : a fence bounding a racetrack **3 a** : a bar of rolled steel forming a track for wheeled vehicles **b** : TRACK **c** : RAILROAD

2rail *vt* : to provide with a railing : FENCE

3rail *n, pl* **rail** *or* **rails** [ME *raile,* fr. MF *raale*] : any of numerous precocial wading birds (family Rallidae) that are structurally related to the cranes but are of small or medium size and have short rounded wings, a short tail, and usu. very long toes which enable them to run on the soft mud of swamps

4rail *vi* [ME *railen,* fr. MF *railler* to mock, fr. OProv *ralhar* to babble, joke, fr. (assumed) VL *ragulare* to bray, fr. LL *ragere* to neigh] : to revile or scold in harsh, insolent, or abusive language ***syn*** see SCOLD — **rail·er** *n*

rail·bird \'rā(ə)l-ˌbərd\ *n* : a racing enthusiast who sits on or near the track rail to watch a race or workout

rail fence *n* : a fence of posts and split rails

rail·head \'rā(ə)l-ˌhed\ *n* : a point on a railroad at which traffic may originate or terminate

rail·ing \'rā-liŋ\ *n* **1** : a barrier consisting of a rail and supports **2** : RAILS; *also* : material for making rails

rail·lery \'rā-lə-rē\ *n, pl* **-ler·ies** [F *raillerie,* fr. MF, fr. *railler* to mock] **1** : good-natured ridicule : BANTER **2** : JEST

1rail·road \'rā(ə)l-ˌrōd\ *n* : a permanent road having a line of rails fixed to ties and laid on a roadbed and providing a track for cars or equipment drawn by locomotives or propelled by self-contained motors; *also* : such a road and its assets constituting a single property

2railroad *vt* **1** : to transport by railroad **2 a** : to push through hastily or without due consideration **b** : to convict with undue haste and by means of false charges or insufficient evidence ~ *vi* : to work for a railroad company — **rail·road·er** *n*

railroad flat *n* : an apartment having a series of narrow rooms arranged in line

rail·road·ing *n* : construction or operation of a railroad

railroad worm *n* **1** [prob. fr. its dissemination by railroad] : APPLE MAGGOT **2** [fr. the rows of luminescent spots along its sides making it resemble a lighted train] : the larva or wingless female of any of several So. American beetles (genus *Phrixothrix* of the family Cantharidae)

rail–split·ter \'rā(ə)l-ˌsplit-ər\ *n* : one that makes logs into fence rails

rail·way \-ˌwā\ *n* **1** : RAILROAD; *esp* : a railroad operating with light equipment or within a small area **2** : a line of track providing a runway for wheels

rai·ment \'rā-mənt\ *n* [ME *rayment,* short for *arrayment,* fr. *arrayen* to array] : CLOTHING, GARMENTS

1rain \'rān\ *n, often attrib* [ME *reyn,* fr. OE *regn, rēn;* akin to OHG *regan* rain] **1 a** : water falling in drops condensed from vapor in the atmosphere **b** : the descent of this water **c** : water that has fallen as rain : RAINWATER **2 a** : a fall of rain : RAINSTORM **b** *pl* : the rainy season **3** : rainy weather **4** : a heavy fall of particles or bodies

2rain *vi* **1** : to fall as water in drops from the clouds **2** : to send down rain **3** : to fall like rain ~ *vt* **1** : to pour down **2** : to bestow abundantly

rain·bird \'rān-ˌbərd\ *n* : any of numerous birds (esp. of the family Cuculidae) whose cries are popularly believed to augur rain

rain·bow \-ˌbō\ *n* **1** : an arc or circle that exhibits in concentric bands the colors of the spectrum and that is formed opposite the sun by the refraction and reflection of the sun's rays in raindrops, spray, or mist **2 a** : a multicolored array **b** : a wide assortment or range **3** [fr. the impossibility of reaching the rainbow, at whose foot a pot of gold is said to be buried] : an illusory goal or hope **4** : RAINBOW TROUT

rainbow fish *n* : any of numerous brilliantly colored fishes (as a wrasse, parrot fish, or guppy)

rainbow perch *n* : a small brilliantly striped, red, orange, and blue surf fish (*Hypsurus caryi*) of the Pacific coast of No. America

rainbow runner *n* : a large brilliantly marked blue and yellow food and sport fish (*Elagatis bipinnulatus*) common in warm seas

rainbow trout *n* : a large stout-bodied and sometimes anadromous trout (*Salmo gairdneri*) of western No. America that typically is greenish above and white on the belly with a pink, red, or lavender stripe along each side of the body and with profuse black dots

rain check *n* **1** : a ticket stub good for a later performance when the scheduled one is rained out **2** : an assurance of a deferred extension of an offer; *esp* : an assurance that a customer can take advantage of a sale later if the item or service offered is not available (as by being sold out)

rain·coat \'rān-ˌkōt\ *n* : a coat of waterproof or water-resistant material

rain·drop \-ˌdräp\ *n* : a drop of rain

rain·fall \-ˌfȯl\ *n* **1** : RAIN 2a **2** : the amount of precipitation usu. measured by the depth in inches

rain forest *n* : a tropical woodland with an annual rainfall of at least 100 inches and marked by lofty broad-leaved evergreen trees forming a continuous canopy

rain gauge *n* : an instrument for measuring the quantity of precipitation

rain·mak·ing \'rān-ˌmā-kiŋ\ *n* : the action or process of producing or attempting to produce rain by artificial means — **rain·mak·er** \-kər\ *n*

rain out *vt* : to interrupt or prevent by rain

rain·proof \'rān-'prüf\ *adj* : impervious to rain

rain·spout \-ˌspau̇t\ *n* : a pipe, duct, or orifice draining a roof gutter

rain·squall \-ˌskwȯl\ *n* : a squall accompanied by rain

rain·storm \-ˌstȯ(ə)rm\ *n* : a storm of or with rain

rain tree *n* : MONKEYPOD

rain·wash \'rān-ˌwȯsh, -ˌwäsh\ *n* : the washing away of material by rain; *also* : the material so washed away

rain·wa·ter \-ˌwȯt-ər, -ˌwät-\ *n* : water fallen as rain that has not collected soluble matter from the soil and is therefore soft

rain·wear \-ˌwa(ə)r, -ˌwe(ə)r\ *n* : waterproof or water-resistant clothing

rainy \'rā-nē\ *adj* **rain·i·er; -est** : marked by, abounding with, or bringing rain

rainy day *n* : a period of want or need
[1]raise \'rāz\ *vb* **raised; rais·ing** [ME *raisen*, fr. ON *reisa* — more at REAR] *vt* **1** : to cause or help to rise to a standing position **2 a** : AWAKEN, AROUSE **b** : to stir up : INCITE ⟨~ a rebellion⟩ **c** : to flush (game) from cover **d** : to recall from or as if from death **e** : to establish radio communication with **3 a** : to set upright by lifting or building **b** : to lift higher **c** : to place higher in rank or dignity : ELEVATE **d** : HEIGHTEN, INVIGORATE ⟨~ the spirits⟩ **e** : to end or suspend the operation or validity of ⟨~ a siege⟩ **4** : to get together for a purpose : COLLECT ⟨~ funds⟩ **5 a** : to breed and bring (an animal) to maturity **b** : GROW, CULTIVATE ⟨~ cotton⟩ **c** : to bring up (a child) : REAR **6 a** : to give rise to : PROVOKE ⟨~ a commotion⟩ **b** : to give voice to ⟨~ a cheer⟩ **7** : to bring up for consideration or debate ⟨~ an issue⟩ **8 a** : to increase the strength, intensity, or pitch of **b** : to increase the degree of **c** : to cause to rise in level or amount ⟨~ the rent⟩ **d** (1) : to increase the amount of (a poker bet) (2) : to bet more than (a previous bettor) **e** (1) : to make a higher bridge bid in (a partner's suit) (2) : to increase the bid of (one's partner) **9** : to make light and porous ⟨~ dough⟩ **10** : to cause to ascend **11** : to multiply (a quantity) by itself a specified number of times **12** : to bring in sight on the horizon by approaching ⟨~ land⟩ **13 a** : to bring up the nap of (cloth) **b** : to cause (as a blister) to form on the skin **14** : to increase the nominal value of fraudulently ⟨~ a check⟩ **15** : to articulate (a sound) with the tongue in a higher position ~ *vi* **1** *dial* : RISE **2** : to increase a bet or bid ***syn*** see LIFT — **rais·er** *n* — **raise cain** *or* **raise hell** **1** : to act wildly : create a disturbance **2** : to scold or upbraid someone esp. loudly — **raise eyebrows** : to cause surprise or astonishment
[2]raise *n* **1** : an act of raising or lifting **2** : a rising stretch of road : an upward grade : RISE **3** : an increase in amount: as **a** : an increase of a bet or bid **b** : an increase in wages or salary **4** : a vertical or inclined opening or passageway connecting one mine working area with another at a higher level
raised *adj* **1 a** : done in relief **b** : having a nap **2** : leavened with yeast rather than with baking powder or baking soda
rai·sin \'rāz-ᵊn\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, grape, fr. L *racemus* cluster of grapes or berries] : a grape usu. of a special type dried in the sun or by artificial heat
rai·son d'être \ˌrā-ˌzōⁿ-'detrᵊ\ *n* [F] : reason or justification for existence
raj \'räj\ *n* [Hindi *rāj*, fr. Skt *rājya*; akin to Skt *rājan* king] : REIGN
ra·ja *or* **ra·jah** \'räj-ə, 'räj-(ˌ)ä, 'räzh-\ *n* [Hindi *rājā*, fr. Skt *rājan* king — more at ROYAL] **1** : an Indian or Malay prince or chief **2** : the bearer of a title of nobility among the Hindus
Ra·jab \rə-'jab\ *n* [Ar] : the 7th month of the Muhammadan year — see MONTH table
Ra·jas·tha·ni \ˌräj-ə-'stän-ē, ˌräzh-\ *n* [Hindi *Rājasthānī*, fr. *Rājasthān* Rajputana] : the Indic language of Rajasthan
Raj·put *or* **Raj·poot** \'räj-ˌpůt, 'räzh-\ *n* [Hindi *rājpūt*, fr. Skt *rājaputra* king's son, fr. *rājan* king + *putra* son — more at FEW] : a member of an Indo-Aryan caste of northern India
[1]rake \'rāk\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *racu*; akin to OHG *rehho* rake] **1 a** : an implement equipped with projecting prongs to gather material (as grass) or for loosening or smoothing the surface of the ground **b** : a machine for gathering hay **2** : an implement like a rake
[2]rake *vt* **raked; rak·ing** **1** : to gather, loosen, or smooth with or as if with a rake **2** : to gain rapidly or in abundance ⟨~ in a fortune⟩ **3 a** : to touch in passing over lightly **b** : SCRATCH **4** : to censure severely **5** : to search through : RANSACK **6** : to sweep the length of esp. with gunfire : ENFILADE **7** : to glance over rapidly — **rak·er** *n*
[3]rake *vi* **raked; rak·ing** [origin unknown] : to incline from the perpendicular
[4]rake *n* **1** : inclination from the perpendicular; *esp* : the overhang of a ship's bow or stern **2** : inclination from the horizontal : SLOPE **3** : the angle between the top cutting surface of a tool and a plane perpendicular to the surface of the work **4** : the angle between a wing-tip edge that is sensibly straight in planform and the plane of symmetry of an airplane
[5]rake *n* [short for *rakehell*] : a dissolute person : LIBERTINE
rake·hell \'rāk-ˌhel\ *n* : LIBERTINE 2 — **rakehell** *or* **rake·helly** \-ˌhel-ē\ *adj*
rake–off \'rā-ˌkȯf\ *n* [[2]*rake* + *off*; fr. the use of a rake by a croupier to collect the operator's profits in a gambling casino] : a percentage or cut taken (as by an operator)
rake up *vt* : to dig out : UNCOVER ⟨*rake up* a scandal⟩
[1]rak·ish \'rā-kish\ *adj* : of, relating to, or characteristic of a rake : DISSOLUTE
[2]rakish *adj* [prob. fr. [3]*rake*; fr. the raking masts of pirate ships] **1** : having a smart stylish appearance suggestive of speed ⟨a ~ ship⟩ **2** : negligent of convention or formality : JAUNTY ⟨~ clothes⟩
rak·ish·ly *adv* : in a rakish manner
rak·ish·ness *n* : the quality or state of being rakish
rale \'ral, 'räl\ *n* [F *râle*] : an abnormal sound that accompanies the normal respiratory sounds
ral·len·tan·do \ˌräl-ən-'tän-(ˌ)dō\ *adv or adj* [It, lit., slowing down, verbal of *rallentare* to slow down again, fr. *re-* + *allentare* to slow down] : with a gradual decrease in tempo — used as a direction in music
[1]ral·ly \'ral-ē\ *vb* **ral·lied; ral·ly·ing** [F *rallier*, fr. OF *ralier*, fr. *re-* + *alier* to unite — more at ALLY] *vt* **1 a** : to muster for a common purpose **b** : to recall to order **2 a** : to arouse for action **b** : to rouse from depression or weakness ~ *vi* **1** : to come together again to renew an effort **2** : to join in a common cause **3** : RECOVER, REBOUND **4** : to engage in a rally
[2]rally *n, pl* **rallies** **1 a** : a mustering of scattered forces to renew an effort **b** : a summoning up of strength or courage after weakness or dejection **c** : a recovery of price after a decline **d** : a renewed offensive **2** : a mass meeting intended to arouse group enthusiasm **3** : a series of strokes interchanged between players (as in tennis) before a point is won **4** *also* **ral·lye** [F *rallye*, fr. E [1]*rally*] : a competitive automobile run over public roads and under ordinary traffic rules with the object of maintaining a specified average speed between checkpoints over a route unknown to the participants until the start of the run
[3]rally *vt* **ral·lied; ral·ly·ing** [F *railler* to mock, rally — more at RAIL] : to attack with raillery : BANTER ***syn*** see RIDICULE
ral·ly·ing \'ral-ē-iŋ\ *n* : the sport of driving in automobile rallies
ral·ly·ist \'ral-ē-əst\ *n* : one who participates in an automobile rally
ral·ly·mas·ter \-ˌmas-tər\ *n* : one who organizes and conducts an automobile rally
[1]ram \'ram\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *ramm*; akin to OHG *ram*] **1 a** : a male sheep **b** *cap* : ARIES **2 a** : BATTERING RAM **b** : a warship with a heavy beak at the prow for piercing an enemy ship **3** : any of various guided pieces for exerting pressure or for driving or forcing something by impact: as **a** : the plunger of a hydrostatic press or force pump **b** : the weight that strikes the blow in a pile driver
[2]ram *vb* **rammed; ram·ming** [ME *rammen*] *vi* **1** : to strike with violence : CRASH **2** : to move with extreme rapidity ~ *vt* **1** : to force in by driving **2 a** : to make compact (as by pounding) **b** : CRAM, CROWD **3** : to force passage or acceptance of ⟨~ home an idea⟩ **4** : to strike against violently — **ram·mer** *n*
RAM *abbr* Royal Academy of Music
Ra·ma \'räm-ə\ *n* [Skt *Rāma*] : a deity or deified hero of later Hinduism worshiped as an avatar of Vishnu
Ram·a·dan \'ram-ə-ˌdän, -ˌdan\ *n* [Ar *Ramaḍān*] : the 9th month of the Muhammadan year observed as sacred with fasting practiced daily from dawn to sunset — see MONTH table
ra·mate \'rā-ˌmāt\ *adj* [L *ramus* branch] : having branches
[1]ram·ble \'ram-bəl\ *vb* **ram·bled; ram·bling** \-b(ə-)liŋ\ [perh. fr. ME *romblen*, freq. of *romen* to roam] *vi* **1 a** : to move aimlessly from place to place **b** : to explore idly **2** : to talk or write in a desultory or long-winded wandering fashion **3** : to grow or extend irregularly ~ *vt* : to wander over : ROAM — **ram·bling·ly** \-b(ə-)liŋ-lē\ *adv*
[2]ramble *n* : a leisurely excursion for pleasure; *esp* : an aimless walk
ram·bler \'ram-blər\ *n* **1** : one that rambles **2** : any of various climbing roses with rather small often double flowers in large clusters
ram·bouil·let \ˌram-bə-'lā, -bü-'yā\ *n, often cap* [*Rambouillet*, France] : a large sturdy sheep developed in France
ram·bunc·tious \ram-'bəŋ(k)-shəs\ *adj* [prob. irreg. fr. *robust*] : marked by uncontrollable exuberance : UNRULY — **ram·bunctious·ly** *adv* — **ram·bunc·tious·ness** *n*
ram·bu·tan \ram-'büt-ᵊn\ *n* [Malay] : a bright red spiny Malayan fruit closely related to the litchi; *also* : a tree (*Nephelium lappaceum*) of the soapberry family that bears this fruit
ram·e·kin *or* **ram·e·quin** \'ram-(i-)kən\ *n* [F *ramequin*, fr. LG *ramken*, dim. of *ram* cream] **1** : a preparation of cheese with bread crumbs, puff paste, or eggs baked in a mold or shell **2** : an individual baking dish
ra·men·tum \rə-'ment-əm\ *n, pl* **-ta** \-ə\ [NL, fr. L, a shaving, fr. *radere* to scratch, scrape — more at RAT] : a thin brownish scale on a leaf or young shoot of a fern
ra·met \'rā-ˌmet\ *n* [L *ramus* branch] : an independent member of a clone
ra·mie \'rā-mē, 'ram-ē\ *n* [Malay *ramī*] : an Asian perennial plant (*Boehmeria nivea*) of the nettle family; *also* : the strong lustrous bast fiber of this plant
ram·i·fi·ca·tion \ˌram-ə-fə-'kā-shən\ *n* **1 a** : the act or process of branching **b** : arrangement of branches (as on a plant) **2 a** : BRANCH, OFFSHOOT **b** : a branched structure **3** : OUTGROWTH, CONSEQUENCE ⟨the ~s of a problem⟩
ra·mi·form \'ram-ə-ˌfȯrm, 'rā-mə-\ *adj* [L *ramus* + E *-iform*] : resembling or constituting branches : BRANCHED
ram·i·fy \'ram-ə-ˌfī\ *vb* **-fied; -fy·ing** [MF *ramifier*, fr. ML *ramificare*, fr. L *ramus* branch; akin to L *radix* root — more at ROOT] *vt* **1** : to cause to branch **2** : to separate into divisions ~ *vi* **1** : to split up into branches or constituent parts **2** : to send forth branches or extensions
Ra·mism \'rā-ˌmiz-əm\ *n* : the doctrines of the French philosopher Ramus (†1572) based on opposition to Aristotelianism and advocacy of a new logic blended with rhetoric — **Ra·mist** \-məst\ *n or adj*
ram·jet engine \ˌram-ˌjet-\ *n* : a jet engine having in its forward end a continuous inlet of air that depends on the speed of flight for the compressing effect produced on the air rather than on a mechanical compressor
ra·mose \'rā-ˌmōs\ *adj* [L *ramosus*, fr. *ramus* branch] : consisting of or having branches ⟨a ~ sponge⟩ — **ra·mose·ly** *adv*
ra·mous \'rā-məs\ *adj* [L *ramosus*] **1** : RAMOSE **2** : resembling branches
[1]ramp \'ramp\ *vi* [ME *rampen*, fr. OF *ramper* to crawl, rear, of Gmc origin; akin to OHG *rimpfan* to wrinkle — more at RUMPLE] **1 a** : to stand or advance menacingly with forelegs or with arms raised **b** : to move or act furiously : STORM **2** : to creep up — used esp. of plants
[2]ramp *n* : the act or an instance of ramping
[3]ramp *n* [F *rampe*, fr. *ramper*] **1** : a short bend, slope, or curve usu. in the vertical plane where a handrail or coping changes its direction **2** : a sloping way: as **a** : a sloping floor, walk, or roadway leading from one level to another **b** : a stairway for entering or leaving the main door of an airplane **c** : a slope for launching boats **3** : APRON 2j
[1]ram·page \'ram-ˌpāj, (ˌ)ram-'\ *vi* **ram·paged; ram·pag·ing** [Sc] : to rush wildly about

²ram·page \'ram-ˌpāj\ *n* : a course of violent, riotous, or reckless action or behavior — **ram·pa·geous** \ram-'pā-jəs\ *adj* — **ram·pa·geous·ly** *adv* — **ram·pa·geous·ness** *n*
ram·pan·cy \'ram-pən-sē\ *n* : the quality or state of being rampant
ram·pant \'ram-pənt *also* -ˌpant\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF, prp. of *ramper*] **1 a** : rearing upon the hind legs with forelegs extended **b** : standing on one hind foot with one foreleg raised above the other and the head in profile — used of a heraldic animal **2 a** : marked by a menacing wildness, extravagance, or absence of restraint **b** : WIDESPREAD **3** : having one impost or abutment higher than the other ⟨a ~ arch⟩ — **ram·pant·ly** *adv*
ram·part \'ram-ˌpärt, -pərt\ *n* [MF] **1** : a broad embankment raised as a fortification and usu. surmounted by a parapet **2** : a protective barrier : BULWARK **3** : a wall-like ridge (as of rock fragments, earth, or debris)
ram·pike \-ˌpīk\ *n* [origin unknown] : an erect broken or dead tree
ram·pi·on \'ram-pē-ən\ *n* [prob. modif. of MF *raiponce*, fr. OIt *raponzo*] : a European bellflower (*Campanula rapunculus*) with a tuberous root used with the leaves in salad
¹ram·rod \'ram-ˌräd\ *n* **1** : a rod for ramming home the charge in a muzzle-loading firearm **2** : a cleaning rod for small arms
²ramrod *adj* : marked by rigidity, severity, or stiffness
ram·shack·le \'ram-ˌshak-əl\ *adj* [alter. of earlier *ransackled*, fr. pp. of obs. *ransackle*, freq. of *ransack*] **1** : appearing ready to collapse : RICKETY **2** : carelessly or loosely constructed
rams·horn \'ramz-ˌhȯ(ə)rn\ *n* : a snail (genus *Planorbis*) often used as an aquarium scavenger
ram·til \'ram-ˌtil, 'räm\ *n* [Hindi *rāmtil*, fr. Skt *Rāma* Rama + *tila* sesame] : a tropical composite herb (*Guizotia abyssinica*) cultivated in India for its oil seeds
ra·mus \'rā-məs\ *n, pl* **ra·mi** \-ˌmī\ [NL, fr. L, branch — more at RAMIFY] : a projecting part, elongated process, or branch: as **a** : the posterior more or less vertical part on each side of the lower jaw that articulates with the skull **b** : a branch of a nerve
ran *past of* RUN
¹ranch \'ranch\ *n* [MexSp *rancho* small ranch, fr. Sp, camp, hut & Sp dial., small farm, fr. OSp *ranchear(se)* to take up quarters, fr. MF (*se*) *ranger* to take up a position, fr. *ranger* to set in a row — more at RANGE] **1** : a large farm for raising horses, beef cattle, or sheep **2** : a farm or area devoted to a particular specialty **3** : RANCH HOUSE
²ranch *vi* : to live or work on a ranch ~ *vt* **1** : to work as a rancher on **2** : to raise on a ranch
ranch·er \'ran-chər\ *n* : one who owns or works on a ranch
ran·che·ro \ran-'che(ə)r-(ˌ)ō, rän-\ *n, pl* **-ros** [MexSp, fr. *rancho*] : RANCHER
ranch house *n* : a one-story house typically with a low-pitched roof and an open plan
ranch·man \'ranch-mən\ *n* : RANCHER
ran·cho \'ran-(ˌ)chō, 'rän-\ *n, pl* **ranchos** [MexSp, small ranch] : RANCH 1
ran·cid \'ran(t)-səd\ *adj* [L *rancidus*, fr. *rancēre* to be rancid] **1** : having a rank smell or taste **2** : OFFENSIVE ***syn*** see MALODOROUS — **ran·cid·i·ty** \ran-'sid-ət-ē\ *n* — **ran·cid·ness** \'ran(t)-səd-nəs\ *n*
ran·cor \'raŋ-kər, -ˌkȯ(ə)r\ *n* [ME *rancour*, fr. MF *ranceur*, fr. LL *rancor* rancidity, rancor, fr. L *rancēre*] : bitter deep-seated ill will ***syn*** see ENMITY
ran·cor·ous \'raŋ-k(ə-)rəs\ *adj* : marked by rancor — **ran·cor·ous·ly** *adv*
ran·cour *Brit var of* RANCOR
rand \'rand, 'ränd, 'ränt\ *n, pl* **rand** [the *Rand*, So. Africa] — see MONEY table
R & B *abbr* rhythm and blues
R & D *abbr* research and development
¹ran·dom \'ran-dəm\ *n* [ME, impetuosity, fr. MF *randon*, fr. OF, fr. *randir* to run, of Gmc origin; akin to OHG *rinnan* to run — more at RUN] : a haphazard course — **at random** : without definite aim, direction, rule, or method
²random *adj* **1** : lacking a definite plan, purpose, or pattern **2 a** : relating to, having, or being elements or events with definite probability of occurrence ⟨~ processes⟩ **b** : being or relating to a set or to an element of a set each of whose elements has equal probability of occurrence ⟨a ~ sample⟩; *also* : characterized by procedures designed to obtain such sets or elements ⟨~ sampling⟩ — **ran·dom·ly** *adv* — **ran·dom·ness** *n*
syn RANDOM, HAPHAZARD, CASUAL, DESULTORY *shared meaning element* : determined by accident rather than design
³random *adv* : in a random manner
random–access *adj* : permitting access to stored data in any order the user desires ⟨a ~ computer memory⟩
ran·dom·iza·tion \ˌran-də-mə-'zā-shən\ *n* : arrangement (as of samples or experimental treatments) so as to simulate a chance distribution, reduce interference by irrelevant variables, and yield unbiased statistical data
ran·dom·ize \'ran-də-ˌmīz\ *vt* **-ized; -iz·ing** : to use randomization on — **ran·dom·iz·er** *n*
randomized block *n* : an experimental design (as in horticulture) in which different treatments are distributed in random order in a block or plot — called also *randomized block design*
random variable *n* : a variable that is itself a function of the result of a statistical experiment in which each outcome has a definite probability of occurrence ⟨the number of spots showing if two dice are thrown is a ~⟩ — called also *variate*
random walk *n* : a process (as Brownian movement or genetic drift) consisting of a sequence of steps (as movements or changes in gene frequency) each of whose characteristics (as magnitude and direction) is determined by chance
R and R *abbr* rest and recreation; rest and recuperation
¹randy \'ran-dē\ *adj* [prob. fr. obs. *rand* (to rant)] **1** *chiefly Scot* : having a coarse manner **2** : LUSTFUL, LECHEROUS
²randy *n, pl* **rand·ies** *chiefly Scot* : a scolding or dissolute woman
rang *past of* RING
¹range \'rānj\ *n, often attrib* [ME, row of persons, fr. OF *renge*, fr. *rengier* to range] **1 a** (1) : a series of things in a line : ROW (2) : a series of mountains (3) : one of the north-south rows of townships in a U.S. public-land survey that are numbered east and west from the principal meridian of the survey **b** : an aggregate of individuals in one order **c** : a direction line **2** : a cooking stove that has an oven and a flat top with burners or heating elements **3 a** : a place that may be ranged over **b** : an open region over which livestock may roam and feed **c** : the region throughout which a kind of organism or ecological community naturally lives or occurs **4** : the act of ranging about **5 a** (1) : the horizontal distance to which a projectile can be propelled (2) : the horizontal distance between a weapon and target **b** : the maximum distance a vehicle can travel without refueling **c** : a place where shooting or golf driving is practiced **6 a** : the space or extent included, covered, or used : SCOPE **b** : the extent of pitch covered by a melody or lying within the capacity of a voice or instrument **7 a** : a sequence, series, or scale between limits ⟨a wide ~ of patterns⟩ **b** : the limits of a series : the distance or extent between possible extremes **c** : the difference between the least and greatest values of an attribute or of the variable of a frequency distribution **8 a** : the set of values a function may take on **b** : the class of admissible values of a variable **9** : LINE 11
²range *vb* **ranged; rang·ing** [ME *rangen*, fr. MF *ranger*, fr. OF *rengier*, fr. *renc, reng* line, place, row — more at RANK] *vt* **1 a** : to set in a row or in the proper order **b** : to place among others in a position or situation **c** : to assign to a category : CLASSIFY **2 a** : to rove over or through **b** : to sail or pass along **3** : to arrange (an anchor cable) on deck **4** : to graze (livestock) on a range **5** : to determine or give the elevation necessary for (a gun) to propel a projectile to a given distance ~ *vi* **1 a** : to roam at large or freely **b** : to move over an area so as to explore it **2** : to take a position **3 a** : to correspond in direction or line : ALIGN **b** : to extend in a particular direction **4** : to have range **5** : to change or differ within limits **6** *of an organism* : to live or occur in or be native to a region ***syn*** see LINE
range finder *n* **1** : an instrument used in gunnery to determine the distance of a target **2** : TACHYMETER 1 **3** : a device for measuring the distance between a camera and an object
range·land \'rānj-ˌland\ *n* : land used or suitable for range
range paralysis *n* : an avian leukosis involving flaccid paralysis esp. of the legs and wings of maturing chickens
rang·er \'rān-jər\ *n* **1 a** : the keeper of a British royal park or forest **b** : FOREST RANGER **2** : one that ranges **3 a** : one of a body of organized armed men who range over a region esp. to enforce the law **b** : a soldier specially trained in close-range fighting and in raiding tactics
rangy \'rān-jē\ *adj* **rang·i·er; -est** **1** : able to range for considerable distances **2 a** : long-limbed and long-bodied ⟨~ cattle⟩ **b** : being tall and slender **3** : having room for ranging **4** : having great scope — **rang·i·ness** *n*
ra·ni *or* **ra·nee** \rä-'nē, 'rän-ˌē\ *n* [Hindi *rānī*, fr. Skt *rājñī*, fem. of *rājan* king — more at ROYAL] : a Hindu queen : a rajah's wife
ra·nid \'ran-əd, 'rā-nəd\ *n* [deriv. of L *rana* frog] : any of a large family (Ranidae) of frogs distinguished by slightly dilated transverse sacral processes
¹rank \'raŋk\ *adj* [ME, fr. OE *ranc* overbearing, strong; akin to OE *riht* right — more at RIGHT] **1** : luxuriantly or excessively vigorous in growth **2** : offensively gross or coarse : FOUL **3** *obs* : grown too large **4 a** : shockingly conspicuous ⟨must lecture him on his ~ disloyalty —David Walden⟩ **b** : COMPLETE — used as an intensive ⟨~ beginners⟩ **5** *archaic* : LUSTFUL, RUTTISH **6** : offensive in odor or flavor; *esp* : RANCID **7** : PUTRID, FESTERING **8** : high in amount : EXCESSIVE ***syn*** see MALODOROUS, FLAGRANT — **rank·ly** *adv* — **rank·ness** *n*
²rank *n* [MF *renc, reng*, of Gmc origin; akin to OHG *hring* ring — more at RING] **1 a** : ROW, SERIES **b** : a row of people **c** (1) : a line of soldiers ranged side by side in close order (2) *pl* : ARMED FORCES (3) *pl* : the body of enlisted men **d** : any of the rows of squares that extend across a chessboard perpendicular to the files **e** *Brit* : STAND 6 **2** : an orderly arrangement : FORMATION **3** : a social class **4 a** : relative standing or position **b** : a degree or position of dignity, eminence, or excellence : DISTINCTION ⟨soon took ~ as a leading attorney —J. D. Hicks⟩ **c** : high social position ⟨the privileges of ~⟩ **d** : a grade of official standing **5** : the order according to some statistical characteristic (as score on a test) **6** : any of a series of classes of coal based on increasing alteration of the parent vegetable matter, increasing carbon content, and increasing fuel value **7** : the number of linearly independent rows in a matrix
³rank *vt* **1** : to arrange in lines or in a regular formation **2** : to determine the relative position of : RATE **3** : to take precedence of ~ *vi* **1** : to form or move in ranks **2** : to take or have a position in relation to others
rank and file *n* **1** : the enlisted men of an armed force **2** : the individuals who constitute the body of an organization, society, or nation as distinguished from the leaders — **rank and file·er** \-'fī-lər\ *n*
rank correlation *n* : a measure of correlation depending on rank
rank·er \'raŋ-kər\ *n* : one who serves or has served in the ranks; *esp* : a commissioned officer promoted from the ranks
Ran·kine \'raŋ-kən\ *adj* [William J. M. *Rankine* †1872 Sc engineer & physicist] : being, according to, or relating to an absolute temperature scale on which the unit of measurement equals a Fahrenheit degree and on which the freezing point of water is 491.69° and the boiling point 671.69°
rank·ing *adj* : having a high position: as **a** : FOREMOST ⟨~ poet⟩ **b** : being next to the chairman in seniority ⟨~ committee member⟩
ran·kle \'raŋ-kəl\ *vb* **ran·kled; ran·kling** \-k(ə-)liŋ\ [ME *ranclen* to fester, fr. MF *rancler*, fr. OF *draoncler, raoncler*, fr. *draoncle, raoncle* festering sore, fr. ML *dracunculus*, fr. L, dim. of *draco* serpent — more at DRAGON] *vi* **1** : to cause anger, irritation, or deep bitterness **2** : to feel anger and irritation ~ *vt* : to cause irritation or bitterness in

ran·sack \'ran-ˌsak, (')ran-'\ *vt* [ME *ransaken*, fr. ON *rannsaka*, fr. *rann* house + *-saka* (akin to OE *sēcan* to seek)] **1 a** : to search thoroughly **b** : to examine closely and carefully **2** : to search through to commit robbery : PLUNDER — **ran·sack·er** *n*

[1]ran·som \'ran(t)-səm\ *n* [ME *ransoun*, fr. OF *rançon*, fr. L *redemption-, redemptio* — more at REDEMPTION] **1** : a consideration paid or demanded for the redemption of a captured person **2** : the act of ransoming

[2]ransom *vt* **1** : to deliver esp. from sin or its penalty **2** : to free from captivity or punishment by paying a price ***syn*** see RESCUE — **ran·som·er** *n*

[1]rant \'rant\ *vb* [obs. D *ranten, randen*] *vi* **1** : to talk in a noisy, excited, or declamatory manner **2** : to scold vehemently ~ *vt* : to utter in a bombastic declamatory fashion — **rant·er** *n* — **rant·ing·ly** \-iŋ-lē\ *adv*

[2]rant *n* **1 a** : a bombastic extravagant speech **b** : bombastic extravagant language **2** *dial Brit* : a rousing good time ***syn*** see BOMBAST

ran·u·la \'ran-yə-lə\ *n* [NL, fr. L, swelling on the tongue of cattle, fr. dim. of *rana* frog] : a cyst formed under the tongue by obstruction of a gland duct

ra·nun·cu·lus \rə-'nəŋ-kyə-ləs\ *n, pl* **-lus·es** *or* **-li** \-ˌlī, -ˌlē\ [NL, genus name, fr. L, tadpole, crowfoot, dim. of *rana* frog] : any of a large widely distributed genus (*Ranunculus*) of dicotyledonous herbs (as a buttercup) that have simple or variously lobed leaves and usu. yellow flowers with five deciduous sepals and five nectar-producing petals

[1]rap \'rap\ *n* [ME *rappe*] **1** : a sharp blow or knock **2** : a sharp rebuke or criticism **3** *slang* **a** : the responsibility for or adverse consequences of an action **b** : a criminal charge **c** : a prison sentence

[2]rap *vb* **rapped; rap·ping** *vt* **1** : to strike with a sharp blow **2** : to utter suddenly and forcibly **3** : to cause to be or come by raps ⟨~ the meeting to order⟩ **4** : to criticize sharply **5** *slang* : to arrest, hold, or sentence on a criminal charge ~ *vi* **1** : to strike a quick sharp blow **2** : to make a short sharp sound

[3]rap *vt* **rapped** *also* **rapt; rap·ping** [back-formation fr. *rapt*] **1** : to snatch away or upward **2** : ENRAPTURE

[4]rap *n* [perh. fr. [1]*rap*] : a minimum amount or degree (as of care or consideration) : the least bit ⟨doesn't care a ~⟩

[5]rap *n* [perh. by shortening & alter. fr. *repartee*] : TALK, CONVERSATION

[6]rap *vi* **rapped; rap·ping** : to talk freely and frankly ⟨a center where they could meet and ~ congenially . . . with people . . . with similar interests and problems —Robert Liebert⟩

[7]rap *abbr* rapid

ra·pa·cious \rə-'pā-shəs\ *adj* [L *rapac-, rapax*, fr. *rapere* to seize] **1** : excessively grasping or covetous ⟨in an age of unscrupulous plunder he was among the most ~ — *Times Lit. Supp.*⟩ **2** : living on prey **3** : RAVENOUS, VORACIOUS — **ra·pa·cious·ly** *adv* — **ra·pa·cious·ness** *n*

ra·pac·i·ty \rə-'pas-ət-ē\ *n* : the quality of being rapacious

[1]rape \'rāp\ *n* [ME, fr. L *rapa, rapum* turnip, rape; akin to OHG *rāba* turnip, rape] : a European herb (*Brassica napus*) of the mustard family grown as a forage crop for sheep and hogs and for its seeds which yield rape oil and are a bird food

[2]rape *vt* **raped; rap·ing** [ME *rapen*, fr. L *rapere*] **1 a** *archaic* : to seize and take away by force **b** : DESPOIL **2** : to commit rape on — **rap·er** *n* — **rap·ist** \'rā-pəst\ *n*

[3]rape *n* **1** : an act or instance of robbing or despoiling or carrying away a person by force **2 a** : sexual intercourse with a woman by a man without her consent and chiefly by force or deception — compare STATUTORY RAPE **b** : unlawful sexual intercourse by force or threat other than by a man with a woman **3** : an outrageous violation

[4]rape *n* [F *râpe* grape stalk] : grape pomace

rape oil *n* : a nondrying or semidrying oil obtained from rapeseed and turnip seed and used chiefly as a lubricant, illuminant, and food — called also *rapeseed oil*

rape·seed \'rāp-ˌsēd\ *n* : the seed of the rape plant

Ra·pha·el \'raf-ē-əl, 'rā-fē-\ *n* [LL, fr. Gk *Rhaphaēl*, fr. Heb *Rĕphā'ēl*] : one of the four archangels named in Hebrew tradition

ra·phe \'rā-(ˌ)fē\ *n* [NL, fr. Gk *rhaphē* seam, fr. *rhaptein* to sew — more at RHAPSODY] **1** : the seamlike union of the two lateral halves of a part or organ (as the tongue) having externally a ridge or furrow **2 a** : the part of the stalk of an anatropous ovary that is united in growth to the outside covering and forms a ridge along the body of the ovule **b** : the median line of a diatom's valve

ra·phia \'rā-fē-ə, 'raf-ē-\ *n* [NL, genus of palms, fr. Malagasy *rafia* raffia] : RAFFIA

raph·ide \'raf-ˌīd\ *n, pl* **raph·ides** \'raf-ˌīdz, 'raf-ə-ˌdēz\ [F & NL; F *raphide*, fr. NL *raphides*, pl., modif. of Gk *rhaphides*, pl. of *rhaphid-, rhaphis* needle, fr. *rhaptein*] : one of the needle-shaped crystals, usu. of calcium oxalate that develop as metabolic by-products in plant cells

[1]rap·id \'rap-əd\ *adj* [L *rapidus* seizing, sweeping, rapid, fr. *rapere* to seize, sweep away; akin to OE *refsan* to blame] : marked by a fast rate of motion, activity, succession, or occurrence ***syn*** see FAST ***ant*** deliberate, leisurely — **rap·id·ly** *adv* — **rap·id·ness** *n*

[2]rapid *n* : a part of a river where the current is fast and the surface is usu. broken by obstructions — usu. used in pl. but sing. or pl. in constr.

rapid eye movement *n* : a rapid conjugate movement of the eyes that is associated with paradoxical sleep

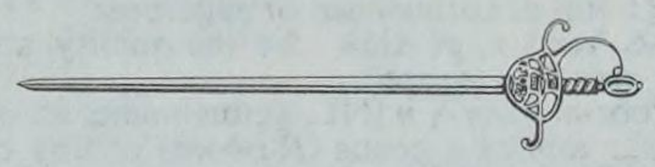
rap·id–fire \ˌrap-əd-'fī(ə)r\ *adj* **1** : firing or adapted for firing shots in rapid succession **2** : marked by rapidity, liveliness, or sharpness

ra·pid·i·ty \rə-'pid-ət-ē, ra-\ *n* : the quality or state of being rapid

rapid transit *n* : fast passenger transportation (as by subway) in urban areas

ra·pi·er \'rā-pē-ər\ *n* [MF (*espee*) *rapiere*] : a straight 2-edged sword with a narrow pointed blade

rap·ine \'rap-ən, -ˌīn\ *n* [ME *rapyne*, fr. L *rapina*, fr. *rapere* to seize, rob] : PILLAGE, PLUNDER



rapier

rap·pa·ree \ˌrap-ə-'rē\ *n* [IrGael *rāpaire*] **1** : an Irish irregular soldier or bandit **2** : VAGABOND, PLUNDERER

rap·pee \ra-'pā\ *n* [F (*tabac*) *râpé*, lit., grated tobacco] : a pungent snuff made from dark rank tobacco leaves

rap·pel \rə-'pel, ra-\ *n* [F, lit., recall, fr. OF *rapel*, fr. *rapeler* to recall, fr. *re-* + *apeler* to appeal, call — more at APPEAL] : descent (as of a cliff) by means of a rope passed under one thigh, across the body, and over the opposite shoulder — **rappel** *vi*

rap·pen \'räp-ən\ *n, pl* **rappen** [G, lit., raven; akin to OHG *hraban* raven — more at RAVEN] : the centime of Switzerland

rap·per \'rap-ər\ *n* : one that raps or is used for rapping; *specif* : a door knocker

rap·pi·ni \ra-'pē-nē\ *n pl* [It *rapini*, pl. of *rapino*, dim. of *rapo* turnip, fr. L *rapum* — more at RAPE] : immature turnip plants for use as greens

rap·port \ra-'pō(ə)r, rə-, -'pȯ(ə)r\ *n* [F, fr. *rapporter* to bring back, refer, fr. OF *raporter* to bring back, fr. *re-* + *aporter* to bring, fr. L *apportare*, fr. *ad-* + *portare* to carry — more at FARE] : RELATION; *esp* : relation marked by harmony, conformity, accord, or affinity

rap·por·teur \ˌra-ˌpōr-'tər, -ˌpȯr-\ *n* [F, fr. *rapporter* to bring back, report] : one that gives reports (as at a meeting of a learned society)

rap·proche·ment \ˌrap-ˌrōsh-'mäⁿ, -ˌrȯsh-; ra- prōsh-ˌ\ *n* [F, fr. *rapprocher* to bring together, fr. MF, fr. *re-* + *approcher* to approach, fr. OF *aprochier*] : establishment or state of cordial relations

rap·scal·lion \rap-'skal-yən\ *n* [alter. of earlier *rascallion*, fr. [1]*rascal*] : RASCAL, NE'ER-DO-WELL

rapt \'rapt\ *adj* [ME, fr. L *raptus*, pp. of *rapere* to seize — more at RAPID] **1** : lifted up and carried away **2** : transported with emotion : ENRAPTURED **3** : wholly absorbed : ENGROSSED — **rapt·ly** \'rap-(t)lē\ *adv* — **rapt·ness** \'rap(t)-nəs\ *n*

rap·tor \'rap-tər, -ˌtȯ(ə)r\ *n* [deriv. of L *raptor* plunderer, fr. *raptus*] : a bird of prey

rap·to·ri·al \rap-'tōr-ē-əl, -'tȯr-\ *adj* **1** : PREDACEOUS 1 **2** : adapted to seize prey **3** : of, relating to, or being a bird of prey

[1]rap·ture \'rap-chər\ *n* [L *raptus*] **1 a** : a state or experience of being carried away by overwhelming emotion **b** : a mystical experience in which the spirit is exalted to a knowledge of divine things **2** : an expression or manifestation of ecstasy or passion ***syn*** see ECSTASY — **rap·tur·ous** \'rap-chə-rəs, 'rap-shrəs\ *adj* — **rap·tur·ous·ly** *adv* — **rap·tur·ous·ness** *n*

[2]rapture *vt* **rap·tured; rap·tur·ing** : ENRAPTURE

rapture of the deep : NITROGEN NARCOSIS

ra·ra avis \ˌrar-ə-'ā-vəs, ˌrer-; ˌrär-ə-'ä-wəs\ *n, pl* **ra·ra avis·es** \-'ā-və-səz\ *or* **ra·rae aves** \ˌrär-ˌī-'ä-ˌwās\ [L, rare bird] : a rare person or thing : RARITY

[1]rare \'ra(ə)r, 're(ə)r\ *adj* **rar·er; rar·est** [alter. of earlier *rere*, fr. ME, fr. OE *hrēre* boiled lightly; akin to OE *hrēran* to stir, OHG *hruoren*] : cooked so that the inside is still red ⟨~ roast beef⟩

[2]rare *adj* **rar·er; rar·est** [ME, fr. L *rarus*] **1** : marked by wide separation of component particles : THIN ⟨~ air⟩ **2 a** : marked by unusual quality, merit, or appeal : DISTINCTIVE **b** : superlative or extreme of its kind **3** : seldom occurring or found : UNCOMMON ***syn*** see CHOICE, INFREQUENT — **rare·ness** *n*

rare·bit \'ra(ə)r-bət, 're-(ə)r-\ *n* [(*Welsh*) *rarebit*] : WELSH RABBIT

rare earth *n* **1** : any of a group of similar oxides of metals or a mixture of such oxides occurring together in widely distributed but relatively scarce minerals **2** : RARE EARTH ELEMENT

rare earth element *n* : any of a series of metallic elements of which the oxides are classed as rare earths and which include the elements with atomic numbers 58 through 71, usu. lanthanum, and sometimes yttrium and scandium — called also *rare earth metal*; compare ELEMENT table

rar·ee–show \'rar-ē-ˌshō, 'rer-\ *n* [alter. of *rare show*] **1** : PEEP SHOW **2** : SHOW, SPECTACLE; *specif* : a cheap street show

rar·efac·tion \ˌrar-ə-'fak-shən, ˌrer-\ *n* [F or ML; F *raréfaction*, fr. ML *rarefaction-, rarefactio*, fr. L *rarefactus*, pp. of *rarefacere* to rarefy] **1** : the action or process of rarefying **2** : the quality or state of being rarefied **3** : a state or region of minimum pressure in a medium transversed by compression waves (as sound waves) — **rar·efac·tion·al** \-shnəl, -shən-ᵊl\ *adj* — **rar·e·fac·tive** \-'fak-tiv\ *adj*

rar·efied *also* **rar·i·fied** \'rar-ə-ˌfīd, 'rer-\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or interesting to a select group : ESOTERIC **2** : very high

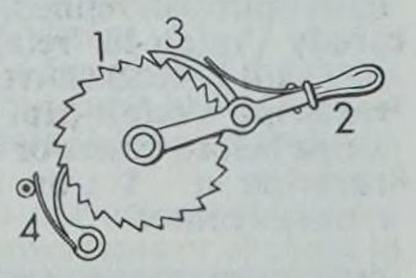
rar·efy *also* **rar·i·fy** \-ə-ˌfī\ *vb* **-efied; -efy·ing** [ME *rarefien, rarifien*, fr. MF *rarefier*, modif. of L *rarefacere*, fr. *rarus* rare + *facere* to make — more at DO] *vt* **1** : to make rare, thin, porous, or less dense : to expand without the addition of matter **2** : to make more spiritual, refined, or abstruse ~ *vi* : to become less dense

rare·ly \'ra(ə)r-lē, 're(ə)r-\ *adv* **1** : not often : SELDOM **2** : with rare skill : EXCELLENTLY **3** : in an extreme or exceptional manner

[1]rare·ripe \'ra(ə)r-ˌrīp, 're(ə)r-\ *adj* [E dial. *rare* (early) + E *ripe*] : ripe before others or earlier than usual

[2]rareripe *n* **1** : an early ripening fruit or vegetable **2** *dial* : GREEN ONION

rar·ing \'ra(ə)r-ən, 're(ə)r-, -iŋ\ *adj* [fr. prp. of E dial. *rare* to rear, alter. of E *rear*] : full of enthusiasm or eagerness
rar·i·ty \'rar-ət-ē, 'rer-\ *n, pl* **-ties** **1** : the quality, state, or fact of being rare **2** : one that is rare
ras·bo·ra \raz-'bōr-ə, -'bȯr-\ *n* [NL, genus name, fr. native name in the East Indies] : any of a genus (*Rasbora*) of tiny brilliantly colored cyprinid freshwater fishes often kept in tropical aquariums
1ras·cal \'ras-kəl\ *n* [ME *rascaile* rabble, one of the rabble] **1** : a mean, unprincipled, or dishonest person **2** : a mischievous person or animal
2rascal *adj* : of, forming, or befitting the rabble : LOW
ras·cal·i·ty \ra-'skal-ət-ē\ *n, pl* **-ties** **1** : RABBLE **2** **a** : the character or actions of a rascal : KNAVERY **b** : a rascally act
ras·cal·ly \'ras-kə-lē\ *adj* : of or characteristic of a rascal — **rascally** *adv*
rase \'rāz\ *vt* **rased; ras·ing** [ME *rasen*, fr. MF *raser*, fr. (assumed) VL *rasare*, fr. L *rasus*, pp. of *radere* to scrape, shave] **1** : ERASE **2** : RAZE 1
1rash \'rash\ *adj* [ME (northern dial.) *rasch* quick; akin to OHG *rasc* fast] **1** : marked by or proceeding from undue haste or lack of deliberation or caution **2** *obs* : quickly effective ***syn*** see ADVENTUROUS ***ant*** calculating — **rash·ly** *adv* — **rash·ness** *n*
2rash *adv, archaic* : in a rash manner
3rash *n* [obs. F *rache* scurf, fr. (assumed) VL *rasica*, fr. *rasicare* to scratch, fr. L *rasus*, pp. of *radere*] **1** : an eruption on the body **2** : a large number of instances in a short period
rash·er \'rash-ər\ *n* [perh. fr. obs. *rash* to cut, fr. ME *rashen*] : a thin slice of bacon or ham broiled or fried; *also* : a portion consisting of several such slices
ra·so·ri·al \rə-'zōr-ē-əl, -'sōr-, -'zȯr-, -'sȯr-\ *adj* [deriv. of LL *rasor* scraper, fr. L *rasus*] **1** : habitually scratching the ground in search of food ⟨~ birds⟩ **2** : GALLINACEOUS
1rasp \'rasp\ *vb* [ME *raspen*, fr. (assumed) MF *rasper*, of Gmc origin; akin to OHG *raspōn* to scrape together] *vt* **1** : to rub with something rough; *specif* : to abrade with a rasp **2** : to grate upon : IRRITATE **3** : to utter in an irritated tone ~ *vi* **1** : SCRAPE **2** : to produce a grating sound — **rasp·er** *n* — **rasp·ing·ly** \'ras-piŋ-lē\ *adv*
2rasp *n* **1** : a coarse file with cutting points instead of lines **2** : something used for rasping **3** **a** : an act of rasping **b** : a rasping sound, sensation, or effect
rasp·ber·ry \'raz-ˌber-ē, -b(ə-)rē\ *n* [E dial. *rasp* (raspberry) + E *berry*] **1** **a** : any of various usu. black or red edible berries that are aggregate fruits consisting of numerous small drupes on a fleshy receptacle and that are usu. rounder and smaller than the closely related blackberries **b** : a plant (genus *Rubus*) that bears raspberries **2** : a sound of contempt made by protruding the tongue between the lips and expelling air forcibly to produce a vibration
raspy \'ras-pē\ *adj* **1** : HARSH, GRATING **2** : IRRITABLE
ras·ter \'ras-tər\ *n* [G, fr. L *raster, rastrum* rake, fr. *radere* to scrape] : the area on which the image is reproduced in a kinescope
ra·sure \'rā-shər, -zhər\ *n* [MF, fr. L *rasura*, fr. *rasus*, pp. of *radere*] : ERASURE, OBLITERATION
1rat \'rat\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *ræt;* akin to OHG *ratta* rat, L *rodere* to gnaw, *radere* to scrape, shave] **1** **a** : any of numerous rodents (*Rattus* and related genera) differing from the related mice by considerably larger size and by structural details (as of the teeth) **b** : any of various similar rodents **2** : a contemptible person: as **a** : one who betrays or deserts his party, friends, or associates **b** : SCAB 3b **c** : INFORMER 2 **3** : a pad over which a woman's hair is arranged — **rat·like** \-ˌlīk\ *adj*
2rat *vb* **rat·ted; rat·ting** *vi* **1** : to betray, desert, or inform on one's associates — usu. used with *on* **2** : to catch or hunt rats **3** : to work as a scab ~ *vt* : to give (hair) the effect of greater quantity by use of a rat — **rat on** : to go back on (as an agreement or statement) : welsh on ⟨*ratted on* her debts —Ellery Sedgwick⟩
rat·able *or* **rate·able** \'rāt-ə-bəl\ *adj* : capable of being rated, estimated, or apportioned — **ratably** \-blē\ *adv*
rat·a·fia \ˌrat-ə-'fē-ə\ *n* [F] **1** : a liqueur flavored with fruit kernels and bitter almonds **2** : a sweet biscuit made of almond paste
rat·a·plan \'rat-ə-ˌplan\ *n* [F, of imit. origin] : the iterative sound of beating ⟨a rolling ~ of drums —*Time*⟩
rat–a–tat \'rat-ə-ˌtat\ *or* **rat–a–tat–tat** \ˌrat-ə-ˌta(t)-'tat\ *n* [imit.] : a sharp repeated knocking, tapping, or cracking sound
rat–bite fever *n* : either of two febrile bacterial diseases of man usu. transmitted by the bite of a rat
ratch \'rach\ *n* [G *ratsche*, fr. *ratschen* to rattle, fr. MHG *ratzen;* akin to MHG *razzeln* to rattle] **1** : RATCHET 2 **2** : a notched bar with which a pawl or detent works to prevent reversal of motion
rat cheese *n* : CHEDDAR
ratch·et \'rach-ət\ *n* [alter. of earlier *rochet*, fr. F, alter. of MF *rocquet* lance head, of Gmc origin; akin to OHG *rocko* distaff — more at ROCK] **1** : a mechanism that consists of a bar or wheel having inclined teeth into which a pawl drops so that motion can be imparted to the wheel or bar, governed, or prevented and that is used in a hand tool (as a brace or screwdriver) to allow effective motion in one direction only **2** : a pawl or detent for holding or propelling a ratchet wheel
ratchet wheel *n* : a toothed wheel held in position or turned by an engaging pawl



ratchet wheel: *1* wheel, *2* reciprocating lever, *3* pawl for communicating motion, *4* pawl for preventing backward motion

1rate \'rāt\ *vb* **rat·ed; rat·ing** [ME *raten*] *vt* **1** : to rebuke angrily or violently **2** *obs* : to drive away by scolding ~ *vi* : to voice angry reprimands
2rate *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. ML *rata*, fr. L (*pro*) *rata* (*parte*) according to a fixed proportion] **1** **a** : reckoned value : VALUATION **b** *obs* : ESTIMATION **2** *obs* : a fixed quantity **3** **a** : a fixed ratio between two things **b** : a charge, payment, or price fixed according to a ratio, scale, or standard: as (1) : a charge per unit of a public-service commodity (2) : a charge per unit of freight or passenger service (3) : a unit charge or ratio used by a government for assessing property taxes (4) *Brit* : a local tax **4** **a** : a quantity, amount, or degree of something measured per unit of something else **b** : an amount of payment or charge based on another amount; *specif* : the amount of premium per unit of insurance **5** : relative condition or quality : CLASS — **at any rate** : in any case : ANYWAY
3rate *vb* **rat·ed; rat·ing** *vt* **1** *obs* : ALLOT **2** : CONSIDER, REGARD ⟨was *rated* an excellent pianist⟩ **3** **a** : to set an estimate on : VALUE, ESTEEM ⟨black is *rated* very high this season⟩ **b** : to determine or assign the relative rank or class of : GRADE ⟨~ a seaman⟩ **c** : to estimate the normal capacity or power of **4** : to fix the amount of premium to be charged per unit of insurance on **5** : to have a right to : DESERVE ⟨she *rated* special privileges⟩ ~ *vi* : to enjoy a status of special privilege ⟨really ~*s* with her boss⟩ ***syn*** see ESTIMATE
rated load *n* : the load a machine is designed to carry
ra·tel \'rät-ᵊl, 'rāt-\ *n* [Afrik, lit., rattle, fr. MD — more at RATTLE] : an African or Asiatic nocturnal carnivorous mammal (genus *Mellivora*) resembling the badger
rate·me·ter \'rāt-ˌmēt-ər\ *n* : an instrument that indicates the counting rate of an electronic counter
rate of change : a value that results from dividing the change of a function of a variable by the change in the variable ⟨velocity is the *rate of change* of distance with respect to time⟩
rate of exchange : the amount of one currency that will buy a given amount of another
rate of interest : the percentage usu. on an annual basis that is paid for the use of money belonging to another
rate·pay·er \'rāt-ˌpā-ər\ *n, Brit* : TAXPAYER
rat·er \'rāt-ər\ *n* **1** : one that rates; *specif* : a person who estimates or determines a rating **2** : one having a specified rating or class — usu. used in combination ⟨first-*rater*⟩
rat fink *n* : FINK 3
rat·fish \'rat-ˌfish\ *n* : CHIMAERA; *esp* : a silvery iridescent white-spotted chimaera (*Hydrolagus colliei*) of cold deep waters of the Pacific coast of No. America
rathe \'rāth, 'rath\ *adj* [ME, quick, fr. OE *hræth*, alter. of *hræd;* akin to OHG *hrad* quick] *archaic* : EARLY ⟨bring the ~ primrose that forsaken dies —John Milton⟩
rath·er \'ra<u>th</u>-ər, 'rə<u>th</u>-, 'rä<u>th</u>-; *interjectionally* 'ra-'<u>th</u>ər, 'rə-', 'rä-'\ *adv* [ME, fr. OE *hrathor*, compar. of *hrathe* quickly; akin to OHG *rado* quickly, OE *hræd* quick] **1** : with better reason or more propriety ⟨pity ~ than despise —Shak.⟩ **2** : more readily or willingly : PREFERABLY ⟨I'd ~ not go⟩ — often used interjectionally to express affirmation **3** : more properly or truly ⟨my father, or ~ my stepfather⟩ **4** : to the contrary : INSTEAD ⟨was no better but ~ grew worse —Mk 5:26 (RSV)⟩ **5** : in some degree : SOMEWHAT ⟨it's ~ warm⟩
raths·kel·ler \'rät-ˌskel-ər, 'rat(h)-\ *n* [obs. G (now *ratskeller*), city-hall basement restaurant, fr. *rat* council + *keller* cellar] : a restaurant which is patterned after the cellar of a German city hall and in which beer is sold
rat·icide \'rat-ə-ˌsīd\ *n* : a substance for killing rats
rat·i·fy \'rat-ə-ˌfī\ *vt* **-fied; -fy·ing** [ME *ratifien*, fr. MF *ratifier*, fr. ML *ratificare*, fr. L *ratus* determined, fr. pp. of *reri* to calculate — more at REASON] : to approve and sanction formally : CONFIRM ⟨~ a treaty⟩ — **rat·i·fi·ca·tion** \ˌrat-ə-fə-'kā-shən\ *n*
ra·ti·né \ˌrat-ə-'nā\ *or* **ra·tine** \ˌrat-ə-'nā, ra-'tēn\ *n* [F *ratiné*] **1** : a nubby ply yarn of various fibers made by twisting under tension a thick and a thin yarn **2** : a rough bulky fabric usu. woven loosely in plain weave from ratiné yarns
rat·ing \'rāt-iŋ\ *n* **1** : a classification according to grade; *specif* : a military or naval specialist classification **2** *chiefly Brit* : a naval enlisted man **3** **a** : relative estimate or evaluation : STANDING ⟨the school has a good academic ~⟩ **b** : an estimate of an individual's or business's credit and responsibility **4** : a stated operating limit of a machine expressible in power units (as kilowatts of a direct-current generator) or in characteristics (as voltage)
ra·tio \'rā-(ˌ)shō, -shē-ˌō\ *n, pl* **ra·tios** [L, computation, reason — more at REASON] **1** **a** : the indicated quotient of two mathematical expressions **b** : the relationship in quantity, amount, or size between two or more things : PROPORTION **2** : the expression of the relative values of gold and silver as determined by a country's currency laws
ra·ti·o·ci·nate \ˌrat-ē-'ōs-ᵊn-ˌāt, ˌrash-ē-, -'äs-\ *vi* **-nat·ed; -nat·ing** [L *ratiocinatus*, pp. of *ratiocinari* to reckon, fr. *ratio*] : REASON — **ra·ti·o·ci·na·tor** \-ˌāt-ər\ *n*
ra·ti·o·ci·na·tion \-ˌōs-ᵊn-'ā-shən, -ˌäs-\ *n* **1** : the process of exact thinking : REASONING **2** : a reasoned train of thought — **ra·ti·o·ci·na·tive** \-'ōs-ᵊn-ˌāt-iv, -'äs-\ *adj*
1ra·tion \'rash-ən, 'rā-shən\ *n* [F, fr. L *ration-, ratio* computation, reason] **1** **a** : a food allowance for one day **b** *pl* : FOOD, PROVISIONS **2** : a share esp. as determined by supply
syn RATION, ALLOWANCE, DOLE, PITTANCE *shared meaning element* : the amount of food, supplies, or money allotted to an individual. RATION implies apportionment and, often, equal sharing; basically, it applies to the daily supply of food provided for one individual (as a prisoner or a milk cow) but it is freely extended to scarce things made available either equally or equitably in accord with need ⟨gasoline *rations* in wartime vary with the special needs of individuals⟩ ALLOWANCE, though often interchangeable with *ration*, is of wider application, for it stresses granting, rather than sharing what is available in restricted supply ⟨provided each man with a weekly *allowance* of tobacco⟩ ⟨a regular *allowance* teaches children to handle money⟩ DOLE tends to imply a grudging allowance to needy or grasping recipients ⟨cold charity's unwelcome *dole* —P. B. Shelley⟩ In modern and especially British use, *dole* applies specifically to a public payment to the needy or unemployed. PITTANCE stresses meagerness or miserliness and may apply indifferently to a ration, an allowance, an alms, a dole, or a wage ⟨and gained, by spinning hemp, a *pittance* for herself —William Wordsworth⟩

²ration *vt* **ra·tioned; ra·tion·ing** \'rash-(ə-)niŋ, 'rāsh-\ **1** : to supply with or put on rations **2 a** : to distribute as rations — often used with *out* ⟨*~ed* out sugar and flour⟩ **b** : to distribute equitably **c** : to use sparingly

¹ra·tio·nal \'rash-nəl, -ən-ᵊl\ *adj* [ME *racional*, fr. L *rationalis*, fr. *ration-*, *ratio*] **1 a** : having reason or understanding **b** : relating to, based on, or agreeable to reason : REASONABLE ⟨a *~* explanation⟩ ⟨*~* behavior⟩ **2** : involving only multiplication, division, addition, and subtraction and only a finite number of times **3** : relating to, consisting of, or being one or more rational numbers — **ra·tio·nal·ly** \-ē\ *adv* — **ra·tio·nal·ness** *n*

²rational *n* : something rational; *specif* : RATIONAL NUMBER

ra·tio·nale \ˌrash-ə-'nal\ *n* [L, neut. of *rationalis*] **1** : an explanation of controlling principles of opinion, belief, practice, or phenomena **2** : an underlying reason : BASIS

rational function *n* **1** : POLYNOMIAL **2** : a function that is the quotient of two polynomials

ra·tio·nal·ism \'rash-nə-ˌliz-əm, -ən-ᵊl-ˌiz-\ *n* **1** : reliance on reason as the basis for establishment of religious truth **2 a** : a theory that reason is in itself a source of knowledge superior to and independent of sense perceptions **b** : a view that reason and experience rather than the nonrational are the fundamental criteria in the solution of problems **3** : FUNCTIONALISM — **ra·tio·nal·ist** \-nə-ləst, -ən-ᵊl-əst\ *n* — **rationalist** *or* **ra·tio·nal·is·tic** \ˌrash-nə-'lis-tik, -ən-ᵊl-'is-\ *adj* — **ra·tio·nal·is·ti·cal·ly** \-ti-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

ra·tio·nal·i·ty \ˌrash-ə-'nal-ət-ē\ *n, pl* **-ties** **1** : the quality or state of being rational **2** : the quality or state of being agreeable to reason : REASONABLENESS **3** : a rational opinion, belief, or practice — usu. used in pl.

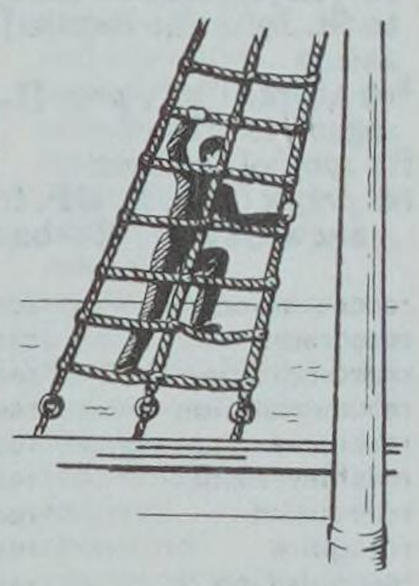
ra·tio·nal·ize \'rash-nə-ˌlīz, -ən-ᵊl-ˌīz\ *vb* **-ized; -iz·ing** *vt* **1** : to free (a mathematical expression) from irrational parts ⟨*~* a denominator⟩ **2** : to bring into accord with reason or cause something to seem reasonable: as **a** : to substitute a natural for a supernatural explanation of ⟨*~* a myth⟩ **b** : to attribute (one's actions) to rational and creditable motives without analysis of true and esp. unconscious motives ⟨*rationalized* his dislike of his brother⟩ *~ vi* : to provide plausible but untrue reasons for conduct — **ra·tio·nal·iza·tion** \ˌrash-nə-lə-'zā-shən, -ən-ᵊl-ə-\ *n* — **ra·tio·nal·iz·er** \'rash-nə-ˌlī-zər, -ən-ᵊl-ˌī-\ *n*

rational number *n* : an integer or the quotient of two integers

¹rat·ite \'ra-ˌtīt\ *adj* [deriv. of L *ratitus* marked with the figure of a raft, fr. *ratis* raft] : having a flat breastbone

²ratite *n* : a bird with a flat breastbone; *esp* : any of a superorder (Ratitae) of birds (as an ostrich, an emu, a moa, and a kiwi) that have small or rudimentary wings and no keel to the breastbone

rat·line \'rat-lən\ *n* [origin unknown] : one of the small transverse ropes attached to the shrouds of a ship so as to form the steps of a rope ladder



ratlines

rat mite *n* : a widely distributed mite (*Bdellonyssus bacoti*) that usu. feeds on rodents but may cause dermatitis in and transmit typhus to man

¹ra·toon \ra-'tün\ *n* [Sp *retoño*, fr. *retoñar* to sprout, fr. *re-* (fr. L) + *otoñar* to grow in autumn, fr. *otoño* autumn, fr. L *autumnus*] **1** : a shoot of a perennial plant (as sugarcane) **2** : a crop (as of bananas) produced on ratoons

²ratoon *vi* : to sprout or spring up from the root *~ vt* : to grow or produce (a crop) from or on ratoons

ra·to unit \'rāt-(ˌ)ō-\ *n* [*r*ocket-*a*ssisted *to*ke*off*] : JATO UNIT

rat race *n* : strenuous, wearisome, and usu. competitive activity or rush

rat snake *n* : any of numerous large harmless rat-eating colubrid snakes — called also *chicken snake*

rat·tail \'rat-ˌtāl\ *n* **1** : a horse's tail with little or no hair **2** : GRENADIER 2

rattail cactus *n* : a commonly cultivated tropical American cactus (*Aporocactus flagelliformis*) with creeping stems and showy crimson flowers

rat–tail file *n* : a round slender tapered file

rat·tan \ra-'tan, rə-\ *n* [Malay *rotan*] **1 a** : a climbing palm (esp. of the genera *Calamus* and *Daemonorops*) with very long tough stems **b** : a part of the stem of a rattan used esp. for walking sticks and wickerwork **2** : a rattan cane or switch

rat·teen \ra-'tēn\ *n* [F *ratine*] *archaic* : a coarse woolen fabric

rat·ter \'rat-ər\ *n* : one that catches rats; *specif* : a rat-catching dog or cat

¹rat·tle \'rat-ᵊl\ *vb* **rat·tled; rat·tling** \'rat-liŋ, -ᵊl-iŋ\ [ME *ratelen*; akin to MD *ratel* rattle, OE *hratian* to rush — more at CARDINAL] *vi* **1** : to make a rapid succession of short sharp noises ⟨the windows *rattled* in the wind⟩ **2** : to chatter incessantly and aimlessly **3 a** : to move with a clatter or rattle **b** : to have room to move about aimlessly *~ vt* **1** : to say, perform, or affect in a brisk lively fashion ⟨*rattled* off four magnificent backhands —Kim Chapin⟩ **2** : to cause to make a rattling sound **3** : ROUSE; *specif* : to beat (a cover) for game **4** : to upset to the point of loss of poise and composure ***syn*** see EMBARRASS

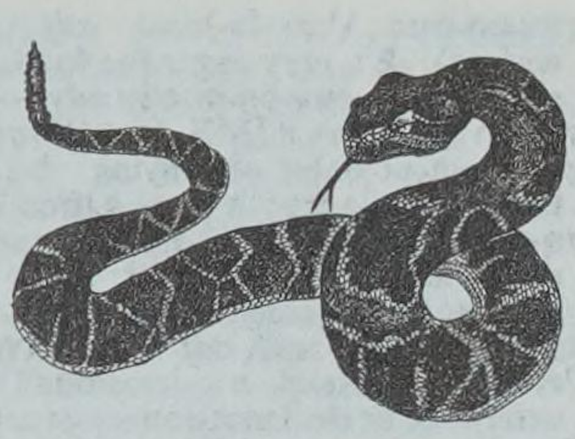
²rattle *n* **1 a** : a rapid succession of sharp clattering sounds **b** : NOISE, RACKET **2 a** : a device that produces a rattle; *specif* : a case containing pellets used as a baby's toy **b** : the sound-producing organ on a rattlesnake's tail **3** : a throat noise caused by air passing through mucus and heard esp. at the approach of death

³rattle *vt* **rat·tled; rat·tling** \'rat-liŋ, -ᵊl-iŋ\ [irreg. fr. *ratline*] : to furnish with ratlines

rat·tle·brain \'rat-ᵊl-ˌbrān\ *n* : a flighty or thoughtless person — **rat·tle·brained** \ˌrat-ᵊl-'brānd\ *adj*

rat·tler \'rat-lər, -ᵊl-ər\ *n* **1** : one that rattles **2** : RATTLESNAKE

rat·tle·snake \'rat-ᵊl-ˌsnāk\ *n* : any of various thick-bodied American venomous snakes (family Crotalidae, genera *Sistrurus* and *Crotalus*) with horny interlocking joints at the end of the tail that make a sharp rattling sound when shaken



rattlesnake

rattlesnake plantain *n* : an orchid (genus *Goodyera*) with checked or mottled leaves

rattlesnake root *n* : any of various plants formerly believed to be distasteful to rattlesnakes or effective against their venom: as **a** : any of a genus (*Prenanthes* and esp. *P. altissima*) of composite plants that have lobed or pinnatifid leaves and small heads of drooping ligulate flowers **b** : SENECA SNAKEROOT

rattlesnake weed *n* **1** : a hawkweed (*Hieracium venosum*) with purple-veined leaves **2** : a weedy herb (*Daucus pusillus*) of the western U.S. related to the carrot

rat·tle·trap \'rat-ᵊl-ˌtrap\ *n* : something rattly or rickety; *esp* : an old car — **rattletrap** *adj*

¹rat·tling \'rat-liŋ\ *adj* **1** : LIVELY, BRISK ⟨moved at a *~* pace⟩ **2** : extraordinarily good : SPLENDID ⟨played a *~* game —*Sunday Independent* (*Dublin*)⟩ — **rat·tling·ly** \-liŋ-lē\ *adv*

²rattling *adv* : to an extreme degree : VERY ⟨a *~* good argument — E. A. Betts⟩

rat·tly \'rat-lē, -ᵊl-ē\ *adj* : likely to rattle : making a rattle

rat·ton \'rat-ᵊn, 'rät-\ *n* [ME *ratoun*, fr. MF *raton*, dim. of *rat*, prob. of Gmc origin; akin to OE *ræt* rat] *chiefly dial* : RAT

rat·trap \'ra(t)-ˌtrap\ *n* **1** : a trap for rats **2** : a dirty dilapidated structure **3** : a hopeless situation

rat trap cheese *n* : CHEDDAR

rat·ty \'rat-ē\ *adj* **rat·ti·er; -est** **1 a** : infested with rats **b** : of, relating to, or suggestive of a rat **2** : SHABBY, UNKEMPT ⟨a *~* brown overcoat —John Lardner⟩ **3 a** : DESPICABLE, TREACHEROUS ⟨she was forever taking up with *~* people —Frances G. Patton⟩ **b** : IRRITABLE ⟨feeling *~* as hell —Richard Bissell⟩

rau·cous \'rȯ-kəs\ *adj* [L *raucus* hoarse; akin to OE *rēon* to lament — more at RUMOR] **1** : disagreeably harsh or strident : HOARSE ⟨*~* voices⟩ **2** : boisterously disorderly ⟨a . . . *~* frontier town — Truman Capote⟩ — **rau·cous·ly** *adv* — **rau·cous·ness** *n*

raun·chy \'rȯn-chē, 'rän-\ *adj* **raun·chi·er; -est** [origin unknown] **1** : SLOVENLY DIRTY ⟨a *~* panhandler⟩ **2** : OBSCENE, SMUTTY ⟨*~* jokes⟩ — **raun·chi·ly** \'rȯn-chə-lē\ *adv* — **raun·chi·ness** \-chē-nəs\ *n*

rau·wol·fia \raù-'wůl-fē-ə, rȯ-\ *n* [NL, genus name, fr. Leonhard *Rauwolf* †1596 G botanist] **1** : any of a large pantropic genus (*Rauwolfia*) of the dogbane family of somewhat poisonous trees and shrubs yielding emetic and purgative substances **2** : a medicinal extract from the root of an Indian rauwolfia (*Rauwolfia serpentina*) used in the treatment of hypertension and mental disorders

¹rav·age \'rav-ij\ *n* [F, fr. MF, fr. *ravir* to ravish — more at RAVISH] **1** : an act or practice of ravaging **2** : damage resulting from ravaging : violently destructive effect ⟨the *~s* of time⟩

²ravage *vb* **rav·aged; rav·ag·ing** *vt* : to wreak havoc on : visit destructively and often violently *~ vi* : to commit destructive actions — **rav·age·ment** \-ij-mənt\ *n* — **rav·ag·er** *n*

syn RAVAGE, DEVASTATE, WASTE, SACK, PILLAGE *shared meaning element* : to lay waste by plundering or destroying

¹rave \'rāv\ *vb* **raved; rav·ing** [ME *raven*] *vi* **1 a** : to talk irrationally in or as if in delirium **b** : to declaim wildly **c** : to talk with extreme enthusiasm ⟨*raved* about her beauty⟩ **2** : to move or advance violently : STORM ⟨the iced gusts still *~* and beat —John Keats⟩ *~ vt* : to utter in madness or frenzy — **rav·er** *n*

²rave *n* **1** : an act or instance of raving **2** : an extravagantly favorable criticism ⟨the play received the critics' *~s*⟩

¹rav·el \'rav-əl\ *vb* **-eled** *or* **-elled; -el·ing** *or* **-el·ling** \-(ə-)liŋ\ [D *rafelen*, fr. *rafel* loose thread; akin to OE *ræfter* rafter] *vt* **1 a** : to separate or undo the texture of : UNRAVEL **b** : to undo the intricacies of : DISENTANGLE **2** : ENTANGLE, CONFUSE *~ vi* **1** *obs* : to become entangled or confused **2** : to become unwoven, untwisted, or unwound : FRAY **3** : to break up : CRUMBLE — **rav·el·er** \-(ə-)lər\ *n* — **rav·el·ment** \-əl-mənt\ *n*

²ravel *n* : an act or result of raveling: as **a** : something tangled **b** : something raveled out; *specif* : a loose thread

rav·el·ing *or* **rav·el·ling** \'rav(-ə)-liŋ, -lən\ *n* : RAVEL b

¹ra·ven \'rā-vən\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *hræfn*; akin to OHG *hraban* raven, L *corvus*, Gk *korax*, L *crepare* to rattle, crack] : a glossy black corvine bird (*Corvus corax*) of northern Europe, Asia, and America — compare CROW



raven

²raven *adj* : of the color or glossy sheen of the raven ⟨*~* hair⟩

³rav·en \'rav-ən\ *vb* **rav·ened; rav·en·ing** \-(ə-)niŋ\ [MF *raviner* to rush, take by force, fr. *ravine* rapine] *vt* **1** : to devour greedily **2** : DESPOIL ⟨men . . . *~* the earth, destroying its resources —*New Yorker*⟩ *~ vi* **1** : to feed greedily **2** : to prowl for food : PREY **3** : PLUNDER — **rav·en·er** \-(ə-)nər\ *n*

rav·en·ous \'rav-(ə-)nəs\ *adj* **1** : RAPACIOUS, VORACIOUS ⟨~ wolves⟩ **2** : very eager for food, satisfaction, or gratification ⟨a ~ appetite⟩ — **rav·en·ous·ly** *adv* — **rav·en·ous·ness** *n*

rav·in \'rav-ən\ *n* [ME, fr. MF *ravine*] **1** : PLUNDER, PILLAGE **2 a** : an act or habit of preying **b** : something seized as prey ⟨red in tooth and claw with ~ —Alfred Tennyson⟩

ra·vine \rə-'vēn\ *n* [F, fr. MF, rapine, rush, fr. L *rapina* rapine] : a small narrow steep-sided valley that is larger than a gully and smaller than a canyon and that is usu. worn by running water

rav·ined \'rav-ənd\ *adj, obs* : RAVENOUS

¹rav·ing \'rā-viŋ\ *n* : irrational, incoherent, wild, or extravagant utterance or declamation — usu. used in pl.

²raving *adj* **1** : talking wildly or irrationally ⟨a ~ lunatic⟩ **2** : RAVISHING ⟨a ~ beauty⟩

rav·i·o·li \ˌrav-ē-'ō-lē, ˌräv-\ *n* [It, fr. It dial., pl. of *raviolo*, lit., little turnip, dim. of *rava* turnip, fr. L *rapa* — more at RAPE] : little cases of dough containing a savory filling (as of meat or cheese); *also* : a dish consisting of ravioli in a tomato sauce

rav·ish \'rav-ish\ *vt* [ME *ravisshen*, fr. MF *raviss-*, stem of *ravir*, fr. (assumed) VL *rapire*, alter. of L *rapere* to seize, rob — more at RAPID] **1 a** : to seize and take away by violence **b** : to overcome with emotion (as joy or delight) ⟨~*ed* by the beauty of the scene⟩ **c** : RAPE, VIOLATE **2** : PLUNDER, ROB ***syn*** see TRANSPORT — **rav·ish·er** *n* — **rav·ish·ment** \-ish-mənt\ *n*

rav·ish·ing \'rav-ish-iŋ\ *adj* : unusually attractive, pleasing, or striking — **rav·ish·ing·ly** \-iŋ-lē\ *adv*

¹raw \'rȯ\ *adj* **raw·er** \'rȯ(-ə)r\; **raw·est** \'rȯ-əst\ [ME, fr. OE *hrēaw;* akin to OHG *hrō* raw, L *crudus* raw, *cruor* blood, Gk *kreas* flesh] **1** : not cooked **2 a** (1) : being in or nearly in the natural state : not processed or purified ⟨~ fibers⟩ ⟨~ sewage⟩ (2) : not diluted or blended ⟨~ spirits⟩ **b** : unprepared or imperfectly prepared for use **c** : not being in polished, finished, or processed form ⟨~ data⟩ ⟨a ~ draft of a thesis⟩ **3 a** (1) : having the surface abraded or chafed (2) : very irritated ⟨a ~ sore throat⟩ **b** : lacking covering : NAKED **4 a** : lacking experience or understanding : GREEN ⟨a ~ recruit⟩ **b** (1) : marked by absence of refinements (2) : VULGAR, COARSE ⟨a ~ joke⟩ **5** : disagreeably damp or cold ***syn*** see RUDE — **raw·ly** *adv* — **raw·ness** *n*

²raw *n* : a raw place or state — **in the raw** **1** : in the natural or crude state ⟨life *in the raw*⟩ **2** : NAKED ⟨slept *in the raw*⟩

raw·boned \'rȯ-'bōnd\ *adj* **1** : having little flesh : GAUNT **2** : having a coarse heavy frame that seems inadequately covered with flesh ***syn*** see LEAN

raw deal *n* : an instance of unfair treatment

¹raw·hide \'rȯ-ˌhīd\ *n* **1** : untanned cattle skin **2** : a whip of untanned hide

²rawhide *vt* **raw·hid·ed; raw·hid·ing** : to whip or drive with or as if with a rawhide

ra·win·sonde \'rā-wən-ˌsänd\ *n* [*ra*dar + *wind* + radio*sonde*] : a radiosonde tracked by a radio direction-finding device to determine the velocity of winds aloft

raw material *n* : material whether crude or processed that can be converted by manufacture, processing, or combination into a new and useful product ⟨wheat, the finished product of the farmer, is *raw material* for the flour mill —C. A. Koepke⟩; *broadly* : something with a potential for improvement, development, or elaboration ⟨perplexities are often the *raw material* of discoveries —Agnes M. Clerke⟩

raw score *n* : an individual's actual achievement (as on a test) usu. expressed numerically and unadjusted for relative position in the group tested

rax \'raks\ *vb* [ME (northern dial.) *raxen*, fr. OE *raxan;* akin to OE *reccan* to stretch — more at RACK] *chiefly Scot* : STRETCH

¹ray \'rā\ *n* [ME *raye*, fr. MF *raie*, fr. L *raia*] : any of numerous elasmobranch fishes (order Hypotremata) having the body flattened dorsoventrally, the eyes on the upper surface, and a much-reduced caudal region

²ray *n* [ME, fr. MF *rai*, fr. L *radius* rod, ray] **1 a** : one of the lines of light that appear to radiate from a bright object **b** : a beam of light or other radiant energy of small cross section **c** (1) : a stream of material particles traveling in the same line (as in radioactive phenomena) (2) : a single particle of such a stream **2 a** : light cast by rays : RADIANCE **b** : a moral or intellectual light **3** : a thin line suggesting a ray: as **a** : any of a group of lines diverging from a common center **b** : HALF LINE **4 a** : one of the bony rods that extend and support the membrane in the fin of a fish **b** : one of the radiating divisions of the body of a radiate animal **c** : a longitudinal vein of an insect's wing **5 a** : a branch or flower stalk of an umbel **b** (1) : MEDULLARY RAY (2) : VASCULAR RAY **c** : RAY FLOWER 1 **6** : PARTICLE, TRACE ⟨~ of hope⟩

³ray *vi* **1 a** : to shine in or as if in rays **b** : to issue as rays **2** : to extend like the radii of a circle : RADIATE ~ *vt* **1** : to emit in rays **2** : to furnish or mark with rays

rayed \'rād\ *adj* : having ray flowers

ray floret *n* : RAY FLOWER 1

ray flower *n* **1** : one of the marginal flowers of the head in a composite plant (as the aster) that also has disk flowers **2** : the entire head in a plant (as chicory) that lacks disk flowers

ray·less \'rā-ləs\ *adj* **1** : having, admitting, or emitting no rays; *esp* : DARK **2** : lacking ray flowers — **ray·less·ness** *n*

rayless goldenrod *n* : any of several composite plants (*Haplopappus* or related genera) some of which produce trembles in cattle

ray·on \'rā-ˌän\ *n* [irreg. fr. ²*ray*] **1** : any of a group of smooth textile fibers made in filament and staple form from cellulosic material by extrusion through minute holes **2** : a rayon yarn, thread, or fabric

raze \'rāz\ *vt* **razed; raz·ing** [alter. of *rase*] **1** : to destroy to the ground : DEMOLISH **2 a** : to scrape, cut, or shave off **b** *archaic* : ERASE — **raz·er** *n*

ra·zee \rā-'zē\ *n* [F (*vaisseau*) *rasé*, lit., cut-off ship] : a wooden ship with the upper deck cut away

ra·zor \'rā-zər\ *n* [ME *rasour*, fr. OF *raseor*, fr. *raser* to raze, shave — more at RASE] : a keen-edged cutting instrument for shaving or cutting hair

ra·zor·back \'rā-zər-ˌbak\ *n* : a thin-bodied long-legged half-wild mongrel hog chiefly of the southeastern U.S.

ra·zor-backed \ˌrā-zər-'bakt\ *or* **ra·zor·back** \'rā-zər-ˌbak\ *adj* : having a sharp narrow back ⟨a ~ horse⟩

ra·zor·bill \'rā-zər-ˌbil\ *n* : a No. Atlantic auk (*Alca torda*) with the plumage black above and white below and a compressed sharp-edged bill — called also *razor-billed auk*

razor clam *n* : any of numerous marine bivalve mollusks (family Solenidae) having a long narrow curved thin shell

¹razz \'raz\ *n* [short for *razzberry* (sound of contempt), alter. of *raspberry*] : RASPBERRY 2

²razz *vt* : HECKLE, DERIDE ⟨the fans ~*ed* the visiting players⟩

raz·zle-daz·zle \ˌraz-əl-'daz-əl\ *n* [irreg. redupl. of *dazzle*] **1** : a state of confusion or hilarity **2** : a complex maneuver (as in sports) designed to confuse an opponent **3** : a confusing or colorful often gaudy action or display

razz·ma·tazz \ˌraz-mə-'taz\ *n* [prob. alter. of *razzle-dazzle*] **1** : RAZZLE-DAZZLE 3 **2** : DOUBLE-TALK 2 **3** : VIM, ZING

Rb *symbol* rubidium

RBA *abbr* Royal Society of British Artists

RBC *abbr* red blood cells; red blood count

RBE *abbr* relative biological effectiveness

RBI \ˌär-(ˌ)bē-'ī, 'rib-ē\ *n, pl* **RBIs** *or* **RBI** [*r*un *b*atted *in*] : a run scored in baseball by an action by a batter (as a base hit)

RBS *abbr* Royal Society of British Sculptors

RC *abbr* **1** Red Cross **2** resistance-capacitance **3** Roman Catholic

RCAF *abbr* Royal Canadian Air Force

RCMP *abbr* Royal Canadian Mounted Police

RCN *abbr* Royal Canadian Navy

r color *n* : an acoustic effect of a simultaneously articulated \r\ imparted to a vowel by retroflexion or constriction of the tongue — **r-col·ored** \'är-ˌkəl-ərd\ *adj*

RCP *abbr* Royal College of Physicians

RCS *abbr* Royal College of Surgeons

rct *abbr* recruit

rd *abbr* **1** road **2** rod **3** round

RD *abbr* **1** refer to drawer **2** rural delivery

-rd *symbol* — used after the figure 3 to indicate the ordinal number *third* ⟨3*rd*⟩ ⟨83*rd*⟩

RDA *abbr* recommended daily allowance

RDF *abbr* radio direction finder; radio direction finding

¹re \'rā\ *n* [ML, fr. the syllable sung to this note in a medieval hymn to St. John the Baptist] : the 2d tone of the diatonic scale in solmization

²re \(')rā, (')rē\ *prep* [L, abl. of *res* thing — more at REAL] : with regard to : in re

Re *symbol* rhenium

re- *prefix* [ME, fr. OF, fr. L *re-, red-* back, again, against] **1** : again : anew ⟨*re*tell⟩ **2** : back : backward ⟨*re*call⟩

reaccommodate
reaccredit
reaccreditation
reaccumulation
reachieve
reachievement
reacquaint
reacquire
reacquisition
reactuate
readapt
readdict
readdiction
readdress
readjust
readjustable
readjustment
readmission
readmit
readmittance
readopt
readoption
reaffirm
reaffirmation
reaffix
reallocate
reallocation
reanalysis
reanalyze
reanesthetize
reanimate
reanimation
reannex
reannexation
reappear
reappearance
reapplication
reapply
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reburial
rebury
rebutton
recalibrate
recane
recarbonize
recatalog
recatalogue
recentralization
recertification
recertify
rechannel
recheck
rechristen
rechromatograph
recirculate
recirculation
reclassification
reclassify
reclean
recoal
recock
recodification
recodify
recolonization
recolonize
recolor
recombine
recommence
recommencement
recommission
recompilation
recompile
recomplete
recompletion
recompound
recompress
recompression
recomputation
recompute
reconceive
reconcentrate
reconcentration
reconception
reconceptualization
reconceptualize
recondensation
recondense
reconduct
reconfine
reconnect
reconnection
reconquer
reconquest
reconsecrate
reconsecration
reconsign
reconsignment
reconsult
reconsultation
recontact
recontaminate
recontamination
recontour
recontract
reconvene
reconvict

reconviction
reconvince
recook
recopy
recouple
recross
recut
redate
rededicate
rededication
redelegate
redeliver
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redeposit
redesignate
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rediscovery
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redissolve
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reeligibility
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retraverse
retune
retype
reupholster
reutilize
revaccinate
revaccination
revaporize
reverification
reverify
revote
rewarm
rewash
rewater
reweave
rewed
reweigh
reweigher
reweld
rewire

're \(ə)r\ *vb* : ARE ⟨you'*re* right⟩
REA *abbr* **1** Railway Express Agency **2** Rural Electrification Administration

re·ab·sorb \ˌrē-əb-ˈsȯ(ə)rb, -ˈzȯ(ə)rb\ *vt* : to take up (something previously secreted) ⟨sugars ~*ed* in the kidney⟩; *also* : RESORB 2
[1]reach \ˈrēch\ *vb* [ME *rechen*, fr. OE *rǣcan;* akin to OHG *reichen* to reach, Lith *raižytis* to stretch oneself repeatedly] *vt* **1 a** : to stretch out : EXTEND **b** : THRUST **2 a** : to touch or grasp by extending a part of the body (as a hand) or an object ⟨couldn't ~ the apple⟩ **b** : to pick up and draw toward one : TAKE **c** (1) : to extend to ⟨the shadow ~*ed* the wall⟩ (2) : to get up to or as far as : come to ⟨your letter ~*ed* me yesterday⟩ ⟨his voice ~*ed* the last rows⟩ ⟨they hoped to ~ an agreement⟩ **d** (1) : ENCOMPASS (2) : to make an impression on (3) : to communicate with **3** : to hand over : PASS ~ *vi* **1 a** : to make a stretch with or as if with one's hand **b** : to strain after something **2 a** : PROJECT, EXTEND ⟨his land ~*es* to the river⟩ **b** : to arrive at or come to something ⟨as far as the eye could ~⟩ **3** : to sail on a reach — **reach·able** \ˈrē-chə-bəl\ *adj* — **reach·er** *n*
syn REACH, GAIN, COMPASS, ACHIEVE, ATTAIN *shared meaning element* : to arrive at a point or end by work or effort
[2]reach *n* **1 a** (1) : the action or an act of reaching (2) : an individual part of a progression or journey **b** : the distance or extent of reaching or of ability to reach **c** : COMPREHENSION, RANGE **2** : a continuous stretch or expanse; *esp* : a straight portion of a stream or river **3** : a bearing shaft or coupling pole; *esp* : the rod joining the hind axle to the forward bolster of a wagon **4** : the tack sailed by a ship with the wind coming just forward of the beam or with the wind directly abeam or abaft the beam **5** *pl* : positions of importance ⟨the higher ~*es* of academic life⟩
reach–me–down \ˈrēch-mē-ˌdau̇n\ *adj or n, chiefly Brit* : HAND-ME-DOWN
re·act \rē-ˈakt\ *vb* [NL *reactus*, pp. of *reagere*, fr. L *re-* + *agere* to act — more at AGENT] *vi* **1** : to exert a reciprocal or counteracting force or influence — often used with *on* or *upon* **2** : to respond to a stimulus **3** : to act in opposition to a force or influence — usu. used with *against* **4** : to move or tend in a reverse direction **5** : to undergo chemical reaction ~ *vt* : to cause to react
re·ac·tance \rē-ˈak-tən(t)s\ *n* : the part of the impedance of an alternating-current circuit that is due to capacitance or inductance or both and that is expressed in ohms
re·ac·tant \-tənt\ *n* : a substance that enters into and is altered in the course of a chemical reaction
re·ac·tion \rē-ˈak-shən\ *n* **1 a** : the act or process or an instance of reacting **b** : tendency toward a former and usu. outmoded political or social order or policy **2** : bodily response to or activity aroused by a stimulus: **a** : an action induced by vital resistance to another action; *esp* : the response of tissues to a foreign substance (as an antigen or infective agent) **b** : depression or exhaustion due to excessive exertion or stimulation **c** : heightened activity and overaction succeeding depression or shock **d** : a mental or emotional disorder forming an individual's response to his life situation **3** : the force that a body subjected to the action of a force from another body exerts in the opposite direction **4 a** (1) : chemical transformation or change : the interaction of chemical entities (2) : the state resulting from such a reaction **b** : a process involving change in atomic nuclei — **re·ac·tion·al** \-shnəl, -shən-ᵊl\ *adj* — **re·ac·tion·al·ly** \-ē\ *adv*
[1]re·ac·tion·ary \rē-ˈak-shə-ˌner-ē\ *adj* : relating to, marked by, or favoring reaction and esp. political reaction — **re·ac·tion·ary·ism** \-ˌiz-əm\ *n*
[2]reactionary *n, pl* **-ar·ies** : a reactionary person
reaction engine *n* : an engine (as a jet engine) that develops thrust by expelling a jet of fluid or a stream of particles
re·ac·ti·vate \(ˈ)rē-ˈak-tə-ˌvāt\ *vt* : to activate again ~ *vi* : to become active again — **re·ac·ti·va·tion** \(ˌ)rē-ˌak-tə-ˈvā-shən\ *n*
re·ac·tive \rē-ˈak-tiv\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or marked by reaction or reactance **2 a** : readily responsive to a stimulus **b** : occurring as a result of stress or emotional upset ⟨~ depression⟩ — **re·ac·tive·ly** *adv* — **re·ac·tive·ness** *n* — **re·ac·tiv·i·ty** \(ˌ)rē-ˌak-ˈtiv-ət-ē\ *n*
re·ac·tor \rē-ˈak-tər\ *n* **1** : one that reacts **2** : a device (as a coil, winding, or conductor of small resistance) used to introduce reactance into an alternating-current circuit **3 a** : a vat for an industrial chemical reaction **b** : an apparatus in which a chain reaction of fissionable material is initiated and controlled
[1]read \ˈrēd\ *vb* **read** \ˈred\; **read·ing** \ˈrēd-iŋ\ [ME *reden* to advise, interpret, read, fr. OE *rǣdan;* akin to OHG *rātan* to advise, Gk *arariskein* to fit — more at ARM] *vt* **1 a** (1) : to receive or take in the sense of (as letters or symbols) by scanning (2) : to study the movements of (as lips) with mental formulation of the communication expressed (3) : to utter aloud the printed or written words of ⟨~ them a story⟩ (4) : to understand the meaning of (written or printed matter) ⟨students who can really ~ the classics⟩ **b** : to learn from what one has seen or found in writing or printing **c** : to deliver aloud by or as if by reading; *specif* : to utter interpretively **d** (1) : to become acquainted with or look over the contents of (as a book) : PERUSE (2) : to make a study of ⟨~ law⟩ (3) : to read the works of **e** (1) : COPYREAD (2) : PROOFREAD **f** (1) : to receive and understand (a voice message) by radio (2) : UNDERSTAND, COMPREHEND **2 a** : to interpret the meaning or significance of ⟨~ palms⟩ **b** : FORETELL, PREDICT ⟨able to ~ his fortune⟩ **3 a** : to learn the nature of by observing outward expression or signs ⟨~*s* him like a book⟩ **b** : to note the action of in order to anticipate what will happen ⟨a good canoeist ~*s* the rapids⟩; *also* : to anticipate correctly ⟨an experienced linebacker able to ~ plays⟩ **4 a** : to attribute a meaning to (as something read) : INTERPRET ⟨how do you ~ this passage⟩ **b** : to attribute (a meaning) to something read or considered ⟨~ a nonexistent meaning into

her words〉 **5** : to use as a substitute for or in preference to another word or phrase in a particular passage, text, or version 〈~ *hurry* for *harry*〉 **6** : INDICATE 〈the thermometer ~*s* zero〉 **7** : to interpret (a musical work) in performance **8** **a** : to sense the meaning of (information) in recorded and coded form (as in storage) : acquire (information) from storage — used of a computer or data processor **b** : to read the coded information on (as tape or a punch card) **c** : to cause to be read and transferred to storage 〈~ the contents of a punch card into a core〉 ~ *vi* **1** **a** : to perform the act of reading words : read something **b** (1) : to learn something by reading (2) : to pursue a course of study **2** **a** : to yield a particular meaning or impression when read **b** : to have qualities that affect comprehension or enjoyment **3** : to consist of specific words, phrases, or other similar elements 〈a passage that ~*s* differently in older versions〉 — **read between the lines** : to understand more than is directly stated — **read the riot act** **1** : to order a mob to disperse **2** **a** : to order or warn to cease something **b** : to protest vehemently **c** : to reprimand severely

²read \'rēd\ *n* **1** *chiefly Brit* : a period of reading 〈it was a night . . . for a ~ and a long sleep —William Sansom〉 **2** : something (as a book) for reading 〈a moving novel, intelligent . . . on the whole, a pretty good ~ —Eliot Fremont-Smith〉 **3** : the action or an instance of reading

³read \'red\ *adj* : instructed by or informed through reading

read·able \'rēd-ə-bəl\ *adj* : able to be read easily: as **a** : LEGIBLE **b** : interesting to read — **read·abil·i·ty** \ˌrēd-ə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* — **read·able·ness** \'rēd-ə-bəl-nəs\ *n* — **read·ably** \-blē\ *adv*

read·er \'rēd-ər\ *n* **1** **a** : one that reads **b** : one appointed to read to others: as (1) : LECTOR (2) : one chosen to read aloud selected material in a Christian Science church or society **c** (1) : PROOFREADER (2) : one who evaluates manuscripts (3) : one who reads periodical literature to discover items of special interest or value **d** : an employee who reads and records the indications of meters **e** : a teacher's assistant who reads and marks student papers **2** *Brit* : one who reads lectures or expounds subjects to students **3** **a** : a device for projecting a readable image of a transparency **b** : a unit that scans material recorded (as on punch cards) for storage or computation **4** **a** : a book for instruction and practice esp. in reading **b** : ANTHOLOGY

read·er·ship \-ˌship\ *n* **1** **a** : the quality or state of being a reader **b** : the office or position of a reader **2** : the mass or a particular group of readers

read·i·ly \'red-ᵊl-ē\ *adv* : in a ready manner: as **a** : without hesitating : WILLINGLY 〈he ~ accepted advice〉 **b** : without much difficulty : EASILY 〈for reasons that anyone could ~ understand〉

read·ing \'rēd-iŋ\ *n* **1** : the act of reading **2** **a** : material read or for reading **b** : extent of material read **3** **a** : a particular version **b** : data indicated by an instrument **4** **a** : a particular interpretation of something (as a law) **b** : a particular performance of something (as a musical work) **5** : an indication of a certain state of affairs 〈a study to get some ~ of shoppers' preferences〉

reading chair *n* : a chair with a narrow back, high short arms, a small slanted shelf attached to the top of the back, and a seat designed for straddling and for permitting one to sit facing the shelf

reading desk *n* : a desk to support a book in a convenient position for a standing reader

read·out \'rēd-ˌau̇t\ *n* **1** : the process of reading **2** **a** : the process of removing information from an automatic device (as an electronic computer) and displaying it in an understandable form **b** : the information removed from such a device and displayed or recorded (as by magnetic tape or printing device) **c** : a device used for readout **3** : the radio transmission of data or pictures from a space vehicle either immediately upon acquisition or later by means of playback of a tape recording

read out \(ˈ)rēd-'au̇t\ *vt* **1** **a** : to read aloud **b** : to produce a readout of **2** : to expel from an organization

¹ready \'red-ē\ *adj* **readi·er; -est** [ME *redy;* akin to OHG *reiti* ready, Goth ga*raiths* arrayed, Gk *arariskein* to fit — more at ARM] **1** **a** : prepared mentally or physically for some experience or action **b** : prepared for immediate use 〈dinner is ~〉 **2** **a** (1) : willingly disposed : INCLINED 〈~ to agree to his proposal〉 (2) : likely to do something indicated 〈~ to cry with vexation〉 **b** : spontaneously prompt **3** : notably dexterous, adroit, or skilled **4** : immediately available 〈had little ~ cash〉 ***syn*** see QUICK — **readi·ness** *n*

²ready *vt* **read·ied; ready·ing** : to make ready ***syn*** see PREPARE

³ready *n* : the state of being ready; *esp* : preparation of a gun for immediate aiming and firing 〈kept their guns at the ~〉

ready box *n* : a box placed near a gun (as on a ship) to hold ammunition kept ready for immediate use

¹ready–made \ˌred-ē-'mād\ *adj* **1** : made beforehand esp. for general sale 〈~ suits〉 **2** : lacking originality or individuality **3** : readily available 〈her illness provided a ~ excuse〉

²ready–made *n* **1** : something that is ready-made **2** *usu* **ready-made** : an artifact (as a comb or a pair of ice tongs) selected and displayed as a work of art

ready room *n* : a room in which pilots are briefed and await orders

ready–to–wear \ˌred-ēt-ə-'wa(ə)r, -'we(ə)r\ *adj* : READY-MADE; *also* : dealing in ready-made clothes 〈~ stores〉

ready–wit·ted \ˌred-ē-'wit-əd\ *adj* : QUICK-WITTED

re·af·for·est \ˌrē-ə-'fȯr-əst, -'fär-\ *vt, chiefly Brit* : REFOREST — **re·af·for·es·ta·tion** \-ˌfȯr-ə-'stā-shən, -ˌfär-\ *n, chiefly Brit*

re·agent \rē-'ā-jənt\ *n* [NL *reagent-, reagens,* prp. of *reagere* to react — more at REACT] : a substance used (as in detecting or measuring a component, in preparing a product, or in developing photographs) because of its chemical or biological activity

re·ag·gre·gate \(ˈ)rē-'ag-ri-ˌgāt\ *vt* : to reform into an aggregate or a whole 〈~ the subunits of a macromolecule〉 — **re·ag·gre·gate** \-gət\ *n* — **re·ag·gre·ga·tion** \(ˌ)rē-ˌag-ri-'gā-shən\ *n*

re·agin \rē-'ā-jən\ *n* [ISV, fr. *reagent*] **1** : a substance in the blood of persons with syphilis responsible for positive serological reactions for syphilis **2** : an antibody in the blood of individuals with some forms of allergy possessing the power of passively sensitizing the skin of normal individuals — **re·agin·ic** \ˌrē-ə-'jin-ik\ *adj* — **re·agin·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

¹re·al \'rē(-ə)l, 'ri(-ə)l\ *adj* [ME, real, relating to things (in law), fr. MF, fr. ML & LL; ML *realis* relating to things (in law), fr. LL, real, fr. L *res* thing, fact; akin to Skt *rai* property] **1** : of or relating to fixed, permanent, or immovable things (as lands or tenements) **2** **a** : not artificial, fraudulent, illusory, or apparent : GENUINE; *also* : being precisely what the name implies 〈~ economic growth equals apparent growth less the current inflationary increment〉 **b** (1) : occurring in fact 〈a story of ~ life〉 (2) : of or relating to practical or everyday concerns or activities 〈left school to live in the ~ world〉 **c** : having objective independent existence 〈unable to believe that what he saw was ~〉 **d** : FUNDAMENTAL, ESSENTIAL **e** (1) : belonging to the set of real numbers 〈the ~ roots of an equation〉 (2) : concerned with or containing real numbers 〈~ analysis〉 (3) : REAL-VALUED 〈~ variable〉 **f** : measured by purchasing power 〈~ income〉 **g** : COMPLETE, UTTER 〈considered him a ~ idiot〉 **3** : exact as regards repetition of musical intervals in transposition — **re·al·ness** *n*

syn REAL, ACTUAL, TRUE *shared meaning element* : corresponding to known facts ***ant*** unreal, apparent, imaginary

²real *n* : a real thing; *esp* : a mathematical real quantity — **for real** **1** : in earnest : SERIOUSLY 〈they were fighting *for real*〉 **2** : GENUINE 〈couldn't believe the threats were *for real*〉

³real *adv* : VERY 〈there was only one word for him. He was ~ cool —H. M. McLuhan〉

⁴re·al \rā-'äl\ *n, pl* **reals** *or* **re·ales** \-'äl-(ˌ)ās\ [Sp, fr. *real* royal, fr. L *regalis* — more at ROYAL] **1** : a former monetary unit of Spain and its possessions **2** : a coin representing one real

⁵re·al \rā-'äl\ *n, pl* **reals** *or* **reis** \'rās(h), 'rāz(h)\ [Pg, fr. *real* royal, fr. L *regalis*] **1** : a former monetary unit of Portugal or Brazil **2** : a coin representing one real

real estate *n* : property in buildings and land

real focus *n* : a point at which rays (as of light) converge or from which they diverge

re·al·gar \rē-'al-ˌgär, -gər\ *n* [ME, fr. ML, fr. Catal, fr. Ar *rahj al-ghār* powder of the mine] : an orange-red mineral consisting of arsenic sulfide and having a resinous luster

re·alia \rē-'al-ē-ə, -'ā-lē-\ *n pl* [LL, neut. pl. of *realis* real] : objects or activities used to relate classroom teaching to the real life esp. of peoples studied

re·align \ˌrē-ə-'līn\ *vt* : to align again; *esp* : to reorganize or make new groupings of — **re·align·ment** \-mənt\ *n*

real image *n* : an optical image formed of real foci

re·al·ism \'rē-ə-ˌliz-əm, 'ri-ə-\ *n* **1** : concern for fact or reality and rejection of the impractical and visionary **2** **a** : a doctrine that universals exist outside the mind; *specif* : the conception that an abstract term names an independent and unitary reality **b** : the conception that objects of sense perception or cognition exist independently of the mind **3** : fidelity in art and literature to nature or to real life and to accurate representation without idealization — **re·al·ist** \-ləst\ *adj or n* — **re·al·is·tic** \ˌrē-ə-'lis-tik, ˌri-ə-\ *adj* — **re·al·is·ti·cally** \-ti-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

re·al·i·ty \rē-'al-ət-ē\ *n, pl* **-ties** **1** : the quality or state of being real **2** **a** (1) : a real event, entity, or state of affairs 〈his dream became a ~〉 (2) : the totality of real things and events 〈trying to escape from ~〉 **b** : something that is neither derivative nor dependent but exists necessarily — **in reality** : in actual fact

re·al·iza·tion \ˌrē-ə-lə-'zā-shən, ˌri-ə-\ *n* **1** : the action of realizing : the state of being realized **2** : something realized

re·al·ize \'rē-ə-ˌlīz, 'ri-ə-\ *vt* **-ized; -iz·ing** [F *réaliser,* fr. MF *realiser,* fr. *real* real] **1** **a** : to bring into concrete existence : ACCOMPLISH 〈finally *realized* his goal〉 **b** : to cause to seem real : make appear real 〈a book in which the characters are carefully *realized*〉 **2** **a** : to convert into actual money 〈*realized* assets〉 **b** : to bring or get by sale, investment, or effort : GAIN **3** : to conceive vividly as real : be fully aware of 〈he did not ~ the risk he was taking〉 ***syn*** see THINK — **re·al·iz·able** \-ˌlī-zə-bəl\ *adj* — **re·al·iz·er** *n*

re·al·ly \'rē-(ə-)lē, 'ri(-ə)l-ē\ *adv* **1** **a** : in reality : ACTUALLY 〈~ didn't know the answer〉 **b** : TRULY, UNQUESTIONABLY 〈~ beautiful diamonds〉 **2** : INDEED 1 〈~, you're being ridiculous〉

realm \'relm\ *n* [ME *realme,* fr. OF, modif. of L *regimen* rule — more at REGIMEN] **1** : KINGDOM **2** : SPHERE, DOMAIN 〈within the ~ of possibility〉 **3** : a primary marine or terrestrial biogeographic division of the earth's surface

real number *n* : one of the numbers that have no imaginary parts and comprise the rationals and the irrationals

re·al·po·li·tik \rā-'äl-ˌpō-li-ˌtēk\ *n* [G, fr. *real* practical + *politik* politics] : politics based on practical and material factors rather than on theoretical or ethical objectives

real presence *n, often cap R&P* : the doctrine that Christ is actually present in the Eucharist

real time *n* **1** : the actual time in which a physical process takes place — used in reference to a process controlled by a computer **2** : the actual time in which an event takes place with the reporting on or recording of the event practically simultaneous with its occurrence — **real–time** *adj*

Re·al·tor \'rē(-ə)l-tər, -ˌtȯ(ə)r *also* rē-'al-\ *collective mark* — used for a real estate agent who is a member of the National Association of Realtors

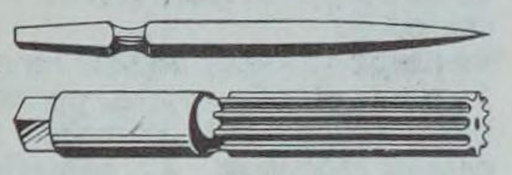
re·al·ty \'rē(-ə)l-tē\ *n* [*real* + *-ty* (as in *property*)] : REAL ESTATE

re·al–val·ued \ˌrē-əl-'val-(ˌ)yüd, -yəd\ *adj* : taking on only real numbers for values 〈a ~ function〉

¹ream \'rēm\ *n* [ME *reme,* fr. MF *raime,* fr. Ar *rizmah,* lit., bundle] **1** : a quantity of paper being 20 quires or variously 480, 500, or 516 sheets **2** : a great amount — usu. used in pl.

²ream *vt* [perh. fr. (assumed) ME dial. *remen* to open up, fr. OE dial. *rēman;* akin to OE *rȳman* to open up, *rūm* roomy — more at ROOM] **1** **a** : to widen the opening of (a hole) : COUNTERSINK **b** (1) : to enlarge or dress out (a hole) with a reamer (2) : to enlarge the bore of (as a gun) in this way **c** : to remove by reaming **2** **a** : to press out with a reamer **b** : to press out the juice of (as an orange) with a reamer **3** : CHEAT, VICTIMIZE

ream·er \'rē-mər\ *n* : one that reams: as **a** : a rotating finishing tool with cutting edges used to enlarge or shape a hole **b** : a fruit juice extractor with a ridged and pointed center rising from a shallow dish



reamers a

reap \'rēp\ *vb* [ME *repen*, fr. OE *reopan*; akin to OE *rāw* row — more at ROW] *vt* **1 a** (1) : to cut with a sickle, scythe, or reaping machine (2) : to clear of a crop by reaping **b** : to gather by reaping : HARVEST **2** : OBTAIN, WIN ~ *vi* : to reap something

reap·er \'rē-pər\ *n* : one that reaps; *esp* : any of various machines for reaping grain

reap·hook \'rēp-ˌhu̇k\ *n* : a hand implement with a hook-shaped blade used in reaping

re·ap·por·tion \ˌrē-ə-'pōr-shən, -'pȯr-\ *vt* : to apportion (as a house of representatives) anew ~ *vi* : to make a new apportionment — **re·ap·por·tion·ment** \-shən-mənt\ *n*

¹rear \'ri(ə)r, *vt4 & vi2 are also* 'ra(ə)r *or* 're(ə)r\ *vb* [ME *reren*, fr. OE *rǣran*; akin to ON *reisa* to raise, OE *rīsan* to rise] *vt* **1** : to erect by building : CONSTRUCT **2** : to raise upright **3 a** (1) : to breed and raise (an animal) for use or market (2) : to bring up (a person) **b** : to cause (as plants) to grow **4** : to cause (a horse) to rise up on the hind legs ~ *vi* **1** : to rise high **2** *of a horse* : to rise up on the hind legs ***syn*** see LIFT — **rear·er** *n*

²rear \'ri(ə)r\ *n* [prob. fr. *rear-* (in such terms as *rear guard*)] **1** : the back part of something: as **a** : the unit (as of an army) or area farthest from the enemy **b** : the part of something located opposite its front ⟨the ~ of a house⟩ **c** : BUTTOCKS **2** : the space or position at the back ⟨moved to the ~⟩

³rear \'ri(ə)r\ *adj* : being at the back

⁴rear \'ri(ə)r\ *adv* : toward or from the rear — usu. used in combination ⟨a *rear*-driven car⟩

rear admiral *n* : a commissioned officer in the navy or coast guard who ranks above a captain and whose insignia is two stars

rear echelon *n* : an element of a military headquarters or unit located at a considerable distance from the front and concerned esp. with administrative and supply duties

rear-guard \'ri(ə)r-ˌgärd\ *adj* : of or relating to resistance esp. to sweeping social forces ⟨fought a ~ action against automation⟩

rear guard \-'gärd, -ˌgärd\ *n* [ME *reregarde*, fr. MF, fr. OF, fr. *rere* backward, behind (fr. L *retro*) + *garde* guard — more at RETRO-] : a military detachment detailed to bring up and protect the rear of a main body or force

rear·horse \'ri(ə)r-ˌhȯ(ə)rs, 'ra(ə)r-, 're(ə)r-\ *n* [fr. the way it rears up when disturbed] : MANTIS

re·arm \(ˌ)rē-'ärm\ *vt* : to arm (as a nation or a military force) again with new or better weapons ~ *vi* : to become armed again — **re·ar·ma·ment** \-'är-mə-mənt\ *n*

rear·most \'ri(ə)r-ˌmōst\ *adj* : farthest in the rear : LAST

rear·view mirror \ˌri(ə)r-ˌvyü-\ *n* : a mirror (as in an automobile) that gives a view of the area behind a vehicle

¹rear·ward \'ri(ə)r-ˌwȯrd\ *n* [ME *rerewarde*, fr. AF; akin to OF *reregarde* rear guard] : REAR; *esp* : the rear division (as of an army)

²rear·ward \-wərd\ *adj* [*²rear* + *-ward*] **1** : located at, near, or toward the rear **2** : directed toward the rear — **rear·ward·ly** *adv*

³rear·ward \-wərd\ *also* **rear·wards** \-wərdz\ *adv* : at, near, or toward the rear : BACKWARD

¹rea·son \'rēz-ᵊn\ *n* [ME *resoun*, fr. OF *raison*, fr. L *ration-, ratio* reason, computation; akin to Goth *garathjan* to count, L *reri* to calculate, think, Gk *arariskein* to fit — more at ARM] **1 a** : a statement offered in explanation or justification ⟨gave ~*s* that were quite satisfactory⟩ **b** : a rational ground or motive ⟨a good ~ to act soon⟩ **c** : a sufficient ground of explanation or of logical defense; *esp* : something (as a principle or law) that supports a conclusion or explains a fact ⟨outlined the ~*s* behind his client's action⟩ **d** : the thing that makes some fact intelligible : CAUSE ⟨wanted to know the ~ for earthquakes⟩ **2 a** (1) : the power of comprehending, inferring, or thinking esp. in orderly rational ways : INTELLIGENCE (2) : proper exercise of the mind (3) : SANITY **b** : the sum of the intellectual powers **3** *archaic* : treatment that affords satisfaction

syn **1** see CAUSE

2 REASON, UNDERSTANDING, INTUITION *shared meaning element* : the power of the intellect by which man attains to truth or knowledge

— **in reason** : RIGHTLY, JUSTIFIABLY — **within reason** : within reasonable limits — **with reason** : with good cause

²reason *vb* **rea·soned; rea·son·ing** \'rēz-niŋ, -ᵊn-iŋ\ *vi* **1** : to use the faculty of reason so as to arrive at conclusions : THINK **2 a** *obs* : to take part in conversation, discussion, or argument **b** : to talk with another so as to influence his actions or opinions ⟨can't ~ with her⟩ ~ *vt* **1** *archaic* : to justify or support with reasons **2** : to persuade or influence by the use of reason **3** : to discover, formulate, or conclude by the use of reason ⟨a carefully ~*ed* analysis⟩ ***syn*** see THINK — **rea·son·er** \-nər, -ᵊn-ər\ *n*

rea·son·able \'rēz-nə-bəl, -ᵊn-ə-bəl\ *adj* **1 a** : agreeable to reason ⟨a ~ theory⟩ **b** : not extreme or excessive ⟨~ requests⟩ **c** : MODERATE, FAIR ⟨a ~ boss⟩ ⟨a ~ price⟩ **d** : INEXPENSIVE **2 a** : having the faculty of reason **b** : possessing sound judgment — **rea·son·abil·i·ty** \ˌrēz-nə-'bil-ət-ē, -ᵊn-ə-\ *n* — **rea·son·able·ness** \'rēz-nə-bəl-nəs, -ᵊn-ə-\ *n* — **rea·son·ably** \-blē\ *adv*

rea·son·ing *n* **1** : the use of reasons; *esp* : the drawing of inferences or conclusions through the use of reason **2** : an instance of the use of reason : ARGUMENT

rea·son·less \'rēz-ᵊn-ləs\ *adj* **1** : not having the faculty of reason ⟨a ~ brute⟩ **2** : not reasoned : SENSELESS ⟨~ hostility⟩ **3** : not based on or supported by reasons ⟨a ~ accusation⟩ — **rea·son·less·ly** *adv*

re·as·sur·ance \ˌrē-ə-'shu̇r-ən(t)s\ *n* **1** : the action of reassuring : the state of being reassured **2** : REINSURANCE

re·as·sure \ˌrē-ə-'shu̇(ə)r\ *vt* **1** : to assure anew ⟨*reassured* him that the work was on schedule⟩ **2** : to restore to confidence **3** : REINSURE — **re·as·sur·ing·ly** \-'shu̇r-iŋ-lē\ *adv*

re·ata \rē-'at-ə, -'ät-\ *n* [AmerSp] : LARIAT

Re·au·mur \ˌrā-ō-'myu̇(ə)r; rā-'ō-mər, -ˌmyu̇(ə)r\ *adj* [René Antoine Ferchault de *Réaumur*] : relating or conforming to a thermometric scale on which the boiling point of water is at 80° above the zero of the scale and the freezing point is at zero

¹reave \'rēv\ *vb* **reaved** *or* **reft** \'reft\; **reav·ing** [ME *reven*, fr. OE *rēafian*; akin to OHG *roubōn* to rob, L *rumpere* to break, *ruere* to rush, dig up — more at RUG] *vi* : PLUNDER, ROB ~ *vt* **1** *archaic* **a** : to deprive of : ROB **b** : SEIZE **2** *archaic* : to carry or tear away — **reav·er** *n*

²reave *vt* **reaved** *or* **reft** \'reft\; **reav·ing** [ME *reven*, prob. modif. of ON *rīfa* to rive] *archaic* : BURST

reb \'reb\ *n* [short for *rebel*] : JOHNNY REB

Reb \(ˌ)reb\ *n* [Yiddish, fr. Heb *rabbī* my master, rabbi] : RABBI, MISTER — used as a title

re·bar·ba·tive \ri-'bär-bət-iv\ *adj* [F *rébarbatif*, fr. MF, fr. *rebarber* to be repellent, fr. *re-* + *barbe* beard, fr. L *barba* — more at BEARD] : REPELLENT, IRRITATING — **re·bar·ba·tive·ly** *adv*

¹re·bate \'rē-ˌbāt, ri-'\ *vb* **re·bat·ed; re·bat·ing** [ME *rebaten*, fr. MF *rabattre* to beat down again, fr. OF, fr. *re-* + *abattre* to beat down, fr. *a-* (fr. L *ad-*) + *battre* to beat, fr. L *battuere* — more at BATTLE] *vt* **1** : to reduce the force or activity of : DIMINISH **2** : to reduce the sharpness of : BLUNT **3 a** : to make a rebate of **b** : to give a rebate to ~ *vi* : to give rebates — **re·bat·er** *n*

²re·bate \'rē-ˌbāt\ *n* : a return of a part of a payment : ABATEMENT

³re·bate \'rab-ət, 'rē-ˌbāt\ *var of* RABBET

re·ba·to \ri-'bät-(ˌ)ō\ *var of* RABATO

reb·be \'reb-ə\ *n* [Yiddish, fr. Heb *rabbī* rabbi] : a Jewish spiritual leader or teacher : RABBI

re·bec *or* **re·beck** \'rē-ˌbek\ *n* [MF *rebec*, alter. of OF *rebebe*, fr. OProv *rebeb*, fr. Ar *rebāb*] : an ancient bowed usu. 3-stringed musical instrument with a pear-shaped body and slender neck

Re·bek·ah \ri-'bek-ə\ *n* [Heb *Ribhqāh*] : the wife of Isaac

¹reb·el \'reb-əl\ *adj* [ME, fr. OF *rebelle*, fr. L *rebellis*, fr. *re-* + *bellum* war, fr. OL *duellum* — more at DUEL] **1 a** : opposing or taking arms against a government or ruler **b** : of or relating to rebels ⟨the ~ camp⟩ **2** : DISOBEDIENT, REBELLIOUS

²rebel *n* : one who rebels or participates in a rebellion

³rebel \ri-'bel\ *vi* **re·belled; re·bel·ling** **1 a** : to oppose or disobey one in authority or control **b** : to renounce and resist by force the authority of one's government **2 a** : to act in or show opposition or disobedience ⟨*rebelled* against the conventions of polite society⟩ **b** : to feel or exhibit anger or revulsion ⟨*rebelled* at the injustice of life⟩

re·bel·lion \ri-'bel-yən\ *n* **1** : opposition to one in authority or dominance **2 a** : open, armed, and usu. unsuccessful defiance of or resistance to an established government **b** : an instance of such defiance or resistance

syn REBELLION, REVOLUTION, UPRISING, REVOLT, INSURRECTION, MUTINY *shared meaning element* : an armed outbreak against a government or powers in authority

re·bel·lious \-yəs\ *adj* **1 a** : given to or engaged in rebellion ⟨~ troops⟩ **b** : of, relating to, or characteristic of a rebel or rebellion ⟨a ~ speech⟩ **2** : resisting treatment or management : REFRACTORY — **re·bel·lious·ly** *adv* — **re·bel·lious·ness** *n*

rebel yell *n* : a prolonged high-pitched yell traditionally given by Confederate soldiers in the U.S. Civil War

re·birth \(ˌ)rē-'bərth, 'rē-ˌ\ *n* **1 a** : a new or second birth : METEMPSYCHOSIS **b** : spiritual regeneration **2** : RENAISSANCE, REVIVAL ⟨a ~ of nationalism⟩

reb·o·ant \'reb-ə-wənt\ *adj* [L *reboant-, reboans*, prp. of *reboare* to resound, fr. *re-* + *boare* to cry aloud, roar, fr. Gk *boan*, of imit. origin] : marked by reverberation

re·born \(ˌ)rē-'bȯ(ə)rn\ *adj* : born again : REGENERATED, REVIVED

¹re·bound \'rē-'baund, ri-\ *vb* [ME *rebounden*, fr. MF *rebondir*, fr. OF, fr. *re-* + *bondir* to bound — more at BOUND] *vi* **1 a** : to spring back on or as if on collision or impact with another body **b** : to recover from setback or frustration **2** : REECHO **3** : to gain possession of a rebound in basketball ~ *vt* : to cause to rebound

²re·bound \'rē-ˌbaund, ri-'\ *n* **1 a** : the action of rebounding : RECOIL **b** : an upward leap or movement : RECOVERY ⟨a sharp ~ in prices⟩ **2 a** : a basketball or hockey puck that rebounds **b** : the act or an instance of gaining possession of a basketball rebound ⟨leads the league in ~*s*⟩ **3** : a reaction to setback, frustration, or crisis ⟨on the ~ from an unhappy love affair⟩

re·bound·er \'rē-'baun-dər, 'rē-ˌ , ri-'\ *n* : a basketball player skilled at rebounding

re·bo·zo \ri-'bō-(ˌ)zō, -(ˌ)sō\ *n, pl* **-zos** [Sp, shawl, fr. *rebozar* to muffle, fr. *re-* (fr. L) + *bozo* mouth, fr. (assumed) VL *bucceum*, fr. L *bucca* cheek] : a long scarf worn chiefly by Mexican women

re·branch \(ˌ)rē-'branch\ *vi* : to form secondary branches

re·broad·cast \(ˌ)rē-'brȯd-ˌkast\ *vt* **-cast; -cast·ing** **1** : to broadcast again (a radio or television program being simultaneously received from another source) **2** : to repeat (a broadcast) at a later time — **rebroadcast** *n*

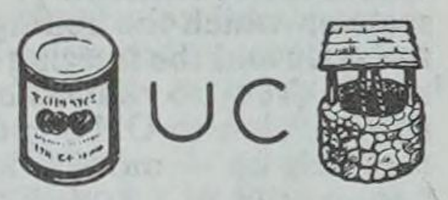
re·buff \ri-'bəf\ *vt* [MF *rebuffer*, fr. OIt *ribuffare* to reprimand] : to refuse or check sharply : SNUB — **rebuff** *n*

re·build \(ˌ)rē-'bild\ *vb* **-built** \-'bilt\; **-build·ing** *vt* **1 a** : to make extensive repairs to : RECONSTRUCT ⟨~ a war-torn city⟩ **b** : to restore to a previous state ⟨~ inventories⟩ **2** : to make extensive changes in : REMODEL ⟨~ society⟩ ~ *vi* : to build again ⟨planned to ~ after the fire⟩ ***syn*** see MEND

[1]re·buke \ri-'byük\ *vt* **re·buked; re·buk·ing** [ME *rebuken*, fr. ONF *rebuker*] **1 a** : to criticize sharply : REPRIMAND **b** : to serve as a rebuke to **2** : to turn back or keep down : CHECK ***syn*** see REPROVE — **re·buk·er** *n*

[2]rebuke *n* : an expression of strong disapproval : REPRIMAND

re·bus \'rē-bəs\ *n* [L, by things, abl. pl. of *res* thing — more at REAL] : a representation of words or syllables by pictures of objects or by symbols whose names resemble the intended words or syllables in sound; *also* : a riddle made up of such pictures or symbols



rebus

re·but \ri-'bət\ *vb* **re·but·ted; re·but·ting** [ME *rebuten*, fr. OF *reboter*, fr. *re-* + *boter* to butt — more at BUTT] *vt* **1** : to drive or beat back : REPEL **2 a** : to contradict or oppose by formal legal argument, plea, or countervailing proof **b** : to expose the falsity of : REFUTE ~ *vi* : to make or furnish an answer or counter proof ***syn*** see DISPROVE — **re·but·ta·ble** \-'bət-ə-bəl\ *adj*

re·but·tal \ri-'bət-[ə]l\ *n* : the act of rebutting esp. in a legal suit; *also* : argument or proof that rebuts

[1]re·but·ter \-'bət-ər\ *n* [AF *rebuter*, fr. OF *reboter* to rebut] : the answer of a defendant in matter of fact to a plaintiff's surrejoinder

[2]rebutter *n* : something that rebuts : REFUTATION

rec *abbr* **1** receipt **2** record; recording **3** recreation

re·cal·ci·trance \ri-'kal-sə-trən(t)s\ *n* : the state of being recalcitrant

re·cal·ci·tran·cy \-trən-sē\ *n* : RECALCITRANCE

re·cal·ci·trant \-trənt\ *adj* [LL *recalcitrant-*, *recalcitrans*, prp. of *recalcitrare* to be stubbornly disobedient, fr. L, to kick back, fr. *re-* + *calcitrare* to kick, fr. *calc-*, *calx* heel — more at CALK] **1** : obstinately defiant of authority or restraint **2 a** : difficult to handle or operate **b** : not responsive to treatment **c** : RESISTANT ⟨this subject is ~ both to observation and to experiment —G. G. Simpson⟩ ***syn*** see UNRULY ***ant*** amenable — **recalcitrant** *n*

re·cal·cu·late \(')rē-'kal-kyə-ˌlāt\ *vt* : to calculate again esp. in order to discover the source of an error or formulate new conclusions — **re·cal·cu·la·tion** \(ˌ)rē-ˌkal-kyə-'lā-shən\ *n*

re·ca·les·cence \ˌrē-kə-'les-[ə]n(t)s\ *n* [L *recalescere* to grow warm again, fr. *re-* + *calescere* to grow warm, incho. of *calēre* to be warm — more at LEE] : an increase in temperature that occurs while cooling metal through a range of temperatures in which change in structure occurs

[1]re·call \ri-'kȯl\ *vt* **1 a** : to call back ⟨was ~*ed* to active duty⟩ **b** : to bring back to mind ⟨~*s* his early years⟩ **c** : to remind one of : RESEMBLE ⟨a playwright who ~*s* the Elizabethan dramatists⟩ **2** : CANCEL, REVOKE **3** : RESTORE, REVIVE ***syn*** see REMEMBER — **re·call·abil·i·ty** \-ˌkȯ-lə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* — **re·call·able** \-'kȯ-lə-bəl\ *adj* — **re·call·er** *n*

[2]re·call \ri-'kȯl, 'rē-ˌ\ *n* **1** : a call to return ⟨a ~ of workers after a layoff⟩ **2** : the right or procedure by which an official may be removed by vote of the people **3** : remembrance of what has been learned or experienced **4** : the act of revoking **5** : the return to a dealer of a product (as an automobile) specified as defective by the manufacturer so that the dealer may make repairs **6** : the ability (as of an information retrieval system) to retrieve stored material

re·can·a·li·za·tion \(ˌ)rē-ˌkan-[ə]l-ə-'zā-shən\ *n* : the process of reuniting an interrupted channel of a bodily tube (as a vas deferens)

re·cant \ri-'kant\ *vb* [L *recantare*, fr. *re-* + *cantare* to sing — more at CHANT] *vt* **1** : to withdraw or repudiate (a statement or belief) formally and publicly : RENOUNCE **2** : REVOKE ~ *vi* : to make an open confession of error ***syn*** see ABJURE — **re·can·ta·tion** \ˌrē-ˌkan-'tā-shən\ *n*

[1]re·cap \(')rē-'kap\ *vt* **re·capped; re·cap·ping** : to cement, mold, and vulcanize a strip of camelback on the buffed and roughened surface of the tread of (a worn pneumatic tire) — **re·cap·pa·ble** \-'kap-ə-bəl\ *adj*

[2]re·cap \'rē-ˌkap\ *n* : a recapped tire

[3]re·cap \'rē-ˌkap, ri-'\ *vt* **re·capped; re·cap·ping** [by shortening] : RECAPITULATE

[4]re·cap \'rē-ˌkap\ *n* : RECAPITULATION

re·cap·i·tal·iza·tion \(ˌ)rē-ˌkap-ət-[ə]l-ə-'zā-shən, -ˌkap-t[ə]l-\ *n* : a revision of the capital structure of a corporation

re·cap·i·tal·ize \(')rē-'kap-ət-[ə]l-ˌīz, -'kap-t[ə]l-\ *vt* : to change the capital structure of

re·ca·pit·u·late \ˌrē-kə-'pich-ə-ˌlāt\ *vt* **-lat·ed; -lat·ing** [LL *recapitulatus*, pp. of *recapitulare* to restate by heads, sum up, fr. L *re-* + *capitulum* division of a book] : to repeat the principal points or stages of : SUMMARIZE

re·ca·pit·u·la·tion \-ˌpich-ə-'lā-shən\ *n* **1** : a concise summary **2** : the hypothetical occurrence in an individual organism's development of successive stages resembling the series of ancestral types from which it has descended so that the ontogeny of the individual is a recapitulation of the phylogeny of its group **3** : the third section of a sonata form

[1]re·cap·ture \(')rē-'kap-chər\ *n* **1 a** : the act of retaking **b** : an instance of being retaken **2** : the retaking of a prize or goods under international law **3** : a government seizure under law of earnings or profits beyond a fixed amount

[2]recapture *vt* **1 a** : to capture again **b** : to experience again ⟨by no effort of the imagination could she ~ the ecstasy —Ellen Glasgow⟩ **2** : to take (as a portion of earnings or profits above a fixed amount) by law or through negotiations under law

re·cast \(')rē-'kast\ *vt* **-cast; -cast·ing** : to cast again ⟨~ a gun⟩ ⟨~ a play⟩; *also* : REMODEL, REFASHION ⟨~*s* his political image to fit the times⟩ — **re·cast** \'rē-ˌkast, (')rē-'\ *n*

recd *abbr* received

[1]re·cede \ri-'sēd\ *vi* **re·ced·ed; re·ced·ing** [L *recedere* to go back, fr. *re-* + *cedere* to go — more at CEDE] **1 a** : to move back or away : WITHDRAW **b** : to slant backward **2** : to grow less or smaller : DIMINISH

syn RECEDE, RETREAT, RETROGRADE, RETRACT, BACK *shared meaning element* : to move backward ***ant*** proceed, advance

[2]re·cede \(')rē-'sēd\ *vt* [*re-* + *cede*] : to cede back to a former possessor

[1]re·ceipt \ri-'sēt\ *n* [ME *receite*, fr. ONF, fr. ML *recepta*, prob. fr. L, neut. pl. of *receptus*, pp. of *recipere* to receive] **1** : RECIPE **2 a** *obs* : RECEPTACLE **b** *archaic* : a revenue office **3** : the act or process of receiving **4** : something received — usu. used in pl. **5** : a writing acknowledging the receiving of goods or money

[2]receipt *vt* **1** : to give a receipt for or acknowledge the receipt of **2** : to mark as paid

re·ceiv·able \ri-'sē-və-bəl\ *adj* **1** : capable of being received **2** : subject to call for payment ⟨notes ~⟩

re·ceiv·ables \-bəlz\ *n pl* : amounts of money receivable

re·ceive \ri-'sēv\ *vb* **re·ceived; re·ceiv·ing** [ME *receiven*, fr. ONF *receivre*, fr. L *recipere*, fr. *re-* + *capere* to take — more at HEAVE] *vt* **1** : to come into possession of : ACQUIRE ⟨~ a gift⟩ **2 a** : to act as a receptacle or container for ⟨the cistern ~*s* water from the roof⟩ **b** : to assimilate through the mind or senses ⟨~ new ideas⟩ **3 a** : to permit to enter : ADMIT **b** : WELCOME, GREET **4** : to accept as authoritative or true : BELIEVE **5 a** : to support the weight or pressure of : BEAR **b** : to take (a mark or impression) from the weight of something ⟨some clay ~*s* clear impressions⟩ **c** : ACQUIRE, EXPERIENCE ⟨*received* his early schooling at home⟩ **d** : to suffer the hurt or injury of ⟨*received* a broken nose⟩ ~ *vi* **1** : to be a recipient **2** : to be at home to visitors ⟨~*s* on Tuesdays⟩ **3** : to convert incoming radio waves into perceptible signals **4** : to catch or gain possession of a kicked ball in football

syn RECEIVE, ACCEPT, ADMIT, TAKE *shared meaning element* : to permit to come into one's possession, presence, group, mind, or substance

Received Pronunciation *n* : the pronunciation of Received Standard

Received Standard *n* : the form of English spoken at the English public schools, at the universities of Oxford and Cambridge, and by many educated Englishmen elsewhere

re·ceiv·er \ri-'sē-vər\ *n* : one that receives: as **a** : TREASURER **b** (1) : a person appointed to hold in trust and administer property under litigation **b** (2) : a person appointed to wind up the affairs of a business involving a public interest or to manage a corporation during reorganization **c** : one that receives stolen goods : FENCE **d** : a vessel to receive and contain gases **e** : the portion of a telegraphic or telephonic apparatus that converts the electric currents or waves into visible or audible signals **f** (1) : CATCHER **f** (2) : a member of the offensive team in football eligible to catch a forward pass

receiver general *n, pl* **receivers general** : a public officer in charge of the treasury (as of Massachusetts)

re·ceiv·er·ship \ri-'sē-vər-ˌship\ *n* **1** : the office or function of a receiver **2** : the state of being in the hands of a receiver

receiving blanket *n* : a small lightweight blanket used to wrap an infant (as after bathing)

receiving end *n* : the position of being a recipient or esp. a victim — usu. used in the phrase *on the receiving end*

receiving line *n* : a group of people who stand in a line and individually welcome arriving guests (as at a wedding reception)

re·cen·cy \'rēs-[ə]n-sē\ *n* : the quality or state of being recent ⟨the eagerness of the people for ~ in their news —F. L. Mott⟩

re·cen·sion \ri-'sen-chən\ *n* [L *recension-*, *recensio* enumeration, fr. *recensēre* to review, fr. *re-* + *censēre* to assess, tax] **1** : a critical revision of a text **2** : a text established by critical revision

re·cent \'rēs-[ə]nt\ *adj* [MF or L; MF, fr. L *recent-*, *recens*; akin to Gk *kainos* new] **1 a** : of or relating to a time not long past **b** : having lately come into existence : NEW, FRESH **2** *cap* : of, relating to, or being the present or post-Pleistocene geologic epoch ***syn*** see MODERN — **re·cent·ness** *n*

re·cent·ly *adv* : during a recent period of time : LATELY

re·cep·ta·cle \ri-'sep-ti-kəl\ *n* [L *receptaculum*, fr. *receptare* to receive, fr. *receptus*, pp. of *recipere* to receive] **1** : one that receives and contains something : CONTAINER **2** [NL *receptaculum*, fr. L] **a** : an intercellular cavity containing products of secretion **b** : the end of the flower stalk upon which the floral organs are borne **c** : a modified branch bearing sporangia in a cryptogamous plant **3** : a mounted female electrical fitting that contains the live parts of the circuit

re·cep·tac·u·lum \ˌrē-ˌsep-'tak-yə-ləm\ *n, pl* **-la** \-lə\ [NL, fr. L] : RECEPTACLE 2

re·cep·tion \ri-'sep-shən\ *n* [ME *recepcion*, fr. MF or L; MF *reception*, fr. L *reception-*, *receptio*, fr. *receptus*, pp. of *recipere*] **1** : the act or action or an instance of receiving: as **a** : RECEIPT ⟨the ~ of American capital⟩ **b** : ADMISSION ⟨his ~ into the church⟩ **c** : RESPONSE, REACTION ⟨the play met with a mixed ~⟩ **d** : the receiving of a radio or television broadcast **2** : a social gathering often for the purpose of extending a formal welcome

re·cep·tion·ist \-sh(ə-)nəst\ *n* : one employed to greet callers

re·cep·tive \ri-'sep-tiv\ *adj* **1** : able or inclined to receive; *esp* : open and responsive to ideas, impressions, or suggestions **2 a** *of a sensory end organ* : fit to receive and transmit stimuli **b** : SENSORY — **re·cep·tive·ly** *adv* — **re·cep·tive·ness** *n* — **re·cep·tiv·i·ty** \ˌrē-ˌsep-'tiv-ət-ē, ri-\ *n*

re·cep·tor \ri-'sep-tər\ *n* : RECEIVER: as **a** : a cell or group of cells that receives stimuli : SENSE ORGAN **b** : a chemical group having a specific affinity for a particular antibody or a virus **c** : a cellular entity (as a beta-receptor or alpha-receptor) that is a postulated intermediary between a chemical agent (as a neurohumor) acting on nervous tissue and the physiological or pharmacological response

[1]re·cess \'rē-ˌses, ri-'\ *n* [L *recessus*, fr. *recessus*, pp. of *recedere* to recede] **1** : the action of receding : RECESSION **2** : a hidden, secret, or secluded place **3 a** : INDENTATION, CLEFT ⟨a deep ~ in the hill⟩ **b** : ALCOVE ⟨a pleasant ~ lined with books⟩ **4** : a suspension of business or procedure often for rest or relaxation ⟨children playing at ~⟩ ***syn*** see PAUSE

[2]recess *vt* **1** : to put into a recess ⟨~*ed* lighting⟩ **2** : to make a recess in **3** : to interrupt for a recess ~ *vi* : to take a recess

[1]re·ces·sion \ri-'sesh-ən\ *n* **1** : the act or action of receding : WITHDRAWAL **2** : a departing procession (as of clergy and choir at the end of a church service) **3** : a period of reduced economic activity — **re·ces·sion·ary** \-ə-,ner-ē\ *adj*
[2]re·ces·sion \(')rē-'sesh-ən\ *n* [*re-* + *cession*] : the act of ceding back to a former possessor
[1]re·ces·sion·al \ri-'sesh-nəl, -ən-ᵊl\ *adj* : of or relating to a withdrawal
[2]recessional *n* **1** : a hymn or musical piece at the conclusion of a service or program **2** : [1]RECESSION 2
[1]re·ces·sive \ri-'ses-iv\ *adj* **1 a** : tending to go back : RECEDING **b** : RETIRING, WITHDRAWN **2 a** : producing little or no phenotypic effect when occurring in heterozygous condition with a contrasting allele ⟨~ genes⟩ **b** : expressed only when the determining gene is in the homozygous condition ⟨~ traits⟩ — **re·ces·sive·ly** *adv* — **re·ces·sive·ness** *n*
[2]recessive *n* **1** : a recessive character or gene **2** : an organism possessing one or more recessive characters
re·charge \(')rē-'chärj\ *vi* : to make a new attack ~ *vt* : to charge again; *esp* : to restore anew the active materials in (a storage battery) — **re·charge** \(')rē-'chärj, 'rē-,\ *n* — **re·charge·able** \(')rē-'chär-jə-bəl\ *adj* — **re·charg·er** \-jər\ *n*
ré·chauf·fé \,rā-shō-'fā, -'shō-,\ *n* [F] **1** : a warmed-over dish of food **2** : REHASH
re·cheat \ri-'chēt\ *n* [ME *rechate*, fr. *rechaten* to blow the recheat, fr. MF *rachater* to assemble, rally, fr. *re-* + *achater* to acquire, fr. (assumed) VL *accaptare*, fr. L *ac-* + *captare* to seek to obtain, intens. of *capere* to take, receive — more at HEAVE] : a hunting call sounded on a horn to assemble the hounds
re·cher·ché \rə-,sher-'shā, -'she(ə)r-,\ *adj* [F] **1 a** : EXQUISITE, CHOICE **b** : EXOTIC, RARE **2** : excessively refined : AFFECTED **3** : OVERBLOWN, PRETENTIOUS
re·cid·i·vism \ri-'sid-ə-,viz-əm\ *n* : a tendency to relapse into a previous condition or mode of behavior; *esp* : relapse into criminal behavior
re·cid·i·vist \-vəst\ *n* [F *récidiviste*, fr. *récidiver* to relapse, fr. ML *recidivare*, fr. L *recidivus* recurring, fr. *recidere* to fall back, fr. *re-* + *cadere* to fall — more at CHANCE] : one who relapses; *specif* : an habitual criminal — **recidivist** *adj* — **re·cid·i·vis·tic** \-,sid-ə-'vis-tik\ *adj*
recip *abbr* reciprocal; reciprocity
rec·i·pe \'res-ə-(,)pē\ *n* [L, take, imper. of *recipere* to take, receive — more at RECEIVE] **1** : PRESCRIPTION 4 **2** : a set of instructions for making something (as a food dish) from various ingredients **3** : a procedure for doing or attaining something ⟨a ~ for success⟩
re·cip·i·ent \ri-'sip-ē-ənt\ *n* [L *recipient-*, *recipiens*, prp. of *recipere*] : one that receives : RECEIVER — **recipient** *adj*
[1]re·cip·ro·cal \ri-'sip-rə-kəl\ *adj* [L *reciprocus* returning the same way, alternating, irreg. fr. *re-* + *pro-*] **1 a** : inversely related : OPPOSITE **b** : of, constituting, or resulting from paired crosses in which the kind that supplies the male parent of the first cross supplies the female parent of the second cross and vice versa **2** : shared, felt, or shown by both sides **3** : serving to reciprocate : consisting of or functioning as a return in kind ⟨the ~ devastation of nuclear war⟩ **4 a** : mutually corresponding ⟨agreed to extend ~ privileges to each other's citizens⟩ **b** : marked by or based on reciprocity ⟨~ trade agreements⟩ — **re·cip·ro·cal·ly** \-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
syn RECIPROCAL, MUTUAL, COMMON *shared meaning element* : shared, experienced, or shown by each of those involved
[2]reciprocal *n* **1** : something in a reciprocal relationship to another **2** : one of a pair of numbers (as $^2/_3$, $^3/_2$) whose product is one; *broadly* : MULTIPLICATIVE INVERSE
reciprocal pronoun *n* : a pronoun (as *each other*) used to denote mutual action or cross relationship between the members comprised in a plural subject
re·cip·ro·cate \ri-'sip-rə-,kāt\ *vb* **-cat·ed; -cat·ing** *vt* **1** : to give and take mutually **2** : to return in kind or degree ⟨~ a compliment gracefully⟩ ~ *vi* **1** : to make a return for something ⟨we hope to ~ for your kindness⟩ **2** : to move forward and backward alternately ⟨a *reciprocating* valve⟩ — **re·cip·ro·ca·tor** \-,kāt-ər\ *n*
syn RECIPROCATE, RETALIATE, REQUITE, RETURN *shared meaning element* : to give back, usually in kind or quantity. RECIPROCATE is likely to imply mutuality and a reasonably equivalent exchange or a paying back of what one has received ⟨the love of Lavinia for the hero, most correctly *reciprocated* by him —H. O. Taylor⟩ ⟨few men *reciprocate* evil with good⟩ RETALIATE usually applies to a paying back of injury in exact measure and kind by way of revenge ⟨the students charged the policy with brutality and *retaliated* with some brutality of their own —S. T. Wise⟩ REQUITE can imply a simple reciprocation or a paying back in terms of what one considers the merits of the case without regard to mutual satisfaction ⟨hospitality should be *requited* in kind —Agnes M. Miall⟩ ⟨his servility was *requited* with cold contempt —T. B. Macaulay⟩ RETURN stresses a paying back of whatever has been given, sometimes in kind, sometimes by way of contrast ⟨*return* blow for blow⟩ ⟨he *returns* my envy with pity —Richard Steele⟩
reciprocating engine *n* : an engine in which the to-and-fro motion of a piston is transformed into circular motion of the crankshaft
re·cip·ro·ca·tion \ri-,sip-rə-'kā-shən\ *n* **1 a** : a mutual exchange **b** : a return in kind or of like value **2** : an alternating motion — **re·cip·ro·ca·tive** \-'sip-rə-,kāt-iv, -kət-\ *adj*
rec·i·proc·i·ty \,res-ə-'präs-ət-ē, -'präs-tē\ *n, pl* **-ties** **1** : the quality or state of being reciprocal : mutual dependence, action, or influence **2** : a mutual exchange of privileges; *specif* : a recognition by one of two countries or institutions of the validity of licenses or privileges granted by the other
re·ci·sion \ri-'sizh-ən\ *n* [MF, alter. of *rescision*, fr. LL *rescission-*, *rescissio* rescission] : CANCELLATION
re·cit·al \ri-'sīt-ᵊl\ *n* **1 a** : the act or process or an instance of reciting **b** : a detailed account : ENUMERATION ⟨the ~ of his troubles⟩ **c** : DISCOURSE, NARRATION ⟨a colorful ~ of a night on the town⟩ **2 a** : a concert given by an individual musician or dancer or by a dance troupe **b** : a public exhibition of skill given by music or dance pupils — **re·cit·al·ist** \-ᵊl-əst\ *n*
rec·i·ta·tion \,res-ə-'tā-shən\ *n* **1** : the act of enumerating ⟨a ~ of relevant details⟩ **2** : the act or an instance of reading or repeating aloud esp. publicly **3 a** : a student's oral reply to questions **b** : a class period
rec·i·ta·tive \,res-(ə-)tə-'tēv\ *n* [It *recitativo*, fr. *recitare* to recite, fr. L] **1** : a rhythmically free declamatory vocal style for delivering a narrative text; *also* : a passage to be delivered in this style **2** : RECITATION — **recitative** *adj*
rec·i·ta·ti·vo \,res-(ə-)tə-'tē-(,)vō\ *n, pl* **-vi** \-(,)vē\ *or* **-vos** [It] : RECITATIVE 1
re·cite \ri-'sīt\ *vb* **re·cit·ed; re·cit·ing** [ME *reciten* to state formally, fr. MF or L; MF *reciter* to recite, fr. L *recitare*, fr. *re-* + *citare* to summon — more at CITE] *vt* **1** : to repeat from memory or read aloud publicly **2 a** : to relate in full ⟨~*s* dull anecdotes⟩ **b** : ENUMERATE, DETAIL ⟨*recited* a catalog of offenses⟩ **3** : to repeat or answer questions about (a lesson) ~ *vi* **1** : to repeat or read aloud something memorized or prepared **2** : to reply to a teacher's question on a lesson — **re·cit·er** *n*
reck \'rek\ *vb* [ME *recken* to take heed, fr. OE *reccan*; akin to OHG *ruohhen* to take heed] *vi* **1** : WORRY, CARE **2** *archaic* : to be of account or interest : MATTER ~ *vt* **1** *archaic* : to care for : REGARD **2** *archaic* : to matter to : CONCERN
reck·less \'rek-ləs\ *adj* **1** : marked by lack of proper caution : careless of consequences **2** : NEGLIGENT ⟨~ mining practices devastated the countryside⟩ ***syn*** see ADVENTUROUS ***ant*** calculating — **reck·less·ly** *adv* — **reck·less·ness** *n*
reck·on \'rek-ən\ *vb* **reck·oned; reck·on·ing** \-(ə-)niŋ\ [ME *rekenen*, fr. OE *-recenian* (as in *gerecenian* to narrate); akin to OE *reccan*] *vt* **1 a** : COUNT ⟨~ the days till Christmas⟩ **b** : ESTIMATE, COMPUTE ⟨~ the height of a building⟩ **c** : to determine by reference to a fixed basis ⟨the existence of the U.S. is ~*ed* from the Declaration of Independence⟩ **2** : to regard or think of as : CONSIDER **3** *chiefly dial* : SUPPOSE, THINK ⟨I ~ I've outlived my time — Ellen Glasgow⟩ ~ *vi* **1** : to settle accounts **2** : to make a calculation **3 a** : JUDGE **b** *chiefly dial* : SUPPOSE, THINK **4** : to accept something as certain : place reliance ⟨I ~ on your promise to help⟩ ***syn*** see RELY — **reckon with** : to take into consideration — **reckon without** : to fail to consider : IGNORE
reck·on·ing *n* **1** : the act or an instance of reckoning: as **a** : ACCOUNT, BILL **b** : COMPUTATION **c** : calculation of a ship's position **2** : a settling of accounts ⟨day of ~⟩ **3** : a summing up
re·claim \ri-'klām\ *vt* [ME *reclamen*, fr. OF *reclamer* to call back, fr. L *reclamare* to cry out against, fr. *re-* + *clamare* to cry out — more at CLAIM] **1 a** : to recall from wrong or improper conduct : REFORM **b** : TAME, SUBDUE **2 a** : to rescue from an undesirable state **b** : to make available for human use by changing natural conditions ⟨~ swampland⟩ **3** : to obtain from a waste product or by-product : RECOVER ***syn*** see RESCUE — **re·claim·able** \-'klā-mə-bəl\ *adj*
re–claim \(')rē-'klām\ *vt* : to demand or obtain the return of
rec·la·ma·tion \,rek-lə-'mā-shən\ *n* [MF, fr. L *reclamation-*, *reclamatio*, fr. *reclamatus*, pp. of *reclamare*] : the act or process of reclaiming: as **a** : REFORMATION, REHABILITATION **b** : restoration to use : RECOVERY
ré·clame \rā-'kläm\ *n* [F, advertising, fr. *réclamer* to appeal, fr. OF *reclamer*] **1** : public acclaim : VOGUE **2** : a gift for dramatization or publicity : SHOWMANSHIP
rec·li·nate \'rek-lə-,nāt\ *adj* : bent downward so that the apex is below the base ⟨~ leaves⟩
re·cline \ri-'klīn\ *vb* **re·clined; re·clin·ing** [ME *reclinen*, fr. MF or L; MF *recliner*, fr. L *reclinare*, fr. *re-* + *clinare* to bend — more at LEAN] *vt* : to cause or permit to incline backwards ~ *vi* **1** : to lean or incline backwards **2** : REPOSE, LIE
re·clos·able \(')rē-'klō-zə-bəl\ *adj* : capable of being closed again tightly after opening ⟨~ packages of bacon⟩
[1]re·cluse \'rek-,lüs, ri-'klüs, 'rek-,lüz\ *adj* [ME, fr. OF *reclus*, lit., shut up, fr. LL *reclusus*, pp. of *recludere* to shut up, fr. L *re-* + *claudere* to close — more at CLOSE] : marked by withdrawal from society : SOLITARY — **re·clu·sive** \ri-'klü-siv, -ziv\ *adj*
[2]recluse *n* : a person who leads a secluded or solitary life
re·clu·sion \ri-'klü-zhən\ *n* : the state of being recluse
rec·og·ni·tion \,rek-ig-'nish-ən, -əg-\ *n* [L *recognition-*, *recognitio*, fr. *recognitus*, pp. of *recognoscere*] **1** : the action of recognizing : the state of being recognized: as **a** : ACKNOWLEDGMENT; *esp* : formal acknowledgment of the political existence of a government or nation **b** : knowledge or feeling that an object present has been met before **2** : special notice or attention **3** : the sensing and encoding of printed or written data by a machine ⟨optical character ~⟩ ⟨magnetic ink character ~⟩
syn RECOGNITION, IDENTIFICATION, ASSIMILATION, APPERCEPTION *shared meaning element* : a form of cognition that relates a perception of something new to knowledge already possessed
re·cog·ni·zance \ri-'käg-nə-zən(t)s, -'kän-ə-\ *n* [alter. of ME *reconissaunce*, fr. MF *reconoissance* recognition, fr. *reconoistre* to recognize] **1 a** : an obligation of record entered into before a court or magistrate requiring the performance of an act (as appearance in court) usu. under penalty of a money forfeiture **b** : the sum liable to forfeiture upon such an obligation **2** *archaic* : TOKEN, PLEDGE
rec·og·nize \'rek-ig-,nīz, -əg-\ *vt* **-nized; -niz·ing** [modif. of MF *reconoiss-*, stem of *reconoistre*, fr. L *recognoscere*, fr. *re-* + *cognoscere* to know — more at COGNITION] **1 a** : to perceive to be something previously known ⟨*recognized* the word⟩ **b** : to perceive clearly : REALIZE **2** : to acknowledge or take notice of in some definite way: as **a** : to acknowledge with a show of appreci-

ation ⟨~ an act of bravery with the award of a medal⟩ **b** : to acknowledge acquaintance with ⟨~ an old crony with a nod⟩ **c** : to admit the fact of ⟨~*s* his obligation⟩ **3** : to acknowledge formally: as **a** : to admit as being lord or sovereign **b** : to admit as being of a particular status **c** : to admit as being one entitled to be heard **d** : to acknowledge the de facto existence or the independence of — **rec·og·niz·abil·i·ty** \ˌrek-ig-ˌnī-zə-ˈbil-ət-ē, -əg-\ *n* — **rec·og·niz·able** \ˈrek-əg-ˌnī-zə-bəl, -ig-\ *adj* — **rec·og·niz·ably** \-blē\ *adv* — **rec·og·niz·er** *n*

[1]re·coil \ri-ˈkȯi(ə)l\ *vi* [ME *reculen*, fr. OF *reculer*, fr. *re-* + *cul* backside — more at CULET] **1 a** : to fall back under pressure **b** : to shrink back physically or emotionally **2** : to spring back to or as if to a starting point : REBOUND **3** *obs* : DEGENERATE
syn RECOIL, SHRINK, FLINCH, WINCE, BLENCH, QUAIL *shared meaning element* : to draw back in fear or distaste ***ant*** confront, defy

[2]re·coil \ˈrē-ˌkȯil, ri-ˈkȯi(ə)l\ *n* **1** : the act or action of recoiling; *esp* : the kickback of a gun upon firing **2** : REACTION ⟨the ~ from the rigors of Calvinism —Edmund Wilson⟩

re·coil·less \-ˌkȯil-ləs, -ˈkȯi(ə)l-\ *adj* : having a minimum of recoil

re·coil–op·er·at·ed \ˌrē-ˌkȯil-ˈäp-(ə-),rāt-əd\ *adj, of a firearm* : utilizing the movement of parts in recoil to operate the action

re·coin \(ˈ)rē-ˈkȯin\ *vt* : to coin again or anew — **re·coin·age** \-ˈkȯi-nij\ *n*

rec·ol·lect \ˌrek-ə-ˈlekt\ *vb* [ML *recollectus*, pp. of *recolligere*, fr. L, to gather again] *vt* **1** : to bring back to the level of conscious awareness : REMEMBER ⟨trying to ~ a forgotten address⟩ **2** : to remind (oneself) of something temporarily forgotten ~ *vi* : to call something to mind ***syn*** see REMEMBER

re–col·lect \ˌrē-kə-ˈlekt\ *vt* [partly fr. L *recollectus*, pp. of *recolligere*, fr. *re-* + *colligere* to collect; partly fr. *re-* + *collect*] : to collect again; *esp* : RALLY, RECOVER ⟨~*ing* all my force, and drawing my sword —Henry Brooke⟩

re·col·lect·ed \ˌrē-kə-ˈlek-təd\ *adj* : COMPOSED, CALM

rec·ol·lec·tion \ˌrek-ə-ˈlek-shən\ *n* **1 a** : tranquillity of mind **b** : religious contemplation **2 a** : the action or power of recalling to mind **b** : something recalled to the mind ***syn*** see MEMORY

re·com·bi·nant \(ˈ)rē-ˈkäm-bə-nənt\ *adj* : exhibiting genetic recombination ⟨~ progeny⟩ — **recombinant** *n*

recombinant DNA *n* : DNA prepared in the laboratory by breaking up and splicing together DNA from several different species of organisms

re·com·bi·na·tion \ˌrē-ˌkäm-bə-ˈnā-shən\ *n* : the formation by the processes of crossing-over and independent assortment of new combinations of genes in progeny that did not occur in the parents — **re·com·bi·na·tion·al** \-shnəl, -shən-ᵊl\ *adj*

rec·om·mend \ˌrek-ə-ˈmend\ *vt* [ME *recommenden* to praise, fr. ML *recommendare*, fr. L *re-* + *commendare* to commend] **1 a** : to present as worthy of acceptance or trial ⟨~*ed* the medicine⟩ **b** : to endorse as fit, worthy, or competent ⟨~*s* her for the position⟩ **2** : ENTRUST, COMMIT ⟨~*ed* his soul to God⟩ **3** : to make acceptable ⟨has other points to ~ it⟩ **4** : ADVISE ⟨~ that the matter be dropped⟩ — **rec·om·mend·able** \-ˈmen-də-bəl\ *adj* — **rec·om·men·da·to·ry** \-də-ˌtōr-ē, -ˌtȯr-\ *adj* — **rec·om·mend·er** *n*

rec·om·men·da·tion \ˌrek-ə-mən-ˈdā-shən, -ˌmen-\ *n* **1 a** : the act of recommending **b** : something (as a procedure) recommended **2** : something that recommends or expresses commendation

re·com·mit \ˌrē-kə-ˈmit\ *vt* **1** : to refer (as a bill) back to a committee **2** : to entrust or consign again — **re·com·mit·ment** \-mənt\ *n* — **re·com·mit·tal** \-ˈmit-ᵊl\ *n*

[1]rec·om·pense \ˈrek-əm-ˌpen(t)s\ *vt* **-pensed; -pens·ing** [ME *recompensen*, fr. MF *recompenser*, fr. LL *recompensare*, fr. L *re-* + *compensare* to compensate] **1 a** : to give something to by way of compensation (as for a service rendered or damage incurred) **b** : to pay for **2** : to return in kind : REQUITE ***syn*** see PAY

[2]recompense *n* : an equivalent or a return for something done, suffered, or given : COMPENSATION ⟨offered in ~ for injuries⟩

re·com·pose \ˌrē-kəm-ˈpōz\ *vt* **1** : to compose again : REARRANGE **2** : to restore to composure — **re·com·po·si·tion** \(ˌ)rē-ˌkäm-pə-ˈzish-ən\ *n*

rec·on·cil·able \ˌrek-ən-ˈsī-lə-bəl, ˈrek-ən-ˌ\ *adj* : capable of being reconciled — **rec·on·cil·abil·i·ty** \ˌrek-ən-ˌsī-lə-ˈbil-ət-ē\ *n* — **rec·on·cil·able·ness** \ˌrek-ən-ˈsī-lə-bəl-nəs, ˈrek-ən-ˌ\ *n*

rec·on·cile \ˈrek-ən-ˌsīl\ *vb* **-ciled; -cil·ing** [ME *reconcilen*, fr. MF or L; MF *reconcilier*, fr. L *reconciliare*, fr. *re-* + *conciliare* to conciliate] *vt* **1 a** : to restore to friendship or harmony ⟨*reconciled* the factions⟩ **b** : SETTLE, RESOLVE ⟨~ differences⟩ **2** : to make consistent or congruous ⟨~ an ideal with reality⟩ **3** : to cause to submit to or accept something unpleasant ⟨was *reconciled* to hardship⟩ ~ *vi* : to become reconciled ***syn*** see ADAPT — **rec·on·cile·ment** \-ˌsīl-mənt\ *n* — **rec·on·cil·er** *n*

rec·on·cil·i·a·tion \ˌrek-ən-ˌsil-ē-ˈā-shən\ *n* [ME, fr. L *reconciliation-*, *reconciliatio*, fr. *reconciliatus*, pp. of *reconciliare*] : the action of reconciling : the state of being reconciled — **rec·on·cil·ia·to·ry** \-ˈsil-yə-ˌtōr-ē, -ˈsil-ē-ə-, -ˌtȯr-\ *adj*

re·con·dite \ˈrek-ən-ˌdīt, ri-ˈkän-\ *adj* [L *reconditus*, pp. of *recondere* to conceal, fr. *re-* + *condere* to store up, fr. *com-* + *-dere* to put — more at DO] **1** : hidden from sight : CONCEALED ⟨produced some ~ flasks of wine —T. L. Peacock⟩ **2** : incomprehensible to one of ordinary understanding or knowledge : DEEP ⟨a ~ subject⟩ **3** : of, relating to, or dealing with something little known or obscure ⟨~ fact about the origin of the holiday —Floyd Dell⟩ — **re·con·dite·ly** *adv* — **re·con·dite·ness** *n*

re·con·di·tion \ˌrē-kən-ˈdish-ən\ *vt* **1** : to restore to good condition (as by replacing parts) **2** : to condition (as a person or his attitudes) anew; *also* : to reinstate (a response) in an organism

re·con·firm \ˌrē-kən-ˈfərm\ *vt* : to confirm again; *also* : to establish more strongly — **re·con·fir·ma·tion** \(ˌ)rē-ˌkän-fər-ˈmā-shən\ *n*

re·con·nais·sance \ri-ˈkän-ə-zən(t)s *also* -sən(t)s\ *n* [F, lit., recognition, fr. MF *reconoissance*] : a preliminary survey to gain information; *esp* : an exploratory military survey of enemy territory

re·con·noi·ter \ˌrē-kə-ˈnȯit-ər *also* ˌrek-ə-\ *vb* **re·con·noi·tered; re·con·noi·ter·ing** \-ˈnȯit-ə-riŋ, -ˈnȯi-triŋ\ [obs. F *reconnoître*, lit., to recognize, fr. MF *reconoistre* — more at RECOGNIZE] *vt* : to make a reconnaissance of ~ *vi* : to engage in reconnaissance

re·con·sid·er \ˌrē-kən-ˈsid-ər\ *vt* : to consider again with a view to changing or reversing; *specif* : to take up again in a meeting ~ *vi* : to consider something again — **re·con·sid·er·a·tion** \-ˌsid-ə-ˈrā-shən\ *n*

re·con·sti·tute \(ˈ)rē-ˈkän(t)-stə-ˌt(y)üt\ *vt* : to constitute again or anew; *esp* : to restore to a former condition by adding water — **re·con·sti·tu·tion** \(ˌ)rē-ˌkän(t)-stə-ˈt(y)ü-shən\ *n*

re·con·struct \ˌrē-kən-ˈstrəkt\ *vt* : to construct again : REESTABLISH, REASSEMBLE — **re·con·struct·ible** \-ˈstrək-tə-bəl\ *adj* — **re·con·struc·tive** \-tiv\ *adj* — **re·con·struc·tor** \-tər\ *n*

re·con·struc·tion \ˌrē-kən-ˈstrək-shən\ *n* **1 a** : the action of reconstructing : the state of being reconstructed **b** *often cap* : the reorganization and reestablishment of the seceded states in the Union after the American Civil War **2** : something reconstructed

re·con·struc·tion·ism \-shə-ˌniz-əm\ *n, often cap* **1** : advocacy of post-Civil War reconstruction **2** : a movement in 20th century American Judaism that advocates a creative adjustment to contemporary conditions through the cultivation of traditions and folkways shared by all Jews — **re·con·struc·tion·ist** \-sh(ə-)nəst\ *n, often cap*

re·con·ver·sion \ˌrē-kən-ˈvər-zhən, -shən\ *n* : conversion back to a previous state

re·con·vert \ˌrē-kən-ˈvərt\ *vt* : to cause to undergo reconversion ~ *vi* : to undergo reconversion

re·con·vey \ˌrē-kən-ˈvā\ *vt* : to convey back to a previous position or owner — **re·con·vey·ance** \-ˈvā-ən(t)s\ *n*

[1]re·cord \ri-ˈkȯ(ə)rd\ *vb* [ME *recorden*, lit., to recall, fr. OF *recorder*, fr. L *recordari*, fr. *re-* + *cord-*, *cor* heart — more at HEART] *vt* **1 a** (1) : to set down in writing : furnish written evidence of (2) : to deposit an authentic official copy of ⟨~ a deed⟩ **b** : to state as if for a record ⟨spoke in favor of the bill but also said he wanted to ~ certain reservations⟩ **c** (1) : to register permanently by mechanical means ⟨earthquake shocks ~*ed* by a seismograph⟩ (2) : INDICATE, READ ⟨the thermometer ~*ed* 90°⟩ **2** : to give evidence of ⟨the intensity of the explosion is ~*ed* on the charred tree trunks⟩ **3** : to cause (as sound) to be registered on something (as a phonograph disc) in reproducible form ~ *vi* : to record something — **re·cord·able** \-ˈkȯrd-ə-bəl\ *adj*

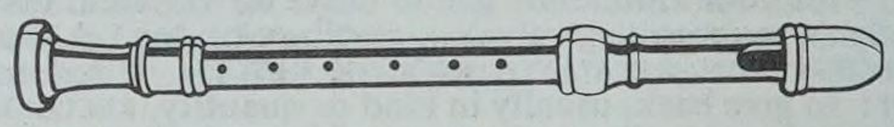
[2]rec·ord \ˈrek-ərd *also* -ˌȯ(ə)rd\ *n* **1** : the state or fact of being recorded **2** : something that records: as **a** : something that recalls or relates past events **b** : an official document that records the acts of a public body or officer **c** : an authentic official copy of a document deposited with a legally designated officer **d** : the official copy of the papers used in a law case **3 a** : a body of known or recorded facts regarding something or someone **b** : an attested top performance **4** : something on which sound or visual images have been recorded; *specif* : a disc with a spiral groove carrying recorded sound for phonograph reproduction — **off the record** : not for publication ⟨spoke *off the record*⟩ ⟨remarks that were *off the record*⟩ — **of record** **1** : appearing on the record of a court proceeding **2 a** : documented or otherwise attested ⟨a partner *of record* in several firms⟩ **b** : furnished with documents ⟨a book *of record*⟩ — **on record** **1** : in the position of having publicly declared oneself ⟨went *on record* as opposed to higher taxes⟩ **2** : in the status of being known, published, or documented ⟨his friends left *on record* a marvelous description of him⟩

[3]record *like*[2]\ *adj* : surpassing others of the kind

re·cor·da·tion \ˌrek-ˌȯr-ˈdā-shən; ˌrē-ˌkȯr-, ri-\ *n* : the action or process of recording

record changer *n* : a phonograph with a device that automatically positions and plays successively each of a stack of records; *also* : the automatic device on a record changer

re·cord·er \ri-ˈkȯrd-ər\ *n* **1** : one that records **2 a** : the chief judicial magistrate of some British cities and boroughs **b** : a municipal judge with criminal jurisdiction of first instance and sometimes limited civil jurisdiction **3** : one of a group of wind instruments ranging from treble to bass that are characterized by a conical tube, a whistle mouthpiece, and eight finger holes



recorder 3

re·cord·ing \ri-ˈkȯrd-iŋ\ *n* : RECORD 4

re·cord·ist \ri-ˈkȯrd-əst\ *n* : one who records sound (as on magnetic tape)

record player *n* : an electronic instrument for playing phonograph records through a loudspeaker

[1]re·count \ri-ˈkau̇nt\ *vt* [ME *recounten*, fr. MF *reconter*, fr. *re-* + *conter* to count, relate — more at COUNT] : to relate in detail : NARRATE — **re·count·er** *n*

[2]re·count \(ˈ)rē-ˈkau̇nt\ *vt* [*re-* + *count*] : to count again

[3]re·count \ˈrē-ˌkau̇nt, (ˈ)rē-ˈ\ *n* : a second or fresh count

re·coup \ri-ˈküp\ *vb* [F *recouper* to cut back, fr. OF, fr. *re-* + *couper* to cut — more at COPE] *vt* **1** : to withhold rightfully part of (a sum legally claimed) instead of filing a counterclaim **2 a** : to get an equivalent for (as losses) : make up for **b** : REIMBURSE, COMPENSATE ⟨~ a person for losses⟩ **3** : REGAIN ⟨an attempt to ~ his fortune⟩ ~ *vi* : to make up for something lost — **re·coup·able** \-ˈkü-pə-bəl\ *adj* — **re·coup·ment** \-ˈküp-mənt\ *n*

re·course \ˈrē-ˌkō(ə)rs, -ˌkȯ(ə)rs, ri-ˈ\ *n* [ME *recours*, fr. MF, fr. LL *recursus*, fr. L, act of running back, fr. *recursus*, pp. of *recurrere* to run back — more at RECUR] **1 a** : a turning to someone or something for help or protection **b** : a source of help or strength : RESORT **2** : the right to demand payment from the maker or endorser of a negotiable instrument (as a check)

re·cov·er \ri-ˈkəv-ər\ *vb* **re·cov·ered; re·cov·er·ing** \-(ə-)riŋ\ [ME *recoveren*, fr. MF *recoverer*, fr. L *recuperare*; akin to L *recipere* to receive — more at RECEIVE] *vt* **1** : to get back : REGAIN **2 a** : to bring back to normal position or condition ⟨stumbled, then ~*ed*

himself〉 **b** *archaic* : RESCUE **3 a** : to make up for 〈~ increased costs through higher prices〉 **b** : to gain by legal process **4** *archaic* : REACH **5** : to find or identify again 〈~ a comet〉 **6 a** : to obtain from an ore, a waste product, or a by-product **b** : to save from loss and restore to usefulness : RECLAIM ~ *vi* **1** : to regain a normal position or condition (as of health) 〈~*ing* from a cold〉 **2** : to obtain a final legal judgment in one's favor — **re·cov·er·abil·i·ty** \-ˌkəv-(ə-)rə-ˈbil-ət-ē\ *adj* — **re·cov·er·able** \-ˈkəv-(ə-)rə-bəl\ *adj* — **re·cov·er·er** \-ˈkəv-ər-ər\ *n*

re–cov·er \(ˈ)rē-ˈkəv-ər\ *vt* : to cover again or anew

re·cov·ery \ri-ˈkəv-(ə-)rē\ *n, pl* **-er·ies** : the act, process, or an instance of recovering; *esp* : an economic upturn (as after a depression)

recovery room *n* : a hospital room equipped for meeting postoperative emergencies

[1]rec·re·ant \ˈrek-rē-ənt\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF, fr. prp. of *recroire* to renounce one's cause in a trial by battle, fr. *re-* + *croire* to believe, fr. L *credere* — more at CREED] **1** : crying for mercy : COWARDLY **2** : unfaithful to duty or allegiance

[2]recreant *n* **1** : COWARD **2** : APOSTATE, DESERTER

[1]rec·re·ate \ˈrek-rē-ˌāt\ *vb* **-at·ed; -at·ing** [L *recreatus*, pp.] *vt* : to give new life or freshness to : REFRESH ~ *vi* : to take recreation — **rec·re·ative** \-ˌāt-iv\ *adj*

[2]re·cre·ate \ˌrē-krē-ˈāt\ *vt* : to create again; *esp* : to form anew in the imagination — **re·cre·at·able** \-ˈāt-ə-bəl\ *adj* — **re·cre·ation** \-ˈā-shən\ *n* — **re·cre·ative** \-ˈāt-iv\ *adj*

rec·re·ation \ˌrek-rē-ˈā-shən\ *n* [ME *recreacion*, fr. MF *recreation*, fr. L *recreation-*, *recreatio* restoration to health, fr. *recreatus*, pp. of *recreare* to create anew, restore, refresh, fr. *re-* + *creare* to create] : refreshment of strength and spirits after work; *also* : a means of refreshment or diversion — **rec·re·ation·al** \-shnəl, -shən-ᵊl\ *adj*

rec·re·ation·ist \-sh(ə-)nəst\ *n* : one who seeks recreation esp. in the outdoors

recreation room *n* **1** : a room (as a rumpus room) used for recreation and relaxation **2** : a public room (as in a hospital) for recreation and social activities — called also *rec room*

re·crim·i·nate \ri-ˈkrim-ə-ˌnāt\ *vi* **-nat·ed; -nat·ing** [ML *recriminatus*, pp. of *recriminare*, fr. L *re-* + *criminari* to accuse — more at CRIMINATE] **1** : to make a retaliatory charge against an accuser **2** : to retort bitterly — **re·crim·i·na·tion** \-ˌkrim-ə-ˈnā-shən\ *n* — **re·crim·i·na·tive** \-ˈkrim-ə-ˌnāt-iv\ *adj* — **re·crim·i·na·to·ry** \-ˈkrim-(ə-)nə-ˌtōr-ē, -ˌtȯr-\ *adj*

re·cru·desce \ˌrē-krü-ˈdes\ *vi* **-desced; -desc·ing** [L *recrudescere* to become raw again, fr. *re-* + *crudescere* to become raw, fr. *crudus* raw — more at RAW] : to break out or become active again ***syn*** see RETURN

re·cru·des·cence \-ˈdes-ᵊn(t)s\ *n* : a new outbreak after a period of abatement or inactivity : RENEWAL

re·cru·des·cent \-ᵊnt\ *adj* : breaking out again : RENEWING

[1]re·cruit \ri-ˈkrüt\ *n* [F *recrute*, *recrue* fresh growth, new levy of soldiers, fr. MF, fr. *recroistre* to grow up again, fr. L *recrescere*, fr. *re-* + *crescere* to grow — more at CRESCENT] **1** : a fresh or additional supply **2** : a newcomer to a field or activity; *specif* : a newly enlisted or drafted member of the armed forces **3** : a former enlisted man of the lowest rank in the army

[2]recruit *vt* **1 a** (1) : to fill up the number of (as an army) with new members : REINFORCE (2) : to enlist as a member of an armed service **b** : to increase or maintain the number of 〈America ~*ed* her population from Europe〉 **c** : to secure the services of : ENGAGE, HIRE **d** : to enroll or seek to enroll 〈a college that ~*s* students from the ghettos〉 **2** : REPLENISH **3** : to restore or increase the health, vigor, or intensity of ~ *vi* : to enlist new members — **re·cruit·er** *n* — **re·cruit·ment** \-ˈkrüt-mənt\ *n*

re·crys·tal·lize \(ˈ)rē-ˈkris-tə-ˌlīz\ *vb* : to crystallize again or repeatedly — **re·crys·tal·li·za·tion** \(ˌ)rē-ˌkris-tə-lə-ˈzā-shən\ *n*

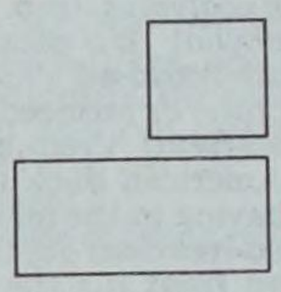
rec sec *abbr* recording secretary

rect *abbr* **1** rectangle; rectangular **2** receipt **3** rectified

rect- *or* **recto-** *comb form* [NL *rectum*] : rectum 〈*rect*al〉

rec·tal \ˈrek-tᵊl\ *adj* : relating to, affecting, or being near the rectum — **rec·tal·ly** \-ē\ *adv*

rect·an·gle \ˈrek-ˌtaŋ-gəl\ *n* [ML *rectangulus* having a right angle, fr. L *rectus* right + *angulus* angle — more at RIGHT, ANGLE] : a parallelogram all of whose angles are right angles



rectangles

rect·an·gu·lar \rek-ˈtaŋ-gyə-lər\ *adj* **1** : shaped like a rectangle 〈a ~ area〉 **2 a** : crossing, lying, or meeting at a right angle 〈~ axes〉 **b** : having edges, surfaces, or faces that meet at right angles : having faces or surfaces shaped like rectangles 〈~ parallelepipeds〉 〈~ blocks〉 — **rect·an·gu·lar·i·ty** \(ˌ)rek-ˌtaŋ-gyə-ˈlar-ət-ē\ *n* — **rect·an·gu·lar·ly** \rek-ˈtaŋ-gyə-lər-lē\ *adv*

rectangular coordinate *n* : a Cartesian coordinate of a Cartesian coordinate system whose straight-line axes or coordinate planes are perpendicular

rec·ti·fi·able \ˈrek-tə-ˌfī-ə-bəl\ *adj* [*rectify* (to determine the length of an arc)] : having finite length 〈a ~ curve〉 — **rec·ti·fi·abil·i·ty** \ˌrek-tə-ˌfī-ə-ˈbil-ət-ē\ *n*

rec·ti·fi·er \ˈrek-tə-ˌfī(-ə)r\ *n* : one that rectifies; *specif* : a device for converting alternating current into direct current

rec·ti·fy \ˈrek-tə-ˌfī\ *vt* **-fied; -fy·ing** [ME *rectifien*, fr. MF *rectifier*, fr. ML *rectificare*, fr. L *rectus* right] **1** : to set right : REMEDY **2** : to purify (as alcohol) esp. by repeated or fractional distillation **3** : to correct by removing errors : ADJUST 〈~ the calendar〉 **4** : to make (an alternating current) unidirectional ***syn*** see CORRECT — **rec·ti·fi·ca·tion** \ˌrek-tə-fə-ˈkā-shən\ *n*

rec·ti·lin·ear \ˌrek-tə-ˈlin-ē-ər\ *adj* [LL *rectilineus*, fr. L *rectus* + *linea* line] **1** : moving in or forming a straight line 〈~ motion〉 **2** : characterized by straight lines **3** : PERPENDICULAR 3 **4** : corrected for distortion so that straight lines are imaged accurately 〈~ lens〉 — **rec·ti·lin·ear·ly** *adv*

rec·ti·tude \ˈrek-tə-ˌt(y)üd\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. LL *rectitudo*, fr. L *rectus* straight, right] **1** : the quality or state of being straight **2** : moral integrity : RIGHTEOUSNESS **3** : the quality or state of being correct in judgment or procedure

rec·ti·tu·di·nous \ˌrek-tə-ˈt(y)üd-nəs, -ᵊn-əs\ *adj* [LL *rectitudin-*, *rectitudo* rectitude] **1** : characterized by rectitude **2** : piously self-righteous

rec·to \ˈrek-(ˌ)tō\ *n, pl* **rectos** [NL *recto* (*folio*) the page being straight] **1** : the side of a leaf (as of a manuscript) that is to be read first **2** : a right-hand page — compare VERSO

rec·tor \ˈrek-tər\ *n* [L, fr. *rectus*, pp. of *regere* to direct — more at RIGHT] **1** : one that directs : LEADER **2 a** : a clergyman (as of the Protestant Episcopal Church) in charge of a parish **b** : an incumbent of a Church of England benefice in full possession of its rights **c** : a Roman Catholic priest directing a church with no pastor or one whose pastor has other duties **3** : the head of a university or school — **rec·tor·ate** \-t(ə-)rət\ *n* — **rec·to·ri·al** \rek-ˈtōr-ē-əl, -ˈtȯr-\ *adj* — **rec·tor·ship** \ˈrek-tər-ˌship\ *n*

rec·to·ry \ˈrek-t(ə-)rē\ *n, pl* **-ries** **1** : a benefice held by a rector **2** : a rector's residence

rec·trix \ˈrek-triks\ *n, pl* **rec·tri·ces** \ˈrek-trə-ˌsēz, rek-ˈtrī-(ˌ)sēz\ [NL, fr. L, fem. of *rector* one that directs] : any of the quill feathers of a bird's tail that are important in controlling flight direction

rec·tum \ˈrek-təm\ *n, pl* **rectums** *or* **rec·ta** \-tə\ [NL, fr. *rectum intestinum*, lit., straight intestine] : the terminal part of the intestine from the sigmoid flexure to the anus

rec·tus \ˈrek-təs\ *n, pl* **rec·ti** \-ˌtī, -ˌtē\ [NL, fr. *rectus musculus* straight muscle] : any of several straight muscles (as of the abdomen)

re·cum·ben·cy \ri-ˈkəm-bən-sē\ *n, pl* **-cies** : the state of leaning, resting, or reclining : REPOSE; *also* : a recumbent position

re·cum·bent \-bənt\ *adj* [L *recumbent-*, *recumbens*, prp. of *recumbere* to lie down, fr. *re-* + *-cumbere* to lie down (akin to L *cubare* to lie, recline) — more at HIP] **1 a** : suggestive of repose : LEANING, RESTING **b** : lying down **c** : representing a person lying down 〈a ~ statue〉 **2** *of an anatomical structure* : tending to rest upon the surface from which it extends ***syn*** see PRONE — **re·cum·bent·ly** *adv*

re·cu·per·ate \ri-ˈk(y)ü-pə-ˌrāt\ *vb* **-at·ed; -at·ing** [L *recuperatus*, pp. of *recuperare* — more at RECOVER] *vt* : to get back : REGAIN ~ *vi* : to regain a former state or condition; *esp* : to recover health or strength — **re·cu·per·a·tion** \-ˌk(y)ü-pə-ˈrā-shən\ *n*

re·cu·per·a·tive \-ˈk(y)ü-pə-ˌrāt-iv\ *adj* **1** : of or relating to recuperation 〈~ powers〉 **2** : aiding in recuperation : RESTORATIVE

re·cur \ri-ˈkər\ *vi* **re·curred; re·cur·ring** [ME *recurren* to return, fr. L *recurrere*, lit., to run back, fr. *re-* + *currere* to run — more at CURRENT] **1** : to have recourse : RESORT **2** : to go back in thought or discourse **3 a** : to come up again for consideration **b** : to come again to mind **4** : to occur again after an interval ***syn*** see RETURN — **re·cur·rence** \-ˈkər-ən(t)s, -ˈkə-rən(t)s\ *n*

re·cur·rent \-ˈkər-ənt, -ˈkə-rənt\ *adj* [L *recurrent-*, *recurrens*, prp. of *recurrere*] **1** : running or turning back in a direction opposite to a former course — used of various nerves and branches of vessels in the arms and legs **2** : returning or happening time after time 〈~ complaints〉 ***syn*** see INTERMITTENT — **re·cur·rent·ly** *adv*

recurring decimal *n* : REPEATING DECIMAL

re·cur·sion \ri-ˈkər-zhən\ *n* [LL *recursion-*, *recursio*, fr. *recursus*, pp. of *recurrere* to run back — more at RECUR] **1** : RETURN **2** : the determination of a succession of elements (as numbers or functions) by operation on one or more preceding elements according to a rule or formula involving a finite number of steps

re·cur·sive \ri-ˈkər-siv\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or involving mathematical recursion **2** : of, relating to, or constituting a procedure that can repeat itself indefinitely or until a specified condition is met 〈a ~ rule in a grammar〉 — **re·cur·sive·ly** *adv* — **re·cur·sive·ness** *n*

re·curved \(ˈ)rē-ˈkərvd\ *adj* : curved backward or inward

re·cu·san·cy \ˈrek-yə-zən-sē, ri-ˈkyüz-ᵊn-\ *n* [*recusant*, n., fr. L *recusant-*, *recusans*, prp. of *recusare* to refuse, fr. *re-* + *causari* to give a reason, fr. *causa* cause, reason] : refusal to accept or obey established authority; *specif* : the refusal of Roman Catholics to attend services of the Church of England constituting a statutory offense from about 1570 till 1791 — **re·cu·sant** \-zənt, -ᵊnt\ *n or adj*

re·cy·cle \(ˈ)rē-ˈsī-kəl\ *vt* : to pass again through a series of changes or treatments: as **a** : to process (as liquid body waste, glass, or cans) in order to regain material for human use **b** : RECOVER 6 ~ *vi* **1** : to return to an earlier point in a countdown **2** : to return to an original condition so that operation can begin again — used of an electronic device — **re·cy·cla·ble** \-k(ə-)lə-bəl\ *adj*

[1]red \ˈred\ *adj* **red·der; red·dest** [ME, fr. OE *rēad*; akin to OHG *rōt* red, L *ruber & rufus*, Gk *erythros*] **1 a** : of the color red **b** : having red as a distinguishing color **2 a** (1) : flushed esp. with anger or embarrassment (2) : RUDDY, FLORID (3) : of a coppery hue **b** : BLOODSHOT 〈eyes ~ from crying〉 **c** : in the color range between a moderate orange and russet or bay **d** : tinged with red : REDDISH **3** : heated to redness : GLOWING **4 a** : inciting or endorsing radical social or political change esp. by force **b** : COMMUNIST **c** : of or relating to a communist country and esp. to the U.S.S.R. **5** : failing to show a profit 〈a ~ financial statement〉 — compare BLACK

[2]red *n* **1** : a color whose hue resembles that of blood or of the ruby or is that of the long-wave extreme of the visible spectrum **2** : one that is of a red or reddish color; *esp* : an animal with a reddish coat **3 a** : a pigment or dye that colors red **b** : a shade or tint of red **4 a** : one who advocates the violent overthrow of an existing social or political order **b** *cap* : COMMUNIST **5** [fr. the bookkeeping practice of entering debit items in red ink] : the condition of showing a loss 〈in the ~〉

[3]red *abbr* reduce; reduction
re·dact \ri-'dakt\ *vt* [back-formation fr. *redaction*] **1** : to put in writing : FRAME **2** : to select or adapt for publication : EDIT
re·dac·tion \-'dak-shən\ *n* [F *rédaction*, fr. LL *redaction-, redactio* act of reducing, compressing, fr. L *redactus*, pp. of *redigere* to bring back, reduce, fr. *re-, red-* re- + *agere* to lead — more at AGENT] **1** : an act or instance of redacting **2** : a work that has been redacted : EDITION, VERSION — **re·dac·tion·al** \-shnəl, -shən-[ə]l\ *adj*
re·dac·tor \-'dak-tər\ *n* : one who redacts; *esp* : EDITOR
red admiral *n* : a nymphalid butterfly (*Vanessa atalanta*) that is common in both Europe and America, has broad orange-red bands on the fore wings, and feeds on nettles in the larval stage
red alert *n* : the final stage of alert in which enemy attack appears imminent
red alga *n* : an alga (division Rhodophyta) that has predominantly red pigmentation
red ant *n* : any of various reddish ants (as the pharaoh ant)
red·ar·gue \ri-'där-(,)gyü\ *vt* **-gued; -gu·ing** [ME *redarguen*, fr. L *redarguere*, fr. *red-* + *arguere* assert, make clear — more at ARGENT] *archaic* : CONFUTE, DISPROVE
red–bait \'red-,bāt\ *vb, often cap R, vt* : to subject (as a person or group) to red-baiting ~ *vi* : to engage in red-baiting
red–bait·ing *n, often cap R* : the act of attacking or persecuting as a Communist or as communistic
red bay *n* : a small tree (*Persea borbonia*) of the southern U.S. that has dark red heartwood
red·bel·ly dace \,red-,bel-ē-\ *n* : either of two small brightly-marked No. American cyprinid fishes (*Chrosomus eos* and *C. erythrogaster*) — called also *red-bellied dace*
red birch *n* **1** : the heartwood lumber of the yellow birch (*Betula lutea*) and of the sweet birch (*Betula lenta*) **2** : a valuable New Zealand timber tree (*Nothofagus fusca*); *also* : its hard wood
red·bird \'red-,bərd\ *n* : any of several birds (as a cardinal, several tanagers, or the bullfinch) with predominantly red plumage
red blood cell *n* : one of the hemoglobin-containing cells that carry oxygen to the tissues and are responsible for the red color of vertebrate blood — called also *erythrocyte, red blood corpuscle, red cell, red corpuscle*
red–blood·ed \'red-'bləd-əd\ *adj* : VIGOROUS, LUSTY
red·bone \'red-,bōn\ *n* : a moderate-sized speedy dark red or red and tan American hound that is used esp. for hunting raccoons
red·breast \'red-,brest\ *n* **1** : a bird (as a robin) with a reddish breast **2** : a reddish-bellied sunfish (*Lepomis auritus*) of the eastern U.S. — called also *red-breasted bream*
red·brick \-,brik\ *adj* [fr. the common use of red brick in constructing the buildings of recently founded universities] : of, relating to, or being the British universities founded in modern times
red·bud \-,bəd\ *n* : an American leguminous tree (genus *Cercis*) with usu. pale rosy pink flowers
red bug *n, South & Midland* : CHIGGER 2
red·cap \'red-,kap\ *n* : a baggage porter (as at a railroad station)
red–carpet *adj* [fr. the traditional laying down of a red carpet for important guests to walk on] : marked by ceremonial courtesy ⟨~ treatment⟩
red carpet *n* : a greeting or reception marked by ceremonial courtesy — usu. used in the phrase *roll out the red carpet*
red cedar *n* **1** : an American juniper (*Juniperus virginiana*) that is common east of the Rocky mountains and has dark green closely imbricated needle-shaped leaves **2** : the fragrant close-grained red wood of the red cedar
red cent *n* : a trivial amount : PENNY 4, WHIT
red clover *n* : a Eurasian clover (*Trifolium pratense*) with globose heads of reddish purple flowers widely cultivated as a hay, forage, and cover crop
red·coat \'red-,kōt\ *n* : a British soldier esp. in America during the Revolutionary War
red coral *n* : a gorgonian (*Corallium nobile*) of the Mediterranean and adjacent parts of the Atlantic having a hard stony skeleton of a delicate red or pink color used for ornaments and jewelry
Red Cross *n* : a red Greek cross on a white background used as the emblem of the International Red Cross
[1]redd \'red\ *vb* **redd·ed** *or* **redd; redd·ing** [ME *redden* to clear, prob. alter. of *ridden* — more at RID] *vt, chiefly dial* : to set in order ~ *vi, chiefly dial* : to make things tidy
[2]redd *n* [origin unknown] : the spawning ground or nest of various fishes
red deer *n* **1** : the common deer of temperate Europe and Asia (*Cervus elaphus*) which is related to but smaller than the elk **2** : the whitetail in its summer coat


red deer 1

red·den \'red-[ə]n\ *vb* **red·dened; red·den·ing** \'red-niŋ, -[ə]n-iŋ\ *vt* : to make red or reddish ~ *vi* : to become red; *esp* : BLUSH
red·dish \'red-ish\ *adj* : tinged with red — **red·dish·ness** *n*
red dog *n* : BLITZ 2b — **red dog** *vb*
[1]rede \'rēd\ *vt* [ME *reden* — more at READ] **1** *dial* : to give counsel to : ADVISE **2** *dial* : INTERPRET, EXPLAIN
[2]rede *n* **1** *chiefly dial* : COUNSEL, ADVICE **2** *archaic* : ACCOUNT, STORY
red·ear \'red-,i(ə)r\ *n* : a common sunfish (*Lepomis microlophus*) of the southern and eastern U.S. resembling the bluegill but having the back part of the gill cover bright orange-red — called also *shellcracker*
re·dec·o·rate \(')rē-'dek-ə-,rāt\ *vt* : to freshen or change in appearance : REFURBISH ~ *vi* : to freshen or change a decorative scheme — **re·dec·o·ra·tion** \(,)rē-,dek-ə-'rā-shən\ *n* — **re·dec·o·ra·tor** \(')rē-'dek-ə-,rāt-ər\ *n*
re·deem \ri-'dēm\ *vt* [ME *redemen*, modif. of MF *redimer*, fr. L *redimere*, fr. *re-, red-* re- + *emere* to take, buy; akin to Lith *imti* to take] **1 a** : to buy back : REPURCHASE **b** : to get or win back **2** : to free from what distresses or harms: as **a** : to free from captivity by payment of ransom **b** : to extricate from or help to overcome something detrimental ⟨new interests that ~*ed* his life from futility⟩ **c** : to release from blame or debt : CLEAR **d** : to free from the consequences of sin **3** : to change for the better : REFORM **4** : REPAIR, RESTORE **5 a** : to free from a lien by payment of an amount secured thereby **b** (1) : to remove the obligation of by payment ⟨the U.S. Treasury ~*s* savings bonds on demand⟩ (2) : to convert into something of value ⟨~ trading stamps⟩ **c** : to make good : FULFILL **6 a** : to atone for : EXPIATE **b** (1) : to offset the bad effect of (2) : to make worthwhile : RETRIEVE ***syn*** see RESCUE — **re·deem·able** \-'dē-mə-bəl\ *adj*
re·deem·er \-'dē-mər\ *n* : a person who redeems; *esp, cap* : JESUS
re·de·fine \,rēd-i-'fīn\ *vt* **1** : to define (a concept) again ⟨had to ~ their terms in order to deal with the problem⟩ **2** : to reexamine or reevaluate esp. with a view to change — **re·def·i·ni·tion** \(,)rē-,def-ə-'nish-ən\ *n*
re·demp·tion \ri-'dem(p)-shən\ *n* [ME *redempcioun*, fr. MF *redemption*, fr. L *redemption-, redemptio*, fr. *redemptus*, pp. of *redimere* to redeem] : the act, process, or an instance of redeeming — **re·demp·tion·al** \-shnəl, -shən-[ə]l\ *adj*
re·demp·tion·er \-sh(ə-)nər\ *n* : an immigrant to America in the 18th and 19th centuries who obtained passage by becoming an indentured servant
re·demp·tive \-'dem(p)-tiv\ *adj* : of, relating to, or bringing about redemption
Re·demp·tor·ist \ri-'dem(p)-t(ə-)rəst\ *n* [F *rédemptoriste*, fr. LL *redemptor* redeemer, fr. L, contractor, fr. *redemptus*] : a member of the Congregation of the Most Holy Redeemer founded by St. Alphonsus Liguori in Scala, Italy, in 1732 and devoted to preaching
re·demp·to·ry \ri-'dem(p)-t(ə-)rē\ *adj* : serving to redeem
re·de·ploy \,rēd-i-'plȯi\ *vt* : to transfer from one area or activity to another ~ *vi* : to relocate men or equipment — **re·de·ploy·ment** \-mənt\ *n*
re·de·scribe \,rēd-i-'skrīb\ *vt* : to describe anew or again; *esp* : to give a new and more complete description to (a biological taxon)
re·de·scrip·tion \-'skrip-shən\ *n* : a new and more complete description of a biological taxon
re·de·sign \,rēd-i-'zīn\ *vt* : to revise in appearance, function, or content — **redesign** *n*
re·de·ter·mine \,rēd-i-'tər-mən\ *vt* : to determine again : CONFIRM — **re·de·ter·mi·na·tion** \-,tər-mə-'nā-shən\ *n*
re·de·vel·op \,rēd-i-'vel-əp\ *vt* : to develop again; *esp* : REDESIGN, REBUILD — **re·de·vel·op·er** *n*
re·de·vel·op·ment \-əp-mənt\ *n* : the act or process of redeveloping; *esp* : renovation of a blighted area
red–eye \'red-,ī\ *n* : cheap whiskey
red·eye gravy \,red-,ī-\ *n* : gravy made from the juices of ham
red feed *n* : small red marine planktonic copepods that are a leading food of some commercial fishes
red fescue *n* : a perennial pasture and turf grass (*Festuca rubra*) of Europe and America with creeping rootstocks, erect culms, and reddish spikelets
red·fish \'red-,fish\ *n* : any of various reddish fishes: as **a** (1) : a marine scorpaenid food fish (*Sebastes marinus*) of the northern coasts of Europe and America that is usu. bright rose-red when mature **a** (2) : a fish (*Sebastes mentella*) related to the redfish **b** : CHANNEL BASS
red fox *n* : a fox (*Vulpes vulpes*) with bright orange-red to dusky reddish brown fur
red giant *n* : a star that has low surface temperature and a diameter that is large relative to the sun
red–green blindness *n* : dichromatism in which the spectrum is seen in tones of yellow and blue — called also *red-green color blindness*
Red Guard *n* : a member of a teenage activist organization in China serving the Maoist party
red gum *n* **1 a** : any of several Australian trees of the genus *Eucalyptus* (esp. *E. camaldulensis, E. amygdalina,* and *E. calophylla*) **b** : eucalyptus gum **2** : SWEET GUM
red–hand·ed \'red-'han-dəd\ *adv or adj* : in the act of committing a crime or misdeed ⟨caught ~⟩
red·head \'red-,hed\ *n* **1** : a person having red hair **2** : an American duck (*Aythya americana*) related to the canvasback but having in the male a brighter reddish head and shorter bill
red·head·ed *adj* : having red hair or a red head
red heat *n* : the state of being red-hot; *also* : the temperature at which a substance is red-hot
red herring *n* **1** : a herring cured by salting and slow smoking to a dark brown color **2** [fr. the practice of drawing a red herring across a trail to confuse hunting dogs] : something that distracts attention from the real issue
red·horse \'red-,hȯrs\ *n* : any of numerous large suckers (genera *Moxostoma* and *Placopharynx*) of No. American rivers and lakes that have in the male red fins esp. in the breeding season
[1]red–hot \'red-'hät\ *adj* **1** : glowing with heat : extremely hot **2** : exhibiting or marked by intense emotion, enthusiasm, or violence ⟨a ~ political campaign⟩ **3** : FRESH, NEW ⟨~ news⟩
[2]red–hot \-,hät\ *n* **1** : one who shows intense emotion or partisanship **2** : HOT DOG **3** : a small red candy strongly flavored with cinnamon
re·dia \'rēd-ē-ə\ *n, pl* **re·di·ae** \-ē-,ē\ *also* **re·di·as** [NL, fr. Francesco *Redi* †1698? It naturalist] : a larva produced within the sporocyst of many trematodes that produces another generation of rediae or develops into a cercaria — **re·di·al** \-ē-əl\ *adj*
Red Indian *n* : AMERICAN INDIAN
red·in·gote \'red-iŋ-,gōt\ *n* [F, modif. of E *riding coat*] : a fitted outer garment: as **a** : a double-breasted coat with wide flat cuffs and collar worn by men in the 18th century **b** : a woman's lightweight coat open at the front **c** : a dress with a front gore of contrasting material

red ink *n* [fr. the use of red ink in financial statements to indicate a loss] **1** : a business loss : DEFICIT **2** : the condition of showing a business loss

red·in·te·grate \ri-'dint-ə-ˌgrāt, re-\ *vt* [ME *redintegraten*, fr. L *redintegratus*, pp. of *redintegrare*, fr. *re-*, *red-* re- + *integrare* to make complete — more at INTEGRATE] *archaic* : to restore to a former and esp. sound state

red·in·te·gra·tion \ri-ˌdint-ə-'grā-shən, re-\ *n* **1** *archaic* : restoration to a former state **2** **a** : revival of the whole of a previous mental state when a phase of it recurs **b** : arousal of any response by a part of the complex of stimuli that originally aroused that response — **red·in·te·gra·tive** \-'dint-ə-ˌgrāt-iv\ *adj*

re·di·rect \ˌrēd-ə-'rekt, ˌrē-(ˌ)dī-\ *vt* : to change the course or direction of — **re·di·rec·tion** \-'rek-shən\ *n*

[1]re·dis·count \(')rē-'dis-ˌkau̇nt, ˌrē-dis-'\ *vt* : to discount again (as commercial paper) — **re·dis·count·able** \-ə-bəl\ *adj*

[2]re·dis·count \(')rē-'dis-ˌkau̇nt\ *n* **1** : the act or process of rediscounting **2** : negotiable paper that is rediscounted

re·dis·trib·ute \ˌrēd-ə-'strib-yət\ *vt* **1** : to alter the distribution of : REALLOCATE **2** : to spread to other areas — **re·dis·tri·bu·tion** \(ˌ)rē-ˌdis-trə-'byü-shən\ *n* — **re·dis·trib·u·tive** \ˌrēd-ə-'strib-yət-iv\ *adj* — **re·dis·trib·u·to·ry** \-yə-ˌtōr-ē, -ˌtȯr-\ *adj*

re·dis·trict \(')rē-'dis-(ˌ)trikt\ *vt* : to divide anew into districts; *specif* : to revise the legislative districts of ~ *vi* : to revise legislative districts

red·i·vi·vus \ˌred-ə-'vī-vəs, -'vē-\ *adj* [LL, fr. L, renovated] : brought back to life : REBORN

red jasmine *n* **1** : a widely cultivated frangipani (*Plumeria rubra*) with large terminal cymes of pink, red, or purple fragrant flowers **2** : CYPRESS VINE

red lead *n* : an orange-red to brick-red lead oxide Pb_3O_4 used in storage-battery plates, in glass and ceramics, and as a paint pigment — called also *minium*

red leaf *n* : any of several plant diseases characterized by reddening of the foliage

red·leg \'red-ˌleg, -ˌlāg\ *n* : any of several birds (as a redshank) with red legs

red–legged grasshopper \ˌred-ˌleg(-ə)d-, -ˌlāg(-ə)d-\ *n* : a widely distributed and sometimes highly destructive small No. American grasshopper (*Melanoplus femur-rubrum*) with red hind legs — called also *red-legged locust*

red–let·ter \ˌred-ˌlet-ər\ *adj* [fr. the practice of marking holy days in red letters in church calendars] : of special significance

red light *n* **1** : a warning signal; *esp* : a red traffic signal **2** : a cautionary sign : DETERRENT

red–light district *n* : a district in which houses of prostitution are numerous

red·line \'red-ˌlīn, -'līn\ *vi* : to withhold home-loan funds or insurance from neighborhoods considered poor economic risks ~ *vt* : to discriminate against in housing or insurance

red·ly \'red-lē\ *adv* : in a red manner : with red color

red man *n* **1** : AMERICAN INDIAN **2** *cap R&M* [Improved Order of *Red Men*] : a member of a major benevolent and fraternal order

red maple *n* : a common tree (*Acer rubrum*) of the eastern and central U.S. that grows chiefly on moist soils, has reddish twigs and somewhat pubescent leaves, and yields a lighter and softer wood than the sugar maple

red marrow *n* : reddish bone marrow that is the seat of blood-cell production

red mass *n, often cap R & M* : a votive mass of the Holy Ghost celebrated in red vestments esp. at the opening of courts and congresses

red mite *n* : any of several mites having a red color: as **a** : EUROPEAN RED MITE **b** : CITRUS RED MITE

red mulberry *n* : a No. American forest tree (*Morus rubra*) with soft weak but durable wood; *also* : its edible purple fruit

red mullet *n* : MULLET 2

red–neck \'red-ˌnek\ *n* : a white member of the Southern rural laboring class

red·ness \-nəs\ *n* : the quality or state of being red or red-hot

re·do \(')rē-'dü\ *vt* **1** : to do over or again **2** : REDECORATE — **re·do** \'rē-ˌdü, -'dü\ *n*

red oak *n* **1** : any of numerous American oaks (as *Quercus rubra* and *Quercus falcata*) that have four stamens in each floret, acorns with the inner surface of the shell lined with woolly hairs, the acorn cap covered with thin scales, and leaf veins that usu. run beyond the margin of the leaf to form bristles **2** : the wood of red oak

red ocher *n* : a red earthy hematite used as a pigment

red·o·lence \'red-ᵊl-ən(t)s\ *n* **1** : the quality or state of being redolent **2** : SCENT, AROMA

red·o·lent \-ᵊl-ənt\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *redolent-*, *redolens*, prp. of *redolēre* to emit a scent, fr. *re-*, *red-* + *olēre* to smell — more at ODOR] **1** : exuding fragrance : AROMATIC **2** **a** : full of a specified fragrance : SCENTED ⟨air ~ of seaweed⟩ **b** : EVOCATIVE, SUGGESTIVE ⟨a city ~ of antiquity⟩ — **red·o·lent·ly** *adv*

red osier *n* : a common No. American shrub (*Cornus stolonifera*) with reddish purple twigs, white flowers, and globose blue or whitish fruit

re·dou·ble \(')rē-'dəb-əl\ *vt* **1** : to make twice as great in size or amount : INTENSIFY **2** **a** *obs* : to echo back **b** *archaic* : REPEAT ~ *vi* **1** : to become redoubled **2** *archaic* : RESOUND **3** : to double an opponent's double in bridge — **redouble** *n*

re·doubt \ri-'dau̇t\ *n* [F *redoute*, fr. It *ridotto*, fr. ML *reductus* secret place, fr. L, withdrawn, fr. pp. of *reducere* to lead back — more at REDUCE] **1** **a** : a small usu. temporary enclosed defensive work **b** : a defended position : protective barrier **2** : a secure place

re·doubt·able \ri-'dau̇t-ə-bəl\ *adj* [ME *redoutable*, fr. MF, fr. *redouter* to dread, fr. *re-* + *douter* to doubt] **1** : causing fear or alarm : FORMIDABLE **2** : inspiring or worthy of awe or reverence : ILLUSTRIOUS — **re·doubt·ably** \-blē\ *adv*

re·dound \ri-'dau̇nd\ *vi* [ME *redounden*, fr. MF *redonder*, fr. L *redundare*, fr. *re-*, *red-* re- + *unda* wave — more at WATER] **1** *archaic* : to become swollen : OVERFLOW **2** : to lead to a usu. unplanned end as if by an inevitable flow of consequences **3** : to become transferred or added : ACCRUE **4** : REBOUND, REFLECT
syn see CONDUCE

red·out \'red-ˌau̇t\ *n* : a condition in which centripetal acceleration drives blood to the head and causes reddening of the visual field and headache

re·dox \'rē-ˌdäks\ *n* [*red*uction + *ox*idation] : OXIDATION-REDUCTION

red oxide of zinc *n* : ZINCITE

red–pen·cil \'red-'pen(t)-səl\ *vt* **1** : CENSOR **2** : CORRECT, REVISE

red pepper *n* : CAYENNE PEPPER

red pine *n* **1** : a No. American pine (*Pinosa resinosa*) that has reddish bark **2** : the hard but not durable wood of the red pine that consists chiefly of sapwood

red·poll \'red-ˌpōl\ *n* : any of several small finches (genus *Carduelis* or *Acanthis*) which resemble siskins and in which the males usu. have a red or rosy crown

red poll *n, often cap R&P* [alter. of *red polled*] : any of a British breed of large hornless dual-purpose cattle that are red with a little white on the switch and belly

[1]re·dress \ri-'dres\ *vt* [ME *redressen*, fr. MF *redresser*, fr. OF *redrecier*, fr. *re-* + *drecier* to make straight — more at DRESS] **1** **a** (1) : to set right : REMEDY (2) : to make up for : COMPENSATE **b** : to remove the cause of (a grievance or complaint) **c** : to exact reparation for : AVENGE **2** *archaic* **a** : to requite (a person) for a wrong or loss **b** : HEAL
syn see CORRECT — **re·dress·er** *n*

[2]re·dress \ri-'dres, 'rē-ˌ\ *n* **1** **a** : relief from distress **b** : means or possibility of seeking a remedy ⟨without ~⟩ **2** : compensation for wrong or loss : REPARATION **3** **a** : an act or instance of redressing **b** : CORRECTION, RETRIBUTION

red ribbon *n* : a red ribbon usu. with appropriate words or markings awarded the second-place winner in a competition

red·root \'red-ˌrüt, -ˌru̇t\ *n* **1** : a perennial herb (*Lachnanthes tinctoria*) of the bloodwort family of the eastern U.S. whose red root is the source of a dye **2** : BLOODROOT **3** : a pigweed (*Amaranthus retroflexus*) that bears greenish flowers in dense spikes with bracts almost twice as long as the sepals

red rust *n* **1** : the uredinial stage of a rust **2** : the diseased condition produced by red rust

red salmon *n* : SOCKEYE

red seaweed *n* : RED ALGA; *specif* : any of a genus (*Polysiphonia*) having a filamentous much-branched thallus

red·shank \'red-ˌshaŋk\ *n* : a common Old World limicoline bird (*Tringa totanus*) with pale red legs and feet

red shift *n* : a displacement of the spectrum of a celestial body toward longer wavelengths that is a consequence of the Doppler effect or the gravitational field of the source

red·shirt \'red-ˌshərt\ *n* [fr. the red jersey commonly worn by such a player in practice scrimmages against the regulars] : a college athlete who is kept out of varsity competition for a year in order to extend the period of his eligibility — **redshirt** *vt*

red–shoul·dered hawk \ˌred-ˌshōl-dərd-\ *n* : a common hawk (*Buteo lineatus*) of eastern No. America that has a banded tail and a light spot on the underside of the wings toward the tips

red sin·dhi \-'sin-dē\ *n* [[1]*red* + *sindhi* (one belonging to Sind, Pakistan)] : any of an Indian breed of rather small red humped dairy cattle extensively used for crossbreeding with European stock in tropical areas

red siskin *n* : a finch (*Carduelis cucullata*) of northern So. America that is scarlet with black head, wings, and tail

red·skin \'red-ˌskin\ *n* : AMERICAN INDIAN

red snapper *n* : any of various reddish fishes (as of the genera *Lutjanus* and *Sebastodes*) including several food fishes

red snow *n* : snow colored by various airborne dusts or by a growth of algae (as of the genus *Chlamydomonas*) that contain red pigment and live in the upper layer of snow; *also* : an alga causing red snow

red soil *n* : any of a group of zonal soils that develop in a warm temperate moist climate under deciduous or mixed forests and that have thin organic and organic-mineral layers overlying a yellowish brown leached layer resting on an illuvial red horizon — called also *red podzolic soil*

red spider *n* : any of several small web-spinning mites (family Tetranychidae) that attack forage and crop plants

red spruce *n* : a coniferous tree (*Picea rubens*) of eastern No. America that has deeply furrowed brown or purplish bark and is an important source of lumber and pulpwood

red squill *n* : a European squill (*Urginea maritima*) having a reddish brown bulb that is used chiefly in rat poison

red squirrel *n* : a common and widely distributed No. American squirrel (*Tamiasciurus hudsonicus* or *Sciurus hudsonicus*) that has the upper parts chiefly red and is smaller than the gray squirrel

red star *n* : a star having a very low surface temperature and a red color

red·start \'red-ˌstärt\ *n* [*red* + obs. *start* (handle, tail)] **1** : a small European singing bird (*Phoenicurus phoenicurus*) related to the redbreast **2** : a fly-catching warbler (*Setophaga ruticilla*) chiefly of eastern No. America

red–tailed hawk \ˌred-ˌtāld-\ *n* : a widely distributed New World buteonine hawk (*Buteo jamaicensis*); *esp* : a common rodent-eating hawk (*Buteo jamaicensis borealis*) of eastern No. America that is mottled dusky above and white streaked dusky and tinged with buff below and has a rather short typically reddish tail

red tape *n* [fr. the red tape formerly used to bind legal documents in England] : official routine or procedure marked by excessive complexity which results in delay or inaction

red tide *n* : seawater discolored by the presence of large numbers of dinoflagellates (esp. of the genera *Gonyaulax* and *Gymnodinium*) in a density fatal to many forms of marine life

red·top \'red-ˌtäp\ *n* : any of various grasses (genus *Agrostis*) with usu. reddish panicles; *esp* : an important forage and lawn grass (*A. alba*) of eastern No. America

re·duce \ri-'d(y)üs\ *vb* **re·duced; re·duc·ing** [ME *reducen* to lead back, fr. L *reducere*, fr. *re-* + *ducere* to lead — more at TOW] *vt* **1 a** : to draw together or cause to converge : CONSOLIDATE ⟨~ all the questions to one⟩ **b** : to diminish in size, amount, extent, or number ⟨~ taxes⟩ ⟨~ the likelihood of war⟩ **c** : to narrow down : RESTRICT ⟨the Indians were *reduced* to small reservations⟩ **d** : to make shorter : ABRIDGE **2** *archaic* : to restore to righteousness : SAVE **3** : to bring to a specified state or condition ⟨were *reducing* to order the chaos following the war⟩ **4 a** : to force to capitulate **b** : FORCE, COMPEL **5 a** : to bring to a systematic form or character ⟨~ natural events to laws⟩ **b** : to put down in written or printed form ⟨~ an agreement to writing⟩ **6** : to correct (as a fracture) by bringing displaced or broken parts back into their normal positions **7 a** : to lower in grade or rank : DEMOTE **b** : to lower in condition or status : DOWNGRADE **8 a** : to diminish in strength or density **b** : to diminish in value **9 a** (1) : to change the denominations or form of without changing the value (2) : to construct a geometrical figure similar to but smaller than (a given figure) **b** : to transpose from one form into another : CONVERT **c** : to change (an expression) to an equivalent but more fundamental expression ⟨~ a fraction⟩ **10** : to break down (as by crushing or grinding) : PULVERIZE **11 a** : to bring to the metallic state by removal of nonmetallic elements ⟨~ an ore by heat⟩ **b** : DEOXIDIZE **c** : to combine with or subject to the action of hydrogen **d** (1) : to change (an element or ion) from a higher to a lower oxidation state (2) : to add one or more electrons to (an atom or ion or molecule) **12** : to change (a stressed vowel) to an unstressed vowel ~ *vi* **a** (1) : to become diminished or lessened; *esp* : to lose weight by dieting (2) : to become reduced ⟨ferrous iron ~*s* to ferric iron⟩ **b** : to become concentrated or consolidated **c** : to undergo meiosis **2** : to become converted or equated ***syn*** see DECREASE — **re·duc·er** *n* — **re·duc·ibil·i·ty** \-ˌd(y)ü-sə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* — **re·duc·ible** \-'d(y)ü-sə-bəl\ *adj* — **re·duc·ibly** \-blē\ *adv*

reducing agent *n* : a substance that reduces a chemical compound usu. by donating electrons

re·duc·tant \ri-'dək-tənt\ *n* : REDUCING AGENT

re·duc·tase \-ˌtās, -ˌtāz\ *n* : an enzyme that catalyzes reduction

re·duc·tio ad ab·sur·dum \ri-'dək-tē-ˌō-ˌad-əb-'sərd-əm, -s(h)ē-ˌō-, -'zərd-\ *n* [LL, lit., reduction to the absurd] : disproof of a proposition by showing an absurdity to which it leads when carried to its logical conclusion

re·duc·tion \ri-'dək-shən\ *n* [ME *reduccion* restoration, fr. MF *reduction*, fr. LL & L; LL *reduction-*, *reductio* reduction (in a syllogism), fr. L, restoration, fr. *reductus*, pp. of *reducere*] **1** : the act or process of reducing : the state of being reduced **2 a** : something made by reducing **b** : the amount by which something is reduced **3** : MEIOSIS; *specif* : production of the gametic chromosome number in the first meiotic division — **re·duc·tion·al** \-shnəl, -shən-ᵊl\ *adj*

reduction division *n* : the usu. first division of meiosis in which chromosome reduction occurs; *also* : MEIOSIS

reduction gear *n* : a combination of gears used to reduce the input speed (as of a marine turbine) to a lower output speed (as of a ship's propeller)

re·duc·tion·ism \ri-'dək-shə-ˌniz-əm\ *n* **1** : a procedure or theory that reduces complex data or phenomena to simple terms; *esp* : OVERSIMPLIFICATION **2** : the attempt to explain all biological processes by the same explanations (as by physical laws) that chemists and physicists use to interpret inanimate matter; *also* : the theory that complete reductionism is possible — **re·duc·tion·ist** \-sh(ə-)nəst\ *n or adj* — **re·duc·tion·is·tic** \-ˌdək-shə-'nis-tik\ *adj*

re·duc·tive \ri-'dək-tiv\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, causing, or involving reduction **2** : of or relating to reductionism : REDUCTIONISTIC

re·dun·dan·cy \ri-'dən-dən-sē\ *n, pl* **-cies** **1 a** : the quality or state of being redundant : SUPERFLUITY **b** *chiefly Brit* : dismissal from a job **2** : PROFUSION, ABUNDANCE **3 a** : superfluous repetition : PROLIXITY **b** : an act or instance of needless repetition **4** : the part of a message that can be eliminated without loss of essential information

re·dun·dant \-dənt\ *adj* [L *redundant-*, *redundans*, prp. of *redundare* to overflow — more at REDOUND] **1 a** : exceeding what is necessary or normal : SUPERFLUOUS **b** : characterized by or containing an excess; *specif* : using more words than necessary **c** : characterized by similarity or repetition ⟨a group of particularly ~ brick buildings⟩ **d** *chiefly Brit* : unnecessary or unfit for a job **2** : PROFUSE, LAVISH **3** : serving as a duplicate for preventing failure of an entire system (as a spacecraft) upon failure of a single component ***syn*** see WORDY ***ant*** concise — **re·dun·dant·ly** *adv*

re·du·pli·cate \ri-'d(y)ü-pli-ˌkāt, 'rē-\ *vt* [LL *reduplicatus*, pp. of *reduplicare*, fr. L *re-* + *duplicare* to double — more at DUPLICATE] **1** : to make or perform again : COPY, REPEAT **2** : to form (a word) by reduplication — **re·du·pli·cate** \-kət\ *adj*

re·du·pli·ca·tion \ri-ˌd(y)ü-pli-'kā-shən, ˌrē-\ *n* **1** : an act or instance of doubling or reiterating **2 a** : an often grammatically functional repetition of a radical element or a part of it occurring usu. at the beginning of a word and often accompanied by change of the radical vowel **b** (1) : a word or form produced by reduplication (2) : the repeated element in such a word or form **3** : ANADIPLOSIS — **re·du·pli·ca·tive** \ri-'d(y)ü-pli-ˌkāt-iv, 'rē-\ *adj* — **re·du·pli·ca·tive·ly** *adv*

re·du·vi·id \ri-'d(y)ü-vē-əd\ *n* [deriv. of L *reduvia* hangnail] : any of a large and widely distributed family (Reduviidae) of blood-sucking hemipterous insects comprising the assassin bugs — **redu·viid** *adj*

red water *n* : a disease of cattle marked by hematuria

red wheat *n* : a wheat that has red grains

red wine *n* : a wine with a predominantly red color derived during fermentation from the natural pigment in the skins of dark-colored grapes

red·wing \'red-ˌwiŋ\ *n* **1** : a European thrush (*Turdus musicus*) having the underwing coverts red **2** : REDWING BLACKBIRD

redwing blackbird *n* : a No. American blackbird (*Agelaius phoeniceus*) of which the adult male is black with a patch of bright scarlet at the bend of the wings bordered behind with yellow or buff — called also *red-winged blackbird*

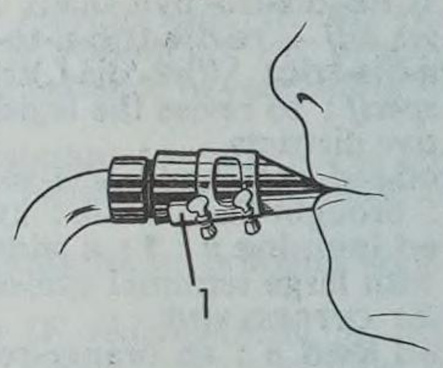
red·wood \'red-ˌwůd\ *n* **1** : a wood yielding a red dye **2** : a tree that yields a red dyewood or produces red or reddish wood **3 a** : a commercially important coniferous timber tree (*Sequoia sempervirens*) of California that often reaches a height of 300 feet **b** : the brownish red light wood of the California redwood

red worm *n* : BLOODWORM; *esp* : a small reddish aquatic oligochaete worm (genus *Tubifex*)

red zinc ore *n* : ZINCITE

re·echo \(ˈ)rē-'ek-(ˌ)ō\ *vi* : to repeat or return an echo : echo again or repeatedly : REVERBERATE ~ *vt* : to echo back : REPEAT

¹reed \'rēd\ *n* [ME *rede*, fr. OE *hrēod*; akin to OHG *hriot* reed, Lith *krutėti* to stir] **1 a** : any of various tall grasses with slender often prominently jointed stems that grow esp. in wet areas **b** : a stem of a reed **c** : a person or thing too weak to rely on : one easily swayed or overcome **2** : a growth or mass of reeds; *specif* : reeds for thatching **3** : ARROW **4** : a wind instrument made from the hollow joint of a plant **5** : an ancient Hebrew unit of length equal to 6 cubits **6 a** : a thin elastic tongue (as of cane, wood, metal, or plastic) fastened at one end over an air opening in a wind instrument (as a clarinet, organ pipe, or accordion) and set in vibration by an air current **b** : a woodwind instrument that produces sound by the vibrating of a reed against the mouthpiece ⟨the ~*s* of an orchestra⟩ **7** : a device on a loom resembling a comb and used to space warp yarns evenly **8** : REEDING 1a



1, reed 6a

²reed *vt* : to make corrugations on (the edge of a coin)

reed·buck \'rēd-ˌbək\ *n, pl* **reedbuck** *also* **reedbucks** : any of a genus (*Redunca*) of fawn-colored African antelopes in which the females are hornless

re·ed·i·fy \(ˈ)rē-'ed-ə-ˌfī\ *vt* **-fied; -fy·ing** [ME *reedifien*, fr. MF *reedifier*, fr. LL *reaedificare*, fr. L *re-* + *aedificare* to build] : REBUILD

reed·ing \'rēd-iŋ\ *n* **1 a** : a small convex molding — see MOLDING illustration **b** : decoration by series of reedings **2** : corrugations on the edge of a coin

re·edit \(ˈ)rē-'ed-ət\ *vt* : to edit again : make a new edition of

reed organ *n* : a keyboard wind instrument in which the wind acts on a set of free reeds

reed pipe *n* : a pipe-organ pipe producing its tone by vibration of a beating reed in a current of air

re·ed·u·cate \(ˈ)rē-'ej-ə-ˌkāt\ *vt* : to train again; *esp* : to rehabilitate through education — **re·ed·u·ca·tion** \(ˌ)rē-ˌej-ə-'kā-shən\ *n* — **re·ed·u·ca·tive** \(ˈ)rē-'ej-ə-ˌkāt-iv\ *adj*

reedy \'rēd-ē\ *adj* **reed·i·er; -est** **1** : abounding in or covered with reeds **2** : made of or resembling reeds; *esp* : SLENDER, FRAIL **3** : having the tone quality of a reed instrument

¹reef \'rēf\ *n* [ME *riff*, fr. ON *rif*] **1** : a part of a sail taken in or let out in regulating size **2** : reduction in sail area by reefing

²reef *vt* **1** : to reduce the area of (a sail) by rolling or folding a portion **2** : to lower or bring inboard (a spar) wholly or partially ~ *vi* : to reduce a sail by taking in a reef

³reef *n* [D *rif*, prob. of Scand origin; akin to ON *rif* reef of a sail] **1 a** : a chain of rocks or ridge of sand at or near the surface of water **b** : a hazardous obstruction **2** : VEIN, LODE — **reefy** \'rē-fē\ *adj*

¹reef·er \'rē-fər\ *n* **1** : one that reefs **2** : a close-fitting usu. double-breasted jacket of thick cloth

²reefer *n* [*²reef*] : a marijuana cigarette

³ree·fer \'rē-fər\ *n* [by shortening & alter.] **1** : REFRIGERATOR **2** : a refrigerator car, truck, trailer, or ship

reef knot *n* : a square knot used in reefing a sail — see KNOT illustration

¹reek \'rēk\ *n* [ME *rek*, fr. OE *rēc*; akin to OHG *rouh* smoke] **1** *chiefly dial* : SMOKE **2** : VAPOR, FOG **3** : a strong or disagreeable fume or odor

²reek *vi* **1** : to emit smoke or vapor **2 a** : to give off or become permeated with a strong or offensive odor **b** : to give a strong impression of some constituent quality or feature ⟨a neighborhood that ~*s* of poverty⟩ **3** : EMANATE ~ *vt* **1** : to subject to the action of smoke or vapor **2** : to give off : EXUDE ⟨a man who ~*s* charm⟩ — **reek·er** *n* — **reeky** \'rē-kē\ *adj*

¹reel \'rē(ə)l\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *hrēol*; akin to ON *hræll* weaver's reed, Gk *krekein* to weave] **1** : a revolvable device on which something flexible is wound: as **a** : a small windlass at the butt of a fishing rod for the line **b** *chiefly Brit* : a spool or bobbin for sewing thread **c** : a flanged spool for photographic film **2** : a quantity of something wound on a reel **3** : a frame for drying clothes usu. having radial arms on a vertical pole

²reel *vt* **1** : to wind on or as if on a reel **2** : to draw by reeling a line ⟨~ a fish in⟩ ~ *vi* : to turn a reel — **reel·able** \'rē-lə-bəl\ *adj* — **reel·er** *n*

³reel *vb* [ME *relen*, prob. fr. *reel*, n.] *vi* **1 a** : to turn or move round and round **b** : to be in a whirl **2** : to behave in a violent disorderly manner **3** : to waver or fall back (as from a blow) **4** : to walk or move unsteadily ~ *vt* : to cause to reel

⁴reel *n* : a reeling motion

⁵reel *n* [prob. fr. *⁴reel*] : a lively Scottish-Highland dance; *also* : the music for this dance

re·elect \ˌrē-ə-'lekt\ *vt* : to elect for another term in office — **re·elec·tion** \-'lek-shən\ *n*

reel off *vt* **1** : to tell or recite readily and usu. at length ⟨*reel off* a few jokes to break the ice⟩ **2** : to chalk up usu. as a series
reel–to–reel *adj* : of, relating to, or utilizing magnetic tape that requires threading on a take-up reel ⟨a ~ tape recorder⟩
re·em·broi·der \ˌrē-əm-ˈbrȯid-ər\ *vt* : to outline a design (as on lace) with embroidery stitching
re·em·ploy \ˌrē-əm-ˈplȯi\ *vt* : to employ again; *esp* : to hire back — **re·em·ploy·ment** \-mənt\ *n*
re·en·act \ˌrē-ə-ˈnakt\ *vt* **1** : to enact (as a law) again **2** : to act or perform again **3** : to repeat the actions of (an earlier event or incident) — **re·en·act·ment** \-ˈnak(t)-mənt\ *n*
re·en·force \ˌrē-ən-ˈfō(ə)rs, -ˈfȯ(ə)rs\ *var of* REINFORCE
re·en·ter \(ˈ)rē-ˈent-ər\ *vt* **1** : to enter (something) again **2** : to return to and enter ~ *vi* : to enter again
re·en·trance \(ˈ)rē-ˈen-trən(t)s\ *n* : REENTRY
1re·en·trant \-trənt\ *adj* : directed inward
2reentrant *n* **1** : one that reenters **2** : one that is reentrant
re·en·try \(ˈ)rē-ˈen-trē\ *n* **1** : a retaking possession; *esp* : entry by a lessor on leased premises on the tenant's failure to perform the conditions of the lease **2** : a second or new entry **3** : a playing card that will enable a player to regain the lead **4** : the action of reentering the earth's atmosphere after travel in space
reest \ˈrēst\ *vi* [prob. short for Sc *arreest* to arrest, fr. ME (Sc) *arreisten*, fr. MF *arester* — more at ARREST] *chiefly Scot* : BALK
1reeve \ˈrēv\ *n* [ME *reve*, fr. OE *gerēfa*, fr. *ge-* (associative prefix) + *-rēfa* (akin to OE *-rōf* number, OHG *ruova*) — more at CO-] **1** : a local administrative agent of an Anglo-Saxon king **2** : a medieval English manor officer responsible chiefly for overseeing the discharge of feudal obligations **3 a** : the council president in some Canadian municipalities **b** : a local official charged with enforcement of specific regulations ⟨deer ~⟩
2reeve *vb* **rove** \ˈrōv\ *or* **reeved; reev·ing** [origin unknown] *vt* **1** : to pass (as a rope) through a hole or opening **2** : to fasten by passing through a hole or around something **3** : to pass a rope through ~ *vi, of a rope* : to pass through a block or similar device
3reeve *n* [prob. alter. of *ruff*] : the female of the ruff
1ref \ˈref\ *n* : a referee in a game or sport
2ref *abbr* **1** reference **2** referred **3** refining **4** reformed **5** refunding
re·fash·ion \(ˈ)rē-ˈfash-ən\ *vt* : to make over : ALTER
re·fect \ri-ˈfekt\ *vt* [L *refectus*, pp.] *archaic* : to refresh with food or drink
re·fec·tion \ri-ˈfek-shən\ *n* [ME *refeccioun*, fr. MF *refection*, fr. L *refection-, refectio*, fr. *refectus*, pp. of *reficere* to restore, fr. *re-* + *facere* to make — more at DO] **1** : refreshment of mind, spirit, or body; *esp* : NOURISHMENT **2 a** : the taking of refreshment **b** : food and drink together : REPAST
re·fec·to·ry \ri-ˈfek-t(ə-)rē\ *n, pl* **-ries** [LL *refectorium*, fr. L *refectus*] : a dining hall esp. in a monastery
refectory table *n* : a long table with heavy legs
re·fel \ri-ˈfel\ *vt* **re·felled; re·fel·ling** [L *refellere* to prove false, refute, fr. *re-* + *fallere* to deceive] *obs* : REJECT, REPULSE
re·fer \ri-ˈfər\ *vb* **re·ferred; re·fer·ring** [ME *referren*, fr. L *referre* to bring back, report, refer, fr. *re-* + *ferre* to carry — more at BEAR] *vt* **1 a** (1) : to think of, regard, or classify within a general category or group (2) : to explain in terms of a general cause **b** : to allot to a particular place, stage, or period **c** : to regard as coming from or located in a specific area **2 a** : to send or direct for treatment, aid, information, or decision ⟨~ a patient to a specialist⟩ ⟨~ a bill back to a committee⟩ **b** : to direct for testimony or guaranty as to character or ability ~ *vi* **1 a** : to have relation or connection : RELATE **b** : to direct attention usu. by clear and specific mention ⟨no one *referred* to yesterday's quarrel⟩ **2** : to have recourse : glance briefly ⟨*referred* frequently to his notes while speaking⟩ — **re·fer·able** \ˈref-(ə-)rə-bəl, ri-ˈfər-ə-\ *adj* — **re·fer·rer** \ri-ˈfər-ər\ *n*
syn **1** see ASCRIBE
2 REFER, ALLUDE, ADVERT *shared meaning element* : to call or direct attention to something
1ref·er·ee \ˌref-ə-ˈrē\ *n* **1** : one to whom a thing is referred: as **a** : a person to whom a legal matter is referred for investigation and report or for settlement **b** : a person who reviews an esp. technical paper before publication **c** : REFERENCE 4a **2** : a sports official usu. having final authority in administering a game
2referee *vb* **-eed; -ee·ing** *vt* **1** : to conduct (as a match or game) as referee **2 a** : to arbitrate (as a legal matter) as a judge or third party **b** : to review (as a technical paper) before publication ~ *vi* : to act as a referee
1ref·er·ence \ˈref-ərn(t)s, ˈref-(ə-)rən(t)s\ *n* **1** : the act of referring or consulting **2** : a bearing on a matter : RELATION ⟨in ~ to your recent letter⟩ **3** : something that refers: as **a** : ALLUSION, MENTION **b** : something (as a sign or indication) that refers a reader or consulter to another source of information (as a book or passage) **c** : consultation of sources of information **4** : one referred to or consulted: as **a** : a person to whom inquiries as to character or ability can be made **b** : a statement of the qualifications of a person seeking employment or appointment given by someone familiar with him **c** (1) : a source of information (as a book or passage) to which a reader or consulter is referred (2) : a work (as a dictionary or encyclopedia) containing useful facts or information **d** : DENOTATION, MEANING
2reference *vt* **-enced; -enc·ing** **1 a** : to supply with references **b** : to cite in or as a reference **2** : to put in a form (as a table) adapted to easy reference
3reference *adj* : used or usable for reference; *esp* : constituting a standard for measuring or constructing
reference mark *n* : a conventional mark (as *, †, or ‡) placed in written or printed text to direct the reader's attention esp. to a footnote
ref·er·en·dum \ˌref-ə-ˈren-dəm\ *n, pl* **-da** \-də\ *or* **-dums** [NL, fr. L, neut. of *referendus*, gerundive of *referre* to refer] **1 a** : the principle or practice of submitting to popular vote a measure passed upon or proposed by a legislative body or by popular initiative **b** : a vote on a measure so submitted **2** : a diplomatic agent's note asking his government for instructions
ref·er·ent \ˈref-(ə-)rənt\ *n* [L *referent-, referens*, prp. of *referre*] : one that refers or is referred to; *esp* : the thing that a symbol (as a word or sign) stands for — **referent** *adj*
ref·er·en·tial \ˌref-ə-ˈren-chəl\ *adj* : containing or constituting a reference — **ref·er·en·tial·ly** \-ˈrench-(ə-)lē\ *adv*
re·fer·ral \ri-ˈfər-əl\ *n* **1** : the act, action, or an instance of referring **2** : one that is referred
1re·fill \(ˈ)rē-ˈfil\ *vt* : to fill again : REPLENISH ~ *vi* : to become filled again — **re·fill·able** \-ə-bəl\ *adj*
2re·fill \ˈrē-ˌfil\ *n* **1** : a product or a container and a product used to refill the exhausted supply of a device **2** : something provided again; *esp* : a second filling of a medical prescription
re·fi·nance \ˌrē-fə-ˈnan(t)s, (ˈ)rē-ˈfī-ˌ, ˌrē-(ˌ)fī-ˈ\ *vt* : to renew or reorganize the financing of ~ *vi* : to finance something anew
re·fine \ri-ˈfīn\ *vb* **re·fined; re·fin·ing** *vt* **1** : to reduce to a pure state ⟨~ sugar⟩ **2** : to free from moral imperfection : ELEVATE **3** : to improve or perfect by pruning or polishing ⟨~ a poetic style⟩ **4** : to reduce in vigor or intensity **5** : to free from what is coarse, vulgar, or uncouth ~ *vi* **1** : to become pure or perfected **2** : to make improvement by introducing subtleties or distinctions — **re·fin·er** *n*
re·fined \ri-ˈfīnd\ *adj* **1** : free from impurities **2** : FASTIDIOUS, CULTIVATED **3** : PRECISE, EXACT ⟨a ~ test for radioactivity⟩
re·fine·ment \ri-ˈfīn-mənt\ *n* **1** : the action or process of refining **2** : the quality or state of being refined : CULTIVATION **3 a** : a refined feature or method **b** : a highly refined distinction : SUBTLETY **c** : a contrivance or device intended to improve or perfect
re·fin·ery \ri-ˈfīn-(ə-)rē\ *n, pl* **-er·ies** : a building and equipment for refining or purifying metals, oil, or sugar
re·fin·ish \(ˈ)rē-ˈfin-ish\ *vt* : to give (as furniture) a new surface ~ *vi* : to refinish furniture — **re·fin·ish·er** *n*
1re·fit \(ˈ)rē-ˈfit\ *vt* : to fit out or supply again ~ *vi* : to obtain repairs or fresh supplies or equipment
2re·fit \ˈrē-ˌfit, (ˈ)rē-ˈ\ *n* : the action of refitting; *esp* : a refitting and renovating of a ship
refl *abbr* reflex; reflexive
re·fla·tion \(ˈ)rē-ˈflā-shən\ *n* [*re-* + *-flation* (as in *deflation*)] : restoration of deflated prices to a desirable level — **re·fla·tion·ary** \-shə-ˌner-ē\ *adj*
re·flect \ri-ˈflekt\ *vb* [ME *reflecten*, fr. L *reflectere* to bend back, fr. *re-* + *flectere* to bend] *vt* **1** *archaic* : to turn into or away from a course : DEFLECT **2** : to turn, throw, or bend off or backward at an angle ⟨a mirror ~*s* light⟩ **3** : to bend or fold back **4** : to give back or exhibit as an image, likeness, or outline : MIRROR ⟨the clouds were ~*ed* in the water⟩ **5** : to bring or cast as a result ⟨his attitude ~*s* little credit on his judgment⟩ **6** : to make manifest or apparent : SHOW ⟨the pulse ~*s* the condition of the heart⟩ **7** : REALIZE, CONSIDER ~ *vi* **1** : to throw back light or sound **2 a** : to think quietly and calmly **b** : to express a thought or opinion resulting from reflection **3 a** : to tend to bring reproach or discredit ⟨an investigation that ~*s* on all the members of the department⟩ **b** : to bring about a specified appearance or characterization ⟨an act which ~*s* well on him⟩ **c** : to have a bearing or influence ***syn*** see THINK
re·flec·tance \ri-ˈflek-tən(t)s\ *n* : the fraction of the total radiant flux incident upon a surface that is reflected and that varies according to the wavelength distribution of the incident radiation
reflecting telescope *n* : REFLECTOR 2
re·flec·tion \ri-ˈflek-shən\ *n* [ME, alter. of *reflexion*, fr. LL *reflexion-, reflexio* act of bending back, fr. L *reflexus*, pp. of *reflectere*] **1** : an instance of reflecting; *esp* : the return of light or sound waves from a surface **2** : the production of an image by or as if by a mirror **3 a** : the action of bending or folding back **b** : a reflected part : FOLD **4** : something produced by reflecting: as **a** : an image given back by a reflecting surface **b** : an effect produced by an influence ⟨a high crime rate is a ~ of an unstable society⟩ **5** : an often obscure or indirect criticism : REPROACH ⟨the book was suppressed as a ~ on the regime⟩ **6** : a thought, idea, or opinion formed or a remark made as a result of meditation **7** : consideration of some subject matter, idea, or purpose **8** *obs* : turning back : RETURN **9 a** : a transformation of a figure in which each point is replaced by a point symmetric with respect to a line **b** : a transformation that involves reflection in more than one axis of a rectangular coordinate system ***syn*** see ANIMADVERSION — **re·flec·tion·al** \-shnəl, -shən-ᵊl\ *adj*
re·flec·tive \ri-ˈflek-tiv\ *adj* **1** : capable of reflecting light, images, or sound waves **2** : marked by reflection : THOUGHTFUL, DELIBERATIVE **3** : of, relating to, or caused by reflection ⟨~ glare of the snow⟩ **4** : REFLEXIVE ⟨~ verb⟩ — **re·flec·tive·ly** *adv* — **re·flective·ness** *n* — **re·flec·tiv·i·ty** \ˌrē-ˌflek-ˈtiv-ət-ē, ri-\ *n*
re·flec·tom·e·ter \ˌrē-ˌflek-ˈtäm-ət-ər, ri-\ *n* : a device for measuring the reflectance of radiant energy (as light) — **re·flec·tom·e·try** \-ə-trē\ *n*
re·flec·tor \ri-ˈflek-tər\ *n* **1** : one that reflects; *esp* : a polished surface for reflecting light or other radiation **2** : a telescope in which the principal focusing element is a mirror
re·flec·tor·ize \-tə-ˌrīz\ *vt* **-ized; -iz·ing** **1** : to make reflecting **2** : to provide with reflectors
1re·flex \ˈrē-ˌfleks\ *n* [L *reflexus*, pp. of *reflectere* to reflect] **1 a** : reflected heat, light, or color **b** : a mirrored image **c** : a copy exact in essential or peculiar features **2 a** : an automatic and often inborn response to a stimulus that involves a nerve impulse passing inward from a receptor to a nerve center and thence outward to an effector (as a muscle or gland) without reaching the

level of consciousness — called also *reflex act;* compare HABIT **b** : the process that culminates in a reflex and comprises reception, transmission, and reaction **c** *pl* : the power of acting or responding with adequate speed **d** : a way of thinking or behaving

²reflex *adj* [L *reflexus*] **1** : bent, turned, or directed back : REFLECTED ⟨a stem with ~ leaves⟩ **2** : directed back upon the mind or its operations : INTROSPECTIVE **3** : produced or carried out in reaction, resistance, or return **4** *of an angle* : being between 180° and 360° **5** : of, relating to, or produced by reflex action without intervention of consciousness — **re·flex·ly** *adv*

reflex arc *n* : the complete nervous path involved in a reflex

reflex camera *n* : a single- or double-lens camera in which the image formed by the focusing lens is reflected onto a usu. ground-glass screen for viewing

re·flexed \ˈrē-ˌflekst, ri-ˈ\ *adj* [L *reflexus* + E *-ed*] : bent or curved backward or downward ⟨~ petals⟩ ⟨~ leaves⟩

re·flex·ion *chiefly Brit var of* REFLECTION

¹re·flex·ive \ri-ˈflek-siv\ *adj* [ML *reflexivus,* fr. L *reflexus*] **1 a** : directed or turned back on itself **b** : marked by or capable of reflection : REFLECTIVE **2** : relating to, characterized by, or being a relation that exists between an entity and itself ⟨the relation *is equal to* is ~ but the relation *is the father of* is not⟩ **3** : of, relating to, or constituting an action (as in "he perjured himself") directed back upon the agent or the grammatical subject **4** : characterized by habitual and unthinking behavior — **re·flex·ive·ly** *adv* — **re·flex·ive·ness** *n* — **re·flex·iv·i·ty** \ˌrē-ˌflek-ˈsiv-ət-ē, ri-\ *n*

²reflexive *n* : REFLEXIVE PRONOUN

reflexive pronoun *n* : a pronoun referring to the subject of the sentence, clause, or verbal phrase in which it stands; *specif* : a personal pronoun compounded with *-self*

re·flex·ol·o·gy \ˌrē-ˌflek-ˈsäl-ə-jē\ *n* [ISV] : the study and interpretation of behavior in terms of simple and complex reflexes

re·flo·res·cence \ˌrē-flə-ˈres-ᵊn(t)s, -flȯ-\ *n* [L *reflorescere* to blossom again, fr. *re-* + *florescere* to bloom — more at FLORESCENCE] : a renewed blossoming

re·flo·res·cent \-ᵊnt\ *adj* : flowering again

re·flow \(ˈ)rē-ˈflō\ *vi* **1** : to flow back : EBB **2** : to flow in again — **re·flow** \ˈrē-ˌflō\ *n*

ref·lu·ence \ˈref-ˌlü-ən(t)s, re-ˈflü-\ *n* : REFLUX 1

re·flu·ent \-ənt\ *adj* [L *refluent-, refluens,* prp. of *refluere* to flow back, fr. *re-* + *fluere* to flow — more at FLUID] : flowing back

¹re·flux \ˈrē-ˌfləks\ *n* [ME, fr. ML *refluxus,* fr. L *re-* + *fluxus* flow — more at FLUX] **1** : a flowing back : EBB **2** : a process of refluxing or condition of being refluxed

²re·flux \ri-ˈfləks, ˈrē-ˌ\ *vt* : to cause to flow back or return; *esp* : to heat so that the vapors formed condense and return to be heated again

re·fo·cus \(ˈ)rē-ˈfō-kəs\ *vt* **1** : to focus again **2** : to change the emphasis or direction of ⟨had ~*ed* his life⟩ ~ *vi* **1** : to focus something again **2** : to change emphasis or direction

re·for·est \(ˈ)rē-ˈfȯr-əst, -ˈfär-\ *vt* : to renew forest cover on by seeding or planting — **re·for·es·ta·tion** \(ˌ)rē-ˌfȯr-ə-ˈstā-shən, -ˌfär-\ *n*

re·forge \(ˈ)rē-ˈfō(ə)rj, -ˈfȯ(ə)rj\ *vt* [ME *reforgen,* fr. MF *reforgier,* fr. *re-* + *forgier* to forge] : to forge again : make over

¹re·form \ri-ˈfȯ(ə)rm\ *vb* [ME *reformen,* fr. MF *reformer,* fr. L *reformare,* fr. *re-* + *formare* to form] *vt* **1 a** : to amend or improve by change of form or removal of faults or abuses **b** : to put or change into an improved form or condition **2** : to put an end to (an evil) by enforcing or introducing a better method or course of action **3** : to induce or cause to abandon evil ways ⟨~ a drunkard⟩ **4 a** : to subject (hydrocarbons) to cracking **b** : to produce (as gasoline or gas) by cracking ~ *vi* : to become changed for the better *syn* see CORRECT — **re·form·abil·i·ty** \-ˌfȯr-mə-ˈbil-ət-ē\ *n* — **re·form·able** \-ˈfȯr-mə-bəl\ *adj*

²reform *n* **1** : amendment of what is defective, vicious, corrupt, or depraved **2** : a removal or correction of an abuse, a wrong, or errors **3** *cap* : REFORM JUDAISM

³reform *adj* : relating to or favoring reform

re·form \(ˈ)rē-ˈfȯ(ə)rm\ *vt* : to form again ~ *vi* : to take form again ⟨the ice ~*ed* on the lake⟩

re·for·mate \ri-ˈfȯr-ˌmāt, -mət\ *n* : a product of hydrocarbon reforming

ref·or·ma·tion \ˌref-ər-ˈmā-shən\ *n* **1** : the act of reforming : the state of being reformed **2** *cap* : a 16th century religious movement marked ultimately by rejection or modification of some Roman Catholic doctrine and practice and establishment of the Protestant churches — **ref·or·ma·tion·al** \-shnəl, -shən-ᵊl\ *adj*

re·for·ma·tive \ri-ˈfȯr-mət-iv\ *adj* : intended or tending to reform

¹re·for·ma·to·ry \ri-ˈfȯr-mə-ˌtōr-ē, -ˌtȯr-\ *adj* : REFORMATIVE

²reformatory *n, pl* **-ries** : a penal institution to which young or first offenders or women are committed for training and reformation

re·formed *adj* **1** : changed for the better **2** *cap* : PROTESTANT; *specif* : of or relating to the chiefly Calvinist Protestant churches formed in various continental European countries

reformed spelling *n* : any of several methods of spelling English words that use letters with more phonetic consistency than conventional spelling and that usu. discard some silent letters (as in *pedagog* for *pedagogue*)

re·form·er \ri-ˈfȯr-mər\ *n* **1** : one that works for or urges reform **2** *cap* : a leader of the Protestant Reformation

re·form·ism \ri-ˈfȯr-ˌmiz-əm\ *n* : a doctrine, policy, or movement of reform — **re·form·ist** \-məst\ *n*

Reform Judaism *n* : Judaism marked by a liberal approach in nonobservance of much legal tradition regarded as irrelevant to the present and in shortening and simplification of traditional ritual

reform school *n* : a reformatory for boys or girls

refr *abbr* refraction

re·fract \ri-ˈfrakt\ *vt* [L *refractus,* pp. of *refringere* to break open, break up, refract, fr. *re-* + *frangere* to break — more at BREAK] **1** : to subject to refraction **2** : to determine the refracting power of

re·frac·tile \-ˈfrak-tᵊl, -ˌtīl\ *adj* : capable of refracting : REFRACTIVE

refracting telescope *n* : REFRACTOR

re·frac·tion \ri-ˈfrak-shən\ *n* **1** : deflection from a straight path undergone by a light ray or energy wave in passing obliquely from one medium (as air) into another (as glass) in which its velocity is different **2** : the change in the apparent position of a celestial body due to bending of the light rays emanating from it as they pass through the atmosphere; *also* : the correction to be applied to the apparent position of a body because of this bending

re·frac·tive \ri-ˈfrak-tiv\ *adj* **1** : having power to refract **2** : relating or due to refraction — **re·frac·tive·ly** *adv* — **re·frac·tive·ness** *n* — **re·frac·tiv·i·ty** \ˌrē-ˌfrak-ˈtiv-ət-ē, ri-\ *n*

refractive index *n* : INDEX OF REFRACTION

re·frac·tom·e·ter \ˌrē-ˌfrak-ˈtäm-ət-ər, ri-\ *n* [ISV] : an instrument for measuring indices of refraction — **re·frac·to·met·ric** \ri-ˌfrak-tə-ˈme-trik\ *adj* — **re·frac·tom·e·try** \ˌrē-ˌfrak-ˈtäm-ə-trē, ri-\ *n*

re·frac·tor \ri-ˈfrak-tər\ *n* : a telescope whose principal focusing element is usu. an achromatic lens

¹re·frac·to·ry \ri-ˈfrak-t(ə-)rē\ *adj* [alter. of *refractary,* fr. L *refractarius,* irreg. fr. *refragari* to oppose, fr. *re-* + *-fragari* (as in *suffragari* to support with one's vote) — more at SUFFRAGE] **1** : resisting control or authority : STUBBORN, UNMANAGEABLE **2 a** : resistant to treatment or cure ⟨a ~ lesion⟩ **b** : unresponsive to stimulus **c** : IMMUNE, INSUSCEPTIBLE ⟨after recovery they were ~ to infection⟩ **3** : difficult to fuse, corrode, or draw out; *esp* : capable of enduring high temperature *syn* see UNRULY *ant* malleable, amenable — **re·frac·to·ri·ly** \-t(ə-)rə-lē; ˌrē-ˌfrak-ˈtōr-ə-lē, ri-, -ˈtȯr-\ *adv* — **re·frac·to·ri·ness** \ri-ˈfrak-t(ə-)rē-nəs\ *n*

²refractory *n, pl* **-ries** : a refractory person or thing; *esp* : a heat-resisting ceramic material

refractory period *n* : the brief period immediately following the response esp. of a muscle or nerve before it recovers the capacity to make a second response — called also *refractory phase*

¹re·frain \ri-ˈfrān\ *vb* [ME *refreynen,* fr. MF *refraindre* fr. L *refringere* to break up, destroy, check — more at REFRACT] *vt, archaic* : CURB, RESTRAIN ~ *vi* : to keep oneself from doing, feeling, or indulging in something and esp. from following a passing impulse — **re·frain·ment** \-mənt\ *n*

syn REFRAIN, ABSTAIN, FORBEAR *shared meaning element* : to keep oneself from doing or indulging in something

²refrain *n* [ME *refreyn,* fr. MF *refrain,* fr. *refraindre* to resound, fr. L *refringere* to break up, refract] : a regularly recurring phrase or verse esp. at the end of each stanza or division of a poem or song : CHORUS; *also* : the musical setting of a refrain

re·fran·gi·ble \ri-ˈfran-jə-bəl\ *adj* [irreg. fr. L *refringere* to refract] : capable of being refracted — **re·fran·gi·bil·i·ty** \-ˌfran-jə-ˈbil-ət-ē\ *n* — **re·fran·gi·ble·ness** \-ˈfran-jə-bəl-nəs\ *n*

re·fresh \ri-ˈfresh\ *vb* [ME *refresshen,* fr. MF *refreschir,* fr. OF, fr. *re-* + *freis* fresh — more at FRESH] *vt* **1** : to restore strength and animation to : REVIVE **2** : to freshen up : RENOVATE **3 a** : to restore or maintain by renewing supply : REPLENISH **b** : AROUSE, STIMULATE ⟨let me ~ your memory⟩ **4** : to restore water to ~ *vi* **1** : to become refreshed **2** : to take refreshment **3** : to lay in fresh provisions *syn* see RENEW

re·fresh·en \ri-ˈfresh-ən, (ˈ)rē-\ *vt* [*re-* + *freshen*] : REFRESH

re·fresh·er \ri-ˈfresh-ər\ *n* **1** : something (as a drink) that refreshes **2** : REMINDER **3** : review or instruction designed esp. to keep one abreast of professional developments

re·fresh·ing \-iŋ\ *adj* : serving to refresh; *esp* : agreeably stimulating because of freshness or newness — **re·fresh·ing·ly** \-iŋ-lē\ *adv*

re·fresh·ment \ri-ˈfresh-mənt\ *n* **1** : the act of refreshing : the state of being refreshed **2 a** : something (as food or drink) that refreshes **b** *pl* (1) : a light meal (2) : assorted light foods

refrig *abbr* refrigerating; refrigeration

¹re·frig·er·ant \ri-ˈfrij-(ə-)rənt\ *adj* : allaying heat or fever

²refrigerant *n* : a refrigerant agent or agency: as **a** : a medication for reducing body heat **b** : a substance used in refrigeration

re·frig·er·ate \ri-ˈfrij-ə-ˌrāt\ *vt* **-at·ed; -at·ing** [L *refrigeratus,* pp. of *refrigerare,* fr. *re-* + *frigerare* to cool, fr. *frigor-, frigus* cold — more at FRIGID] : to make or keep cold or cool; *specif* : to freeze or chill (as food) for preservation — **re·frig·er·a·tion** \-ˌfrij-ə-ˈrā-shən\ *n*

re·frig·er·a·tor \ri-ˈfrij-ə-ˌrāt-ər\ *n* : something that refrigerates or keeps cool: **a** : a cabinet or room for keeping food or other items cool **b** : an apparatus for rapidly cooling heated liquids or vapors in a distilling process

re·frin·gent \ri-ˈfrin-jənt\ *adj* [L *refringent-, refringens,* prp. of *refringere* to refract] : REFRACTIVE, REFRACTING

reft *past of* REAVE

re·fu·el \(ˈ)rē-ˈfyü-əl\ *vt* : to provide with additional fuel ~ *vi* : to take on additional fuel

¹ref·uge \ˈref-(ˌ)yüj\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *refugium,* fr. *refugere* to escape, fr. *re-* + *fugere* to flee — more at FUGITIVE] **1** : shelter or protection from danger or distress **2** : a place that provides shelter or protection **3** : a means of resort for help in difficulty

²refuge *vb* **ref·uged; ref·ug·ing** *vt* : to give refuge to ~ *vi* : to seek or take refuge

ref·u·gee \ˌref-yù-ˈjē\ *n* [F *réfugié,* pp. of (*se*) *réfugier* to take refuge, fr. L *refugium*] : one that flees for safety; *esp* : one who flees to a foreign country or power to escape danger or persecution — **ref·u·gee·ism** \-ˌiz-əm\ *n*

re·fu·gi·um \ri-ˈfyü-jē-əm\ *n, pl* **-gia** \-jē-ə\ [NL, fr. L, refuge] : an area of relatively unaltered climate that is inhabited by plants and animals during a period of continental climatic change (as a glaciation) and remains as a center of relict forms from which a new dispersion and speciation may take place after climatic readjustment

re·ful·gence \ri-ˈfůl-jən(t)s, -ˈfəl-\ *n* [L *refulgentia,* fr. *refulgent-, refulgens,* prp. of *refulgēre* to shine brightly, fr. *re-* + *fulgēre* to shine — more at FULGENT] : a radiant or resplendent quality or state : BRILLIANCE — **re·ful·gent** \-jənt\ *adj*

¹re·fund \ri-ˈfənd, ˈrē-ˌ\ *vt* [ME *refunden,* fr. MF & L; MF *refonder,* fr. L *refundere,* lit., to pour back, fr. *re-* + *fundere* to pour — more at FOUND] **1** : to give or put back **2** : to return (money) in restitution, repayment, or balancing of accounts — **re·fund·abil·i·ty** \ri-ˌfən-də-ˈbil-ət-ē, (ˌ)rē-\ *n* — **re·fund·able** \-ə-bəl\ *adj*

²re·fund \'rē-ˌfənd\ *n* **1** : the act of refunding **2** : a sum refunded
³re·fund \(')rē-'fənd\ *vt* [*re-* + *fund*] : to fund (a debt) again
re·fur·bish \ri-'fər-bish\ *vt* : to brighten or freshen up : RENOVATE — **re·fur·bish·er** *n* — **re·fur·bish·ment** \-bish-mənt\ *n*
re·fus·al \ri-'fyü-zəl\ *n* **1** : the act of refusing or denying **2** : the opportunity or right of refusing or taking before others
¹re·fuse \ri-'fyüz\ *vb* **re·fused; re·fus·ing** [ME *refusen*, fr. MF *refuser*, fr. (assumed) VL *refusare*, fr. L *refusus*, pp. of *refundere* to pour back] *vt* **1** : to express oneself as unwilling to accept ⟨~ a gift⟩ ⟨~ a promotion⟩ **2 a** : to show or express unwillingness to do or comply with ⟨the motor *refused* to start⟩ **b** : DENY ⟨they were *refused* admittance to the game⟩ **3** *obs* : to give up : RENOUNCE **4** *of a horse* : to decline to jump or leap over ~ *vi* : to withhold acceptance, compliance, or permission ***syn*** see DECLINE — **re·fus·er** *n*
²ref·use \'ref-ˌyüs, -ˌyüz\ *n* [ME, fr. MF *refus* rejection, fr. OF, fr. *refuser*] **1** : the worthless or useless part of something : LEAVINGS **2** : TRASH, GARBAGE
³ref·use \'ref-ˌyüs, -ˌyüz\ *adj* : thrown aside or left as worthless
ref·u·ta·tion \ˌref-yü-'tā-shən\ *n* : the act or process of refuting
re·fute \ri-'fyüt\ *vt* **re·fut·ed; re·fut·ing** [L *refutare*, fr. *re-* + *-futare* to beat — more at BEAT] **1** : to prove wrong by argument or evidence : show to be false or erroneous **2** : to deny the truth or accuracy of ⟨*refuted* the election returns which showed him the loser⟩ ***syn*** see DISPROVE — **re·fut·able** \-'fyüt-ə-bəl\ *adj* — **re·fut·ably** \-blē\ *adv* — **re·fut·er** *n*
reg *abbr* **1** region **2** register; registered **3** regular **4** regulation
re·gain \ri-'gān\ *vt* : to gain or reach again : RECOVER
re·gal \'rē-gəl\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF or L; MF, fr. L *regalis* — more at ROYAL] **1** : of, relating to, or suitable for a king **2** : of notable excellence or magnificence : SPLENDID — **re·gal·i·ty** \ri-'gal-ət-ē\ *n* — **re·gal·ly** \'rē-gə-lē\ *adv*
¹re·gale \ri-'gā(ə)l\ *vb* **re·galed; re·gal·ing** [F *régaler*, fr. MF, fr. *regale*, n.] *vt* **1** : to entertain sumptuously : feast with delicacies **2** : to give pleasure or amusement to ⟨*regaled* us with stories of his exploits⟩ ~ *vi* : to feast oneself : FEED
²regale *n* [F *régal*, fr. MF *regale*, fr. *re-* + *galer* to have a good time — more at GALLANT] **1** : a sumptuous feast **2** : a choice piece esp. of food
re·ga·lia \ri-'gāl-yə\ *n pl* [ML, fr. L, neut. pl. of *regalis*] **1** : royal rights or prerogatives **2 a** : the emblems, symbols, or paraphernalia indicative of royalty **b** : decorations or insignia indicative of an office or membership **3** : special dress; *esp* : FINERY
¹re·gard \ri-'gärd\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. OF, fr. *regarder*] **1** *archaic* : APPEARANCE **2** : LOOK, GAZE **3 a** : ATTENTION, CONSIDERATION ⟨due ~ should be given to all facets of the question⟩ **b** : a protective interest : CARE ⟨ought to have more ~ for his health⟩ **4 a** : the worth or estimation in which something is held ⟨a man of small ~⟩ **b** (1) : a feeling of respect and affection : ESTEEM ⟨his hard work won him the ~ of his colleagues⟩ (2) *pl* : friendly greetings implying such feeling ⟨give him my ~*s*⟩ **5** : a basis of action or opinion : MOTIVE **6** : an aspect to be taken into consideration : RESPECT ⟨is a small school, and is fortunate in this ~⟩ **7** *obs* : INTENTION — **in regard to** : with respect to : CONCERNING — **with regard to** : in regard to
²regard *vb* [ME *regarden*, fr. MF *regarder* to look back at, regard, fr. OF, fr. *re-* + *garder* to guard, look at] *vt* **1** : to pay attention to : take into consideration or account **2 a** : to show respect or consideration for **b** : to hold in high esteem **3** : to look at **4** *archaic* : to relate to **5** : to consider and appraise usu. from a particular point of view ⟨he is highly ~*ed* as a mechanic⟩ ~ *vi* **1** : to look attentively : GAZE **2** : to pay attention : HEED
syn REGARD, RESPECT, ESTEEM, ADMIRE *shared meaning element* : to recognize the worth of a person or thing — **as regards** : with respect to : CONCERNING
re·gar·dant \ri-'gärd-ᵊnt\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF, prp. of *regarder*] : looking backward over the shoulder — used of a heraldic animal
re·gard·ful \ri-'gärd-fəl\ *adj* **1** : HEEDFUL, OBSERVANT **2** : full or expressive of regard or respect : RESPECTFUL — **re·gard·ful·ly** \-fə-lē\ *adv* — **re·gard·ful·ness** *n*
re·gard·ing *prep* : with respect to : CONCERNING
¹re·gard·less \ri-'gärd-ləs\ *adj* : HEEDLESS, CARELESS — **re·gard·less·ly** *adv* — **re·gard·less·ness** *n*
²regardless *adv* : despite everything ⟨went ahead with their plans ~⟩
regardless of *prep* : in spite of ⟨*regardless of* our mistakes⟩
re·gat·ta \ri-'gät-ə, -'gat-\ *n* [It] : a rowing, speedboat, or sailing race or a series of such races
regd *abbr* registered
re·ge·la·tion \ˌrē-jə-'lā-shən\ *n* : the freezing again of water derived from ice melting under pressure when the pressure is relieved
¹re·gen·cy \'rē-jən-sē\ *n, pl* **-cies** **1** : the office, jurisdiction, or government of a regent or body of regents **2** : a body of regents **3** : the period of rule of a regent or body of regents
²regency *adj, often cap* [fr. the regency of George, Prince of Wales (afterwards George IV) during the period 1811–20] : of, relating to, or resembling the styles (as of furniture or dress) of the regency of George, Prince of Wales
re·gen·er·a·cy \ri-'jen-(ə-)rə-sē\ *n* : the state of being regenerated
¹re·gen·er·ate \ri-'jen-(ə-)rət\ *adj* [ME *regenerat*, fr. L *regeneratus*, pp. of *regenerare* to regenerate, fr. *re-* + *generare* to beget — more at GENERATE] **1** : formed or created again **2** : spiritually reborn or converted **3** : restored to a better, higher, or more worthy state — **re·gen·er·ate·ly** *adv* — **re·gen·er·ate·ness** *n*
²regenerate *n* : one that is regenerated: as **a** : an individual who is spiritually reborn **b** (1) : an organism that has undergone regeneration **b** (2) : a regenerated body part
³re·gen·er·ate \ri-'jen-ə-ˌrāt\ *vi* **1** : to become formed again **2** : to become regenerate : REFORM **3** : to undergo regeneration ~ *vt* **1 a** : to subject to spiritual regeneration **b** : to change radically and for the better **2 a** : to generate or produce anew; *esp* : to replace (a body part) by a new growth of tissue **b** : to produce again chemically sometimes in a physically changed form **3** : to restore to original strength or properties **4** : to increase the amplification of (an electron current) by causing part of the power in the output circuit to act upon the input circuit — **re·gen·er·a·ble** \-'jen-(ə-)rə-bəl\ *adj*
regenerated cellulose *n* : cellulose obtained in a changed form by chemical treatment (as of a cellulose solution or derivative)
re·gen·er·a·tion \ri-ˌjen-ə-'rā-shən, ˌrē-\ *n* **1** : an act or the process of regenerating : the state of being regenerated **2** : spiritual renewal or revival **3** : renewal or restoration of a body or bodily part after injury or as a normal process **4** : utilization by special devices of heat or other products that would ordinarily be lost
re·gen·er·a·tive \ri-'jen-ə-ˌrāt-iv, -'jen-(ə-)rət-\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or marked by regeneration **2** : tending to regenerate — **re·gen·er·a·tive·ly** *adv*
re·gen·er·a·tor \ri-'jen-ə-ˌrāt-ər\ *n* **1** : one that regenerates **2** : a device used esp. with hot-air engines or gas furnaces in which incoming air or gas is heated by contact with masses (as of brick) previously heated by outgoing hot air or gas
re·gent \'rē-jənt\ *n* [ME, fr. MF or ML; MF, fr. ML *regent-, regens*, fr. L, prp. of *regere* to rule — more at RIGHT] **1** : one who rules or reigns : GOVERNOR **2** : one who governs a kingdom in the minority, absence, or disability of the sovereign **3** : a member of a governing board (as of a state university) — **regent** *adj* — **re·gent·al** \-jən-tᵊl\ *adj*
reg·i·cide \'rej-ə-ˌsīd\ *n* **1** [prob. fr. (assumed) NL *regicida*, fr. L *reg-, rex* king + *-cida* -cide — more at ROYAL] : one who kills a king **2** [prob. fr. (assumed) NL *regicidium*, fr. L *reg-, rex* + *-cidium* -cide] : the killing of a king — **reg·i·cid·al** \ˌrej-ə-'sīd-ᵊl\ *adj*
re·gime *also* **ré·gime** \rā-'zhēm, ri- *also* ri-'jēm\ *n* [F *régime*, fr. L *regimin-, regimen*] **1 a** : REGIMEN 1 **b** : a regular pattern of occurrence or action (as of seasonal rainfall) **c** : the characteristic behavior or orderly procedure of a natural phenomenon or process **2 a** : mode of rule or management **b** : a form of government ⟨a socialist ~⟩ **c** : a government in power ⟨predicted that the new ~ would fall⟩ **d** : a period of rule ⟨during the Stalin ~⟩
reg·i·men \'rej-ə-mən *also* 'rezh-ə-\ *n* [ME, fr. L *regimin-, regimen* rule, fr. *regere*] **1 a** : a systematic plan (as of diet, therapy, or medication) esp. when designed to improve and maintain the health of a patient **b** : a regular course of strenuous training ⟨the daily ~ of a top ballet dancer⟩ **2** : GOVERNMENT, RULE **3** : REGIME 1c
¹reg·i·ment \'rej-(ə-)mənt\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. LL *regimentum*, fr. L *regere*] **1** : governmental rule **2** : a military unit consisting usu. of a number of battalions
²reg·i·ment \'rej-ə-ˌment\ *vt* **1** : to form into or assign to a regiment **2 a** : to organize rigidly esp. for the sake of regulation or control ⟨~ an entire country⟩ **b** : to subject to order or uniformity — **reg·i·men·ta·tion** \ˌrej-ə-mən-'tā-shən, -ˌmen-\ *n*
reg·i·men·tal \ˌrej-ə-'ment-ᵊl\ *adj* **1** : of or relating to a regiment **2** : AUTHORITATIVE, DICTATORIAL — **reg·i·men·tal·ly** \-ᵊl-ē\ *adv*
reg·i·men·tals \-ᵊlz\ *n pl* **1** : a regimental uniform **2** : military dress
re·gion \'rē-jən\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *region-, regio*, fr. *regere* to rule] **1** : an administrative area, division, or district **2 a** : an indefinite area of the world or universe ⟨few unknown ~*s* left on earth⟩ **b** : a broad homogeneous geographical area ⟨the Appalachian ~⟩ **c** (1) : a major world area that supports a characteristic fauna (2) : an area characterized by the prevalence of one or more vegetational climax types **3 a** : one of the major subdivisions into which the body or one of its parts is divisible **b** : an indefinite area surrounding a specified body part ⟨a pain in the ~ of the heart⟩ **4** : a sphere of activity of interest : FIELD **5** : one of the zones into which the atmosphere is divided according to height or the sea according to depth **6** : an open connected set together with none, some, or all of the points on its boundary ⟨a simple closed curve divides the plane into two ~*s*⟩
¹re·gion·al \'rēj-nəl, -ən-ᵊl\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or characteristic of a region **2** : affecting a particular region : LOCALIZED
²regional *n* : something (as a branch of an organization or an edition of a magazine) that serves a region
re·gion·al·ism \'rēj-nəl-ˌiz-əm, -ən-ᵊl-\ *n* **1 a** : consciousness of and loyalty to a distinct region with a homogeneous population **b** : development of a political or social system based on one or more such areas **2** : emphasis on regional locale and characteristics in art or literature **3** : a characteristic feature (as of speech) of a geographic area — **re·gion·al·ist** \-əst\ *n or adj* — **re·gion·al·is·tic** \ˌrēj-nəl-'is-tik, -ən-ᵊl-\ *adj*
re·gion·al·ize \'rēj-nəl-ˌīz, -ən-ᵊl-\ *vt* **-ized; -iz·ing** : to divide into regions or administrative districts : arrange regionally — **re·gion·al·iza·tion** \ˌrēj-nəl-ə-'zā-shən, -ən-ᵊl-ə-\ *n*
regional library *n* : a public library system serving several adjacent counties usu. in the same state
re·gion·al·ly \'rēj-nə-lē, -ən-ᵊl-ē\ *adv* : on a regional basis
re·gis·seur \ˌrā-zhi-'sər\ *n* [F *régisseur*] : a director responsible for staging a theatrical work (as a ballet)
¹reg·is·ter \'rej-ə-stər\ *n* [ME *registre*, fr. MF, fr. ML *registrum*, alter. of LL *regesta*, pl., register, fr. L, neut. pl. of *regestus*, pp. of *regerere* to bring back, fr. *re-* + *gerere* to bear — more at CAST] **1** : a written record containing regular entries of items or details **2 a** : a book or system of public records **b** : a roster of qualified or available individuals ⟨a civil service ~⟩ **3** : an entry in a register **4 a** : a set of organ pipes of like quality : STOP **b** (1) : the range of a human voice or a musical instrument (2) : a portion of such a range similarly produced or of the same quality **5 a** : a device regulating admission of air to fuel **b** : a grille often with shutters

for admitting heated air or for ventilation **6** : REGISTRATION, REGISTRY **7 a** : an automatic device registering a number or a quantity **b** : a number or quantity so registered **8** : a condition of correct alignment or proper relative position **9** : a device (as in a computer) for storing small amounts of data; *esp* : one in which data can be both stored and operated on

²register *vb* **reg·is·tered; reg·is·ter·ing** \-st(ə-)riŋ\ *vt* **1 a** : to make or secure official entry of in a register **b** : to enroll formally esp. as a voter or student **c** : to record automatically : INDICATE **d** : to make a record of : NOTE **2** : to make or adjust so as to correspond exactly **3** : to secure special protection for (a piece of mail) by prepayment of a fee **4** : to convey an impression of : EXPRESS ⟨~*ed* surprise at the telegram⟩ **5** : ACHIEVE, WIN ⟨~*ed* an impressive victory⟩ ~ *vi* **1 a** : to enroll one's name in a register ⟨~*ed* at the hotel⟩ **b** : to enroll one's name officially as a prerequisite for voting **c** : to enroll formally as a student **2 a** : to correspond exactly **b** : to be in correct alignment or register **3** : to make or convey an impression ⟨the name didn't ~⟩

³register *n* [prob. alter. of ME *registrer*] : REGISTRAR

reg·is·tered *adj* **1 a** : having the owner's name entered in a register ⟨~ security⟩ **b** : recorded as the owner of a security **2** : recorded on the basis of pedigree or breed characteristics in the studbook of a breed association **3** : qualified formally or officially

registered mail *n* : mail recorded in the post office of mailing and at each successive point of transmission and guaranteed special care in delivery

registered nurse *n* : a graduate trained nurse who has been licensed by a state authority after passing qualifying examinations for registration

register ton *n* : TON 2a

reg·is·tra·ble \'rej-ə-st(ə-)rə-bəl\ *adj* : capable of being registered

reg·is·trant \'rej-ə-strənt\ *n* : one that registers or is registered

reg·is·trar \'rej-ə-ˌsträr\ *n* [alter. of ME *registrer*, fr. MF *registreur*, fr. *registrer* to register, fr. ML *registrare*, fr. *registrum*] : an official recorder or keeper of records: as **a** : an officer of an educational institution responsible for registering students, keeping academic records, and corresponding with applicants and evaluating their credentials **b** : an admitting officer at a hospital

reg·is·tra·tion \ˌrej-ə-'strā-shən\ *n* **1** : the act of registering **2** : an entry in a register **3** : the number of individuals registered : ENROLLMENT **4 a** : the art or act of selecting and adjusting pipe organ stops **b** : the combination of stops selected for performing a particular organ work **5** : a document certifying an act of registering

reg·is·try \'rej-ə-strē\ *n, pl* **-tries** **1** : REGISTRATION, ENROLLMENT **2** : the nationality of a ship according to its entry in a register : FLAG **3** : a place of registration **4 a** : an official record book **b** : an entry in a registry

re·gius professor \ˌrē-j(ē-)əs-\ *n* [NL, royal professor] : a holder of a professorship founded by royal subsidy at a British university

reg·let \'reg-lət\ *n* [F *réglet*, fr. MF *reglet* straightedge, fr. *regle*, fr. L *regula* — more at RULE] **1** : a flat narrow architectural molding **2** : a strip of wood used like a lead between lines of type

reg·nal \'reg-nᵊl\ *adj* [ML *regnalis*, fr. L *regnum* reign — more at REIGN] : of or relating to a king or his reign; *specif* : calculated from a monarch's accession to the throne ⟨in his eighth ~ year⟩

reg·nant \'reg-nənt\ *adj* [L *regnant-, regnans*, prp. of *regnare* to reign, fr. *regnum*] **1** : exercising rule : REIGNING **2 a** : having the chief power **b** : of common or widespread occurrence

reg·num \'reg-nəm\ *n, pl* **reg·na** \-nə\ [L] : KINGDOM

rego·lith \'reg-ə-ˌlith\ *n* [Gk *rhēgos* blanket + E *-lith;* akin to Skt *rāga* color] : MANTLEROCK

re·gorge \(ˌ)rē-'gȯ(ə)rj\ *vt* **re·gorged; re·gorg·ing** [F *regorger*, fr. MF, fr. *re-* + *gorger* to gorge] : DISGORGE

rego·sol \'reg-ə-ˌsäl, -ˌsȯl\ *n* [*rego-* (as in *regolith*) + L *solum* soil — more at SOLE] : an azonal soil consisting chiefly of imperfectly consolidated material and having no clear-cut and specific morphology

re·grant \(ˌ)rē-'grant\ *vt* : to grant back or again — **re·grant** \(ˌ)rē-'grant, 'rē-ˌ\ *n*

re·greet \(ˌ)rē-'grēt\ *vt, archaic* : to greet in return

regreets *n pl, obs* : GREETINGS

¹re·gress \'rē-ˌgres\ *n* [ME, fr. L *regressus*, fr. *regressus*, pp. of *regredi* to go back, fr. *re-* + *gradi* to go — more at GRADE] **1 a** : an act or the privilege of going or coming back **b** : REENTRY 1 **2** : movement backward to a previous and esp. worse or more primitive state or condition **3** : the act of reasoning backward

²re·gress \ri-'gres\ *vi* **1 a** : to make or undergo regress : RETROGRADE **b** : to be subject to or exhibit regression **2** : to tend to approach or revert to a mean ~ *vt* : to induce a state of psychological regression in — **re·gres·sor** \-'gres-ər\ *n*

re·gres·sion \ri-'gresh-ən\ *n* **1** : the act or an instance of regressing **2** : a trend or shift toward a lower or less perfect state: as **a** : progressive decline of a manifestation of disease **b** (1) : gradual loss of differentiation and function by a body part esp. as a physiological change accompanying aging (2) : gradual loss of memories and acquired skills **c** : reversion to an earlier mental or behavioral level **d** : a functional relationship between two or more correlated variables that is often empirically determined from data and is used esp. to predict values of one variable when given values of the others ⟨the ~ of *y* on *x* is linear⟩; *specif* : a function that yields the mean value of a random variable under the condition that one or more independent variables have specified values **3** : retrograde motion esp. of an astronomical orbital characteristic

re·gres·sive \ri-'gres-iv\ *adj* **1** : tending to regress or produce regression **2** : being, characterized by, or developing in the course of an evolutionary process involving increasing simplification of bodily structure **3** : decreasing in rate as the base increases ⟨a ~ tax⟩ — **re·gres·sive·ly** *adv* — **re·gres·sive·ness** *n*

¹re·gret \ri-'gret\ *vb* **re·gret·ted; re·gret·ting** [ME *regretten*, fr. MF *regreter*, fr. OF, fr. *re-* + *-greter* (of Scand origin; akin to ON *grāta* to weep) — more at GREET] *vt* **1 a** : to mourn the loss or death of **b** : to miss very much **2** : to be very sorry for ⟨~*s* his mistakes⟩ ~ *vi* : to experience regret — **re·gret·ter** *n*

²regret *n* **1** : grief or pain tinged with emotion (as disappointment, longing, or remorse) **2 a** : an expression of distressing emotion (as sorrow or disappointment) **b** *pl* : a note politely declining an invitation ***syn*** see SORROW — **re·gret·ful** \-'gret-fəl\ *adj* — **re·gret·ful·ly** \-fə-lē\ *adv* — **re·gret·ful·ness** *n*

re·gret·less \ri-'gret-ləs\ *adj* : feeling no regret

re·gret·ta·ble \ri-'gret-ə-bəl\ *adj* : deserving regret

re·gret·ta·bly \-blē\ *adv* **1** : in a regrettable manner : to a regrettable extent ⟨a ~ steep decline in wages⟩ **2** : it is regrettable that — used as a sentence modifier ⟨~, we had failed to consider alternatives⟩

re·group \(ˌ)rē-'grüp\ *vt* : to form into a new grouping ⟨in order to subtract 129 from 531 ~ 531 into 5 hundreds, 2 tens, and 11 ones⟩ ⟨~ military forces⟩ ~ *vi* **1** : to reorganize (as after a setback) for renewed activity **2** : to alter the tactical formation of a military force

re·grow \(ˌ)rē-'grō\ *vb* **-grew** \-'grü\; **-grown** \-'grōn\; **-grow·ing** *vt* : to grow (as a missing part) anew ~ *vi* : to continue growth after interruption or injury

regt *abbr* regiment

¹reg·u·lar \'reg-yə-lər\ *adj* [ME *reguler*, fr. MF, fr. LL *regularis* regular, fr. L, of a bar, fr. *regula* rule — more at RULE] **1** : belonging to a religious order **2 a** : formed, built, arranged, or ordered according to some established rule, law, principle, or type **b** (1) : both equilateral and equiangular ⟨a ~ polygon⟩ (2) : having faces that are congruent regular polygons and all the polyhedral angles congruent ⟨a ~ polyhedron⟩ **c** *of a flower* : having the arrangement of floral parts exhibiting radial symmetry with members of the same whorl similar in form **d** : having or constituting an isometric system ⟨~ crystals⟩ **3 a** : ORDERLY, METHODICAL ⟨~ habits⟩ **b** : recurring or functioning at fixed or uniform intervals ⟨a ~ income⟩ **4 a** : constituted, conducted, or done in conformity with established or prescribed usages, rules, or discipline **b** : NORMAL, CORRECT: as (1) : COMPLETE, ABSOLUTE ⟨a ~ fool⟩ ⟨the office seemed like a ~ madhouse⟩ (2) : thinking or behaving in an acceptable manner ⟨wanted to prove he was a ~ guy⟩ **c** (1) : conforming to the normal or usual manner of inflection (2) : WEAK 7 **5 a** : of, relating to, or constituting the regular army of a state **b** : constituting or made up of individuals properly recognized as legitimate combatants in war — **reg·u·lar·ly** *adv*

syn REGULAR, NORMAL, TYPICAL, NATURAL *shared meaning element* : being of the sort or kind that is expected as usual, ordinary, or average ***ant*** irregular

²regular *n* **1** : one who is regular: as **a** : one of the regular clergy **b** : a soldier in a regular army **c** : one who can be trusted or depended on ⟨a party ~⟩ **d** : a player on an athletic team who usu. starts every game **e** : one who is usu. present or participating **2** : a clothing size designed to fit a person of average height

regular army *n* : a permanently organized body constituting the standing army of a state

reg·u·lar·i·ty \ˌreg-yə-'lar-ət-ē\ *n, pl* **-ties** **1** : the quality or state of being regular **2** : something that is regular

reg·u·lar·ize \'reg-yə-lə-ˌrīz\ *vt* **-ized; -iz·ing** : to make regular by conformance to law, rules, or custom — **reg·u·lar·iza·tion** \ˌreg-yə-lə-rə-'zā-shən\ *n* — **reg·u·lar·iz·er** \'reg-yə-lə-ˌrī-zər\ *n*

regular solid *n* : any of the five regular polyhedrons

regular year *n* : a common year of 354 days or a leap year of 384 days in the Jewish calendar

reg·u·late \'reg-yə-ˌlāt\ *vt* **-lat·ed; -lat·ing** [LL *regulatus*, pp. of *regulare*, fr. L *regula*] **1 a** : to govern or direct according to rule **b** (1) : to bring under the control of law or constituted authority (2) : to make regulations for or concerning ⟨~ the industries of a country⟩ **2** : to bring order, method, or uniformity to ⟨~ one's habits⟩ **3** : to fix or adjust the time, amount, degree, or rate of ⟨~ the pressure of a tire⟩ — **reg·u·la·tive** \-ˌlāt-iv\ *adj* — **reg·u·la·to·ry** \-lə-ˌtōr-ē, -ˌtȯr-\ *adj*

¹reg·u·la·tion \ˌreg-yə-'lā-shən\ *n* **1** : the act of regulating : the state of being regulated **2 a** : an authoritative rule dealing with details or procedure ⟨safety ~*s* in a factory⟩ **b** : a rule or order having the force of law issued by an executive authority of a government **3 a** : the process of redistributing material (as in an embryo) to restore a damaged or lost part independent of new tissue growth **b** : the mechanism by which an early embryo maintains normal development

²regulation *adj* : conforming to regulations : OFFICIAL

reg·u·la·tor \'reg-yə-ˌlāt-ər\ *n* **1** : one that regulates **2** : REGULATOR GENE

regulator gene *n* : a gene controlling the production of a genetic repressor

reg·u·lus \'reg-yə-ləs\ *n* [NL, fr. L, petty king, fr. *reg-, rex* king — more at ROYAL] **1** *cap* : a first-magnitude star in the constellation Leo **2** [ML, metallic antimony, fr. L] : the more or less impure mass of metal formed beneath the slag in smelting and reducing ores

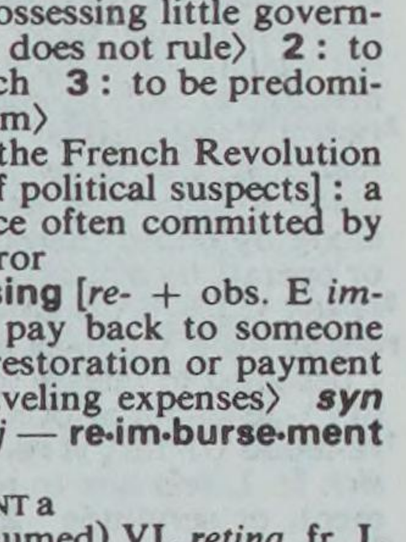
re·gur·gi·tate \(ˌ)rē-'gər-jə-ˌtāt\ *vb* **-tat·ed; -tat·ing** [ML *regurgitatus*, pp. of *regurgitare*, fr. L *re-* + LL *gurgitare* to engulf, fr. L *gurgit-, gurges* whirlpool — more at VORACIOUS] *vi* : to become thrown or poured back ~ *vt* : to throw or pour back or out (as from a cavity) — **re·gur·gi·ta·tive** \-ˌtāt-iv\ *adj*

re·gur·gi·ta·tion \(ˌ)rē-ˌgər-jə-'tā-shən\ *n* : an act of regurgitating: as **a** : the casting up of incompletely digested food (as by some birds in feeding their young) **b** : the backward flow of blood through a defective heart valve

re·ha·bil·i·tant \ˌrē-(h)ə-'bil-ə-tənt\ *n* : a disabled person undergoing rehabilitation

re·ha·bil·i·tate \ˌrē-(h)ə-'bil-ə-ˌtāt\ *vt* **-tat·ed; -tat·ing** [ML *rehabilitatus*, pp. of *rehabilitare*, fr. L *re-* + LL *habilitare* to habilitate] **1 a** : to restore to a former capacity : REINSTATE **b** : to restore to good repute : reestablish the good name of **2 a** : to restore to a former state (as of efficiency, good management, or solvency) ⟨~ slum areas⟩ **b** : to restore to a condition of health or

useful and constructive activity — **re·ha·bil·i·ta·tive** \-ˌtāt-iv\ *adj* — **re·ha·bil·i·ta·tor** \-ˌtāt-ər\ *n*
re·ha·bil·i·ta·tion \-ˌbil-ə-ˈtā-shən\ *n* : the action or process of rehabilitating or of being rehabilitated : the state of being rehabilitated — **re·ha·bil·i·ta·tion·ist** \-sh(ə-)nəst\ *n*
[1]re·hash \(ˈ)rē-ˈhash\ *vt* **1** : to talk over or discuss again **2** : to present or use again in another form without substantial change or improvement
[2]re·hash \ˈrē-ˌhash\ *n* **1** : a product of rehashing : something presented in a new form without change of substance ⟨a book that was a ~ of stale ideas⟩ **2** : the action or process of rehashing
re·hear \(ˈ)rē-ˈhi(ə)r\ *vt* **-heard** \-ˈhərd\; **-hear·ing** \-ˈhi(ə)r-iŋ\ : to hear judicially again or anew
re·hear·ing *n* : a second or new hearing by the same tribunal
re·hears·al \ri-ˈhər-səl\ *n* **1** : something recounted or told again : RECITAL **2 a** : a private performance or practice session preparatory to a public appearance **b** : a practice exercise : TRIAL
re·hearse \ri-ˈhərs\ *vb* **re·hearsed; re·hears·ing** [ME *rehersen*, fr. MF *rehercier*, lit., to harrow again, fr. *re-* + *hercier* to harrow, fr. *herce* harrow — more at HEARSE] *vt* **1 a** : to say again : REPEAT **b** : to recite aloud in a formal manner **2** : to present an account of : NARRATE, RELATE ⟨~ a familiar story⟩ **3** : to recount in order : ENUMERATE ⟨had *rehearsed* their grievances in a letter to the governor⟩ **4 a** : to give a rehearsal of **b** : to train or make proficient by rehearsal **5** : to perform or practice as if in a rehearsal ~ *vi* : to engage in a rehearsal — **re·hears·er** *n*
re·house \(ˈ)rē-ˈhau̇z\ *vt* : to house again or anew; *esp* : to establish in a new or different housing unit of a better quality
re·hu·man·ize \(ˈ)rē-ˈ(h)yü-mə-ˌnīz\ *vt* **1** : to make compatible with human rights and dignity **2** : to restore to a rich full life — **re·hu·man·iza·tion** \(ˌ)rē-ˌ(h)yü-mə-nə-ˈzā-shən\ *n*
re·hy·drate \(ˈ)rē-ˈhī-ˌdrāt\ *vt* : to restore fluid lost in dehydration to — **re·hy·drat·able** \-ˌdrāt-ə-bəl\ *adj* — **re·hy·dra·tion** \ˌrē-ˌhī-ˈdrā-shən\ *n*
reichs·mark \ˈrīk-ˌsmärk\ *n, pl* **reichsmarks** *also* **reichsmark** [G, fr. *reichs* (gen. of *reich* empire, kingdom, fr. OHG *rīhhi*) + *mark* — more at RICH] : the German mark from 1925 to 1948
re·ifi·ca·tion \ˌrā-ə-fə-ˈkā-shən, ˌrē\ *n* : the process or result of reifying
re·ify \ˈrā-ə-ˌfī, rē-\ *vt* **re·ified; re·ify·ing** [L *res* thing — more at REAL] : to regard (something abstract) as a material thing
[1]reign \ˈrān\ *n* [ME *regne*, fr. OF, fr. L *regnum*, fr. *reg-*, *rex* king — more at ROYAL] **1 a** : royal authority : SOVEREIGNTY ⟨under the ~ of the Stuart kings⟩ **b** : the dominion, sway, or influence of one resembling a monarch ⟨the ~ of the Puritan ministers⟩ **2** : the time during which one (as a sovereign) reigns
[2]reign *vi* **1 a** : to possess or exercise sovereign power : RULE **b** : to hold office as chief of state although possessing little governing power ⟨in England the sovereign ~*s* but does not rule⟩ **2** : to exercise authority in the manner of a monarch **3** : to be predominant or prevalent ⟨chaos ~*ed* in the classroom⟩
reign of terror [*Reign of Terror*, a period of the French Revolution that was conspicuous for mass executions of political suspects] : a state or a period of time marked by violence often committed by those in power that produces widespread terror
re·im·burse \ˌrē-əm-ˈbərs\ *vt* **-bursed; -bursing** [*re-* + obs. E *imburse* (to put in the pocket, pay)] **1** : to pay back to someone : REPAY ⟨~ travel expenses⟩ **2** : to make restoration or payment of an equivalent to ⟨~ an agent for his traveling expenses⟩ ***syn*** see PAY — **re·im·burs·able** \-ˈbər-sə-bəl\ *adj* — **re·im·burse·ment** \-ˈbər-smənt\ *n*
re·im·pres·sion \ˌrē-əm-ˈpresh-ən\ *n* : REPRINT a
[1]rein \ˈrān\ *n* [ME *reine*, fr. MF *rene*, fr. (assumed) VL *retina*, fr. L *retinēre* to restrain — more at RETAIN] **1** : a line fastened to a bit by which a rider or driver controls an animal — usu. used in pl. **2 a** : a restraining influence : CHECK ⟨regulations impose ~*s* on personal freedom⟩ **b** : controlling or guiding power ⟨the ~*s* of government⟩ **3** : opportunity for unhampered activity or use
[2]rein *vt* **1** : to check or stop by or as if by a pull at the reins ⟨~*ed* in his horse⟩ ⟨couldn't ~ his impatience⟩ **2** : to control or direct with or as if with reins ~ *vi* **1** *archaic* : to submit to the use of reins **2** : to stop or slow up one's horse or oneself by or as if by pulling the reins
re·in·car·nate \ˌrē-ən-ˈkär-ˌnāt, (ˈ)rē-ˈin-ˌ\ *vt* : to incarnate again
re·in·car·na·tion \(ˌ)rē-ˌin-ˌkär-ˈnā-shən\ *n* **1 a** : the action of reincarnating : the state of being reincarnated **b** : rebirth in new bodies or forms of life; *esp* : a rebirth of a soul in a new human body **2** : a fresh embodiment — **re·in·car·na·tion·ist** \-sh(ə-)nəst\ *n*
rein·deer \ˈrān-ˌdi(ə)r\ *n* [ME *reindere*, fr. ON *hreinn* reindeer + ME *deer*] : any of several deer (genus *Rangifer*) inhabiting northern Europe, Asia, and America and having antlers in both sexes
reindeer moss *n* : a gray, erect, tufted, and much-branched lichen (*Cladonia rangiferina*) that forms extensive patches in arctic and north-temperate regions, constitutes a large part of the food of reindeer, and is sometimes eaten by man — called also *reindeer lichen*


reindeer moss

re·in·fec·tion \ˌrē-ən-ˈfek-shən\ *n* : infection following recovery from or superimposed on infection of the same type
re·in·force \ˌrē-ən-ˈfō(ə)rs, -ˈfȯ(ə)rs\ *vb* [*re-* + *inforce*, alter. of *enforce*] *vt* **1** : to strengthen by additional assistance, material, or support : make stronger or more pronounced ⟨~ the elbows of a jacket⟩ ⟨claimed that the media ~ destructive impulses⟩ **2** : to strengthen or increase by fresh additions ⟨~ the regular troops⟩ ⟨were *reinforcing* their pitching staff⟩ **3** : to stimulate (as an experimental animal or a student) with a reinforcer following a correct or desired performance; *also* : to encourage (a response) with a reinforcer ~ *vi* : to seek or get reinforcements — **re·in·force·able** \-ə-bəl\ *adj*
reinforced concrete *n* : concrete in which metal (as steel) is embedded so that the two materials act together in resisting forces
re·in·force·ment \ˌrē-ən-ˈfōr-smənt, -ˈfȯr-\ *n* **1** : the action of reinforcing : the state of being reinforced **2** : something that reinforces
re·in·forc·er \-ˈfōr-sər, -ˈfȯr-\ *n* : a stimulus (as a reward or the removal of discomfort) that is effective esp. in operant conditioning because it regularly follows a desired response
rein·less \ˈrān-ləs\ *adj* : having no reins; *also* : UNRESTRAINED, UNCHECKED
reins \ˈrānz\ *n pl* [ME, fr. MF & L; MF, fr. L *renes*] **1 a** : KIDNEYS **b** : the region of the kidneys : LOINS **2** : the seat of the feelings or passions
reins·man \ˈrānz-mən\ *n* : a skilled driver or rider of horses
re·in·state \ˌrē-ən-ˈstāt\ *vt* **-stat·ed; -stat·ing** **1** : to place again (as in possession or in a former position) **2** : to restore to a previous effective state — **re·in·state·ment** \-ˈstāt-mənt\ *n*
re·in·sur·ance \ˌrē-ən-ˈshu̇r-ən(t)s, *esp South* (ˈ)rē-ˈin-ˌ\ *n* : insurance by another insurer of all or a part of a risk previously assumed by an insurance company
re·in·sure \ˌrē-ən-ˈshu̇(ə)r\ *vt* **1** : to insure again by transferring to another insurance company all or a part of a liability assumed **2** : to insure again by assuming all or a part of the liability of an insurance company already covering a risk ~ *vi* : to provide increased insurance — **re·in·sur·er** *n*
re·in·te·grate \(ˈ)rē-ˈint-ə-ˌgrāt\ *vt* [ML *reintegratus*, pp. of *reintegrare* to renew, reinstate, fr. L *re-* + *integrare* to integrate] : to integrate again into an entity : restore to unity — **re·in·te·gra·tion** \(ˌ)rē-ˌint-ə-ˈgrā-shən\ *n* — **re·in·te·gra·tive** \(ˈ)rē-ˈint-ə-ˌgrāt-iv\ *adj*
re·in·ter·pret \ˌrē-ən-ˈtər-prət, *rapid* -pət\ *vt* : to interpret again; *specif* : to give a new or different interpretation to — **re·in·ter·pre·ta·tion** \-ˌtər-prə-ˈtā-shən, *rapid* -pə-\ *n*
re·in·vent \ˌrē-ən-ˈvent\ *vt* **1** : to make as if for the first time something already invented ⟨realized they were ~*ing* a machine that had been designed a century before⟩ **2** : to remake or redo completely ⟨radicals who want to ~ America⟩ **3** : to bring into use again : REESTABLISH — **re·in·ven·tion** \-ˈven-chən\ *n*
re·in·vest \ˌrē-ən-ˈvest\ *vt* **1** : to invest again or anew **2 a** : to invest (as income from investments) in additional securities **b** : to invest (as earnings) in a business rather than distribute as dividends or profits
re·in·vest·ment \-ˈves(t)-mənt\ *n* **1** : the action of reinvesting : the state of being reinvested **2** : a second or repeated investment
re·in·vig·o·rate \ˌrē-ən-ˈvig-ə-ˌrāt\ *vt* : to give renewed or fresh vigor to ⟨a long walk ~*s* the mind⟩ — **re·in·vig·o·ra·tion** \-ˌvig-ə-ˈrā-shən\ *n* — **re·in·vig·o·ra·tor** \-ˈvig-ə-ˌrāt-ər\ *n*
reis *pl of* REAL
re·is·sue \(ˈ)rē-ˈish-(ˌ)ü, -ˈish-ə(-w), *chiefly Brit* -ˈis-(ˌ)yü\ *vi* : to come forth again ~ *vt* : to issue again; *esp* : to cause to become available again — **reissue** *n*
re·it·er·ate \rē-ˈit-ə-ˌrāt\ *vt* **-at·ed; -at·ing** [L *reiteratus*, pp. of *reiterare* to repeat, fr. *re-* + *iterare* to iterate] : to say or do over again or repeatedly sometimes with wearying effect ***syn*** see REPEAT — **re·it·er·a·tion** \(ˌ)rē-ˌit-ə-ˈrā-shən\ *n* — **re·it·er·a·tive** \rē-ˈit-ə-ˌrāt-iv, -rət-iv; -ˈi-trət-iv\ *adj* — **re·it·er·a·tive·ly** *adv* — **re·it·er·a·tive·ness** *n* — **re·it·er·a·tor** \-ˈit-ə-ˌrāt-ər\ *n*
Rei·ter's syndrome \ˈrīt-ərz-\ *n* [Hans *Reiter b*1881 G physician] : a disease of uncertain cause that is characterized by arthritis, conjunctivitis, and urethritis — called also *Reiter's disease*
reive \ˈrēv\ *vb* **reived; reiv·ing** [ME (Sc) *reifen*, fr. OE *rēafian* to rob — more at REAVE] *Scot* : RAID — **reiv·er** *n, Scot*
[1]re·ject \ri-ˈjekt\ *vt* [ME *rejecten*, fr. L *rejectus*, pp. of *reicere*, fr. *re-* + *jacere* to throw — more at JET] **1 a** : to refuse to accept, consider, submit to, take for some purpose, or use ⟨thought about her suggestion and then ~*ed* it⟩ ⟨~ a manuscript⟩ ⟨~*ed* the weevily grain as unfit for use⟩ **b** : to refuse to hear, receive, or admit : REBUFF, REPELL ⟨parents who ~ their children⟩ **c** : to refuse as lover or spouse **2** *obs* : to cast off **3** : to throw back : REPULSE **4** : to spew out ***syn*** see DECLINE ***ant*** accept : choose, select — **re·ject·er** *or* **re·jec·tor** \-ˈjek-tər\ *n* — **re·ject·ing·ly** \-tiŋ-lē\ *adv* — **re·jec·tive** \-ˈjek-tiv\ *adj*
[2]re·ject \ˈrē-ˌjekt\ *n* : a rejected person or thing
re·ject·ee \ri-ˌjek-ˈtē, ˌrē-\ *n* : one that is rejected; *specif* : a person rejected as unfit for military service
re·jec·tion \ri-ˈjek-shən\ *n* **1 a** : the action of rejecting : the state of being rejected **b** : the immunological process of sloughing off foreign tissue or an organ (as a transplant) by the recipient organism **2** : something rejected
rejection slip *n* : a printed slip enclosed with a rejected manuscript returned by an editor to an author
re·jig·ger \(ˈ)rē-ˈjig-ər\ *vt* [*re-* + [1]*jigger*] : ALTER, REARRANGE
re·joice \ri-ˈjȯis\ *vb* **re·joiced; re·joic·ing** [ME *rejoicen*, fr. MF *rejoiss-*, stem of *rejoir*, fr. *re-* + *joir* to rejoice, fr. L *gaudēre* — more at JOY] *vt* : to give joy to : GLADDEN ~ *vi* : to feel joy or great delight — **re·joic·er** *n* — **re·joic·ing·ly** \-ˈjȯi-siŋ-lē\ *adv* — **rejoice in** : HAVE, POSSESS
re·joic·ing *n* **1** : the action of one that rejoices **2** : an instance, occasion, or expression of joy : FESTIVITY
re·join \ri-ˈjȯin, *vt 1 is* (ˈ)rē-\ *vb* [ME *rejoinen* to answer to a legal charge, fr. MF *rejoin-*, stem of *rejoindre*, fr. *re-* + *joindre* to join — more at JOIN] *vi* : to answer the replication of the plaintiff ~ *vt* **1**

: to join again **2** : to say often sharply or critically in response esp. as a reply to a reply ***syn*** see ANSWER

re·join·der \ri-'jȯin-dər\ *n* [ME *rejoiner*, fr. MF *rejoindre* to rejoin] **1** : the defendant's answer to the plaintiff's replication **2** : REPLY; *specif* : an answer to a reply

re·ju·ve·nate \ri-'jü-və-ˌnāt\ *vb* **-nat·ed; -nat·ing** [*re-* + L *juvenis* young — more at YOUNG] *vt* **1 a** : to make young or youthful again : REINVIGORATE **b** : to restore to an original or new state ⟨~ old cars⟩ **2 a** : to stimulate (as by uplift) to renewed erosive activity — used of streams **b** : to develop youthful features of topography in ~ *vi* : to cause or undergo rejuvenation ***syn*** see RENEW — **re·ju·ve·na·tion** \ri-ˌjü-və-'nā-shən, ˌrē-\ *n* — **re·ju·ve·na·tor** \ri-'jü-və-ˌnāt-ər\ *n*

re·ju·ve·nes·cence \ri-ˌjü-və-'nes-ən(t)s, ˌrē-\ *n* [ML *rejuvenescere* to become young again, fr. L *re-* + *juvenescere* to become young, fr. *juvenis*] : a renewal of youthfulness : REJUVENATION — **re·ju·ve·nes·cent** \-ᵊnt\ *adj*

re·kin·dle \(ˌ)rē-'kin-dᵊl\ *vt* : to kindle again ~ *vi* : to ignite anew ⟨in case the fire ~*s*⟩ — **re·kin·dler** \-(d)lər, -dᵊl-ər\ *n*

re·knit \(ˌ)rē-'nit\ *vt* : to knit up or together again ~ *vi* : to engage in reknitting something

rel *abbr* **1** relating; relative **2** released **3** religion; religious

¹re·lapse \ri-'laps, 'rē-ˌ\ *n* [L *relapsus*, pp. of *relabi* to slide back, fr. *re-* + *labi* to slide — more at SLEEP] **1** : the act or an instance of backsliding, worsening, or subsiding **2** : a recurrence of symptoms of a disease after a period of improvement

²re·lapse \ri-'laps\ *vi* **re·lapsed; re·laps·ing** **1** : to slip or fall back into a former worse state **2** : SINK, SUBSIDE ⟨~ into deep thought⟩ ***syn*** see LAPSE — **re·laps·er** *n*

relapsing fever *n* : a variable acute epidemic disease that is marked by recurring high fever lasting 5 to 7 days and that is caused by a spirochete (genus *Borrelia*) transmitted by the bites of lice and ticks

re·late \ri-'lāt\ *vb* **re·lat·ed; re·lat·ing** [L *relatus* (pp. of *referre* to carry back), fr. *re-* + *latus*, pp. of *ferre* to carry — more at TOLERATE, BEAR] *vt* **1** : to give an account of : TELL **2** : to show or establish logical or causal connection between ~ *vi* **1** : to apply or take effect retroactively **2** : to have relationship or connection : REFER **3** : to have or establish a relationship : INTERACT ⟨the way a child ~*s* to a psychiatrist⟩ **4** : to respond esp. favorably ⟨can't ~ to that kind of music⟩ ***syn*** see JOIN — **re·lat·able** \-'lāt-ə-bəl\ *adj* — **re·lat·er** *n*

re·lat·ed *adj* **1** : connected by reason of an established or discoverable relation **2** : connected by common ancestry or sometimes by marriage **3** : having close harmonic connection — used of tones, chords, or tonalities — **re·lat·ed·ly** *adv* — **re·lat·ed·ness** *n*
syn RELATED, COGNATE, KINDRED, ALLIED, AFFILIATED *shared meaning element* : connected by or as if by close family ties

re·la·tion \ri-'lā-shən\ *n* **1** : the act of telling or recounting : ACCOUNT **2** : an aspect or quality (as resemblance) that connects two or more things or parts as being or belonging or working together or as being of the same kind ⟨the ~ of time and space⟩; *specif* : a property (as one expressed by *is equal to, is less than,* or *is the brother of*) that holds between an ordered pair of objects **3** : the referring by a legal fiction of an act to a prior date as the time of its taking effect **4 a** (1) : a person connected by consanguinity or affinity : RELATIVE (2) : a person legally entitled to a share of the property of an intestate **b** : relationship by consanguinity or affinity : KINSHIP **5** : REFERENCE, RESPECT ⟨in ~ to⟩ **6** : the attitude or stance which two or more persons or groups assume toward one another ⟨race ~*s*⟩ **7 a** : the state of being mutually or reciprocally interested (as in social or commercial matters) **b** *pl* (1) : DEALINGS, AFFAIRS ⟨foreign ~*s*⟩ (2) : INTERCOURSE (3) : SEXUAL INTERCOURSE

re·la·tion·al \-shnəl, -shən-ᵊl\ *adj* **1** : of or relating to kinship **2** : characterized or constituted by relations **3** : having the function chiefly of indicating a relation of syntax ⟨*has* is notional in *he has luck*, ~ in *he has gone*⟩ — **re·la·tion·al·ly** \-ē\ *adv*

re·la·tion·ship \-shən-ˌship\ *n* **1** : the state or character of being related or interrelated : CONNECTION ⟨show the ~ between two things⟩ **2** : KINSHIP; *also* : a specific instance or type of kinship **3** : a state of affairs existing between those having relations or dealings ⟨had a good ~ with his family⟩

¹rel·a·tive \'rel-ət-iv\ *n* **1** : a word referring grammatically to an antecedent **2** : a thing having a relation to or connection with or necessary dependence on another thing **3 a** : a person connected with another by blood or affinity **b** : an animal or plant related to another by common descent **4** : a relative term

²relative *adj* **1** : introducing a subordinate clause qualifying an expressed or implied antecedent ⟨~ pronoun⟩; *also* : introduced by such a connective ⟨~ clause⟩ **2** : RELEVANT, PERTINENT ⟨matters ~ to world peace⟩ **3** : not absolute or independent : COMPARATIVE ⟨the ~ isolation of life in the country⟩ **4** : having the same key signature — used of major and minor keys and scales **5** : expressed as the ratio of the specified quantity (as an error in measuring) to the total magnitude (as the value of a measured quantity) or to the mean of all the quantities involved — **rel·a·tive·ly** *adv* — **rel·a·tive·ness** *n*

relative humidity *n* : the ratio of the amount of water vapor actually present in the air to the greatest amount possible at the same temperature

relative to *prep* : with regard to : in connection with

relative wind *n* : the motion of the air relative to a body in it

rel·a·tiv·ism \'rel-ət-iv-ˌiz-əm\ *n* **1 a** : a theory that knowledge is relative to the limited nature of the mind and the conditions of knowing **b** : a view that ethical truths depend on the individuals and groups holding them **2** : RELATIVITY 3 — **rel·a·tiv·ist** \-əst\ *n*

rel·a·tiv·is·tic \ˌrel-ət-iv-'is-tik\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or characterized by relativity or relativism **2** : moving at a velocity such that there is a significant change in properties (as mass) in accordance with the theory of relativity ⟨a ~ electron⟩ — **rel·a·tiv·is·ti·cal·ly** \-'is-ti-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

rel·a·tiv·i·ty \ˌrel-ə-'tiv-ət-ē\ *n, pl* **-ties** **1 a** : the quality or state of being relative **b** : something that is relative **2** : the state of being dependent for existence on or determined in nature, value, or quality by relation to something else **3 a** : a theory which is based on the two postulates (1) that the speed of light in a vacuum is constant and independent of the source or observer and (2) that the mathematical forms of the laws of physics are invariant in all inertial systems and which leads to the assertion of the equivalence of mass and energy and of change in mass, dimension, and time with increased velocity — called also *special theory of relativity* **b** : an extension of the theory to include gravitation and related acceleration phenomena — called also *general theory of relativity* **4** : RELATIVISM 1b

rel·a·tiv·ize \'rel-ət-iv-ˌīz\ *vt* **-ized; -iz·ing** : to treat or describe as relative

re·la·tor \ri-'lāt-ər\ *n* : one who relates : NARRATOR

re·lax \ri-'laks\ *vb* [ME *relaxen* to make less compact, fr. L *relaxare*, fr. *re-* + *laxare* to loosen, fr. *laxus* loose — more at SLACK] *vt* **1** : to make less tense or rigid : SLACKEN ⟨~*ed* his muscles⟩ **2** : to make less severe or stringent : MODIFY ⟨~ immigration laws⟩ **3** : to make soft or enervated **4** : to relieve from nervous tension ~ *vi* **1** : to become lax, weak, or loose : REST **2** : to become less intense or severe ⟨hoped the committee would ~ in its opposition⟩ **3** *of a muscle or muscle fiber* : to become inactive and lengthen **4** : to cast off social restraint, nervous tension, or anxiety ⟨couldn't ~ in crowds⟩ **5** : to seek rest or recreation ⟨~ at the seashore⟩ **6** : to relieve constipation **7** : to attain an equilibrium state following the abrupt removal of some influence (as light, high temperature, or stress) — **re·lax·er** *n*

¹re·lax·ant \ri-'lak-sənt\ *adj* : of, relating to, or producing relaxation

²relaxant *n* : a substance (as a drug) that relaxes; *specif* : one that relieves muscular tension

re·lax·ation \ˌrē-ˌlak-'sā-shən, ri-ˌlak- *esp Brit* ˌrel-ək-\ *n* **1** : the act or fact of relaxing or of being relaxed **2** : a relaxing or recreative state, activity, or pastime : DIVERSION **3** : the lengthening that characterizes inactive muscle fibers or muscles

re·laxed \ri-'lakst\ *adj* **1** : freed from or lacking in precision or stringency **2** : set or being at rest or at ease **3** : easy of manner : INFORMAL ***syn*** see LOOSE ***ant*** strict — **re·laxed·ly** \-'lak-səd-lē, -'laks-tlē\ *adv* — **re·laxed·ness** \-'lak-səd-nəs, -'laks(t)-nəs\ *n*

re·lax·in \ri-'lak-sən\ *n* : a sex hormone of the corpus luteum that facilitates birth by causing relaxation of the pelvic ligaments

¹re·lay \'rē-ˌlā\ *n* **1 a** : a supply (as of horses) arranged beforehand for successive relief **b** : a number of men who relieve others in some work ⟨worked in ~*s* around the clock⟩ **2 a** : a race between teams in which each team member successively covers a specified portion of the course **b** : one of the divisions of a relay **3** : an electromagnetic device for remote or automatic control that is actuated by variation in conditions of an electric circuit and that operates in turn other devices (as switches) in the same or a different circuit **4** : SERVOMOTOR **5** : the act of passing along (as a message or ball) by stages; *also* : one of such stages

²re·lay \'rē-ˌlā, ri-'lā\ *vt* **re·layed; re·lay·ing** [ME *relayen*, fr. MF *relaier*, fr. OF, fr. *re-* + *laier* to leave — more at DELAY] **1 a** : to place or dispose in relays **b** : to provide with relays **2** : to pass along by relays ⟨news was ~*ed* to distant points⟩ **3** : to control or operate by a relay

³re·lay \(ˌ)rē-'lā\ *vt* **-laid** \-'lād\; **-lay·ing** : to lay again ⟨~ track⟩

re·leas·able \ri-'lē-sə-bəl\ *adj* **1** : capable of being released **2** : designed to release (as in a fall) ⟨~ ski bindings⟩ — **re·leas·abil·i·ty** \-ˌlē-sə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* — **re·leas·ably** \-'lē-sə-blē\ *adv*

¹re·lease \ri-'lēs\ *vt* **re·leased; re·leas·ing** [ME *relesen*, fr. OF *relessier*, fr. L *relaxare* to relax] **1** : to set free from restraint, confinement, or servitude **2** : to relieve from something that confines, burdens, or oppresses ⟨was *released* from her promise⟩ **3** : to give up in favor of another : RELINQUISH ⟨~ a claim to property⟩ **4** : to give permission for publication, performance, exhibition, or sale of on but not before a specified date; *also* : PUBLISH, PRESENT ⟨the commission *released* its findings⟩ ***syn*** see FREE ***ant*** detain (*as a prisoner*), check (*as thoughts, feelings*)

²release *n* **1** : relief or deliverance from sorrow, suffering, or trouble **2 a** : discharge from obligation or responsibility **b** (1) : relinquishment of a right or claim (2) : an act by which a legal right is discharged; *specif* : a conveyance of a right in lands or tenements to another having an estate in possession **3 a** : the act or an instance of liberating or freeing ⟨an early ~ from jail⟩ **b** : the act or manner of concluding a musical tone or phrase **c** : the act or manner of ending a sound : the movement of one or more vocal organs in quitting the position for a speech sound **4** : an instrument effecting a legal release **5 a** : the permitting of a working fluid (as steam) to escape from the cylinder at the end of the working stroke **b** : the point in a cycle at which this act occurs **6** : the state of being freed **7** : a device adapted to hold or release a mechanism as required **8 a** : the act of permitting performance or publication; *also* : PERFORMANCE, PUBLICATION ⟨a record that immediately became a best seller on its ~⟩ **b** : the matter released; *esp* : a statement prepared for the press

re–lease \(ˌ)rē-'lēs\ *vt* : to lease again

released time *n* : a scheduled time when children are dismissed from public school to receive religious instruction — called also *release time*

release print *n* : a motion picture film released for public showing

re·leas·er \ri-'lē-sər\ *n* : one that releases; *specif* : a stimulus that serves as the initiator of complex reflex behavior

rel·e·gate \'rel-ə-ˌgāt\ *vt* **-gat·ed; -gat·ing** [L *relegatus*, pp. of *relegare*, fr. *re-* + *legare* to send with a commission — more at LEGATE] **1** : to send into exile : BANISH **2** : ASSIGN: as **a** : to assign to a place of insignificance or of oblivion : put out of sight or mind **b** : to assign to an appropriate place or situation on the basis of classification or appraisal **c** : to submit to someone or something for appropriate action : DELEGATE ***syn*** see COMMIT — **rel·e·ga·tion** \ˌrel-ə-'gā-shən\ *n*

re·lent \ri-'lent\ *vb* [ME *relenten*] *vi* **1** : to become less severe, harsh, or strict usu. from reasons of humanity **2** : to let up : SLACKEN ~ *vt, obs* : SOFTEN, MOLLIFY ***syn*** see YIELD

re·lent·less \-ləs\ *adj* : PERSISTENT, UNRELENTING — **re·lent·less·ly** *adv* — **re·lent·less·ness** *n*

rel·e·vance \'rel-ə-vən(t)s\ *n* **1** : relation to the matter at hand : practical and esp. social applicability : PERTINENCE ⟨giving ~ to college courses⟩; *also* : social importance ⟨a community's struggle for ~⟩ **2** : the ability (as of an information retrieval system) to retrieve material that satisfies the needs of the user

rel·e·van·cy \-vən-sē\ *n* : RELEVANCE

rel·e·vant \'rel-ə-vənt\ *adj* [ML *relevant-, relevans,* fr. L, prp. of *relevare* to raise up — more at RELIEVE] **1 a** : having significant and demonstrable bearing upon the matter at hand **b** : affording evidence tending to prove or disprove the matter at issue or under discussion ⟨~ testimony⟩ **2** : PROPORTIONAL, RELATIVE — **rel·e·vant·ly** *adv*

syn RELEVANT, GERMANE, MATERIAL, PERTINENT, APPOSITE, APPLICABLE, APROPOS *shared meaning element* : relating to or bearing upon the matter in hand ***ant*** extraneous

re·li·abil·i·ty \ri-ˌlī-ə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* **1** : the quality or state of being reliable **2** : the extent to which an experiment, test, or measuring procedure yields the same results on repeated trials

re·li·able \ri-'lī-ə-bəl\ *adj* **1** : suitable or fit to be relied on : DEPENDABLE **2** : giving the same result on successive trials — **re·li·able·ness** *n* — **re·li·ably** \-blē\ *adv*

re·li·ance \ri-'lī-ən(t)s\ *n* **1** : the act of relying : the condition or attitude of one who relies : DEPENDENCE ⟨~ on military power to achieve political ends⟩ **2** : something or someone relied on

re·li·ant \-ənt\ *adj* : having reliance on something or someone : DEPENDENT — **re·li·ant·ly** *adv*

rel·ic \'rel-ik\ *n* [ME *relik,* fr. OF *relique,* fr. ML *reliquia,* fr. LL *reliquiae,* pl., remains of a martyr, fr. L, remains, fr. *relinquere* to leave behind — more at RELINQUISH] **1 a** : an object esteemed and venerated because of association with a saint or martyr **b** : SOUVENIR, MEMENTO **2** *pl* : REMAINS, CORPSE **3** : something left behind after decay, disintegration, or disappearance ⟨~s of ancient cities⟩ **4** : a trace of some past or outmoded practice, custom, or belief

[1]rel·ict \'rel-ikt\ *n* [in sense 1, fr. LL *relicta,* fr. L, fem. of *relictus,* pp. of *relinquere;* in senses 2 & 3, fr. *relict* (residual), adj., fr. L *relictus*] **1** : WIDOW **2** : a persistent remnant of an otherwise extinct flora or fauna or kind of organism **3 a** : a relief feature or rock remaining after other parts have disappeared **b** : something left unchanged

[2]relict *adj* : of, relating to, or being a relict

re·lic·tion \ri-'lik-shən\ *n* [L *reliction-, relictio* act of leaving behind, fr. *relictus*] **1** : the gradual recession of water leaving land permanently uncovered **2** : land uncovered by reliction

[1]re·lief \ri-'lēf\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. OF, fr. *relever*] **1** : a payment made by a feudal tenant to his lord upon succeeding to an inherited estate **2 a** : removal or lightening of something oppressive, painful, or distressing ⟨sought ~ from asthma by moving out of the city⟩ **b** : aid in the form of money or necessities for the poor, aged, or handicapped **c** : military assistance to an endangered post or force **d** : means of breaking or avoiding monotony or boredom : DIVERSION **3** : release from a post or from the performance of duty ⟨~ of a sentry⟩ **4** : one that relieves another from duty by taking his place ⟨explaining the duties to their ~s⟩ **5** : legal remedy or redress **6** [F] **a** : a mode of sculpture in which forms and figures are distinguished from a surrounding plane surface **b** : sculpture or a sculptural form executed in this mode **c** : projecting detail, ornament, or figures **7** : sharpness of outline due to contrast ⟨a roof in bold ~ against the sky⟩ **8** : the elevations or inequalities of a land surface



relief 6b

[2]relief *adj* **1** : providing relief **2** : characterized by surface inequalities **3** : of or used in letterpress

relief map *n* : a map representing topographic relief

relief pitcher *n* : a baseball pitcher who takes over for another during a game; *esp* : one who is regularly held in readiness for relief

relief printing *n* : LETTERPRESS 1a

re·lieve \ri-'lēv\ *vb* **re·lieved; re·liev·ing** [ME *releven,* fr. MF *relever* to raise, relieve, fr. L *relevare,* fr. *re-* + *levare* to raise — more at LEVER] *vt* **1 a** : to free from a burden : give aid or help to **b** : to set free from an obligation, condition, or restriction **c** : to ease of a burden, wrong, or oppression by judicial or legislative interposition **2 a** : to bring about the removal or alleviation of : MITIGATE **b** : ROB, DEPRIVE ⟨was *relieved* of his watch⟩ **3 a** : to release from a post, station, or duty **b** : to take the place of **4** : to remove or lessen the monotony of **5 a** : to set off by contrast **b** : to raise in relief **6** : to relieve the bladder or bowels of (oneself) ~ *vi* **1** : to bring or give relief **2** : to stand out in relief **3** : to serve as a relief pitcher — **re·liev·able** \-'lē-və-bəl\ *adj* — **re·liev·er** *n*

syn RELIEVE, ALLEVIATE, LIGHTEN, ASSUAGE, MITIGATE, ALLAY *shared meaning element* : to make less grievous or more tolerable ***ant*** intensify

re·lieved \ri-'lēvd\ *adj* : experiencing or showing relief esp. from anxiety or pent-up emotions — **re·liev·ed·ly** \-'lē-vəd-lē\ *adv*

re·lie·vo \ri-'lē-(ˌ)vō, rēl-'yā-\ *n, pl* **-vos** [It *rilievo,* fr. *rilevare* to raise, fr. L *relevare*] : RELIEF 6

relig *abbr* religion

re·li·gio- \ri-'lij-(ē-)ō\ *comb form* : religion ⟨*religio*centric⟩ : religion and ⟨*religio*philosophical⟩

re·li·gion \ri-'lij-ən\ *n* [ME *religioun,* fr. L *religion-, religio* reverence, religion] **1 a** (1) : the service and worship of God or the supernatural (2) : commitment or devotion to religious faith or observance **b** : the state of a religious ⟨a nun in her twentieth year of ~⟩ **2** : a personal set or institutionalized system of religious attitudes, beliefs, and practices **3** *archaic* : scrupulous conformity : CONSCIENTIOUSNESS **4** : a cause, principle, or system of beliefs held to with ardor and faith

re·li·gion·ist \-'lij-(ə-)nəst\ *n* : a person adhering to a religion

re·li·gi·ose \ri-'lij-ē-ˌōs\ *adj* : RELIGIOUS; *esp* : excessively, obtrusively, or sentimentally religious — **re·li·gi·os·i·ty** \-ˌlij-ē-'äs-ət-ē\ *n*

[1]re·li·gious \ri-'lij-əs\ *adj* [ME, fr. OF *religieus,* fr. L *religiosus,* fr. *religio*] **1** : relating to or manifesting faithful devotion to an acknowledged ultimate reality or deity ⟨a ~ man⟩ ⟨~ attitudes⟩ **2** : of, relating to, or devoted to religious beliefs or observances **3 a** : scrupulously and conscientiously faithful **b** : FERVENT, ZEALOUS ***syn*** see DEVOUT ***ant*** irreligious — **re·li·gious·ly** *adv* — **re·li·gious·ness** *n*

[2]religious *n, pl* **religious** [ME, fr. OF *religieus,* fr. *religieus,* adj.] : a member of a religious order under monastic vows

re·line \(ˌ)rē-'līn\ *vt* : to put new lines on or a new lining in

re·lin·quish \ri-'liŋ-kwish, -'lin-\ *vt* [ME *relinquisshen,* fr. MF *relinquiss-,* stem of *relinquir,* fr. L *relinquere* to leave behind, fr. *re-* + *linquere* to leave — more at LOAN] **1** : to withdraw or retreat from : leave behind ⟨immigrants sadly ~*ing* their native land⟩ **2 a** : to desist from ⟨he ~*ed* law to resume teaching⟩ **b** : to give up : RENOUNCE ⟨~*ed* their claims to the estate⟩ **3 a** : to stop holding physically : RELEASE ⟨slowly ~*ed* his grip on the bar⟩ **b** : to give over possession or control of : YIELD ⟨few leaders willingly ~ power⟩ — **re·lin·quish·ment** \-mənt\ *n*

syn RELINQUISH, YIELD, RESIGN, SURRENDER, ABANDON, WAIVE *shared meaning element* : to give up completely. RELINQUISH is likely to stress regretful emotion as involved in giving something up ⟨he had let something go . . . : something very precious, that he could not consciously have *relinquished* —Willa Cather⟩ YIELD implies concession or compliance or submission to force ⟨*yield* not thy neck to fortune's yoke —Shak.⟩ ⟨unwilling to *yield* or share their privileges⟩ RESIGN emphasizes voluntary and usually formal relinquishment or sacrifice without a struggle ⟨*resign* a position⟩ and may connote acceptance of the inevitable ⟨*resigned* to the loss of his hair⟩ SURRENDER usually implies the existence of external compulsion or demands and commonly presupposes some degree of antecedent resistance ⟨he *surrendered* to his daughter's pleas for a car of her own⟩ ABANDON stresses finality and completeness in giving up ⟨*abandoning* standards that seem outmoded⟩ ⟨*abandoned* the dance and went for a swim⟩ WAIVE implies essentially voluntary conceding or forgoing ⟨*waive* a right⟩ ***ant*** keep

rel·i·quary \'rel-ə-ˌkwer-ē\ *n, pl* **-quar·ies** [F *reliquaire,* fr. ML *reliquiarium,* fr. *reliquia* relic — more at RELIC] : a container or shrine in which sacred relics are kept

re·lique \ri-'lēk, 'rel-ik\ *archaic var of* RELIC

re·liq·ui·ae \ri-'lik-wē-ˌī, -wē-ˌē\ *n pl* [L — more at RELIC] : remains of the dead : RELICS

[1]rel·ish \'rel-ish\ *n* [alter. of ME *reles* taste, fr. OF, something left behind, release, fr. *relessier* to release] **1** : characteristic flavor; *esp* : pleasing or zestful flavor **2** : a quantity just sufficient to flavor or characterize : TRACE **3 a** : enjoyment of or delight in something that satisfies one's tastes, inclinations, or desires ⟨eat with ~⟩ **b** : a strong liking : INCLINATION ⟨a boy with little ~ for sports⟩ **4 a** : something adding a zestful flavor; *esp* : a highly seasoned sauce (as of pickles or mustard) eaten with other food to add flavor **b** : APPETIZER, HORS D'OEUVRE ***syn*** see TASTE

[2]relish *vt* **1** : to add relish to **2** : to be pleased or gratified by : ENJOY **3** : to eat or drink with pleasure **4** : to appreciate with taste and discernment ~ *vi* : to have a characteristic or pleasing taste — **rel·ish·able** \-ə-bəl\ *adj*

re·live \(ˌ)rē-'liv\ *vt* : to live over again; *esp* : to experience again in the imagination ~ *vi* : to live again

re·lo·cate \(ˌ)rē-'lō-ˌkāt, ˌrē-lō-'\ *vt* : to locate again : establish or lay out in a new place ~ *vi* : to move to a new location — **re·lo·cation** \ˌrē-lō-'kā-shən\ *n*

re·lo·cat·ee \ˌrē-lə-ˌkāt-'ē, ˌrē-ˌlō-kə-'tē\ *n* : one who moves to a new location : one that is relocated

re·lu·cent \ri-'lüs-ᵊnt\ *adj* [L *relucent-, relucens,* pp. of *relucēre* to shine back, fr. *re-* + *lucēre* to shine — more at LIGHT] : reflecting light : SHINING

re·luct \ri-'ləkt\ *vi* [L *reluctari*] : to feel or show repugnance or opposition : REVOLT

re·luc·tance \ri-'lək-tən(t)s\ *n* **1** : the quality or state of being reluctant **2** : the opposition offered by a magnetic substance to magnetic flux; *specif* : the ratio of the magnetic potential difference to the corresponding flux

re·luc·tan·cy \-tən-sē\ *n* : RELUCTANCE

re·luc·tant \ri-'lək-tənt\ *adj* [L *reluctant-, reluctans,* prp. of *reluctari* to struggle against, fr. *re-* + *luctari* to struggle — more at LOCK] **1** : struggling against : OPPOSING **2** : holding back : AVERSE, UNWILLING ⟨~ to condemn him⟩ ***syn*** see DISINCLINED — **re·luc·tant·ly** *adv*

re·luc·tate \ri-'lək-ˌtāt\ *vi* **-tat·ed; -tat·ing** : to show reluctance — **re·luc·ta·tion** \ri-ˌlək-'tā-shən, ˌrē-\ *n*

re·luc·tiv·i·ty \ri-ˌlək-'tiv-ət-ē, ˌrē-\ *n* [*reluct*ance + *-ivity* (as in *conductivity*)] : the reciprocal of magnetic permeability

re·lume \(ˌ)rē-'lüm\ *vt* **re·lumed; re·lum·ing** [irreg. fr. LL *reluminare*] : to light or light up again : REKINDLE

re·lu·mine \-'lü-mən\ *vt* **-mined; -min·ing** [LL *reluminare,* fr. L *re-* + *luminare* to light up — more at ILLUMINATE] : RELUME

re·ly \ri-'lī\ *vi* **re·lied; re·ly·ing** [ME *relien* to rally, fr. MF *relier* to connect, rally, fr. L *religare* to tie back, fr. *re-* + *ligare* to tie — more at LIGATURE] **1** : to have confidence based on experience

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〈her husband was a man she could ~ on〉 **2** : to be dependent 〈they ~ on a spring for their water〉 — **re·li·er** \-'lī(-ə)r\ *n*
syn RELY, TRUST, DEPEND, COUNT, RECKON *shared meaning element* : to place full confidence

rem *n* [roentgen equivalent man] : the dosage of an ionizing radiation that will cause the same biological effect as one roentgen of X-ray or gamma-ray dosage

REM \'rem\ *n* : RAPID EYE MOVEMENT

[1]re·main \ri-'mān\ *vi* [ME *remainen*, fr. MF *remaindre*, fr. L *remanēre*, fr. *re-* + *manēre* to remain — more at MANSION] **1 a** : to be a part not destroyed, taken, or used up 〈only a few ruins ~〉 **b** : to be something yet to be shown, done, or treated 〈it ~*s* to be seen〉 **2** : to stay in the same place or with the same person or group; *specif* : to stay behind **3** : to continue unchanged 〈the fact ~*s* that nothing can be done〉 ***syn*** see STAY

[2]remain *n* **1** *obs* : STAY **2** : a remaining part or trace — usu. used in pl. 〈threw away the ~*s* of the meal〉 **3** *pl* : writings left unpublished at a writer's death **4** *pl* : a dead body

[1]re·main·der \ri-'mān-dər\ *n* [ME, fr. AF, fr. MF *remaindre*] **1** : an interest or estate in property that follows and is dependent upon the termination of a prior intervening possessory estate created at the same time by the same instrument **2 a** : a remaining group, part, or trace **b** (1) : the number left after a subtraction (2) : the final undivided part after division that is less or of lower degree than the divisor **3** : a book sold at a reduced price by the publisher after sales have slowed

[2]remainder *adj* : LEFTOVER, REMAINING

[3]remainder *vt* **re·main·dered; re·main·der·ing** \-d(ə-)riŋ\ : to dispose of as remainders

[1]re·make \(')rē-'māk\ *vt* **-made** \-'mād\; **-mak·ing** : to make anew or in a different form

[2]re·make \'rē-ˌmāk\ *n* : one that is remade; *esp* : a new version of a motion picture

re·man \(')rē-'man\ *vt* **1** : to man again or anew **2** : to imbue with courage again

re·mand \ri-'mand\ *vt* [ME *remaunden*, fr. MF *remander*, fr. LL *remandare* to send back word, fr. L *re-* + *mandare* to order — more at MANDATE] : to order back: as **a** : to send back (a case) to another court or agency for further action **b** : to return to custody pending trial or for further detention — **remand** *n*

re·ma·nence \'rem-ə-nən(t)s, ri-'mā-\ *n* : the magnetic induction remaining in a magnetized substance when the magnetizing force has become zero

re·ma·nent \-nənt\ *adj* [ME, fr. L *remanent-*, *remanens*, prp. of *remanēre* to remain] **1** : RESIDUAL, REMAINING **2** : of, relating to, or characterized by remanence

re·man·u·fac·ture \(ˌ)rē-ˌman-(y)ə-'fak-chər\ *vt* : to manufacture (as produce or used material) into a new product 〈~ tomatoes in making sauces〉 〈~ carburetors〉 — **remanufacture** *n* — **re·man·u·fac·tur·er** \-chər-ər\ *n*

re·map \(')rē-'map\ *vt* : to map again or anew; *also* : to lay out in a new pattern 〈~ a congressional district〉 〈~ an expressway〉

[1]re·mark \ri-'märk\ *vb* [F *remarquer*, fr. MF, fr. *re-* + *marquer* to mark — more at MARQUE] *vt* **1** : to take notice of : OBSERVE **2** : to express as an observation or comment : SAY ~ *vi* : to notice something and comment thereon — used with *on* or *upon*
syn REMARK, COMMENT, COMMENTATE, ANIMADVERT *shared meaning element* : to make observations and pass on one's judgment

[2]remark *n* **1** : the act of remarking : NOTICE **2** : mention of that which deserves attention or notice **3** : an expression of opinion or judgment

re·mark·able \ri-'mär-kə-bəl\ *adj* : worthy of being or likely to be noticed esp. as being uncommon or extraordinary ***syn*** see NOTICEABLE — **re·mark·able·ness** *n* — **re·mark·ably** \-blē\ *adv*

re·marque \ri-'märk\ *n* [F *remarque* remark, note, fr. MF, fr. *remarquer*] **1** : a drawn, etched, or incised scribble or sketch done on the margin of a plate or stone and removed before the regular printing **2** : a proof taken before remarques have been removed

re·match \(')rē-'mach, 'rē-ˌ\ *n* : a second match between the same contestants or teams

re·me·di·a·ble \ri-'mēd-ē-ə-bəl\ *adj* : capable of being remedied — **re·me·di·a·ble·ness** *n* — **re·me·di·a·bly** \-blē\ *adv*

re·me·di·al \ri-'mēd-ē-əl\ *adj* **1** : intended as a remedy **2** : concerned with the correction of faulty study habits and the raising of a pupil's general competence 〈~ reading courses〉 — **re·me·di·al·ly** \-ə-lē\ *adv*

remediate *adj*, *obs* : REMEDIAL

re·me·di·a·tion \ri-ˌmēd-ē-'ā-shən\ *n* : the act or process of remedying 〈~ of reading problems〉

rem·e·di·less \'rem-əd-ē-ləs\ *adj* **1** : having no remedy : IRREMEDIABLE **2** : having no legal remedy — **rem·e·di·less·ly** *adv*

[1]rem·e·dy \'rem-əd-ē\ *n, pl* **-dies** [ME *remedie*, fr. AF, fr. L *remedium*, fr. *re-* + *mederi* to heal — more at MEDICAL] **1** : a medicine, application, or treatment that relieves or cures a disease **2** : something that corrects or counteracts an evil **3** : the legal means to recover a right or to prevent or obtain redress for a wrong

[2]remedy *vt* **-died; -dy·ing** : to provide or serve as a remedy for : RELIEVE ***syn*** see CURE, CORRECT

re·mem·ber \ri-'mem-bər\ *vb* **re·mem·bered; re·mem·ber·ing** \-b(ə-)riŋ\ [ME *remembren*, fr. MF *remembrer*, fr. LL *rememorari*, fr. L *re-* + LL *memorari* to be mindful of, fr. L *memor* mindful — more at MEMORY] *vt* **1** : to bring to mind or think of again 〈~*s* the old days〉 **2** *archaic* **a** : BETHINK **b** : REMIND **3 a** : to keep in mind for attention or consideration 〈~*s* friends at Christmas〉 **b** : REWARD 〈was ~*ed* in the will〉 **4** : to retain in the memory 〈~ the facts until the test is over〉 **5** : to convey greetings from **6** : RECORD, COMMEMORATE ~ *vi* **1** : to exercise or have the power of memory **2** : to have a recollection or remembrance — **re·mem·ber·abil·i·ty** \-ˌmem-b(ə-)rə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* — **re·mem·ber·able** \-'mem-b(ə-)rə-bəl\ *adj* — **re·mem·ber·er** \-bər-ər\ *n*
syn REMEMBER, RECOLLECT, RECALL, REMIND, REMINISCE *shared meaning element* : to bring an image or idea from the past into the mind ***ant*** forget

re·mem·brance \ri-'mem-brən(t)s *also* -bə-rən(t)s\ *n* **1** : the state of bearing in mind 〈occupation troops kept them in ~ of their defeat〉 **2 a** : the ability to remember : MEMORY **b** : the period over which one's memory extends **3** : an act of recalling to mind 〈~ of the offense angered him all over again〉 **4** : a memory of a person, thing, or event 〈had only a dim ~ of that night〉 **5 a** : something that serves to keep in or bring to mind : REMINDER **b** : COMMEMORATION, MEMORIAL **c** : a greeting or gift recalling or expressing friendship or affection ***syn*** see MEMORY

re·mem·branc·er \ri-'mem-brən-sər\ *n* : one that reminds; *esp, cap* : one of several English officials having originally the duty of bringing a matter to the attention of the proper authority

Remembrance Sunday *n* : a Sunday that is usu. closest to November 11 and that in Great Britain is set aside in commemoration of the end of hostilities in 1918 and 1945 — compare VETERANS DAY

re·mex \'rē-ˌmeks\ *n, pl* **rem·i·ges** \'rem-ə-ˌjēz\ [NL *remig-*, *remex*, fr. L, oarsman, fr. *remus* oar + *agere* to drive — more at ROW, AGENT] : a primary or secondary quill feather of the wing of a bird — **re·mi·gial** \ri-'mij-(ē-)əl\ *adj*

re·mil·i·ta·rize \(')rē-'mil-ə-tə-ˌrīz\ *vt* : to equip again with military forces and installations — **re·mil·i·ta·ri·za·tion** \(ˌ)rē-ˌmil-ət-ə-rə-'zā-shən\ *n*

re·mind \ri-'mīnd\ *vt* : to put in mind of something : cause to remember 〈the view ~*ed* him of his old home〉 ***syn*** see REMEMBER — **re·mind·er** *n*

re·mind·ful \-'mīn(d)-fəl\ *adj* **1** : MINDFUL **2** : tending to remind : SUGGESTIVE, EVOCATIVE

rem·i·nisce \ˌrem-ə-'nis\ *vi* **-nisced; -nisc·ing** [back-formation fr. *reminiscence*] : to indulge in reminiscence ***syn*** see REMEMBER

rem·i·nis·cence \-'nis-ᵊn(t)s\ *n* **1** : apprehension of a Platonic idea as if it had been known in a previous existence **2 a** : recall to mind of a long-forgotten experience or fact **b** : the process or practice of thinking or telling about past experiences **3 a** : a remembered experience **b** : an account of a memorable experience — often used in pl. 〈published the ~*s* of the old settler〉 **4** : something so like another as to be regarded as an unconscious repetition, imitation, or survival ***syn*** see MEMORY

rem·i·nis·cent \-ᵊnt\ *adj* [L *reminiscent-*, *reminiscens*, prp. of *reminisci* to remember, fr. *re-* + *-minisci* (akin to L *ment-*, *mens* mind) — more at MIND] **1** : of the character of or relating to reminiscence **2** : marked by or given to reminiscence **3** : tending to remind one (as of something seen or known before) : SUGGESTIVE 〈a technology ~ of the Stone Age〉 — **rem·i·nis·cent·ly** *adv*

rem·i·nis·cen·tial \ˌrem-ə-(ˌ)nis-'en-chəl\ *adj* : REMINISCENT

re·mint \(')rē-'mint\ *vt* : to melt down (old or worn coin) and make into new coin

re·mise \ri-'mīz\ *vt* **re·mised; re·mis·ing** [ME *remisen*, fr. MF *remis*, pp. of *remettre* to put back, fr. L *remittere* to send back] : to give, grant, or release a claim to : DEED

re·miss \ri-'mis\ *adj* [ME, fr. L *remissus*, fr. pp. of *remittere* to send back, relax] **1** : negligent in the performance of work or duty : CARELESS 〈he would be ~ if he failed to report the accident〉 **2** : showing neglect or inattention : LAX 〈service was ~ in most of the hotels〉 ***syn*** see NEGLIGENT — **re·miss·ly** *adv* — **re·miss·ness** *n*

re·mis·si·ble \ri-'mis-ə-bəl\ *adj* : capable of being forgiven 〈~ sins〉 — **re·mis·si·bly** \-blē\ *adv*

re·mis·sion \ri-'mish-ən\ *n* **1** : the act or process of remitting **2** : a state or period during which something (as symptoms) is remitted

[1]re·mit \ri-'mit\ *vb* **re·mit·ted; re·mit·ting** [ME *remitten*, fr. L *remittere* to send back, fr. *re-* + *mittere* to send — more at SMITE] *vt* **1 a** : to release from the guilt or penalty of 〈~ sins〉 **b** : to refrain from exacting 〈~ a tax〉 **c** : to cancel or refrain from inflicting 〈~ the penalty of loss of pay〉 **d** : to give relief from (suffering) **2 a** : to lay aside (a mood or disposition) partly or wholly **b** : to desist from (an activity) **c** : to let (as attention or diligence) slacken : RELAX **3** : to submit or refer for consideration, judgment, decision, or action; *specif* : REMAND **4** : to restore or consign to a former status or condition **5** : POSTPONE, DEFER **6** : to send (money) to a person or place esp. in payment of a demand, account, or draft ~ *vi* **1 a** : to abate in force or intensity : MODERATE **b** *of a disease or abnormality* : to abate symptoms for a period **2** : to send money (as in payment) — **re·mit·ment** \-'mit-mənt\ *n* — **re·mit·ta·ble** \-'mit-ə-bəl\ *adj* — **re·mit·ter** *n*

[2]re·mit \ri-'mit, 'rē-ˌ\ *n* **1** : an act of remitting **2** : something remitted to another person or authority

re·mit·tal \ri-'mit-ᵊl\ *n* : REMISSION

re·mit·tance \ri-'mit-ᵊn(t)s\ *n* **1 a** : a sum of money remitted **b** : an instrument by which money is remitted **2** : transmittal of money (as to a distant place)

remittance man *n* : a person living abroad on remittances from home

re·mit·tent \ri-'mit-ᵊnt\ *adj* [L *remittent-*, *remittens*, prp. of *remittere*] *of a disease* : marked by alternating periods of abatement and increase of symptoms — **re·mit·tent·ly** *adv*

[1]rem·nant \'rem-nənt\ *n* [ME, contr. of *remenant*, fr. MF, fr. prp. of *remenoir* to remain, fr. L *remanēre* — more at REMAIN] **1 a** : a usu. small part, member, or trace remaining **b** : a small surviving group — often used in pl. **2** : an unsold or unused end of piece goods

[2]remnant *adj* : still remaining

re·mod·el \(')rē-'mäd-ᵊl\ *vt* : to alter the structure of : RECONSTRUCT 〈~ an old house〉

re·mon·e·tize \(')rē-'män-ə-ˌtīz, -'mən-\ *vt* : to restore to use as legal tender 〈~ silver〉 — **re·mon·e·ti·za·tion** \(ˌ)rē-ˌmän-ət-ə-'zā-shən, -ˌmən-\ *n*

re·mon·strance \ri-'män(t)-strən(t)s\ *n* **1** *archaic* : REPRESENTATION, DEMONSTRATION; *specif* : a document formally stating points of opposition or grievance **2** : an act or instance of remonstrating

re·mon·strant \-strənt\ *adj* : vigorously objecting or opposing — **remonstrant** *n* — **re·mon·strant·ly** *adv*

re·mon·strate \ri-'män-ˌstrāt *also* 'rem-ən-\ *vb* **-strat·ed; -strat·ing** [ML *remonstratus*, pp. of *remonstrare* to demonstrate, fr. L *re-* +

monstrare to show — more at MUSTER] *vt* : to say or plead in protest, reproof, or opposition ~ *vi* : to present and urge reasons in opposition : EXPOSTULATE ***syn*** see OBJECT — **re·mon·stra·tion** \ri-ˌmän-ˈstrā-shən, ˌrem-ən-\ *n* — **re·mon·stra·tive** \ri-ˈmän(t)-strət-iv\ *adj* — **re·mon·stra·tive·ly** *adv* — **re·mon·stra·tor** \ri-ˈmän-ˌstrāt-ər *also* ˈrem-ən-\ *n*

rem·o·ra \ˈrem-ə-rə *also* ri-ˈmōr-ə *or* -ˈmȯr-\ *n* [L, lit., delay, fr. *remorari* to delay, fr. *re-* + *morari* to delay — more at MORATORIUM] **1** : any of several specialized fishes (of *Echeneis* and related genera) that have the anterior dorsal fin converted into a suctorial disk on the head by means of which they cling to other fishes and to ships **2** : HINDRANCE, DRAG — **rem·o·rid** \ˈrem-ə-rəd\ *adj*



remora 1

re·morse \ri-ˈmȯ(ə)rs\ *n* [ME, fr. MF *remors*, fr. ML *remorsus*, fr. LL, act of biting again, fr. L *remorsus*, pp. of *remordēre* to bite again, fr. *re-* + *mordēre* to bite — more at SMART] **1** : a gnawing distress arising from a sense of guilt for past wrongs : SELF-REPROACH **2** *obs* : COMPASSION ***syn*** see PENITENCE

re·morse·ful \-ˈmȯrs-fəl\ *adj* : motivated or marked by remorse — **re·morse·ful·ly** \-fə-lē\ *adv* — **re·morse·ful·ness** *n*

re·morse·less \-ˈmȯr-sləs\ *adj* **1** : having no remorse : MERCILESS ⟨~ cruelty⟩ **2** : PERSISTENT, INDEFATIGABLE — **re·morse·less·ly** *adv* — **re·morse·less·ness** *n*

re·mote \ri-ˈmōt\ *adj* **re·mot·er; ·est** [L *remotus*, fr. pp. of *removēre* to remove] **1** : separated by great intervals **2** : far removed in space, time, or relation : DIVERGENT ⟨the ~ past⟩ ⟨comments ~ from the truth⟩ **3** : OUT-OF-THE-WAY, SECLUDED **4** : acting on or controlling indirectly or from a distance ⟨~ computer operation⟩ **5** : not arising from a primary or proximate action **6** : small in degree : SLIGHT ⟨a ~ possibility⟩ **7** : distant in manner : ALOOF ***syn*** see DISTANT — **re·mote·ly** *adv* — **re·mote·ness** *n*

re·mo·tion \ri-ˈmō-shən\ *n* **1** : the quality or state of being remote **2** : the act of removing : REMOVAL **3** *obs* : DEPARTURE

¹re·mount \(ˈ)rē-ˈmau̇nt\ *vb* [ME *remounten*, partly fr. *re-* + *mounten* to mount, partly fr. MF *remonter*, fr. *re-* + *monter* to mount] *vt* **1** : to mount (something) again ⟨~ a picture⟩ **2** : to furnish remounts to ~ *vi* **1** : to mount again **2** : REVERT

²re·mount \ˈrē-ˌmau̇nt, (ˈ)rē-ˈ\ *n* : a fresh horse to replace one no longer available

re·mov·able \ri-ˈmü-və-bəl\ *adj* : capable of being removed — **re·mov·abil·i·ty** \-ˌmü-və-ˈbil-ət-ē\ *n* — **re·mov·able·ness** \-ˈmü-və-bəl-nəs\ *n* — **re·mov·ably** \-blē\ *adv*

re·mov·al \ri-ˈmü-vəl\ *n* : the act or process of removing : the fact of being removed

¹re·move \ri-ˈmüv\ *vb* **re·moved; re·mov·ing** [ME *removen*, fr. OF *removoir*, fr. L *removēre*, fr. *re-* + *movēre* to move] *vt* **1 a** : to change the location, position, station, or residence of ⟨~ soldiers to the front⟩ **b** : to transfer (a legal proceeding) from one court to another **2** : to move by lifting, pushing aside, or taking away or off ⟨~*s* his hat in church⟩ **3** : to dismiss from office **4** : to get rid of : ELIMINATE ⟨~ a tumor surgically⟩ ~ *vi* **1** : to change location, station, or residence ⟨*removing* from the city to the suburbs⟩ **2** : to go away **3** : to be capable of being removed — **re·mov·er** *n*

²remove *n* **1** : REMOVAL; *specif* : MOVE 2c **2 a** : a distance or interval separating one person or thing from another **b** : a degree or stage of separation

re·moved *adj* **1 a** : distant in degree of relationship **b** : of a younger or older generation ⟨a second cousin's child is a second cousin once ~⟩ **2** : separate or remote in space, time, or character ***syn*** see DISTANT

REM sleep *n* : PARADOXICAL SLEEP

re·mu·da \ri-ˈm(y)üd-ə\ *n* [AmerSp, relay of horses, fr. Sp, exchange] : the herd of horses from which those to be used for the day are chosen

re·mu·ner·ate \ri-ˈmyü-nə-ˌrāt\ *vt* **·at·ed; ·at·ing** [L *remuneratus*, pp. of *remunerare* to recompense, fr. *re-* + *munerare* to give, fr. *muner-*, *munus* gift — more at MEAN] **1** : to pay an equivalent for ⟨his services were generously *remunerated*⟩ **2** : to pay an equivalent to for a service, loss, or expense : RECOMPENSE ***syn*** see PAY — **re·mu·ner·a·tor** \-ˌrāt-ər\ *n* — **re·mu·ner·a·to·ry** \-rə-ˌtōr-ē, -ˌtȯr-\ *adj*

re·mu·ner·a·tion \ri-ˌmyü-nə-ˈrā-shən\ *n* **1** : an act or fact of remunerating **2** : something that remunerates : RECOMPENSE, PAY

re·mu·ner·a·tive \ri-ˈmyü-nə-rət-iv, -ˌrāt-\ *adj* **1** : serving to remunerate **2** : providing remuneration : PROFITABLE — **re·mu·ner·a·tive·ly** *adv* — **re·mu·ner·a·tive·ness** *n*

Re·mus \ˈrē-məs\ *n* [L] : a son of Mars slain by his twin brother Romulus

re·nais·sance \ˌren-ə-ˈsän(t)s, -ˈzän(t)s, -ˈsäⁿs, -ˈzäⁿs, *chiefly Brit* ri-ˈnās-ᵊn(t)s\ *n, often attrib* [F, fr. MF, rebirth, fr. *renaistre* to be born again, fr. L *renasci*, fr. *re-* + *nasci* to be born — more at NATION] **1** *cap* **a** : the transitional movement in Europe between medieval and modern times beginning in the 14th century in Italy, lasting into the 17th century, and marked by a humanistic revival of classical influence expressed in a flowering of the arts and literature and by the beginnings of modern science **b** : the period of the Renaissance **c** : the neoclassic style of architecture prevailing during the Renaissance **2** *often cap* : a movement or period of vigorous artistic and intellectual activity **3** : REBIRTH, REVIVAL

Renaissance man *n* : a person who has wide interests and is expert in several areas

re·nal \ˈrēn-ᵊl\ *adj* [F or LL; F *rénal*, fr. LL *renalis*, fr. L *renes* kidneys] : relating to, involving, or located in the region of the kidneys : NEPHRITIC

re·na·scence \ri-ˈnas-ᵊn(t)s, -ˈnās-\ *n, often cap* : RENAISSANCE

re·na·scent \-ᵊnt\ *adj* [L *renascent-*, *renascens*, prp. of *renascī*] : rising again into being or vigor

re·na·ture \(ˈ)rē-ˈnā-chər\ *vt* **re·na·tured; re·na·tur·ing** \-ˈnāch-(ə-)riŋ\ [*re* + *-nature* (as in *denature*)] : to restore (as a denatured protein) to an original or normal condition — **re·na·tur·ation** \(ˌ)rē-ˌnā-chə-ˈrā-shən\ *n*

ren·con·tre \räⁿ-kōⁿtrᵊ, ren-ˈkänt-ər\ *or* **ren·coun·ter** \ren-ˈkau̇nt-ər\ *n* [*rencounter* fr. MF *rencontre*, fr. *rencontrer; rencontre* fr. F] **1** : a hostile meeting or a contest between forces or individuals : COMBAT **2** : a casual meeting

rencounter *vt* [MF *rencontrer* to meet by chance or in hostility, fr. *re-* + *encontrer* to encounter] : to meet casually

rend \ˈrend\ *vb* **rent** \ˈrent\; **rend·ing** [ME *renden*, fr. OE *rendan*; akin to OFris *renda* to tear, Skt *randhra* hole] *vt* **1** : to remove from place by violence : WREST **2** : to split or tear apart or in pieces by violence **3** : to tear (the hair or clothing) as a sign of anger, grief, or despair **4 a** : to lacerate mentally or emotionally **b** : to pierce with sound **c** : to divide (as a nation) into contesting factions ~ *vi* **1** : to perform an act of tearing or splitting **2** : to become torn or split ***syn*** see TEAR

¹ren·der \ˈren-dər\ *vb* **ren·dered; ren·der·ing** \-d(ə-)riŋ\ [ME *rendren*, fr. MF *rendre* to give back, yield, fr. (assumed) VL *rendere*, alter. of L *reddere*, partly fr. *re-* + *dare* to give & partly fr. *re-* + *-dere* to put — more at DATE, DO] *vt* **1 a** : to melt down : extract by melting ⟨~ lard⟩ **b** : to treat so as to convert into industrial fats and oils or fertilizer **2 a** : to transmit to another : DELIVER **b** : to give up : YIELD **c** : to furnish for consideration, approval, or information: as (1) : to hand down (a legal judgment) (2) : to agree upon and report (a verdict) **3 a** : to give in return or retribution **b** (1) : to give back : RESTORE (2) : REFLECT, ECHO **c** : to give in acknowledgment of dependence or obligation : PAY **d** : to do (a service) for another **4 a** (1) : to cause to be or become : MAKE ⟨enough rainfall . . . to ~ irrigation unnecessary —P. E. James⟩ ⟨~ a person helpless⟩ (2) : IMPART **b** (1) : to reproduce or represent by artistic or verbal means : DEPICT (2) : to give a performance of (3) : to produce a copy or version of ⟨the documents are ~*ed* in the original French⟩ (4) : to execute the motions of ⟨~ a salute⟩ **c** : TRANSLATE **5** : to direct the execution of : ADMINISTER ⟨~ justice⟩ **6** : to apply a coat of plaster or cement directly to ~ *vi* : to give recompense — **ren·der·able** \-d(ə-)rə-bəl\ *adj* — **ren·der·er** \-dər-ər\ *n*

²render *n* : a return esp. in goods or services due from a feudal tenant to his lord

¹ren·dez·vous \ˈrän-di-ˌvü, -dā-\ *n, pl* **ren·dez·vous** \-ˌvüz\ [MF, fr. *rendez vous* present yourselves] **1 a** : a place appointed for assembling or meeting **b** : a place of popular resort : HAUNT **2** : a meeting at an appointed place and time **3** : the process of bringing two spacecraft together

²rendezvous *vb* **ren·dez·voused** \-ˌvüd\; **ren·dez·vous·ing** \-ˌvü-iŋ\; **ren·dez·vouses** \-ˌvüz\ *vi* : to come together at a rendezvous ~ *vt* **1** : to bring together at a rendezvous **2** : to meet at a rendezvous

ren·di·tion \ren-ˈdish-ən\ *n* [obs. F, fr. MF, alter. of *reddition*, fr. LL *reddition-*, *redditio*, fr. L *redditus*, pp. of *reddere*] : the act or result of rendering: as **a** : SURRENDER **b** : TRANSLATION **c** : PERFORMANCE, INTERPRETATION

ren·dzi·na \ren-ˈjē-nə\ *n* [Pol *rędzina* rich limy soil] : a dark grayish brown intrazonal soil developed in grassy regions of high to moderate humidity from soft calcareous marl or chalk

¹ren·e·gade \ˈren-i-ˌgād\ *n* [Sp *renegado*, fr. ML *renegatus*, fr. pp. of *renegare* to deny, fr. L *re-* + *negare* to deny — more at NEGATE] **1** : a deserter from one faith, cause, or allegiance to another **2** : an individual who rejects lawful or conventional behavior

²renegade *vi* **·gad·ed; ·gad·ing** : to become a renegade

³renegade *adj* **1** : having deserted a faith, cause, or religion for a hostile one **2** : having rejected tradition : UNCONVENTIONAL

ren·e·ga·do \ˌren-i-ˈgäd-(ˌ)ō, -ˈgād-\ *n, pl* **·does** [Sp] : RENEGADE

re·nege \ri-ˈnig, -ˈneg, -ˈnēg, -ˈnāg\ *vb* **re·neged; re·neg·ing** [ML *renegare*] *vt* : DENY, RENOUNCE ~ *vi* **1** *obs* : to make a denial **2** : REVOKE **3** : to go back on a promise or commitment — **re·neger** *n*

re·ne·go·tia·ble \ˌrē-ni-ˈgō-sh(ē-)ə-bəl\ *adj* : subject to renegotiation

re·ne·go·ti·ate \ˌrē-ni-ˈgō-shē-ˌāt\ *vt* : to negotiate again; *esp* : to readjust by negotiation to eliminate or recover excessive profits — **re·ne·go·ti·a·tion** \ˌrē-ni-ˌgō-s(h)ē-ˈā-shən\ *n*

re·new \ri-ˈn(y)ü\ *vt* **1** : to make like new : restore to freshness, vigor, or perfection ⟨as we ~ our strength in sleep⟩ **2** : to make new spiritually : REGENERATE **3 a** : to restore to existence : REVIVE **b** : to make extensive changes in : REBUILD **4** : to do again : REPEAT **5** : to begin again : RESUME **6** : REPLACE, REPLENISH ⟨~ water in a tank⟩ **7 a** : to grant or obtain an extension of or on **b** : to grant or obtain an extension on the loan of ⟨~ a library book⟩ ~ *vi* **1** : to become new or as new **2** : to begin again : RESUME **3** : to make a renewal (as of a lease) — **re·new·abil·i·ty** \-ˌn(y)ü-ə-ˈbil-ət-ē\ *n* — **re·new·ably** \-ˈn(y)ü-ə-blē\ *adv* — **re·new·er** *n*

syn RENEW, RESTORE, REFRESH, RENOVATE, REJUVENATE *shared meaning element* : to make like new

re·new·able \-ˈn(y)ü-ə-bəl\ *adj* : capable of being renewed; *esp* : capable of being replaced by natural ecological cycles or sound management practices

re·new·al \ri-ˈn(y)ü-əl\ *n* **1** : the act or process of renewing : REPETITION **2** : the quality or state of being renewed **3** : something (as a subscription to a magazine) renewed **4** : something used for renewing; *specif* : an expenditure that betters existing fixed assets **5** : the rebuilding of a large area (as of a city) by a public authority

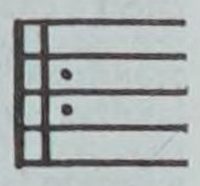
Renf *abbr* Renfrewshire

reni- *or* **reno-** *comb form* [L *renes* kidneys] : kidney ⟨*reni*form⟩

re·ni·form \'rē-nə-ˌfȯrm, 'ren-ə-\ *adj* [NL *reniformis*, fr. *reni-* + *-formis* -form] : suggesting a kidney in outline
re·nig \ri-'nig\ *vi* **re·nigged; re·nig·ging** : RENEGE
re·nin \'rē-nən, 'ren-ən\ *n* [ISV, fr. L *renes*] : a proteolytic enzyme of the kidney that plays a major role in the release of angiotensin
re·ni·ten·cy \'ren-ə-tən-sē, ri-'nīt-ᵊn-\ *n* : RESISTANCE, OPPOSITION
re·ni·tent \'ren-ə-tənt, ri-'nīt-ᵊnt\ *adj* [F or L; F *rénitent*, fr. L *renitent-*, *renitens*, prp. of *reniti* to struggle against, fr. *re-* + *niti* to strive — more at NISUS] **1** : resisting physical pressure **2** : resisting constraint or compulsion : RECALCITRANT
ren·net \'ren-ət\ *n* [ME, fr. (assumed) ME *rennen* to cause to coagulate, fr. OE *gerennan*, fr. *ge-* together + (assumed) OE *rennan* to cause to run; akin to OHG *rennen* to cause to run, OE *rinnan* to run — more at CO-, RUN] **1 a** : the contents of the stomach of an unweaned animal and esp. a calf **b** : the lining membrane of a stomach (as the fourth of a ruminant) used for curdling milk; *also* : a preparation of the stomach of animals used for this purpose **2 a** : RENNIN **b** : a substitute for rennin
ren·nin \'ren-ən\ *n* : an enzyme that coagulates milk and is used in making cheese and junkets; *esp* : one from the mucous membrane of the stomach of a calf
re·no·gram \'rē-nə-ˌgram\ *n* : a photographic depiction of the course of renal excretion of a radioactively labeled substance — **re·no·graph·ic** \ˌrē-nə-'graf-ik\ *adj* — **re·nog·ra·phy** \rē-'näg-rə-fē\ *n*
re·nom·i·nate \(ˈ)rē-'näm-ə-ˌnāt\ *vt* : to nominate again esp. for a succeeding term — **re·nom·i·na·tion** \(ˌ)rē-ˌnäm-ə-'nā-shən\ *n*
¹re·nounce \ri-'naůn(t)s\ *vb* **re·nounced; re·nounc·ing** [ME *renouncen*, fr. MF *renoncer*, fr. L *renuntiare*, fr. *re-* + *nuntiare* to report, fr. *nuntius* messenger] *vt* **1** : to give up, refuse, or resign usu. by formal declaration ⟨~ his errors⟩ **2** : to refuse to follow, obey, or recognize any further : REPUDIATE ⟨~ the authority of the church⟩ **3** : to fail to follow with a card from (the suit led) ~ *vi* : to make a renounce or renunciation ***syn*** **1** see ABDICATE ***ant*** arrogate **2** see ABJURE ***ant*** confess, claim — **re·nounce·ment** \-'naůn(t)-smənt\ *n* — **re·nounc·er** *n*
²re·nounce \ri-'naůn(t)s, 'rē-ˌ\ *n* : failure to follow suit in a card game
ren·o·vate \'ren-ə-ˌvāt\ *vt* **-vat·ed; -vat·ing** [L *renovatus*, pp. of *renovare*, fr. *re-* + *novare* to make new, fr. *novus* new — more at NEW] **1** : to restore to life, vigor, or activity : REVIVE ⟨the church was *renovated* by a new ecumenical spirit⟩ **2** : to restore to a former better state (as by cleaning, repairing, or rebuilding) ***syn*** see RENEW — **ren·o·va·tion** \ˌren-ə-'vā-shən\ *n* — **ren·o·va·tor** \'ren-ə-ˌvāt-ər\ *n*
¹re·nown \ri-'naůn\ *n* [ME, fr. MF *renon*, fr. OF, fr. *renomer* to celebrate, fr. *re-* + *nomer* to name, fr. L *nominare*, fr. *nomin-*, *nomen* name — more at NAME] **1** : a state of being widely acclaimed and highly honored : FAME **2** *obs* : REPORT, RUMOR
²renown *vt* : to give renown to
re·nowned *adj* : having renown : CELEBRATED ***syn*** see FAMOUS
¹rent \'rent\ *n* [ME *rente*, fr. OF, income from a property, fr. (assumed) VL *rendita*, fr. fem. of *renditus*, pp. of *rendere* to yield — more at RENDER] **1** : property (as a house) rented or for rent **2 a** : a usu. fixed periodical return made by a tenant or occupant of property to the owner for the possession and use thereof; *esp* : an agreed sum paid at fixed intervals by a tenant to his landlord for the use of land or its appendages **b** : the amount paid by a hirer of personal property to the owner for the use thereof **3 a** : the portion of the income of an economy (as of a nation) attributable to land as a factor of production in addition to capital and labor **b** : ECONOMIC RENT — **for rent** : available for use or service in return for payment
²rent *vt* **1** : to take and hold under an agreement to pay rent **2** : to grant the possession and enjoyment of for rent ~ *vi* **1** : to be for rent **2 a** : to obtain the possession and use of a place or article for rent **b** : to allow the possession and use of property for rent ***syn*** see HIRE — **rent·abil·i·ty** \ˌrent-ə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* — **rent·able** \'rent-ə-bəl\ *adj*
³rent *past of* REND
⁴rent *n* [E dial. *rent* (to rend)] **1** : an opening made by or as if by rending **2** : a split in a party or organized group : SCHISM **3** : an act or instance of rending
rent–a–car \'rent-ə-ˌkär\ *n* [fr. the imper. phrase *rent a car*] : a rented car
¹rent·al \'rent-ᵊl\ *n* **1** : an amount paid or collected as rent **2** : something that is rented **3** : an act of renting **4** : a business that rents something
²rental *adj* **1 a** : of or relating to rent **b** : available for rent **2** : dealing in rental property ⟨a ~ agency⟩
rental library *n* : a commercially operated library (as in a store) that lends books at a fixed charge per book per day — called also *lending library*
rent control *n* : government regulation of the amount charged as rent for housing and often also of eviction
rente \'räⁿ(n)t\ *n* [F] **1** : annual income under French law resembling an annuity **2 a** : interest payable by the French and other European governments on the consolidated debt **b** : a government security yielding rente
rent·er \'rent-ər\ *n* : one that rents; *specif* : the lessee or tenant of property
ren·tier \räⁿ-tyā\ *n* [F, fr. OF, fr. *rente*] **1** : one who owns rentes **2** : a person who receives a fixed income (as from land or stocks)
rent strike *n* : a refusal by a group of tenants to pay rent (as in protest against high rates)
re·num·ber \(ˈ)rē-'nəm-bər\ *vt* : to number again or differently
re·nun·ci·a·tion \ri-ˌnən(t)-sē-'ā-shən\ *n* [ME, fr. L *renuntiation-*, *renuntiatio*, fr. *renuntiatus*, pp. of *renuntiare*] : the act or practice of renouncing : REPUDIATION; *specif* : ascetic self-denial — **re·nun·ci·a·tive** \ri-'nən(t)-sē-ˌāt-iv\ *adj* — **re·nun·ci·a·to·ry** \-sē-ə-ˌtōr-ē, -ˌtȯr-\ *adj*
re·of·fer \(ˈ)rē-'ȯf-ər, -'äf-\ *vt* : to offer (a security issue) for public sale
re·open \(ˈ)rē-'ō-pən, -'ōp-ᵊm\ *vt* **1** : to open again **2 a** : to take up again : RESUME ⟨~ discussion⟩ **b** : to resume discussion or consideration of ⟨~ a contract⟩ **3** : to begin again ~ *vi* : to open again ⟨school ~*s* in September⟩
¹re·or·der \(ˈ)rē-'ȯrd-ər\ *vt* **1** : to arrange in a different way **2** : to give a reorder for ~ *vi* : to place a reorder
²reorder *n* : an order like a previous order placed with the same supplier
re·or·ga·ni·za·tion \(ˌ)rē-ˌȯrg-(ə-)nə-'zā-shən\ *n* : the act or process of reorganizing : the state of being reorganized; *esp* : the financial reconstruction of a business concern — **re·or·ga·ni·za·tion·al** \-shnəl, -shən-ᵊl\ *adj*
re·or·ga·nize \(ˈ)rē-'ȯr-gə-ˌnīz\ *vt* : to organize again or anew ~ *vi* : to reorganize something — **re·or·ga·niz·er** *n*
reo·vi·rus \ˌrē-ō-'vī-rəs\ *n* [*r*espiratory *e*nteric *o*rphan (i.e. unidentified) *virus*] : any of a group of rather large, widely distributed, and possibly tumorigenic viruses with double-stranded RNA
¹rep \'rep\ *n*, *slang* : REPUTATION; *esp* : status in a group (as a gang)
²rep *or* **repp** \'rep\ *n* [F *reps*, modif. of E *ribs*, pl. of *rib*] : a plain-weave fabric with prominent rounded crosswise ribs
³rep *n* : REPRESENTATIVE
⁴rep *n* [*r*oentgen *e*quivalent *p*hysical] : the dosage of an ionizing radiation that will develop the same amount of energy upon absorption in human tissue as one roentgen of X-ray or gamma-ray dosage
⁵rep *n* : REPERTORY 2b
⁶rep *abbr* **1** repair **2** report; reporter **3** republic
Rep *abbr* Republican
re·pack·age \(ˈ)rē-'pak-ij\ *vt* : to package again or anew; *specif* : to put into a more efficient or attractive form ⟨~ a candidate's public image⟩ — **re·pack·ag·er** *n*
¹re·pair \ri-'pa(ə)r, -'pe(ə)r\ *vi* [ME *repairen*, fr. MF *repairier* to go back to one's country, fr. LL *repatriare*, fr. L *re-* + *patria* native country — more at EXPATRIATE] **1 a** : to betake oneself : GO ⟨~*ed* to his home⟩ **b** : RALLY **2** *obs* : RETURN
²repair *n* **1** : the act of repairing : RESORT **2** : a popular gathering place
³repair *vb* [ME *repairen*, fr. MF *reparer*, fr. L *reparare*, fr. *re-* + *parare* to prepare — more at PARE] *vt* **1 a** : to restore by replacing a part or putting together what is torn or broken : FIX ⟨~ a shoe⟩ **b** : to restore to a sound or healthy state : RENEW ⟨~ his strength⟩ **2** : to make good : compensate for : REMEDY ⟨will ~ his earlier failure⟩ ~ *vi* : to make repairs ***syn*** see MEND — **re·pair·abil·i·ty** \-ˌpar-ə-'bil-ət-ē, -ˌper-\ *n* — **re·pair·able** \-'par-ə-bəl, -'per-\ *adj* — **re·pair·er** \-'par-ər, -'per-\ *n*
⁴repair *n* **1 a** : the act or process of repairing **b** : an instance or result of repairing **c** : the replacement of destroyed cells or tissues by new formations **2 a** : relative condition with respect to soundness or need of repairing **b** : the state of being in good or sound condition
re·pair·man \ri-'pa(ə)r-ˌman, -'pe(ə)r-\ *n* : one who repairs; *specif* : one whose occupation is to make repairs in a mechanism
re·pand \ri-'pand\ *adj* [L *repandus* bent backward, fr. *re-* + *pandus* bent; akin to ON *fattr* bent backward] : having a slightly undulating margin ⟨a ~ leaf⟩
rep·a·ra·ble \'rep-(ə-)rə-bəl\ *adj* : capable of being repaired
rep·a·ra·tion \ˌrep-ə-'rā-shən\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. LL *reparation-*, *reparatio*, fr. L *reparatus*, pp. of *reparare*] **1 a** : a repairing or keeping in repair **b** *pl* : REPAIRS **2 a** : the act of making amends, offering expiation, or giving satisfaction for a wrong or injury **b** : something done or given as amends or satisfaction **3** : the payment of damages : INDEMNIFICATION; *specif* : compensation in money or materials payable by a defeated nation for damages to or expenditures sustained by another nation as a result of hostilities with the defeated nation — usu. used in pl.
re·par·a·tive \ri-'par-ət-iv\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or effecting repair **2** : serving to make amends
rep·ar·tee \ˌrep-ər-'tē, -ˌär-, -'tā\ *n* [F *repartie*, fr. *repartir* to retort, fr. MF, fr. *re-* + *partir* to divide — more at PART] **1 a** : a quick and witty reply **b** : a succession or interchange of clever retorts : amusing and usu. light sparring with words **2** : adroitness and cleverness in reply : skill in repartee ***syn*** see WIT
¹re·par·ti·tion \ˌrep-ˌär-'tish-ən, ˌrē-ˌpär-\ *n* [prob. fr. Sp *repartición*, fr. *repartir* to distribute, fr. *re-* + *partir* to divide, fr. L *partire* — more at PART] : DISTRIBUTION
²re·par·ti·tion \ˌrē-ˌpär-'tish-ən\ *n* [*re-* + *partition*] : a second or additional dividing or distribution
re·pass \(ˈ)rē-'pas\ *vb* [ME *repassen*, fr. MF *repasser*, fr. OF, fr. *re-* + *passer* to pass] *vi* : to pass again esp. in the opposite direction : RETURN ~ *vt* **1** : to pass through, over, or by again ⟨~ the house⟩ **2** : to cause to pass again **3** : to adopt again ⟨~*ed* the resolution⟩ — **re·pas·sage** \-'pas-ij\ *n*
¹re·past \ri-'past, 'rē-ˌ\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. OF, fr. *repaistre* to feed, fr. *re-* + *paistre* to feed, fr. L *pascere* — more at FOOD] **1** : something taken as food : MEAL **2** : the act or time of taking food
²re·past \ri-'past\ *vt*, *obs* : FEED ~ *vi* : to take food : FEAST
re·pa·tri·ate \(ˈ)rē-'pā-trē-ˌāt, -'pa-\ *vt* **-at·ed; -at·ing** [LL *repatriatus*, pp. of *repatriare* to go back to one's country — more at REPAIR] : to restore or return to the country of origin, allegiance, or citizenship ⟨~ prisoners of war⟩ — **re·pa·tri·ate** \-trē-ət, -trē-ˌāt\ *n* — **re·pa·tri·a·tion** \(ˌ)rē-ˌpā-trē-'ā-shən, -ˌpa-\ *n*
re·pay \(ˈ)rē-'pā\ *vb* **-paid** \-'pād\; **-pay·ing** *vt* **1 a** : to pay back : REFUND ⟨~ a loan⟩ **b** : to give or inflict in return or requital ⟨~ evil for evil⟩ **2** : to make a return payment to : COMPENSATE, REQUITE **3** : to make requital for : RECOMPENSE ⟨a company which ~*s* hard work⟩ ~ *vi* : to make return payment or requital ***syn*** see PAY — **re·pay·able** \-'pā-ə-bəl\ *adj* — **re·pay·ment** \-'pā-mənt\ *n*
re·peal \ri-'pē(ə)l\ *vt* [ME *repelen*, fr. MF *repeler*, fr. OF, fr. *re-* + *apeler* to appeal, call] **1** : to rescind or annul by authoritative act; *esp* : to revoke or abrogate by legislative enactment **2** : ABANDON, RENOUNCE **3** *obs* : to summon to return : RECALL — **repeal** *n* — **re·peal·able** \-'pē-lə-bəl\ *adj*
re·peal·er \ri-'pē-lər\ *n* : one that repeals; *specif* : a legislative act that abrogates an earlier act

[1]re·peat \ri-'pēt\ *vb* [ME *repeten*, fr. MF *repeter*, fr. L *repetere*, fr. *re-* + *petere* to go to, seek — more at FEATHER] *vt* **1 a** : to say or state again **b** : to say over from memory : RECITE **c** : to say after another **2 a** : to make, do, or perform again ⟨~ an experiment⟩ **b** : to make appear again : REPRODUCE ⟨a program ~*ed* on tape⟩ **c** : to go through or experience again ⟨had to ~ third grade⟩ **3** : to express or present (oneself) again in the same words, terms, or form ~ *vi* : to say, do, or accomplish something again; *esp* : to vote illegally by casting more than one ballot in an election — **re·peat·abil·i·ty** \-ˌpēt-ə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* — **re·peat·able** \-'pēt-ə-bəl\ *adj*
syn **1** REPEAT, ITERATE, REITERATE *shared meaning element* : to say or do again
2 see QUOTE

[2]re·peat \ri-'pēt, 'rē-ˌ\ *n* **1** : the act of repeating **2 a** : something repeated : REPETITION **b** : a musical passage to be repeated in performance; *also* : a sign placed before and after such a passage **c** : a usu. transcribed repetition of a radio or television program



repeats 2b

re·peat·ed \ri-'pēt-əd\ *adj* **1** : renewed or recurring again and again ⟨~ changes of plan⟩ **2** : said, done, or presented again

re·peat·ed·ly *adv* : again and again

re·peat·er \ri-'pēt-ər\ *n* : one that repeats: as **a** : one who relates or recites **b** : a watch or clock with a striking mechanism that upon pressure of a spring will indicate the time in hours or quarters and sometimes minutes **c** : a firearm having a magazine that holds a number of cartridges loaded into the firing chamber automatically by the action of the piece **d** : an habitual violator of the laws **e** : one who votes illegally by casting more than one ballot in an election **f** : a student enrolled in a class or course for a second or subsequent time

re·peat·ing *adj, of a firearm* : designed to fire several bullets rapidly in succession

repeating decimal *n* : a decimal in which after a certain point a particular digit or sequence of digits repeats itself indefinitely — compare TERMINATING DECIMAL

re·pe·chage \ˌrep-ə-'shäzh, rə-ˌpesh-'äzh\ *n* [F *repêchage* second chance, reexamination for a candidate who has failed, fr. *repêcher* to fish out, rescue, fr. *re-* + *pêcher* to fish, fr. L *piscari* — more at PISCATORY] : a trial heat (as in rowing) in which first-round losers are given another chance to qualify for the semifinals

re·pel \ri-'pel\ *vb* **re·pelled; re·pel·ling** [ME *repellen*, fr. L *repellere*, fr. *re-* + *pellere* to drive — more at FELT] *vt* **1 a** : to drive back : REPULSE **b** : to fight against : RESIST **2** : to turn away : REJECT ⟨*repelled* the insinuation⟩ **3 a** : to drive away : DISCOURAGE ⟨foul words and frowns must not ~ a lover —Shak.⟩ **b** : to be incapable of adhering to, mixing with, taking up, or holding **c** : to force away or apart or tend to do so by mutual action at a distance **4** : to cause aversion in : DISGUST ~ *vi* : to cause aversion — **re·pel·ler** *n*

re·pel·len·cy \ri-'pel-ən-sē\ *n* : the quality or capacity of repelling

[1]re·pel·lent *also* **re·pel·lant** \ri-'pel-ənt\ *adj* [L *repellent-, repellens*, prp. of *repellere*] **1** : serving or tending to drive away or ward off — often used in combination ⟨a mosquito-*repellent* spray⟩ **2** : arousing aversion or disgust : REPULSIVE ***syn*** see REPUGNANT ***ant*** attractive, pleasing — **re·pel·lent·ly** *adv*

[2]repellent *also* **repellant** *n* : something that repels; *esp* : a substance used to prevent insect attacks

[1]re·pent \ri-'pent\ *vb* [ME *repenten*, fr. OF *repentir*, fr. *re-* + *pentir* to be sorry, fr. L *paenitēre* — more at PENITENCE] *vi* **1** : to turn from sin and dedicate oneself to the amendment of one's life **2 a** : to feel regret or contrition **b** : to change one's mind ~ *vt* **1** : to cause to feel regret or contrition **2** : to feel sorrow, regret, or contrition for — **re·pent·er** *n*

[2]re·pent \'rē-pənt\ *adj* [L *repent-, repens*, prp. of *repere* to creep — more at REPTILE] : CREEPING, PROSTRATE

re·pen·tance \ri-'pent-[ə]n(t)s\ *n* : the action or process of repenting esp. for misdeeds or moral shortcomings ***syn*** see PENITENCE

re·pen·tant \-[ə]nt\ *adj* **1** : experiencing repentance : PENITENT **2** : expressive of repentance — **re·pen·tant·ly** *adv*

re·per·cus·sion \ˌrē-pər-'kəsh-ən, ˌrep-ər-\ *n* [L *repercussion-, repercussio*, fr. *repercussus*, pp. of *repercutere* to drive back, fr. *re-* + *percutere* to beat — more at PERCUSSION] **1** : REFLECTION, REVERBERATION **2 a** : an action or effect given or exerted in return : a reciprocal action or effect **b** : a widespread, indirect, or unforeseen effect of an act, action, or event — usu. used in pl. — **re·per·cus·sive** \-'kəs-iv\ *adj*

rep·er·toire \'rep-ə(r)-ˌtwär\ *n* [F *répertoire*, fr. LL *repertorium*] **1 a** : a list or supply of dramas, operas, pieces, or parts that a company or person is prepared to perform **b** : a supply of skills, devices, or expedients ⟨part of the ~ of a quarterback⟩; *broadly* : AMOUNT, SUPPLY ⟨an endless ~ of summer clothes⟩ **2 a** : the complete list or supply of dramas, operas, or musical works available for performance ⟨our modern orchestral ~⟩ **b** : the complete list or supply of skills, devices, or ingredients used in a particular field, occupation, or practice ⟨the ~ of literary criticism⟩ **c** : a list or supply of capabilities ⟨the instruction ~ of a computer⟩

rep·er·to·ry \'rep-ə(r)-ˌtōr-ē, -ˌtȯr-\ *n, pl* **-ries** [LL *repertorium* list, fr. L *repertus*, pp. of *reperire* to find, fr. *re-* + *parere* to produce — more at PARE] **1** : a place where something may be found : REPOSITORY **2 a** : REPERTOIRE **b** : a theater in which several different plays are presented in a season by a resident company

rep·e·tend \'rep-ə-ˌtend\ *n* [L *repetendus* to be repeated, gerundive of *repetere* to repeat] : a repeated sound, word, or phrase; *specif* : REFRAIN

rep·e·ti·tion \ˌrep-ə-'tish-ən\ *n* [L *repetition-, repetitio*, fr. *repetitus*, pp. of *repetere* to repeat] **1** : the act or an instance of repeating or being repeated **2** : MENTION, RECITAL — **rep·e·ti·tion·al** \-'tish-nəl, -ən-ᵊl\ *adj*

rep·e·ti·tious \-'tish-əs\ *adj* : characterized or marked by repetition; *esp* : tediously repeating — **rep·e·ti·tious·ly** *adv* — **rep·e·ti·tious·ness** *n*

re·pet·i·tive \ri-'pet-ət-iv\ *adj* : REPETITIOUS — **re·pet·i·tive·ly** *adv* — **re·pet·i·tive·ness** *n*

re·pine \ri-'pīn\ *vi* **re·pined; re·pin·ing** **1** : to feel or express dejection or discontent **2** : to long for something — **re·pin·er** *n*

repl *abbr* replace; replacement

re·place \ri-'plās\ *vt* **1** : to restore to a former place or position ⟨~ cards in a file⟩ **2** : to take the place of esp. as a substitute or successor **3** : to put something new in the place of ⟨~ a worn carpet⟩ — **re·place·able** \-'plā-sə-bəl\ *adj* — **re·plac·er** *n*
syn REPLACE, DISPLACE, SUPPLANT, SUPERSEDE *shared meaning element* : to put out of a usual or proper place or into the place of another

re·place·ment \ri-'plā-smənt\ *n* **1** : the action or process of replacing : the state of being replaced : SUBSTITUTION **2** : something that replaces; *esp* : an individual assigned to a military unit to replace a loss or complete a quota

re·plant \(')rē-'plant\ *vt* **1** : to plant again or anew **2** : to provide with new plants

[1]re·play \(')rē-'plā\ *vt* : to play again or over

[2]re·play \'rē-ˌplā\ *n* **1 a** : an act or instance of replaying **b** : the playing of a tape (as a videotape) **2** : REPETITION, REENACTMENT ⟨don't want a ~ of our old mistakes⟩

re·plead·er \(')rē-'plēd-ər\ *n* [*replead* (to plead again) + *-er* (as in *misnomer*)] **1** : a second legal pleading **2** : the right of pleading again granted usu. when the issue raised is immaterial or insufficient

re·plen·ish \ri-'plen-ish\ *vb* [ME *replenisshen*, fr. MF *repleniss-*, stem of *replenir* to fill, fr. OF, fr. *re-* + *plein* full, fr. L *plenus* — more at FULL] *vt* **1 a** : to fill with persons or animals : STOCK **b** *archaic* : to supply fully : PERFECT **c** : to fill with inspiration or power : NOURISH **2 a** : to fill or build up again ⟨~*ed* his glass⟩ **b** : to make good : REPLACE ~ *vi* : to become full : fill up again — **re·plen·ish·er** *n* — **re·plen·ish·ment** \-ish-mənt\ *n*

re·plete \ri-'plēt\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF & L; MF *replet*, fr. L *repletus*, pp. of *replēre* to fill up, fr. *re-* + *plēre* to fill — more at FULL] **1** : fully or abundantly provided or filled **2 a** : abundantly fed **b** : FAT, STOUT **3** : COMPLETE ***syn*** see FULL — **re·plete·ness** *n*

re·ple·tion \ri-'plē-shən\ *n* **1** : the act of eating to excess : the state of being fed to excess : SURFEIT **2** : the condition of being filled up or overcrowded **3** : fulfillment of a need or desire : SATISFACTION

[1]re·plev·in \ri-'plev-ən\ *n* [ME, fr. AF *replevine*, fr. *replevir* to give security, fr. OF, fr. *re-* + *plevir* to pledge, fr. (assumed) LL *plebere*] **1** : the recovery by a person of goods or chattels claimed to be wrongfully taken or detained upon the person's giving security to try the matter in court and return the goods if defeated in the action **2** : the writ or the common-law action whereby goods and chattels are replevied

[2]replevin *vt* : REPLEVY

[1]re·plevy \ri-'plev-ē\ *n, pl* **re·plev·ies** [ME, fr. AF *replevir*, v.] : REPLEVIN

[2]replevy *vt* **re·plev·ied; re·plevy·ing** : to take or get back by a writ for replevin — **re·plevi·able** \-ē-ə-bəl\ *adj*

rep·li·ca \'rep-li-kə\ *n* [It, repetition, fr. *replicare* to repeat, fr. LL, fr. L, to fold back — more at REPLY] **1** : a close reproduction or facsimile esp. by the maker of the original **2** : COPY, DUPLICATE

[1]rep·li·cate \'rep-lə-ˌkāt\ *vb* **-cat·ed; -cat·ing** [LL *replicatus*, pp. of *replicare*] *vt* **1** : DUPLICATE, REPEAT ⟨~ a statistical experiment⟩ **2** [L *replicatus*] : to fold or bend back ⟨*replicated* leaf⟩ ~ *vi* : to undergo replication : produce a replica of itself ⟨virus particles *replicating* in cells⟩ — **rep·li·ca·tive** \-ˌkāt-iv\ *adj*

[2]rep·li·cate \-li-kət\ *n* : one of several identical experiments, procedures, or samples

[3]replicate \-li-kət\ *adj* : MANIFOLD, REPEATED

rep·li·ca·tion \ˌrep-lə-'kā-shən\ *n* **1 a** : ANSWER, REPLY **b** (1) : an answer to a reply : REJOINDER (2) : a plaintiff's reply to a defendant's plea, answer, or counterclaim **2** : ECHO, REVERBERATION **3 a** : COPY, REPRODUCTION **b** : the action or process of reproducing **4** : performance of an experiment or procedure more than once; *esp* : systematic or random repetition of agricultural test rows or plats to reduce error

[1]re·ply \ri-'plī\ *vb* **re·plied; re·ply·ing** [ME *replien*, fr. MF *replier* to fold again, fr. L *replicare* to fold back, fr. *re-* + *plicare* to fold — more at PLY] *vi* **1 a** : to respond in words or writing **b** : ECHO, RESOUND **c** : to make a legal replication **2** : to do something in response; *specif* : to return gunfire or an attack ~ *vt* : to give as an answer ***syn*** see ANSWER — **re·pli·er** \-'plī(-ə)r\ *n*

[2]reply *n, pl* **replies** **1** : something said, written, or done in answer or response **2** : REPLICATION 1b(2)

[1]re·port \ri-'pō(ə)rt, -'pȯ(ə)rt\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. OF, fr. *reporter* to report, fr. L *reportare*, fr. *re-* + *portare* to carry — more at FARE] **1 a** : common talk or an account spread by common talk : RUMOR **b** : quality of reputation ⟨a man of good ~⟩ **2 a** : a usu. detailed account or statement ⟨a news ~⟩ **b** : an account or statement of a judicial opinion or decision **c** : a usu. formal record of the proceedings of a meeting or session **3** : an explosive noise — **on report** : subject to disciplinary action
syn REPORT, RUMOR, GOSSIP, HEARSAY *shared meaning element* : common talk or an instance of it that spreads rapidly

[2]report *vt* **1 a** : to give an account of : RELATE **b** : to describe as being in a specified state ⟨~*ed* him much improved⟩ **2 a** : to serve as carrier of (a message) **b** : to relate the words or sense of (something said) **c** : to make a written record or summary of **d** (1) : to watch for and write about the newsworthy aspects or developments of : COVER (2) : to prepare or present an account of for broadcast **3 a** (1) : to give a formal or official account or

statement of ⟨the treasurer ~*ed* a balance of ten dollars⟩ (2) : to return or present (a matter referred for consideration) with conclusions or recommendations **b** : to announce or relate as the result of investigation ⟨~*ed* no sign of disease⟩ **c** : to announce the presence, arrival, or sighting of **d** : to make known to the proper authorities ⟨~ a fire⟩ **e** : to make a charge of misconduct against ~ *vi* **1 a** : to give an account : TELL **b** : to present oneself **c** : to account for oneself ⟨~*ed* sick on Friday⟩ **2** : to make, issue, or submit a report **3** : to act in the capacity of a reporter — **re·port·able** \-'pōrt-ə-bəl, -'pȯrt-\ *adj*

re·port·age \ri-'pōrt-ij, -'pȯrt-, *esp for 2* ˌrep-ər-'täzh, ˌrep-ˌȯr-'\ *n* [F, fr. *reporter* to report] **1 a** : the act or process of reporting news **b** : something (as news) that is reported **2** : writing intended to give an account of observed or documented events

report card *n* : a report on a student that is periodically submitted by a school to the student's parents or guardian

re·port·ed·ly \ri-'pōrt-əd-lē, -'pȯrt-\ *adv* : according to report

re·port·er \ri-'pōrt-ər, -'pȯrt-\ *n* : one that reports: as **a** : one who makes authorized statements of law decisions or legislative proceedings **b** : one who makes a shorthand record of a speech or proceeding **c** (1) : one employed by a newspaper or magazine to gather and write news **c** (2) : one who broadcasts news — **re·por·to·ri·al** \ˌrep-ə(r)-'tōr-ē-əl, ˌrēp-, -'tȯr-\ *adj* — **re·por·to·ri·al·ly** \-ē-ə-lē\ *adv*

report out *vt* : to return after consideration and often with revisions to a legislative body for action ⟨after much debate the committee *reported* the bill *out*⟩

report stage *n* : the stage in the British legislative process preceding the third reading and concerned esp. with amendments and details

re·pos·al \ri-'pō-zəl\ *n, obs* : the act of reposing

[1]re·pose \ri-'pōz\ *vt* **re·posed; re·pos·ing** [ME *reposen* to replace, fr. L *reponere* (perf. indic. *reposui*)] **1** *archaic* : to put away or set down : DEPOSIT **2 a** : to place (as confidence or trust) in someone or something **b** : to place for control, management, or use

[2]repose *vb* **re·posed; re·pos·ing** [ME *reposen*, fr. MF *reposer*, fr. OF, fr. LL *repausare*, fr. L *re-* + LL *pausare* to stop, fr. L *pausa* pause] *vt* : to lay at rest ~ *vi* **1 a** : to lie at rest **b** : to lie dead ⟨*reposing* in state⟩ **c** : to remain still or concealed **2** : to take a rest **3** *archaic* : RELY **4** : to rest for support : LIE

[3]repose *n* **1 a** : a state of resting after exertion or strain; *esp* : rest in sleep **b** : eternal or heavenly rest ⟨pray for the ~ of a soul⟩ **2 a** : a place of rest **b** : PEACE, TRANQUILLITY ⟨the ~ of the bayous⟩ **c** : a harmony in the arrangement of parts and colors that is restful to the eye **3 a** : lack of activity : QUIESCENCE **b** : cessation or absence of activity, movement, or animation ⟨the appearance of his face in ~⟩ **4** : composure of manner : POISE

re·pose·ful \ri-'pōz-fəl\ *adj* : of a kind to induce ease and relaxation — **re·pose·ful·ly** \-fə-lē\ *adv* — **re·pose·ful·ness** *n*

re·pos·it *vt* **re·pos·it·ed** \-'päz-ət-əd, -'päz-təd\; **re·pos·it·ing** \-'päz-ət-iŋ, -'päz-tiŋ\ [L *repositus*, pp. of *reponere* to replace, fr. *re-* + *ponere* to place — more at POSITION] **1** \ri-'päz-ət\ : DEPOSIT, STORE **2** \(ˌ)rē-\ : to put back in place : REPLACE

[1]re·po·si·tion \ˌrē-pə-'zish-ən, ˌrep-ə-\ *n* : the act of repositing : the state of being reposited

[2]re·po·si·tion \ˌrē-pə-'zish-ən\ *vt* : to change the position of

[1]re·pos·i·to·ry \ri-'päz-ə-ˌtōr-ē, -ˌtȯr-\ *n, pl* **-ries** **1** : a place, room, or container where something is deposited or stored : DEPOSITORY **2** : a side altar in a Roman Catholic church where the consecrated Host is reserved from Maundy Thursday until Good Friday **3** : one that contains or stores something nonmaterial ⟨considered the book a ~ of knowledge⟩ **4** : a place or region richly supplied with a natural resource **5** : a person to whom something is confided or entrusted

[2]repository *adj, of a drug* : designed to act over a prolonged period

re·pos·sess \ˌrē-pə-'zes *also* -'ses\ *vt* **1 a** : to regain possession of **b** : to resume possession of in default of the payment of installments due **2** : to restore to possession — **re·pos·ses·sion** \-'zesh-ən *also* -'sesh-\ *n*

[1]re·pous·sé \rə-ˌpü-'sā, -'pü-ˌ\ *adj* [F] **1** : shaped or ornamented with patterns in relief made by hammering or pressing on the reverse side — used esp. of metal **2** : formed in relief

[2]repoussé *n* **1** : repoussé work **2** : repoussé decoration

re·pow·er \(ˌ)rē-'paù(-ə)r\ *vt* : to provide again or anew with power; *esp* : to provide (as a boat) with a new engine ~ *vi* : to repower something (as a boat)

repp *var of* REP

rep·re·hend \ˌrep-ri-'hend\ *vt* [ME *reprehenden*, fr. L *reprehendere*, lit., to hold back, fr. *re-* + *prehendere* to grasp — more at PREHENSILE] : to voice disapproval of : CENSURE ***syn*** see CRITICIZE

rep·re·hen·si·ble \ˌrep-ri-'hen(t)-sə-bəl\ *adj* : worthy of or deserving reprehension : CULPABLE — **rep·re·hen·si·bil·i·ty** \-ˌhen(t)-sə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* — **rep·re·hen·si·ble·ness** \-'hen(t)-sə-bəl-nəs\ *n* — **rep·re·hen·si·bly** \-blē\ *adv*

rep·re·hen·sion \-'hen-chən\ *n* [ME *reprehensioun*, fr. MF or L; MF *reprehension*, fr. L *reprehension-*, *reprehensio*, fr. *reprehensus*, pp. of *reprehendere*] : the act of reprehending : CENSURE

rep·re·hen·sive \-'hen(t)-siv\ *adj* : serving to reprehend : conveying reprehension or reproof

rep·re·sent \ˌrep-ri-'zent\ *vb* [ME *representen*, fr. MF *representer*, fr. L *repraesentare*, fr. *re-* + *praesentare* to present] *vt* **1** : to bring clearly before the mind : PRESENT ⟨a book which ~*s* the character of early America⟩ **2** : to serve as a sign or symbol of ⟨the flag ~*s* our country⟩ **3** : to portray or exhibit in art : DEPICT **4** : to serve as the counterpart or image of : TYPIFY ⟨a movie hero who ~*s* the ideals of the culture⟩ **5 a** : to produce on the stage **b** : to act the part or role of **6 a** (1) : to take the place of in some respect (2) : to act in the place of or for usu. by legal right **b** : to serve esp. in a legislative body by delegated authority usu. resulting from election **7** : to describe as having a specified character or quality ⟨~*s* himself as a friend of the workingman⟩ **8 a** : to give one's impression and judgment of : state in a manner intended to affect action or judgment : ADVOCATE **b** : to point out in protest or remonstrance **9** : to serve as a specimen, example, or instance of **10 a** : to form an image or representation of in the mind **b** (1) : to apprehend (an object) by means of an idea (2) : to recall in memory **11** : to correspond to in essence : CONSTITUTE ~ *vi* : to make representations against something : PROTEST — **rep·re·sent·able** \-ə-bəl\ *adj* — **rep·re·sent·er** *n*

re–pre·sent \ˌrē-pri-'zent\ *vt* : to present again or anew — **re–pre·sen·ta·tion** \'rē-ˌprē-ˌzen-'tā-shən, -ˌprez-ᵊn-, -ˌprēz-ᵊn-\ *n*

rep·re·sen·ta·tion \ˌrep-ri-ˌzen-'tā-shən, -zən-\ *n* **1** : one that represents: as **a** : an artistic likeness or image **b** (1) : a statement or account made to influence opinion or action (2) : an incidental or collateral statement of fact on the faith of which a contract is entered into **c** : a dramatic production or performance **d** (1) : a usu. formal statement made against something or to effect a change (2) : a usu. formal protest **2** : the act or action of representing : the state of being represented: as **a** : REPRESENTATIONALISM 2 **b** (1) : the action or fact of one person standing for another so as to have the rights and obligations of the person represented (2) : the substitution of an individual or class in place of a person (as a child for a deceased parent) **c** : the action of representing or the fact of being represented esp. in a legislative body **3** : the body of persons representing a constituency — **rep·re·sen·ta·tion·al** \-shnəl, -shən-ᵊl\ *adj*

rep·re·sen·ta·tion·al·ism \-shnəl-ˌiz-əm, -shən-ᵊl-\ *n* **1** : the doctrine that the immediate object of knowledge is an idea in the mind distinct from the external object which is the occasion of perception **2** : the theory or practice of realistic representation in art — **rep·re·sen·ta·tion·al·ist** \-əst\ *n*

[1]rep·re·sen·ta·tive \ˌrep-ri-'zent-ət-iv\ *adj* **1** : serving to represent **2 a** : standing or acting for another esp. through delegated authority **b** : of, based on, or constituting a government in which the many are represented by persons chosen from among them usu. by election **3** : serving as a typical or characteristic example ⟨a ~ housewife⟩ **4** : of or relating to representation or representationalism — **rep·re·sen·ta·tive·ly** *adv* — **rep·re·sen·ta·tive·ness** *n* — **rep·re·sen·ta·tiv·i·ty** \-ˌzent-ə-'tiv-ət-ē\ *n*

[2]representative *n* **1** : a typical example of a group, class, or quality : SPECIMEN **2** : one that represents another or others: as **a** (1) : one that represents a constituency as a member of a legislative body (2) : a member of the house of representatives of the U.S. Congress or a state legislature **b** : one that represents another as agent, deputy, substitute, or delegate usu. being invested with the authority of the principal **c** : one that represents a business organization **d** : one that represents another as successor or heir

re·press \ri-'pres\ *vb* [ME *repressen*, fr. L *repressus*, pp. of *reprimere* to check, fr. *re-* + *premere* to press — more at PRESS] *vt* **1 a** : to check by or as if by pressure : CURB ⟨injustice was ~*ed*⟩ **b** : to put down by force : SUBDUE ⟨~ a disturbance⟩ **2 a** : to hold in by self-control ⟨~*ed* a laugh⟩ **b** : to prevent the natural or normal expression, activity, or development of ⟨~*ed* his anger⟩ **3** : to exclude from consciousness **4** : to inactivate (a gene) by blocking ~ *vi* : to take repressive action ***syn*** see SUPPRESS — **re·press·ibil·i·ty** \-ˌpres-ə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* — **re·press·ible** \-'pres-ə-bəl\ *adj* — **re·pres·sive** \-'pres-iv\ *adj* — **re·pres·sive·ly** *adv* — **re·pres·sive·ness** *n*

re–press \(ˌ)rē-'pres\ *vt* : to press again ⟨~ a record⟩

re·pressed \ri-'prest\ *adj* **1** : subjected to or marked by repression **2** : characterized by restraint

re·pres·sion \ri-'presh-ən\ *n* **1 a** : the action or process of repressing : the state of being repressed ⟨~ of unpopular opinions⟩ **b** : an instance of repressing ⟨racial ~*s*⟩ **2 a** : a process by which unacceptable desires or impulses are excluded from consciousness and left to operate in the unconscious **b** : an item so excluded — **re·pres·sion·ist** \-(ə-)nəst\ *adj*

re·pres·sor \ri-'pres-ər\ *n* [NL] : one that represses; *esp* : a product of the action of a regulator gene that interacts with a genetic operator and inhibits its function

re·priev·al \ri-'prē-vəl\ *n, archaic* : REPRIEVE

[1]re·prieve \ri-'prēv\ *vt* **re·prieved; re·priev·ing** [perh. fr. MF *repris*, pp. of *reprendre* to take back] **1** : to delay the punishment of (as a condemned prisoner) **2** : to give relief or deliverance to for a time

[2]reprieve *n* **1 a** : the act of reprieving : the state of being reprieved **b** : a formal temporary suspension of the execution of a sentence esp. of death **2** : an order or warrant for a reprieve **3** : a temporary respite (as from pain or trouble)

[1]rep·ri·mand \'rep-rə-ˌmand\ *n* [F *réprimande*, fr. L *reprimenda*, fem. of *reprimendus*, gerundive of *reprimere* to check] : a severe or formal reproof

[2]reprimand *vt* : to reprove sharply or censure formally usu. from a position of authority ***syn*** see REPROVE

[1]re·print \(ˌ)rē-'print\ *vt* : to print again : make a reprint of

[2]re·print \'rē-ˌprint, (ˌ)rē-'\ *n* : a reproduction of printed matter: as **a** : a subsequent printing of a book already published that preserves the identical text of the previous printing **b** : OFFPRINT **c** : matter (as an article) that has appeared in print before

re·print·er \(ˌ)rē-'print-ər\ *n* : one that publishes a reprint

re·pri·sal \ri-'prī-zəl\ *n* [ME *reprisail*, fr. MF *reprisaille*, fr. OIt *ripresaglia*, fr. *ripreso*, pp. of *riprendere* to take back, fr. *ri-* re- (fr. L *re-*) + *prendere* to take, fr. L *prehendere* — more at PREHENSILE] **1 a** : the act or practice in international law of resorting to force short of war in retaliation for damage or loss suffered **b** : an instance of such action **2** *obs* : PRIZE **3** : the regaining of something (as by recapture) **4** : something (as a sum of money) given or paid in restitution — usu. used in pl. **5** : a retaliatory act

[1]re·prise \ri-'prēz, *1 is also* -'prīz\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, lit., action of taking back, fr. OF, fr. *reprendre* to take back, fr. *re-* + *prendre* to take, fr. L *prehendere*] **1** : a deduction or charge made yearly out of a manor or estate — usu. used in pl. **2** : a recurrence, renewal, or resumption of an action **3 a** : a musical repetition: (1) : the repetition of the exposition preceding the development (2) : RECAPITULATION **b** : a repeated performance : REPETITION

[2]re·prise \ri-'prīz, *3 is* -'prēz\ *vt* **re·prised; re·pris·ing** [MF *reprise* action of taking back] **1** *archaic* : to take back; *esp* : to recover by force **2** *archaic* : COMPENSATE **3** : to repeat the performance of

re·pris·ti·nate \(')rē-'pris-tə-ˌnāt\ *vt* **-nat·ed; -nat·ing** [*re-* + *pristine* + *-ate*] : to restore to an original state or condition — **re·pris·ti·na·tion** \(ˌ)rē-ˌpris-tə-'nā-shən\ *n*

re·pro \'rē-(ˌ)prō\ *n, pl* **repros** [short for *reproduction*] : a clear sharp proof made esp. from a letterpress printing surface to serve as photographic copy for a printing plate

¹re·proach \ri-'prōch\ *n* [ME *reproche*, fr. MF, fr. OF, fr. *reprochier* to reproach, fr. (assumed) VL *repropiare*, fr. L *re-* + *prope* near — more at APPROACH] **1 a** : a cause or occasion of blame, discredit, or disgrace **b** : DISCREDIT, DISGRACE **2** : the act or action of reproaching or disapproving ⟨was beyond ~⟩ **3** : an expression of rebuke or disapproval **4** *obs* : one subjected to censure or scorn — **re·proach·ful** \-fəl\ *adj* — **re·proach·ful·ly** \-fə-lē\ *adv* — **re·proach·ful·ness** *n*

²reproach *vt* **1** : to make (something) a matter of reproach **2** : to express disappointment in or displeasure with (a person) for conduct that is blameworthy or in need of amendment **3** : to bring into discredit ***syn*** see REPROVE — **re·proach·able** \-'prō-chə-bəl\ *adj* — **re·proach·er** *n* — **re·proach·ing·ly** \-'prō-chiŋ-lē\ *adv*

rep·ro·bance \'rep-rə-bən(t)s\ *n, archaic* : REPROBATION

¹rep·ro·bate \'rep-rə-ˌbāt\ *vt* **-bat·ed; -bat·ing** [ME *reprobaten*, fr. LL *reprobatus*, pp. of *reprobare* — more at REPROVE] **1** : to condemn strongly as unworthy, unacceptable, or evil ⟨*reprobating* the laxity of the age⟩ **2** : to foreordain to damnation **3** : to refuse to accept : REJECT ***syn*** see CRITICIZE — **rep·ro·ba·tive** \'rep-rə-ˌbāt-iv\ *adj* — **rep·ro·ba·to·ry** \-bə-ˌtōr-ē, -ˌtȯr-\ *adj*

²reprobate *adj* **1** *archaic* : rejected as worthless or not standing a test : CONDEMNED **2 a** : foreordained to damnation **b** : morally abandoned : DEPRAVED **3** : expressing or involving reprobation **4** : of, relating to, or characteristic of a reprobate

³reprobate *n* : a reprobate person

rep·ro·ba·tion \ˌrep-rə-'bā-shən\ *n* : the act of reprobating or the state of being reprobated

re·pro·cess \(')rē-'präs-ˌes, -'prōs-, -əs\ *vt* : to subject to a special process or treatment in preparation for reuse

re·pro·duce \ˌrē-prə-'d(y)üs\ *vt* : to produce again: as **a** : to produce (new individuals of the same kind) by a sexual or asexual process **b** : to cause to exist again or anew ⟨~ water from steam⟩ **c** : to imitate closely ⟨sound-effects men can ~ the sound of thunder⟩ **d** : to present again **e** : to make a representation (as an image or copy) of ⟨~ a face on canvas⟩ **f** : to revive mentally : RECALL **g** : to translate (a recording) into sound ~ *vi* **1** : to undergo reproduction **2** : to produce offspring — **re·pro·duc·er** *n* — **re·pro·duc·ibil·i·ty** \-ˌd(y)ü-sə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* — **re·pro·duc·ible** \-'d(y)ü-sə-bəl\ *adj*

re·pro·duc·tion \ˌrē-prə-'dək-shən\ *n* **1** : the act or process of reproducing; *specif* : the process by which plants and animals give rise to offspring and which fundamentally consists of the segregation of a portion of the parental body by a sexual or an asexual process and its subsequent growth and differentiation into a new individual **2** : something reproduced : COPY **3** : young seedling trees in a forest

¹re·pro·duc·tive \ˌrē-prə-'dək-tiv\ *adj* : of, relating to, or capable of reproduction — **re·pro·duc·tive·ly** *adv*

²reproductive *n* : an actual or potential parent; *specif* : a sexually functional social insect

re·pro·gram \(')rē-'prō-ˌgram, -grəm\ *vt* : to rewrite a program for (as a computer) ~ *vi* : to rewrite a computer program

re·prog·ra·phy \ri-'präg-rə-fē\ *n* [*repro*duction + *-graphy*] : facsimile reproduction (as by photocopying) of graphic matter — **re·prog·ra·pher** \-rə-fər\ *n* — **re·pro·graph·ic** \ˌrē-prə-'graf-ik, ˌre-\ *adj* — **re·pro·graph·ics** \-iks\ *n pl*

re·proof \ri-'prüf\ *n* [ME *reprof*, fr. MF *reprove*, fr. OF, fr. *reprover*] : criticism for a fault : REBUKE

re·pro·por·tion \ˌrē-p(r)ə-'pōr-shən, -'pȯr-\ *vt* : to change the proportions of

re·prove \ri-'prüv\ *vb* **re·proved; re·prov·ing** [ME *reproven*, fr. MF *reprover*, fr. LL *reprobare* to disapprove, condemn, fr. L *re-* + *probare* to test, approve — more at PROVE] *vt* **1** : to call attention to the remissness of usu. with a kindly intent to correct or assist ⟨~ a child's bad manners⟩ **2** : to express disapproval of : CENSURE ⟨~ a child for his bad manners⟩ **3** *obs* : DISPROVE, REFUTE **4** *obs* : CONVINCE, CONVICT ~ *vi* : to express rebuke or reproof — **re·prov·er** *n* — **re·prov·ing·ly** \-'prü-viŋ-lē\ *adv*

syn REPROVE, REBUKE, REPRIMAND, ADMONISH, REPROACH, CHIDE *shared meaning element* : to criticize adversely

rept *abbr* report

¹rep·tile \'rep-tᵊl, -ˌtīl\ *n* [ME *reptil*, fr. MF or LL; MF *reptile* (fem.), fr. LL *reptile* (neut.), fr. neut. of *reptilis* creeping, fr. L *reptus*, pp. of *repere* to creep; akin to OHG *reba* tendril] **1** : an animal that crawls or moves on its belly (as a snake) or on small short legs (as a lizard) **2 a** : any of a class (Reptilia) of air-breathing vertebrates that include the alligators and crocodiles, lizards, snakes, turtles, and extinct related forms and are characterized by a completely ossified skeleton with a single occipital condyle, a distinct quadrate bone usu. immovably articulated with the skull, ribs attached to the sternum, and a body usu. covered with scales or bony plates **b** : AMPHIBIAN **3** : a groveling or despised person

²reptile *adj* : characteristic of a reptile : REPTILIAN

¹rep·til·ian \rep-'til-ē-ən, -'til-yən\ *adj* **1** : resembling or having the characteristics of the reptiles **2** : of or relating to the reptiles

²reptilian *n* : REPTILE 2a

re·pub·lic \ri-'pəb-lik\ *n* [F *république*, fr. MF *republique*, fr. L *respublica*, fr. *res* thing, wealth + *publica*, fem. of *publicus* public — more at REAL, PUBLIC] **1 a** (1) : a government having a chief of state who is not a monarch and who in modern times is usu. a president (2) : a political unit (as a nation) having such a form of government **b** (1) : a government in which supreme power resides in a body of citizens entitled to vote and is exercised by elected officers and representatives responsible to them and governing according to law (2) : a political unit (as a nation) having such a form of government **c** : a usu. specified republican government of a political unit ⟨the French Fourth *Republic*⟩ **2** : a body of persons freely engaged in a specified activity ⟨the ~ of letters⟩ **3** : a constituent political and territorial unit of the U.S.S.R. or Yugoslavia

¹re·pub·li·can \ri-'pəb-li-kən\ *adj* **1 a** : of, relating to, or having the characteristics of a republic **b** : favoring, supporting, or advocating a republic **c** : belonging or appropriate to one living in or supporting a republic ⟨~ simplicity⟩ **2** *cap* **a** : DEMOCRATIC-REPUBLICAN **b** : of, relating to, or constituting the one of the two major political parties evolving in the U.S. in the mid-19th century that is usu. primarily associated with business, financial, and some agricultural interests and is held to favor a restricted governmental role in social and economic life

²republican *n* **1** : one that favors or supports a republican form of government **2** *cap* **a** : a member of a political party advocating republicanism **b** : a member of the Democratic-Republican party or of the Republican party of the U.S.

re·pub·li·can·ism \ri-'pəb-li-kə-ˌniz-əm\ *n* **1** : adherence to or sympathy for a republican form of government **2** : the principles or theory of republican government **3** *cap* **a** : the principles, policy, or practices of the Republican party of the U.S. **b** : the Republican party or its members

re·pub·li·can·ize \-kə-ˌnīz\ *vt* **-ized; -iz·ing** : to make republican in character, form, or principle

re·pub·li·ca·tion \(ˌ)rē-ˌpəb-lə-'kā-shən\ *n* **1** : the act or action of republishing : the state of being republished **2** : something that has been republished

re·pub·lish \(')rē-'pəb-lish\ *vt* **1** : to publish again or anew **2** : to execute (a will) anew — **re·pub·lish·er** *n*

re·pu·di·ate \ri-'pyüd-ē-ˌāt\ *vt* **-at·ed; -at·ing** [L *repudiatus*, pp. of *repudiare*, fr. *repudium* divorce] **1** : to divorce or separate formally from (a woman) **2** : to refuse to have anything to do with : DISOWN **3 a** : to refuse to accept; *esp* : to reject as unauthorized or as having no binding force **b** : to reject as untrue or unjust ⟨~ a charge⟩ **4** : to refuse to acknowledge or pay ***syn*** see DECLINE ***ant*** adopt — **re·pu·di·a·tor** \-ˌāt-ər\ *n*

re·pu·di·a·tion \ri-ˌpyüd-ē-'ā-shən\ *n* : the act of repudiating : the state of being repudiated; *esp* : the refusal of public authorities to acknowledge or pay a debt — **re·pu·di·a·tion·ist** \-sh(ə-)nəst\ *n*

re·pugn \ri-'pyün\ *vb* [ME *repugnen*, fr. MF & L; MF *repugner*, fr. L *repugnare*] *vi, archaic* : to offer opposition, objection, or resistance ~ *vt* : to contend against : OPPOSE

re·pug·nance \ri-'pəg-nən(t)s\ *n* **1 a** : the quality or fact of being contradictory or inconsistent **b** : an instance of such contradiction or inconsistency **2** : strong dislike, distaste, or antagonism

re·pug·nan·cy \-nən-sē\ *n, pl* **-cies** : REPUGNANCE

re·pug·nant \-nənt\ *adj* [ME, opposed, contradictory, incompatible, fr. MF, fr. L *repugnant-, repugnans*, prp. of *repugnare* to fight against, fr. *re-* + *pugnare* to fight — more at PUNGENT] **1** : INCOMPATIBLE, INCONSISTENT **2** *archaic* : HOSTILE **3** : exciting distaste or aversion — **re·pug·nant·ly** *adv*

syn REPUGNANT, REPELLENT, ABHORRENT, DISTASTEFUL, OBNOXIOUS, INVIDIOUS *shared meaning element* : so alien or unlikable as to arouse antagonism and aversion ***ant*** congenial

¹re·pulse \ri-'pəls\ *vt* **re·pulsed; re·puls·ing** [L *repulsus*, pp. of *repellere* to repel] **1** : to drive or beat back : REPEL **2** : to repel by discourtesy, coldness, or denial **3** : to cause repulsion in

²repulse *n* **1** : REBUFF, REJECTION **2** : the action of repelling an attacker : the fact of being repelled

re·pul·sion \ri-'pəl-shən\ *n* **1** : the action of repulsing : the state of being repulsed **2** : the action of repelling : the force with which bodies, particles, or like forces repel one another **3** : a feeling of aversion : REPUGNANCE

re·pul·sive \-siv\ *adj* **1** : tending to repel or reject : COLD, FORBIDDING **2** : serving or able to repulse **3** : arousing aversion or disgust — **re·pul·sive·ly** *adv* — **re·pul·sive·ness** *n*

rep·u·ta·ble \'rep-yət-ə-bəl\ *adj* **1** : enjoying good repute : held in esteem **2** : employed widely or sanctioned by good writers — **rep·u·ta·bil·i·ty** \ˌrep-yət-ə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* — **rep·u·ta·bly** \'rep-yət-ə-blē\ *adv*

rep·u·ta·tion \ˌrep-yə-'tā-shən\ *n* **1 a** : overall quality or character as seen or judged by people in general **b** : recognition by other people of some characteristic or ability ⟨has the ~ of being clever⟩ **2** : a place in public esteem or regard : good name

¹re·pute \ri-'pyüt\ *vt* **re·put·ed; re·put·ing** [ME *reputen*, fr. MF *reputer*, fr. L *reputare* to reckon up, think over, fr. *re-* + *putare* to reckon — more at PAVE] : BELIEVE, CONSIDER

²repute *n* **1** : the character or status commonly ascribed to one : REPUTATION **2** : the state of being favorably known, spoken of, or esteemed

re·put·ed *adj* **1** : having a good repute : REPUTABLE **2** : being such according to reputation or popular belief

re·put·ed·ly *adv* : according to reputation or general belief

req *abbr* **1** require; required **2** requisition

reqd *abbr* required

¹re·quest \ri-'kwest\ *n* [ME *requeste*, fr. MF, fr. (assumed) VL *requaesta*, fr. fem. of *requaestus*, pp. of *requaerere* to require] **1** : the act or an instance of asking for something **2** : something asked for **3** : the condition or fact of being requested ⟨available on ~⟩ **4** : the state of being sought after : DEMAND

²request *vt* **1** : to make a request to or of ⟨~*ed* her to write a paper⟩ **2** : to ask as a favor or privilege ⟨he ~*s* to be excused⟩ **3** *obs* : to ask (a person) to come or go to a thing or place **4** : to ask for ⟨~*ed* a brief delay⟩ ***syn*** see ASK — **re·quest·er** *or* **re·quest·or** \-'kwes-tər\ *n*

re·qui·em \'rek-wē-əm *also* 'rāk- *or* 'rēk-\ *n* [ME, fr. L (first word of the introit of the requiem mass), accus. of *requies* rest, fr. *re-* + *quies* quiet, rest — more at WHILE] **1** : a mass for the dead **2 a** : a solemn chant (as a dirge) for the repose of the dead **b** : something that resembles such a solemn chant **3** *cap* **a** : a musical setting of the mass for the dead **b** : a musical composition in honor of the dead

re·qui·es·cat \ˌrek-wē-'es-ˌkät; -ˌat; ˌrā-kwē-'es-ˌkät\ *n* [L, may he (or she) rest, fr. *requiescere* to rest, fr. *re-* + *quiescere* to be quiet, fr. *quies*] : a prayer for the repose of a dead person

re·quin \rə-'kan\ *n* [F] : any of several voracious sharks (family Carcharhinidae)

re·quire \ri-'kwī(ə)r\ *vb* **re·quired; re·quir·ing** [ME *requeren*, fr. MF *requerre*, fr. (assumed) VL *requaerere* to seek for, need, require, alter. of L *requirere*, fr. *re-* + *quaerere* to seek, ask] *vt* **1 a** : to claim or ask for by right and authority ⟨this night your soul is *required* of you —Lk 12:20 (RSV)⟩ **b** *archaic* : REQUEST **2 a** : to call for as suitable or appropriate ⟨the occasion ~*s* formal dress⟩ **b** : to demand as necessary or essential : have a compelling need for ⟨all living beings ~ food⟩ **3** : to impose a compulsion or command on : COMPEL **4** *chiefly Brit* : to feel or be obliged — used with a following infinitive ⟨one does not ~ to be a specialist — Elizabeth Bowen⟩ ~ *vi, archaic* : ASK ***syn*** see DEMAND, LACK

re·quire·ment \-'kwī(ə)r-mənt\ *n* : something required: **a** : something wanted or needed : NECESSITY ⟨production was not sufficient to satisfy ~*s* for cars⟩ **b** : an essential requisite : CONDITION ⟨failed to meet the school's ~*s*⟩

req·ui·site \'rek-wə-zət\ *adj* [ME, fr. L *requisitus*, pp. of *requirere*] : ESSENTIAL, NECESSARY — **requisite** *n* — **req·ui·site·ness** *n*

req·ui·si·tion \ˌrek-wə-'zish-ən\ *n* [MF or ML; MF, fr. ML *requisition-, requisitio*, fr. L, act of searching, fr. *requisitus*] **1 a** : the act of formally requiring or calling upon someone to perform an action **b** : a formal demand made by one nation upon another for the surrender or extradition of a fugitive from justice **2 a** : the act of requiring something to be furnished **b** : a demand or application made usu. with authority: as (1) : a demand made by military authorities upon civilians for supplies or other needs (2) : a written request for something authorized but not made available automatically **3** : the state of being in demand or use — **requisition** *vt*

re·quit·al \ri-'kwīt-ᵊl\ *n* **1** : the act or action of requiting : the state of being requited **2** : something given in return, compensation, or retaliation

re·quite \ri-'kwīt\ *vt* **re·quit·ed; re·quit·ing** [*re-* + obs. *quite* (to quit, pay), fr. ME *quiten* — more at QUIT] **1 a** : to make return for : REPAY **b** : to make retaliation for : AVENGE **2** : to make suitable return to for a benefit or service or for an injury ***syn*** see RECIPROCATE — **re·quit·er** *n*

re·ra·di·ate \(ˌ)rē-'rād-ē-ˌāt\ *vt* : to radiate again or anew; *esp* : to emit (energy) in the form of radiation after absorbing incident radiation — **re·ra·di·a·tion** \(ˌ)rē-ˌrād-ē-'ā-shən\ *n*

rere·dos \'rer-ə-ˌdäs *also* 'rir-ə-ˌdäs *or* 'ri(ə)r-ˌdäs\ *n* [ME, fr. AF *areredos*, fr. MF *arrere* behind + *dos* back, fr. L *dorsum* — more at ARREAR] **1** : a usu. ornamental wood or stone screen or partition wall behind an altar **2** : the back of a fireplace or open hearth

[1]re·re·lease \ˌrē-ri-'lēs\ *vt* : to release (as a movie or record) again

[2]rerelease *n* : something that is rereleased

rere·mouse \'ri(ə)r-ˌmaůs\ *n* [ME *reremous*, fr. OE *hrēremūs*, prob. fr. *hrēran* to stir + *mūs* mouse] *chiefly dial* : BAT

rereward *n* [ME *rerewarde*, fr. AF, fr. OF *rere* behind + ONF *warde* guard; akin to OF *garde* guard — more at REAR GUARD] *obs* : REAR GUARD

[1]re·run \(ˈ)rē-'rən\ *vt* **-ran** \-'ran\; **-run; -run·ning** : to run again or anew

[2]re·run \'rē-ˌrən, (ˈ)rē-'\ *n* : the act or action or an instance of rerunning : REPETITION; *esp* : a presentation of a motion-picture film or television program after its first run

[1]res \'rās, 'rēz\ *n, pl* **res** [L — more at REAL] : a particular thing : MATTER — used esp. in legal phrases

[2]res *abbr* **1** research **2** reserve **3** residence **4** resolution

RES *abbr* reticuloendothelial system

res ad·ju·di·ca·ta \'rē-zə-ˌjüd-i-'kät-ə\ *n* [LL] : RES JUDICATA

re·sail \(ˈ)rē-'sā(ə)l\ *vi* : to sail back or again

re·sal·able \(ˈ)rē-'sā-lə-bəl\ *adj* : fit for resale

re·sale \'rē-ˌsāl, (ˈ)rē-'sā(ə)l\ *n* **1** : the act of selling again usu. to a new party **2 a** : a secondhand sale **b** : an additional sale to the same buyer

re·scale \(ˈ)rē-'skā(ə)l\ *vt* : to plan, establish, or formulate on a new and usu. smaller scale

re·scind \ri-'sind\ *vt* [L *rescindere* to annul, fr. *re-* + *scindere* to cut — more at SHED] **1** : to take away : REMOVE **2 a** : to take back : ANNUL, CANCEL ⟨refused to ~ his harsh order⟩ **b** : to abrogate (a contract) by restoring to the opposite party what one has received from him **3** : to make void (as an act) by action of the enacting authority or a superior authority : REPEAL — **re·scind·er** *n* — **re·scind·ment** \-'sin(d)-mənt\ *n*

re·scis·sion \ri-'sizh-ən\ *n* [LL *rescission-, rescissio*, fr. L *rescissus*, pp. of *rescindere*] : an act of rescinding

re·scis·so·ry \-'siz-ə-rē, -'sis-\ *adj* : relating to or tending to or having the effect of rescission

re·script \'rē-ˌskript\ *n* [L, *rescriptum*, fr. neut. of *rescriptus*, pp. of *rescribere* to write in reply, fr. *re-* + *scribere* to write — more at SCRIBE] **1** : a written answer of a Roman emperor or of a pope to a legal inquiry or petition **2** : an official or authoritative order, decree, edict, or announcement **3** : an act or instance of rewriting

res·cue \'res-(ˌ)kyü\ *vt* **res·cued; res·cu·ing** [ME *rescuen*, fr. MF *rescourre*, fr. OF, fr. *re-* + *escourre* to shake out, fr. L *excutere*, fr. *ex-* + *quatere* to shake — more at QUASH] : to free from confinement, danger, or evil : SAVE, DELIVER: as **a** : to take (as a prisoner) forcibly from legal custody **b** : to recover (as a prize) by force **c** : to deliver (as a place under siege) by armed force — **rescue** *n* — **res·cu·er** *n*

syn RESCUE, DELIVER, REDEEM, RANSOM, RECLAIM, SAVE *shared meaning element* : to set free (as from confinement or risk)

rescue mission *n* : a city religious mission seeking to convert and rehabilitate the down-and-out

[1]re·search \ri-'sərch, 'rē-ˌ\ *n* [MF *recerche*, fr. *recerchier* to investigate thoroughly, fr. OF, fr. *re-* + *cerchier* to search — more at SEARCH] **1** : careful or diligent search **2** : studious inquiry or examination; *esp* : investigation or experimentation aimed at the discovery and interpretation of facts, revision of accepted theories or laws in the light of new facts, or practical application of such new or revised theories or laws

[2]research *vt* **1** : to search or investigate exhaustively ⟨~ a problem⟩ **2** : to do research for ⟨~ a book⟩ ~ *vi* : to engage in research — **re·search·able** \-ə-bəl\ *adj* — **re·search·er** *n*

re·search·ist \-'sər-chəst, -ˌsər-\ *n* : one engaged in research

re·seau \rā-'zō, ri-\ *n, pl* **re·seaux** \-'zōz\ [F *réseau*, fr. OF *resel*, dim. of *rais* net, fr. L *retis, rete* — more at RETINA] **1** : a system of lines forming small squares of standard size photographed by a separate exposure on the same plate with star images to facilitate measurements **2** : a net ground or foundation in lace **3** : a screen with minute elements of three colors in a regular geometric pattern used for taking color photographs

re·sect \ri-'sekt\ *vt* [L *resectus*, pp. of *resecare* to cut off, fr. *re-* + *secare* to cut — more at SAW] : to perform resection on — **re·sect·abil·i·ty** \-ˌsek-tə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* — **re·sect·able** \-'sek-tə-bəl\ *adj*

re·sec·tion \ri-'sek-shən\ *n* : the surgical removal of part of an organ or structure

[1]re·se·da \ri-'sed-ə\ *n* [NL, genus name, fr. L, a plant used to reduce tumors] : any of a genus (*Reseda*) of Old World herbs of the mignonette family having racemose flowers with cleft petals and numerous stamens

[2]reseda \'rā-zə-ˌdä\ *n* [F *réséda*, fr. *réséda* reseda plant] : a variable color averaging a grayish green

re·seed \(ˈ)rē-'sēd\ *vt* **1** : to sow seed on again or anew **2** : to maintain (itself) by self-sown seed ~ *vi* : to maintain itself by self-sown seed

re·sem·blance \ri-'zem-blən(t)s\ *n* **1 a** : the quality or state of resembling; *esp* : correspondence in appearance or superficial qualities **b** : a point of likeness **2** : REPRESENTATION, IMAGE **3** *archaic* : characteristic appearance **4** *obs* : PROBABILITY ***syn*** see LIKENESS ***ant*** difference, distinction

re·sem·blant \-blənt\ *adj* : marked by or showing resemblance

re·sem·ble \ri-'zem-bəl\ *vt* **re·sem·bled; re·sem·bling** \-b(ə-)liŋ\ [ME *resemblen*, fr. MF *resembler*, fr. OF, fr. *re-* + *sembler* to be like, seem, fr. L *similare* to copy, fr. *similis* like — more at SAME] **1** : to be like or similar to **2** *archaic* : to represent as like

re·send \(ˈ)rē-'send\ *vt* **-sent** \-'sent\; **-send·ing** : to send again or back

re·sent \ri-'zent\ *vt* [F *ressentir* to be emotionally sensible of, fr. OF, fr. *re-* + *sentir* to feel, fr. L *sentire* — more at SENSE] : to feel or express annoyance or ill will at

re·sent·ful \-fəl\ *adj* **1** : full of resentment : inclined to resent **2** : caused or marked by resentment — **re·sent·ful·ly** \-fə-lē\ *adv* — **re·sent·ful·ness** *n*

re·sent·ment \ri-'zent-mənt\ *n* : a feeling of indignant displeasure or persistent ill will at something regarded as a wrong, insult, or injury ***syn*** see OFFENSE

re·ser·pine \ri-'sər-ˌpēn, -pən\ n *n* [G *reserpin*, prob. irreg. fr. NL *Rauwolfia serpentina*, a species of rauwolfia] : a drug $C_{33}H_{40}N_2O_9$ extracted esp. from the root of rauwolfias and used in the treatment of hypertension, mental disorders and tension states

res·er·va·tion \ˌrez-ər-'vā-shən\ *n* **1** : an act of reserving something: as **a** (1) : the act or fact of a grantor's reserving some newly created thing out of the thing granted (2) : the right or interest so reserved **b** : the setting of limiting conditions or withholding from complete exposition ⟨answered without ~⟩ **c** : an arrangement to have something (as a hotel room or a theater seat) held for one's use; *also* : a promise, guarantee, or record of such engagement **2** : something reserved: as **a** : a tract of public land set aside (as for the use of Indians) **b** : an area in which hunting is not permitted; *esp* : one set aside as a secure breeding place **3 a** : a limiting condition ⟨agreed, but with ~*s*⟩ **b** : a specific objection ⟨had ~*s* about the finding⟩

[1]re·serve \ri-'zərv\ *vt* **re·served; re·serv·ing** [ME *reserven*, fr. MF *reserver*, fr. L *reservare*, lit., to keep back, fr. *re-* + *servare* to keep — more at CONSERVE] **1 a** : to hold in reserve : keep back ⟨~ grain for seed⟩ **b** (1) : to retain power of absolution of to oneself — used of a religious superior (2) : to set aside (part of the consecrated elements) at the Eucharist for future use **c** : to retain or hold over to a future time or place : DEFER ⟨~ one's judgment on a plan⟩ **d** : to make legal reservation of **2** : to set or have set aside or apart ⟨~ a hotel room⟩ ***syn*** see KEEP

[2]reserve *n, often attrib* **1** : something stored or kept available for future use or need : STOCK **2** : something reserved or set aside for a particular purpose, use, or reason: as **a** (1) : a military force withheld from action for later decisive use — usu. used in pl. (2) : forces not in the field but available (3) : the military forces of a country not part of the regular services; *also* : RESERVIST **b** : a tract (as of public land) set apart : RESERVATION **3** : an act of reserving : QUALIFICATION **4 a** : restraint, closeness, or caution in one's words and actions **b** : forebearance from making a full explanation, complete disclosure, or free expression of one's mind **5** *archaic* : SECRET **6 a** : money or its equivalent kept in hand or set apart usu. to meet liabilities **b** : the liquid resources of a nation for meeting international payments **7** : the capacity of blood or bacteriological media to react with acid or alkali within predetermined usu. physiological limits of hydrogen-ion concentration **8** : SUBSTITUTE — **in reserve** : held back for future or special use

reserve bank *n* : a central bank holding reserves of other banks

reserve clause *n* : the clause in a professional athlete's contract that reserves for the club the exclusive right to the athlete's services until he is sold, traded, or released

re·served \ri-'zərvd\ *adj* **1** : restrained in words and actions **2** : kept or set apart or aside for future or special use ***syn*** see SILENT ***ant*** expansive, blatant — **re·serv·ed·ly** \-'zər-vəd-lē\ *adv* — **re·serv·ed·ness** \-'zər-vəd-nəs\ *n*

reserved power *n* : a political power reserved by a constitution to the exclusive jurisdiction of a specified political authority
reserve price *n* : a price announced at an auction as the lowest that will be considered
re·serv·ist \ri-'zər-vəst\ *n* : a member of a military reserve
res·er·voir \'rez-ə(r)v-ˌwär, -ə(r)v-ˌ(w)ȯr *also* -ə(r)ˌvȯi\ *n* [F *réservoir*, fr. MF, fr. *reserver*] **1** : a place where something is kept in store: as **a** : an artificial lake where water is collected and kept in quantity for use **b** : a part of an apparatus in which a liquid is held **c** : SUPPLY, STORE ⟨a large ~ of educated people⟩ **2** : an extra supply : RESERVE **3** : an organism in which a parasite that is pathogenic for some other species lives and multiples without damaging its host; *also* : a noneconomic organism within which a pathogen of economic or medical importance flourishes
re·set \(ˈ)rē-'set\ *vt* **-set; -set·ting** **1** : to set again or anew ⟨~ type⟩ ⟨~ a diamond⟩ **2** : to change the reading of ⟨~ an odometer⟩ — **re·set·table** \-'set-ə-bəl\ *adj*
res ges·tae \'rās-'ges-ˌtī, 'rēz-'jes-(ˌ)tē\ *n pl* [L] : things done; *esp* : the facts that form the environment of a litigated issue and are admissible in evidence
resh \'rāsh\ *n* [Heb *rēsh*] : the 20th letter of the Hebrew alphabet — see ALPHABET table
re·shape \(ˈ)rē-'shāp\ *vt* : to give a new form or orientation to : REORGANIZE — **re·shap·er** *n*
re·ship \(ˈ)rē-'ship\ *vt* : to ship again; *specif* : to put on board a second time ~ *vi* : to embark on a ship again or anew; *specif* : to sign again for service on a ship — **re·ship·ment** \-mənt\ *n* — **re·ship·per** *n*
re·shuf·fle \(ˈ)rē-'shəf-əl\ *vt* **1** : to shuffle (as cards) again **2** : to reorganize usu. by the redistribution of existing elements ⟨the cabinet was *reshuffled* by the prime minister⟩ — **reshuffle** *n*
re·sid \ri-'zid\ *n* : RESIDUAL OIL
re·side \ri-'zīd\ *vi* **re·sid·ed; re·sid·ing** [ME *residen*, fr. MF or L; MF *resider*, fr. L *residēre* to sit back, remain, abide, fr. *re-* + *sedēre* to sit — more at SIT] **1 a** : to be in residence as the incumbent of a benefice or office **b** : to dwell permanently or continuously : occupy a place as one's legal domicile **2 a** : to be present as an element or quality **b** : to be vested as a right — **re·sid·er** *n*
syn RESIDE, LIVE, DWELL, SOJOURN *shared meaning element* : to have as one's habitation or domicile
res·i·dence \'rez-əd-ən(t)s, 'rez-dən(t)s, 'rez-ə-ˌden(t)s\ *n* **1 a** : the act or fact of dwelling in a place for some time **b** : the act or fact of living or regularly staying at or in some place for the discharge of a duty or the enjoyment of a benefit **2 a** (1) : the place where one actually lives as distinguished from his domicile or a place of temporary sojourn (2) : DOMICILE 2a **b** : the place where a corporation is actually or officially established **c** : the status of a legal resident **3 a** : a building used as a home : DWELLING **b** : housing or a unit of housing provided for students **4 a** : the period or duration of abode in a place ⟨after a ~ of 30 years⟩ **b** : a period of active and esp. full-time study, research, or teaching at a college or university **5** : the persistence of a substance that is suspended or dissolved in a medium ⟨the ~ time of a pollutant⟩ — **in residence** : engaged to live and work at a particular place often for a specified time ⟨poet *in residence* at a university⟩
res·i·den·cy \'rez-əd-ən-sē, 'rez-dən-, 'rez-ə-ˌden(t)-\ *n, pl* **-cies** **1** : a usu. official place of residence **2** : a territory in a protected state in which the powers of the protecting state are executed by a resident agent **3** : a period of advanced training in a medical specialty
1res·i·dent \'rez-əd-ənt, 'rez-dənt, 'rez-ə-ˌdent\ *adj* [ME, fr. L *resident-, residens*, prp. of *residēre*] **1 a** : living in a place for some length of time : RESIDING **b** : serving in a regular or full-time capacity ⟨the ~ engineer for a highway department⟩; *also* : being in residence **2** : PRESENT, INHERENT **3** : not migratory
2resident *n* **1** : one who resides in a place **2** : a diplomatic agent residing at a foreign court or seat of government; *esp* : one exercising authority in a protected state as representative of the protecting power **3** : a physician serving a residency
resident commissioner *n* **1** : a nonvoting representative of a dependency in the U.S. House of Representatives **2** : a resident administrator in a British colony or possession
res·i·den·tial \ˌrez(-ə)-'den-chəl\ *adj* **1 a** : used as a residence or by residents **b** : providing living accommodations for students ⟨a ~ college⟩ **2** : restricted to or occupied by residences ⟨a ~ neighborhood⟩ **3** : of or relating to residence or residences — **res·i·den·tial·ly** \-'dench-(ə-)lē\ *adv*
1re·sid·u·al \ri-'zij-(ə-)wəl, -'zij-əl\ *adj* [L *residuum* residue] **1** : of, relating to, or constituting a residue **2** : leaving a residue that remains effective for some time — **re·sid·u·al·ly** \-ē\ *adv*
2residual *n* **1** : REMAINDER, RESIDUUM: as **a** : the difference between results obtained by observation and by computation from a formula or between the mean of several observations and any one of them **b** : a residual product or substance **c** : an internal aftereffect of experience or activity that influences later behavior; *esp* : a disability remaining from a disease or operation **2** : a payment (as to an actor or writer) for each rerun after an initial showing (as of a taped TV show)
residual oil *n* : fuel oil that remains after the removal of valuable distillates (as gasoline) from petroleum and that is used esp. by industry — called also *resid*
residual power *n* : power held to remain at the disposal of a governmental authority after an enumeration or delegation of specified powers to other authorities
re·sid·u·ary \ri-'zij-ə-ˌwer-ē\ *adj* : of, relating to, or constituting a residue
res·i·due \'rez-ə-ˌd(y)ü\ *n* [ME, fr. MF *residu*, fr. L *residuum*, fr. neut. of *residuus* left over, fr. *residēre* to remain] : something that remains after a part is taken, separated, or designated : REMNANT, REMAINDER: as **a** : the part of a testator's estate remaining after the satisfaction of all debts, charges, allowances, and previous devises and bequests **b** : the remainder after subtracting a multiple of a modulus from an integer or a power of the integer : the second of two terms in a congruence ⟨2 and 7 are ~*s* of 12 modulo 5⟩ ⟨9 is a quadratic ~ of 7 modulo 5 since $7^2-8\times5=9$⟩ **c** : a constituent structural unit (as a group or monomer) of a usu. complex molecule ⟨amino acid ~*s* left after hydrolysis of protein⟩
residue class *n* : the set of elements (as integers) that leave the same remainder when divided by the same modulus
re·sid·u·um \ri-'zij-ə-wəm\ *n, pl* **re·sid·ua** \-ə-wə\ [L] : something residual: as **a** : RESIDUE a **b** : a residual product (as from the distillation of petroleum)
re·sign \ri-'zīn\ *vb* [ME *resignen*, fr. MF *resigner*, fr. L *resignare*, lit., to unseal, cancel, fr. *re-* + *signare* to sign, seal — more at SIGN] *vt* **1** : to give up deliberately; *esp* : to renounce (as a right or position) by a formal act **2** : RELEGATE, CONSIGN; *esp* : to give (oneself) over without resistance ⟨~*ed* herself to her fate⟩ ~ *vi* **1** : to give up one's office or position : QUIT **2** : to accept something as inevitable : SUBMIT ***syn*** see RELINQUISH, ABDICATE — **re·sign·ed·ly** \-'zī-nəd-lē\ *adv* — **re·sign·ed·ness** \-'zī-nəd-nəs\ *n* — **re·sign·er** \-'zī-nər\ *n*
res·ig·na·tion \ˌrez-ig-'nā-shən\ *n* **1 a** : an act or instance of resigning something : SURRENDER **b** : a formal notification of resigning **2** : the quality or state of being resigned : SUBMISSIVENESS
re·sile \ri-'zī(ə)l\ *vi* **re·siled; re·sil·ing** [LL & L; LL *resilire* to withdraw, fr. L, to recoil] : RECOIL, RETRACT; *esp* : to return to a prior position
re·sil·ience \ri-'zil-yən(t)s\ *n* **1** : the capability of a strained body to recover its size and shape after deformation caused esp. by compressive stress **2** : an ability to recover from or adjust easily to misfortune or change
re·sil·ien·cy \-yən-sē\ *n* : RESILIENCE
re·sil·ient \-yənt\ *adj* [L *resilient-, resiliens*, prp. of *resilire* to jump back, recoil, fr. *re-* + *salire* to leap — more at SALLY] : characterized or marked by resilience: as **a** : capable of withstanding shock without permanent deformation or rupture **b** : tending to recover from or adjust easily to misfortune or change — **re·sil·ient·ly** *adv*
1res·in \'rez-ᵊn\ *n* [ME, fr. MF *resine*, fr. L *resina*, fr. Gk *rhētinē* pine resin] **1 a** : any of various solid or semisolid amorphous fusible flammable natural organic substances that are usu. transparent or translucent and yellowish to brown, are formed esp. in plant secretions, are soluble in organic solvents (as ether) but not in water, are electrical nonconductors, and are used chiefly in varnishes, printing inks, plastics, and sizes and in medicine **b** : ROSIN **2 a** : any of a large class of synthetic products that have some of the physical properties of natural resins but are different chemically and are used chiefly as plastics **b** : any of various products made from a natural resin or a natural polymer
2resin *vt* **res·ined; res·in·ing** \'rez-ᵊn-iŋ, 'rez-niŋ\ : to treat with resin
res·in·ate \'rez-ᵊn-ˌāt\ *vt* **-at·ed; -at·ing** : to impregnate or flavor with resin
resin canal *n* : a tubular intercellular space in gymnosperms and some angiosperms that is lined with epithelial cells which secrete resin — called also *resin duct*
re·sin·i·fy \re-'zin-ə-ˌfī\ *vt* **-fied; fy·ing** : to convert into or treat with resin
res·in·oid \'rez-ᵊn-ˌȯid\ *n* **1 a** : a somewhat resinous substance **b** : a thermosetting synthetic resin **2** : GUM RESIN
res·in·ous \'rez-nəs, -ᵊn-əs\ *adj* : of, relating to, resembling, containing, or derived from resin
1re·sist \ri-'zist\ *vb* [ME *resisten*, fr. MF or L; MF *resister*, fr. L *resistere*, fr. *re-* + *sistere* to take a stand; akin to L *stare* to stand — more at STAND] *vt* **1** : to withstand the force or effect of **2** : to exert oneself so as to counteract or defeat ~ *vi* : to exert force in opposition ***syn*** see OPPOSE
2resist *n* : something (as a protective coating) that resists or prevents a particular action
re·sis·tance \ri-'zis-tən(t)s\ *n* **1 a** : an act or instance of resisting : OPPOSITION **b** : a means of resisting **2** : the ability to resist; *esp* : the inherent capacity of a living being to resist untoward circumstances (as disease, malnutrition, or toxic agents) **3** : an opposing or retarding force **4 a** : the opposition offered by a body or substance to the passage through it of a steady electric current **b** : a source of resistance **5** *often cap* : an underground organization of a conquered country engaging in sabotage and secret operations against occupation forces and collaborators
1re·sis·tant \-tənt\ *adj* : giving or capable of resistance — often used in combination ⟨wrinkle-*resistant* clothes⟩
2resistant *n* : one that resists : RESISTER
re·sist·er \ri-'zis-tər\ *n* : one that resists; *esp* : one who actively opposes the policies of a government
re·sist·ibil·i·ty \ri-ˌzis-tə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* **1** : the quality or state of being resistible **2** : ability to resist
re·sist·ible *or* **re·sist·able** \ri-'zis-tə-bəl\ *adj* : capable of being resisted
re·sis·tive \ri-'zis-tiv\ *adj* : marked by resistance — often used in combination ⟨fire-*resistive* material⟩ — **re·sis·tive·ly** *adv* — **re·sis·tive·ness** *n*
re·sis·tiv·i·ty \ri-ˌzis-'tiv-ət-ē, ˌrē-\ *n, pl* **-ties** **1** : capacity for resisting : RESISTANCE **2** : the longitudinal electrical resistance of a uniform rod of unit length and unit cross-sectional area : the reciprocal of conductivity
re·sist·less \ri-'zist-ləs\ *adj* **1** : IRRESISTIBLE **2** : offering no resistance — **re·sist·less·ly** *adv* — **re·sist·less·ness** *n*
re·sis·tor \ri-'zis-tər\ *n* : a device that has electrical resistance and that is used in an electric circuit for protection, operation, or current control

re·sit·ting \(')rē-'sit-iŋ\ *n* : a sitting (as of a legislature) for a second time : another sitting
res ju·di·ca·ta \'rēz-ˌjüd-i-'kät-ə\ *n* [L, judged matter] : a matter finally decided on its merits by a court having competent jurisdiction and not subject to litigation again between the same parties
reso·jet engine \ˌrez-ō-ˌjet-\ *n* [*reso*nance + *jet* + *engine*] : a jet engine that consists of a continuously open air inlet, a diffuser, a combustion chamber, and an exhaust nozzle, has fuel admitted continuously, and has resonance established within the engine so that there is a pulsating thrust produced by the intermittent flow of hot gases
re·sole \(')rē-'sōl\ *vt* : to furnish (a shoe) with a new sole ~ *vi* : to resole a shoe
re·sol·u·ble \ri-'zäl-yə-bəl\ *adj* [LL *resolubilis*, fr. L *resolvere* to resolve] : capable of being resolved
¹res·o·lute \'rez-ə-ˌlüt, -lət\ *adj* [L *resolutus*, pp. of *resolvere*] **1** : marked by firm determination : RESOLVED **2** : BOLD, STEADY *syn* see FAITHFUL — **res·o·lute·ly** \-ˌlüt-lē, -lət-; ˌrez-ə-'lüt-\ *adv* — **res·o·lute·ness** \-ˌlüt-nəs, -lət-, -'lüt-\ *n*
²resolute *n* : one who is resolute
res·o·lu·tion \ˌrez-ə-'lü-shən\ *n* **1** : the act or process of reducing to simpler form: as **a** : the act of analyzing a complex notion into simpler ones **b** : the act of answering : SOLVING **c** : the act of determining **d** : the passing of a voice part from a dissonant to a consonant tone or the progression of a chord from dissonance to consonance **e** : the separating of a chemical compound or mixture into its constitutents **f** (1) : the division of a prosodic element into its component parts (2) : the substitution in Greek or Latin prosody of two short syllables for a long syllable **g** : the analysis of a vector into two or more vectors of which it is the sum **h** : the process or capability of making distinguishable the individual parts of an object, closely adjacent optical images, or sources of light **2** : the subsidence of inflammation esp. in a lung **3 a** : something that is resolved **b** : firmness of resolve **4** : a formal expression of opinion, will, or intent voted by an official body or assembled group **5** : the point in a literary work at which the chief dramatic complication is worked out *syn* see COURAGE
¹re·solve \ri-'zälv, -'zȯlv\ *vb* **re·solved; re·solv·ing** [L *resolvere* to unloose, dissolve, fr. *re-* + *solvere* to loosen, release — more at SOLVE] *vt* **1** *obs* : DISSOLVE, MELT **2 a** : to break up : SEPARATE ⟨the prism *resolved* the light into a play of color⟩; *also* : to change by disintegration **b** : to reduce by analysis ⟨~ the problem into simple elements⟩ **c** : to distinguish between or make independently visible adjacent parts of **d** : to separate (a racemic compound or mixture) into the two components **3** : to cause resolution of (as inflammation) **4 a** : to deal with successfully : clear up ⟨~ doubts⟩ ⟨~ a dispute⟩ **b** : to find an answer to **c** : to make clear or understandable **d** : to find a mathematical solution of **e** : to split up (as a vector) into two or more components esp. in assigned directions **5** : to reach a firm decision about ⟨~ to get more sleep⟩ ⟨~ disputed points in a text⟩ **6 a** : to declare or decide by a formal resolution and vote **b** : to change by resolution or formal vote ⟨the house *resolved* itself into a committee⟩ **7** : to make (as voice parts) progress from dissonance to consonance **8** : to work out the resolution of (as a play) ~ *vi* **1** : to become separated into component parts; *also* : to become reduced by dissolving or analysis **2** : to form a resolution : DETERMINE **3** : CONSULT, DELIBERATE **4** : to progress from dissonance to consonance *syn* **1** see ANALYZE *ant* blend **2** see DECIDE — **re·solv·able** \-'zäl-və-bəl, -'zȯl-\ *adj* — **re·solv·er** *n*
²resolve *n* **1** : something that is resolved **2** : fixity of purpose : RESOLUTENESS **3** : a legal or official determination; *esp* : a formal resolution
¹re·sol·vent \ri-'zäl-vənt, -'zȯl-\ *adj* [L *resolvent*, *resolvens*, prp. of *resolvere*] : having power to resolve ⟨a ~ drug⟩
²resolvent *n* **1** : an agent capable of dispersing or absorbing inflammatory products **2** : SOLVENT **3** : a means of solving something
resolving power *n* **1** : the ability of an optical system to form distinguishable images of objects separated by small angular distances **2** : the ability of a photographic film or plate to reproduce the fine detail of an optical image
res·o·nance \'rez-ᵊn-ən(t)s, 'rez-nən(t)s\ *n* **1 a** : the quality or state of being resonant **b** (1) : a vibration of large amplitude in a mechanical or electrical system caused by a relatively small periodic stimulus of the same or nearly the same period as the natural vibration period of the system (2) : the state of adjustment that produces resonance in a mechanical or electrical system **2 a** : the intensification and enriching of a musical tone by supplementary vibration **b** : a quality imparted to voiced sounds by the resonance-chamber action of mouth and pharynx configurations and in some cases also of the nostrils **c** : a quality of richness or variety **3** : the sound elicited on percussion of the chest **4** : a phenomenon that is shown by a molecule, ion, or radical to which two or more structures differing only in the distribution of electrons can be assigned and which gives rise to a stable structure intermediate among the assigned structures **5 a** : the enhancement of an atomic, nuclear, or particle reaction or a scattering event by excitation of internal motion in the system **b** : MAGNETIC RESONANCE **6** : an extremely short-lived elementary particle
res·o·nant \'rez-ᵊn-ənt, 'rez-nənt\ *adj* **1** : continuing to sound : ECHOING **2 a** : capable of inducing resonance **b** : relating to or exhibiting resonance **3 a** : intensified and enriched by resonance **b** : marked by grandiloquence — **resonant** *n* — **res·o·nant·ly** *adv*
res·o·nate \'rez-ᵊn-ˌāt\ *vb* **-nat·ed; -nat·ing** [L *resonatus*, pp. of *resonare* to resound — more at RESOUND] *vi* **1** : to produce or exhibit resonance **2** : to respond as if by resonance ⟨a child learning to talk ~*s* to his family⟩; *also* : to have a repetitive pattern that resembles resonance ~ *vt* : to subject to resonating
res·o·na·tor \-ˌāt-ər\ *n* : something that resounds or resonates: as **a** : a hollow metallic container for producing microwaves or a piezoelectric crystal put into oscillation by the oscillations of an outside source **b** : a device for increasing the resonance of a musical instrument
re·sorb \(')rē-'sȯ(ə)rb, -'zȯ(ə)rb\ *vb* [L *resorbēre*, fr. *re-* + *sorbēre* to suck up — more at ABSORB] *vt* **1** : to swallow or suck in again **2** : to break down and assimilate (something previously differentiated) ~ *vi* : to undergo resorption
res·or·cin \rə-'zȯrs-ᵊn\ *n* [ISV *res-* (fr. L *resina* resin) + *orcin* (a phenol $C_7H_8O_2$)] : RESORCINOL
res·or·cin·ol \-ˌȯl, -ˌōl\ *n* : a crystalline phenol $C_6H_6O_2$ obtained from various resins or artificially and used esp. in making dyes, pharmaceuticals, and resins
re·sorp·tion \(')rē-'sȯrp-shən, -'zȯrp-\ *n* [L *resorptus*, pp. of *resorbēre*] : the action or process of resorbing something — **re·sorptive** \-tiv\ *adj*
¹re·sort \ri-'zȯ(ə)rt\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, resource, recourse, fr. *resortir* to rebound, resort, fr. OF, fr. *re-* + *sortir* to escape, sally] **1 a** : one who is looked to for help : REFUGE, RESOURCE **b** : RECOURSE **2 a** : frequent, habitual, or general visiting ⟨a place of popular ~⟩ **b** : persons who frequent a place : THRONG **c** (1) : a frequently visited place : HAUNT (2) : a place providing recreation and entertainment esp. to vacationers *syn* see RESOURCE
²resort *vi* **1** : to go esp. frequently or habitually : REPAIR **2** : to have recourse ⟨~ to force⟩
re·sort·er \ri-'zȯrt-ər\ *n* : a frequenter of resorts
re·sound \ri-'zau̇nd *also* -'sau̇nd\ *vb* [ME *resounen*, fr. MF *resoner*, fr. L *resonare*, fr. *re-* + *sonare* to sound; akin to L *sonus* sound — more at SOUND] *vi* **1** : to become filled with sound : REVERBERATE **2 a** : to sound loudly **b** : to produce a sonorous or echoing sound **3** : to become renowned ~ *vt* **1** : to extol loudly or widely : CELEBRATE **2** : ECHO, REVERBERATE **3** : to sound or utter in full resonant tones
re·sound·ing *adj* **1** : producing or characterized by resonant sound : RESONATING **2 a** : impressively sonorous **b** : EMPHATIC, UNEQUIVOCAL ⟨a ~ success⟩ — **re·sound·ing·ly** \-'zau̇n-diŋ-lē *also* -'sau̇n-\ *adv*
re·source \'rē-ˌsō(ə)rs, -ˌsȯ(ə)rs, -ˌzō(ə)rs, -ˌzȯ(ə)rs, ri-'\ *n* [F *ressource*, fr. OF *ressourse* relief, resource, fr. *resourdre* to relieve, lit., to rise again, fr. L *resurgere* — more at RESURRECTION] **1 a** : a source of supply or support : an available means — usu. used in pl. **b** : a natural source of wealth or revenue — usu. used in pl. **c** : computable wealth — usu. used in pl. **d** : a source of information or expertise **2** : something to which one has recourse in difficulty : EXPEDIENT **3** : a possibility of relief or recovery **4** : a means of spending one's leisure time **5** : an ability to meet and handle a situation : RESOURCEFULNESS
syn RESOURCE, RESORT, EXPEDIENT, SHIFT, MAKESHIFT, STOPGAP *shared meaning element* : something one turns to in the absence of a usual means or source of supply
re·source·ful \ri-'sōrs-fəl, -'sȯrs-, -'zōrs-, -'zȯrs-\ *adj* : able to meet situations : capable of devising ways and means — **re·source·ful·ly** \-fə-lē\ *adv* — **re·source·ful·ness** *n*
resp *abbr* respective; respectively
¹re·spect \ri-'spekt\ *n* [ME, fr. L *respectus*, lit., act of looking back, fr. *respectus*, pp. of *respicere* to look back, regard, fr. *re-* + *specere* to look — more at SPY] **1** : a relation to or concern with something usu. specified : REFERENCE ⟨with ~ to your last letter⟩ **2** : an act of giving particular attention : CONSIDERATION **3 a** : high or special regard : ESTEEM **b** : the quality or state of being esteemed **c** *pl* : expressions of respect or deference ⟨paid his ~*s*⟩ **4** : PARTICULAR, DETAIL ⟨a good plan in some ~*s*⟩
²respect *vt* **1 a** : to consider worthy of high regard : ESTEEM **b** : to refrain from interfering with **2** : to have reference to : CONCERN *syn* see REGARD *ant* abuse, misuse — **re·spect·er** *n*
re·spect·abil·i·ty \ri-ˌspek-tə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n, pl* **-ties** : the quality or state of being respectable
¹re·spect·able \ri-'spek-tə-bəl\ *adj* **1** : worthy of respect : ESTIMABLE **2** : decent or correct in character or behavior : PROPER **3 a** : fair in size or quantity ⟨~ amount⟩ **b** : moderately good : TOLERABLE **4** : fit to be seen : PRESENTABLE ⟨~ clothes⟩ — **re·spect·able·ness** *n* — **re·spect·ably** \-blē\ *adv*
²respectable *n* : a respectable person
re·spect·ful \ri-'spekt-fəl\ *adj* : marked by or showing respect or deference — **re·spect·ful·ly** \-fə-lē\ *adv* — **re·spect·ful·ness** *n*
re·spect·ing *prep* **1** : in view of : CONSIDERING **2** : with regard to : CONCERNING
re·spec·tive \ri-'spek-tiv\ *adj* **1** *obs* : PARTIAL, DISCRIMINATIVE **2** : PARTICULAR, SEPARATE ⟨their ~ homes⟩ — **re·spec·tive·ness** *n*
re·spec·tive·ly *adv* **1** : in particular : SEPARATELY ⟨could not recognize the solutions as salty or sour, ~⟩ **2** : in the order given ⟨Mary and Anne were ~ 12 and 16 years old⟩
re·spell \(')rē-'spel\ *vt* : to spell again or in another way; *esp* : to spell out according to a phonetic system
re·spi·ra·ble \'res-p(ə-)rə-bəl, ri-'spī-rə-\ *adj* : fit for breathing; *also* : capable of being taken in by breathing ⟨~ particles of ash⟩
res·pi·ra·tion \ˌres-pə-'rā-shən\ *n* **1 a** : the placing of air or dissolved gases in intimate contact with the circulating medium of a multicellular organism (as by breathing) **b** : a single complete act of breathing **2** : the physical and chemical processes by which an organism supplies its cells and tissues with the oxygen needed for metabolism and relieves them of the carbon dioxide formed in energy-producing reactions **3** : any of various energy-yielding oxidative reactions in living matter — **res·pi·ra·tion·al** \-shnəl, -shən-ᵊl\ *adj* — **re·spi·ra·to·ry** \'res-p(ə-)rə-ˌtōr-ē, ri-'spī-rə-, -ˌtȯr-\ *adj*
res·pi·ra·tor \'res-pə-ˌrāt-ər\ *n* **1** : a device worn over the mouth or nose for protecting the respiratory tract **2** : a device for maintaining artificial respiration
respiratory pigment *n* : any of various permanently or intermittently colored conjugated proteins that function in the transfer of oxygen in cellular respiration
respiratory quotient *n* : a ratio indicating the relation of the volume of carbon dioxide given off in respiration to that of the oxygen consumed

respiratory system *n* : a system of organs subserving the function of respiration and in air-breathing vertebrates consisting typically of the lungs and their nervous and circulatory supply and the channels by which these are continuous with the outer air

re·spire \ri-'spī(ə)r\ *vb* **re·spired; re·spir·ing** [ME *respiren*, fr. L *respirare*, fr. *re-* + *spirare* to blow, breathe — more at SPIRIT] *vi* **1** : BREATHE; *specif* : to inhale and exhale air successively **2** *of a cell or tissue* : to take up oxygen and produce carbon dioxide through oxidation ~ *vt* : BREATHE

res·pi·rom·e·ter \ˌres-pə-'räm-ət-ər\ *n* : an instrument for studying the character and extent of respiration — **res·pi·ro·met·ric** \-rō-'me-trik\ *adj* — **res·pi·rom·e·try** \-'räm-ə-trē\ *n*

[1]re·spite \'res-pət *also* ri-'spīt, *Brit usu* 'res-ˌpīt\ *n* [ME *respit*, fr. OF, fr. ML *respectus*, fr. L, act of looking back — more at RESPECT] **1** : a period of temporary delay; *esp* : REPRIEVE 1b **2** : an interval of rest or relief ***syn*** see PAUSE

[2]respite *vt* **re·spit·ed; re·spit·ing** **1** : to grant a respite to **2** : to put off : DELAY

re·splen·dence \ri-'splen-dən(t)s\ *n* : the quality or state of being resplendent : SPLENDOR

re·splen·den·cy \-dən-sē\ *n* : RESPLENDENCE

re·splen·dent \-dənt\ *adj* [L *resplendent-*, *resplendens*, prp. of *resplendēre* to shine back, fr. *re-* + *splendēre* to shine — more at SPLENDID] : shining brilliantly : characterized by a glowing splendor ⟨how great and ~ a thing love could be —J. W. Krutch⟩ ***syn*** see SPLENDID — **re·splen·dent·ly** *adv*

[1]re·spond \ri-'spänd\ *vb* [MF *respondre*, fr. L *respondēre* to promise in return, answer, fr. *re-* + *spondēre* to promise — more at SPOUSE] *vi* **1** : to say something in return : make an answer **2 a** : to react in response **b** : to show favorable reaction ⟨~ to surgery⟩ **3** : to be answerable ⟨~ in damages⟩ ~ *vt* : REPLY ***syn*** see ANSWER

[2]respond *n* : an engaged pillar supporting an arch or closing a colonnade or arcade

[1]re·spon·dent \ri-'spän-dənt\ *n* [L *respondent-*, *respondens*, prp. of *respondēre*] **1** : one who responds: as **a** : one who maintains a thesis in reply **b** (1) : one who answers in various legal proceedings (as in equity cases) (2) : the prevailing party in the lower court **c** : a person who responds to a poll **2** : a reflex that occurs in response to a specific external stimulus ⟨the knee jerk is a typical ~⟩ — compare OPERANT

[2]respondent *adj* : making response : RESPONSIVE; *esp* : being a respondent at law

re·spond·er \ri-'spän-dər\ *n* : one that responds; *esp* : the part of a transponder that transmits a radio signal

re·sponse \ri-'spän(t)s\ *n* [ME & L; ME *respounse*, fr. MF *respons*, fr. L *responsum* reply, fr. neut. of *responsus*, pp. of *respondēre*] **1** : an act of responding **2** : something constituting a reply or a reaction: as **a** : a verse, phrase, or word sung or said by the people or choir after or in reply to the officiant in a liturgical service **b** : the activity or inhibition of previous activity of an organism or any of its parts resulting from stimulation **c** : the output of a transducer or detecting device resulting from a given input

re·spon·si·bil·i·ty \ri-ˌspän(t)-sə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n, pl* **-ties** **1** : the quality or state of being responsible: as **a** : moral, legal, or mental accountability **b** : RELIABILITY, TRUSTWORTHINESS **2** : something for which one is responsible : BURDEN

re·spon·si·ble \ri-'spän(t)-sə-bəl\ *adj* **1 a** : liable to be called on to answer **b** (1) : liable to be called to account as the primary cause, motive, or agent ⟨a committee ~ for the job⟩ (2) : being the cause or explanation ⟨mechanical defects were ~ for the accident⟩ **c** : liable to legal review or in case of fault to penalties **2 a** : able to answer for one's conduct and obligations : TRUSTWORTHY **b** : able to choose for oneself between right and wrong **3** : marked by or involving responsibility or accountability ⟨~ financial policies⟩ ⟨a ~ job⟩ **4** : politically answerable; *esp* : required to submit to the electorate if defeated by the legislature — used esp. of the British cabinet — **re·spon·si·ble·ness** *n* — **re·spon·si·bly** \-blē\ *adv*

re·spon·sions \ri-'spän-chənz\ *n pl* : an examination required for matriculation as an undergraduate at Oxford

re·spon·sive \ri-'spän(t)-siv\ *adj* **1** : giving response : constituting a response : ANSWERING ⟨a ~ glance⟩ ⟨~ aggression⟩ **2** : quick to respond or react appropriately or sympathetically : SENSITIVE **3** : using responses ⟨~ worship⟩ — **re·spon·sive·ly** *adv* — **re·spon·sive·ness** *n*

re·spon·so·ry \-'spän(t)s-(ə-)rē\ *n, pl* **-ries** : a set of versicles and responses sung or said after or during a lection

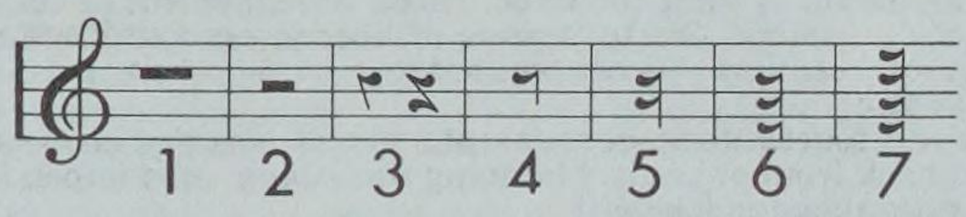
re·spon·sum \ri-'spän(t)-səm\ *n, pl* **-sa** \-sə\ [NL, fr. L, reply, formal opinion of a jurisconsult] : a written decision from a rabbinic authority in response to a submitted question or problem

res pu·bli·ca \(')rā-'spü-bli-ˌkä\ *n* [L — more at REPUBLIC] **1** : COMMONWEALTH, STATE, REPUBLIC **2** : COMMONWEAL

res·sen·ti·ment \ˌres-ˌän-tē-'mä[n]\ *n* [F, resentment, fr. *ressentir* to resent] : resentment expressed indirectly esp. by belittling the values held by the hated individual

[1]rest \'rest\ *n* [ME, fr. OE; akin to OHG *rasta* rest, *ruowa* calm, Gk *erōē* respite] **1** : REPOSE, SLEEP; *specif* : a bodily state characterized by minimal functional and metabolic activities — compare PARADOXICAL SLEEP **2 a** : freedom from activity or labor **b** : a state of motionlessness or inactivity **c** : the repose of death **3** : a place for resting or lodging **4** : peace of mind or spirit **5 a** (1) : a rhythmic silence in music (2) : a character representing such a silence **b** : a brief pause in reading **6** : something used for support — **at rest** **1** : resting or reposing esp. in sleep or death **2** : QUIESCENT, MOTIONLESS **3** : free of anxieties

[2]rest *vi* **1 a** : to get rest by lying down; *esp* : SLEEP **b** : to lie dead **2** : to cease from action or motion : refrain from labor or exertion **3** : to be free from anxiety or disturbance **4** : to sit or lie fixed or supported ⟨a column ~*s* on its pedestal⟩ **5 a** : to remain confident : TRUST ⟨cannot ~ on that assumption⟩ **b** : to be based or founded ⟨the verdict ~*ed* on several sound precedents⟩ **6** : to remain for action or accomplishment ⟨the answer ~*s* with him⟩ **7** *of farmland* : to remain idle or uncropped **8** : to bring



rests 5a(2): *1* whole, *2* half, *3* quarter, *4* eighth, *5* sixteenth, *6* thirty-second, *7* sixty-fourth

to an end voluntarily the introduction of evidence in a law case ~ *vt* **1** : to give rest to **2** : to set at rest **3** : to place on or against a support **4 a** : to cause to be firmly fixed ⟨~*ed* all hope in his son⟩ **b** : to stop voluntarily from presenting evidence pertinent to (a case at law) — **rest·er** *n*

[3]rest *n* [ME *reste*, lit., stoppage, short for *areste*, fr. MF, fr. OF, fr. *arester* to arrest] : a projection or attachment on the side of the breastplate of medieval armor for supporting the butt of a lance

[4]rest *n* [ME, fr. MF *reste*, fr. *rester* to remain, fr. L *restare*, lit., to stand back, fr. *re-* + *stare* to stand — more at STAND] : something that remains over : REMAINDER ⟨ate the ~ of the candy⟩ — **for the rest** : with regard to remaining issues or needs

re·stage \(')rē-'stāj\ *vt* : to present again or anew on the stage

[1]re·start \(')rē-'stärt\ *vt* **1** : to start anew **2** : to resume (as an activity) after interruption ~ *vi* : to resume operation — **re·start·able** \-ə-bəl\ *adj*

[2]re·start \'rē-ˌstärt, (')rē-'\ *n* : the act or an instance of restarting

re·state \(')rē-'stāt\ *vt* : to state again or in another way

re·state·ment \-mənt\ *n* **1** : the act of restating **2** : something that is restated

res·tau·rant \'res-t(ə-)rənt, -tə-ˌränt, -ˌtränt, -tərnt\ *n* [F, fr. prp. of *restaurer* to restore, fr. L *restaurare*] : a public eating place

res·tau·ra·teur \ˌres-tə-rə-'tər\ *also* **res·tau·ran·teur** \-ˌrän-\ *n* [F *restaurateur*, fr. LL *restaurator* restorer, fr. L *restauratus*, pp. of *restaurare*] : the operator or proprietor of a restaurant

rest·ful \'rest-fəl\ *adj* **1** : marked by, affording, or suggesting rest and repose ⟨a ~ color scheme⟩ **2** : being at rest : QUIET ***syn*** see COMFORTABLE — **rest·ful·ly** \-fə-lē\ *adv* — **rest·ful·ness** *n*

rest home *n* : an establishment that provides housing and general care for the aged or the convalescent

rest house *n* : a building used for shelter by travelers

rest·ing *adj* **1** : being or characterized by dormancy : QUIESCENT ⟨a ~ spore⟩ ⟨bulbs in the ~ state⟩ **2** : not undergoing or marked by division : VEGETATIVE ⟨a ~ nucleus⟩

res·ti·tute \'res-tə-ˌt(y)üt\ *vb* **-tut·ed; -tut·ing** [L *restitutus*, pp.] *vt* **1** : to restore to a former state or position **2** : to give back; *esp* : REFUND ~ *vi* : to undergo restitution

res·ti·tu·tion \ˌres-tə-'t(y)ü-shən\ *n* [ME, fr. OF, fr. L *restitution-*, *restitutio*, fr. *restitutus*, pp. of *restituere* to restore, fr. *re-* + *statuere* to set up — more at STATUTE] **1** : an act of restoring or a condition of being restored: as **a** : a restoration of something to its rightful owner **b** : a making good of or giving an equivalent for some injury **2** : a legal action serving to cause restoration of a previous state

res·tive \'res-tiv\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF *restif*, fr. *rester* to stop behind, remain] **1** : stubbornly resisting control : BALKY **2** : marked by restlessness : FIDGETY ***syn*** see CONTRARY — **res·tive·ly** *adv* — **res·tive·ness** *n*

rest·less \'rest-ləs\ *adj* **1** : lacking or giving no rest : UNEASY ⟨a ~ night⟩ **2** : continuously moving : UNQUIET ⟨the ~ sea⟩ **3** : characterized by or manifesting unrest esp. of mind ⟨~ pacing⟩; *also* : CHANGEFUL, DISCONTENTED — **rest·less·ly** *adv* — **rest·less·ness** *n*

rest mass *n* : the mass of a body exclusive of additional mass acquired by the body when in motion according to the theory of relativity

re·stor·able \ri-'stōr-ə-bəl, -'stȯr-\ *adj* : fit for restoring or reclaiming

re·stor·al \-əl\ *n* : RESTORATION

res·to·ra·tion \ˌres-tə-'rā-shən\ *n* **1** : an act of restoring or the condition of being restored: as **a** : a bringing back to a former position or condition : REINSTATEMENT ⟨the ~ of peace⟩ **b** : RESTITUTION **c** : a restoring to an unimpaired or improved condition ⟨the ~ of a painting⟩ **d** : the replacing of missing teeth or crowns **2** : something that is restored; *specif* : a representation or reconstruction of the original form (as of a fossil or a building) **3** *cap* **a** : the reestablishing of the monarchy in England in 1660 under Charles II **b** : the period in English history usu. held to coincide with the reign of Charles II but sometimes to extend through the reign of James II

[1]re·stor·ative \ri-'stōr-ət-iv, -'stȯr-\ *adj* : of or relating to restoration; *esp* : having power to restore — **re·stor·ative·ly** *adv* — **re·stor·ative·ness** *n*

[2]restorative *n* : something that serves to restore to consciousness, vigor, or health

re·store \ri-'stō(ə)r, -'stȯ(ə)r\ *vt* **re·stored; re·stor·ing** [ME *restoren*, fr. OF *restorer*, fr. L *restaurare* to renew, rebuild, alter. of *instaurare* to renew — more at STORE] **1** : to give back : RETURN **2** : to put or bring back into existence or use **3** : to bring back to or put back into a former or original state : RENEW **4** : to put again in possession of something ***syn*** see RENEW — **re·stor·er** *n*

re·strain \ri-'strān\ *vt* [ME *restraynen*, fr. MF *restraindre*, fr. L *restringere* to restrain, restrict, fr. *re-* + *stringere* to bind tight — more at STRAIN] **1 a** : to prevent from doing, exhibiting, or expressing something ⟨~*ed* the boy from jumping⟩ **b** : to limit,

restrict, or keep under control ⟨he found it hard to ~ his anger⟩ **2** : to moderate or limit the force, effect, development, or full exercise of ⟨~ trade⟩ **3** : to deprive of liberty; *esp* : to place under arrest or restraint — **re·strain·able** \-'strā-nə-bəl\ *adj* — **re·strain·er** *n*

syn RESTRAIN, CHECK, CURB, BRIDLE *shared meaning element* : to hold back from or control in doing something ***ant*** impel, incite, activate, abandon (*oneself*)

re·strained \ri-'strānd\ *adj* : marked by restraint : being without excess or extravagance — **re·strain·ed·ly** \-'strā-nəd-lē\ *adv*

restraining order *n* : a preliminary legal order sometimes issued to keep a situation unchanged pending decision upon an application for an injunction

re·straint \ri-'strānt\ *n* [ME, fr. MF *restrainte*, fr. *restraindre*] **1 a** : an act of restraining : the state of being restrained **b** (1) : a means of restraining : a restraining force or influence (2) : a device that restricts movement ⟨a ~ for children riding in cars⟩ **2** : a control over the expression of one's emotions or thoughts

re·strict \ri-'strikt\ *vt* [L *restrictus*, pp. of *restringere*] **1** : to confine within bounds : RESTRAIN **2** : to place under restrictions as to use or distribution ***syn*** see LIMIT

re·strict·ed *adj* : subject or subjected to restriction: as **a** : not general : LIMITED ⟨the decision had a ~ effect⟩ **b** : available to the use of particular groups or specif. excluding others ⟨a ~ neighborhood⟩ **c** : not intended for general circulation or release ⟨a ~ document⟩ — **re·strict·ed·ly** *adv*

re·stric·tion \ri-'strik-shən\ *n* **1** : something that restricts: as **a** : a regulation that restricts or restrains ⟨~*s* for hunters⟩ **b** : a limitation on the use or enjoyment of property or a facility **2** : an act of restricting : the condition of being restricted

re·stric·tion·ism \-shə-ˌniz-əm\ *n* : a policy or philosophy favoring restriction (as of trade) — **re·stric·tion·ist** \-sh(ə-)nəst\ *adj or n*

re·stric·tive \ri-'strik-tiv\ *adj* **1 a** : of or relating to restriction **b** : serving or tending to restrict ⟨~ regulations⟩ **2** : limiting the reference of a modified word or phrase ⟨~ clause⟩ **3** : prohibiting further negotiation — **restrictive** *n* — **re·stric·tive·ly** *adv* — **re·stric·tive·ness** *n*

re·strike \(')rē-'strīk, 'rē-ˌ\ *n* : a coin or medal struck from an original die at some time after the original issue

rest room *n* : a room or suite of rooms providing personal facilities (as toilets)

re·struc·ture \(')rē-'strək-chər\ *vt* : to change the makeup, organization, or pattern of ~ *vi* : to restructure something

re·study \(')rē-'stəd-ē\ *vt* : to study again or anew : make a new appraisal or evaluation of — **restudy** *n*

¹re·sult \ri-'zəlt\ *vi* [ME *resulten*, fr. ML *resultare*, fr. L, to rebound, fr. *re-* + *saltare* to leap — more at SALTATION] **1** : to proceed or arise as a consequence, effect, or conclusion : have an issue or result ⟨injuries ~*ing* from skiing⟩ **2** : REVERT 2

²result *n* **1** : something that results as a consequence, issue, or conclusion; *also* : beneficial or tangible effect : FRUIT **2** : something obtained by calculation or investigation ⟨showed us the ~ of the calculations⟩ ***syn*** see EFFECT — **re·sult·ful** \-fəl\ *adj* — **re·sult·ful·ness** *n* — **re·sult·less** \-ləs\ *adj*

¹re·sul·tant \ri-'zəlt-ᵊnt\ *adj* : derived from or resulting from something else — **re·sul·tant·ly** *adv*

²resultant *n* : something that results : OUTCOME; *specif* : the single vector that is the sum of a given set of vectors

re·sume \ri-'züm\ *vb* **re·sumed; re·sum·ing** [ME *resumen*, fr. MF or L; MF *resumer*, fr. L *resumere*, fr. *re-* + *sumere* to take up, take — more at CONSUME] *vt* **1** : to assume or take again : REOCCUPY ⟨*resumed* his seat by the fire —Thomas Hardy⟩ **2** : to return to or begin again after interruption ⟨*resumed* her work⟩ **3** : to take back to oneself **4** : to pick up again **5** : REITERATE, SUMMARIZE ~ *vi* : to begin again something interrupted

ré·su·mé *or* **re·su·me** *or* **re·su·mé** \'rez-ə-ˌmā, ˌrez-ə-'*also* 'rāz- *or* ˌrāz-\ *n* [F *résumé*, fr. pp. of *résumer* to resume, summarize] : SUMMARY; *specif* : a short account of one's career and qualifications prepared typically by an applicant for a position

re·sump·tion \ri-'zəm(p)-shən\ *n* [ME, fr. MF or LL; MF *resomption*, fr. LL *resumption-*, *resumptio*, fr. L *resumptus*, pp. of *resumere*] **1** : an act or instance of resuming : RECOMMENCEMENT **2** : a return to payment in specie

re·su·pi·nate \ri-'sü-pə-ˌnāt\ *adj* [L *resupinatus*, pp. of *resupinare* to bend back to a supine position, fr. *re-* + *supinus* supine] **1** : inverted in position **2** : having or being a hyphal mat on the substrate with the hymenium at the periphery or over the whole surface ⟨~ fungi⟩

re·su·pi·na·tion \ri-ˌsü-pə-'nā-shən\ *n* : a twisting to an inverted or apparently inverted position

res·u·pine \ˌres-ə-'pīn\ *adj* [L *resupinus*, back-formation fr. *resupinare*] : SUPINE 1

re·sup·ply \ˌrē-sə-'plī\ *vt* : to supply again : provide anew with supplies — **resupply** *n*

re·sur·face \(')rē-'sər-fəs\ *vt* : to provide with a new or fresh surface ~ *vi* : to come again to the surface (as of the water); *broadly* : to appear or show up again

re·surge \ri-'sərj\ *vi* **re·surged; re·surg·ing** [L *resurgere*] : to undergo a resurgence

re·sur·gence \ri-'sər-jən(t)s\ *n* : a rising again into life, activity, or prominence : RENASCENCE

re·sur·gent \-jənt\ *adj* [L *resurgent-*, *resurgens*, prp. of *resurgere*] : undergoing or tending to produce resurgence

res·ur·rect \ˌrez-ə-'rekt\ *vt* [back-formation fr. *resurrection*] **1** : to raise from the dead **2** : to bring to view, attention, or use again

res·ur·rec·tion \ˌrez-ə-'rek-shən\ *n* [ME, fr. LL *resurrection-*, *resurrectio* act of rising from the dead, fr. *resurrectus*, pp. of *resurgere* to rise from the dead, fr. L, to rise again, fr. *re-* + *surgere* to rise — more at SURGE] **1 a** *cap* : the rising of Christ from the dead **b** *often cap* : the rising again to life of all the human dead before the final judgment **c** : the state of one risen from the dead **2** : RESURGENCE, REVIVAL **3** *Christian Science* : a spiritualization of thought : material belief that yields to spiritual understanding — **res·ur·rec·tion·al** \-shnəl, -shən-ᵊl\ *adj*

res·ur·rec·tion·ist \-sh(ə-)nəst\ *n* **1** : BODY SNATCHER **2** : one who resurrects

re·sus·ci·tate \ri-'səs-ə-ˌtāt\ *vb* **-tat·ed; -tat·ing** [L *resuscitatus*, pp. of *resuscitare*, lit., to stir up again, fr. *re-* + *suscitare* to stir up, fr. *sub-*, *sus-* up + *citare* to put in motion, stir — more at SUB-, CITE] *vt* : to revive from apparent death or from unconsciousness; *also* : REVITALIZE ~ *vi* : to come to : REVIVE — **re·sus·ci·ta·tion** \ri-ˌsəs-ə-'tā-shən, ˌrē-\ *n* — **re·sus·ci·ta·tive** \ri-'səs-ə-ˌtāt-iv\ *adj*

re·sus·ci·ta·tor \ri-'səs-ə-ˌtāt-ər\ *n* : one that resuscitates; *specif* : an apparatus used to restore the respiration of a partially asphyxiated person

¹ret \'ret\ *vb* **ret·ted; ret·ting** [ME *reten*, fr. MD] *vt* : to soak (as flax) to loosen the fiber from the woody tissue ~ *vi* : to become retted

²ret *abbr* **1** retain **2** retired **3** return

re·ta·ble \'rē-ˌtā-bəl, 'ret-ə-bəl\ *n* [F, fr. Sp *retablo*, deriv. of L *retro-* + *tabula* board, tablet] : a raised shelf above an altar for the altar cross, the altar lights, and flowers

¹re·tail \'rē-ˌtāl, *esp for 2 also* ri-'tā(ə)l\ *vb* [ME *retailen*, fr. MF *retaillier* to cut back, divide into pieces, fr. OF, fr. *re-* + *taillier* to cut — more at TAILOR] *vt* **1** : to sell in small quantities directly to the ultimate consumer **2** : TELL, RETELL ~ *vi* : to sell at retail — **re·tail·er** *n*

²re·tail \'rē-ˌtāl\ *n* : the sale of commodities or goods in small quantities to ultimate consumers — **at retail** **1** : at a retailer's price **2** : ⁴RETAIL

³re·tail \'rē-ˌtāl\ *adj* : of, relating to, or engaged in the sale of commodities at retail ⟨~ trade⟩

⁴re·tail \'rē-ˌtāl\ *adv* : in small quantities : from a retailer

re·tail·ing \'rē-ˌtā-liŋ\ *n* : the activities involved in the selling of goods to ultimate consumers for personal or household consumption

re·tain \ri-'tān\ *vt* [ME *reteinen*, *retainen*, fr. MF *retenir*, fr. L *retinēre* to hold back, keep, restrain, fr. *re-* + *tenēre* to hold — more at THIN] **1 a** : to keep in possession or use **b** : to keep in one's pay or service; *specif* : to employ by paying a retainer **c** : to keep in mind or memory : REMEMBER **2** : to hold secure or intact ⟨lead ~*s* heat⟩ ***syn*** see KEEP

retained object *n* : an object in a passive construction ⟨*me* in *a book was given me* and *book* in *I was given a book* are *retained objects*⟩

¹re·tain·er \ri-'tā-nər\ *n* [ME *reteiner* act of withholding, fr. *reteinen* + AF *-er* (as in *weyver* waiver)] **1** : the act of a client by which he engages the services of a lawyer, counselor, or adviser **2** : a fee paid to a lawyer or professional adviser for advice or services or for a claim on his services in case of need

²retainer *n* [*retain*] **1** : one that retains **2 a** : a person attached or owing service to a household; *esp* : SERVANT **b** : EMPLOYEE **3** : any of various devices used for holding something

¹re·take \(')rē-'tāk\ *vt* **-took** \-'tůk\; **-tak·en** \-'tā-kən\; **-tak·ing** **1** : to take or receive again **2** : RECAPTURE **3** : to photograph again

²re·take \'rē-ˌtāk\ *n* : a second photographing or photograph

re·tal·i·ate \ri-'tal-ē-ˌāt\ *vb* **-at·ed; -at·ing** [LL *retaliatus*, pp. of *retaliare*, fr. L *re-* + *talio* legal retaliation] *vt* : to repay (as an injury) in kind ~ *vi* : to return like for like; *esp* : to get revenge ***syn*** see RECIPROCATE — **re·tal·i·a·tion** \ri-ˌtal-ē-'ā-shən, ˌrē-\ *n* — **re·tal·i·a·tive** \ri-'tal-ē-ˌāt-iv\ *adj* — **re·tal·ia·to·ry** \-'tal-yə-ˌtōr-ē, -'tal-ē-ə-, -ˌtȯr-\ *adj*

¹re·tard \ri-'tärd\ *vb* [L *retardare*, fr. *re-* + *tardus* slow] *vt* **1** : to slow up esp. by preventing or hindering advance or accomplishment : IMPEDE **2** : to delay academic progress by failure to promote ~ *vi* : to undergo retardation ***syn*** see DELAY ***ant*** accelerate, advance, further — **re·tard·er** *n*

²retard *n* : a holding back or slowing down : RETARDATION

re·tar·dant \ri-'tärd-ᵊnt\ *adj* : serving or tending to retard ⟨flame=*retardant* fabrics⟩ — **retardant** *n*

re·tar·date \-'tärd-ˌāt, -ət\ *n* : a mentally retarded person

re·tar·da·tion \ˌrē-ˌtär-'dā-shən, ri-\ *n* **1** : an act or instance of retarding **2** : the extent to which something is retarded **3** : a musical suspension; *specif* : one that resolves upward **4 a** : an abnormal slowness of thought or action; *also* : less than normal intellectual competence usu. characterized by an IQ of less than 70 **b** : slowness in development or progress

re·tard·ed \ri-'tärd-əd\ *adj* : slow or limited in intellectual or emotional development or academic progress

retch \'rech, *esp Brit* 'rēch\ *vb* [(assumed) ME *rechen* to spit, retch, fr. OE *hrǣcan* to spit, hawk; akin to L *crepare* to rattle — more at RAVEN] *vi* : to make an effort to vomit ~ *vt* : VOMIT — **retch** *n*

retd *abbr* **1** retained **2** retired **3** returned

re·te \'rēt-ē, 'rāt-\ *n, pl* **re·tia** \'rēt-ē-ə, 'rāt-\ [NL, fr. L, net — more at RETINA] **1** : a network esp. of blood vessels or nerves : PLEXUS **2** : an anatomical part resembling or including a network

re·tell \(')rē-'tel\ *vt* **-told** \-'tōld\; **-tell·ing** **1** : to count again **2** : to tell again or in another form

re·tell·ing *n* : a new version of a story ⟨a ~ of a Greek legend⟩

re·tem \rə-'tem, 'ret-əm\ *n* [Ar *ratam*] : a desert shrub (*Retama raetam*) of western Asia that is the juniper of the Old Testament and has tiny white flowers

re·tene \'rē-ˌtēn, 'ret-ˌēn\ *n* [Gk *rhētinē* resin] : a crystalline hydrocarbon $C_{18}H_{18}$ isolated esp. from pine tar and fossil resins or prepared artificially

re·ten·tion \ri-'ten-chən\ *n* [ME *retencioun*, fr. L *retention-*, *retentio*, fr. *retentus*, pp. of *retinēre* to retain — more at RETAIN] **1 a** : the act of retaining : the state of being retained **b** : abnormal retaining of a fluid or secretion in a body cavity **2 a** : power of retaining : RETENTIVENESS **b** : an ability to retain things in mind; *specif* : a preservation of the aftereffects of experience and learning that makes recall or recognition possible **3** : something retained

re·ten·tive \-'tent-iv\ *adj* : having the power, property, or capacity of retaining ⟨soils ~ of moisture⟩; *esp* : retaining knowledge easily — **re·ten·tive·ly** *adv* — **re·ten·tive·ness** *n*

re·ten·tiv·i·ty \ˌrē-ˌten-ˈtiv-ət-ē, ri-\ *n* : the power of retaining; *specif* : the capacity for retaining magnetism after the action of the magnetizing force has ceased
[1]re·test \(ˈ)rē-ˈtest\ *vt* : to test again
[2]re·test \ˈrē-ˌtest, (ˈ)rē-ˈ\ *n* : a repeated test
re·think \(ˈ)rē-ˈthiŋk\ *vb* **-thought** \-ˈthȯt\; **-think·ing** *vt* : to think about again : RECONSIDER ~ *vi* : to engage in reconsideration — **re·think** \ˈrē-ˌthiŋk, -ˈthiŋk\ *n* — **re·think·er** *n*
re·ti·a·ri·us \ˌrāt-ē-ˈär-ē-əs\ *n, pl* **-a·rii** \-ē-ˌī\ [L, fr. *rete* net] : a Roman gladiator armed with a net and a trident
ret·i·cence \ˈret-ə-sən(t)s\ *n* **1** : the quality or state of being reticent : RESERVE, RESTRAINT **2** : an instance of being reticent
ret·i·cen·cy \-sən-sē\ *n, pl* **-cies** : RETICENCE
ret·i·cent \-sənt\ *adj* [L *reticent-, reticens,* prp. of *reticēre* to keep silent, fr. *re-* + *tacēre* to be silent — more at TACIT] **1** : inclined to be silent or uncommunicative in speech : RESERVED **2** : restrained in expression, presentation, or appearance ⟨the room has an aspect of ~ dignity —A. N. Whitehead⟩ ***syn*** see SILENT ***ant*** frank — **ret·i·cent·ly** *adv*
ret·i·cle \ˈret-i-kəl\ *n* [L *reticulum* network] : a system of lines, dots, cross hairs, or wires in the focus of the eyepiece of an optical instrument
re·tic·u·lar \ri-ˈtik-yə-lər\ *adj* **1** : RETICULATE; *esp* : of, relating to, or forming a reticulum **2** : INTRICATE
[1]re·tic·u·late \-lət, -ˌlāt\ *adj* [L *reticulatus,* fr. *reticulum*] **1** : resembling a net; *esp* : having veins, fibers, or lines crossing ⟨a ~ leaf⟩ **2** : of, relating to, or constituting evolutionary change dependent on genetic recombination involving diverse interbreeding populations — **re·tic·u·late·ly** *adv*
[2]re·tic·u·late \-ˌlāt\ *vb* **-lat·ed; -lat·ing** [back-formation fr. *reticulated,* adj. (reticulate)] *vt* **1** : to divide, mark, or construct so as to form a network **2** : to distribute (as electricity, water, or goods) by a network ~ *vi* : to become reticulated
re·tic·u·la·tion \ri-ˌtik-yə-ˈlā-shən\ *n* : a reticulated formation : NETWORK; *also* : something reticulated
ret·i·cule \ˈret-i-ˌkyü(ə)l\ *n* [F *réticule,* fr. L *reticulum* network, network bag, fr. dim. of *rete* net] **1** : RETICLE **2** : a woman's drawstring bag used esp. as a carryall
re·tic·u·lo·cyte \ri-ˈtik-yə-lō-ˌsīt\ *n* [NL *reticulum* + ISV *-cyte*] : a young red blood cell that contains a fine basophilic reticulum and appears esp. during active regeneration of lost blood — **re·tic·u·lo·cyt·ic** \-ˌtik-yə-lō-ˈsit-ik\ *adj*
re·tic·u·lo·en·do·the·li·al \ri-ˈtik-yə-lō-ˌen-də-ˈthē-lē-əl\ *adj* [NL *reticulum* + *endothelium*] : of, relating to, or being the reticuloendothelial system
reticuloendothelial system *n* : a diffuse system of cells arising from mesenchyme and comprising all the phagocytic cells of the body except the circulating leukocytes
re·tic·u·lose \ri-ˈtik-yə-ˌlōs\ *adj* : RETICULATE
re·tic·u·lum \ri-ˈtik-yə-ləm\ *n* [NL, fr. L, network] **1** : the second stomach of a ruminant in which folds of the mucous membrane form hexagonal cells **2** : a reticular formation : NETWORK; *esp* : interstitial tissue composed of reticulum cells
reticulum cell *n* : one of the branched anastomosing reticuloendothelial cells that form an intricate interstitial network ramifying through other tissues and organs
re·ti·form \ˈrēt-ə-ˌfȯrm, ˈret-\ *adj* [NL *retiformis,* fr. L *rete* + *-iformis* -iform] : composed of crossing lines and interstices : RETICULAR
retin- *or* **retino-** *comb form* [*retina*] : retina ⟨*retin*itis⟩ ⟨*retino*scopy⟩
ret·i·na \ˈret-ᵊn-ə, ˈret-nə\ *n, pl* **retinas** *or* **ret·i·nae** \-ᵊn-ˌē, -ˌī\ [ME *rethina,* fr. ML *retina,* prob. fr. L *rete* net; akin to Gk *erēmos* lonely, solitary, Lith *rėtis* sieve] : the sensory membrane that lines the eye, receives the image formed by the lens, is the immediate instrument of vision, and is connected with the brain by the optic nerve — see EYE illustration — **ret·i·nal** \ˈret-ᵊn-əl, ˈret-nəl\ *adj*
ret·i·nac·u·lum \ˌret-ᵊn-ˈak-yə-ləm\ *n, pl* **-la** \-lə\ [NL, fr. L, halter, cable, fr. *retinēre* to hold back — more at RETAIN] : a connecting or retaining band or body — **ret·i·nac·u·lar** \-lər\ *n*
ret·i·nal \ˈret-ᵊn-ˌal, -ˌȯl\ *n* [*retin-* + [3]*-al*] : a yellowish to orange aldehyde $C_{20}H_{28}O$ derived from vitamin A that in combination with proteins forms the visual pigments of the retinal rods and cones
ret·i·nene \ˈret-ᵊn-ˌēn\ *n* : RETINAL
ret·i·nis·po·ra \ˌret-ᵊn-ˈis-pə-rə\ *or* **ret·i·nos·po·ra** \-ˈäs-\ *n* [NL, fr. Gk *rhētinē* resin + NL *spora* spore] **1** : any of various Japanese ornamental dwarf shrubs (genus *Chamaecyparis*) that resemble cypresses **2** : any of several shrubs (genus *Thuja*) that retain the needlelike juvenile foliage permanently
ret·i·ni·tis \ˌret-ᵊn-ˈīt-əs\ *n* [NL] : inflammation of the retina
ret·i·nol \ˈret-ᵊn-ˌȯl, -ˌōl\ *n* [*retin-* + [1]*-ol;* fr. its being the source of retinal] : the chief and typical vitamin A
ret·i·nop·a·thy \ˌret-ᵊn-ˈäp-ə-thē\ *n* : any of various noninflammatory disorders of the retina including some that are major causes of blindness
ret·i·nos·co·py \ˌret-ᵊn-ˈäs-kə-pē\ *n* : observation of the retina of the eye esp. to determine the state of refraction
ret·i·nue \ˈret-ᵊn-ˌ(y)ü\ *n* [ME *retenue,* fr. MF, fr. fem. of *retenu,* pp. of *retenir* to retain] : a group of retainers or attendants
re·tin·u·la \re-ˈtin-yə-lə\ *n, pl* **-lae** \-ˌlē, -ˌlī\ *also* **-las** [NL, dim. of ML *retina*] : the neural receptor of a single facet of an arthropod compound eye — **re·tin·u·lar** \-lər\ *adj*
re·tir·ant \ri-ˈtī-rənt\ *n* : RETIREE
re·tire \ri-ˈtī(ə)r\ *vb* **re·tired; re·tir·ing** [MF *retirer,* fr. *re-* + *tirer* to draw — more at TIRADE] *vi* **1** : to withdraw from action or danger : RETREAT **2** : to withdraw esp. for privacy **3** : to fall back : RECEDE **4** : to withdraw from one's position or occupation : conclude one's working or professional career **5** : to go to bed ~ *vt* **1** : WITHDRAW: as **a** : to march (a military force) away from the enemy **b** : to withdraw from circulation or from the market : RECALL **c** : to withdraw from usual use or service **2** : to cause to retire from one's position or occupation **3 a** : to put out (a batter or batsman) in baseball or cricket **b** : to cause (a side) to end a turn at bat in baseball **4** : to win permanent possession of (as a trophy) ***syn*** see GO
re·tired \ri-ˈtī(ə)rd\ *adj* **1** : SECLUDED ⟨~ village⟩ **2** : withdrawn from one's position or occupation : having concluded one's working or professional career **3** : received by or due to one in retirement — **re·tired·ly** \-ˈtī-rəd-lē, -ˈtī(ə)rd-\ *adv* — **re·tired·ness** \-ˈtī(ə)rd-nəs\ *n*
re·tir·ee \ri-ˌtī-ˈrē\ *n* : a person who has retired from his vocation or profession
[1]re·tire·ment \ri-ˈtī(ə)r-mənt\ *n* **1 a** : an act of retiring : the state of being retired **b** : withdrawal from one's position or occupation or from active working life **c** : the age at which one normally retires ⟨reached ~ but was asked to work another year⟩ **2** : a place of seclusion or privacy
[2]retirement *adj* : of, relating to, or designed for retired persons
re·tir·ing \ri-ˈtī(ə)r-iŋ\ *adj* : RESERVED, SHY — **re·tir·ing·ly** \-iŋ-lē\ *adv* — **re·tir·ing·ness** *n*
re·tool \(ˈ)rē-ˈtül\ *vt* **1** : to reequip with tools **2** : REORGANIZE
[1]re·tort \ri-ˈtȯ(ə)rt\ *vb* [L *retortus,* pp. of *retorquēre,* lit., to twist back, hurl back, fr. *re-* + *torquēre* to twist — more at TORTURE] *vt* **1** : to pay or hurl back : RETURN ⟨~ an insult⟩ **2 a** : to make a reply to **b** : to say in reply **3** : to answer (as an argument) by a counter argument ~ *vi* **1** : to answer back usu. sharply **2** : to return an argument or charge **3** : RETALIATE ***syn*** see ANSWER
[2]retort *n* : a quick, witty, or cutting reply; *esp* : one that turns the first speaker's words against him
[3]re·tort \ri-ˈtȯ(ə)rt, ˈrē-ˌ\ *n* [MF *retorte,* fr. ML *retorta,* fr. L, fem. of *retortus,* pp.; fr. its shape] : a vessel in which substances are distilled or decomposed by heat


retorts

[4]re·tort \ri-ˈtȯ(ə)rt, ˈrē-ˌ\ *vt* : to treat (as oil shale) by heating in a retort
re·tor·tion \ri-ˈtȯr-shən\ *n* : an act of retorting
[1]re·touch \(ˈ)rē-ˈtəch\ *vb* [F *retoucher,* fr. MF, fr. *re-* + *toucher* to touch] *vt* **1** : to touch up : rework in order to improve **2** : to alter (as a photographic negative) to produce a more desirable appearance **3** : to color (new growth of hair) to match previously dyed, tinted, or bleached hair ~ *vi* : to make or give retouches — **re·touch·er** *n*
[2]re·touch \ˈrē-ˌtəch, (ˈ)rē-ˈ\ *n* : the act, process, or an instance of retouching; *esp* : the retouching of a new growth of hair
re·trace \(ˈ)rē-ˈtrās\ *vt* [F *retracer,* fr. MF *retracier,* fr. *re-* + *tracier* to trace] : to trace again or back
re·tract \ri-ˈtrakt\ *vb* [ME *retracten,* fr. L *retractus,* pp. of *retrahere* — more at RETREAT] *vt* **1** : to draw back or in ⟨cats ~ their claws⟩ **2 a** : to take back : WITHDRAW ⟨~ a confession⟩ **b** : DISAVOW ~ *vi* **1** : to draw back **2** : to recant or disavow something ***syn*** **1** see RECEDE ***ant*** protract **2** see ABJURE — **re·tract·able** \-ˈtrak-tə-bəl\ *adj*
re·trac·tile \ri-ˈtrak-tᵊl, -ˌtīl\ *adj* : capable of being drawn back or in ⟨~ claws⟩ — **re·trac·til·i·ty** \ˌrē-ˌtrak-ˈtil-ət-ē, ri-\ *n*
re·trac·tion \ri-ˈtrak-shən\ *n* **1** : an act of recanting; *specif* : a statement made by one retracting **2** : an act of retracting : the state of being retracted **3** : the ability to retract
re·trac·tor \ri-ˈtrak-tər\ *n* : one that retracts: as **a** : a surgical instrument for holding open the edges of a wound **b** : a muscle that draws in an organ or part
re·train \(ˈ)rē-ˈtrān\ *vt* : to train again or anew ~ *vi* : to become trained again — **re·train·able** \-ˈtrā-nə-bəl\ *adj*
re·train·ee \(ˌ)rē-ˌtrā-ˈnē\ *n* : a person who is being retrained
re·tral \ˈrē-trəl, ˈre-\ *adj* [L *retro* back — more at RETRO-] **1** : situated at or toward the back : POSTERIOR **2** : BACKWARD, RETROGRADE — **re·tral·ly** \-trə-lē\ *adv*
re·trans·late \ˌrē-tran(t)s-ˈlāt, -tranz-\ *vt* : to translate (a translation) into another language; *also* : to give a new form to ~ *vi* : to retranslate something — **re·trans·la·tion** \-ˈlā-shən\ *n*
[1]re·tread \(ˈ)rē-ˈtred\ *vt* **re·tread·ed; re·tread·ing** **1** : to cement, mold, and vulcanize a new tread of camelback upon the bare cord fabric of (a worn tire) **2** : to make over as if new ⟨~ an old plot⟩
[2]re·tread \ˈrē-ˌtred\ *n* **1** : a new tread on a tire **2** : a retreaded tire **3** : one (as a retired person) who is retrained for work
re–tread \(ˈ)rē-ˈtred\ *vt* **-trod** \-ˈträd\; **-trod·den** \-ˈträd-ᵊn\ *or* **trod; -tread·ing** : to tread again
[1]re·treat \ri-ˈtrēt\ *n* [ME *retret,* fr. MF *retrait,* fr. pp. of *retraire* to withdraw, fr. L *retrahere,* lit., to draw back, fr. *re-* + *trahere* to draw — more at DRAW] **1 a** (1) : an act or process of withdrawing esp. from what is difficult, dangerous, or disagreeable (2) : the process of receding from a position or state attained ⟨the ~ of a glacier⟩ ⟨the slow ~ of an epidemic⟩ **b** (1) : the usu. forced withdrawal of troops from an enemy or from an advanced position (2) : a signal for retreating **c** (1) : a signal given by bugle at the beginning of a military flag-lowering ceremony (2) : a military flag-lowering ceremony **2** : a place of privacy or safety : REFUGE **3** : a period of group withdrawal for prayer, meditation, study, and instruction under a director
[2]retreat *vi* **1** : to make a retreat : WITHDRAW **2** : to slope backward ~ *vt* : to draw or lead back : REMOVE; *specif* : to move (a piece) back in chess ***syn*** see RECEDE — **re·treat·er** *n*
re·treat·ant \-ˈtrēt-ᵊnt\ *n* : one who is on a religious retreat
re·trench \ri-ˈtrench\ *vb* [obs. F *retrencher* (now *retrancher*), fr. MF *retrenchier,* fr. *re-* + *trenchier* to cut] *vt* **1 a** : to cut down : RE-

DUCE **b** : to cut out : EXCISE **2** : to pare away : REMOVE ~ *vi* : to make retrenchments; *specif* : ECONOMIZE ***syn*** see SHORTEN

re·trench·ment \-mənt\ *n* : REDUCTION, CURTAILMENT; *specif* : a cutting of expenses

re·tri·al \(ˈ)rē-ˈtrī(-ə)l\ *n* : a second trial, experiment, or test

ret·ri·bu·tion \ˌre-trə-ˈbyü-shən\ *n* [ME *retribucioun*, fr. MF *retribution*, fr. LL *retribution-*, *retributio*, fr. L *retributus*, pp. of *retribuere* to pay back, fr. *re-* + *tribuere* to pay — more at TRIBUTE] **1** : RECOMPENSE, REWARD **2** : the dispensing or receiving of reward or punishment esp. in the hereafter **3** : something given or exacted in recompense; *esp* : PUNISHMENT

re·trib·u·tive \ri-ˈtrib-yət-iv\ *adj* : of, relating to, or marked by retribution — **re·trib·u·tive·ly** *adv*

re·trib·u·to·ry \-yə-ˌtōr-ē, -ˌtȯr-\ *adj* : RETRIBUTIVE

re·triev·al \ri-ˈtrē-vəl\ *n* **1** : an act or process of retrieving **2** : possibility of being retrieved or of recovering ⟨beyond ~⟩

[1]re·trieve \ri-ˈtrēv\ *vb* **re·trieved; re·triev·ing** [ME *retreven*, modif. of MF *retrouver* to find again, fr. *re-* + *trouver* to find, prob. fr. (assumed) VL *tropare* to compose — more at TROUBADOUR] *vt* **1** : to discover and bring in (killed or wounded game) **2** : to call to mind again **3** : to get back again : REGAIN **4** **a** : RESCUE, SALVAGE **b** : to return (as a ball or shuttlecock that is difficult to reach) successfully **5** : RESTORE, REVIVE ⟨his writing ~*s* the past⟩ **6** : to remedy the evil consequences of : CORRECT **7** : to get and bring back; *esp* : to recover (as information) from storage ~ *vi* : to bring in game ⟨a dog that ~*s* well⟩; *also* : to bring back an object thrown by a person — **re·triev·abil·i·ty** \-ˌtrē-və-ˈbil-ət-ē\ *n* — **re·triev·able** \-ˈtrē-və-bəl\ *adj*

[2]retrieve *n* **1** : RETRIEVAL **2** : the successful return of a ball that is difficult to reach or control (as in tennis)

re·triev·er \ri-ˈtrē-vər\ *n* : one that retrieves; *specif* : a vigorous active medium-sized dog with heavy water-resistant coat developed by crossbreeding and used esp. for retrieving game

retro- *prefix* [ME, fr. L, fr. *retro*, fr. *re-* + *-tro* (as in *intro* within) — more at INTRO-] **1** : backward : back ⟨*retro*-rocket⟩ **2** : situated behind ⟨*retro*choir⟩

ret·ro·ac·tion \ˌre-trō-ˈak-shən\ *n* **1** [*retroactive* + *-ion*] : retroactive operation (as of a law or tax) **2** [*retro-* + *action*] : a reciprocal action : REACTION

ret·ro·ac·tive \-ˈak-tiv\ *adj* [F *retroactif*, fr. L *retroactus*, pp. of *retroagere* to drive back, reverse, fr. *retro-* + *agere* to drive — more at AGENT] : extending in scope or effect to a prior time or to conditions that existed or originated in the past; *esp* : made effective as of a date prior to enactment, promulgation, or imposition ⟨~ tax⟩ — **ret·ro·ac·tive·ly** *adv* — **ret·ro·ac·tiv·i·ty** \-ˌak-ˈtiv-ət-ē\ *n*

ret·ro·cede \ˌre-trō-ˈsēd\ *vb* **-ced·ed; -ced·ing** [L *retrocedere*, fr. *retro-* + *cedere* to go, cede — more at CEDE] *vi* : to go back : RECEDE ~ *vt* [F *rétrocéder*, fr. ML *retrocedere*, fr. L *retro-* + *cedere* to cede] : to cede back (as a territory) — **ret·ro·ces·sion** \-ˈsesh-ən\ *n*

ret·ro·fire \ˈre-trō-ˌfī(ə)r\ *vi, of a retro-rocket* : to become ignited ~ *vt* : to cause to retrofire — **retrofire** *n*

ret·ro·fit \ˌre-trō-ˈfit\ *vt* : to furnish (as an aircraft) with new parts or equipment not available at the time of manufacture

ret·ro·flex \ˈre-trə-ˌfleks\ *or* **ret·ro·flexed** \-ˌflekst\ *adj* [ISV, fr. NL *retroflexus*, fr. L *retro-* + *flexus*, pp. of *flectere* to bend] **1** : turned or bent abruptly backward **2** : articulated with the tongue tip turned up or curled back just under the hard palate ⟨~ vowel⟩

ret·ro·flex·ion *or* **ret·ro·flec·tion** \ˌre-trə-ˈflek-shən\ *n* **1** : the act or process of bending back **2** : the state of being bent back; *esp* : the bending back of an organ (as a uterus) upon itself **3** : retroflex articulation

ret·ro·gra·da·tion \ˌre-trō-grā-ˈdā-shən, -grə-\ *n* : the action or process of retrograding

[1]ret·ro·grade \ˈre-trə-ˌgrād\ *adj* [ME, fr. L *retrogradus*, fr. *retro-* + *gradi* to go] **1** **a** (1) *of a celestial body* : having a direction contrary to that of the general motion of similar bodies (2) : being or relating to the rotation of a satellite in a direction opposite to that of the body orbited **b** : moving, directed, or treading backward ⟨a ~ step⟩ **c** : contrary to the normal order : INVERSE **2** : tending toward or resulting in a worse state **3** *archaic* : CONTRADICTORY, OPPOSED **4** : characterized by retrogression **5** : affecting a period immediately prior to a precipitating cause ⟨~ amnesia⟩ — **ret·ro·grade·ly** *adv*

[2]retrograde *adv* : BACKWARD, REVERSELY

[3]retrograde *vb* [L *retrogradi*, fr. *retro-* + *gradi* to go — more at GRADE] *vt, archaic* : to turn back : REVERSE ~ *vi* **1** **a** : to go back : RETREAT ⟨a glacier ~*s*⟩ **b** : to go back over (as a narrative or an argument) : RECAPITULATE **2** : to decline to a worse condition ***syn*** see RECEDE

ret·ro·gress \ˌre-trə-ˈgres\ *vi* [L *retrogressus*, pp. of *retrogradi*] : to move backward : REVERT

ret·ro·gres·sion \-ˈgresh-ən\ *n* **1** : REGRESSION 3 **2** : a reversal in development or condition; *esp* : a passing from a higher to a lower or from a more to a less specialized state or type in the course of development (as of an organism)

ret·ro·gres·sive \-ˈgres-iv\ *adj* : characterized by retrogression: as **a** : going or directed backward **b** : declining from a better to a worse state **c** : passing from a higher to a lower organization — **ret·ro·gres·sive·ly** *adv*

ret·ro·len·tal \ˌre-trō-ˈlent-ᵊl\ *adj* [*retro-* + L *lent-*, *lens* lens] : situated or occurring behind a lens (as of the eye)

ret·ro·lin·gual \-ˈliŋ-g(yə-)wəl\ *adj* : situated behind or near the base of the tongue ⟨~ salivary glands⟩

ret·ro·pack \ˈre-trō-ˌpak\ *n* : a system of auxiliary rockets on a spacecraft that produces thrust in the direction opposite to the motion of the spacecraft and that is used to reduce speed

ret·ro·per·i·to·ne·al \-ˌper-ət-ᵊn-ˈē-əl\ *adj* : situated behind the peritoneum — **ret·ro·per·i·to·ne·al·ly** \-ə-lē\ *adv*

ret·ro·re·flec·tion \ˌre-trō-ri-ˈflek-shən\ *n* : the action or use of a retroreflector — **ret·ro·re·flec·tive** \-ˈflek-tiv\ *adj*

ret·ro·re·flec·tor \-ˈflek-tər\ *n* : a device that reflects radiation (as light) so that the paths of the rays are parallel to those of the incident rays

ret·ro–rock·et \ˈre-trō-ˌräk-ət\ *n* : an auxiliary rocket on an airplane, missile, or spacecraft that produces thrust in a direction opposite to or at an oblique angle to the motion of the object for deceleration

re·trorse \ˈrē-ˌtrȯ(ə)rs\ *adj* [L *retrorsus*, contr. of *retroversus* — more at RETROVERSION] : bent backward or downward — **re·trorse·ly** *adv*

ret·ro·ser·rate \ˌre-trō-ˈse(ə)r-ˌāt, -sə-ˈrāt\ *adj* : having retrorse teeth or barbs ⟨a ~ leaf⟩

[1]ret·ro·spect \ˈre-trə-ˌspekt\ *n* [*retro-* + *-spect* (as in *prospect*)] **1** *archaic* : reference to or regard of a precedent or authority **2** : a review of or meditation on past events — **in retrospect** : in considering the past or a past event — **in the retrospect** : in considering the past or a past event

[2]retrospect *adj* : RETROSPECTIVE

[3]retrospect *vb* [L *retrospectus*, pp. of *retrospicere* to look back at, fr. *retro-* + *specere* to look — more at SPY] *vi* **1** : to engage in retrospection **2** : to refer back : REFLECT ~ *vt* : to go back over in thought

ret·ro·spec·tion \ˌre-trə-ˈspek-shən\ *n* : the act or process or an instance of surveying the past

[1]ret·ro·spec·tive \-ˈspek-tiv\ *adj* **1** **a** (1) : of, relating to, or given to retrospection (2) : based on memory ⟨a ~ report⟩ **b** : being a retrospective ⟨a ~ exhibition⟩ **2** : affecting things past : RETROACTIVE — **ret·ro·spec·tive·ly** *adv*

[2]retrospective *n* : a generally comprehensive exhibition showing the work of an artist over a span of years

re·trous·sé \rə-ˌtrü-ˈsā, rə-ˈtrü-ˌ, ˌre-trü-ˈ\ *adj* [F, fr. pp. of *retrousser* to tuck up, fr. MF, fr. *re-* + *trousser* to truss, tuck up] : turned up ⟨~ nose⟩

ret·ro·ver·sion \ˌre-trō-ˈvər-zhən *also* -shən\ *n* [L *retroversus* turned backward, fr. *retro-* + *versus*, pp. of *vertere* to turn — more at WORTH] **1** : the act or process of turning back or regressing **2** : the bending backward of the uterus and cervix

re–try \(ˈ)rē-ˈtrī\ *vt* : to try again

ret·si·na \ret-ˈsē-nə\ *n* [NGk, perh. fr. It *resina* resin, fr. L] : a resin-flavored Greek wine

[1]re·turn \ri-ˈtərn\ *vb* [ME *retournen*, fr. MF *retourner*, fr. *re-* + *tourner* to turn — more at TURN] *vi* **1** **a** : to go back or come back again ⟨~ home⟩ **b** : to go back in thought or practice : REVERT ⟨soon ~*ed* to her old habit⟩ **2** : to pass back to an earlier possessor ⟨the estate ~*ed* to a distant branch of the family⟩ **3** : REPLY, RETORT ~ *vt* **1** **a** : to give (as an official account) to a superior **b** : to elect (a candidate) as attested by official report or returns **c** : to bring back (as a writ or verdict) to an office or tribunal **2** **a** : to bring, send, or put back to a former or proper place ⟨~ the gun to its holster⟩ **b** : to restore to a former or to a normal state **3** **a** : to send back : VISIT — usu. used with *on* or *upon* **b** *obs* : RETORT **4** : to bring in (as profit) : YIELD **5** **a** : to give or perform in return : REPAY ⟨~ a compliment⟩ **b** : to give back to the owner **c** : REFLECT ⟨~ an echo⟩ **6** : to cause (as a wall) to continue in a different direction (as at a right angle) **7** : to lead (a specified suit or specified card of a suit) in response to a partner's earlier lead **8** **a** : to play (a ball or shuttlecock) served by an opponent **b** : to run with (a football) after a kick by the opposing team — **re·turn·er** *n*

syn **1** RETURN, REVERT, RECUR, RECRUDESCE *shared meaning element* : to go or come back
2 see RECIPROCATE

[2]return *n* **1** **a** : the act of coming back to or from a place or condition **b** : a regular or frequent returning : RECURRENCE **2** **a** (1) : the delivery of a legal order (as a writ) to the proper officer or court (2) : the endorsed certificate of an official stating his action in the execution of such an order (3) : the sending back of a commission with the certificate of the commissioners **b** : an account or formal report **c** (1) : a report of the results of balloting — usu. used in pl. ⟨election ~*s*⟩ (2) : an official declaration of the election of a candidate (3) *chiefly Brit* : ELECTION **d** (1) : a formal statement on a required legal form showing taxable income, allowable deductions and exemptions, and the computation of the tax due (2) : a list of taxable property **3** **a** : the continuation usu. at a right angle of the face or of a member of a building or of a molding or group of moldings **b** : a turn, bend, or winding back (as in a rod, stream, or trench) **c** : a means for conveying something (as water) back to its starting point **4** **a** : a quantity of goods, consignment, or cargo coming back in exchange for goods sent out as a mercantile venture **b** : the value of or profit from such venture **c** (1) : the profit from labor, investment, or business : YIELD (2) *pl* : RESULTS **d** : the rate of profit in a process of production per unit of cost **5** **a** : the act of returning something to a former place, condition, or ownership : RESTITUTION **b** : something returned; *esp, pl* : unsold publications returned to the publisher for cash or credit **6** **a** : something given in repayment or reciprocation **b** : ANSWER, RETORT **7** : an answering play: as **a** : a lead in a suit previously led by one's partner in a card game **b** : the action of returning a ball (as in football or tennis) — **in return** : in compensation or repayment

[3]return *adj* **1** **a** : having or formed by a change of direction ⟨a ~ facade⟩ **b** : doubled on itself ⟨a ~ flue⟩ **2** : played, delivered, or given in return : taking place for the second time ⟨a ~ meeting for the two champions⟩ **3** : used or taken on returning ⟨the ~ road⟩ **4** : returning or permitting return ⟨a ~ valve⟩ **5** : of, relating to, or causing a return to a place or condition

re·turn·able \ri-ˈtər-nə-bəl\ *adj* **1** : legally required to be returned, delivered, or argued at a specified time or place ⟨a writ ~ on the date indicated⟩ **2** **a** : capable of returning or of being returned (as for reuse) **b** : permitted to be returned

re·turn·ee \ri-ˌtər-ˈnē\ *n* : one who returns; *esp* : one returning to the U.S. after military service overseas

re·tuse \ri-ˈt(y)üs\ *adj* [L *retusus* blunted, fr. pp. of *retundere* to pound back, blunt, fr. *re-* + *tundere* to beat, pound — more at STINT] : having the apex rounded or obtuse with a slight notch ⟨a ~ leaf⟩

[1]Reu·ben \'rü-bən\ *n* [Heb *Rĕ'ūbhēn*] : a son of Jacob and the traditional eponymous ancestor of one of the tribes of Israel
[2]Reuben *n* [*Reuben* L. Goldberg †1970 Am cartoonist] : a statuette awarded annually by a professional organization for notable achievement in cartoon artistry
re·uni·fy \(')rē-'yü-nə-ˌfī\ *vt* : to restore unity to — **re·uni·fi·ca·tion** \(ˌ)rē-ˌyü-nə-fə-'kā-shən\ *n*
re·union \(')rē-'yü-nyən\ *n* **1** : an act of reuniting : the state of being reunited **2** : a reuniting of persons after separation
re·union·ist \-nyə-nəst\ *n* : an advocate of reunion (as of sects or parties) — **re·union·is·tic** \(ˌ)rē-ˌyü-nyə-'nis-tik\ *adj*
re·unite \ˌrē-yü-'nīt\ *vb* [ML *reunitus*, pp. of *reunire*, fr. L *re-* + LL *unire* to unite — more at UNITE] *vt* : to bring together again ~ *vi* : to come together again : REJOIN
re–up \(')rē-'əp\ *vi* [*re-* + sign *up*] : to enlist again
re·us·able \(')rē-'yü-zə-bəl\ *adj* : capable of being used again or repeatedly
[1]re·use \(')rē-'yüz\ *vt* : to use again esp. after reclaiming or reprocessing ⟨the need to ~ scarce resources⟩
[2]reuse \-'yüs\ *n* : further or repeated use
[1]rev \'rev\ *n* [short for *revolution*] : a revolution of a motor
[2]rev *vb* **revved; rev·ving** *vt* **1 a** : to step up the number of revolutions per minute of — often used with *up* ⟨~ up the engine⟩ **b** : INCREASE — used with *up* ⟨~ up production⟩ **2** : to drive or operate esp. at high speed — often used with *up* **3** : to make more active or effective — used with *up* ~ *vi* **1** : to operate at an increased speed of revolution — usu. used with *up* **2** : to increase in amount or activity — used with *up*
[3]rev *abbr* **1** revenue **2** reverse **3** review; reviewed **4** revised; revision
Rev *abbr* **1** Revelation **2** reverend
REV *abbr* reentry vehicle
re·val·i·date \(')rē-'val-ə-ˌdāt\ *vt* : to make valid again — **re·val·i·da·tion** \(ˌ)rē-ˌval-ə-'dā-shən\ *n*
re·val·u·ate \(')rē-'val-yə-ˌwāt\ *vt* [back-formation fr. *revaluation*] : REVALUE; *specif* : to increase the value of (currency) — **re·val·u·a·tion** \(ˌ)rē-ˌval-yə-'wā-shən\ *n*
re·val·ue \(')rē-'val-(ˌ)yü, -yə(-w)\ *vt* **1** : to value (as currency) anew **2** : to make a new valuation of : REAPPRAISE
re·vamp \(')rē-'vamp\ *vt* **1** : RENOVATE, RECONSTRUCT **2** : to make over : REVISE
re·vanche \rə-'väⁿsh\ *n* [F, fr. MF, alter. of *revenche* — more at REVENGE] : REVENGE; *esp* : a usu. political policy designed to recover lost territory or status
[1]re·vanch·ist \-'väⁿ-shəst\ *n* : one who advocates a policy of revanche
[2]revanchist *adj* : of or relating to a policy of revanche
[1]re·veal \ri-'vē(ə)l\ *vt* [ME *revelen*, fr. MF *reveler*, fr. L *revelare* to uncover, reveal, fr. *re-* + *velare* to cover, veil, fr. *velum* veil] **1** : to make known through divine inspiration **2** : to make (something secret or hidden) publicly or generally known ⟨~ a secret⟩ **3** : to open up to view : DISPLAY ⟨the uncurtained window ~*ed* a cluttered room⟩ — **re·veal·able** \-'vē-lə-bəl\ *adj* — **re·veal·er** *n*
syn REVEAL, DISCOVER, DISCLOSE, DIVULGE, TELL, BETRAY *shared meaning element* : to make known what has been or should be concealed ***ant*** conceal
[2]reveal *n* [alter. of earlier *revale*, fr. ME *revalen* to lower, fr. MF *revaler*, fr. *re-* + *val* valley — more at VALE] : the side of an opening (as for a window) between a frame and the outer surface of a wall; *also* : JAMB
re·veal·ing *adj* : full of import : SIGNIFICANT
re·veal·ment \ri-'vē(ə)l-mənt\ *n* : an act of revealing
re·veg·e·tate \(')rē-'vej-ə-ˌtāt\ *vt* : to provide (barren or denuded land) with a new vegetative cover — **re·veg·e·ta·tion** \(ˌ)rē-ˌvej-ə-'tā-shən\ *n*
re·ve·hent \'rev-ə-hənt, ri-'vē-ənt\ *adj* [L *revehent-*, *revehens*, prp. of *revehere* to carry back, fr. *re-* + *vehere* to carry — more at WAY] : carrying back ⟨~ veins⟩
rev·eil·le \'rev-ə-lē, *Brit* ri-'val-i *or* -'vel-\ *n* [modif. of F *réveillez*, imper. pl. of *réveiller* to awaken, fr. MF *reveiller*, fr. *re-* + *eveiller* to awaken, fr. (assumed) VL *exvigilare*, fr. L *ex-* + *vigilare* to keep watch, stay awake — more at VIGILANT] **1** : a bugle call at about sunrise signaling the first military formation of the day; *also* : the formation so signaled **2** : a signal to get up mornings
[1]rev·el \'rev-əl\ *vi* **-eled** *or* **-elled; -el·ing** *or* **-el·ling** \-(ə-)liŋ\ [ME *revelen*, fr. MF *reveler*, lit., to rebel, fr. L *rebellare*] **1** : to take part in a revel : CAROUSE **2** : to take intense satisfaction
[2]revel *n* : a usu. wild party or celebration
rev·e·la·tion \ˌrev-ə-'lā-shən\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. LL *revelation-*, *revelatio*, fr. L *revelatus*, pp. of *revelare* to reveal] **1 a** : an act of revealing or communicating divine truth **b** : something that is revealed by God to man **2** *cap* : an apocalyptic writing addressed to early Christians of Asia Minor and included as a book in the New Testament — see BIBLE table **3 a** : an act of revealing to view or making known **b** : something that is revealed; *esp* : an enlightening or astonishing disclosure
Rev·e·la·tions \-shənz\ *n pl but sing in constr* [alter. (influenced by such titles as *Galatians*) of *Revelation*] : REVELATION 2
rev·e·la·tor \'rev-ə-ˌlāt-ər\ *n* : one that reveals; *esp* : one that reveals the will of God
re·ve·la·to·ry \'rev-ə-lə-ˌtōr-ē, -ˌtȯr-, ri-'vel-ə-\ *adj* : of or relating to revelation : serving to reveal something
rev·el·er *or* **rev·el·ler** \'rev-(ə-)lər\ *n* : one who engages in revelry
rev·el·ry \'rev-əl-rē\ *n* : noisy partying or merrymaking
rev·e·nant \'rev-ə-ˌnäⁿ, -nənt\ *n* [F, fr. prp. of *revenir* to return] : one that returns after death or a long absence — **revenant** *adj*
[1]re·venge \ri-'venj\ *vt* **re·venged; re·veng·ing** [ME *revengen*, fr. MF *revengier*, fr. OF, fr. *re-* + *vengier* to avenge — more at VENGENCE] **1** : to inflict injury in return for ⟨~ an insult⟩ **2** : to avenge (as oneself) usu. by retaliating in kind or degree ***syn*** see AVENGE — **re·veng·er** *n*
[2]revenge *n* [MF *revenge*, *revenche*, fr. *revengier*, *revenchier* to revenge] **1** : an act or instance of retaliating in order to get even **2** : a desire for revenge **3** : an opportunity for getting satisfaction
re·venge·ful \ri-'venj-fəl\ *adj* : full of or prone to revenge : determined to get even ***syn*** see VINDICTIVE — **re·venge·ful·ly** \-fə-lē\ *adv* — **re·venge·ful·ness** *n*
rev·e·nue \'rev-ə-ˌn(y)ü\ *n, often attrib* [ME, fr. MF, fr. *revenir* to return, fr. L *revenire*, fr. *re-* + *venire* to come — more at COME] **1** : the gross income returned by an investment **2** : the yield of sources of income (as taxes) that a political unit (as a nation or state) collects and receives into the treasury for public use **3** : the total income produced by a given source ⟨a property expected to yield a large annual ~⟩ **4** : a government department concerned with the collection of the national revenue
revenue bond *n* : a bond issued by a public agency authorized to build, acquire, or improve a revenue-producing property (as a toll road or a water system) and payable solely out of revenue derived from such property
rev·e·nu·er \'rev-ə-ˌn(y)ü-ər\ *n* : a revenue officer or boat
revenue stamp *n* : a stamp (as on a cigar box) for use as evidence of payment of a tax
revenue tariff *n* : a tariff intended wholly or primarily to produce public revenue — compare PROTECTIVE TARIFF
re·verb \ri-'vərb, 'rē-ˌ\ *n* [short for *reverberation*] : an electronically produced echo effect in recorded music; *also* : a device for producing reverb
re·ver·ber·ant \ri-'vər-b(ə-)rənt\ *adj* **1** : tending to reverberate **2** : marked by reverberation : RESONANT — **re·ver·ber·ant·ly** *adv*
[1]re·ver·ber·ate \-bə-ˌrāt\ *vb* **-at·ed; -at·ing** [L *reverberatus*, pp. of *reverberare*, fr. *re-* + *verberare* to lash, fr. *verber* rod — more at VERVAIN] *vt* **1** : to force back: as **a** : REPEL **b** : ECHO ⟨~ sound⟩ **c** : REFLECT ⟨~ light or heat⟩ **2** : to subject to the action of a reverberatory furnace ~ *vi* **1 a** : to become driven back **b** : to become reflected **2** : to continue in or as if in a series of echoes : RESOUND
[2]re·ver·ber·ate \-b(ə-)rət\ *adj* : REVERBERANT, REVERBERATED
re·ver·ber·a·tion \ri-ˌvər-bə-'rā-shən\ *n* **1** : an act of reverberating : the state of being reverberated **2 a** : something that is reverberated **b** : an effect or impact that resembles an echo
re·ver·ber·a·tive \ri-'vər-bə-ˌrāt-iv, -b(ə-)rət-\ *adj* **1** : constituting reverberation **2** : tending to reverberate : REFLECTIVE
[1]re·ver·ber·a·to·ry \ri-'vər-b(ə-)rə-ˌtōr-ē, -bə-ˌtōr-, -ˌtȯr-\ *adj* : acting by reverberation; *esp* : forced back or diverted onto material under treatment
[2]reverberatory *n, pl* **-ries** : a furnace or kiln in which heat is radiated from the roof onto the material treated
[1]re·vere \ri-'vi(ə)r\ *vt* **re·vered; re·ver·ing** [L *revereri*, fr. *re-* + *vereri* to fear, respect — more at WARY] : to show devoted deferential honor to
syn REVERE, REVERENCE, VENERATE, WORSHIP, ADORE *shared meaning element* : to honor and admire profoundly and respectfully. REVERE stresses deference and tenderness of feeling ⟨that makes her loved at home, *revered* abroad —Robert Burns⟩ REVERENCE presupposes an intrinsic merit and inviolability in the one honored and a corresponding depth of feeling in the one honoring ⟨sincerity and simplicity! if I could only say how I *reverence* them —A. C. Benson⟩ VENERATE implies a holding as holy or sacrosanct because of character, association, or age ⟨those who *venerate* . . . Dante and Shakespeare and Milton —Havelock Ellis⟩ ⟨a *venerated* tradition⟩ WORSHIP implies homage usually expressed in words or ceremony and, in other than divine application, may impute exalted character or outstanding merit to the one worshiped or weakness (as of judgment or sense) to the worshiper ⟨admire the poetry and *worship* the memory of the poet —William DuBois⟩ ⟨foolish mothers *worshiping* and indulging spoiled children⟩ ADORE, otherwise close to *worship*, may stress the notion of an individual and personal approach or attachment ⟨his staff *adored* him, his men worshiped him —W. A. White⟩ ***ant*** flout
[2]revere *n* [by alter.] : REVERS
[1]rev·er·ence \'rev-(ə-)rən(t)s, 'rev-ərn(t)s\ *n* **1** : honor or respect felt or shown : DEFERENCE; *esp* : profound adoring awed respect **2** : a gesture of respect (as a bow) **3** : the state of being revered **4** : one held in reverence — used as a title for a clergyman
syn **1** see HONOR
2 REVERENCE, AWE, FEAR *shared meaning element* : the emotion inspired by what arouses one's deep respect or veneration
[2]reverence *vt* **-enced; -enc·ing** : to regard or treat with reverence
syn see REVERE — **rev·er·enc·er** *n*
[1]rev·er·end \'rev-(ə-)rənd, 'rev-ərnd\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *reverendus*, gerundive of *revereri*] **1** : worthy of reverence : REVERED **2 a** : of or relating to the clergy **b** : being a member of the clergy — used as a title usu. preceded by *the* and followed by a title or a full name ⟨the *Reverend* Mr. Doe⟩ ⟨the *Reverend* John Doe⟩
[2]reverend *n* : a member of the clergy — used with *the*
rev·er·ent \'rev-(ə-)rənt, 'rev-ərnt\ *adj* [ME, fr. L *reverent-*, *reverens*, prp. of *revereri*] : expressing or characterized by reverence : WORSHIPFUL — **rev·er·ent·ly** *adv*
rev·er·en·tial \ˌrev-ə-'ren-chəl\ *adj* **1** : expressing or having a quality of reverence ⟨~ awe⟩ **2** : inspiring reverence — **rev·er·en·tial·ly** \-'rench-(ə-)lē\ *adv*
rev·er·ie *or* **rev·ery** \'rev-(ə-)rē\ *n, pl* **rev·er·ies** [F *rêverie*, fr. MF, delirium, fr. *resver*, *rever* to wander, be delirious] **1** : DAYDREAM **2** : the condition of being lost in thought
re·vers \ri-'vi(ə)r, -'ve(ə)r\ *n, pl* **re·vers** \-'vi(ə)rz, -'ve(ə)rz [F, lit., reverse, fr. MF, fr. *revers*, adj.] : a lapel esp. on a woman's garment
re·ver·sal \ri-'vər-səl\ *n* **1** : an act or the process of reversing: as **a** : a change or overthrowing of a legal proceeding or judgment **b** : a causing to move or face in an opposite direction or to appear in

an inverted position **2 :** a conversion of a photographic positive into a negative or vice versa **3 :** a change for the worse

[1]re·verse \ri-'vərs\ *adj* [ME *revers*, fr. MF, fr. L *reversus*, pp. of *revertere* to turn back — more at REVERT] **1 a :** opposite or contrary to a previous or normal condition ⟨~ order⟩ **b :** having the back presented to the observer or opponent **2 :** coming from the rear of a military force **3 :** acting, operating, or arranged in a manner contrary to the usual **4 :** effecting reverse movement ⟨~ gear⟩ **5 :** so made that the part normally black is white and vice versa ⟨~ photoengraving⟩ — **re·verse·ly** *adv*

[2]reverse *vb* **re·versed; re·vers·ing** *vt* **1 a :** to turn completely about in position or direction **b :** to turn upside down : INVERT **2 :** ANNUL; as **a :** to overthrow, set aside, or make void (a legal decision) by a contrary decision **b :** to cause to take an opposite point of view **c :** to change to the contrary ⟨~ a policy⟩ **3 :** to cause to go in the opposite direction; *esp* : to cause (as an engine) to perform its action in the opposite direction ~ *vi* **1 :** to turn or move in the opposite direction **2 :** to put a mechanism (as an engine) in reverse — **re·vers·er** *n* — **reverse one's field :** to turn and head in the opposite direction

[3]reverse *n* **1 :** something directly contrary to something else : OPPOSITE **2 :** an act or instance of reversing; *specif* : a change for the worse **3 :** the back part of something; *esp* : the back cover of a book **4 a** (1) : a gear that reverses something; *also* : the whole mechanism brought into play when such a gear is used (2) : movement in reverse **b :** an offensive play in football in which a back moving in one direction gives the ball to a player moving in the opposite direction — **in reverse :** in an opposite manner or direction

[1]re·vers·ible \ri-'vər-sə-bəl\ *adj* : capable of being reversed or of reversing: as **a :** capable of going through a series of actions (as changes) either backward or forward ⟨a ~ chemical reaction⟩ **b** (1) : having two finished usable sides ⟨~ fabric⟩ **b** (2) : wearable with either side out ⟨~ coat⟩ — **re·vers·ibil·i·ty** \-ˌvər-sə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* — **re·vers·ibly** \-'vər-sə-blē\ *adv*

[2]reversible *n* : a reversible cloth or article of clothing

reversing thermometer *n* : a thermometer for registering temperature in deep water by means of the breaking of a column of mercury when the thermometer inverts at a specified depth

re·ver·sion \ri-'vər-zhən, -shən\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *reversion-*, *reversio* act of returning, fr. *reversus*, pp.] **1 a :** the part of a simple estate remaining in the control of its owner after he has granted therefrom a lesser particular estate **b :** a future interest in property left in the control of a grantor or his successor **2 :** the right of succession or future possession or enjoyment **3 a :** an act or the process of returning (as to a former condition) **b :** a return toward an ancestral type or condition : reappearance of an ancestral character **4 :** an act or instance of turning the opposite way : the state of being so turned **5 :** a product of reversion; *specif* : an organism with an atavistic character : THROWBACK

re·ver·sion·al \-'vərzh-nəl, -'vərsh-, -ən-ᵊl\ *adj* : REVERSIONARY

re·ver·sion·ary \-'vər-zhə-ˌner-ē, -shə-\ *adj* : of, relating to, constituting, or involving esp. a legal reversion

re·ver·sion·er \-'vərzh-nər, -'vərsh-, -ə-nər\ *n* : one that has or is entitled to a reversion

re·vert \ri-'vərt\ *vi* [ME *reverten*, fr. MF *revertir*, fr. L *revertere*, v.t., to turn back & *reverti*, v.i., to return, come back, fr. *re-* + *vertere*, *verti* to turn — more at WORTH] **1 :** to come or go back esp. to a lower or worse condition ⟨many ~*ed* to savagery⟩ **2 :** to return to the proprietor or his heirs at the end of a reversion **3 :** to return to an ancestral type ***syn*** see RETURN — **re·vert·er** *n* — **re·vert·ible** \-'vərt-ə-bəl\ *adj*

re·vert·ed \ri-'vərt-əd\ *adj* **1 :** turned or curled back or the wrong way ⟨~ leaf⟩ **2 :** affected with reversion ⟨a ~ bacteria culture⟩

re·vest \(ˌ)rē-'vest\ *vt* : REINSTATE, REINVEST

re·vet \ri-'vet\ *vt* **re·vet·ted; re·vet·ting** [F *revêtir*, lit., to clothe again, dress up, fr. L *revestire*, fr. *re-* + *vestire* to clothe — more at VEST] : to face (as an embankment) with a revetment

re·vet·ment \-'vet-mənt\ *n* **1 :** a facing (as of stone or concrete) to sustain an embankment **2 :** EMBANKMENT; *esp* : a barricade to provide shelter (as against bomb splinters or strafing)

re·vict·ual \(ˌ)rē-'vit-ᵊl\ *vt* : to supply with a fresh stock of provisions ~ *vi* : to obtain fresh stocks of provisions

[1]re·view \ri-'vyü\ *n* [MF *revue*, fr. *revoir* to look over, fr. *re-* + *voir* to see — more at VIEW] **1 :** REVISION 1 **2 a :** a formal military inspection **b :** a military ceremony honoring a person or an event **3 :** a general survey (as of the events of a period) **4 :** an act of inspecting or examining **5 :** judicial reexamination (as of the proceedings of a lower tribunal by a higher) **6 a :** a critical evaluation (as of a book or play) **b :** a magazine devoted chiefly to reviews and essays **7 a :** a retrospective view or survey (as of one's life) **b** (1) : renewed study of material previously studied (2) : an exercise facilitating such study **8 :** REVUE

[2]re·view \ri-'vyü, *1 is also* 'rē-\ *vb* [in senses 1 & 2, fr. *re-* + *view*; in other senses, fr. [1]*review*] *vt* **1 :** to view or see again **2 :** to examine or study again; *esp* : to reexamine judicially **3 :** to look back on : take a retrospective view of **4 a :** to go over or examine critically or deliberately ⟨~*ed* the results of the study⟩ **b :** to give a critical evaluation of ⟨~ a novel⟩ **5 :** to hold a review of ⟨~ troops⟩ ~ *vi* **1 :** to study material again : make a review ⟨~ for a test⟩ **2 :** to write reviews

re·view·er \ri-'vyü-ər\ *n* : one that reviews; *esp* : a writer of critical reviews

re·vile \ri-'vī(ə)l\ *vb* **re·viled; re·vil·ing** [ME *revilen*, fr. MF *reviler* to despise, fr. *re-* + *vil* vile] *vt* : to subject to verbal abuse : VITUPERATE ~ *vi* : to use abusive language : RAIL ***syn*** see SCOLD — **re·vile·ment** \-'vī(ə)l-mənt\ *n* — **re·vil·er** *n*

re·vis·al \ri-'vī-zəl\ *n* : an act of revising : REVISION

[1]re·vise \ri-'vīz\ *vt* **re·vised; re·vis·ing** [F *reviser*, fr. L *revisere* to look at again, fr. *revisus*, pp. of *revidēre* to see again, fr. *re-* + *vidēre* to see — more at WIT] **1 :** to look over again in order to correct or improve ⟨~ a manuscript⟩ **2 a :** to make a new, amended, improved, or up-to-date version of ⟨~ a dictionary⟩ **b :** to provide with a new taxonomic arrangement ⟨*revising* the alpine ferns⟩ ***syn*** see CORRECT — **re·vis·able** \-'vī-zə-bəl\ *adj* — **re·vis·er** *or* **re·vi·sor** \-'vī-zər\ *n*

[2]re·vise \'rē-ˌvīz, ri-'\ *n* **1 :** an act of revising : REVISION **2 :** a printing proof taken from matter that incorporates changes marked in a previous proof

Revised Standard Version *n* : a revision of the American Standard Version of the Bible published in 1946 and 1952

Revised Version *n* : a British revision of the Authorized Version of the Bible published in 1881 and 1885

re·vi·sion \ri-'vizh-ən\ *n* **1 :** an act of revising (as a manuscript) **2 :** a revised version — **re·vi·sion·ary** \-ə-ˌner-ē\ *adj*

re·vi·sion·ism \ri-'vizh-ə-ˌniz-əm\ *n* **1 :** advocacy of revision (as of a doctrine or policy or in historical analysis) **2 :** a movement in revolutionary Marxian socialism favoring an evolutionary rather than a revolutionary spirit

[1]re·vi·sion·ist \-'vizh-(ə-)nəst\ *n* **1 :** an advocate of revision (as of an accepted attitude) **2 :** an advocate of revisionism

[2]revisionist *adj* : advocating revision or revisionism

[1]re·vis·it \(ˌ)rē-'viz-ət\ *vt* : to visit again : return to

[2]revisit *n* : a second or subsequent visit

re·vi·so·ry \ri-'vīz-(ə-)rē\ *adj* : having the power or purpose to revise ⟨a ~ committee⟩ ⟨a ~ function⟩

re·vi·tal·iza·tion \(ˌ)rē-ˌvīt-ᵊl-ə-'zā-shən\ *n* **1 :** an act or instance of revitalizing **2 :** something revitalized

re·vi·tal·ize \(ˌ)rē-'vīt-ᵊl-ˌīz\ *vt* **-ized; -iz·ing** : to give new life or vigor to

re·viv·al \ri-'vī-vəl\ *n* **1 :** an act or instance of reviving : the state of being revived: as **a :** renewed attention to or interest in something **b :** a new presentation or publication **c** (1) : a period of renewed religious interest (2) : an often highly emotional evangelistic meeting or series of meetings **d :** REVITALIZATION 1 **2 :** restoration of force, validity, or effect (as to a contract)

re·viv·al·ism \-'vī-və-ˌliz-əm\ *n* **1 :** the spirit or methods characteristic of religious revivals **2 :** a tendency or desire to revive or restore

re·viv·al·ist \-'vīv-(ə-)ləst\ *n* **1 :** one who conducts religious revivals; *specif* : a clergyman who travels about to conduct revivals **2 :** one who revives or restores something disused

re·viv·al·is·tic \-ˌvī-və-'lis-tik\ *or* **re·viv·al·ist** \-'vīv-(ə-)ləst\ *adj* : of or relating to revivalists or religious revivals

re·vive \ri-'vīv\ *vb* **re·vived; re·viv·ing** [ME *reviven*, fr. MF *revivre*, fr. L *revivere* to live again, fr. *re-* + *vivere* to live — more at QUICK] *vi* : to return to consciousness or life : to become active or flourishing again ~ *vt* **1 :** to restore to consciousness or life : REANIMATE **2 :** to restore from a depressed, inactive, or unused state : bring back **3 :** to renew in the mind or memory : RECALL — **re·viv·able** \-'vī-və-bəl\ *adj* — **re·viv·er** *n*

re·viv·i·fy \rē-'viv-ə-ˌfī\ *vt* [F *révivifier*, fr. LL *revivificare*, fr. L *re-* + LL *vivificare* to vivify] : to give new life to : REVIVE — **re·viv·i·fi·ca·tion** \-ˌviv-ə-fə-'kā-shən\ *n*

re·vi·vis·cence \ˌrē-ˌvī-'vis-ᵊn(t)s, ri-\ *n* [L *reviviscere* to come to life again, fr. *re-* + *viviscere* to come to life, fr. *vivus* alive, living — more at QUICK] : an act of reviving : the state of being revived — **re·vi·vis·cent** \-ᵊnt\ *adj*

re·vo·ca·ble \'rev-ə-kə-bəl *also* ri-'vō-\ *also* **re·vok·able** \ri-'vō-kə-bəl\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *revocabilis*, fr. *revocare*] : capable of being revoked

re·vo·ca·tion \ˌrev-ə-'kā-shən; ri-ˌvō-, ˌrē-\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *revocation-*, *revocatio*, fr. *revocatus*, pp. of *revocare*] : an act or instance of revoking

[1]re·voke \ri-'vōk\ *vb* **re·voked; re·vok·ing** [ME *revoken*, fr. MF *revoquer*, fr. L *revocare*, fr. *re-* + *vocare* to call — more at VOICE] *vt* **1 :** to bring or call back **2 :** to annul by recalling or taking back : RESCIND ⟨~ a will⟩ ~ *vi* : to fail to follow suit when able in a card game in violation of the rules — **re·vok·er** *n*

[2]revoke *n* : an act or instance of revoking in a card game

[1]re·volt \ri-'vōlt *also* -'vȯlt\ *vb* [MF *revolter*, fr. OIt *rivoltare* to overthrow, fr. (assumed) VL *revolvitare*, freq. of L *revolvere* to revolve, roll back] *vi* **1 :** to renounce allegiance or subjection (as to a government) : REBEL **2 a :** to experience disgust or shock **b :** to turn away with disgust ~ *vt* : to cause to turn away or shrink with disgust or abhorrence : NAUSEATE — **re·volt·er** *n*

[2]revolt *n* **1 :** a renouncing of allegiance (as to a government or party); *esp* : a determined armed uprising **2 :** a movement or expression of vigorous dissent ***syn*** see REBELLION

re·volt·ing *adj* : extremely offensive : NAUSEATING

rev·o·lute \'rev-ə-ˌlüt\ *adj* [L *revolutus*, pp.] : rolled backward or downward ⟨a leaf with ~ margins⟩

rev·o·lu·tion \ˌrev-ə-'lü-shən\ *n* [ME *revolucioun*, fr. MF *revolution*, fr. LL *revolution-*, *revolutio*, fr. L *revolutus*, pp. of *revolvere*] **1 a** (1) : the action by a celestial body of going round in an orbit or elliptic course; *also* : apparent movement of such a body round the earth (2) : the time taken by a celestial body to make a complete round in its orbit (3) : the rotation of a celestial body on its axis **b :** completion of a course (as of years); *also* : the period made by the regular succession of a measure of time or by a succession of similar events **c** (1) : a progressive motion of a body round a center or axis so that any line of the body remains parallel to and returns to its initial position (2) : motion of any figure about a center or axis ⟨~ of a right triangle about one of its legs generates a cone⟩ (3) : ROTATION 1b **2 a :** a sudden, radical, or complete change **b :** a fundamental change in political organization; *esp* : the overthrow or renunciation of one government or ruler and the substitution of another by the governed **c :** activity or movement designed to effect fundamental changes in the socioeconomic situation (as of a racial or cultural segment of the population) ***syn*** see REBELLION

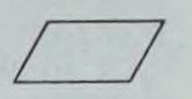
[1]rev·o·lu·tion·ary \-shə-ˌner-ē\ *adj* **1 a :** of, relating to, or constituting a revolution ⟨~ war⟩ **b :** tending to or promoting revolution ⟨a ~ speech⟩; *also* : RADICAL, EXTREMIST ⟨a ~ outlook⟩ **2** *cap* : of or relating to the American Revolution or to the period in which it occurred — **rev·o·lu·tion·ari·ly** \-ˌlü-shə-'ner-ə-lē\ *adv* — **rev·o·lu·tion·ari·ness** \-'lü-shə-ˌner-ē-nəs\ *n*

[2]revolutionary *n, pl* **-ar·ies :** REVOLUTIONIST

Revolutionary calendar *n* : the calendar of the first French republic adopted in 1793, dated from September 22, 1792, and divided into 12 months of 30 days with 5 extra days in a regular year
rev·o·lu·tion·ist \ˌrev-ə-ˈlü-sh(ə-)nəst\ *n* **1** : one engaged in a revolution **2** : an adherent or advocate of revolutionary doctrines — **revolutionist** *adj*
rev·o·lu·tion·ize \-shə-ˌnīz\ *vb* **-ized; -iz·ing** *vt* **1** : to overthrow the established government of **2** : to imbue with revolutionary doctrines **3** : to change fundamentally or completely ~ *vi* : to undergo revolution — **rev·o·lu·tion·iz·er** *n*
re·volve \ri-ˈvälv, -ˈvȯlv\ *vb* **re·volved; re·volv·ing** [ME *revolven*, fr. L *revolvere* to roll back, cause to return, fr. *re-* + *volvere* to roll — more at VOLUBLE] *vt* **1** : to turn over at length in the mind : PONDER ⟨~ a scheme⟩ **2 a** : to cause to go round in an orbit **b** : to cause to turn round on or as if on an axis : ROTATE ~ *vi* **1** : RECUR **2 a** : to ponder something **b** : to remain under consideration ⟨ideas *revolved* in his mind⟩ **3 a** : to move in a curved path round a center or axis **b** : to turn or roll round on an axis **4** : to center on : have as a main point ⟨the dispute *revolved* around wages⟩ — **re·volv·able** \-ˈväl-və-bəl, -ˈvȯl-\ *adj*
re·volv·er \ri-ˈväl-vər, -ˈvȯl-\ *n* **1** : one that revolves **2** : a handgun with a cylinder of several chambers brought successively into line with the barrel and discharged with the same hammer
re·volv·ing *adj* : tending to revolve or recur; *esp* : recurrently available
revolving charge account *n* : a charge account under which payment is made in monthly installments and includes a carrying charge
revolving credit *n* : a credit which may be used repeatedly up to the limit specified after partial or total repayments have been made
revolving fund *n* : a fund set up for specified purposes with the proviso that repayments to the fund may be used again for these purposes
re·vue \ri-ˈvyü\ *n* [F, fr. MF, review — more at REVIEW] : a theatrical production consisting typically of brief loosely connected often satirical skits, songs, and dances — called also *review*
re·vulsed \ri-ˈvəlst\ *adj* [L *revulsus*, pp. + E *-ed*] : affected with or having undergone revulsion
re·vul·sion \ri-ˈvəl-shən\ *n* [L *revulsion-*, *revulsio* act of tearing away, fr. *revulsus*, pp. of *revellere* to pluck away, fr. *re-* + *vellere* to pluck — more at VULNERABLE] **1** : a strong pulling or drawing away : WITHDRAWAL **2 a** : a sudden or strong reaction or change ⟨he puzzled people with the ~s of his moods⟩ **b** : a sense of utter distaste or repugnance — **re·vul·sive** \-ˈvəl-siv\ *adj*
re·wake \(ˈ)rē-ˈwāk\ *vb* **-waked** *or* **-woke** \-ˈwōk\; **-waked** *or* **-wo·ken** \-ˈwō-kən\ *or* **-woke; -wak·ing** *vt* : to waken again or anew ~ *vi* : to become awake again
re·wak·en \(ˈ)rē-ˈwā-kən\ *vb* : REWAKE
[1]re·ward \ri-ˈwȯ(ə)rd\ *vt* [ME *rewarden*, fr. ONF *rewarder* to regard, reward, fr. *re-* + *warder* to watch, guard, of Gmc origin; akin to OHG *wartēn* to watch — more at WARD] **1** : to give a reward to or for **2** : RECOMPENSE — **re·ward·able** \-ˈwȯrd-ə-bəl\ *adj* — **re·ward·er** *n*
[2]reward *n* : something that is given in return for good or evil done or received and esp. that is offered or given for some service or attainment
re·ward·ing *adj* **1** : yielding or likely to yield a reward : VALUABLE, SATISFYING ⟨a very ~ experience⟩ **2** : offered by way of reward : serving as a reward ⟨a ~ smile of thanks⟩
[1]re·wind \(ˈ)rē-ˈwīnd\ *vt* **-wound** \-ˈwau̇nd\; **-wind·ing** : to wind again; *esp* : to reverse the winding of (as film)
[2]re·wind \ˈrē-ˌwīnd, (ˈ)rē-ˈ\ *n* **1** : something that rewinds or is rewound **2** : an act of rewinding
re·word \(ˈ)rē-ˈwərd\ *vt* **1** : to repeat in the same words **2** : to alter the wording of; *also* : to restate in other words
re·work \(ˈ)rē-ˈwərk\ *vt* : to work again or anew: as **a** : REVISE **b** : to reprocess (as used material) for further use
[1]re·write \(ˈ)rē-ˈrīt\ *vb* **-wrote** \-ˈrōt\; **-writ·ten** \-ˈrit-ᵊn\; **-writ·ing** \-ˈrīt-iŋ\ *vt* **1** : to write in reply **2** : to make a revision of (as a story) : cause to be revised: as **a** : to put (contributed material) into form for pulbication **b** : to alter (previously published material) for use in another publication ~ *vi* : to revise something previously written — **re·writ·er** *n*
[2]re·write \ˈrē-ˌrīt\ *n* **1** : a piece of writing (as a news story) constructed by rewriting **2** : an act or instance of rewriting
re·write man \ˈrē-ˌrīt-ˌman\ *n* : a newspaperman who specializes in rewriting
re·write rule \ˈrē-ˌrīt-\ *n* : a rule in a grammar which specifies the constituents of a single symbol
rex \ˈreks\ *n, pl* **rex·es** *or* **rex** [F *castorrex*, *castorex*, a variety of rabbit, fr. L *castor* beaver + *rex* king — more at CASTOR, ROYAL] : an animal showing a genetic recessive variation in which the guard hairs are shorter than the undercoat or are entirely lacking
rey·nard \ˈrān-ərd, ˈren-, -ˌärd\ *n, often cap* [ME *Renard*, name of the fox who is hero of the F beast epic *Roman de Renart*, fr. MF *Renart, Renard*] : FOX
re·zone \(ˈ)rē-ˈzōn\ *vt* : to alter the zoning of
rf *abbr* refunding
RF *abbr* radio frequency
R factor \ˈär-\ *n* [resistance] : a factor that is present in some bacteria, is a basis of resistance to antibiotics, and can be transferred from cell to cell by conjugation
RFD *abbr* rural free delivery
RGS *abbr* Royal Geographical Society
rh *abbr* relative humidity
[1]Rh \ˈär-ˈāch\ *adj* : of, relating to, or being an Rh factor ⟨~ antigens⟩ ⟨~ sensitization in pregnancy⟩
[2]Rh *symbol* rhodium
RH *abbr* right hand
rhab·do·coele \ˈrab-də-ˌsēl\ *n* [deriv. of Gk *rhabdos* rod + *koilos* hollow — more at CAVE] : a turbellarian worm (order Rhabdocoela) with an unbranched intestine
rhab·dom \ˈrab-ˌdäm, -dəm\ *or* **rhab·dome** \-ˌdōm\ *n* [LGk *rhabdōma* bundle of rods, fr. Gk *rhabdos* rod] : one of the minute rodlike structures in the retinulae in the compound eyes of arthropods
rhab·do·man·cy \ˈrab-də-ˌman(t)-sē\ *n* [LGk *rhabdomanteia*, fr. Gk *rhabdos* rod + *-manteia* -mancy — more at VERVAIN] : divination by rods or wands
rhab·do·mere \-ˌmi(ə)r\ *n* [blend of *rhabdom* and *-mere*] : a division of a rhabdom
rhad·a·man·thine \ˌrad-ə-ˈman(t)-thən, -ˈman-ˌthīn\ *adj, often cap* [*Rhadamanthus*, mythical judge in the lower world] : rigorously strict or just
Rhae·to–Ro·man·ic \ˌrēt-ō-rō-ˈman-ik\ *n* [L *Rhaetus* of Rhaetia, ancient Roman province + E *Romanic*] : a Romance language of eastern Switzerland, northeastern Italy, and adjacent parts of Austria
rham·na·ceous \ram-ˈnā-shəs\ *adj* [deriv. of Gk *rhamnos*] : of, relating to, or being the buckthorn family (Rhamnaceae)
rham·nose \ˈram-ˌnōs, -ˌnōz\ *n* [ISV, fr. NL *Rhamnus*, genus of the buckthorn; fr. its being produced from a plant of this genus] : a crystalline sugar $C_6H_{12}O_5$ that occurs combined in many plants and is obtained in the common dextrorotatory L form
rham·nus \ˈram-nəs\ *n* [NL, genus name, fr. Gk *rhamnos* buckthorn; akin to Gk *rhabdos* rod] : any of a genus (*Rhamnus*) of trees and shrubs of the buckthorn family having pinnately veined leaves, small perfect or polygamous flowers with the ovary free from the disk, and a fruit that is a drupe
rhaphe *var of* RAPHE
rhap·sod·ic \rap-ˈsäd-ik\ *adj* **1** : resembling or characteristic of a rhapsody **2** : extravagantly emotional : RAPTUROUS — **rhap·sod·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj* — **rhap·sod·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
rhap·so·dist \ˈrap-səd-əst\ *n* **1** : a professional reciter of epic poems **2** : one who writes or speaks rhapsodically
rhap·so·dize \-sə-ˌdīz\ *vi* **-dized; -diz·ing** : to speak or write in a rhapsodic manner ⟨~ about a new book⟩
rhap·so·dy \ˈrap-səd-ē\ *n, pl* **-dies** [L *rhapsodia*, fr. Gk *rhapsōidia* recitation of selections from epic poetry, rhapsody, fr. *rhaptein* to sew, stitch together + *aidein* to sing; akin to OHG *worf* scythe handle, Gk *rhepein* to bend, incline — more at ODE] **1** : a portion of an epic poem adapted for recitation **2** *archaic* : a miscellaneous collection **3 a** (1) : a highly emotional utterance (2) : a highly emotional literary work (3) : effusively rapturous or extravagant discourse **b** : RAPTURE, ECSTASY **4** : a musical composition of irregular form having an improvisatory character ***syn*** see BOMBAST
rhat·a·ny \ˈrat-ᵊn-ē\ *n* [Sp *ratania* & Pg *ratânhia*, fr. Quechua *ratánya*] **1** : the dried root of either of two American shrubs (*Krameria triandra* and *K. argentea*) used as an astringent **2** : a plant yielding rhatany
rhea \ˈrē-ə\ *n* [NL, genus of birds, prob. fr. L *Rhea*, mother of Zeus, fr. Gk] : any of several large tall flightless So. American birds (order Rheiformes) that resemble but are smaller than the African ostrich, have three toes, a fully feathered head and neck, an undeveloped tail, and pale gray to brownish feathers that droop over the rump and back
rhe·bok \ˈrē-ˌbäk\ *n* [Afrik *reebok*, fr. MD, male roe deer, fr. *ree* roe + *boc* buck] : a large gray southern African antelope (*Pelea capreolus*)
rhe·ni·um \ˈrē-nē-əm\ *n* [NL, fr. L *Rhenus* Rhine river] : a rare heavy metallic element that resembles manganese, is obtained either as a powder or as a silver-white hard metal, and is used in catalysts and thermocouples — see ELEMENT table
rheo- *comb form* [Gk *rhein* to flow — more at STREAM] : flow : current ⟨*rheo*stat⟩
rhe·ol·o·gy \rē-ˈäl-ə-jē\ *n* [ISV] : a science dealing with the deformation and flow of matter — **rhe·o·log·i·cal** \ˌrē-ə-ˈläj-i-kəl\ *adj* — **rhe·o·log·i·cal·ly** \-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **rhe·ol·o·gist** \rē-ˈäl-ə-jəst\ *n*
rhe·om·e·ter \rē-ˈäm-ət-ər\ *n* [ISV] : an instrument for measuring the flow of viscous substances
rhe·o·phile \ˈrē-ə-ˌfīl\ *or* **rhe·o·phil·ic** \ˌrē-ə-ˈfil-ik\ *also* **rhe·o·phil** \ˈrē-ə-ˌfil\ *adj* [ISV] : preferring or living in flowing water ⟨~ fauna⟩
rheo·stat \ˈrē-ə-ˌstat\ *n* : a resistor for regulating a current by means of variable resistances — **rheo·stat·ic** \ˌrē-ə-ˈstat-ik\ *adj*
rhe·sus monkey \ˌrē-səs-\ *n* [NL *Rhesus*, genus of monkeys, fr. L, a mythical king of Thrace, fr. Gk *Rhēsos*] : a pale brown Indian monkey (*Macaca mulatta*) often used in medical research
rhet *abbr* rhetoric
rhe·tor \ˈrē-ˌtȯ(ə)r, ˈre-; ˈrēt-ər, ˈret-\ *n* [ME *rethor*, fr. L *rhetor*, fr. Gk *rhētōr*] : RHETORICIAN 1
rhet·o·ric \ˈret-ə-rik\ *n* [ME *rethorik*, fr. MF *rethorique*, fr. L *rhetorica*, fr. Gk *rhētorikē*, lit., art of oratory, fr. fem. of *rhētorikos* of an orator, fr. *rhētōr* orator, rhetorician, fr. *eirein* to say, speak — more at WORD] **1** : the art of speaking or writing effectively; *specif* : the study of principles and rules of composition formulated by critics of ancient times **2 a** : skill in the effective use of speech **b** : a type or mode of language or speech; *also* : insincere or grandiloquent language **3** : verbal communication : DISCOURSE
rhe·tor·i·cal \ri-ˈtȯr-i-kəl, -ˈtär-\ *also* **rhe·tor·ic** \ri-ˈtȯr-ik, -ˈtär-\ *adj* **1 a** : of, relating to, or concerned with rhetoric **b** : employed for rhetorical effect **2 a** : given to rhetoric : GRANDILOQUENT **b** : VERBAL — **rhe·tor·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **rhe·tor·i·cal·ness** \-i-kəl-nəs\ *n*
rhetorical question *n* : a question asked merely for effect with no answer expected

rhet·o·ri·cian \ˌret-ə-ˈrish-ən\ *n* **1 a** : a master or teacher of rhetoric **b** : ORATOR **2** : an eloquent or grandiloquent writer or speaker
rheum \ˈrüm\ *n* [ME *reume*, fr. MF, fr. L *rheuma*, fr. Gk, lit., flow, flux, fr. *rhein* to flow — more at STREAM] **1** : a watery discharge from the mucous membranes esp. of the eyes or nose **2** *archaic* : TEARS — **rheumy** \ˈrü-mē\ *adj*
[1]rheu·mat·ic \rü-ˈmat-ik\ *adj* [ME *rewmatik* subject to rheum, fr. L *rheumaticus*, fr. Gk *rheumatikos*, fr. *rheumat-*, *rheuma*] : of, relating to, characteristic of, or affected with rheumatism — **rheu·mat·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
[2]rheumatic *n* : one affected with rheumatism
rheumatic disease *n* : any of several diseases (as rheumatic fever) characterized by inflammation and pain in muscles or joints
rheumatic fever *n* : an acute disease that occurs chiefly in children and young adults and is characterized by fever, by inflammation and pain in and around the joints, and by inflammatory involvement of the pericardium and heart valves
rheu·ma·tism \ˈrü-mə-ˌtiz-əm, ˈrüm-ə-\ *n* [L *rheumatismus* flux, rheum, fr. Gk *rheumatismos*, fr. *rheumatizesthai* to suffer from a flux, fr. *rheumat-*, *rheuma* flux] **1** : any of various conditions characterized by inflammation or pain in muscles, joints, or fibrous tissue ⟨muscular ~⟩ **2** : RHEUMATOID ARTHRITIS
rheu·ma·tiz \-ˌtiz\ *n, chiefly dial* : RHEUMATISM
rheu·ma·toid \-ˌtȯid\ *adj* [ISV, fr. *rheumatism*] : characteristic of or affected with rheumatoid arthritis
rheumatoid arthritis *n* : a usu. chronic disease of unknown cause characterized esp. by pain, stiffness, inflammation, swelling, and sometimes destruction of joints
rheu·ma·tol·o·gy \ˌrü-mə-ˈtäl-ə-jē, ˌrüm-ə-\ *n* : a medical science dealing with rheumatic diseases — **rheu·ma·tol·o·gist** \-jəst\ *n*
Rh factor \ˈär-ˈāch-\ *n* [*rh*esus monkey (in which it was first detected)] : any of one or more genetically determined substances present in the red blood cells of most persons and of higher animals and capable of inducing intense antigenic reactions
rhin- *or* **rhino-** *comb form* [NL, fr. Gk, fr. *rhin-*, *rhis*] : nose ⟨*rhini*tis⟩ : nose and ⟨*rhino*laryngology⟩
rhi·nal \ˈrīn-ᵊl\ *adj* : of or relating to the nose : NASAL
-rhine — see -RRHINE
rhin·en·ceph·a·lon \ˌrī-(ˌ)nen-ˈsef-ə-ˌlän, -lən\ *n* [NL] : the chiefly olfactory part of the forebrain — **rhin·en·ce·phal·ic** \ˌrī-ˌnen-sə-ˈfal-ik\ *adj*
rhine·stone \ˈrīn-ˌstōn\ *n* [*Rhine* river] : a colorless imitation stone of high luster made of glass, paste, or gem quartz
Rhine wine \ˈrīn-\ *n* **1** : a typically light-bodied dry white wine produced in the Rhine valley **2** : a wine similar to Rhine wine produced elsewhere
rhi·ni·tis \rī-ˈnīt-əs\ *n* [NL] : inflammation of the mucous membrane of the nose
[1]rhi·no \ˈrī-(ˌ)nō\ *n* [origin unknown] : MONEY, CASH
[2]rhino *n, pl* **rhino** *or* **rhinos** : RHINOCEROS
rhi·noc·er·os \rī-ˈnäs-(ə-)rəs, rə-\ *n, pl* **-noc·er·os·es** *or* **-noc·eros** *or* **-noc·eri** \-ˈnäs-ə-ˌrī\ [ME *rinoceros*, fr. L *rhinocerot-*, *rhinoceros*, fr. Gk *rhinokerōt-*, *rhinokerōs*, fr. *rhin-* + *keras* horn — more at HORN] : any of various large powerful herbivorous thick-skinned perissodactyl mammals (family Rhinocerotidae) that have one or two heavy upright horns on the snout — **rhi·noc·er·ot·ic** \(ˌ)rī-ˌnäs-ə-ˈrät-ik, rə-\ *adj*
rhinoceros beetle *n* : any of various large chiefly tropical beetles (of *Dynastes* and closely related genera) having projecting horns on thorax and head
rhi·no·lar·yn·gol·o·gy \ˈrī-nō-ˌlar-ən-ˈgäl-ə-jē\ *n* : a branch of medical science dealing with the nose and larynx
rhi·no·phar·yn·gi·tis \-ˌfar-ən-ˈjīt-əs\ *n* [NL] : inflammation of the mucous membrane of the nose and pharynx
rhi·nos·co·py \rī-ˈnäs-kə-pē\ *n* [ISV] : examination of the nasal passages
rhi·no·spo·rid·i·um \ˌrī-nō-spə-ˈrid-ē-əm\ *n* [NL, genus name, fr. *rhin-* + *sporidium* small spore] : any of a genus (*Rhinosporidium*) of microparasites of uncertain relationship associated with some nasal polyps in man and in horses
rhi·no·vi·rus \-ˈvī-rəs\ *n* [NL] : any of a group of picornaviruses that are related to the enteroviruses and are associated with disorders of the upper respiratory tract
rhiz- *or* **rhizo-** *comb form* [NL, fr. Gk, fr. *rhiza* — more at ROOT] : root ⟨*rhiz*anthous⟩ ⟨*rhizo*carpous⟩
-rhi·za *or* **r·rhi·za** \ˈrī-zə\ *n comb form, pl* **-zae** \-(ˌ)zē\ *or* **-zas** [NL, fr. Gk *rhiza*] : root : part resembling or connected with a root ⟨coleo*rhiza*⟩ ⟨myco*rrhiza*⟩
rhiz·an·thous \rī-ˈzan(t)-thəs\ *adj* [ISV *rhiz-* + Gk *anthos* flower — more at ANTHOLOGY] : producing flowers apparently directly from the root
rhi·zo·bi·um \rī-ˈzō-bē-əm\ *n, pl* **-bia** \-bē-ə\ [NL, genus name, fr. *rhiz-* + Gk *bios* life — more at QUICK] : any of a genus (*Rhizobium*) of small heterotrophic soil bacteria capable of forming symbiotic nodules on the roots of leguminous plants and of there becoming bacteroids that fix atmospheric nitrogen
rhi·zo·car·pous \ˌrī-zə-ˈkär-pəs\ *or* **rhi·zo·car·pic** \-pik\ *adj* [ISV] : having perennial underground parts but annual stems and foliage ⟨~ herbs⟩
rhi·zo·ceph·a·lan \ˌrī-zō-ˈsef-ə-lən\ *or* **rhi·zo·ceph·a·lid** \-ləd\ *n* [deriv. of Gk *rhiza* root + *kephalē* head — more at ROOT, CEPHALIC] : a crustacean of an order (Rhizocephala) comprising degenerate forms that live as parasites on crabs and hermit crabs
rhi·zoc·to·nia \ˌrī-ˌzäk-ˈtō-nē-ə\ *n* [NL, genus name, fr. *rhiz-* + Gk *-ktonos* killing, fr. *kteinein* to kill; akin to Skt *kṣaṇoti* he wounds] : a fungus of a form genus (*Rhizoctonia*) that includes major plant pathogens
rhizoctonia disease *n* : a plant disease caused by a rhizoctonia; *esp* : one of potatoes characterized esp. by black scurfy spots on the tubers
rhi·zo·gen·e·sis \-ˈjen-ə-səs\ *n* [NL] : root development
rhi·zo·gen·ic \ˌrī-zə-ˈjen-ik\ *or* **rhi·zo·ge·net·ic** \-jə-ˈnet-ik\ *adj* : producing roots ⟨~ tissue⟩
rhi·zoid \ˈrī-ˌzȯid\ *n* : a rootlike structure — **rhi·zoi·dal** \rī-ˈzȯid-ᵊl\ *adj*
rhi·zo·ma·tous \rī-ˈzō-mət-əs\ *adj* [ISV, fr. NL *rhizomat-*, *rhizoma*] : having or resembling a rhizome
rhi·zome \ˈrī-ˌzōm\ *n* [NL *rhizomat-*, *rhizoma*, fr. Gk *rhizōmat-*, *rhizōma* mass of roots, fr. *rhizoun* to cause to take root, fr. *rhiza* root — more at ROOT] : a somewhat elongate usu. horizontal subterranean plant stem that is often thickened by deposits of reserve food material, produces shoots above and roots below, and is distinguished from a true root in possessing buds, nodes, and usu. scalelike leaves — **rhi·zo·mic** \rī-ˈzō-mik, -ˈzäm-ik\ *adj*
rhi·zo·mor·phous \ˌrī-zə-ˈmȯr-fəs\ *adj* [ISV] : shaped like a root
rhi·zo·plane \ˈrī-zə-ˌplān\ *n* : the external surface of roots together with closely adhering soil particles and debris
rhi·zo·pod \ˈrī-zə-ˌpäd\ *n* [deriv. of Gk *rhiza* + *pod-*, *pous* foot — more at FOOT] : any of a subclass (Rhizopoda) of usu. creeping protozoans (as an amoeba or a foraminifer) having lobate or rootlike pseudopods — **rhi·zop·o·dal** \rī-ˈzäp-əd-ᵊl\ *adj* — **rhi·zop·o·dous** \-əd-əs\ *adj*
rhi·zo·pus \ˈrī-zə-pəs, -ˌpüs\ *n* [NL, genus name, fr. *rhiz-* + Gk *pous* foot] : any of a genus (*Rhizopus*) of mold fungi including economic pests causing decay — see FUNGUS illustration
rhi·zo·sphere \-ˌsfi(ə)r\ *n* [ISV] : soil that surrounds and is influenced by the roots of a plant
rhi·zot·o·my \rī-ˈzät-ə-mē\ *n, pl* **-mies** [ISV] : the operation of cutting the anterior or posterior spinal nerve roots for therapeutic purposes
Rh–neg·a·tive \ˌär-ˌāch-ˈneg-ət-iv\ *adj* : lacking Rh factor in the blood
rho \ˈrō\ *n* [Gk *rhō*, of Sem origin; akin to Heb *rēsh* resh] **1** : the 17th letter of the Greek alphabet — see ALPHABET table **2** : a very short-lived unstable meson with mass 1490 times the mass of an electron — called also *rho particle*
rhod- *or* **rhodo-** *comb form* [NL, fr. L, fr. Gk, fr. *rhodon* rose] : rose : red ⟨*rhod*ium⟩ ⟨*rhodo*lite⟩
rho·da·mine \ˈrōd-ə-ˌmēn\ *n, often cap* [ISV] : any of a group of yellowish red to blue fluorescent dyes; *esp* : a brilliant bluish red dye made by fusing an amino derivative of phenol with phthalic anhydride and used esp. in coloring paper and as a biological stain — called also *rhodamine B*
Rhode Island bent \rō-ˌdī-lən(d)-\ *n* [*Rhode Island*, U.S.] : a lawn grass (*Agrostis tenuis*) of eastern No. America
Rhode Island Red *n* : any of an American breed of general-purpose domestic fowls having a long heavy body, smooth yellow or reddish legs, and rich brownish red plumage
Rhode Island White *n* : any of an American breed of domestic fowls resembling Rhode Island Reds but having pure white plumage
Rhodes grass \ˈrōdz-\ *n* [Cecil J. *Rhodes*] : an African perennial grass (*Chloris gayana*) widely cultivated as a forage grass esp. in dry regions
Rho·de·sian man \rō-ˌdē-zh(ē-)ən-\ *n* [Northern *Rhodesia*, Africa] : an extinct African man (*Homo rhodesiensis* or *Africanthropus rhodesiensis*) having long bones of modern type, a skull with prominent brow ridges and large face but human palate and dentition, and a simple but relatively large brain
Rhodesian Ridge·back \-ˈrij-ˌbak\ *n* : any of an African breed of powerful long-bodied hunting dogs having a dense harsh short tan coat with a characteristic crest of reversed hair along the spine
Rhodes scholar \ˈrōd(z)-\ *n* : a holder of one of numerous scholarships founded under the will of Cecil J. Rhodes that can be used at Oxford University for two or three years and are open to candidates from the British Commonwealth and the U.S.
rho·di·um \ˈrōd-ē-əm\ *n* [NL, fr. Gk *rhodon* rose] : a white hard ductile metallic element that is chiefly trivalent and resistant to attack by acids, occurs in platinum ores, and is used in alloys with platinum — see ELEMENT table
rho·do·chro·site \ˌrōd-ə-ˈkrō-ˌsīt, rə-ˈdäk-rə-\ *n* [G *rhodocrosit*, fr. Gk *rhodochrōs* rose-colored, fr. *rhod-* + *chrōs* color; akin to Gk *chrōma* color — more at CHROMATIC] : a rose red mineral $MnCO_3$ consisting essentially of manganese carbonate
rho·do·den·dron \ˌrōd-ə-ˈden-drən\ *n* [NL, genus name, fr. L, oleander, fr. Gk, fr. *rhod-* + *dendron* tree — more at DENDR-] : any of a genus (*Rhododendron*) of the heath family of widely cultivated shrubs and trees with alternate leaves and showy flowers; *esp* : one with leathery evergreen leaves as distinguished from a deciduous azalea
rho·do·lite \ˈrōd-ᵊl-ˌīt\ *n* : a pink or purple garnet used as a gem
rhodomontade *var of* RODOMONTADE
rho·do·nite \ˈrōd-ᵊn-ˌīt\ *n* [G *rhodonit*, fr. Gk *rhodon* rose] : a pale red triclinic mineral $MnSiO_3$ that consists essentially of manganese silicate and is used as an ornamental stone
rho·do·plast \ˈrōd-ə-ˌplast\ *n* [ISV] : one of the reddish chromatophores occurring in the red algae
rho·dop·sin \rō-ˈdäp-sən\ *n* [ISV *rhod-* + Gk *opsis* sight, vision + ISV *-in* — more at OPTIC] : a red photosensitive pigment in the retinal rods of marine fishes and most higher vertebrates that is important in vision in dim light — called also *visual purple*
rho·do·ra \rō-ˈdōr-ə, -ˈdȯr-\ *n* [NL, genus name, fr. L, a plant] : any of a genus (*Rhodora*) of the heath family of shrubs that are found in Canada and New England and have delicate pink flowers produced before or with the leaves in the spring
rhomb \ˈräm(b)\ *n, pl* **rhombs** \ˈrämz\ [MF *rhombe*, fr. L *rhombus*] **1** : RHOMBUS **2** : RHOMBOHEDRON
rhomb- *or* **rhombo-** *comb form* [MF, fr. L, fr. Gk, fr. *rhombos*] : rhomb ⟨*rhomb*encephalon⟩ ⟨*rhombo*hedron⟩
rhomb·en·ceph·a·lon \ˌräm-(ˌ)ben-ˈsef-ə-ˌlän, -lən\ *n* [NL] : the parts of the vertebrate brain that develop from the embryonic hindbrain; *also* : HINDBRAIN 1a
rhom·bic \ˈräm-bik\ *adj* **1** : having the form of a rhombus **2** : ORTHORHOMBIC
rhom·bo·he·dron \ˌräm-bō-ˈhē-drən\ *n, pl* **-drons** *or* **-dra** \-drə\ [NL] : a parallelepiped whose faces are rhombuses — **rhom·bo·he·dral** \-drəl\ *adj*

[1]rhom·boid \'räm-ˌbȯid\ *n* [MF *rhomboïde*, fr. L *rhomboides*, fr. Gk *rhomboeidēs* resembling a rhombus, fr. *rhombos*] : a parallelogram in which the angles are oblique and adjacent sides are unequal



rhomboid

[2]rhom·boid \'räm-ˌbȯid\ *or* **rhom·boi·dal** \räm-'bȯid-ᵊl\ *adj* : shaped somewhat like a rhombus or rhomboid

rhom·boi·de·us \räm-'bȯid-ē-əs\ *n, pl* **-dei** \-ē-ˌī\ [NL, fr. L *rhomboides* rhomboid] : either of two muscles that lie beneath the trapezius muscle and connect the spinous processes of various vertebrae with the medial border of the scapula

rhom·bus \'räm-bəs\ *n, pl* **rhom·bus·es** *or* **rhom·bi** \-ˌbī, -ˌbē\ [L, fr. Gk *rhombos*] : an equilateral parallelogram usu. having oblique angles

rhon·chus \'räŋ-kəs\ *n, pl* **rhon·chi** \'räŋ-ˌkī\ [LGk, fr. *rhenchein* to snore, wheeze; akin to OIr *srennim* I snore] : a whistling or snoring sound heard on auscultation of the chest when the air channels are partly obstructed

Rh–pos·i·tive \ˌär-ˌāch-'päz-ət-iv, -'päz-tiv\ *adj* : containing Rh factor in the red blood cells

rhu·barb \'rü-ˌbärb\ *n* [ME *rubarbe*, fr. MF *reubarbe*, fr. ML *reubarbarum*, alter. of *rha barbarum*, lit., barbarian rhubarb] **1** : any of several plants (genus *Rheum*) of the buckwheat family having large leaves with thick succulent petioles often used as food **2** : the dried rhizome and roots of any of several rhubarbs grown in China and Tibet and used as a purgative and stomachic **3** : a heated dispute or controversy

rhumb \'rəm(b)\ *n, pl* **rhumbs** \'rəmz\ [Sp *rumbo* rhumb, rhumb line] : any of the points of the mariner's compass

rhumba *var of* RUMBA

rhumb line *n* [Sp *rumbo*] : a line on the surface of the earth that makes equal oblique angles with all meridians and that is a spiral coiling round the poles but never reaching them

rhus \'rüs\ *n, pl* **rhus·es** *or* **rhus** [NL, genus name, fr. L, sumac, fr. Gk *rhous*] : any of a genus (*Rhus*) of shrubs and trees (as sumac or poison ivy) that are native to temperate and warm regions, have simple or pinnate leaves, and sometimes produce substances causing dermatitis

[1]rhyme \'rīm\ *n* [alter. of ME *rime*, fr. OF] **1 a** : correspondence in terminal sounds of units of composition or utterance (as two or more words or lines of verse) **b** : one of two or more words thus corresponding in sound **c** : correspondence of other than terminal word sounds: as (1) : ALLITERATION (2) : INTERNAL RHYME **2 a** (1) : rhyming verse (2) : POETRY **b** : a composition in verse that rhymes **3** : RHYTHM, MEASURE

[2]rhyme *vb* **rhymed; rhym·ing** *vi* **1** : to make rhymes; *also* : to compose rhyming verse **2 a** *of a word or verse* : to end in syllables that rhyme **b** : to be a rhyme ⟨*date* ~*s* with *fate*⟩ **3** : to be in accord : HARMONIZE ~ *vt* **1** : to relate or praise in rhyming verse **2 a** : to put into rhyme **b** : to compose (verse) in rhyme **c** : to cause to rhyme : use as rhyme

rhym·er \'rī-mər\ *n* : one that makes rhymes; *specif* : RHYMESTER

rhyme royal \-'rȯi(-ə)l\ *n* : a stanza of seven lines in iambic pentameter with a rhyme scheme of *ababbcc*

rhyme scheme *n* : the arrangement of rhymes in a stanza or a poem

rhyme·ster \'rīm(p)-stər\ *n* : an inferior poet

[1]rhyn·cho·ce·pha·lian \ˌriŋ-kō-sə-'fāl-yən\ *adj* [deriv. of Gk *rhynchos* beak, snout + *kephalē* head] : of or relating to an order (Rhynchocephalia) of reptiles resembling lizards

[2]rhynchocephalian *n* : a rhynchocephalian reptile : TUATARA

rhyn·choph·o·ran \riŋ-'käf-ə-rən\ *or* **rhyn·cho·phore** \'riŋ-kəˌfō(ə)r, -ˌfȯ(ə)r\ *n* [deriv. of Gk *rhynchos* + *pherein* to bear] : any of a group (Rhynchophora) of beetles with the head usu. prolonged as a snout : SNOUT BEETLE, WEEVIL

rhy·o·lite \'rī-ə-ˌlīt\ *n* [G *rhyolith*, fr. Gk *rhyax* stream, stream of lava (fr. *rhein*) + G *-lith* -lite] : a very acid volcanic rock that is the lava form of granite — **rhy·o·lit·ic** \ˌrī-ə-'lit-ik\ *adj*

rhythm *n* [MF & L; MF *rhythme*, fr. L *rhythmus*, fr. Gk *rhythmos*, fr. *rhein* to flow — more at STREAM] **1 a** : an ordered recurrent alternation of strong and weak elements in the flow of sound and silence in speech **b** : a particular example or form of rhythm ⟨iambic ~⟩ **2 a** : the aspect of music comprising all the elements (as accent, meter, and tempo) that relate to forward movement **b** : a characteristic rhythmic pattern ⟨rumba ~⟩; *also* : [1]METER 2 **c** : the group of instruments in a band supplying the rhythm — called also *rhythm section* **3 a** : movement or fluctuation marked by the regular recurrence or natural flow of related elements **b** : the repetition in a literary work of phrase, incident, character type, or symbol **4** : a regularly recurrent quantitative change in a variable biological process **5** : the effect created by the elements in a play, movie, or novel that relate to the temporal development of the action **6** : RHYTHM METHOD

rhythm and blues *n* : popular music with elements of blues and Negro folk music

rhythm band *n* : a band usu. composed of school children who play simple percussion instruments (as rhythm sticks, sleigh bells, or tambourines) to learn fundamentals of coordination and music

rhyth·mic \'rith-mik\ *or* **rhyth·mi·cal** \-mi-kəl\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or involving rhythm **2** : marked by or moving in pronounced rhythm — **rhyth·mi·cal·ly** \-mi-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

rhyth·mic·i·ty \rith-'mis-ət-ē\ *n* : the state of being rhythmic or of responding rhythmically

rhyth·mics \'rith-miks\ *n pl but sing or pl in constr* : the science or theory of rhythms

rhyth·mist \'rith-(ə-)məst\ *n* : one who studies or has a feeling for rhythm

rhyth·mize \'rith-(ə-)ˌmīz\ *vt* **-mized; -miz·ing** : to order or compose rhythmically — **rhyth·mi·za·tion** \ˌrith-(ə-)mə-'zā-shən\ *n*

rhythm method *n* : a method of birth control involving continence during the period in which ovulation is most likely to occur

rhythm stick *n* : one of a pair of plain or notched wood sticks that are struck or rubbed together to produce various percussive sounds and are used esp. by young children in rhythm bands

rhyt·i·dome \'rit-ə-ˌdōm, 'rīt-\ *n* [prob. fr. (assumed) NL *rhytidoma*, fr. Gk *rhytidōma* wrinkle, fr. *rhytidoun* to wrinkle, fr. *rhytid-, rhytis* wrinkle] : the bark external to the last formed periderm

RI *abbr* **1** refractive index **2** Rhode Island

[1]ri·al \rē-'ȯl, -'äl\ *n* [Per, fr. Ar *riyāl* riyal] — see MONEY table

[2]rial *var of* RIYAL

ri·al·to \rē-'al-(ˌ)tō\ *n, pl* **-tos** [*Rialto*, island and district in Venice] **1** : EXCHANGE, MARKETPLACE **2** : a theater district

ri·ant \'rī-ənt, 'rē-; rē-'ä⁽ⁿ⁾\ *adj* [MF, prp. of *rire* to laugh, fr. L *ridēre* — more at RIDICULOUS] : GAY, MIRTHFUL — **ri·ant·ly** \'rī-ənt-lē, 'rē-\ *adv*

ri·a·ta \rē-'at-ə, -'ät-\ *n* [modif. of AmerSp *reata*] : LARIAT

[1]rib \'rib\ *n* [ME, fr. OE; akin to OHG *rippi* rib, Gk *erephein* to roof over] **1 a** : one of the paired curved bony or partly cartilaginous rods that stiffen the walls of the body of most vertebrates and protect the viscera **b** : a cut of meat including a rib — see BEEF illustration **c** [fr. the account of Eve's creation from Adam's rib, Gen 2:21–22] : WIFE **2** : something resembling a rib in shape or function: as **a** (1) : a traverse member of the frame of a ship that runs from keel to deck (2) : a light fore-and-aft member in an airplane's wing **b** : one of the stiff strips supporting an umbrella's fabric **c** : one of the arches in Romanesque and Gothic vaulting meeting and crossing one another and dividing the whole vaulted space into triangles **3** : an elongated ridge: as **a** (1) : a vein of an insect's wing (2) : one of the primary veins of a leaf **b** : one of the ridges in a knitted or woven fabric

[2]rib *vt* **ribbed; rib·bing** **1** : to furnish or enclose with ribs **2** : to form vertical ridges in in knitting — **rib·ber** *n*

[3]rib *vt* **ribbed; rib·bing** [prob. fr. [1]*rib*; fr. the tickling of the ribs to cause laughter] : to poke fun at : KID — **rib·ber** *n*

[4]rib *n* **1** : JOKE **2** : PARODY

RIBA *abbr* Royal Institute of British Architects

[1]rib·ald \'rib-əld *also* 'rib-ˌȯld, 'rī-ˌbȯld\ *n* [ME, fr. OF *ribaut, ribauld* wanton, rascal, fr. *riber* to be wanton, of Gmc origin; akin to OHG *rīban* to be wanton, lit., to twist; akin to Gk *rhiptein* to throw] : a ribald person

[2]ribald *adj* **1** : CRUDE, OFFENSIVE ⟨~ language⟩ **2** : characterized by or using coarse indecent humor ***syn*** see COARSE

rib·ald·ry \'rib-əl-drē *also* 'rīb-\ *n, pl* **-ries** **1** : a ribald quality or element **2** : ribald language or humor

rib·and \'rib-ənd\ *n* [ME, alter. of *riban*] : a ribbon used esp. as a decoration

rib·band \'rib-ˌ(b)and, 'rib-ən(d)\ *n* [[1]*rib* + *band*] : a long narrow strip or bar used in shipbuilding; *esp* : one bent and bolted longitudinally to the frames to hold them in position during construction

rib·bing \'rib-iŋ\ *n* : an arrangement of ribs

[1]rib·bon \'rib-ən\ *n* [ME *riban*, fr. MF *riban, ruban*] **1 a** : a flat or tubular narrow closely woven fabric (as of silk or rayon) used for trimmings or knitting **b** : a narrow fabric used for tying packages **c** : a piece of usu. multicolored ribbon worn as a military decoration or in place of a medal **d** : a strip of colored satin given for winning a place in a competition **2** : a long narrow strip resembling a ribbon: as **a** : a board framed into the studs to support the ceiling or floor joists **b** : a strip of inked fabric (as in a typewriter) **3** *pl* : reins for controlling an animal **4** : TATTER, SHRED — usu. used in pl. **5** : RIBBAND — **rib·bon·like** \-ˌlīk\ *adj*

[2]ribbon *vt* **1 a** : to adorn with ribbons **b** : to divide into ribbons **c** : to cover with or as if with ribbons **2** : to rip to shreds

ribbon candy *n* : a thin brittle usu. colored sugar candy folded back and forth upon itself

ribbon development *n* : a system of buildings built side by side along a road

rib·bon·fish \'rib-ən-ˌfish\ *n* : any of various elongate greatly compressed marine fishes (as a dealfish or oarfish)

ribbon worm *n* : NEMERTEAN

rib·by \'rib-ē\ *adj* : showing or marked by ribs

rib cage *n* : the bony enclosing wall of the chest consisting chiefly of the ribs and their connectives

ri·bes \'rī-(ˌ)bēz\ *n, pl* **ribes** [NL, genus name, fr. ML, currant, fr. Ar *rībās* rhubarb] : any of a genus (*Ribes*) of shrubs (as a currant or a gooseberry) of the saxifrage family that have small racemose variously colored flowers and pulpy two-seeded to many-seeded berries

rib eye *n* : the large piece of meat that lies along the outer side of the rib (as of a steer)

rib·grass \'rib-ˌgras\ *n* : [1]PLANTAIN; *specif* : an Old World plantain (*Plantago lanceolata*) with long narrow ribbed leaves

rib·let \'rib-lət\ *n* : one of the rib ends in the strip of breast of lamb or veal — see LAMB illustration

ri·bo·fla·vin \ˌrī-bə-'flā-vən, 'rī-bə-ˌ\ *n* [ISV *ribose* + L *flavus* yellow — more at BLUE] : a yellow crystalline compound $C_{17}H_{20}N_4O_6$ that is a growth-promoting member of the vitamin B complex and occurs both free (as in milk) and combined (as in liver) — called also *vitamin* B_2, *vitamin G*

ri·bo·nu·cle·ase \ˌrī-bō-'n(y)ü-klē-ˌās, -ˌāz\ *n* [*ribonucleic* (acid) + *-ase*] : an enzyme that catalyzes the hydrolysis of RNA

ri·bo·nu·cle·ic acid \ˌrī-bō-n(y)ü-ˌklē-ik-, -ˌklā-\ *n* [*ribose* + *nucleic acid*] : RNA

ri·bo·nu·cleo·pro·tein \-ˌn(y)ü-klē-ō-'prō-ˌtēn, -'prōt-ē-ən\ *n* [*ribonucleic* + *-o-* + *protein*] : a nucleoprotein that contains RNA

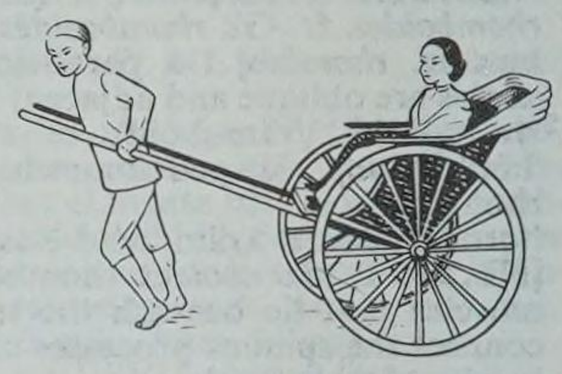
ri·bo·nu·cle·o·side \-'n(y)ü-klē-ə-ˌsīd\ *n* [*ribose* + *nucleoside*] : a nucleoside that contains ribose

ri·bo·nu·cle·o·tide \-ˌtīd\ *n* [*ribo*se + *nucleotide*] : a nucleotide that contains ribose and occurs esp. as a constituent of RNA
ri·bose \'rī-ˌbōs, -ˌbōz\ *n* [ISV, fr. *ribonic acid* (an acid $C_5H_{10}O_6$ obtained by oxidation of ribose)] : a pentose $C_5H_{10}O_5$ found esp. in the D-form and obtained esp. from RNA
ribosomal RNA *n* : the part of RNA that is a fundamental structural element of the ribosomes
ri·bo·some \'rī-bə-ˌsōm\ *n* [*ribo*nucleic (acid) + *-some*] : one of the RNA-rich cytoplasmic granules that are sites of protein synthesis — **ri·bo·som·al** \ˌrī-bə-'sō-məl\ *adj*
rib roast *n* : a cut of meat containing the large piece that lies along the outer side of the rib — see BEEF illustration
rib·wort \'rib-ˌwərt, -ˌwȯ(ə)rt\ *n* : RIBGRASS
rice \'rīs\ *n, pl* **rice** [ME *rys*, fr. OF *ris*, fr. OIt *riso*, fr. Gk *oryza, oryzon*] **1** : an annual cereal grass (*Oryza sativa*) widely cultivated in warm climates for its seed that is used for food and for its by-products **2** : the seed of rice


rice 1

rice-bird \'rīs-ˌbərd\ *n* : any of several small birds common in rice fields; *esp* : BOBOLINK
rice paper *n* [fr. its resemblance to paper made from rice straw] : a thin papery material made from rice-paper tree pith
rice-paper tree *n* : a small Asiatic tree or shrub (*Tetrapanax papyriferum*) of the ginseng family
rice polishings *n pl* : the inner bran layer of rice rubbed off in milling
ric·er \'rī-sər\ *n* : a kitchen utensil in which soft foods are pressed through a perforated container to produce strings about the diameter of a rice grain
ri·cer·car \ˌrē-ˌcher-'kär\ *n* [It, fr. *ricercare* to seek again, fr. *ri-* re- (fr. L *re-*) + *cercare* to seek, fr. LL *circare* to go about; fr. the disguising of the subjects by various alterations] : any of various contrapuntal instrumental forms esp. of the 16th and 17th centuries employing fugal expositions on one or more subjects
rich \'rich\ *adj* [ME *riche*, fr. OE *rīce;* akin to OHG *rīhhi* rich, OE *rīce* kingdom, OHG *rīhhi;* all fr. prehistoric Gmc words borrowed fr. Celt words akin to OIr *rī* (gen. *rīg*) king — more at ROYAL] **1** : having abundant possessions and esp. material wealth **2 a** : having high value or quality **b** : well supplied **3** : magnificently impressive : SUMPTUOUS **4 a** : vivid and deep in color ⟨a ~ red⟩ **b** : full and mellow in tone and quality ⟨a ~ voice⟩ **c** : PUNGENT ⟨~ odors⟩ **5** : highly productive or remunerative ⟨a ~ mine⟩ **6 a** : having abundant plant nutrients ⟨~ soil⟩ **b** : highly seasoned, fatty, oily, or sweet ⟨~ foods⟩ **c** : high in the combustible component ⟨a ~ fuel mixture⟩ **7 a** : AMUSING; *also* : LAUGHABLE **b** : MEANINGFUL, SIGNIFICANT ⟨~ allusions⟩ **c** : LUSH ⟨~ meadows⟩ **8** : pure or nearly pure ⟨~ lime⟩ — **rich·ness** *n*
syn RICH, WEALTHY, AFFLUENT, WELL-OFF, WELL-TO-DO, OPULENT *shared meaning element* : having goods, property, and money in abundance ***ant*** poor
Rich·ard Roe \ˌrich-ər-'drō\ *n* : a party to legal proceedings whose true name is unknown — compare JOHN DOE
rich·en \'rich-ən\ *vt* **rich·ened; rich·en·ing** \-(ə-)niŋ\ : to make rich or richer
rich·es \'rich-əz\ *n pl* [ME, sing. or pl., fr. *richesse*, lit., richness, fr. OF, fr. *riche* rich, of Gmc origin; akin to OE *rīce* rich] : things that make one rich : WEALTH
rich·ly \'rich-lē\ *adv* **1** : in a rich manner **2** : in full measure : AMPLY ⟨praise ~ deserved⟩
Rich·ter scale \'rik-tər-\ *n* [after Charles R. *Richter b*1900 Am seismologist] : a logarithmic scale for expressing the magnitude of a seismic disturbance (as an earthquake) in terms of the energy dissipated in it with 1.5 indicating the smallest earthquake that can be felt, 4.5 an earthquake causing slight damage, and 8.5 a very devastating earthquake
ri·cin \'rīs-ᵊn, 'ris-\ *n* [L *ricinus* castor-oil plant] : a poisonous protein in the castor bean
ri·cin·ole·ic acid \ˌrīs-ᵊn-ō-ˌlē-ik-, ˌris-, -ˌlā-\ *n* [L *ricinus* + E *oleic*] : an oily unsaturated hydroxy fatty acid $C_{18}H_{34}O_3$ that occurs in castor oil as a glyceride and yields esters important as plasticizers
ric·i·nus \'ris-ᵊn-əs\ *n* [NL, genus name, fr. L, castor-oil plant] : any of a genus (*Ricinus*) of plants (as the castor-oil plant) of the spurge family with large palmate leaves
¹rick \'rik\ *n* [ME *reek*, fr. OE *hrēac;* akin to ON *hraukr* rick] **1** : a stack (as of hay) in the open air **2** : a pile of material (as cordwood) split from short logs
²rick *vt* : to pile (as hay) in ricks
³rick *vt* [perh. fr. ME *wrikken* to move unsteadily] *chiefly Brit* : WRENCH, SPRAIN
rick·ets \'rik-əts\ *n pl but sing in constr* [origin unknown] : a childhood disease that is characterized esp. by soft and deformed bones and that is caused by failure to assimilate and use calcium and phosphorus normally due to inadequate sunlight or vitamin D
rick·ett·sia \rik-'et-sē-ə\ *n, pl* **-si·as** *or* **-si·ae** \-sē-ˌē, -ˌī\ [NL, genus of microorganisms, fr. Howard T. *Ricketts* †1910 Am pathologist] : any of a family (Rickettsiaceae) of pleomorphic rod-shaped nonfilterable microorganisms that cause various diseases (as typhus) — **rick·ett·si·al** \-sē-əl\ *adj*
rick·ety \'rik-ət-ē\ *adj* **1** : affected with rickets **2 a** : feeble in the joints ⟨a ~ old man⟩ **b** : SHAKY, UNSOUND ⟨~ stairs⟩
rick·ey \'rik-ē\ *n, pl* **rickeys** [prob. fr. the name *Rickey*] : a drink containing liquor, lime juice, sugar, and soda water; *also* : a similar drink without liquor
rick·rack *or* **ric·rac** \'rik-ˌrak\ *n* [redupl. of ⁴*rack*] : a flat braid woven to form zigzags and used esp. as trimming on clothing
rick·sha *or* **rick·shaw** \'rik-ˌshȯ\ *n* [alter. of *jinrikisha*] : a small covered 2-wheeled vehicle usu. for one passenger that is pulled by one man and that was used orig. in Japan
¹ric·o·chet \'rik-ə-ˌshā, *Brit also* -ˌshet\ *n* [F] : a glancing rebound (as of a projectile off a flat surface); *also* : an object that ricochets

²ricochet *vi* **-cheted** \-ˌshād\ *or* **-chet·ted** \-ˌshet-əd\; **-chet·ing** \-ˌshā-iŋ\ *or* **-chet·ting** \-ˌshet-iŋ\ : to skip with or as if with glancing rebounds


ricksha

ri·cot·ta \ri-'kȯt-ə\ *n* [It, fr. fem. of pp. of *ricuocere* to cook again, fr. L *recoquere*, fr. *re-* + *coquere* to cook — more at COOK] : a white unripened whey cheese of Italy that resembles cottage cheese; *also* : a similar cheese made in the U.S. from whole or skim milk
ric·tal \'rik-tᵊl\ *adj* : of or relating to the rictus
ric·tus \'rik-təs\ *n* [NL, fr. L, open mouth, fr. *rictus*, pp. of *ringi* to open the mouth; akin to OSlav *rędnǫti*] **1** : the gape of a bird's mouth **2 a** : the mouth orifice **b** : a gaping grin or grimace
rid \'rid\ *vt* **rid** *also* **rid·ded; rid·ding** [ME *ridden* to clear, fr. ON *rythja;* akin to L *ruere* to dig up — more at RUG] **1** *archaic* : SAVE, RESCUE **2** : to make free : RELIEVE, DISENCUMBER ⟨~ himself of his troubles⟩ ⟨be ~ of worries⟩ ⟨get ~ of that junk⟩
rid·able *or* **ride·able** \'rīd-ə-bəl\ *adj* : fit for riding
rid·dance \'rid-ᵊn(t)s\ *n* **1** : an act of ridding **2** : DELIVERANCE, RELIEF — often used in the phrase *good riddance*
rid·den \'rid-ᵊn\ *adj* **1** : extremely concerned with or bothered by — usu. used in combination ⟨conscience-*ridden*⟩ **2** : excessively full of or supplied with — usu. used in combination ⟨slum-*ridden*⟩
¹rid·dle \'rid-ᵊl\ *n* [ME *redels, ridel*, fr. OE *rǣdelse* opinion, conjecture, riddle; akin to OE *rǣdan* to interpret — more at READ] **1** : a mystifying, misleading, or puzzling question posed as a problem to be solved or guessed : CONUNDRUM, ENIGMA **2** : something or someone difficult to understand ***syn*** see MYSTERY
²riddle *vb* **rid·dled; rid·dling** \'rid-liŋ, -ᵊl-iŋ\ *vt* **1** : to find the solution of : EXPLAIN **2** : to set a riddle for : PUZZLE ~ *vi* : to speak in or propound riddles — **rid·dler** \-lər, -ᵊl-ər\ *n*
³riddle *n* [ME *riddil*, fr. OE *hriddel;* akin to L *cribrum* sieve, *cernere* to sift — more at CERTAIN] : a coarse sieve
⁴riddle *vt* **rid·dled; rid·dling** \'rid-liŋ, -ᵊl-iŋ\ **1** : to separate (as grain from chaff) with a riddle : SCREEN **2** : to pierce with many holes ⟨the shutters . . . were . . . *riddled* by bullets—G. G. Simpson⟩ **3** : to spread through : PERMEATE ⟨the state . . . was *riddled* with poverty —Thomas Wood †1950⟩
rid·dling \'rid-liŋ,-ᵊl-iŋ\ *adj* : containing or presenting riddles
¹ride \'rīd\ *vb* **rode** \'rōd\ *or chiefly dial* **rid** \'rid\; **rid·den** \'rid-ᵊn\ *or chiefly dial* **rid** *or* **rode; rid·ing** \'rīd-iŋ\ [ME *riden*, fr. OE *rīdan;* akin to OHG *rītan* to ride] *vi* **1 a** : to sit and travel on the back of an animal that one directs **b** : to travel in or on a conveyance **2** : to become sustained ⟨*rode* on a wave of popularity⟩ **3 a** : to lie moored or anchored ⟨a ship ~*s* at anchor⟩ **b** : SAIL **c** : to move like a floating object ⟨the moon *rode* in the sky⟩ **4** : to become supported on a point or surface **5** : to travel over a surface ⟨the car ~*s* well⟩ **6** : to continue without interference ⟨let it ~⟩ **7** : to be contingent : DEPEND ⟨plans ~ on his nomination⟩ **8** : to climb up on the body ⟨shorts that ~ up⟩ **9** : to become bet ⟨his money is *riding* on the favorite⟩ ~ *vt* **1 a** : to mount and travel on while controlling ⟨~ a bike⟩ **b** : to move with ⟨~ the waves⟩ **2 a** : to traverse by conveyance ⟨*rode* 500 miles⟩ **b** : to ride a horse in ⟨~ a race⟩ **3** : SURVIVE, OUTLAST — usu. used with *out* ⟨*rode* out the gale⟩ **4** : to traverse on horseback to inspect or maintain ⟨~ fence⟩ **5** : to mount in copulation **6 a** : OBSESS, OPPRESS ⟨*ridden* by anxiety⟩ **b** : to harass persistently : NAG **c** : TEASE, RIB **7** : CARRY, CONVEY **8** : to project over : OVERLAP **9** : to give with (a punch) to soften the impact **10** : to keep in partial engagement by resting a foot continuously on the pedal ⟨~ the clutch⟩ — **ride circuit** : to hold court in the various towns of a judicial circuit — **ride for a fall** : to court disaster — **ride herd on** : to keep a check on — **ride high** : to experience success — **ride roughshod over** : to treat with disdain or abuse
²ride *n* **1** : an act of riding; *esp* : a trip on horseback or by vehicle **2** : a way (as a road or path) suitable for riding **3** : any of various mechanical devices (as at an amusement park) for riding on **4 a** : a trip on which gangsters take a victim to murder him **b** : DECEPTION ⟨take the taxpayers for a ~⟩ **5** : a means of transportation **6** : the qualities of travel comfort in a vehicle **7** : a job as a driver in an automobile race
rid·er \'rīd-ər\ *n* **1** : one that rides **2 a** : an addition to a document often attached on a separate piece of paper **b** : a clause appended to a legislative bill to secure a usu. distinct object **3** : something used to overlie another or to move along on another piece — **rid·er·less** \-ləs\ *adj*
¹ridge \'rij\ *n* [ME *rigge*, fr. OE *hrycg;* akin to OHG *hrukki* ridge, back, L *cruc-, crux* cross, *curvus* curved — more at CROWN] **1** : an elevated body part (as along the backbone) **2 a** : a range of hills or mountains **b** : an elongate elevation on an ocean bottom **3** : an elongate crest or a linear series of crests **4** : a raised strip (as of plowed ground) **5** : the line of intersection at the top between the opposite slopes or sides of a roof — **ridged** \'rijd\ *adj*
²ridge *vb* **ridged; ridg·ing** *vt* : to form into a ridge ~ *vi* : to extend in ridges
ridge·ling *or* **ridg·ling** \'rij-liŋ\ *n* [perh. fr. ¹*ridge*, fr. the supposition that the undescended testis remains near the animal's back] **1** : a male animal having one or both testes retained in the inguinal canal **2** : an imperfectly castrated male animal
ridge·pole \'rij-ˌpōl\ *n* **1** : the highest horizontal timber in a roof and the receiver of the upper ends of the rafters — see RAFTER illustration **2** : the horizontal pole at the top of a tent
ridgy \'rij-ē\ *adj* : having or rising in ridges
¹rid·i·cule \'rid-ə-ˌkyü(ə)l\ *n* [F or L; F, fr. L *ridiculum* jest] : the act of exposing to laughter : DERISION, MOCKERY
²ridicule *vt* **-culed; -cul·ing** : to make fun of — **rid·i·cul·er** *n*
syn RIDICULE, DERIDE, MOCK, TAUNT, TWIT, RALLY *shared meaning element* : to make an object of laughter

ri·dic·u·lous \rə-'dik-yə-ləs\ *adj* [L *ridiculosus* (fr. *ridiculum* jest, fr. neut. of *ridiculus*) or *ridiculus*, lit., laughable, fr. *ridēre* to laugh; akin to Skt *vrīḍate* he is ashamed] : arousing or deserving ridicule : ABSURD, PREPOSTEROUS ***syn*** see LAUGHABLE — **ri·dic·u·lous·ly** *adv* — **ri·dic·u·lous·ness** *n*

[1]ri·ding \'rīd-iŋ\ *n* [ME, alter. of (assumed) OE *thriding*, fr. ON *thrithjungr* third part, fr. *thrithi* third; akin to OE *thridda* third — more at THIRD] **1** : one of the three administrative jurisdictions into which Yorkshire, England, was formerly divided **2** : an administrative jurisdiction or electoral district in a British dominion (as Canada)

[2]rid·ing \'rīd-iŋ\ *n* : the action or state of one that rides

[3]rid·ing *adj* **1** : used for or when riding ⟨a ~ horse⟩ **2** : operated by a rider ⟨a ~ plow⟩

rid·ley \'rid-lē\ *n* [prob. fr. the name *Ridley*] : a marine turtle (*Caretta kempii* or *Lepidochelys kempii*) found off the Atlantic coast of the U.S.

ri·dot·to \ri-'dät-(,)ō\ *n, pl* **-tos** [It, retreat, place of entertainment, redoubt] : a public entertainment consisting of music and dancing often in masquerade popular in 18th century England

ri·el \rē-'el\ *n* [origin unknown] — see MONEY table

Rie·mann·ian geometry \rē-,män-ē-ən-\ *n* [G. F. B. *Riemann*] : a non-Euclidean geometry in which straight lines are geodesics and in which the parallel postulate is replaced by the postulate that every pair of straight lines intersects

Rie·mann integral \,rē-,män-, -mən-\ *n* [G. F. B. *Riemann*] : DEFINITE INTEGRAL

Ries·ling \'rēz-liŋ, 'rē-sliŋ\ *n* [G] : a dry white table wine resembling Rhine wine

ri·fam·pi·cin \rī-'fam-pə-sən\ *n* [*rif*amycin (an antibiotic produced from a bacterium, from which it is derived) + *ampicillin* (which it resembles in efficacy)] : a semisynthetic antibiotic that acts against some viruses and bacteria esp. by inhibiting RNA synthesis

rife \'rīf\ *adj* [ME *ryfe*, fr. OE *rȳfe;* akin to ON *rīfr* abundant] **1** : prevalent esp. to an increasing degree ⟨fear was ~ in the people⟩ **2** : ABUNDANT, COMMON **3** : copiously supplied : ABOUNDING — usu. used with *with* ⟨~ with rumors⟩ ***syn*** see PREVAILING — **rife** *adv* — **rife·ly** *adv*

[1]riff \'rif\ *vb* [short for *riffle*] : RIFFLE, SKIM ⟨~ pages⟩

[2]riff *n* [prob. by shortening & alter. fr. *refrain*] : an ostinato phrase in jazz typically supporting a solo improvisation; *also* : a piece based on such a phrase

[3]riff *vi* : to perform a jazz riff

Riff \'rif\ *n, pl* **Riffs** *or* **Riffi** \'rif-ē\ *or* **Riff** : a Berber of the Rif in northern Morocco

Riff·ian \'rif-ē-ən\ *n* : RIFF

[1]rif·fle \'rif-əl\ *n* [perh. alter. of *ruffle*] **1 a** : a shallow extending across a stream bed and causing broken water **b** : a stretch of water flowing over a riffle **2** : a small wave or succession of small waves : RIPPLE **3** [*[2]riffle*] **a** : the act or process of shuffling (as cards) **b** : the sound made while doing this

[2]riffle *vb* **rif·fled; rif·fling** \'rif-(ə-)liŋ\ *vi* **1** : to form, flow over, or move in riffles **2** : to flip cursorily : THUMB ⟨~ through files⟩ ~ *vt* **1** : to ruffle slightly : RIPPLE **2 a** : to leaf through hastily; *specif* : to leaf (as a stack of paper) by sliding a thumb along the edge of the leaves **b** : to shuffle (playing cards) by separating the deck into two parts and riffling with the thumbs so the cards intermix **3** : to manipulate (small objects) idly between the fingers

[3]riffle *n* [prob. fr. *[1]riffle*] **1 a** : any of various contrivances (as blocks or rails) laid on the bottom of a sluice or launder to make a series of grooves or interstices to catch and retain a mineral (as gold) **b** : a groove or interstice so formed **2** : a cleat or bar fastened to an inclined surface in a gold-washing apparatus to catch and hold mineral grains

[4]riffle *vt* **rif·fled; rif·fling** \'rif-(ə-)liŋ\ : to run through a riffle or over a series of riffles ⟨~ ground ore⟩

rif·fler \'rif-lər\ *n* [F *rifloir*, fr. *rifler* to file, rifle] : a small filing or scraping tool

riff·raff \'rif-,raf\ *n* [ME *ryffe raffe*, fr. *rif and raf* every single one, fr. MF *rif et raf* completely, fr. *rifler* to scratch, plunder + *raffe* act of sweeping] **1 a** : disreputable persons **b** : RABBLE **c** : one of the riffraff **2** : REFUSE, RUBBISH — **riffraff** *adj*

[1]ri·fle \'rī-fəl\ *vb* **ri·fled; ri·fling** \-f(ə-)liŋ\ [ME *riflen*, fr. MF *rifler* to scratch, file, plunder, of Gmc origin; akin to OHG *riffilōn* to saw, obs. D *rijffelen* to scrape] *vt* **1** : to ransack esp. with the intent to steal **2** : to steal and carry away ~ *vi* : to engage in ransacking and stealing — **ri·fler** \-f(ə-)lər\ *n*

[2]rifle *vt* **ri·fled; ri·fling** \-f(ə-)liŋ\ [F *rifler* to scratch, file] : to cut spiral grooves into the bore of ⟨*rifled* arms⟩ ⟨*rifled* pipe⟩

[3]rifle *n* **1 a** : a shoulder weapon with a rifled bore **b** : a rifled artillery piece **2** *pl* : a body of soldiers armed with rifles

[4]rifle *vt* **ri·fled; ri·fling** \-f(ə-)liŋ\ [*[3]rifle*] : to propel (as a ball) with great force or speed

ri·fle·bird \'rī-fəl-,bərd\ *n* : any of several birds of paradise

ri·fle·man \-mən\ *n* **1** : a soldier armed with a rifle **2** : one skilled in shooting with a rifle

ri·fle·ry \'rī-fəl-rē\ *n* : the practice of shooting at targets with a rifle

ri·fle·scope \'rī-fəl-,skōp\ *n* : a telescopic sight for a rifle

ri·fling \'rī-f(ə-)liŋ\ *n* **1** : the act or process of making spiral grooves **2** : a system of spiral grooves in the surface of the bore of a gun causing a projectile when fired to rotate about its longer axis

[1]rift \'rift\ *n* [ME, of Scand origin; akin to Dan & Norw *rift* fissure, ON *rifa* to rive — more at RIVE] **1 a** : FISSURE, CREVASSE **b** : a normal geological fault **2** : a clear space or interval **3** : BREACH, ESTRANGEMENT

[2]rift *vt* **1** : CLEAVE, DIVIDE **2** : PENETRATE ~ *vi* : to burst open

[3]rift *n* [prob. alter. of E dial. *riff* (reef)] : a shallow or rocky place in a stream

rift valley *n* : an elongated valley formed by the depression of a block of the earth's crust between two faults or groups of faults of approximately parallel strike

[1]rig \'rig\ *vt* **rigged; rig·ging** [ME *riggen*] **1** : to fit out (as a ship) with rigging **2** : CLOTHE, DRESS — usu. used with *out* **3** : to furnish with special gear : EQUIP **4 a** : to put in condition or position for use : ADJUST, ARRANGE ⟨a car *rigged* for manual control⟩ **b** : CONSTRUCT ⟨~ up a temporary shelter⟩

[2]rig *n* **1** : the distinctive shape, number, and arrangement of sails and masts of a ship **2** : EQUIPAGE; *esp* : a carriage with its horse **3** : DRESS, CLOTHING **4** : tackle, equipment, or machinery fitted for a specified purpose ⟨an oil-drilling ~⟩

[3]rig *vt* **rigged; rig·ging** [*rig* (swindle)] **1** : to manipulate or control usu. by deceptive or dishonest means ⟨~ an election⟩ **2** : to fix in advance for a desired result ⟨~ a quiz program⟩

rig·a·doon \,rig-ə-'dün\ *or* **ri·gau·don** \rē-gȯ-dō[n]\ *n* [F *rigaudon*] : a lively dance of the 17th and 18th centuries; *also* : the music for a rigadoon

rig·a·ma·role *var of* RIGMAROLE

rig·a·to·ni \,rig-ə-'tō-nē\ *n* [It, pl., fr. *rigato* furrowed, fluted, fr. pp. of *rigare* to furrow, flute, fr. *riga* line, of Gmc origin; akin to OHG *rīga* line — more at ROW] : macaroni made in short curved fluted pieces

Ri·gel \'rī-jəl, -gəl; 'rij-əl\ *n* [Ar *Rijl*, lit., foot] : a first-magnitude star in the left foot of the constellation Orion

rig·ger \'rig-ər\ *n* **1** : one that rigs **2** : a long slender pointed sable paintbrush **3** : a ship of a specified rig ⟨square-*rigger*⟩

rig·ging \'rig-iŋ, -ən\ *n* **1 a** : lines and chains used aboard a ship esp. in working sail and supporting masts and spars **b** : a similar network (as in theater scenery) used for support and manipulation **2** : CLOTHING

[1]right \'rīt\ *adj* [ME, fr. OE *riht;* akin to OHG *reht* right, L *rectus* straight, right, *regere* to lead straight, direct, rule, *rogare* to ask, Gk *oregein* to stretch out] **1** : RIGHTEOUS, UPRIGHT **2** : being in accordance with what is just, good, or proper ⟨~ conduct⟩ **3 a** : agreeable to a standard **b** : conforming to facts or truth : CORRECT ⟨the ~ answer⟩ **4** : SUITABLE, APPROPRIATE ⟨the ~ man for the job⟩ **5** : STRAIGHT ⟨a ~ line⟩ **6** : GENUINE, REAL **7 a** : of, relating to, situated on, or being the side of the body which is away from the heart and on which the hand is stronger in most people **b** : located nearer to the right hand than to the left **c** (1) : located on the right of an observer facing in the same direction as the object specified ⟨stage ~⟩ (2) : located on the right when facing downstream ⟨the ~ bank of a river⟩ **8** : having its axis perpendicular to the base ⟨~ cone⟩ **9** : of, relating to, or constituting the principal or more prominent side of an object ⟨made sure his socks were ~ side out⟩ **10** : acting or judging in accordance with truth or fact ⟨time proved him ~⟩ **11 a** : being in good physical or mental health or order ⟨not in his ~ mind⟩ **b** : being in a correct or proper state ⟨put things ~⟩ **12** : most favorable or desired : PREFERABLE; *also* : socially acceptable ⟨knew all the ~ people⟩ **13** *often cap* : of, adhering to, or constituted by the Right esp. in politics ***syn*** see CORRECT ***ant*** wrong — **right·ness** *n*

[2]right *n* [ME, fr. OE *riht*, fr. *riht*, adj.] **1** : qualities (as adherence to duty or obedience to lawful authority) that together constitute the ideal of moral propriety or merit moral approval **2** : something to which one has a just claim: as **a** : the power or privilege to which one is justly entitled **b** (1) : the interest that one has in a piece of property — often used in pl. ⟨mineral ~s⟩ (2) *pl* : the property interest possessed under law or custom and agreement in an intangible thing esp. of a literary and artistic nature ⟨film ~s of the novel⟩ **3** : something that one may properly claim as due **4** : the cause of truth or justice **5 a** : the right hand; *also* : a blow struck with this hand ⟨gave him a hard ~ on the jaw⟩ **b** : the location or direction of the right side ⟨woods on his ~⟩ **c** : the part on the right side **6 a** : the true account or correct interpretation **b** : the quality or state of being factually correct **7** *often cap* **a** : the part of a legislative chamber located to the right of the presiding officer **b** : the members of a continental European legislative body occupying the right as a result of holding more conservative political views than other members **8 a** (1) *cap* : individuals sometimes professing opposition to change in the established order and favoring traditional attitudes and practices and sometimes advocating the forced establishment of an authoritarian political order (2) : a group or party in another organization that favors conservative, traditional, or sometimes authoritarian attitudes and policies **b** *often cap* : a conservative position **9 a** : a privilege given stockholders to subscribe pro rata to a new issue of securities generally below market price **b** : the negotiable certificate evidencing such privilege — usu. used in pl. — **by rights** : with reason or justice : PROPERLY — **in one's own right** : by virtue of one's own qualifications or properties — **to rights** : into proper order

[3]right *adv* **1** : according to right ⟨live ~⟩ **2** : in the exact location or position : PRECISELY ⟨~ at his fingertips⟩ ⟨~ in the middle of the floor⟩ **3** : in a suitable, proper, or desired manner ⟨knew he wasn't doing it ~⟩ **4** : in a direct line or course : DIRECTLY, STRAIGHT ⟨go ~ home⟩ **5** : according to fact or truth : TRULY ⟨guessed ~⟩ **6 a** : all the way ⟨windows ~ to the floor⟩ **b** : in a complete manner ⟨felt ~ at home⟩ **7** : without delay : IMMEDIATELY ⟨~ after lunch⟩ **8** : to a great degree : VERY ⟨a ~ pleasant day⟩ **9** : on or to the right ⟨looked left and ~⟩ — **right now** : at the present : just now

[4]right *vt* **1 a** : to do justice to : redress the injuries of ⟨so just is God to ~ the innocent —Shak.⟩ **b** : JUSTIFY, VINDICATE ⟨felt the need to ~ himself in court⟩ **2** : AVENGE ⟨vows to ~ the injustice done to his family⟩ **3 a** : to adjust or restore to the proper state or condition ⟨helps to ~ the imbalance of his previous work⟩ **b** : to bring or restore to an upright position ⟨~ a capsized boat⟩ ~ *vi* : to become upright — **right·er** *n*

right angle *n* : the angle bounded by two lines perpendicular to each other : an angle of 90° or $\frac{1}{2}\pi$ radians — **right–an·gled** \'rīt-'aŋ-gəld\ *or* **right–an·gle** \-gəl\ *adj*
right ascension *n* : the arc of the celestial equator between the vernal equinox and the point where the hour circle through the given body intersects the equator reckoned eastward commonly in terms of the corresponding interval of sidereal time in hours, minutes, and seconds
right away *adv* : without delay or hesitation : IMMEDIATELY
right circular cone *n* : CONE 2a
right circular cylinder *n* : a cylinder with circular bases such that any line lying wholly in the surface and joining the bases is perpendicular to them
righ·teous \'rī-chəs\ *adj* [alter. of earlier *rightuous*, alter. of ME *rightwise, rightwos*, fr. OE *rihtwīs*, fr. *riht*, n., right + *wīs* wise] **1** : acting in accord with divine or moral law : free from guilt or sin **2 a** : morally right or justifiable ⟨a ~ decision⟩ **b** : arising from an outraged sense of justice or morality ⟨~ indignation⟩ ***syn*** see MORAL ***ant*** iniquitous — **righ·teous·ly** *adv* — **righ·teous·ness** *n*
right field *n* **1** : the part of the baseball outfield to the right looking out from the plate **2** : the position of the player defending right field — **right fielder** *n*
right·ful \'rīt-fəl\ *adj* **1** : JUST, EQUITABLE **2 a** : having a just or legally established claim : LEGITIMATE ⟨the ~ owner⟩ **b** : held by right or just claim : LEGAL ⟨~ authority⟩ **3** : FITTING, PROPER ⟨thought her ~ place was in the home⟩ — **right·ful·ly** \-fə-lē\ *adv* — **right·ful·ness** *n*
right–hand \'rīt-ˌhand\ *adj* **1** : situated on the right **2** : RIGHT-HANDED **3** : chiefly relied on ⟨~ man⟩
right hand *n* **1 a** : the hand on a person's right side **b** : an indispensable person **2 a** : the right side **b** : a place of honor
right–hand·ed \-'han-dəd\ *adj* **1** : using the right hand habitually or more easily than the left; *also* : swinging from right to left ⟨a ~ batter⟩ **2** : relating to, designed for, or done with the right hand **3 a** : having the same direction or course as the movement of the hands of a watch viewed from in front : CLOCKWISE — used of a twist, rotary motion, or spiral curve as viewed from a given direction with respect to the axis of rotation **b** *of a rope* : formed of strands twisted clockwise so that if held vertically the strands spiral upward to the right **4** *of a door* : opening to the right away from one — **right–handed** *adv* — **right–hand·ed·ly** *adv* — **right–hand·ed·ness** *n*
right–hand·er \-'han-dər\ *n* **1** : a blow struck with the right hand **2** : a right-handed person
right·ism \'rīt-ˌiz-əm\ *n, often cap* **1** : the principles and views of the Right **2** : advocacy of or adherence to the doctrines of the Right — **right·ist** \'rīt-əst\ *n or adj, often cap*
right·ly \'rīt-lē\ *adv* **1** : in accordance with right conduct : FAIRLY, JUSTLY **2** : in the right or proper manner : PROPERLY, FITLY **3** : according to truth or fact : CORRECTLY, EXACTLY
right–mind·ed \-'mīn-dəd\ *adj* : having a right or honest mind : purposing well ⟨a ~ citizen⟩ — **right–mind·ed·ness** *n*
right off *adv* : right away : at once — **right off the bat** : right off
right of search : the right to stop a merchant vessel on the high seas and make a reasonable search to determine its liability to capture by violation of international or revenue law
right–of–way \ˌrīt-ə(v)-'wā\ *n, pl* **rights–of–way** *also* **right–of–ways** **1** : a legal right of passage over another person's ground **2 a** : the area over which a right-of-way exists **b** : the strip of land over which is built a public road **c** : the land occupied by a railroad esp. for its main line **d** : the land used by a public utility (as for a transmission line) **3 a** : a precedence in passing accorded to one vehicle over another by custom, decision, or statute **b** : the right of traffic to take precedence **c** : the right to take precedence over others ⟨gave the bill the ~ in the Senate⟩
right on *interj* — used to express agreement or to give encouragement
Right Reverend — used as a title for high ecclesiastical officials
right shoulder arms *n* : a position in the manual of arms in which the butt of the rifle is held in the right hand with the barrel resting on the right shoulder; *also* : a command to assume this position
right–to–work law *n* : any of various state laws banning the closed shop and the union shop
right triangle *n* : a triangle having a right angle
right·ward \'rīt-wərd\ *adj* : being toward or on the right
right whale *n* : a large whalebone whale (family Balaenidae) having no dorsal fin, very long baleen, a large head, an unwrinkled throat, and small eyes near the angles of the mouth
right wing *n, often attrib* **1** : the rightist division of a group or party **2** : RIGHT 8 — **right–wing·er** \-'wiŋ-ər\ *n*
rig·id \'rij-əd\ *adj* [MF or L; MF *rigide*, fr. L *rigidus*, fr. *rigēre* to be stiff] **1 a** : deficient in or devoid of flexibility ⟨~ price controls⟩ ⟨a ~ bar of metal⟩ **b** : appearing stiff and unyielding ⟨his face ~ with pain⟩ **2 a** : inflexibly set in opinion **b** : strictly observed ⟨adheres to a ~ schedule⟩ **3** : firmly inflexible rather than lax or indulgent ⟨a ~ disciplinarian⟩ **4** : precise and accurate in procedure **5 a** : having the gas containers enclosed within compartments of a fixed fabric-covered framework ⟨a ~ airship⟩ **b** : having the outer shape maintained by a fixed framework — **rig·id·ly** *adv* — **rig·id·ness** *n*
syn **1** see STIFF ***ant*** elastic
2 RIGID, RIGOROUS, STRICT, STRINGENT *shared meaning element* : extremely severe or stern ***ant*** lax
ri·gid·i·fy \rə-'jid-ə-ˌfī\ *vb* **-fied; -fy·ing** *vt* : to make rigid ~ *vi* : to become rigid — **ri·gid·i·fi·ca·tion** \-ˌjid-ə-fə-'kā-shən\ *n*
ri·gid·i·ty \rə-'jid-ət-ē\ *n, pl* **-ties** **1** : the quality or state of being rigid **2** : one that is rigid (as in form or conduct)
rig·ma·role \'rig-(ə-)mə-ˌrōl\ *n* [alter. of obs. *ragman roll* (long list, catalog)] **1** : confused or meaningless talk **2** : a complex and ritualistic procedure
rig·or \'rig-ər\ *n* [ME *rigour*, fr. MF *rigueur*, fr. L *rigor*, lit., stiffness, fr. *rigēre* to be stiff] **1 a** (1) : harsh inflexibility in opinion, temper, or judgment : SEVERITY (2) : the quality of being unyielding or inflexible : STRICTNESS (3) : severity of life : AUSTERITY **b** : an act or instance of strictness, severity, or cruelty **2** : a tremor caused by a chill **3** : a condition that makes life difficult, challenging, or uncomfortable; *esp* : extremity of cold **4** : strict precision : EXACTNESS ⟨logical ~⟩ **5 a** *obs* : RIGIDITY, STIFFNESS **b** : rigidness or torpor of organs or tissue that prevents response to stimuli ***syn*** see DIFFICULTY
rig·or·ism \'rig-ə-ˌriz-əm\ *n* : rigidity in principle or practice — **rig·or·ist** \-ə-rəst\ *n or adj* — **rig·or·is·tic** \ˌrig-ə-'ris-tik\ *adj*
rig·or mor·tis \ˌrig-ər-'mȯrt-əs *also chiefly Brit* ˌrī-ˌgȯ(ə)r-\ *n* [NL, stiffness of death] : temporary rigidity of muscles occurring after death
rig·or·ous \'rig-(ə-)rəs\ *adj* **1** : manifesting, exercising, or favoring rigor : very strict **2 a** : marked by extremes of temperature or climate **b** : HARSH, SEVERE **3** : scrupulously accurate : PRECISE ***syn*** see RIGID — **rig·or·ous·ly** *adv* — **rig·or·ous·ness** *n*
rig·our *chiefly Brit var of* RIGOR
Riks·mål *or* **Riks·maal** \'rik-ˌsmȯl, 'rēk-\ *n* [Norw, fr. *rik* kingdom + *mål* speech, fr. ON *māl;* akin to OE *rīce* kingdom — more at RICH, MAIL] : BOKMÅL
rile \'rī(ə)l\ *vt* **riled; ril·ing** [by alter.] **1** : ROIL 1 **2** : to make agitated and angry : UPSET ***syn*** see IRRITATE
ril·ey \'rī-lē\ *adj* **1** : TURBID **2** : ANGRY
¹rill \'ril\ *n* [D *ril* or LG *rille;* akin to OE *rīth* rivulet] : a very small brook
²rill *vi* : to flow like a rill
³rill \'ril\ *or* **rille** \'ril, 'ril-ə\ *n* [G *rille*, lit., channel made by a small stream, fr. LG, rill] : any of several long narrow valleys on the moon's surface
rill·et \'ril-ət\ *n* : a little rill
¹rim \'rim\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *rima;* akin to ON *rimi* strip of land, Gk *ērema* gently, Lith *remti* to support] **1 a** : the outer often curved or circular edge or border of something **b** : BRINK **2 a** : the outer part of a wheel joined to the hub usu. by spokes **b** : a removable outer metal band on an automobile wheel to which the tire is attached **3** : FRAME 3d(1) ***syn*** see BORDER — **rim·less** \-ləs\ *adj*
²rim *vb* **rimmed; rim·ming** *vt* **1** : to serve as a rim for : BORDER ⟨cliffs *rimming* the camp⟩ **2** : to run around the rim of ⟨putts that ~ the cup⟩ ~ *vi* : to form or show a rim
¹rime \'rīm\ *n* [ME *rim*, fr. OE *hrīm;* akin to ON *hrīm* frost, Latvian *kreims* cream] **1** : FROST 1c **2** : an accumulation of granular ice tufts on the windward sides of exposed objects that is formed from supercooled fog or cloud and built out directly against the wind **3** : CRUST, INCRUSTATION ⟨a ~ of snow⟩
²rime *vt* **rimed; rim·ing** : to cover with or as if with rime
³rime, rimer, rimester *var of* RHYME, RHYMER, RHYMESTER
rim·land \'rim-ˌland\ *n* : a region on the periphery of the heartland
rimmed \'rimd\ *adj* : having a rim — usu. used in combination ⟨dark-*rimmed* glasses⟩ ⟨red-*rimmed* eyes⟩
ri·mose \'rī-ˌmōs\ *or* **ri·mous** \-məs\ *adj* [L *rimosus*, fr. *rima* slit, crack — more at ROW] : having numerous clefts, cracks, or fissures ⟨~ tree bark⟩
rim·rock \'rim-ˌräk\ *n* **1** : a top stratum or overlying strata of resistant rock of a plateau that outcrops to form a vertical face **2** : the edge or face of a rimrock outcrop
rimy \'rī-mē\ *adj* **rim·i·er; -est** : covered with rime : FROSTY
rind \'rīnd, 'rīn\ *n* [ME, fr. OE; akin to OHG *rinda* bark, OE *rendan* to rend] : the bark of a tree; *also* : a usu. hard or tough outer layer : PEEL, CRUST ⟨grated lemon ~⟩ — **rind·ed** \-əd\ *adj*
rin·der·pest \'rin-dər-ˌpest\ *n* [G, fr. *rinder*, pl., cattle + *pest* pestilence] : an acute infectious febrile disease esp. of cattle caused by a filterable virus and marked by diphtheritic inflammation of mucous membranes
¹ring \'riŋ\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *hring;* akin to OHG *hring* ring, L *curvus* curved — more at CROWN] **1** : a circular band for holding, connecting, hanging, pulling, packing, or sealing ⟨a key ~⟩ ⟨a towel ~⟩ **2** : a circlet usu. of precious metal worn on the finger **3 a** : a circular line, figure, or object ⟨smoke ~⟩ **b** : an encircling arrangement ⟨a ~ of suburbs⟩ **c** : a circular or spiral course — often used in pl. in the phrase *run rings around* **4 a** (1) : an often circular space esp. for exhibitions or competitions; *esp* : such a space at a circus (2) : a structure containing such a ring **b** : a square enclosure in which boxers or wrestlers contest **5** : one of three concentric bands usu. believed to be composed of meteoric fragments revolving around the planet Saturn **6** : ANNUAL RING **7** : an exclusive combination of persons for a selfish and often corrupt purpose (as to control the market) ⟨a drug ~⟩ **8** : the field of a political contest : RACE **9** : food in the shape of a circle **10** : an arrangement of atoms represented in formulas or models in a cyclic manner as a closed chain — called also *cycle* **11** : a set of elements subject to two operations which is a commutative group under the first operation, in which the second operation is associative, in which each pair of elements uniquely determines another element of the set when subjected to the second operation, and in which the second operation is distributive relative to the first **12** *pl* **a** : a pair of usu. rubber-covered metal rings suspended from a ceiling or crossbar to a height of approximately eight feet above the floor and used for hanging, swinging, and balancing feats in gymnastics **b** : an event in gymnastics competition in which the rings are used **13** : ²BOXING ⟨ended his ~ career⟩ — **ring·like** \'riŋ-ˌlīk\ *adj*
²ring *vb* **ringed; ring·ing** \'riŋ-iŋ\ *vt* **1** : to place or form a ring around : ENCIRCLE ⟨police ~*ed* the building⟩ **2** : to provide with a ring **3** : GIRDLE 3 **4** : to throw a ringer over (the peg) in a game (as horseshoes or quoits) ~ *vi* **1 a** : to move in a ring **b** : to rise in the air spirally **2** : to form or take the shape of a ring
³ring *vb* **rang** \'raŋ\; **rung** \'rəŋ\; **ring·ing** \'riŋ-iŋ\ [ME *ringen*, fr. OE *hringan;* akin to MD *ringen* to ring, Lith *krankti* to croak] *vi* **1** : to sound resonantly or sonorously ⟨the doorbell *rang*⟩ ⟨cheers *rang* out⟩ **2 a** : to be filled with a reverberating sound : RESOUND ⟨the halls *rang* with laughter⟩ **b** : to have the sensation of being filled with a humming sound ⟨his ears *rang*⟩ **3** : to cause something to ring ⟨~ for the waitress⟩ **4 a** : to be filled with talk or report ⟨the whole land *rang* with his fame⟩ **b** : to have

great renown **c** : to sound repetitiously ⟨their praise *rang* in his ears⟩ **5** : to have a sound or character expressive of some quality ⟨a story that ~*s* true⟩ **6** *chiefly Brit* : to make a telephone call — usu. used with *up* ~ *vt* **1** : to cause to sound esp. by striking **2** : to make (a sound) by or as if by ringing a bell **3** : to announce by or as if by ringing **4** : to repeat often, loudly, or earnestly **5** **a** : to summon esp. by bell **b** *chiefly Brit* : TELEPHONE — usu. used with *up* — **ring a bell** : to arouse a response ⟨that name *rings a bell*⟩ — **ring down the curtain** : to conclude a performance or an action — **ring the changes** *or* **ring changes** : to run through the range of possible variations — **ring up the curtain** : to begin a performance or an action

4ring *n* **1** : a set of bells **2** : a clear resonant sound made by or resembling that made by vibrating metal **3** : resonant tone : SONORITY **4** : a loud sound continued, repeated, or reverberated **5** : a sound or character expressive of some particular quality ⟨the sermon had a familiar ~⟩ **6** **a** : the act or an instance of ringing **b** : a telephone call ⟨give me a ~ in the morning⟩

ring–a–lie·vo \ˌriŋ-ə-ˈlē-(ˌ)vō\ *or* **ring–a–le·vio** \-vē-ˌō\ *n* [alter. of earlier *ring relievo*, fr. ¹*ring* + *relieve*] : a game in which players on one team are given time to hide and are then sought out by members of the other team who try to capture them, keep them in a place of confinement, and keep them from being released by their teammates

ring–around–a–rosy \ˌriŋ-ə-ˌraůn-də-ˈrō-zē\ *or* **ring–around–the–rosy** \-ˌraůn(d)-thə-\ *n* : a children's singing game in which players dance around in a circle and at a given signal squat — called also *ring-a-rosy*

ring·bark \ˈriŋ-ˌbärk\ *vt* : GIRDLE 3

ring binder *n* : a loose-leaf binder in which split metal rings attached to a metal back hold the perforated sheets of paper

ring·bolt \ˈriŋ-ˌbōlt\ *n* : an eyebolt with a ring through its eye

ring·bone \-ˌbōn\ *n* : an exostosis on the pastern bones of the horse usu. producing lameness — **ring·boned** \-ˌbōnd\ *adj*

ring dance *n* : ROUND DANCE 1

ring·dove \ˈriŋ-ˌdəv\ *n* **1** : a common European pigeon (*Columba palumbus*) with a whitish patch on each side of the neck and wings edged with white **2** : a small dove (*Streptopelia risoria*) of southeastern Europe and Asia

ringed \ˈriŋd\ *adj* **1** : encircled or marked with or as if with rings **2** : composed or formed of rings

rin·gent \ˈrin-jənt\ *adj* [L *ringent-*, *ringens*, prp. of *ringi* to open the mouth — more at RICTUS] : having lips separated like an open mouth ⟨a ~ corolla⟩

1ring·er \ˈriŋ-ər\ *n* **1** : one that sounds esp. by ringing **2** **a** (1) : one that enters a competition under false representations (2) : IMPOSTER, FAKE **b** : one that strongly resembles another — often used with *dead* ⟨he's a dead ~ for the senator⟩

2ringer *n* : one that encircles or puts a ring around (as a quoit or horseshoe that lodges so as to surround the peg)

Ring·er's solution \ˈriŋ-ərz-\ *or* **Ring·er solution** \ˈriŋ-ər-\ *n* [Sidney *Ringer* †1910 E physician] : a balanced aqueous solution that contains chloride, sodium, potassium, calcium, bicarbonate, and phosphate ions and that is used in physiological experiments to provide a medium essentially isotonic to many animal tissues

ring finger *n* : the third finger of the left hand counting the index finger as the first

ring·ing \ˈriŋ-iŋ\ *adj* **1** : clear and full in tone : RESOUNDING ⟨a ~ baritone⟩ **2** : vigorously unequivocal : DECISIVE ⟨a ~ condemnation of immorality⟩ — **ring·ing·ly** \-iŋ-lē\ *adv*

ring·lead·er \ˈriŋ-ˌlēd-ər\ *n* : a leader of a group of individuals engaged esp. in improper or unlawful activities

ring·let \ˈriŋ-lət\ *n* **1** *archaic* : a small ring or circle **2** : CURL; *esp* : a long curl of hair

ring·mas·ter \ˈriŋ-ˌmas-tər\ *n* : one in charge of performances in a ring (as of a circus)

ring·neck \-ˌnek\ *n* : a ring-necked bird or animal

ring–necked \ˈriŋ-ˈnekt\ *or* **ring–neck** \ˌriŋ-ˌnek\ *adj* : having a ring of color about the neck

ring–necked duck *n* : an American scaup duck (*Aythya collaris*) the male of which has a narrow chestnut ring encircling the neck, a black back, and light gray sides with a conspicuous white mark in front of the wings

ring–necked pheasant *n* : any of various pheasants with white neck rings that have been widely introduced in temperate regions as game birds and that are varieties of or hybrids between varieties of the common Old World pheasant (*Phasianus colchicus*)

Ring of the Ni·be·lung \-ˈnē-bə-ˌlůŋ\ : a ring made by the dwarf Alberich whose story is the theme of a tetralogy of music dramas by Richard Wagner

ring–po·rous \ˈriŋ-ˌpōr-əs, -ˌpȯr-\ *adj* : having vessels more numerous and usu. larger in cross section in the springwood with a resulting more or less distinct line between the springwood and the wood of the previous season — compare DIFFUSE-POROUS

1ring·side \ˈriŋ-ˌsīd\ *n* **1** : the area just outside a ring esp. in which a contest occurs **2** : a place from which one may have a close view

2ringside *adj* : being at the ringside ⟨a ~ seat⟩

ring spot *n* **1** : a lesion of plant tissue consisting of yellowish, purplish, or necrotic, often concentric rings **2** : a plant disease of which ring spots are the characteristic lesion

ring·straked \ˈriŋ-ˌstrākt\ *adj, archaic* : marked with circular stripes

ring·tail \-ˌtāl\ *n* **1** : CACOMISTLE **2** : RACCOON **3** : CAPUCHIN 3

ring–tailed \-ˈtā(ə)ld\ *adj* **1** : having a tail marked with rings of differing colors **2** : having a tail carried in the form of a circle ⟨a ~ dog⟩

ring·taw \-ˌtȯ\ *n* : a game of marbles in which marbles are placed in a circle on the ground and shot at from the edge of the circle with the object being to knock them out of the circle

ring·toss \-ˌtȯs, -ˌtäs\ *n* : a game in which the object is to toss a ring so that it will fall over an upright stick

ring up *vt* [fr. the bell that rings when a sum is recorded by a cash register] **1** : to total and record esp. by means of a cash register **2** : RECORD ⟨*rang up* many social triumphs⟩

ring·worm \ˈriŋ-ˌwərm\ *n* : any of several contagious diseases of the skin, hair, or nails of man and domestic animals caused by fungi and characterized by ring-shaped discolored patches on the skin that are covered with vesicles and scales

rink \ˈriŋk\ *n* [ME (Sc) *rinc* area in which a contest takes place, fr. MF *renc* place, row — more at RANK] **1** **a** : a smooth extent of ice marked off for curling or ice hockey **b** : a surface of ice for ice-skating; *also* : a building containing such a rink **c** : an enclosure for roller-skating **2** : an alley for lawn bowling **3** : a team in bowls or curling

rink·tum dit·ty \ˌriŋ(k)-təm-ˈdit-ē\ *n* [origin unknown] : a mixture of seasoned tomato sauce, cheese, and egg served on toast

1rinse \ˈrin(t)s, *esp dial* ˈrench\ *vt* **rinsed; rins·ing** [ME *rincen*, fr. MF *rincer*, fr. (assumed) VL *recentiare*, fr. L *recent-*, *recens* fresh, recent] **1** : to cleanse by flushing with liquid (as water) — often used with *out* ⟨~ out the mouth⟩ **2** **a** : to cleanse (as from soap used in washing) by clear water **b** : to treat (hair) with a rinse **3** : to remove (dirt or impurities) by washing lightly or in water only — **rins·er** *n*

2rinse *n* **1** : the act or process of rinsing **2** **a** : liquid used for rinsing **b** : a solution that temporarily tints hair

rins·ing *n* **1** : water that has been used for rinsing — usu. used in pl. **2** : DREGS, RESIDUE — usu. used in pl.

1ri·ot \ˈrī-ət\ *n, often attrib* [ME, fr. OF, dispute] **1** *archaic* **a** : profligate behavior : DEBAUCHERY **b** : unrestrained revelry **c** : noise, uproar, or disturbance made by revelers **2** **a** : public violence, tumult, or disorder **b** : a violent public disorder; *specif* : a tumultuous disturbance of the public peace by three or more persons assembled together and acting with a common intent **3** : a random or disorderly profusion ⟨the woods were a ~ of color⟩ **4** : one that is wildly amusing ⟨the new comedy is a ~⟩

2riot *vi* **1** : to indulge in revelry or wantonness **2** : to create or engage in a riot ~ *vt* : to waste or spend recklessly ⟨~*ed* away his whole inheritance⟩ — **ri·ot·er** *n*

riot act *n* [the *Riot Act*, English law of 1715 providing for the dispersal of riots upon command of legal authority] : a vigorous reprimand or warning — used in the phrase *read the riot act*

riot gun *n* : a small arm used to disperse rioters rather than to inflict serious injury or death; *esp* : a short-barreled shotgun

ri·ot·ous \ˈrī-ət-əs\ *adj* **1** : ABUNDANT, EXUBERANT ⟨the garden was ~ with flowers⟩ **2** **a** : of the nature of a riot : TURBULENT **b** : participating in riot — **ri·ot·ous·ly** *adv* — **ri·ot·ous·ness** *n*

1rip \ˈrip\ *vb* **ripped; rip·ping** [prob. fr. Flem *rippen* to strip off roughly] *vt* **1** **a** : to tear or split apart or open **b** : to saw or split (wood) with the grain **2** : to slash or slit with or as if with a sharp blade **3** : to hit sharply ⟨*ripped* a double to left field⟩ **4** : to utter violently : spit out ⟨*ripped* out an oath⟩ ~ *vi* **1** : to become ripped : REND **2** : to rush headlong ⟨*ripped* past second base⟩ ***syn*** see TEAR — **rip into** : to tear into : ATTACK

2rip *n* : a rent made by ripping : TEAR

3rip *n* [perh. fr. ²*rip*] **1** : a body of water made rough by the meeting of opposing tides, currents, or winds **2** : a current of water roughened by passing over an irregular bottom

4rip *n* [perh. by shortening & alter. fr. *reprobate*] **1** : a worn-out worthless horse **2** : a dissolute person : LIBERTINE

RIP *abbr* **1** [L *requiescat in pace*] may he rest in peace **2** [L *requiescant in pace*] may they rest in peace

ri·par·i·an \rə-ˈper-ē-ən, rī-\ *adj* [L *riparius* — more at RIVER] : relating to or living or located on the bank of a natural watercourse (as a river) or sometimes of a lake or a tidewater

riparian right *n* : a right (as access to or use of the shore, bed, and water) of one owning riparian land

rip cord *n* **1** : a cord by which the gasbag of a balloon may be ripped open for a limited distance to release the gas quickly and so cause immediate descent **2** : a cord or wire pulled in making a descent to release the pilot parachute which lifts the main parachute out of its container

rip current *n* : a strong usu. narrow surface current flowing outward from a shore that results from the return flow of waves and wind-driven water

ripe \ˈrīp\ *adj* **rip·er; rip·est** [ME, fr. OE *rīpe*; akin to OE *rīpan* to reap — more at REAP] **1** : fully grown and developed : MATURE **2** : having mature knowledge, understanding, or judgment **3** : of advanced years : LATE ⟨lived to a ~ old age⟩ **4** **a** : fully arrived : SUITABLE ⟨the time seemed ~ for the experiment⟩ **b** : fully prepared : READY ⟨the colonies were ~ for revolution⟩ **5** : brought by aging to full flavor or the best state : MELLOW ⟨~ cheese⟩ **6** : ruddy, plump, or full like ripened fruit ***syn*** see MATURE ***ant*** unripe, green — **ripe·ly** *adv* — **ripe·ness** *n*

rip·en \ˈrī-pən, ˈrīp-ᵊm\ *vb* **rip·ened; rip·en·ing** \ˈrīp-(ə-)niŋ\ *vi* : to grow or become ripe ~ *vt* **1** : to make ripe **2** **a** : to bring to completeness or perfection **b** : to age or cure (cheese) to develop characteristic flavor, odor, body, texture, and color **c** : to improve flavor and tenderness of (beef or game) through a period of refrigeration — **rip·en·er** \ˈrīp-(ə-)nər\ *n*

ri·pie·no \ri-ˈpyā-(ˌ)nō, -ˈpyen-(ˌ)ō\ *n, pl* **-ni** \-(ˌ)nē, -(ˌ)ē\ *or* **-nos** [It, lit., filled up] : TUTTI

rip–off \ˈrip-ˌȯf\ *n* : an act or instance of stealing : THEFT; *also* : a financial exploitation

rip off \(ˈ)rip-ˈȯf\ *vb* : ROB; *also* : STEAL

ri·poste \ri-ˈpōst\ *n* [F, modif. of It *risposta*, lit., answer, fr. *rispondere* to respond, fr. L *respondēre*] **1** : a fencer's quick return

thrust following a parry **2** : a retaliatory verbal sally : RETORT **3** : a retaliatory maneuver or measure — **riposte** *vi*

rip·per \'rip-ər\ *n* **1** : one that rips: as **a** : RIPSAW **b** : a machine used to break up solid material (as rock or ore) **2** : an excellent example or instance of its kind

rip·ping \'rip-iŋ\ *adj* [prob. fr. prp. of ¹*rip*] : EXCELLENT, DELIGHTFUL ⟨wrote me some ~ letters⟩ ⟨had a ~ time⟩

¹rip·ple \'rip-əl\ *vb* **rip·pled; rip·pling** \-(ə-)liŋ\ [perh. freq. of ¹*rip*] *vi* **1 a** : to become lightly ruffled or covered with small waves **b** : to flow in small waves **c** : to fall in soft undulating folds ⟨her dress *rippled* to the floor⟩ **2** : to flow with a light rise and fall of sound or inflection ⟨laughter *rippled* over the audience⟩ **3** : to move with an undulating motion or so as to cause ripples ⟨the canoe *rippled* through the water⟩ **4** : to run irregularly through a group or a population ⟨the news gradually *rippled* outwards⟩ ~ *vt* **1** : to stir up small waves on **2** : to impart a wavy motion or appearance to ⟨*rippling* his arm muscles⟩ **3** : to utter or play with a slight rise and fall of sound — **rip·pler** \-(ə-)lər\ *n*

²ripple *n* **1 a** : a shallow stretch of rough water in a stream **b** (1) : the ruffling of the surface of water (2) : a small wave **2 a** : RIPPLE MARK **b** : a sound like that of rippling water ⟨a ~ of laughter⟩

ripple mark *n* **1** : one of a series of small ridges produced esp. on sand by the action of wind, a current of water, or waves **2** : a striation across the grain of wood esp. on the tangential surface — **rip·ple–marked** \'rip-əl-ˌmärkt\ *adj*

¹rip·rap \'rip-ˌrap\ *n* [obs. *riprap* (sound of rapping)] **1** : a foundation or sustaining wall of stones thrown together without order (as in deep water or on an embankment slope to prevent erosion) **2** : stone used for riprap

²riprap *vt* **1** : to form a riprap in or upon **2** : to strengthen or support with a riprap

rip–roar·ing \'rip-'rōr-iŋ, -'ȯr-\ *adj* : noisily excited or exciting

rip·saw \'rip-ˌsȯ\ *n* : a coarse-toothed saw having teeth slightly set that is used to cut wood in the direction of the grain — compare CROSSCUT SAW

rip·snort·er \'rip-'snȯrt-ər\ *n* : something extraordinary : HUMDINGER ⟨the finale was a ~⟩ — **rip·snort·ing** \-iŋ\ *adj*

rip·tide \'rip-ˌtīd\ *n* : RIP CURRENT

Rip·u·ar·i·an \ˌrip-yə-'wer-ē-ən\ *adj* [ML *Ripuarius*] : of, relating to, or constituting a group of Franks settling in the 4th century on the Rhine near Cologne

Rip van Win·kle \ˌrip-(ˌ)van-'wiŋ-kəl, -vən-\ *n* : a ne'er-do-well in a story in Washington Irving's *Sketch Book* who sleeps for 20 years

¹rise \'rīz\ *vi* **rose** \'rōz\; **ris·en** \'riz-ᵊn\; **ris·ing** \'rī-ziŋ\ [ME *risen*, fr. OE *rīsan;* akin to OHG *rīsan* to rise, L *oriri* to rise, *rivus* stream, Gk *ornynai* to rouse] **1 a** : to assume an upright position esp. from lying, kneeling, or sitting **b** : to get up from sleep or from one's bed **2** : to return from death **3** : to take up arms ⟨~ in rebellion⟩ **4** : to respond warmly : APPLAUD — usu. used with *to* ⟨the audience *rose* to his verve and wit⟩ **5** : to end a session : ADJOURN **6** : to appear above the horizon ⟨the sun ~*s* at six⟩ **7 a** : to move upward : ASCEND **b** : to increase in height, size, or volume ⟨the river *rose* after the heavy rains⟩ **8** : to extend above other objects ⟨mountain peaks *rose* between the valleys⟩ **9 a** : to become heartened or elated ⟨his spirits *rose*⟩ **b** : to increase in fervor or intensity ⟨his anger *rose* as he thought about the insult⟩ **10 a** : to attain a higher level or rank ⟨officers who *rose* from the ranks⟩ **b** : to increase in quantity or number **11 a** : to take place : HAPPEN **b** : to come into being : ORIGINATE **12** : to follow as a consequence : RESULT **13** : to exert oneself to meet a challenge ⟨~ to the occasion⟩ ***syn*** see SPRING

²rise \'rīz *also* 'rīs\ *n* **1** : an act of rising or a state of being risen: as **a** : a movement upward : ASCENT **b** : emergence (as of the sun) above the horizon **c** : the upward movement of a fish to seize food or bait **2** : BEGINNING, ORIGIN ⟨the river had its ~ in the mountain⟩ **3** : the distance or elevation of one point above another **4 a** : an increase esp. in amount, number, or volume **b** : an increase in price, value, rate, or sum ⟨a ~ in the cost of living⟩ **5 a** : an upward slope ⟨a ~ in the road⟩ **b** : a spot higher than surrounding ground : HILLTOP **6** : an angry reaction ⟨got a ~ out of him⟩

ris·er \'rī-zər\ *n* **1** : one that rises (as from sleep) **2** : the upright member between two stair treads **3** : a movable stage platform on which performers are placed for greater visibility **4** : one of the straps that connects a parachutist's harness with the shroud lines

ris·i·bil·i·ty \ˌriz-ə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n, pl* **-ties** **1** : the ability or inclination to laugh — often used in pl. ⟨our *risibilities* support us as we skim over the surface of a deep issue —J. A. Pike⟩ **2** : LAUGHTER

ris·i·ble \'riz-ə-bəl\ *adj* [LL *risibilis*, fr. L *risus*, pp. of *ridēre* to laugh — more at RIDICULOUS] **1 a** : capable of laughing **b** : disposed to laugh **2** : arousing or provoking laughter : FUNNY **3** : associated with, relating to, or used in laughter ⟨~ muscles⟩

ris·i·bles \-bəlz\ *n pl* : sense of the ridiculous : sense of humor

¹ris·ing \'rī-ziŋ\ *n* : INSURRECTION, UPRISING

²rising *adv* : approaching a stated age : NEARLY ⟨a red cow ~ four years old — *Lancaster (Pa.) Jour.*⟩

rising diphthong *n* : a diphthong in which the second element is more prominent that the first (as \wi\ in \'kwit\ *quit*)

rising rhythm *n* : rhythm with stress occurring regularly on the last syllable of each foot — compare FALLING RHYTHM

¹risk \'risk\ *n* [F *risque*, fr. It *risco*] **1** : possibility of loss or injury : PERIL **2** : a dangerous element or factor **3 a** : the chance of loss or the perils to the subject matter of an insurance contract; *also* : the degree of probability of such loss **b** : a person or thing that is a specified hazard to an insurer ⟨a poor ~ for insurance⟩ **c** : an insurance hazard from a specified cause or source ⟨war ~⟩

²risk *vt* **1** : to expose to hazard or danger ⟨~*ed* his life⟩ **2** : to incur the risk or danger of ⟨~*ed* breaking his neck⟩ — **risk·er** *n*

risk capital *n* : VENTURE CAPITAL

risky \'ris-kē\ *adj* **risk·i·er; -est** : attended with risk or danger : HAZARDOUS ***syn*** see DANGEROUS — **risk·i·ness** *n*

ri·sor·gi·men·to \(ˌ)rē-ˌzȯr-ji-'men-(ˌ)tō, -ˌsȯr-\ *n, pl* **-tos** [It, lit., rising again] : a time of renewal or renaissance : REVIVAL; *specif* : the 19th century movement for Italian political unity

ri·sot·to \ri-'sȯt-(ˌ)ō, -'zȯt-\ *n, pl* **-tos** [It] : rice cooked in meat stock and seasoned (as with Parmesan cheese or saffron)

ris·qué \ri-'skā\ *adj* [F, fr. pp. of *risquer* to risk, fr. *risque*] : verging on impropriety or indecency : OFF-COLOR

rit *abbr* ritardando

ri·tard \ri-'tärd, 'rē-ˌ\ *n* : RITARDANDO

¹ri·tar·dan·do \ri-ˌtär-'dän-(ˌ)dō, ˌrē-\ *adv or adj* [It, fr. L *retardandum*, gerund of *retardare* to retard] : with a gradual slackening in tempo — used as a direction in music

²ritardando *n, pl* **-dos** : a ritardando passage

rite \'rīt\ *n* [ME, fr. L *ritus;* akin to OE *rīm* number, Gk *arithmos* number — more at ARITHMETIC] **1 a** : a prescribed form or manner governing the words or actions for a ceremony **b** : the liturgy of a church or group of churches **2** : a ceremonial act or action ⟨initiation ~*s*⟩ **3** : a division of the Christian church using a distinctive liturgy

rite de pas·sage \ˌrēt-də-pa-'säzh, -pä-\ *n, pl* **rites de passage** \ˌrēt(s)-də-\ [F] : RITE OF PASSAGE

rite of passage [trans. of F *rite de passage*] : a ritual associated with a crisis or a change of status (as marriage, illness, or death) for an individual

ri·tor·nel·lo \ˌrit-ər-'nel-(ˌ)ō, ˌri-ˌtȯr-\ *n, pl* **-nel·li** \-'nel-(ˌ)ē\ *or* **-nellos** [It] **1 a** : a short recurrent instrumental passage in a vocal composition **b** : an instrumental interlude in early opera **2** : a tutti passage in a concerto or rondo refrain

¹rit·u·al \'rich-(ə-)wəl, 'rich-əl\ *adj* **1** : of or relating to rites or a ritual : CEREMONIAL ⟨a ~ dance⟩ **2** : according to religious law or social custom ⟨~ purity⟩ — **rit·u·al·ly** \-ē\ *adv*

²ritual *n* **1** : the established form for a ceremony; *specif* : the order of words prescribed for a religious ceremony **2 a** : ritual observance; *specif* : a system of rites **b** : a ceremonial act or action **c** : any formal and customarily repeated act or series of acts

rit·u·al·ism \-ˌiz-əm\ *n* **1** : the use of ritual **2** : excessive devotion to ritual — **rit·u·al·ist** \-əst\ *n* — **rit·u·al·is·tic** \ˌrich-(ə-)wəl-'is-tik, ˌrich-əl-\ *adj* — **rit·u·al·is·ti·cal·ly** \-ti-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

rit·u·al·ize \'rich-(ə-)wəl-ˌīz, 'rich-əl-\ *vb* **-ized; -iz·ing** *vi* : to practice ritualism ~ *vt* **1** : to make a ritual of **2** : to impose a ritual on — **rit·u·al·iza·tion** \ˌrich-(ə-)wəl-ə-'zā-shən, ˌrich-əl-\ *n*

ritzy \'rit-sē\ *adj* **ritz·i·er; -est** [*Ritz* hotels, noted for their opulence] **1** : ostentatiously smart : FASHIONABLE, POSH **2** : SNOBBISH — **ritz·i·ness** *n*

riv *abbr* river

¹ri·val \'rī-vəl\ *n* [MF or L; MF, fr. L *rivalis* one using the same stream as another, rival in love, fr. *rivalis* of a stream, fr. *rivus* stream — more at RISE] **1 a** : one of two or more striving to reach or obtain something that only one can possess **b** : one who tries to excel **2** *obs* : ASSOCIATE, COMPANION **3** : one that equals another in desired qualities : PEER

²rival *adj* : having the same pretensions or claims : COMPETING

³rival *vb* **ri·valed** *or* **ri·valled; ri·val·ing** *or* **ri·val·ling** \'rīv-(ə-)liŋ\ *vi* : to act as a rival : COMPETE ~ *vt* **1** : to be in competition with **2** : to strive to equal or excel : EMULATE **3** : to possess qualities or aptitudes that approach or equal (those of another)

syn **1** RIVAL, COMPETE, VIE, EMULATE *shared meaning element* : to strive to equal or surpass
2 see MATCH

ri·val·rous \'rī-vəl-rəs\ *adj* : given to rivalry : COMPETITIVE

ri·val·ry \'rī-vəl-rē\ *n, pl* **-ries** : the act of rivaling : the state of being a rival : COMPETITION

rive \'rīv\ *vb* **rived** \'rīvd\; **riv·en** \'riv-ən\ *also* **rived; riv·ing** \'rī-viŋ\ [ME *riven*, fr. ON *rīfa;* akin to L *ripa* shore, Gk *ereipein* to tear down, OE *rāw* row] *vt* **1 a** : to wrench open or tear apart or to pieces : REND **b** : to split with force or violence ⟨lightning *rived* the tree⟩ **2 a** : to divide into pieces : SHATTER **b** : FRACTURE ~ *vi* : to become split : CRACK ***syn*** see TEAR

riv·er \'riv-ər\ *n* [ME *rivere*, fr. OF, fr. (assumed) VL *riparia*, fr. L, fem. of *riparius* riparian, fr. *ripa*] **1 a** : a natural stream of water of considerable volume **b** : WATERCOURSE **2 a** : something resembling a river ⟨a ~ of lava⟩ **b** *pl* : large or overwhelming quantities ⟨drank ~*s* of coffee⟩ — **up the river** : to or in prison ⟨takes the rap and goes *up the river* —Nigel Balchin⟩

riv·er·bank \'riv-ər-ˌbaŋk\ *n* : the bank of a river

riv·er·bed \-ˌbed\ *n* : the channel occupied by a river

riv·er·boat \-ˌbōt\ *n* : a boat for use on a river

river duck *n* : DABBLER b

riv·er–god \'riv-ər-ˌgäd\ *n* : a deity believed to preside over a river as its tutelary divinity

river horse *n* : HIPPOPOTAMUS

riv·er·ine \'riv-ə-ˌrīn, -ˌrēn\ *adj* **1** : relating to, formed by, or resembling a river **2** : living or situated on the banks of a river

riv·er·side \'riv-ər-ˌsīd\ *n* : the side or bank of a river

riv·er·ward \-wərd\ *or* **riv·er·wards** \-wərdz\ *adv* [¹*river* + *-ward, -wards*] : toward a river

riv·er·weed \-ˌwēd\ *n* : any of a widely-distributed genus (*Podostemon* of the family Podostemaceae) of rock-inhabiting submerged aquatic herbs that have sessile involucrate flowers and poorly developed leaves

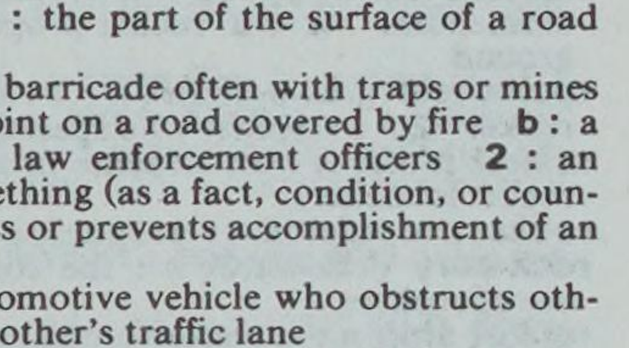
¹riv·et \'riv-ət\ *n* [ME *rivette*, fr. MF *river* to be attached] : a headed pin or bolt of metal used for uniting two or more pieces by passing the shank through a hole in each piece and then beating or pressing down the plain end so as to make a second head

²rivet *vt* **1** : to fasten with or as if with rivets **2** : to upset the end or point of (as a metallic pin, rod, or bolt) by beating or pressing so as to form a head **3** : to fasten firmly ⟨they ~ these feelings . . . tightly together —Michael Novak⟩ **4** : to attract and hold (as the attention) completely — **riv·et·er** *n*

ri·vi·era \ˌriv-ē-'er-ə, ri-'vyer-\ *n, often cap* [fr. the *Riviera*, region in southeastern France and northwestern Italy] : a coastal region frequented as a resort area and usu. marked by a mild climate

ri·vi·ère \ˌriv-ē-'e(ə)r, ri-'vye(ə)r\ *n* [F, lit., river, fr. OF *rivere*] : a necklace of precious stones (as diamonds)

riv·u·let \'riv-(y)ə-lət\ *n* [It *rivoletto*, dim. of *rivolo*, fr. L *rivulus*, dim. of *rivus* stream — more at RISE] : a small stream : BROOK
[1]ri·yal \rē-'(y)ȯl, -'(y)äl\ *n* [Ar *riyāl*, fr. Sp *real* real] **1** — see *dinar* at MONEY table **2** — see MONEY table
[2]riyal *var of* RIAL
RJ *abbr* road junction
rm *abbr* **1** ream **2** room
rms *abbr* root-mean-square
RMS *abbr* **1** Royal Mail Service **2** royal mail steamer; royal mail steamship
Rn *symbol* radon
RN *abbr* **1** registered nurse **2** Royal Navy
RNA \ˌär-ˌen-'ā\ *n* [*ribo*nucleic *acid*] : any of various nucleic acids that contain ribose and uracil as structural components and are associated with the control of cellular chemical activities — compare MESSENGER RNA, RIBOSOMAL RNA, TRANSFER RNA
RNase *or* **RNA·ase** \ˌär-ˌen-'ā-ˌās, -'ā-ˌāz\ *n* [*RNA* + *-ase*] : RIBONUCLEASE
rnd *abbr* round
RNR *abbr* Royal Naval Reserve
RNVR *abbr* Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve
RNZAF *abbr* Royal New Zealand Air Force
[1]roach \'rōch\ *n, pl* **roach** *also* **roach·es** [ME *roche*, fr. MF] **1** : a silver-white European freshwater cyprinid fish (*Rutilus rutilus*) with a greenish back; *also* : any of various related fishes (as some shiners) **2** : any of several American freshwater sunfishes (family Centrarchidae)
[2]roach *vt* [origin unknown] **1** : to cause to arch; *specif* : to brush (the hair) in a roach — often used with *up* **2** : to cut (as a horse's mane) so that the remainder stands upright
[3]roach *n* **1** : a curved cut in the edge of a sail to prevent chafing or to secure a better fit **2** : a roll of hair brushed straight back from the forehead or side of the head
[4]roach *n* **1** : COCKROACH **2** : the butt of a marijuana cigarette
roach back *n* : an arched back (as of a dog)
roach clip *n* : a metal clip that resembles tweezers and is used by marijuana smokers to hold a roach — called also *roach holder*
road \'rōd\ *n* [ME *rode*, fr. OE *rād* ride, journey; akin to OE *rīdan* to ride] **1** : a place less enclosed than a harbor where ships may ride at anchor — often used in pl.; called also *roadstead* **2 a** : an open way for vehicles, persons, and animals; *esp* : one lying outside of an urban district : HIGHWAY **b** : ROADBED 2b **3** : ROUTE, PATH **4** : RAILWAY — **road·less** \'rōd-ləs\ *adj* — **on the road** **1** : away from home usu. in regular travel or on business **2** : in transit through a circuit of scheduled performances or games in several locations ⟨the team is *on the road*⟩
road·abil·i·ty \ˌrōd-ə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* : the qualities (as steadiness and balance) desirable in an automobile on the road
road agent *n* : a highwayman who formerly operated esp. on stage routes in unsettled districts
road·bed \'rōd-ˌbed\ *n* **1 a** : the bed on which the ties, rails, and ballast of a railroad rest **b** : the ballast or the upper surface of the ballast on which the ties rest **2 a** : the earth foundation of a road prepared for surfacing **b** : the part of the surface of a road traveled by vehicles
road·block \-ˌbläk\ *n* **1 a** : a barricade often with traps or mines for holding up an enemy at a point on a road covered by fire **b** : a road barricade set up esp. by law enforcement officers **2** : an obstruction in a road **3** : something (as a fact, condition, or countermeasure) that blocks progress or prevents accomplishment of an objective — **roadblock** *vt*
road hog *n* : a driver of an automotive vehicle who obstructs others esp. by occupying part of another's traffic lane
road·house \'rōd-ˌhaüs\ *n* : an inn usu. outside city limits providing liquor and usu. meals, dancing, and often gambling
road metal *n* : broken stone or cinders used in making and repairing roads or ballasting railroads
road racing *n* : racing (as in automobiles) over public roads or over a closed course designed to simulate public roads (as with left- and right-hand turns, sharp corners, and hills)
road roller *n* : one that rolls roadways; *specif* : a machine equipped with heavy wide smooth rollers for compacting roads and pavements
road·run·ner \'rō-ˌdrən-ər\ *n* : a largely terrestrial bird (*Geococcyx californianus*) of the cuckoo family that is a speedy runner and ranges from California to Mexico and eastward to Texas; *also* : a closely related Mexican bird (*G. velox*)



roadrunner

road show *n* **1** : a theatrical performance given by a troupe on tour **2** : a special engagement of a new motion picture usu. at increased prices
[1]road·side \'rōd-ˌsīd\ *n* : the strip of land along a road : the side of a road
[2]roadside *adj* : situated at the side of a road ⟨a ~ diner⟩
road·stead \'rōd-ˌsted\ *n* : ROAD 1
road·ster \'rōd-stər\ *n* **1 a** : a horse for riding or driving on roads **b** : a utility saddle horse of the hackney type **2 a** : a light carriage : BUGGY **b** : an automobile with an open body that seats two and that has a luggage compartment or rumble seat in the rear
road test *n* **1** : a test of a vehicle under practical operating conditions on the road **2** : a test on the road of a person's driving ability as a requirement for a driver's license — **road test** *vt*
road·way \'rōd-ˌwā\ *n* **1 a** : the strip of land over which a road passes **b** : ROAD; *specif* : ROADBED 2b **2** : a railroad right-of-way with tracks, structures, and appurtenances **3** : the part of a bridge used by vehicles
road·work \-ˌwərk\ *n* : conditioning for an athletic contest (as a boxing match) consisting mainly of long runs
road·wor·thy \-ˌwər-thē\ *adj* : fit for use on the road — **road·wor·thi·ness** *n*
roam \'rōm\ *vb* [ME *romen*] *vi* **1** : to go from place to place without purpose or direction : WANDER **2** : to travel purposefully unhindered through a wide area ⟨cattle ~*ing* in search of water⟩ ~ *vt* : to range or wander over — **roam** *n* — **roam·er** *n*
[1]roan \'rōn *also* 'rō-ən\ *adj* [MF, fr. OSp *roano*] : having the base color (as black, red, gray, or brown) muted and lightened by admixture of white hairs ⟨a ~ horse⟩ ⟨a ~ calf⟩
[2]roan *n* **1** : an animal (as a horse) with a roan coat — usu. used of a red roan when unqualified **2** : the color of a roan horse — used esp. when the base color is red **3** : a sheepskin tanned with sumac and colored and finished to imitate morocco
[1]roar \'rō(ə)r, 'rȯ(ə)r\ *vb* [ME *roren*, fr. OE *rārian*; akin to OHG *rērēn* to bleat, Skt *rāyati* he barks] *vi* **1 a** : to utter or emit a full loud prolonged sound **b** : to sing or shout with full force **2 a** : to make or emit a loud confused sound (as background reverberation or rumbling) **b** : to laugh loudly **3** : to be boisterous or disorderly **4** : to make a loud noise in breathing (as horses afflicted with roaring) ~ *vt* **1** : to utter or proclaim with a roar ⟨~*ed* his commands⟩ **2** : to cause to roar
[2]roar *n* **1** : the deep cry of a wild animal **2** : a loud deep cry (as of pain or anger) **3** : a loud continuous confused sound ⟨the ~ of conversation in the bar⟩ **4** : a boisterous outcry
roar·er \'rōr-ər, 'rȯr-\ *n* **1** : one that roars **2** : a horse subject to roaring
[1]roar·ing \'rōr-iŋ, 'rȯr-\ *n* : noisy respiration in a horse caused by nerve paralysis and muscular atrophy and constituting an unsoundness in the horse
[2]roaring *adj* **1** : making or characterized by a sound resembling a roar : LOUD ⟨~ applause⟩ **2** : marked by prosperity esp. of a temporary nature : THRIVING, BOOMING ⟨did a ~ business⟩
[3]roaring *adv* : EXTREMELY ⟨was ~ hungry —Herman Wouk⟩
roaring boy *n* : a noisy street bully of Elizabethan and Jacobean England who intimidated passersby
[1]roast \'rōst\ *vb* [ME *rosten*, fr. OF *rostir*, of Gmc origin; akin to OHG *rōsten* to roast] *vt* **1 a** : to cook by exposing to dry heat (as in an oven or before a fire) or by surrounding with hot embers, sand, or stones ⟨~ a potato in ashes⟩ **b** : to dry and parch by exposure to heat ⟨~ coffee⟩ ⟨~ chestnuts⟩ **2** : to heat (inorganic material) with access of air and without fusing to effect change (as expulsion of volatile matter, oxidation, or removal of sulfur from sulfide ores) **3** : to heat to excess ⟨the sun no longer ~*ed* the valley —Oliver La Farge⟩ **4** : to criticize severely ⟨films have been ~*ed* by most critics —H. J. Seldes⟩ ~ *vi* **1** : to cook food by heat **2** : to undergo being roasted
[2]roast *n* **1** : a piece of meat suitable for roasting **2** : a gathering at which food is roasted before an open fire or in hot ashes or sand **3** : an act or process of roasting; *specif* : severe banter or criticism
[3]roast *adj* : that has been roasted ⟨~ beef⟩
roast·er \'rō-stər\ *n* **1** : one that roasts **2** : a device for roasting **3** : something adapted to roasting: as **a** : a suckling pig **b** : a young domestic fowl
roasting ear *n* **1** : an ear of young corn roasted or suitable for roasting usu. in the husk **2** *chiefly South & Midland* : an ear of corn suitable for boiling or steaming
rob \'räb\ *vb* **robbed; rob·bing** [ME *robben*, fr. OF *rober*, of Gmc origin; akin to OHG *roubōn* to rob — more at REAVE] *vt* **1 a** (1) : to take something away from by force : steal from (2) : to take personal property from by violence or threat **b** (1) : to remove valuables without right from (a place) (2) : to take the contents of (a receptacle) **c** : to take away as loot : STEAL ⟨~ jewelry⟩ **2 a** : to deprive of something due, expected, or desired ⟨air power had . . . *robbed* sea power of its sovereign values —S. L. A. Marshall⟩ **b** : to withhold unjustly or injuriously ~ *vi* : to commit robbery — **rob·ber** *n*
ro·ba·lo \rō-'bäl-(ˌ)ō\ *n, pl* **-los** *or* **-lo** [Sp] : SNOOK 1
ro·band \'rō-ˌband, -bənd\ *n* [prob. fr. MD *rabant*] : a piece of spun yarn or marline used to fasten the head of a sail to a spar
robber baron *n* **1** : a medieval lord who subsisted by robbing, holding for ransom, or taxing travelers through his domain **2** : an American capitalist of the latter part of the 19th century who became wealthy through exploitation (as of natural resources, governmental influence, or low wage scales)
robber fly *n* : any of numerous predaceous flies (family Asilidae) some of which closely resemble the bumblebees
rob·bery \'räb-(ə-)rē\ *n, pl* **-ber·ies** : the act or practice of robbing; *specif* : larceny from the person or presence of another by violence or threat
[1]robe \'rōb\ *n* [ME, fr. OF, robe, booty, of Gmc origin; akin to OHG *roubōn* to rob] **1 a** : a long flowing outer garment; *esp* : one used for ceremonial occasions or as a symbol of office or profession **b** : a loose garment (as a bathrobe) for informal wear esp. at home **2** : COVERING, MANTLE ⟨peaks on the axis of the range in their ~*s* of snow and light —John Muir †1914⟩ **3** : a covering of pelts or fabric for the lower body used while driving or at outdoor events
[2]robe *vb* **robed; rob·ing** *vt* : to clothe or cover with or as if with a robe ~ *vi* **1** : to put on a robe **2** : DRESS
robe de cham·bre \ˌrōb-də-'shäⁿbrᵊ, -'shäm-brə\ *n, pl* **robes de chambre** \ˌrōb(z)-\ [F] : DRESSING GOWN
rob·in \'räb-ən\ *n* [short for *robin redbreast*] **1 a** : a small European thrush (*Erithacus rubecola*) resembling a warbler and having a brownish olive back and yellowish red throat and breast **b** : any

of various Old World songbirds that are related to or resemble the European robin **2** : a large No. American thrush (*Turdus migratorius*) with olivaceous gray upperparts, blackish head and tail, black and whitish streaked throat, and chiefly dull reddish breast and underparts

Rob·in Good·fel·low \ˌräb-ən-ˈgu̇d-ˌfel-(ˌ)ō, -ə(-w)\ *n* : a mischievous sprite in English folklore

Robin Hood \-ˈhu̇d\ *n* : a legendary outlaw famed for his archery and for robbing the rich and giving to the poor

robin red·breast \-ˈred-ˌbrest\ *n* [ME, fr. *Robin*, nickname for *Robert*] : ROBIN

Rob·in·son Cru·soe \ˌräb-ə(n)-sən-ˈkrü-(ˌ)sō\ *n* : a shipwrecked sailor in Defoe's *Robinson Crusoe* who lives for many years on a desert island

ro·ble \ˈrō-(ˌ)blā\ *n* [AmerSp, fr. Sp, oak, fr. L *robur*] : any of several oaks of California and Mexico

ro·bot \ˈrō-ˌbät, -bət\ *n* [Czech, fr. *robota* work; akin to OHG *arabeit* trouble, L *orbus* orphaned] **1 a** : a machine that looks like a human being and performs various complex acts (as walking or talking) of a human being; *also* : a similar but fictional machine whose lack of capacity for human emotions is often emphasized **b** : an efficient, insensitive, often brutalized person **2** : an automatic apparatus or device that performs functions ordinarily ascribed to human beings or operates with what appears to be almost human intelligence **3** : a mechanism guided by automatic controls — **ro·bot·ism** \-ˌiz-əm\ *n*

robot bomb *n* : a small pilotless jet-propelled airplane that is heavily loaded with explosives and that descends as an aerial bomb

ro·bot·ics \rō-ˈbät-iks\ *n pl but sing in constr* : a field of interest concerned with the construction, maintenance, and behavior of robots ⟨~ is a major science-fiction theme⟩

ro·bot·iza·tion \ˌrō-ˌbät-ə-ˈzā-shən, -bət-\ *n* **1** : AUTOMATION **2** : the process of turning a human being into a robot

ro·bot·ize \ˈrō-ˌbät-ˌīz, -bət-\ *vt* **-ized; -iz·ing** **1** : to make automatic **2** : to turn (a human being) into a robot

Rob Roy \ˈräb-ˈrȯi\ *n* [prob. fr. *Rob Roy*, nickname of Robert McGregor †1734 Scot freebooter] : a manhattan made with Scotch whisky

ro·bust \rō-ˈbəst, ˈrō-(ˌ)bəst\ *adj* [L *robustus* oaken, strong, fr. *robor-*, *robur* oak, strength] **1 a** : having or exhibiting strength or vigorous health : VIGOROUS **b** : firm in purpose or outlook ⟨a ~ faith⟩ **c** : strongly formed or constructed : STURDY ⟨a ~ plastic⟩ **2** : ROUGH, RUDE ⟨stories . . . laden with ~, down-home imagery — *Playboy*⟩ **3** : requiring strength or vigor ⟨~ work⟩ **4** : FULL-BODIED ⟨~ coffee⟩ ***syn*** see HEALTHY ***ant*** frail, feeble — **ro·bust·ly** *adv* — **ro·bust·ness** \-ˈbəs(t)-nəs, -(ˌ)bəs(t)-\ *n*

ro·bus·ta coffee \rō-ˌbəs-tə-\ *n* [NL *robusta*, specific epithet of *Coffea robusta*, syn. of *Coffea canephora*] **1** : a coffee (*Coffea canephora*) that is indigenous to Central Africa but has been introduced elsewhere (as in Java) **2 a** : the seed of robusta coffee **b** : coffee brewed from the seed of robusta coffee

ro·bus·tious \rō-ˈbəs-chəs\ *adj* **1** : ROBUST **2** : vigorous in a rough or unrefined way : BOISTEROUS — **ro·bus·tious·ly** *adv* — **ro·bus·tious·ness** *n*

roc \ˈräk\ *n* [Ar *rukhkh*] : a legendary bird of great size and strength believed to inhabit the Indian ocean area

roc·am·bole \ˈräk-əm-ˌbōl\ *n* [F, fr. G *rockenbolle*, fr. *rocken, roggen* rye + *bolle* bulb] : a European leek (*Allium scorodoprasum*) used for flavoring

Ro·chelle salt \rō-ˌshel-\ *n* : a crystalline salt $KNaC_4H_4O_6.4H_2O$ that is a mild purgative

roche mou·ton·née \ˈrȯsh-ˌmüt-ᵊn-ˈā, ˈrōsh-\ *n, pl* **roches mou·ton·nées** *same or* -ˈāz\ [F, lit., fleecy rock] : an elongate rounded ice-sculptured hillock of bedrock

roch·et \ˈräch-ət\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. OF, fr. (assumed) OF *roc* coat, of Gmc origin; akin to OHG *roc* coat] : a white linen vestment resembling a surplice with close-fitting sleeves worn esp. by bishops and privileged prelates

¹rock \ˈräk\ *vb* [ME *rokken*, fr. OE *roccian*; akin to OHG *rucken* to cause to move] *vt* **1 a** : to move back and forth in or as if in a cradle **b** : to wash (placer gravel) in a cradle **2 a** : to cause to sway back and forth **b** (1) : DAZE, STUN (2) : DISTURB, UPSET ~ *vi* **1** : to become moved backward and forward under impact **2** : to move oneself or itself rhythmically back and forth ***syn*** see SHAKE — **rock the boat** : to do something that disturbs the equilibrium of a situation ⟨don't *rock the boat* and you'll get your promotions and salary increases —K. M. Cottam⟩

²rock *n* **1** : a rocking movement **2** : popular music usu. played on electronically amplified instruments and characterized by a persistent heavily accented beat, much repetition of simple phrases, and often country, folk, and blues elements

³rock *n* [ME *roc*, fr. MD *rocke*; akin to OHG *rocko* distaff, *roc* coat] **1** : DISTAFF **2** : the wool or flax on a distaff

⁴rock *n* [ME *rokke*, fr. ONF *roque*, fr. (assumed) VL *rocca*] **1** : a large mass of stone forming a cliff, promontory, or peak **2** : a concreted mass of stony material; *also* : broken pieces of such masses **3** : consolidated or unconsolidated solid mineral matter; *also* : a particular mass of it **4 a** : something like a rock in firmness: (1) : FOUNDATION, SUPPORT (2) : REFUGE ⟨a ~ of independent thought . . . in an ocean of parochialism —Thomas Molnar⟩ **b** : something that threatens or causes disaster — often used in pl. **5 a** : a flavored stick candy with color running through **b** : ROCK CANDY 1 **6** *slang* **a** : GEM **b** : DIAMOND — **rock** *adj* — **rock·like** \ˈräk-ˌlīk\ *adj* — **on the rocks** **1** : in or into a state of destruction or wreckage ⟨their marriage went *on the rocks*⟩ **2** : on ice cubes ⟨bourbon *on the rocks*⟩

rock·a·bil·ly \ˈräk-ə-ˌbil-ē\ *n* [²*rock* + *-billy* (as in *hillbilly*)] : pop music marked by features of rock and country music

rock and roll *var of* ROCK 'N' ROLL

rock and rye *n* : a drink made with rye whiskey and rock candy and flavored with orange, lemon, and occas. pineapple and cherry

rock·a·way \ˈräk-ə-ˌwā\ *n* [perh. fr. *Rockaway*, New Jersey] : a light low four-wheeled carriage with a fixed top and open sides

rock bass *n* **1** : a sunfish (*Ambloplites rupestris*) found esp. in the upper Mississippi valley and Great Lakes region **2 a** : a striped bass (*Morone saxatilis*) **b** : any of several sea basses (genus *Paralabrax*) of the California and adjoining Mexican coast

rock–bottom *adj* : being the very lowest ⟨~ off-season rates⟩

rock bottom *n* : the lowest or most fundamental part or level

rock·bound \ˈräk-ˌbau̇nd\ *adj* : fringed, surrounded, or covered with rocks : ROCKY

rock brake *n* : any of several ferns that grow chiefly on or among rocks

rock candy *n* **1** : boiled sugar crystallized in large masses on string and used esp. in rock and rye **2** : ⁴ROCK 5a

Rock Cornish *n* : a crossbred domestic fowl produced by interbreeding Cornish and white Plymouth Rock fowls and used esp. for small roasters

rock crystal *n* : transparent quartz

rock·er \ˈräk-ər\ *n* **1 a** : either of two curving pieces of wood or metal on which an object (as a cradle) rocks **b** : any of various objects (as an infant's toy having a seat placed between side pieces) that rock on rockers **c** : any of various objects in the form of a rocker or with parts resembling a rocker (as a skate with a curved blade) **d** : one of the curved stripes at the lower part of a chevron worn by a noncommissioned officer above the rank of sergeant **2** : any of various devices that work with a rocking motion — **off one's rocker** : in a state of extreme confusion or insanity ⟨went *off her rocker*, and had to be put away —Mervyn Wall⟩

rocker arm *n* : a center-pivoted lever to push an automotive engine valve down

¹rock·et \ˈräk-ət, rä-ˈket\ *n* [MF *roquette*, fr. OIt *rochetta*, dim. of *ruca* garden rocket, fr. L *eruca*] **1** : a yellowish flowered European herb (*Eruca sativa*) of the mustard family that is sometimes grown for salad **2 a** : DAME'S VIOLET **b** : any of several plants resembling dame's violet

²rock·et \ˈräk-ət\ *n, often attrib* [It *rocchetta*, lit., small distaff, fr. dim. of *rocca* distaff, of Gmc origin; akin to OHG *rocko* distaff] **1 a** : a firework consisting of a case partly filled with a combustible composition fastened to a guiding stick and projected through the air by the reaction resulting from the rearward discharge of the gases liberated by combustion **b** : such a device used as an incendiary weapon or as a propelling unit (as for a lifesaving line or a whaling harpoon) **2** : a jet engine that operates on the same principle as the firework rocket, consists essentially of a combustion chamber and an exhaust nozzle, carries either liquid or solid propellants which provide the fuel and oxygen needed for combustion and thus make the engine independent of the oxygen of the air, and is used esp. for the propulsion of a missile (as a bomb or shell) or a vehicle (as an airplane) **3** : a rocket-propelled bomb, missile, or projectile

³rock·et \ˈräk-ət\ *vt* : to convey by means of a rocket ~ *vi* **1** : to rise up swiftly, spectacularly, and with force **2** : to travel rapidly in or as if in a rocket

rocket bomb *n* **1** : an aerial bomb designed for release at low altitude and equipped with a rocket apparatus for giving it added momentum **2** : a rocket-propelled bomb launched from the ground

rock·et·eer \ˌräk-ə-ˈti(ə)r\ *n* **1** : one who fires, pilots, or rides in a rocket **2** : a scientist who specializes in rocketry

rocket plane *n* : an airplane propelled by rockets or armed with rocket launchers

rocket propulsion *n* : propulsion by means of a rocket engine

rock·et·ry \ˈräk-ə-trē\ *n* : the study of, experimentation with, or use of rockets

rocket ship *n* : a rocket-propelled craft capable of navigation beyond the earth's atmosphere

rocket sled *n* : a rocket-propelled vehicle that runs usu. on a single rail and that is used esp. in aeronautical experimentation

rock·fall \ˈräk-ˌfȯl\ *n* : a mass of falling or fallen rocks

rock·fish \-ˌfish\ *n* : any of various important market fishes that live among rocks or on rocky bottoms: as **a** : any of several scorpaenid fishes **b** : a striped bass (*Morone saxatilis*) **c** : any of several groupers **d** : GREENLING 1

rock garden *n* : a garden laid out among rocks or decorated with rocks and adapted for the growth of particular kinds of plants (as alpines)

rock hind *n* : any of various spotted groupers commonly found about rocky coasts or reefs

rock hound *n* **1 a** : a specialist in geology **b** : one who searches for oil **2** : an amateur rock and mineral collector

rock·i·ness \ˈräk-ē-nəs\ *n* : the quality or state of being rocky

rocking chair *n* : a chair mounted on rockers

rocking horse *n* : a toy horse mounted on rockers — called also *hobbyhorse*

rock·ling \ˈräk-liŋ\ *n* : any of several small rather elongate marine cods (family Gadidae)

rock lobster *n* **1** : SPINY LOBSTER **2** : the flesh of the Cape crawfish esp. when canned or frozen for use as food

rock maple *n* : a sugar maple (*Acer saccharum*)

rock 'n' roll \ˌräk-ən-ˈrōl\ *n* : ²ROCK 2

rock oil *n* : PETROLEUM

rock·oon \rä-ˈkün\ *n* [²*rock*et + ball*oon*] : a small research rocket carried to a high altitude by a balloon and then fired

rock pigeon *n* : a bluish gray wild pigeon (*Columba livia*) of Europe and Asia

rock rabbit *n* **1** : HYRAX **2** : PIKA

rock–ribbed \ˈräk-ˈribd\ *adj* **1** : ROCKY **2** : firm and inflexible in doctrine or integrity ⟨a ~ conservative community —John Hale⟩

rock·rose \ˈräk-ˈrōz\ *n* : any of various shrubs or woody herbs (family Cistaceae, the rockrose family) with simple entire leaves and a capsular fruit

rock salt *n* : common salt occurring in solid form as a mineral; *also* : salt artificially prepared in large crystals or masses

rock·shaft \ˈräk-ˌshaft\ *n* : a shaft that oscillates on its journals instead of revolving

rock·skip·per \-ˌskip-ər\ *n* : any of several blennies

rock tripe *n* : any of various dark leathery umbilicate foliose lichens (as of the genus *Umbilicaria*) that are widely distributed on rocks in boreal and alpine areas and that are sometimes used as emergency food
rock wallaby *n* : any of various medium-sized kangaroos (genus *Petrogale*)
rock·weed \'räk-ˌwēd\ *n* : a coarse brown seaweed (family Fucaceae) growing attached to rocks
rock wool *n* : mineral wool made by blowing a jet of steam through molten rock (as limestone or siliceous rock) or through slag and used chiefly for heat and sound insulation
[1]rocky \'räk-ē\ *adj* **rock·i·er; -est** [*[4]rock*] **1** : abounding in or consisting of rocks **2** : difficult to impress or affect : INSENSITIVE **3** : firmly held : STEADFAST
[2]rocky *adj* **rock·i·er; -est** [*[1]rock*] **1** : UNSTABLE, WOBBLY **2** : physically upset (as from drinking excessively) **3** : marked by obstacles : DIFFICULT ⟨a financially ~ year —Michael Murray⟩
Rocky Mountain sheep *n* [*Rocky mountains*, No. America] : BIGHORN
Rocky Mountain spotted fever *n* : an acute rickettsial disease characterized by chills, fever, prostration, pains in muscles and joints, and a red to purple eruption and transmitted by the bite of a wood tick (*Dermacentor andersoni*)
[1]ro·co·co \rə-ˈkō-(ˌ)kō, ˌrō-kə-ˈkō\ *adj* [F, irreg. fr. *rocaille* rockwork, fr. *roc* rock, alter. of MF *roche*, fr. (assumed) VL *rocca*] **1 a** : of or relating to an artistic style esp. of the 18th century characterized by fanciful curved spatial forms and ornament of pierced shellwork **b** : of or relating to an 18th century musical style marked by light gay ornamentation and departure from thorough-bass and polyphony **2** : excessively ornate or intricate
[2]rococo *n* : rococo work or style
rod \'räd\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *rodd*; akin to ON *rudda* club] **1 a** (1) : a straight slender stick growing on or cut from a tree or bush (2) : OSIER (3) : a stick or bundle of twigs used to punish; *also* : PUNISHMENT (4) : a shepherd's cudgel (5) : a pole with a line and usu. a reel attached for fishing **b** (1) : a slender bar (as of wood or metal) (2) : a bar or staff for measuring (3) : SCEPTER; *also* : a wand or staff carried as a badge of office (as of marshal) **2 a** : a unit of length — see WEIGHT table **b** : a square rod **3** : any of the long rod-shaped photosensitive receptors in the retina responsive to faint light **4** : a bacterium shaped like a rod **5** *slang* : PISTOL — **rod·less** \-ləs\ *adj* — **rod·like** \-ˌlīk\ *adj*
rode *past of* RIDE
ro·dent \'rōd-ᵊnt\ *n* [deriv. of L *rodent-*, *rodens*, prp. of *rodere* to gnaw — more at RAT] : any of an order (Rodentia) of relatively small gnawing mammals (as a mouse, a squirrel, or a beaver) that have in the upper jaw a single pair of incisors with a chisel-shaped edge; *also* : a small mammal (as a rabbit or a shrew) — **rodent** *adj*
ro·den·ti·cide \rō-ˈdent-ə-ˌsīd\ *n* : an agent that kills, repels, or controls rodents
rodent ulcer *n* [L *rodent-*, *rodens* gnawing] : a chronic persisting ulcer of the exposed skin and esp. of the face that is destructive locally, spreads slowly, and is usu. a carcinoma derived from basal cells — called also *rodent cancer*
ro·deo \'rōd-ē-ˌō, rə-ˈdā-(ˌ)ō\ *n, pl* **ro·de·os** [Sp, fr. *rodear* to surround, fr. *rueda* wheel, fr. L *rota* — more at ROLL] **1** : ROUNDUP **2 a** : a public performance featuring bronco riding, calf roping, steer wrestling, and Brahma bull riding **b** : a contest resembling a rodeo
rod·man \'räd-mən, -ˌman\ *n* : a surveyor's assistant who holds the leveling rod
ro·do·mon·tade \ˌräd-ə-mən-ˈtād, ˌrōd-, -ˈtäd\ *n* [MF, fr. It *Rodomonte*, character in *Orlando Innamorato* by Matteo M. Boiardo] **1** : a bragging speech **2** : vain boasting or bluster : RANT — **rodomontade** *adj*
[1]roe \'rō\ *n, pl* **roe** *or* **roes** [ME *ro*, fr. OE *rā*; akin to OHG *rēh* roe, OIr *rīabach* dappled] : DOE
[2]roe *n* [ME *roof*; akin to OHG *rogo* roe, Lith *kurkulai* frog's eggs] **1 a** : the eggs of a fish esp. when still enclosed in the ovarian membrane **b** : the eggs or ovaries of an invertebrate (as the coral of a lobster) **2** : a dark mottled or flecked figure appearing esp. in quartersawed lumber
roe·buck \'rō-ˌbək\ *n, pl* **roebuck** *or* **roebucks** : ROE DEER; *esp* : the male roe deer
roe deer *n* : a small European and Asiatic deer (*Capreolus capreolus*) that has erect cylindrical antlers forked at the summit, is reddish brown in summer and grayish in winter, has a white rump patch, and is noted for its nimbleness and grace
[1]roent·gen \'rent-gən, 'rənt-, -jən; 'ren-chən, 'rən-\ *adj* [ISV, fr. Wilhelm *Röntgen*] : of or relating to X rays ⟨~ examinations⟩
[2]roentgen *n* : the international unit of X-radiation or gamma radiation equal to the amount of radiation that produces in one cubic centimeter of dry air at O°C and standard atmospheric pressure ionization of either sign equal to one electrostatic unit of charge
roent·gen·ize \-ˌīz\ *vt* **-ized; -iz·ing** **1** : to make (air or other gas) conducting by the passage of X rays **2** : to subject to the action of X rays
roent·gen·o·gram \-ə-ˌgram\ *n* [ISV] : a photograph made with X rays
roent·gen·o·graph \-ˌgraf\ *n* : ROENTGENOGRAM
roent·gen·og·ra·phy \ˌrent-gən-ˈäg-rə-fē, ˌrənt-, -jən-; ˌren-chən-, ˌrən-\ *n* [ISV] : photography by means of X rays — **roent·gen·o·graph·ic** \-ə-ˈgraf-ik\ *adj* — **roent·gen·o·graph·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
roent·gen·ol·o·gy \-ˈäl-ə-jē\ *n* [ISV] : a branch of radiology that deals with the use of X rays for diagnosis or treatment of disease — **roent·gen·o·log·ic** \-ə-ˈläj-ik\ *or* **roent·gen·o·log·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj* — **roent·gen·o·log·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **roent·gen·ol·o·gist** \-ˈäl-ə-jəst\ *n*
roent·gen·o·scope \'rent-gən-ə-ˌskōp, 'rənt-, -jən-; 'ren-chən-, 'rən-\ *n* : FLUOROSCOPE — **roent·gen·o·scop·ic** \ˌrent-gən-ə-ˈskäp-ik, ˌrənt-, -jən-; ˌren-chən-, ˌrən-\ *adj* — **roent·gen·os·co·py** \-ˈäs-kə-pē\ *n*
roent·gen·o·ther·a·py \ˌrent-gən-ə-ˈther-ə-pē, ˌrənt-, -jən-; ˌren-chən-, ˌrən-\ *n* [ISV] : X-RAY THERAPY
roentgen ray *n, often cap 1st R* : X RAY
ROG *abbr* receipt of goods
ro·ga·tion \rō-ˈgā-shən\ *n* [ME *rogacion*, fr. LL *rogation-*, *rogatio*, fr. L, questioning, fr. *rogatus*, pp. of *rogare* to ask — more at RIGHT] **1** *obs* : LITANY, SUPPLICATION **2** : the religious observance of the Rogation Days — often used in pl.
Rogation Day *n* : one of the days of prayer esp. for the harvest observed on the three days before Ascension Day and by Roman Catholics also on April 25
rog·er \'räj-ər\ *interj* [fr. *Roger*, former communications codeword for the letter *r*] — used esp. in radio and signaling to indicate that a message has been received and understood
[1]rogue \'rōg\ *n* [origin unknown] **1** : VAGRANT, TRAMP **2** : a dishonest or worthless person : SCOUNDREL **3** : a mischievous person : SCAMP **4** : a horse inclined to shirk or misbehave **5** : an individual exhibiting a chance and usu. inferior biological variation — **rogu·ish** \'rō-gish\ *adj* — **rogu·ish·ly** *adv* — **rogu·ish·ness** *n*
[2]rogue *vi* **rogued; rogu·ing** *or* **rogue·ing** : to weed out inferior, diseased, or nontypical individuals from a crop plant or a field
[3]rogue *adj, of an animal* : being vicious and destructive
rogue elephant *n* : a vicious elephant that separates from the herd and roams alone
rogu·ery \'rō-g(ə-)rē\ *n, pl* **-er·ies** **1** : an act characteristic of a rogue **2** : mischievous play
rogues' gallery *n* : a collection of pictures of persons arrested as criminals
roil \'rȯi(ə)l, *vt 2 is also* 'rī(ə)l\ *vb* [origin unknown] *vt* **1 a** : to make turbid by stirring up the sediment or dregs of **b** : to stir up : DISTURB, DISORDER **2** : RILE 2 ~ *vi* : to move turbulently
roily \'rȯi-lē\ *adj* **1** : full of sediment or dregs : MUDDY **2** : TURBULENT ⟨the ~ waters rushed out in a wasting flood —V. L. Parrington⟩ ***syn*** see TURBID
rois·ter \'rȯi-stər\ *vi* **rois·tered; rois·ter·ing** \-st(ə-)riŋ\ [earlier *roister* (roisterer)] : to engage in noisy revelry : CAROUSE — **rois·ter·er** \-stər-ər\ *n* — **rois·ter·ous** \-st(ə-)rəs\ *adj*
rol·a·mite \'rō-lə-ˌmīt\ *n* [*roll* + *-amite*, of unknown origin] : a nearly frictionless elementary mechanism consisting of two or more rollers inserted in the loops of a flexible band with the band acting to turn the rollers whose movement can be directed to perform various functions
Ro·land \'rō-lənd\ *n* [F] : a stalwart defender of the Christians against the Saracens in the Charlemagne legends who was killed at Roncesvalles
role *also* **rôle** \'rōl\ *n* [F *rôle*, lit., roll, fr. OF *rolle*] **1 a** (1) : a character assigned or assumed (2) : a socially expected behavior pattern usu. determined by an individual's status in a particular society **b** : a part played by an actor or singer **2** : FUNCTION **3** : an identifier attached to an index term to show functional relationships between terms
[1]roll \'rōl\ *n* [ME *rolle*, fr. OF, fr. L *rotula*, dim. of *rota* wheel; akin to OHG *rad* wheel, Skt *ratha* wagon] **1 a** (1) : a written document that may be rolled up : SCROLL; *specif* : a document containing an official or formal record ⟨the ~s of parliament⟩ (2) : a manuscript book **b** : a list of names or related items : CATALOG **c** : an official list: as (1) : MUSTER ROLL (2) : a list of members of a school or class or of members of a legislative body **2** : something that is rolled up into a cylinder or ball: as **a** : a quantity (as of fabric or paper) rolled up to form a single package **b** : a hairdo in which some or all of the hair is rolled or curled up or under ⟨a pageboy ~⟩ **c** : any of various food preparations rolled up for cooking or serving; *specif* : a small piece of baked yeast dough **d** : a cylindrical twist of tobacco **e** : a flexible case (as of leather) in which articles may be rolled and fastened by straps or clasps **f** (1) : paper money folded or rolled into a wad (2) *slang* : BANKROLL **3** : something that performs a rolling action or movement : ROLLER: as **a** : a wheel for making decorative lines on book covers; *also* : a design impressed by such a tool **b** : a typewriter platen
[2]roll *vt* **1 a** : to impel forward by causing to turn over and over on a surface **b** : to cause to revolve by turning over and over on or as if on an axis **c** : to cause to move in a circular manner **d** : to form into a mass by turning over and over **e** : to impel forward with an easy continuous motion **2 a** : to put a wrapping around : ENFOLD, ENVELOP **b** : to wrap round on itself : shape into a ball or roll **3 a** : to press, spread, or level with a roller : make smooth, even, or compact **b** : to spread out : EXTEND ⟨~ out the red carpet⟩ **4 a** : to move on rollers or wheels **b** : to cause to begin operating or moving ⟨~ the cameras⟩ **5 a** : to sound with a full reverberating tone ⟨~*ed* out the words⟩ **b** : to make a continuous beating sound upon : sound a roll upon ⟨~*ed* their drums⟩ **c** : to utter with a trill ⟨~*ed* his *r*'s⟩ **d** : to play (a chord) in arpeggio style **6** : to rob (a drunk, sleeping, or unconscious person) usu. by going through the pockets ~ *vi* **1 a** : to move along a surface by rotation without sliding **b** (1) : to turn over and over ⟨the children ~*ed* in the grass⟩ (2) : to luxuriate in an abundant supply : WALLOW ⟨fairly ~*ing* in money⟩ **2 a** : to move onward or around as if by completing a revolution : ELAPSE, PASS ⟨the months ~ on⟩ **b** : to shift the gaze continually ⟨eyes ~*ing* in terror⟩ **c** : to revolve on an axis **3** : to move about : ROAM, WANDER **4 a** : to flow with a rising and falling motion ⟨the waves ~*ed* in⟩ **b** : to flow in a continuous stream : POUR ⟨money was ~*ing* in⟩ **c** : to have an undulating contour ⟨~*ing* prairie⟩ **d** : to lie extended : STRETCH **5 a** : to travel in a vehicle **b** : to become carried on a stream **c** : to move on wheels **6 a** : to make a deep

reverberating sound ⟨the thunder ~s⟩ **b** : TRILL **7 a** : to swing from side to side ⟨the ship heaved and ~ed⟩ **b** : to walk with a swinging gait : SWAY **c** : to move so as to cushion the impact of a blow — used with *with* ⟨~*ed* with the punch⟩ **8 a** : to take the form of a cylinder or ball **b** : to respond to rolling in a specified way or to be in a specified condition after being rolled **9 a** : to get under way : begin to move or operate **b** : to move forward : develop and maintain impetus **10 a** : BOWL **b** : to execute a somersault **11** *of a football quarterback* : to run toward one flank usu. parallel to the line of scrimmage esp. before throwing a pass — often used with *out* — **roll the bones** : to shoot craps

[3]roll *n* **1 a** : a sound produced by rapid strokes on a drum **b** : a sonorous and often rhythmical flow of speech **c** : a heavy reverberatory sound ⟨the ~ of cannon⟩ **d** : a chord in arpeggio style **e** : a trill of some birds (as a canary) **2** : a rolling movement or an action or process involving such movement ⟨a ~ of the dice⟩: as **a** : a swaying movement of the body **b** : a side-to-side movement (as of a ship or train) **c** : a flight maneuver in which a complete revolution about the longitudinal axis of an airplane is made with the horizontal direction of flight being approximately maintained; *also* : the motion of a spacecraft about its longitudinal axis **d** : SOMERSAULT **e** : the movement of a curling stone after impact with another stone

roll·back \'rōl-ˌbak\ *n* : the act or an instance of rolling back

roll back \'rōl-'bak\ *vt* **1** : to reduce (as a commodity price) to or toward a previous level on a national scale by government control devices **2** : to cause to retreat or withdraw : push back

roll bar *n* : an overhead metal bar on an automobile that is designed to protect the occupant in case of a turnover

roll call *n* : the act or an instance of calling off a list of names (as for checking attendance); *also* : a time for a roll call

[1]roll·er \'rō-lər\ *n* **1 a** : a revolving cylinder over or on which something is moved or which is used to press, shape, or smooth something **b** : a cylinder or rod on which something (as a shade) is rolled up **2 a** : a long heavy wave on a coast **b** : a tumbler pigeon **3** : one that rolls or performs a rolling operation

[2]roll·er \'rō-lər\ *n* [G, fr. *rollen* to roll, reverberate, fr. MF *roller*, fr. (assumed) VL *rotulare*, fr. L *rotula*] **1** : any of numerous mostly brightly colored nonpasserine Old World birds (family Coraciidae) related to the motmots and todies **2** : a canary having a song in which the notes are soft and run together

roller bearing *n* : a bearing in which the journal rotates in peripheral contact with a number of rollers usu. contained in a cage

roll·er coast·er \'rō-lər-ˌkō-stər, 'rō-lē-ˌkō-\ *n* : an elevated railway (as in an amusement park) constructed with curves and inclines on which cars roll

Roller Derby *service mark* — used for an entertainment involving two roller-skating teams on an oval track in which each team attempts to maneuver a skater into position to score points by circling the track and lapping opponents within a given time period

roller skate *n* : a shoe with a set of wheels attached for skating over a flat surface (as a floor or sidewalk); *also* : a metal frame with wheels attached that can be fitted to the sole of a shoe — **roller-skate** *vi* — **roller skater** *n*

roller towel *n* : an endless towel hung from a roller

Rolle's theorem \'rōlz-, 'rōlz-\ *n* [Michel *Rolle* †1719 F mathematician] : a theorem in mathematics: if a curve is continuous, crosses the x-axis at two points, and has a tangent at every point between the two intercepts, its tangent is parallel to the x-axis at some point between the intercepts

roll film *n* : a strip of film for still camera use wound on a spool

rol·lick \'räl-ik\ *vi* [origin unknown] : to move or behave in a carefree joyous manner : FROLIC — **rollick** *n*

rolling hitch *n* : a hitch for fastening a line to a spar or to the standing part of another line that will not slip when the pull is parallel to the spar or line

rolling mill *n* : an establishment where metal is rolled into plates and bars

rolling pin *n* : a long cylinder for rolling out dough

rolling stock *n* : the wheeled vehicles owned and used by a railroad or motor carrier

roll–off \'rō-ˌlȯf\ *n* : a play-off match in bowling

roll·out \'rō-ˌlau̇t\ *n* **1** : the public introduction of a new aircraft **2** : a football play in which the quarterback rolls to his left or right

roll out \(')rō-'lau̇t\ *vi* : to get out of bed

roll·over \'rō-ˌlō-vər\ *n* **1** : the act or process of rolling over **2** : a motor vehicle accident in which the vehicle overturns

roll–over arm *n* : a fully upholstered chair or sofa arm curving outward from the seat

roll·top desk \ˌrōl-ˌtäp-\ *n* : a writing desk with a sliding cover often of parallel slats fastened to a flexible backing

roll up *vt* : to increase by successive accumulations : ACCUMULATE ⟨*rolled up* a large majority⟩ ~ *vi* **1** : to become larger by successive accumulations **2** : to arrive in a vehicle

[1]ro·ly–po·ly \ˌrō-lē-'pō-lē\ *n, pl* **-lies** [redupl. of *roly*, fr. [2]*roll*] **1** : a sweet dough spread with a filling, rolled, and baked or steamed **2** : a roly-poly person or thing

[2]roly–poly *adj* : being short and pudgy : ROTUND

Rom *abbr* **1** Roman **2** Romance **3** Romania; Romanian

ROM *abbr* read-only memory

Ro·ma·ic \rō-'mā-ik\ *n* [NGk *Rhōmaiikos*, fr. Gk *Rhōmaïkos* Roman, fr. *Rhōmē* Rome] : the modern Greek vernacular — **Romaic** *adj*

ro·maine \rō-'mān\ *n* [F, fr. fem. of *romain* Roman, fr. L *Romanus*] : COS LETTUCE

ro·man \rō-'mä[n]\ *n* [MF, fr. OF *romans* romance] : a metrical romance

[1]Ro·man \'rō-mən\ *n* [partly fr. ME, fr. OE, fr. L *Romanus*, adj. & n., fr. *Roma* Rome; partly fr. ME *Romain*, fr. OF, fr. L *Romanus*] **1** : a native or resident of Rome **2** : ROMAN CATHOLIC — often taken to be offensive **3** *not cap* : roman letters or type

[2]Roman *adj* **1** : of or relating to Rome or the people of Rome; *specif* : characteristic of the ancient Romans ⟨~ fortitude⟩ **2** : LATIN **3 a** *not cap* : UPRIGHT — used of numbers and letters whose capital forms are modeled on ancient Roman inscriptions **b** : of or relating to the Latin alphabet **4** : of or relating to the see of Rome or the Roman Catholic Church **5** : having a semicircular intrados ⟨~ arch⟩ **6** : having a prominent slightly aquiline bridge ⟨~ nose⟩

ro·man à clef \rō-ˌmä(n)n-(ˌ)ä-'klā\ *n, pl* **romans à clef** \-ˌmän-(ˌ)zä-\ [F, lit., novel with a key] : a novel in which real persons or actual events figure under disguise

Roman calendar *n* : a calendar of ancient Rome preceding the Julian calendar and having 12 months with the days of the month reckoned backward from fixed points — compare CALENDS

Roman candle *n* : a cylindrical firework that discharges at intervals balls or stars of fire

[1]Roman Catholic *n* : a member of the Roman Catholic Church

[2]Roman Catholic *adj* : of, relating to, or being the body of Christians that are in communion with the pope and that have a hierarchy of priests and bishops under the pope, a liturgy centered in the Mass, and a body of dogma formulated by the church as the sole interpreter of revealed truth — used chiefly of that part of the body that follows the Western rite of this church — **Roman Catholicism** *n*

[1]ro·mance \rō-'man(t)s, rə-; 'rō-ˌ\ *n* [ME *romauns*, fr. OF *romans* French, something written in French, fr. L *romanice* in the Roman manner, fr. *romanicus* Roman, fr. *Romanus*] **1 a** (1) : a medieval tale based on legend, chivalric love and adventure, or the supernatural (2) : a prose narrative treating imaginary characters involved in events remote in time or place and usu. heroic, adventurous, or mysterious (3) : a love story **b** : a class of such literature **2** : something that lacks basis in fact **3** : an emotional attraction or aura belonging to an esp. heroic era, adventure, or calling **4** : LOVE AFFAIR **5** *cap* : the Romance languages

[2]romance *vb* **ro·manced; ro·manc·ing** *vi* **1** : to exaggerate or invent detail or incident **2** : to entertain romantic thoughts or ideas ~ *vt* : to carry on a love affair with

[3]romance *n* : a short instrumental piece in ballad style

Ro·mance \rō-'man(t)s, rə-; 'rō-ˌ\ *adj* : of, relating to, or constituting the languages developed from Latin — see INDO-EUROPEAN LANGUAGES table

ro·manc·er \-ər\ *n* **1** : a writer of romance **2** : one that romances

Roman collar *n* : CLERICAL COLLAR

Ro·man·esque \ˌrō-mə-'nesk\ *adj* : of or relating to a style of architecture developed in Italy and western Europe between the Roman and the Gothic styles and characterized in its development after 1000 by the use of the round arch and vault, substitution of piers for columns, decorative use of arcades, and profuse ornament — **Romanesque** *n*

ro·man–fleuve \rō-ˌmä[n]-'flœv, -'flə(r)v\ *n, pl* **ro·mans–fleuves** \-ˌmä[n]-'flœv, 'flə(r)v(z)\ [F, lit., river novel] : a distinctively French novel in the form of a long usu. easygoing chronicle of a social group (as a family or a community)

Roman holiday *n* **1** : a time of debauchery or of sadistic enjoyment **2** : a violent, destructive, or tumultuous disturbance : RIOT

Ro·ma·nian \rü-'mā-nē-ən, rō-, -nyən\ *var of* RUMANIAN

Ro·man·ic \rō-'man-ik\ *adj* : ROMANCE — **Romanic** *n*

Ro·man·ism \'rō-mə-ˌniz-əm\ *n* : ROMAN CATHOLICISM — often taken to be offensive

Ro·man·ist \-nəst\ *n* **1** : ROMAN CATHOLIC — often taken to be offensive **2** : a specialist in the language, culture, or law of ancient Rome — **Romanist** *or* **Ro·man·is·tic** \ˌrō-mə-'nis-tik\ *adj*

ro·man·ize \'rō-mə-ˌnīz\ *vt* **-ized; -iz·ing** **1** *often cap* : to make Roman : LATINIZE **2** : to write or print (as a language) in the Roman alphabet ⟨~ Chinese⟩ — **ro·man·iza·tion** \ˌrō-mə-nə-'zā-shən\ *n, often cap*

roman law *n, often cap R* : the legal system of the ancient Romans that includes written and unwritten law, is based on the traditional law and the legislation of the city of Rome, and in form comprises legislation of the assemblies, resolves of the senate, enactments of the emperors, edicts of the praetors, writings of the jurisconsults, and the codes of the later emperors

Roman numeral *n* : a numeral in a system of notation that is based on the ancient Roman system — see NUMBER table

Ro·ma·no \rə-'män-(ˌ)ō, rō-\ *n* [It, Roman, fr. L *Romanus*] : a hard Italian cheese that is sharper than Parmesan

Ro·mans \'rō-mənz\ *n pl but sing in constr* : a letter on doctrine written by St. Paul to the Christians of Rome and included as a book in the New Testament — see BIBLE table

Ro·mansh *or* **Ro·mansch** \rō-'mänch, -'manch\ *n* [Romansh *romonsch*] : the Rhaeto-Romanic dialects spoken in the Grisons, Switzerland, and in adjacent parts of Italy

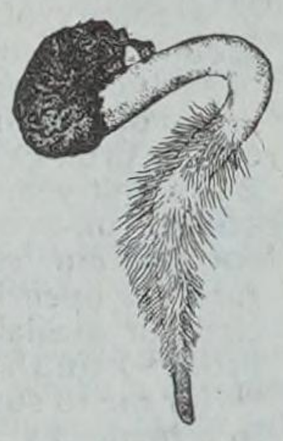
[1]ro·man·tic \rō-'mant-ik, rə-\ *adj* [F *romantique*, fr. obs. *romant* romance, fr. OF *romans*] **1** : consisting of or resembling a romance **2** : having no basis in fact : IMAGINARY **3** : impractical in conception or plan : VISIONARY **4 a** : marked by the imaginative or emotional appeal of the heroic, adventurous, remote, mysterious, or idealized **b** *often cap* : of, relating to, or having the characteristics of romanticism **c** : of or relating to music of the 19th century characterized by an emphasis on subjective emotional qualities and freedom of form; *also* : of or relating to a composer of this music **5 a** : having an inclination for romance **b** : ARDENT, FERVENT; *esp* : marked by or constituting passionate love **6** : of, relating to, or constituting the part of the hero esp. in a light comedy — **ro·man·ti·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

[2]romantic *n* **1** : a romantic person, trait, or component **2** *cap* : a romantic writer, artist, or composer

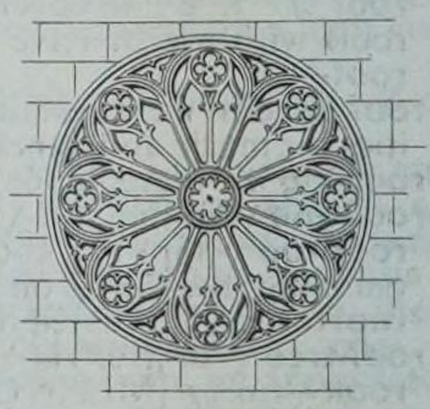
ro·man·ti·cism \rō-'mant-ə-ˌsiz-əm, rə-\ *n* **1** : the quality or state of being romantic **2** *often cap* **a** (1) : a literary, artistic, and philosophical movement originating in the 18th century, characterized chiefly by a reaction against neoclassicism and an emphasis on the imagination and emotions, and marked esp. in English literature by sensibility and the use of autobiographical material, an exaltation of the primitive and the common man, an appreciation of external nature, an interest in the remote, a predilection for melancholy, and the use in poetry of older verse forms (2) : an aspect

of romanticism **b** : adherence to or practice of romantic doctrine or assumptions — **ro·man·ti·cist** \-səst\ *n, often cap*
ro·man·ti·cize \-'mant-ə-ˌsīz\ *vb* **-cized; -ciz·ing** *vt* : to make romantic ~ *vi* **1** : to hold romantic ideas **2** : to present details, incidents, or people in a romantic way — **ro·man·ti·ci·za·tion** \-ˌmant-ə-sə-'zā-shən\ *n*
Ro·ma·ny \'räm-ə-nē, 'rō-mə-\ *n, pl* **Romanies** [Romany *romani*, adj., gypsy, fr. *rom* gypsy man, fr. Skt *ḍomba* man of a low caste of musicians] **1** : GYPSY 1 **2** : the Indic language of the Gypsies — **Romany** *adj*
ro·maunt \rō-'mȯnt, -'mänt\ *n* [ME, fr. MF *romant*] *archaic* : ROMANCE 1a(1)
rom·el·dale \'räm-əl-ˌdāl\ *n, often cap* [blend of *Romney, Rambouillet,* and *Corriedale*] : any of an American breed of utility sheep yielding a heavy fleece of fine wool and producing a quickly maturing high-grade market lamb
[1]Ro·meo \'rō-mē-ˌō, *in Shak also* 'rōm-(ˌ)yō\ *n, pl* **Ro·me·os** **1** : the hero of Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet* who dies for love of Juliet **2** : a male lover
[2]Romeo — a communications code word for the letter *r*
Rom·ish \'rō-mish\ *adj* : Roman Catholic — usu. used disparagingly — **Rom·ish·ly** *adv* — **Rom·ish·ness** *n*
Rom·ney Marsh \ˌräm-nē-, ˌrəm-\ *n* [*Romney Marsh*, pasture tract in England] : any of a British breed of hardy long-wooled mutton-type sheep esp. adapted to damp or marshy regions — called also *Romney*
[1]romp \'rämp, 'rȯmp\ *n* [partly alter. of [2]*ramp*; partly alter. of *ramp* (bold woman)] **1** : one that romps; *esp* : a romping girl or woman **2** : boisterous play : FROLIC **3** : an easy winning pace
[2]romp *vi* [alter. of [1]*ramp*] **1** : to play in a boisterous manner **2** : to proceed in a gay or animated manner **3** : to win easily
romp·er \'räm-pər, 'rȯm-\ *n* **1** : one that romps **2** : a one-piece garment esp. for children with the lower part shaped like bloomers — usu. used in pl.
Rom·u·lus \'räm-yə-ləs\ *n* [L] : a son of Mars and legendary founder of Rome
ron·deau \'rän-(ˌ)dō, rän-'dō\ *n, pl* **ron·deaux** \-(ˌ)dōz, -'dōz\ [MF *rondel, rondeau*] **1 a** : a fixed form of verse running on two rhymes and consisting usu. of 15 lines of 8 or 10 syllables divided into three stanzas in which the opening words of the first line of the first stanza serve as the refrain of the second and third stanzas — called also *rondel* **b** : a poem in this form **2** : a monophonic trouvère song with a 2-part refrain
rondeau re·dou·blé \-rə-ˌdü-'blā\ *n, pl* **rondeaux redoublés** *same*\ [F, lit., double rondeau] **1** : a fixed form of verse running on two alternating rhymes that usu. consists of five quatrains in which the lines of the first quatrain are used consecutively to end each of the remaining four quatrains which are in turn sometimes followed by an envoi of four lines that terminates with the opening words of the poem **2** : a poem in the rondeau redoublé form
ron·del \'rän-dᵊl, rän-'del\ *or* **ron·delle** \rän-'del\ *n* [ME, fr. OF, lit., small circle — more at ROUNDEL] **1** *usu rondelle* : a circular object **2 a** *usu rondel* : a fixed form of verse running on two rhymes and consisting usu. of 14 lines of 8 or 10 syllables divided into three stanzas in which the first two lines of the first stanza serve as the refrain of the second and third stanzas **b** : a poem in this form **c** : RONDEAU 1
ron·de·let \ˌrän-də-'let, -'lā\ *n* : a modified rondeau running on two rhymes and consisting usu. of seven lines in which the first line of four syllables is repeated as the third line and as the final line or refrain and the remaining lines are made up of eight syllables each
ron·do \'rän-(ˌ)dō, rän-'dō\ *n, pl* **rondos** [It *rondò*, fr. MF *rondeau*] **1** : an instrumental composition typically with a refrain recurring four times in the tonic and with three couplets in contrasting keys **2** : the musical form of a rondo used esp. for a movement in a concerto or sonata
ron·dure \'rän-jər, -(ˌ)d(y)u̇(ə)r\ *n* [F *rondeur* roundness, fr. MF, fr. *rond* round, fr. OF *roont* — more at ROUND] **1** : ROUND 1a **2** : gracefully rounded curvature
ron·nel \'rän-ᵊl\ *n* [fr. *Ronnel*, a trademark] : an organophosphate $C_8H_8Cl_3O_3PS$ that is used esp. as a systemic insecticide to protect cattle from pests
röntgen *var of* ROENTGEN
ron·yon \'rən-yən, 'rän-\ *n* [perh. modif. of F *rogne* scab] *obs* : a mangy or scabby creature
rood \'rüd\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *rōd* rod, rood; akin to OHG *ruota* rod, OSlav *ratište* shaft of a lance] **1** : a cross or crucifix symbolizing the cross on which Jesus Christ died; *specif* : a large crucifix on a beam or screen at the entrance of the chancel of a medieval church **2 a** : any of various units of land area; *esp* : a British unit equal to $^1/_4$ acre **b** : any of various units of length; *esp* : a British unit equal to seven or eight yards or sometimes a rod
[1]roof \'rüf, 'ru̇f\ *n, pl* **roofs** \'rüfs, 'ru̇fs *also* 'rüvz, 'ru̇vz\ [ME, fr. OE *hrōf*; akin to ON *hrōf* roof of a boathouse, OSlav *stropŭ* roof] **1 a** : the cover of a building **b** : DWELLING, HOME **c** : ROOFING **2 a** (1) : the highest point : SUMMIT (2) : CEILING 5 **b** : something resembling a roof in form or function **3 a** : the vaulted upper boundary of the mouth **b** : a covering structure of any of various parts of the body ⟨~ of the skull⟩ — **roofed** \'rüft, 'ru̇ft\ *adj* — **roof·less** \'rüf-ləs, 'ru̇f-\ *adj* — **roof·like** \-ˌlīk\ *adj*
[2]roof *vt* **1 a** : to cover with or as if with a roof **b** : to provide (a roof) with a protective exterior **2** : to constitute a roof over — **roof·er** *n*
roof garden *n* : a restaurant at the top of a building usu. with facilities for music and dancing
roof·ing *n* : material for a roof
roof·line \'rüf-ˌlīn, 'ru̇f-\ *n* : the profile of a roof (as of a house)
[1]roof·top \-ˌtäp\ *n* : ROOF; *esp* : the outer surface of a usu. flat roof ⟨sunning themselves on the ~⟩
[2]rooftop *adj* : situated on a rooftop
roof·tree \'rüf-ˌtrē, 'ru̇f-\ *n* : RIDGEPOLE
[1]rook \'ru̇k\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *hrōc*; akin to OE *hræfn* raven — more at RAVEN] : a common Old World gregarious bird (*Corvus frugilegus*) about the size and color of the related American crow
[2]rook *vt* : to defraud by cheating or swindling
[3]rook *n* [ME *rok*, fr. MF *roc*, fr. Ar *rukhkh*, fr. Per] : either of two pieces of the same color in a set of chessmen having the power to move along the ranks or files across any number of unoccupied squares — called also *castle*
rook·ery \'ru̇k-ə-rē\ *n, pl* **-er·ies** **1 a** : the nests or breeding place of a colony of rooks; *also* : a colony of rooks **b** : a breeding ground or haunt of gregarious birds or mammals; *also* : a colony of such birds or mammals **2** : a crowded dilapidated tenement or group of dwellings **3** : a place teeming with like individuals
rook·ie \'ru̇k-ē\ *n* [perh. alter. of *recruit*] **1** : RECRUIT; *also* : NOVICE **2** : a first-year participant in a major professional sport
rooky \'ru̇k-ē\ *adj* : full of or containing rooks
[1]room \'rüm, 'rum\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *rūm*; akin to OHG *rūm* room, L *rur-, rus* open land] **1** : an extent of space occupied by or sufficient or available for something ⟨houseplants that take up very little ~⟩ ⟨in the country where there is ~ to run and play⟩ ⟨make ~ for me to squeeze by⟩ **2 a** *obs* : a place or station assigned or in a hierarchy : POST **b** : a place or station formerly occupied by another **3 a** : a partitioned part of the inside of a building; *esp* : such a part used as a lodging **b** : the people in a room **4** : a suitable or fit occasion : OPPORTUNITY ⟨left no ~ for doubt⟩
[2]room *vi* : to occupy a room ~ *vt* : to accommodate with lodgings
room and board *n* : lodging and food usu. specifically earned or furnished
room·er \'rü-mər, 'rum-ər\ *n* : LODGER
room·ette \rü-'met, rum-'et\ *n* **1** : a small private single room on a railroad sleeping car **2** : a small room (as in a dormitory)
room·ful \'rüm-ˌfu̇l, 'rum-\ *n* : as much or as many as a room will hold; *also* : the persons or objects in a room
rooming house *n* : LODGING HOUSE
room·mate \'rüm-ˌmāt, 'rum-\ *n* : one of two or more persons occupying the same room
roomy \'rü-mē, 'rum-ē\ *adj* **room·i·er; -est** **1** : having ample room : SPACIOUS **2** *of a female mammal* : having a large or well-proportioned body suited for breeding — **room·i·ness** *n*
roor·back \'ru̇(ə)r-ˌbak\ *n* [fr. an attack on James K. Polk in 1844 purporting to quote from an invented book by a Baron von *Roorback*] : a defamatory falsehood published for political effect
roose \'rüz\ *vt* [ME *rusen*, fr. ON *hrōsa*] *chiefly dial* : PRAISE
[1]roost \'rüst\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *hrōst*; akin to MD *roest* roost, OSlav *krada* pile of wood] **1 a** : a support on which birds rest **b** : a place where birds customarily roost **2** : a group of birds (as fowl) roosting together
[2]roost *vi* **1** : to settle down for rest or sleep : PERCH **2** : to settle oneself as if on a roost ~ *vt* : to supply a roost for or put to roost
roost·er \'rüs-tər *also* 'rus-\ *n* **1 a** : an adult male domestic fowl : COCK **b** : an adult male of various birds other than the domestic fowl **2** : a cocky or vain person
[1]root \'rüt, 'rut\ *n, often attrib* [ME, fr. OE *rōt*, fr. ON; akin to OE *wyrt* root, L *radix*, Gk *rhiza*] **1 a** : the usu. underground part of a seed plant body that originates usu. from the hypocotyl, functions as an organ of absorption, aeration, and food storage or as a means of anchorage and support, and differs from a stem esp. in lacking nodes, buds, and leaves **b** : any subterranean plant part (as a true root or a bulb, tuber, rootstock, or other modified stem) esp. when fleshy and edible **2 a** : the part of a tooth within the socket — see TOOTH illustration **b** : the enlarged basal part of a hair within the skin **c** : the proximal end of a nerve **d** : the part of an organ or physical structure by which it is attached to the body ⟨the ~ of the tongue⟩ **3 a** : something that is an origin or source (as of a condition or quality) ⟨the love of money is the ~ of all evil —1 Tim 6:10 (AV)⟩ **b** : one or more progenitors of a group of descendants **c** : an underlying support : BASIS **d** : the essential core : HEART **e** : close relationship with an environment : TIE — usu. used in pl. **4 a** : a quantity taken an indicated number of times as an equal factor ⟨2 is a fourth ~ of 16⟩ **b** : a number that reduces an equation to an identity when it is substituted for one variable **5 a** : the lower part : BASE **b** : the part by which an object is attached to something else **6** : the simple element inferred as the basis from which a word is derived by phonetic change or by extension (as composition or the addition of an affix or inflectional ending) **7** : the tone from whose overtones a chord is composed : the lowest tone of a chord in normal position
syn see ORIGIN — **root·ed** \-əd\ *adj* — **root·like** \-ˌlīk\ *adj*
[2]root *vt* **1 a** : to furnish with or enable to develop roots **b** : to fix or implant by or as if by roots **2** : to remove altogether often by force ⟨~ out dissenters⟩ ~ *vi* **1** : to grow roots or take root **2** : to have an origin or base
[3]root *vb* [ME *wroten*, fr. OE *wrōtan*; akin to OHG *ruozzan* to root] *vi* **1** : to turn up or dig in the earth with the snout : GRUB **2** : to poke or dig about ~ *vt* : to turn over, dig up, or discover and bring to light — usu. used with *out*
[4]root \'rüt *also* 'rut\ *vi* [perh. alter. of [2]*rout*] **1** : to noisily applaud or encourage a contestant or team : CHEER **2** : to wish the success of or lend support to someone or something — **root·er** *n*
root·age \'rüt-ij, 'rut-\ *n* **1** : a developed system of roots **2** : ROOT 3a
root beer *n* : a sweetened effervescent beverage flavored with extracts of roots and herbs
root canal *n* : the part of the pulp cavity lying in the root of a tooth
root cap *n* : a protective cap of parenchyma cells that covers the terminal meristem in most root tips
root cellar *n* : a pit used for the storage esp. of root crops
root crop *n* : a crop (as turnips) grown for its enlarged roots

root-ed-ness \'rüt-əd-nəs, 'růt-\ *n* : the quality or state of having roots
root graft *n* **1** : a plant graft in which the stock is a root or piece of a root **2** : a natural anastomosis between roots of compatible plants
root hair *n* : a filamentous extension of an epidermal cell near the tip of a rootlet that functions in absorption of water and minerals
root-hold \'rüt-ˌhōld, 'růt-\ *n* **1** : the anchorage of a plant to soil through the growing and spreading of roots **2** : a place where plants may obtain a roothold
root knot *n* : a plant disease caused by nematodes that produce characteristic enlargements on the roots and stunt the growth of the plant
root-knot nematode *n* : any of several small plant-parasitic nematodes (genus *Meloidogyne*) that cause root knot
root-less \'rüt-ləs, 'růt-\ *adj* : having no roots ⟨~ nomads⟩ — **root-less-ness** *n*
root-let \-lət\ *n* : a small root
root-mean-square *n* : the square root of the arithmetic mean of the squares of a set of numbers
root pressure *n* : the chiefly osmotic pressure by which water rises into the stems of plants from the roots
root rot *n* : a plant disease characterized by a decay of the roots
root-stalk \'rüt-ˌstȯk, 'růt-\ *n* : RHIZOME
root-stock \-ˌstäk\ *n* **1** : a rhizomatous underground part of a plant **2** : a stock for grafting consisting of a root or a piece of root; *broadly* : STOCK
rooty \'rüt-ē, 'růt-\ *adj* : full or consisting of roots ⟨~ soil⟩
ROP *abbr* **1** record of production **2** run-of-paper
[1]rope \'rōp\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *rāp;* akin to OHG *reif* hoop] **1 a** : a large stout cord of strands of fibers or wire twisted or braided together **b** : a long slender strip of material used as rope ⟨rawhide ~⟩ **c** : a hangman's noose **2** : a row or string consisting of things united by or as if by braiding, twining, or threading **3** *pl* : special techniques or procedures ⟨show him the ~s⟩
[2]rope *vb* **roped; rop-ing** *vt* **1 a** : to bind, fasten, or tie with a rope or cord **b** : to partition, separate, or divide by a rope ⟨~ off the street⟩ **c** : LASSO **2** : to draw as if with a rope : LURE ~ *vi* : to take the form of or twist in the manner of rope — **rop-er** *n*
rope-danc-er \'rōp-ˌdan(t)-sər\ *n* : one that dances, walks, or performs acrobatic feats on a rope high in the air — **rope-danc-ing** \-siŋ\ *n*
rop-ery \'rō-p(ə-)rē\ *n* [prob. fr. the thought that the perpetrator deserved the gallows] *archaic* : roguish tricks or banter
rope-walk \'rōp-ˌwȯk\ *n* : a long covered walk, building, or room where ropes are manufactured
rope-walk-er \-ˌwȯ-kər\ *n* : an acrobat that walks on a rope high in the air
rope-way \-ˌwā\ *n* **1** : a fixed cable or a pair of fixed cables between supporting towers serving as a track for suspended passenger or freight carriers **2** : an endless aerial cable moved by a stationary engine and used to transport freight (as logs and ore)
ropy \'rō-pē\ *adj* **rop-i-er; -est** **1 a** : capable of being drawn into a thread : VISCOUS **b** : having a gelatinous or slimy quality from bacterial or fungal contamination ⟨~ milk⟩ ⟨~ flour⟩ **2 a** : resembling rope **b** : MUSCULAR, SINEWY — **rop-i-ness** *n*
roque \'rōk\ *n* [alter. of *croquet*] : croquet played on a hard-surfaced court with a raised border
Roque-fort \'rōk-fərt\ *trademark* — used for a cheese made of ewes' milk and ripened in caves
ro-que-laure \ˌrō-kə-'lō(ə)r, ˌräk-ə-, -'lȯ(ə)r\ *n* [F, fr. the Duc de *Roquelaure* †1738 F marshal] : a knee-length cloak worn esp. in the 18th and 19th centuries
ror-qual \'rȯ(ə)r-kwəl, -ˌkwȯl\ *n* [F, fr. Norw *rørhval*, fr. ON *reythar-hvalr*, fr. *reythr* rorqual + *hvalr* whale] : a large whalebone whale (genus *Balaenoptera* or *Sibbaldus*) having the skin of the throat marked with deep longitudinal furrows
Ror-schach \'rȯ(ə)r-ˌshȧk\ *adj* : of, relating to, used in connection with, or resulting from the Rorschach test
Rorschach test *n* [Hermann *Rorschach* †1922 Swiss psychiatrist] : a personality and intelligence test in which a subject interprets inkblot designs in terms that reveal intellectual and emotional factors — called also *Rorschach inkblot test*
Ros *or* **Rosc** *abbr* Roscommon
ro-sa-ceous \rō-'zā-shəs\ *adj* [deriv. of L *rosa*] **1** : of or relating to the rose family **2** : of, relating to, or resembling a rose esp. in having a 5-petaled regular corolla
ros-an-i-line \rō-'zan-ᵊl-ən\ *n* [L *rosa* rose + ISV *aniline*] **1** : a white crystalline base $C_{20}H_{21}N_3O$ that is the parent of many dyes **2** : FUCHSINE
ro-sar-i-an \rō-'zar-ē-ən, -'zer-\ *n* : a cultivator of roses
ro-sa-ry \'rōz-(ə-)rē\ *n, pl* **-ries** [ML *rosarium*, fr. L, rose garden, fr. neut. of *rosarius* of roses, fr. *rosa* rose] **1** : a string of beads used in counting prayers esp. of the Roman Catholic rosary **2** *often cap* : a Roman Catholic devotion consisting of meditation on usu. five sacred mysteries during recitation of five decades of Hail Marys of which each begins with an Our Father and ends with a Gloria
rosary pea *n* **1** : an East Indian leguminous twining herb (*Abrus precatorius*) that bears jequirity beans and has a root used as a substitute for licorice — called also *Indian licorice, jequirity bean* **2** : JEQUIRITY BEAN 1
ros-coe \'räs-(ˌ)kō\ *n* [prob. fr. the name *Roscoe*] *slang* : PISTOL
[1]rose *past of* RISE
[2]rose \'rōz\ *n* [ME, fr. OE, fr. L *rosa*] **1 a** : any of a genus (*Rosa* of the family Rosaceae, the rose family) of usu. prickly shrubs with pinnate leaves and showy flowers having five petals in the wild state but being often double or semidouble under cultivation **b** : the flower of a rose **2** : something resembling a rose in form: as **a** (1) : COMPASS CARD (2) : a circular card with radiating lines used in other instruments **b** : a rosette esp. on a shoe **c** (1) : a form in which gems (as diamonds) are cut that usu. has a flat circular base and facets in two ranges rising to a point (2) : a gem with a rose cut **3** : a variable color averaging a moderate purplish red **4** : a plane curve which consists of three or more loops meeting at the origin and whose equation in polar coordinates is of the form $\rho = a \sin n\theta$ or $\rho = a \cos n\theta$ where n is an integer greater than 1 — **rose-like** \-ˌlīk\ *adj* — **under the rose** : sub rosa


root hairs on bean rootlet

[3]rose *adj* **1 a** : of or relating to a rose **b** : containing or used for roses **c** : flavored, scented, or colored with or like roses **2** : of the color rose
ro-sé \rō-'zā\ *n* [F] : a light pink table wine made from red grapes by removing the skins after fermentation has begun
ro-se-ate \'rō-zē-ət, -zē-ˌāt\ *adj* [L *roseus* rosy, fr. *rosa*] **1** : resembling a rose esp. in color **2** : overly optimistic : viewed favorably — **ro-se-ate-ly** *adv*
roseate spoonbill *n* : a spoonbill (*Ajaia ajaja*) that is found from the southern U.S. to Patagonia and has chiefly pink plumage
rose-bay \'rōz-ˌbā\ *n* **1** : OLEANDER **2** : RHODODENDRON; *esp* : GREAT LAUREL **3** : FIREWEED b
rose-breast-ed grosbeak \ˌrōz-ˌbres-təd-\ *n* : a grosbeak (*Pheucticus ludovicianus*) of eastern No. America that in the male is chiefly black and white with a rose-red breast and in the female is grayish brown with a streaked breast
rose-bud \'rōz-ˌbəd\ *n* : the bud of a rose
rose-bush \'rōz-ˌbůsh\ *n* : a shrubby rose
rose chafer *n* : a common No. American beetle (*Macrodactylus subspinosus*) that feeds on plant roots as a larva and on leaves and flowers (as of rose or grapevines) as an adult — called also *rose bug*
rose-col-ored \'rōz-ˌkəl-ərd\ *adj* **1** : having a rose color **2** : seeing or seen in a promising light : OPTIMISTIC
rose-colored glasses *n pl* : favorably disposed opinions : optimistic eyes ⟨views the world through *rose-colored glasses*⟩
rose comb *n* : a flat broad comb of a domestic fowl having the upper surface studded with small tubercles and terminating posteriorly in a fleshy spike
rose daphne *n* : a low evergreen shrub (*Daphne cneorum*) with trailing pubescent branches and fragrant rose-pink flowers
rose fever *n* : hay fever occurring in the spring or early summer — called also *rose cold*
rose-fish \'rōz-ˌfish\ *n* : REDFISH a(1)
rose geranium *n* : any of several pelargoniums grown for their fragrant 3- to 5-lobed leaves and small pink flowers
ro-se-ma-ling \'rō-zə-ˌmäl-iŋ, -sə-\ *n* [Norw, fr. *rose* rose + *maling* painting] : painted or sometimes carved decoration (as on furniture, walls, or wooden dinnerware) in Scandinavian peasant style that consists esp. of floral designs and inscriptions
rose mallow *n* **1** : any of several plants (genus *Hibiscus*) with large rose-colored flowers; *esp* : a showy plant (*H. moscheutos*) of the salt marshes of the eastern U.S. **2** : HOLLYHOCK
rose-mary \'rōz-ˌmer-ē\ *n, pl* **-mar-ies** [ME *rosmarine*, fr. L *rosmarinus*, fr. *ror-*, *ros* dew + *marinus* of the sea; akin to ON *rās* race — more at RACE, MARINE] **1** : a fragrant shrubby mint (*Rosmarinus officinalis*) of southern Europe and Asia Minor used in cookery and in perfumery **2** : COSTMARY
rose of Jer-i-cho \-'jer-i-ˌkō\ [ME, fr. *Jericho*, ancient city in Palestine] : an Asiatic plant (*Anastatica hierochuntica*) that rolls up when dry and expands when moistened
rose of Shar-on \-'shar-ən, -'sher-\ [Plain of *Sharon*, Palestine] **1** : a Eurasian St.-John's-wort (*Hypericum calycinum*) often cultivated for its large yellow flowers **2** : a commonly cultivated Asiatic small shrubby tree (*Hibiscus syriacus*) having showy bell-shaped rose, purple, or white flowers
rose oil *n* : a fragrant essential oil obtained from roses and used chiefly in perfumery and in flavoring
ro-se-o-la \ˌrō-zē-'ō-lə, rō-'zē-ə-lə\ *n* [NL, fr. L *roseus* rosy, fr. *rosa* rose] : a rose-colored eruption in spots or a disease marked by such an eruption: as **a** : GERMAN MEASLES **b** : a mild disease of infants and children characterized by fever lasting three days followed by an eruption of rose-colored spots — **ro-se-o-lar** \-lər\ *adj*
roseola in-fan-tum \-in-'fant-əm\ *n* : ROSEOLA b
rose pink *n* : a variable color averaging a moderate pink
ros-ery \'rōz-(ə-)rē\ *n, pl* **-er-ies** : a place where roses are grown
rose slug *n* : the slimy green larva of either of two sawflies (*Claudius isomerus* and *Endelomyia aethiops*) that feed on the parenchyma of and skeletonize the leaves of roses
ro-set \'rō-zət\ *n* [alter. of ME *rosin*] *chiefly Scot* : RESIN
Ro-set-ta stone \rō-ˌzet-ə-\ *n* [*Rosetta*, Egypt] : a black basalt stone found in 1799 that bears an inscription in hieroglyphics, demotic characters, and Greek and is celebrated for having given the first clue to the decipherment of Egyptian hieroglyphics
ro-sette \rō-'zet\ *n* [F, lit., small rose, fr. OF, fr. *rose*, fr. L *rosa*] **1** : an ornament usu. made of material gathered or pleated so as to resemble a rose and worn as a badge of office, as evidence of having won a decoration (as the Medal of Honor), or as trimming **2** : a disk of foliage or a floral design usu. in relief used as a decorative motif **3** : a structure or color marking on an animal suggestive of a rosette; *esp* : one of the groups of spots on a leopard **4** : a cluster of leaves in crowded circles or spirals arising basally from a crown (as in the dandelion) or apically from an axis with greatly shortened internodes (as in many tropical palms)
rose-wa-ter \'rōz-ˌwȯt-ər, -ˌwät-\ *adj* **1** : having the odor of rose water **2** : affectedly nice or delicate
rose water *n* : a watery solution of the odoriferous constituents of the rose used as a perfume
rose window *n* : a circular window filled with tracery


rose window

rose-wood \'rōz-ˌwůd\ *n* **1** : any of various tropical trees (as of the genus *Dalbergia*) yielding valuable cabinet woods of a dark red or purplish color streaked and variegated with black **2** : the wood of a rosewood

Rosh Ha·sha·nah \ˌrōsh-(h)ə-ˈshō-nə, ˌräsh-, -ˈshän-ə\ *n* [LHeb *rōsh hashshānāh*, lit., beginning of the year] : the Jewish New Year observed on the first and by Orthodox and Conservative Jews also on the second of Tishri

Ro·si·cru·cian \ˌrō-zə-ˈkrü-shən, ˌräz-ə-\ *n* [Christian *Rosenkreutz* (NL *Rosae Crucis*) reputed 15th cent. founder of the movement] **1** : an adherent of a 17th and 18th century movement devoted to esoteric wisdom with emphasis on psychic and spiritual enlightenment **2** : a member of one of several organizations held to be descended from the Rosicrucians — **Rosicrucian** *adj* — **Ro·si·cru·cian·ism** \-shə-ˌniz-əm\ *n*

ros·i·ly \ˈrō-zə-lē\ *adv* **1** : with a rosy color or tinge **2** : PLEASANTLY, CHEERFULLY

¹ros·in \ˈräz-ᵊn, ˈrȯz-, *dial* ˈrȯ-zəm\ *n* [ME, modif. of MF *resine* resin] : a translucent amber-colored to almost black brittle friable resin that is obtained by chemical means from the oleoresin or dead wood of pine trees or from tall oil and used esp. in making varnish, paper size, soap, and soldering flux and in rosining violin bows

²rosin *vt* **ros·ined; ros·in·ing** \ˈräz-niŋ, ˈrȯz-, -ᵊn-iŋ\ : to rub or treat (as the bow of a violin) with rosin

ros·in·ous \ˈräz-ᵊn-əs, ˈräz-nəs, ˈrȯz-\ *adj* : containing or resembling rosin

ros·in·weed \ˈräz-ᵊn-ˌwēd, ˈrȯz-\ *n* : any of various American plants having resinous foliage or a resinous odor; *esp* : COMPASS PLANT

Ross *abbr* Ross and Cromarty

ros·tel·lar \rä-ˈstel-ər\ *adj* : of, relating to, or having the form of a rostellum ⟨a ~ platform of an orchid⟩

ros·tel·late \ˈräs-tə-ˌlāt, rä-ˈstel-ət\ *adj* : having a rostellum

ros·tel·lum \rä-ˈstel-əm\ *n* [NL, fr. L, dim. of *rostrum* beak] : a small process resembling a beak : a diminutive rostrum: as **a** : the apex of the gynoecium of an orchid flower **b** : the sucking beak of an insect (as a louse or aphid) **c** : an anterior prolongation of the head of a tapeworm bearing hooks

ros·ter \ˈräs-tər *also* ˈrȯs- *or* ˈrōs-\ *n* [D *rooster*, lit., gridiron; fr. the parallel lines] **1 a** : a roll or list of personnel; *esp* : one that gives the order in which a duty is to be performed **b** : the persons listed on a roster **2** : an itemized list

ros·trate \ˈräs-ˌtrāt, -trət *also* ˈrȯs-\ *adj* : having a rostrum

ros·trum \ˈräs-trəm *also* ˈrȯs-\ *n, pl* **rostrums** *or* **ros·tra** \-trə\ [L, beak, ship's beak, fr. *rodere* to gnaw — more at RAT] **1** [L *Rostra*, pl., a platform for speakers in the Roman Forum decorated with the beaks of captured ships, fr. pl. of *rostrum*] **a** : an ancient Roman platform for public orators **b** : a stage for public speaking **c** : a raised platform on a stage **2** : the curved end of a ship's prow; *esp* : the beak of a war galley **3** : a bodily part or process (as a snout or beak of an insect or a median projection of the carapace of a crustacean) suggesting a bird's bill — **ros·tral** \-trəl\ *adj*

ro·su·late \ˈräz(h)-ə-ˌlāt, ˈrōz(h)-\ *adj* [LL *rosula*, dim. of L *rosa* rose] : arranged in the form of a rosette or in rosettes

rosy \ˈrō-zē\ *adj* **ros·i·er; -est** **1 a** : of the color rose **b** : having a rosy complexion : BLOOMING **c** : marked by blushes **2** : characterized by or tending to promote optimism — **ros·i·ness** *n*

¹rot \ˈrät\ *vb* **rot·ted; rot·ting** [ME *roten*, fr. OE *rotian*; akin to OHG *rōzzēn* to rot, L *rudus* rubble — more at RUDE] *vi* **1 a** : to undergo decomposition from the action of bacteria or fungi **b** : to become unsound or weak (as from use or chemical action) **2 a** : to go to ruin : DETERIORATE **b** : to become morally corrupt : DEGENERATE ~ *vt* : to cause to decompose or deteriorate with rot ***syn*** see DECAY

²rot *n* **1 a** : the process of rotting : the state of being rotten : DECAY **b** : something rotten or rotting **2 a** *archaic* : a wasting putrescent disease **b** : any of several parasitic diseases esp. of sheep marked by necrosis and wasting **c** : plant disease marked by breakdown of tissues and caused esp. by fungi or bacteria **3** : NONSENSE — often used interjectionally

³rot *abbr* rotating; rotation

ro·ta \ˈrōt-ə\ *n* [L, wheel — more at ROLL] **1** *chiefly Brit* **a** : a fixed order of rotation (as of persons or duties) **b** : a roll or list of persons : ROSTER **2** *cap* [ML, fr. L] : a tribunal of the papal curia exercising jurisdiction esp. in matrimonial cases appealed from diocesan courts

ro·ta·me·ter \ˈrōt-ə-ˌmēt-ər, rō-ˈtam-ət-\ *n* [L *rota* + E *-meter*] : a gauge that consists of a graduated glass tube containing a free float for measuring the flow of a fluid

Ro·tar·i·an \rō-ˈter-ē-ən\ *n* [*Rotary* (*club*)] : a member of a major national and international service club

¹ro·ta·ry \ˈrōt-ə-rē\ *adj* [ML *rotarius*, fr. L *rota* wheel] **1 a** : turning on an axis like a wheel **b** : taking place about an axis ⟨~ motion⟩ **2** : having an important part that turns on an axis ⟨~ cutter⟩ **3** : characterized by rotation **4** : of, relating to, or being a press in which paper is printed by rotation in contact with a curved printing surface attached to a cylinder

²rotary *n, pl* **-ries** **1** : a rotary machine **2** : a road junction formed around a central circle about which traffic moves in one direction only — called also *circle, traffic circle*

rotary cultivator *n* : an implement having blades or claws that revolve rapidly and till or stir the soil

rotary engine *n* **1** : any of various engines (as a turbine) in which power is applied to vanes or similar parts constrained to move in a circular path **2** : a radial engine in which the cylinders revolve about a stationary crankshaft

rotary plow *n* **1** : a plow having a rotating propeller-shaped element for throwing snow aside **2** : ROTARY CULTIVATOR

rotary-wing aircraft *n* : ROTORCRAFT

¹ro·tate \ˈrō-ˌtāt\ *adj* [L *rota*] : having the parts flat and spreading or radiating like the spokes of a wheel ⟨~ blue flowers⟩

²ro·tate \ˈrō-ˌtāt, *esp Brit* rō-ˈ\ *vb* **ro·tat·ed; ro·tat·ing** [L *rotatus*, pp. of *rotare*, fr. *rota* wheel — more at ROLL] *vi* **1** : to turn about an axis or a center : REVOLVE; *specif* : to move in such a way that all particles follow circles with a common angular velocity about a common axis **2 a** : to perform an act, function, or operation in turn **b** : to pass or alternate in a series ~ *vt* **1** : to cause to turn about an axis or a center : REVOLVE **2** : to cause to grow in rotation ⟨~ crops⟩ **3** : to cause to pass or act in a series : ALTERNATE **4** : to exchange (individuals or units) with other personnel — **ro·tat·able** \ˈrō-ˌtāt-ə-bəl *also* rō-ˈ\ *adj*

ro·ta·tion \rō-ˈtā-shən\ *n* **1 a** (1) : the action or process of rotating on or as if on an axis or center (2) : the act or an instance of rotating something **b** : one complete turn : the angular displacement required to return a rotating body or figure to its original orientation **2 a** : return or succession in a series ⟨~ of the seasons⟩ **b** : the growing of different crops in succession in one field usu. in a regular sequence **3** : the turning of a body part about its long axis as if on a pivot **4** : a game of pool in which all 15 object balls are shot in numerical order — **ro·ta·tion·al** \-shnəl, -shən-ᵊl\ *adj*

ro·ta·tive \ˈrō-ˌtāt-iv *also* rō-ˈ\ *adj* **1** : turning like a wheel : ROTARY **2** : relating to, occurring in, or characterized by rotation — **ro·ta·tive·ly** *adv*

ro·ta·tor \ˈrō-ˌtāt-ər *also* rō-ˈ\ *n* : one that rotates or causes rotation: as **a** : a muscle that partially rotates a part on its axis **b** : a device for rotating a directional antenna **c** : a rotating planet or galaxy

ro·ta·to·ry \ˈrōt-ə-ˌtōr-ē, -ˌtȯr-, *Brit* -t(ə-)ri *also* rō-ˈtā-tə-ri\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or producing rotation **2** : occurring in rotation

ROTC *abbr* Reserve Officers' Training Corps

¹rote \ˈrōt\ *n* [ME, fr. OF, of Gmc origin; akin to OHG *hruozza* crowd] : ³CROWD 1

²rote *n* [ME] **1** : the use of memory usu. with little intelligence ⟨learn by ~⟩ **2** : routine or repetition carried out mechanically or unthinkingly ⟨a joyless sense of order, ~, and commercial hustle —L. L. King⟩

³rote *n* [perh. of Scand origin; akin to ON *rauta* to roar — more at ROUT] : the noise of surf on the shore

ro·te·none \ˈrōt-ᵊn-ˌōn\ *n* [ISV, fr. Jap *roten* derris plant] : a crystalline insecticide $C_{23}H_{22}O_6$ that is of low toxicity for warm-blooded animals and is used esp. in home gardens

rot·gut \ˈrät-ˌgət\ *n* : bad liquor

ro·ti·fer \ˈrōt-ə-fər\ *n* [deriv. of L *rota* + *-fer*] : any of a class (Rotifera) of minute usu. microscopic but many-celled aquatic invertebrate animals having the anterior end modified into a retractile disk bearing circles of strong cilia that often give the appearance of rapidly revolving wheels


rotifer

ro·tis·ser·ie \rō-ˈtis-(ə-)rē\ *n* [F *rôtisserie*, fr. MF *rostisserie*, fr. *rostir* to roast — more at ROAST] **1** : a restaurant specializing in broiled and barbecued meats **2** : an appliance fitted with a spit on which food is rotated before or over a source of heat

rotl \ˈrät-ᵊl\ *n* [Ar *raṭl*] : any of various units of weight of Mediterranean and Near Eastern countries ranging from slightly less than one pound to more than six pounds

ro·to \ˈrōt-(ˌ)ō\ *n, pl* **rotos** : ROTOGRAVURE

ro·to·gra·vure \ˌrōt-ə-grə-ˈvyú(ə)r\ *n* [L *rota* + E *-o-* + *gravure*] **1 a** : a photogravure process in which the impression is produced by a rotary press **b** : a print made by rotogravure **2** : a section of a newspaper devoted to rotogravure pictures

ro·tor \ˈrōt-ər\ *n* [contr. of *rotator*] **1** : a part that revolves in a stationary part; *esp* : the rotating member of an electrical machine **2** : a revolving vertical cylinder of a rotor ship **3** : a complete system of more or less horizontal blades that supplies all or a major part of the force supporting an aircraft in flight

ro·tor·craft \-ˌkraft\ *n* : an aircraft (as a helicopter) supported in flight partially or wholly by rotating airfoils

rotor ship *n* : a ship propelled by the pressure and suction of the wind acting on one or more revolving vertical cylinders

ro·to·till \ˈrōt-ə-ˌtil\ *vt* [back-formation fr. *Rototiller*] : to stir with a rotary cultivator

Ro·to·till·er \-ˌtil-ər\ *trademark* — used for a rotary cultivator

rot·ten \ˈrät-ᵊn\ *adj* [ME *roten*, fr. ON *rotinn*; akin to OE *rotian* to rot] **1** : having rotted : PUTRID **2** : morally corrupt **3** : extremely unpleasant or inferior ⟨it was a ~ show —M. J. Arlen⟩ **4** : marked by weakness or unsoundness ⟨feeling ~⟩ — **rot·ten·ly** *adv* — **rot·ten·ness** \-ᵊn-(n)əs\ *n*

rotten borough *n* : an election district that has many fewer inhabitants than other election districts with the same voting power

rot·ten·stone \ˈrät-ᵊn-ˌstōn\ *n* : a decomposed siliceous limestone used for polishing

rot·ter \ˈrät-ər\ *n* : a thoroughly objectionable person

rott·wei·ler \ˈrät-ˌwī-lər, ˈrȯt-ˌvī-\ *n, often cap* [G, fr. *Rottweil*, Germany] : any of a German breed of tall vigorous black shorthaired cattle dogs

ro·tund \rō-ˈtənd, ˈrō-ˌ\ *adj* [L *rotundus* — more at ROUND] **1** : marked by roundness : ROUNDED **2** : marked by fullness of sound or cadence : OROTUND, SONOROUS ⟨a master of ~ phrase⟩ **3** : notably plump : CHUBBY — **ro·tun·di·ty** \rō-ˈtən-dət-ē\ *n* — **ro·tund·ly** \-ˈtən-dlē, ˈrō-ˌ\ *adv* — **ro·tund·ness** \rō-ˈtən(d)-nəs, ˈrō-ˌ\ *n*

ro·tun·da \rō-ˈtən-də\ *n* [It *rotonda*, fr. L *rotunda*, fem. of *rotundus*] **1** : a round building; *esp* : one covered by a dome **2 a** : a large round room **b** : a large central area (as in a hotel)

ro·tu·ri·er \rō-ˈt(y)u̇r-ē-ˌā\ *n* [MF] : a person not of noble birth

rou·ble *var of* RUBLE

roué \rü-ˈā\ *n* [F, lit., broken on the wheel, fr. pp. of *rouer* to break on the wheel, fr. ML *rotare*, fr. L, to rotate; fr. the feeling that such

a person deserves this punishment] : a man devoted to a life of sensual pleasure : RAKE

rou·en \rü-'ä^{n}, -'än\ *n* [*Rouen*, France] *often cap* : any of a breed of domestic ducks resembling wild mallards in coloring

[1]rouge \'rüzh, *esp South* 'rüj\ *n* [F, fr. MF, fr. *rouge* red, fr. L *rubeus* reddish — more at RUBY] **1** : any of various cosmetics for coloring the cheeks or lips red **2** : a red powder consisting essentially of ferric oxide used in polishing glass, metal, or gems and as a pigment

[2]rouge *vb* **rouged; roug·ing** *vt* **1** : to apply rouge to **2** : to cause to redden ~ *vi* : to use rouge

[1]rough \'rəf\ *adj* **rough·er; rough·est** [ME, fr. OE *rūh;* akin to L *ruga* wrinkle, Gk *oryssein* to dig, ON *rögg* tuft — more at RUG] **1 a** : marked by inequalities, ridges, or projections on the surface : COARSE **b** : covered with or made up of coarse and often shaggy hair **c** (1) : having a broken, uneven, or bumpy surface ⟨~ terrain⟩ (2) : difficult to travel through or penetrate : WILD ⟨into the ~ woods —P. B. Shelley⟩ **2 a** : TURBULENT, TEMPESTUOUS ⟨~ seas⟩ **b** (1) : characterized by harshness, violence, or force (2) : presenting a challenge : DIFFICULT ⟨~ to deal with —R. M. McAlmon⟩ **3** : coarse or rugged in character or appearance: as **a** : harsh to the ear **b** : crude in style or expression **c** : INDELICATE **d** : marked by a lack of refinement or grace : UNCOUTH **4 a** : CRUDE, UNFINISHED ⟨~ carpentry⟩ **b** : executed or ventured hastily, tentatively, or imperfectly ⟨a ~ draft⟩ ⟨~ estimate⟩ — **rough·ness** *n*

syn **1** ROUGH, HARSH, UNEVEN, RUGGED, SCABROUS *shared meaning element* : not smooth or even ***ant*** smooth
2 see RUDE ***ant*** gentle

[2]rough *n* **1** : uneven ground covered with high grass, brush, and stones; *specif* : such ground bordering a golf fairway **2** : the rugged or disagreeable side or aspect ⟨hiking-camping admirers of nature in the ~ —Eleanor Stirling⟩ **3 a** : something in a crude, unfinished, or preliminary state **b** : broad outline : general terms ⟨the question . . . has been discussed in ~ —*Manchester Guardian Weekly*⟩ **c** : a hasty preliminary drawing or layout **4** : ROWDY

[3]rough *vt* **1** : ROUGHEN **2 a** : to subject to violence : MANHANDLE, BEAT — usu. used with *up* **b** : to subject to unnecessary and intentional violence in a sport **3** : to calk or otherwise roughen (a horse's shoes) to prevent slipping **4 a** : to shape, make, or dress in a rough or preliminary way **b** : to indicate the chief lines of ⟨~ out the structure of a building⟩ — **rough·er** *n* — **rough it** : to live under harsh or primitive conditions

rough·age \'rəf-ij\ *n* : coarse bulky food (as bran) that is relatively high in fiber and low in digestible nutrients and that by its bulk stimulates peristalsis

rough-and-ready \ˌrəf-ən-'red-ē\ *adj* : crude in nature, method, or manner but effective in action or use

[1]rough-and-tum·ble \-'təm-bəl\ *n* : rough disorderly unrestrained fighting or struggling

[2]rough-and-tumble *adj* **1** : marked by rough-and-tumble ⟨grew up in a ~ atmosphere —E. J. Kahn⟩ **2** : put together haphazardly : MAKESHIFT ⟨a ~ fence⟩

rough bluegrass *n* : a European forage grass (*Poa trivialis*) naturalized in eastern No. America

rough breathing *n* **1** : a mark ‘ used in Greek over some initial vowels or over ρ to show that they are aspirated (as in ὡσ pronounced \'hōs\ or ρηγωρ pronounced \'hrā-ˌtōr\) **2** : the sound indicated by a mark ‘ over a Greek vowel or ρ

[1]rough·cast \'rəf-ˌkast\ *n* **1** : a rough model **2** : a plaster of lime mixed with shells or pebbles used for covering buildings **3** : a rough surface finish (as of a plaster wall)

[2]roughcast \-ˌkast, *for 2 also* -'kast\ *vt* **-cast; -cast·ing** **1** : to plaster (as a wall) with roughcast **2** : to shape or form roughly

[1]rough-dry \'rəf-'drī\ *vt* : to dry (laundry) without smoothing or ironing

[2]rough-dry \ˌrəf-ˌdrī\ *adj* : being dry after laundering but not ironed or smoothed over ⟨~ clothes⟩

rough·en \'rəf-ən\ *vb* **rough·ened; rough·en·ing** \-(ə-)niŋ\ *vt* : to make rough or rougher ⟨her hands were ~*ed* by work —Ellen Glasgow⟩ ~ *vi* : to become rough

rough fish *n* : a fish that is neither a sport fish nor an important food for sport fishes

rough-hew \'rəf-'hyü\ *vt* **-hewed; -hewn** \-'hyün\; **-hew·ing** **1** : to hew (as timber) coarsely without smoothing or finishing **2** : to form crudely

rough-hewn \-'hyün\ *adj* **1** : being in a rough, unsmoothed, or unfinished state : crudely formed ⟨~ beams⟩ **2** : lacking polish ⟨he was rather attractive, in a ~ kind of way —Jan Speas⟩

[1]rough·house \'rəf-ˌhaùs\ *n* : violence or rough boisterous play

[2]rough·house \-ˌhaùs, -ˌhaùz\ *vb* **rough·housed; rough·hous·ing** *vt* : to treat in a boisterously rough manner ~ *vi* : to engage in roughhouse

rough·ish \'rəf-ish\ *adj* : somewhat rough

rough·leg \'rəf-ˌleg, -ˌlāg\ *n* : ROUGH-LEGGED HAWK

rough-legged hawk \ˌrəf-ˌleg(-ə)d-, -ˌlāg(-ə)d-\ *n* : any of several large heavily built hawks (genus *Buteo*) that have the tarsus feathered to the base of the toes and feed chiefly on rodents

rough lemon *n* **1** : a hybrid lemon that forms a large spreading thorny tree, bears rough-skinned nearly globular acid fruit, and is important chiefly as a rootstock for other citrus trees **2** : the fruit of a rough lemon

rough·ly \'rəf-lē\ *adv* **1** : in a rough manner: as **a** : with harshness or violence ⟨treated the prisoner ~⟩ **b** : in crude fashion : IMPERFECTLY ⟨~ dressed lumber⟩ **2** : without completeness or exactness : APPROXIMATELY ⟨~ 20 percent⟩

rough·neck \'rəf-ˌnek\ *n* **1 a** : a rough or uncouth person **b** : ROWDY, TOUGH **2** : a worker of an oil-well-drilling crew other than the driller

rough·rid·er \'rəf-'rīd-ər\ *n* **1** : one who is accustomed to riding unbroken or little-trained horses **2** *cap* : a member of the 1st U.S. Volunteer Cavalry regiment in the Spanish-American War commanded by Theodore Roosevelt

rough-shod \-'shäd\ *adj* **1** : shod with calked shoes **2** : marked by main force without justice or consideration ⟨a tyrant's ~ rule⟩

rou·lade \rü-'läd\ *n* [F, lit., act of rolling] **1** : a florid vocal embellishment sung to one syllable **2** : a slice of usu. stuffed meat that is rolled, browned, and steamed or braised

rou·leau \rü-'lō\ *n, pl* **rou·leaux** \-'lōz\ [F] : a little roll; *esp* : a roll of coins put up in paper

[1]rou·lette \rü-'let\ *n* [F, lit., small wheel, fr. OF *roelete*, dim. of *roele* small wheel, fr. LL *rotella*, dim. of L *rota* wheel — more at ROLL] **1** : a gambling game in which players bet on which compartment of a revolving wheel a small ball will come to rest in **2 a** : any of various toothed wheels or disks (as for producing rows of dots on engraved plates or for making short consecutive incisions in paper to facilitate subsequent division) **b** : tiny slits between rows of stamps in a sheet that are made by a roulette and serve as an aid in separation — compare PERFORATION

[2]roulette *vt* **rou·lett·ed; rou·lett·ing** : to make roulettes in

Rou·ma·nian \rü-'mā-nē-ən, -nyən\ *var of* RUMANIAN

[1]round \'raùnd\ *vt* [ME *rounen*, fr. OE *rūnian;* akin to OE *rūn* mystery — more at RUNE] **1** : WHISPER **2** : to speak to in a whisper

[2]round *adj* [ME, fr. OF *roont*, fr. L *rotundus;* akin to L *rota* wheel — more at ROLL] **1 a** (1) : having every part of the surface or circumference equidistant from the center (2) : CYLINDRICAL ⟨a ~ peg⟩ **b** : approximately round ⟨a ~ face⟩ **2** : well filled out : PLUMP, SHAPELY **3 a** : COMPLETE, FULL ⟨a ~ dozen⟩ ⟨a ~ ton⟩ **b** : approximately correct; *esp* : exact only to a specific decimal **c** : substantial in amount : AMPLE ⟨a good ~ price —T. B. Costain⟩ **4** : direct in utterance : OUTSPOKEN ⟨a ~ oath⟩ **5** : moving in or forming a circle **6 a** : brought to completion or perfection : FINISHED **b** : presented with lifelike fullness or vividness **7** : delivered with a swing of the arm ⟨a ~ blow⟩ **8 a** : having full or unimpeded resonance or tone : SONOROUS **b** : pronounced with rounded lips : LABIALIZED **9** : of or relating to handwriting predominantly curved rather than angular — **round·ly** \'raùn-(d)lē\ *adv* — **round·ness** \'raùn(d)-nəs\ *n*

[3]round *adv* **1** : in a circular or curved path or progression **2** : AROUND **3** : with revolving or rotating motion ⟨the wheel turns ~⟩ **4** : to a particular person or place ⟨send ~ for the doctor⟩

[4]round \(')raùnd\ *prep* **1** : AROUND **2** : all during : THROUGHOUT ⟨~ the year⟩

[5]round \'raùnd\ *n* **1 a** : something (as a circle, globe, or ring) that is round **b** (1) : a knot of people (2) : a circle of things **2** : ROUND DANCE 1 **3** : a musical canon sung in unison in which each part is continuously repeated **4 a** : a rung of a ladder or a chair **b** : a rounded molding **5 a** : a circling or circuitous path or course **b** : motion in a circle or a curving path **6 a** : a route or circuit habitually covered (as by a watchman or policeman) **b** : a series of professional calls on hospital patients made by a doctor or nurse — usu. used in pl. **c** : a series of similar or customary calls or stops ⟨making the ~*s* of his friends —*Current Biog.*⟩ **7** : a drink of liquor apiece served at one time to each person in a group ⟨I'll buy the next ~⟩ **8** : a sequence of recurring routine or repetitive actions or events ⟨went about his ~ of chores⟩ **9** : a period of time that recurs in a fixed pattern ⟨the daily ~⟩ **10 a** : one shot fired by a weapon or by each man in a military unit **b** : a unit of ammunition consisting of the parts necessary to fire one shot **11 a** : a unit of action in a contest or game which comprises a stated period, covers a prescribed distance, includes a specified number of plays, or gives each player one turn **b** : a division of a tournament in which each contestant plays an opponent **12** : a prolonged burst (as of applause) **13** : a cut of beef esp. between the rump and the lower leg — see BEEF illustration **14** : a rounded or curved part — **in the round** **1** : in full sculptured form unattached to a background **2** : with an inclusive or comprehensive view or representation **3** : with a center stage surrounded by an audience ⟨theater *in the round*⟩

[6]round \'raùnd\ *vt* **1 a** : to make round **b** (1) : to make (the lips) round and protruded (as in the pronunciation of \ü\) (2) : to pronounce with lip rounding : LABIALIZE **2 a** : to go around **b** : to pass part of the way around **3** : ENCIRCLE, ENCOMPASS **4** : to bring to completion or perfection — often used with *off* or *out* **5** : to express as a round number — often used with *off* ⟨11.3572 ~*ed* off to three decimals becomes 11.357⟩ ~ *vi* **1 a** : to become round, plump, or shapely **b** : to reach fullness or completion **2** : to follow a winding course : BEND ⟨~*ing* into the home stretch⟩ — **round on** : to turn against : ASSAIL

[1]round·about \'raùn-də-ˌbaùt\ *n* **1** : a circuitous route : DETOUR **2** *Brit* : MERRY-GO-ROUND **3** : a short close-fitting jacket worn by men and boys esp. in the 19th century **4** *Brit* : ROTARY 2

[2]roundabout *adj* : CIRCUITOUS, INDIRECT ⟨had to take a ~ course⟩ — **round·about·ness** *n*

round angle *n* : an angle of 360° or 2 π radians

round clam *n* : QUAHOG

round dance *n* **1** : a folk dance in which participants form a ring and move in a prescribed direction **2** : a ballroom dance in which couples progress around the room

round·ed \'raùn-dəd\ *adj* **1** : made round : flowing rather than jagged or angular **2** : fully developed — **round·ed·ness** *n*

roun·del \'raùn-dᵊl\ *n* [ME, fr. OF *rondel*, fr. *roont* round — more at ROUND] **1** : a round figure or object; *esp* : a circular panel, window, or niche **2 a** : RONDEL 2a **b** : an English modified rondeau

roun·de·lay \'raùn-də-ˌlā\ *n* [modif. of MF *rondelet*, dim. of *rondel*] **1** : a simple song with a refrain **2** : a poem with a refrain recurring frequently or at fixed intervals as in a rondel

round·er \'raùn-dər\ *n* **1** : a dissolute person : WASTREL **2** *pl but sing in constr* : a game of English origin that is played with ball and bat and that somewhat resembles baseball **3 a** : one that rounds by hand or by machine **b** : a tool for making an edge or a surface round **4** : a boxing match lasting a specified number of rounds — usu. used in combination ⟨a 10-*rounder*⟩

round·head \'raùnd-ˌhed\ *n* **1** *cap* [fr. the Puritans' cropping their hair short in contrast to the Cavaliers] **a** : PURITAN 1 **b** : a mem-

ber of the parliamentary party in England at the time of Charles I and Oliver Cromwell **2** : a brachycephalic person
round·head·ed \-'hed-əd\ *adj* : having a round head; *specif* : BRACHYCEPHALIC — **round·head·ed·ness** *n*
round·house \'raůnd-ˌhaůs\ *n* **1** *archaic* : LOCKUP **2** : a circular building for housing and repairing locomotives **3** : a cabin or apartment on the stern of a quarterdeck **4** : a blow in boxing delivered with a wide swing
round·ish \'raůn-dish\ *adj* : somewhat round
round·let \'raůn-(d)lət\ *n* [ME *roundelet*, fr. MF *rondelet* — more at ROUNDELAY] : a small circle or round object : DISK
round lot *n* : the standard unit of trading in a security market usu. amounting to 100 shares of stock
round robin *n* [fr. the name *Robin*] **1 a** : a written petition, memorial, or protest to which the signatures are affixed in a circle so as not to indicate who signed first **b** : a statement signed by several persons **c** : a letter sent in turn to the members of a group each of whom signs and forwards it sometimes after adding comment **2** : ROUND TABLE 2 **3** : a tournament in which every contestant meets every other contestant in turn **4** : SERIES, ROUND
round–shoul·dered \'raůn(d)-'shōl-dərd\ *adj* : having the shoulders stooping or rounded
rounds·man \'raůn(d)z-mən\ *n* **1** : one that makes rounds **2** : a supervisory police officer of the grade of sergeant or just below
round steak *n* : a steak cut from the round of beef — see BEEF illustration
round table *n* **1 a** *cap R & T* : a large circular table for King Arthur and his knights **b** : the knights of King Arthur **2** : a conference for discussion or deliberation by several participants; *also* : the participants in such a conference
round–the–clock *adj* : AROUND-THE-CLOCK
round trip *n* : a trip to a place and back usu. over the same route
round·up \'raůn-ˌdəp\ *n* **1 a** (1) : the act or process of collecting cattle by riding around them and driving them in (2) : the men and horses so engaged **b** : a gathering in of scattered persons or things ⟨a ~ of all suspects⟩ **2** : a summary of information (as from news bulletins)
round up \'raůn-'dəp\ *vt* **1** : to collect (cattle) by means of a roundup **2** : to gather in or bring together from various quarters
round window *n* : the cochlear fenestra of the ear
round·wood \'raůn-ˌdwůd\ *n* : timber used (as for poles) without being squared by sawing or hewing
round·worm \'raůn-ˌdwərm\ *n* : NEMATODE; *also* : a related round-bodied unsegmented worm (as an acanthocephalan) as distinguished from a flatworm
roup \'rüp, 'raůp\ *n* [origin unknown] : a virus disease of poultry marked by cheesy lesions of the mouth, throat, and eyes
¹rouse \'raůz\ *vb* **roused; rous·ing** [ME *rousen*] *vi* **1** : to become aroused : AWAKEN **2** : to become stirred ~ *vt* **1** *archaic* : to cause to break from cover **2 a** : to stir up : EXCITE ⟨was *roused* to fury⟩ **b** : to arouse from sleep or repose : AWAKEN — **rouse·ment** \'raůz-mənt\ *n* — **rous·er** *n*
²rouse *n* : an act or instance of rousing; *esp* : an excited stir
³rouse *n* [alter. (resulting fr. incorrect division of *to drink carouse*) of *carouse*] **1** *obs* : DRINK, TOAST **2** *archaic* : CAROUSAL
rouse·about \'raů-zə-ˌbaůt\ *n, Austral* : an unskilled worker
rous·ing \'raů-ziŋ\ *adj* **1 a** : giving rise to excitement : STIRRING **b** : BRISK, LIVELY **2** : EXCEPTIONAL, SUPERLATIVE
Rous sarcoma \'raůs-\ *n* [F. Peyton *Rous* †1970 Am physician] : a readily transplantable malignant spindle-cell sarcoma of chickens that is caused by a specific carcinogenic virus
Rous·seau·ism \rü-'sō-ˌiz-əm\ *n* **1** : the philosophical, educational, and political doctrines of Jean Jacques Rousseau **2** : the return to or glorification of a simpler and more primitive way of life — **Rous·seau·ist** \-əst\ *n* — **Rous·seau·is·tic** \ˌrü-ˌsō-'is-tik, rů-\ *adj*
roust \'raůst\ *vt* [alter. of ¹*rouse*] : to drive (as from bed) roughly or unceremoniously
roust·about \'raů-stə-ˌbaůt\ *n* **1 a** : DECKHAND **b** : LONGSHOREMAN **2** : an unskilled or semiskilled laborer esp. in an oil field or refinery **3** : a circus worker who erects and dismantles tents, cares for the grounds, and handles animals and equipment
roust·er \'raů-stər\ *n* : ROUSTABOUT 1
¹rout \'raůt\ *n* [ME *route*, fr. MF, troop, defeat, fr. (assumed) VL *rupta*, fr. L, fem. of *ruptus*, pp. of *rumpere* to break — more at REAVE] **1** : a crowd of people : THRONG; *specif* : RABBLE 2b **2 a** : DISTURBANCE **b** *archaic* : FUSS **3** : a fashionable gathering
²rout \'rōt, 'rüt\ *vi* [ME *rowten*, fr. ON *rauta*; akin to OE *rēotan* to weep, L *rudere* to roar] *dial chiefly Brit* : to low loudly : BELLOW — used of cattle
³rout \'raůt\ *vb* [alter. of ³*root*] *vi* **1** : to poke around with the snout : ROOT ⟨pigs ~*ing* in the earth⟩ **2** : to search haphazardly ~ *vt* **1 a** *archaic* : to dig up with the snout **b** : to gouge out or make a furrow in (as wood or metal); *specif* : to cut away (as blank parts) from a printing surface (as an engraving or electrotype) with a router **2 a** : to expel by force — usu. used with *out* **b** : to cause to emerge esp. from bed **3** : to come up with : UNCOVER
⁴rout \'raůt\ *n* [MF *route* troop, defeat] **1** : a state of wild confusion or disorderly retreat **2 a** : a disastrous defeat : DEBACLE **b** : a precipitate flight
⁵rout \'raůt\ *vt* **1 a** : to disorganize completely : DEMORALIZE **b** : to put to precipitate flight **c** : to defeat decisively or disastrously ⟨the discomfiture of seeing their party ~*ed* at the polls — A. N. Holcombe⟩ **2** : to drive out : DISPEL
¹route \'rüt, 'raůt\ *n* [ME, fr. OF, fr. (assumed) VL *rupta* (*via*), lit., broken way, fr. L *rupta*, fem. of *ruptus*, pp.] **1 a** : a traveled way : HIGHWAY ⟨the main ~ north⟩ **b** : a means of access : CHANNEL ⟨the ~ to social mobility —T. F. O'Dea⟩ **2** : a line of travel : COURSE **3 a** : an established or selected course of travel or action **b** : an assigned territory to be systematically covered ⟨a newspaper ~⟩
²route *vt* **rout·ed; rout·ing** **1 a** : to send by a selected route : DIRECT ⟨was *routed* along the scenic shore road⟩ **b** : to divert in a specified direction **2** : to prearrange and direct the order and execution of (a series of operations)
route·man \'rüt-mən, 'raůt-ˌman\ *n* : one who is responsible for making sales or deliveries on an assigned route
route march *n* : ROUTE STEP
¹rout·er \'raůt-ər\ *n* : one that routs: as **a** : a routing plane **b** : a machine with a revolving vertical spindle and cutter for milling out the surface of wood or metal
²rout·er \'rüt-ər, 'raůt-\ *n* : one that routes
³rout·er \'rüt-ər, 'raůt-\ *n* [*route* (race of a mile or more)] : a horse trained for distance races
route step *n* : a style of marching in which troops maintain prescribed intervals but are not required to keep in step or to maintain silence — called also *route march*
route·way \'rüt-ˌwā, 'raůt-\ *n* : ROUTE 3a
routh \'raůth, 'rüth\ *n* [origin unknown] *chiefly Scot* : PLENTY
¹rou·tine \rü-'tēn\ *n* [F, fr. MF, fr. *route* traveled way] **1 a** : a regular course of procedure ⟨if resort to legal action becomes a campus ~ —J. A. Perkins⟩ **b** : habitual or mechanical performance of an established procedure ⟨settled into the ~ of factory work⟩ **2** : a reiterated speech or formula ⟨the old "After you" ~ —Ray Russell⟩ **3** : a fixed piece of entertainment often repeated ⟨a dance ~⟩; *specif* : a theatrical number **4** : a sequence of computer instructions for performing a particular task
²rou·tine \rü-'tēn, ˌrü-ˌ\ *adj* **1** : of a commonplace or repetitious character : ORDINARY **2** : of, relating to, or being in accordance with established procedure ⟨~ business⟩ — **rou·tine·ly** *adv*
rou·tin·ize \rü-'tē-ˌnīz, 'rüt-ᵊn-ˌīz\ *vt* **-ized; -iz·ing** : to discipline in or reduce to a routine — **rou·tin·iza·tion** \(ˌ)rü-ˌtē-nə-'zā-shən, ˌrüt-ᵊn-ə-\ *n*
roux \'rü\ *n, pl* **roux** \'rüz\ [F, fr. *beurre roux* browned butter] : a cooked mixture of flour and fat used as a thickening agent in a soup or a sauce
¹rove \'rōv\ *vb* **roved; rov·ing** [ME *roven* to shoot at rovers] *vi* : to move aimlessly : ROAM ~ *vt* : to wander through or over
²rove *n* : an act or instance of wandering
³rove *past of* REEVE
⁴rove *vt* **roved; rov·ing** [origin unknown] : to join (textile fibers) with a slight twist and draw out into roving
⁵rove *n* : ROVING
rove beetle *n* [perh. fr. ¹*rove*] : any of numerous often predatory active beetles (family Staphylinidae) having a long body and very short wing covers beneath which the wings are folded transversely
¹ro·ver \'rō-vər\ *n* [ME, fr. MD, fr. *roven* to rob; akin to OE *rēafian* to reave — more at REAVE] : PIRATE
²rov·er \'rō-vər\ *n* [ME, fr. *roven* to shoot at random, wander] **1** : a random or long-distance mark in archery — usu. used in pl. **2** : WANDERER, ROAMER **3** : a player who is not assigned to a specific position on a team and who plays wherever he is needed
¹rov·ing \'rō-viŋ\ *adj* [¹*rove*] **1 a** : capable of being shifted from place to place : MOBILE **b** : not restricted as to location or area of concern **2** : inclined to ramble or stray ⟨a ~ fancy⟩
²roving *n* [⁴*rove*] : a slightly twisted roll or strand of usu. textile fibers
¹row \'rō\ *vb* [ME *rowen*, fr. OE *rōwan*; akin to MHG *rüejen* to row, L *remus* oar] *vi* **1** : to propel a boat by means of oars **2** : to move by or as if by the propulsion of oars ~ *vt* **1 a** : to propel with or as if with oars **b** : to be equipped with (a specified number of oars) **c** (1) : to participate in (a rowing match) (2) : to compete against in rowing (3) : to pull (an oar) in a crew **2** : to transport in an oar-propelled boat — **row·er** \'rō(-ə)r\ *n*
²row *n* : an act or instance of rowing
³row *n* [ME *rawe*; akin to OE *rǣw* row, OHG *rīga* line, L *rima* slit] **1** : a number of objects arranged in a usu. straight line ⟨a ~ of bottles⟩; *also* : the line along which such objects are arranged ⟨planted the corn in parallel ~*s*⟩ **2 a** : WAY, STREET **b** : an urban area (as along one street) dominated by a specific kind of enterprise or occupancy ⟨doctors living elsewhere come back to doctors' ~ along 116th Street —Jonathan Randal⟩ **3** : TWELVE-TONE ROW — **in a row** : one after another : SUCCESSIVELY
⁴row *vt* : to form into rows
⁵row \'raů\ *n* [origin unknown] : a noisy disturbance or quarrel
⁶row \'raů\ *vi* : to engage in a row : have a quarrel
row·an \'raů-ən, 'rō-ən\ *n* [of Scand origin; akin to ON *reynir* rowan; akin to OE *rēad* red — more at RED] **1 a** : a Eurasian tree (*Sorbus aucuparia*) of the rose family with flat corymbs of white flowers followed by small red pomes **b** : an American mountain ash (*Sorbus americana*) **2** : the fruit of a rowan
row·an·ber·ry \-ˌber-ē\ *n* : ROWAN 2
row·boat \'rō-ˌbōt\ *n* : a small boat designed to be rowed
¹row·dy \'raůd-ē\ *adj* **row·di·er; -est** [perh. irreg. fr. ⁵*row*] : coarse or boisterous in behavior : ROUGH — **row·di·ly** \'raůd-ᵊl-ē\ *adv* — **row·di·ness** \'raůd-ē-nəs\ *n* — **row·dy·ish** \-ē-ish\ *adj*
²rowdy *n, pl* **rowdies** : a rowdy person : TOUGH
row·dy·ism \'raůd-ē-ˌiz-əm\ *n* : rowdy character or behavior
¹row·el \'raů(-ə)l\ *n* [ME *rowelle*, fr. MF *rouelle* small wheel, fr. OF *roele* — more at ROULETTE] : a revolving disk at the end of a spur with sharp marginal points
²rowel *vt* **-eled** *or* **-elled; -el·ing** *or* **-el·ling** **1** : to goad with or as if with a rowel **2** : VEX, TROUBLE
row·en \'raů-ən\ *n* [ME *rowein*, fr. (assumed) ONF *rewain*; akin to OF *regaïn* aftermath, fr. *re-* + *gaaignier* to till — more at GAIN] **1** : a stubble field left unplowed for late grazing **2** : AFTERMATH 1 — often used in pl.
row house \'rō-\ *n* : one of a series of houses connected by common sidewalls and forming a continuous group

row·ing \'rō-iŋ\ *n* : the sport of racing in shells
row·lock \'räl-ək, 'rəl-; 'rō-ˌläk\ *n* [prob. by alter.] *chiefly Brit* : OARLOCK
Rox *abbr* Roxburghshire
¹roy·al \'rȯi(-ə)l\ *adj* [ME *roial*, fr. MF, fr. L *regalis*, fr. *reg-*, *rex* king; akin to OIr *rī* (gen. *rīg*) king, Skt *rājan*, L *regere* to rule — more at RIGHT] **1 a** : of kingly ancestry ⟨the ~ family⟩ **b** : of, relating to, or subject to the crown ⟨the ~ estates⟩ **c** : being in the crown's service ⟨*Royal* Air Force⟩ **2 a** : suitable for royalty : MAGNIFICENT ⟨the ~ gift of such poets —Kathleen Raine⟩ **b** : requiring no exertion : EASY ⟨there is no ~ road to logic —Justus Buchler⟩ **3 a** : of superior size, magnitude, or quality ⟨a patronage of ~ dimensions —J. H. Plumb⟩ **b** : established or chartered by the crown **4** : of, relating to, or being a part (as a mast, sail, or yard) next above the topgallant — **roy·al·ly** \'rȯi-ə-lē\ *adv*
²royal *n* **1** : a stag of 8 years or more having antlers with at least 12 points **2** : a small sail on the royal mast immediately above the topgallant sail **3** : a person of royal blood **4** : a size of paper usu. 20 x 25 or 19 x 24 inches
royal antler *n* : the third tine above the base of a stag's antler — see ANTLER illustration
royal blue *n* : a variable color averaging a vivid purplish blue
royal flush *n* : a straight flush having an ace as the highest card — see POKER illustration
roy·al·ism \'rȯi-ə-ˌliz-əm\ *n* : MONARCHISM
roy·al·ist \-ə-ləst\ *n* **1** *often cap* : an adherent of a king or of monarchical government: as **a** : CAVALIER 3 **b** : TORY 4 **2** : a reactionary business tycoon — **royalist** *adj*
royal jelly *n* : a highly nutritious secretion of the pharyngeal glands of the honeybee that is fed to the very young larvae in a colony and to all queen larvae
royal palm *n* : any of several palms (genus *Roystonea*); *esp* : a tall graceful pinnate-leaved palm (*R. regia*) of southern Florida and Cuba that is widely planted for ornament
royal poinciana *n* : a showy tropical tree (*Delonix regia* syn. *Poinciana regia*) widely planted for its immense racemes of scarlet and orange flowers — called also *flamboyant, peacock flower*
royal purple *n* : a dark reddish purple
roy·al·ty \'rȯi(-ə)l-tē\ *n, pl* **-ties** [ME *roialte*, fr. MF *roialté*, fr. OF, fr. *roial*] **1 a** : royal status or power : SOVEREIGNTY **b** : a right or perquisite of a sovereign (as a percentage paid to the crown of gold or silver taken from mines) **2** : regal character or bearing : NOBILITY **3 a** : persons of royal lineage **b** : a person of royal rank ⟨how to address *royalties* —George Santayana⟩ **c** : a privileged class **4** : a right of jurisdiction granted to an individual or corporation by a sovereign **5 a** : a share of the product or profit reserved by the grantor esp. of an oil or mining lease **b** : a payment made to an author or composer for each copy of his work sold or to an inventor for each article sold under a patent
royster *var of* ROISTER
roz·zer \'räz-ər\ *n* [origin unknown] *slang Brit* : POLICEMAN
RP *abbr* **1** Received Pronunciation **2** relief pitcher **3** reply paid **4** reprint; reprinting
RPG \ˌär-(ˌ)pē-'jē\ *n* [*r*eport *p*rogram *g*enerator] : a computer language that generates programs from the user's specifications esp. to produce business reports
RPM *abbr* revolutions per minute
RPO *abbr* railway post office
RPS *abbr* revolutions per second
rpt *abbr* **1** repeat **2** report
RQ *abbr* respiratory quotient
RR *abbr* **1** railroad **2** rural route
RRB *abbr* Railroad Retirement Board
-r·rha·gia \'rā-j(ē-)ə, 'rā-zhə; 'räj-ə, 'räzh-\ *n comb form* [NL, fr. Gk, fr. *rhēgnynai* to break, burst; akin to OSlav *rězati* to cut] : abnormal or excessive discharge or flow ⟨metro*rrhagia*⟩
-r·rhea *also* **-r·rhoea** \'rē-ə\ *n comb form* [ME *-ria*, fr. LL *-rrhoea*, fr. Gk *-rrhoia*, fr. *rhoia*, fr. *rhein* to flow — more at STREAM] : flow : discharge ⟨logo*rrhea*⟩ ⟨leuko*rrhea*⟩
-r·rhine *or* **-rhine** \ˌrīn\ *adj comb form* [ISV, fr. Gk *-rrhin-*, *-rrhis*, fr. *rhin-*, *rhis* nose] : having (such) a nose ⟨platy*rrhine*⟩
-r·rhi·za — see -RHIZA
RS *abbr* **1** recording secretary **2** revised statutes **3** right side **4** Royal Society
RSA *abbr* Royal Scottish Academy
RSE *abbr* Royal Society of Edinburgh
RSFSR *abbr* [Russ *Rossiĭskaya Sovetskaya Federativnaya Sotsialisticheskaya Respublika*] Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic
RSV *abbr* Revised Standard Version
RSVP *abbr* [F *répondez s'il vous plaît*] please reply
RSWC *abbr* right side up with care
rt *abbr* right
RT *abbr* **1** radiotelephone **2** room temperature
rte *abbr* route
Ru *symbol* ruthenium
¹rub \'rəb\ *vb* **rubbed; rub·bing** [ME *rubben;* akin to Icel *rubba* to scrape] *vi* **1 a** : to move along the surface of a body with pressure : GRATE **b** (1) : to fret or chafe with friction (2) : to cause discontent, irritation, or anger **2** : to continue in a situation usu. with slight difficulty ⟨in spite of financial difficulties, he is *rubbing* along⟩ **3** : to admit of being rubbed (as for erasure or obliteration) ~ *vt* **1 a** : to subject to the action of something moving esp. back and forth with pressure and friction **b** (1) : to cause (a body) to move with pressure and friction along a surface (2) : to treat in any of various ways by rubbing **c** : to bring into reciprocal back-and-forth or rotary contact **2** : ANNOY, IRRITATE ⟨his attitude tended to ~ her⟩ — **rub elbows** *or* **rub shoulders** : to associate closely : MINGLE — **rub the wrong way** : to arouse the antagonism or displeasure of : IRRITATE
²rub *n* **1 a** : an unevenness of surface (as of the ground in lawn bowling) **b** : OBSTRUCTION, DIFFICULTY ⟨the ~ is that so few of the scholars have any sense of this truth themselves —Benjamin Farrington⟩ **c** : something grating to the feelings (as a gibe or harsh criticism) **d** : something that mars serenity **2** : the application of friction with pressure ⟨an alcohol ~⟩
rub–a–dub \'rəb-ə-ˌdəb\ *n* [imit.] : the sound of drumbeats
Ru·bai·yat stanza \'rü-bē-ˌät-, -ˌat-; -ˌbī-ˌ(y)ät-, -ˌ(y)at-\ *n* [*The Rubáiyát of Omar Khayyám*, quatrains translated by Edward Fitzgerald (1859)] : an iambic pentameter quatrain with a rhyme scheme *aaba* — called also *Omar stanza*
Ru·barth's disease \'rü-ˌbärt(h)s-\ *n* [C. Sven *Rubarth b*1905 Sw veterinarian] : an often fatal febrile virus hepatitis of dogs
ru·basse \rü-'bas, 'rü-ˌ\ *n* [F *rubace*, irreg. fr. *rubis* ruby — more at RUBY] : a quartz stained a ruby red
ru·ba·to \rü-'bät-(ˌ)ō\ *n, pl* **-tos** [It, lit., robbed] : a fluctuation of speed within a musical phrase typically against a rhythmically steady accompaniment
¹rub·ber \'rəb-ər\ *n, often attrib* **1 a** : one that rubs **b** : an instrument or object (as a rubber eraser) used in rubbing, polishing, scraping, or cleaning **c** : something that prevents rubbing or chafing **2** [fr. its use in erasers] **a** : an elastic substance that is obtained by coagulating the milky juice of any of various tropical plants (as of the genera *Hevea* and *Ficus*), is essentially a polymer of isoprene, and is prepared as sheets and then dried — called also *caoutchouc, india rubber* **b** : any of various synthetic rubberlike substances **c** : natural or synthetic rubber modified by chemical treatment to increase its useful properties (as toughness and resistance to wear) and used esp. in tires, electrical insulation, and waterproof materials **3** : something made of or resembling rubber: as **a** : a rubber overshoe **b** (1) : a rubber tire (2) : the set of tires on a vehicle **c** : a rectangular slab of white rubber in the middle of a baseball infield on which a pitcher stands while pitching **d** : CONDOM — **rubber** *adj*
²rubber *n* [origin unknown] **1** : a contest consisting of an odd number of games won by the side that takes a majority (as two out of three) **2** : an odd game played to determine the winner of a tie
rubber band *n* : an endless band of rubber used in various ways (as for holding together a sheaf of papers)
rubber–base paint *n* : a paint having a rubber derivative or a synthetic resin as its binder or vehicle
rubber bridge *n* : a form of contract bridge in which settlement is made at the end of each rubber
rubber cement *n* : an adhesive consisting typically of a dispersion of vulcanized rubber in an organic solvent
rubber check *n* [fr. its coming back like a bouncing rubber ball] : a check returned by the bank as not good
rub·ber·ize \'rəb-ə-ˌrīz\ *vt* **-ized; -iz·ing** : to coat or impregnate with rubber or a rubber solution
rub·ber·like \'rəb-ər-ˌlīk\ *adj* : resembling rubber esp. in physical properties (as elasticity and toughness)
¹rub·ber·neck \-ˌnek\ *also* **rub·ber·neck·er** \-ər\ *n* **1** : an inquisitive person **2** : TOURIST; *esp* : one on a guided tour
²rubberneck *vi* **1** : to look about, stare, or listen with exaggerated curiosity **2** : to go on a tour : SIGHTSEE
rubber plant *n* : a plant that yields rubber; *esp* : a tall tropical Asian tree (*Ficus elastica*) frequently dwarfed as an ornamental
rubber–stamp *vt* **1** : to mark with a rubber stamp **2** : to approve, endorse, or dispose of as a matter of routine or at the command of another
rubber stamp *n* **1** : a stamp of rubber for making imprints **2 a** : a person who echoes or imitates others **b** : a body or person that approves or endorses a program or policy with little or no dissent or discussion **3 a** : a stereotyped copy or expression ⟨the usual *rubber stamps* of criticism —H. L. Mencken⟩ **b** : a routine endorsement or approval
rubber tree *n* : a tree that yields rubber; *esp* : a So. American tree (*Hevea brasiliensis*) of the spurge family that is cultivated in plantations and is a chief source of rubber
rub·bery \'rəb-(ə-)rē\ *adj* : resembling rubber (as in elasticity, consistency, or texture) ⟨~ legs⟩
rub·bing \'rəb-iŋ\ *n* : an image of a raised, incised, or textured surface obtained by placing paper over it and rubbing the paper with a colored substance
rub·bish \'rəb-ish, *nonstand* -ij\ *n* [ME *robys*] **1** : useless waste or rejected matter : TRASH **2** : something that is worthless or nonsensical ⟨few real masterpieces are forgotten and not much ~ survives —William Bridges-Adams⟩ — **rub·bishy** \-ē\ *adj*
¹rub·ble \'rəb-əl\ *n* [ME *robyl*] **1 a** : broken fragments (as of rock) resulting from the decay or destruction of a building ⟨fortifications knocked into ~ —C. S. Forester⟩ **b** : a miscellaneous confused mass or group of usu. broken or worthless things ⟨the human ~ . . . washed up by the roily wake of the war —John Woodburn⟩ **2** : waterworn or rough broken stones or bricks used in coarse masonry or in filling courses of walls; *also* : RUBBLEWORK **3** : rough stone as it comes from the quarry
²rubble *vt* **rub·bled; rub·bling** \-(ə-)liŋ\ : to reduce to rubble
rub·ble·work \'rəb-əl-ˌwərk\ *n* : masonry of unsquared or rudely squared stones that are irregular in size and shape
rub·down \'rəb-ˌdau̇n\ *n* : a brisk rubbing of the body
rube \'rüb\ *n* [*Rube*, nickname for *Reuben*] : an awkward unsophisticated person : RUSTIC
¹ru·be·fa·cient \ˌrü-bə-'fā-shənt\ *adj* [L *rubefacient-*, *rubefaciens*, prp. of *rubefacere* to make red, fr. *rubeus* reddish + *facere* to make — more at RUBY, DO] : causing redness (as of the skin)
²rubefacient *n* : a substance for external application that produces redness of the skin
Rube Gold·berg \'rüb-'gōl(d)-ˌbərg\ *adj* [Reuben (*Rube*) L. *Goldberg* †1970 Am cartoonist] : accomplishing by complex means what seemingly could be done simply ⟨a kind of *Rube Goldberg* contraption . . . with five hundred moving parts —L. T. Grant⟩
ru·bel·la \rü-'bel-ə\ *n* [NL, fr. L, fem. of *rubellus* reddish, fr. *ruber* red — more at RED] : GERMAN MEASLES
ru·bel·lite \rü-'bel-ˌīt, 'rü-bə-ˌlīt\ *n* [L *rubellus*] : a red tourmaline used as a gem
ru·be·o·la \ˌrü-bē-'ō-lə, rü-'bē-ə-lə\ *n* [NL, fr. neut. pl. of (assumed) NL *rubeolus* reddish, fr. L *rubeus* — more at RUBY] : MEASLES — **ru·be·o·lar** \-lər\ *adj*

Ru·bi·con \'rü-bi-ˌkän\ *n* [L *Rubicon-, Rubico,* river of northern Italy forming part of the boundary between Cisalpine Gaul and Italy whose crossing by Julius Caesar in 49 B.C. was regarded by the Senate as an act of war] : a bounding or limiting line; *esp* : one that when crossed commits a person irrevocably

ru·bi·cund \'rü-bi-(ˌ)kənd\ *adj* [L *rubicundus,* fr. *rubēre* to be red; akin to L *rubeus*] : RUDDY — **ru·bi·cun·di·ty** \ˌrü-bi-'kən-dət-ē\ *n*

ru·bid·i·um \rü-'bid-ē-əm\ *n* [NL, fr. L *rubidus* red, fr. *rubēre*] : a soft silvery metallic element that decomposes water with violence and bursts into flame spontaneously in air — see ELEMENT table

ru·big·i·nous \rü-'bij-ə-nəs\ *adj* [L *robiginosus, rubiginosus* rusty, fr. *robigin-, robigo* rust; akin to L *rubēre*] : of a rusty red color

rub in *vt* : to harp on (as something unpleasant) : EMPHASIZE

ru·bi·ous \'rü-bē-əs\ *adj* : RED, RUBY

ru·ble \'rü-bəl\ *n* [Russ *rubl'*] — see MONEY table

rub out *vt* **1** : to obliterate or extinguish by rubbing **2** : to destroy completely; *specif* : KILL, MURDER ⟨somebody *rubbed* him *out* . . . with a twenty-two —Raymond Chandler⟩

ru·bric \'rü-brik, -ˌbrik\ *n* [ME *rubrike* red ocher, heading in red letters of part of a book, fr. MF *rubrique,* fr. L *rubrica,* fr. *rubr-, ruber* red] **1** : a heading of a part of a book or manuscript done or underlined in a color (as red) different from the rest **2 a** (1) : NAME, TITLE; *specif* : the title of a statute (2) : something under which a thing is classed : CATEGORY ⟨the sensations falling under the general ~, "pressure" —F. A. Geldard⟩ **b** : an authoritative rule; *esp* : a rule for conduct of a liturgical service **c** : an explanatory or introductory commentary : GLOSS; *specif* : an editorial interpolation **3** : an established rule or custom — **rubric** *or* **ru·bri·cal** \-bri-kəl\ *adj* — **ru·bri·cal·ly** \-bri-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

ru·bri·cate \'rü-bri-ˌkāt\ *vt* **-cat·ed; -cat·ing** **1** : to write or print as a rubric **2** : to provide with a rubric — **ru·bri·ca·tion** \ˌrü-bri-'kā-shən\ *n* — **ru·bri·ca·tor** \'rü-bri-ˌkāt-ər\ *n*

rub up *vt* **1** : to revive or refresh knowledge of : RECALL **2** : to improve the keenness of (a mental faculty)

ru·bus \'rü-bəs\ *n, pl* **rubus** [NL, genus name, fr. L, blackberry] : any of a genus (*Rubus*) of plants (as a blackberry or a raspberry) of the rose family having 3- to 7-foliolate or simple lobed leaves, white or pink flowers, and a mass of carpels ripening into an aggregate fruit composed of many drupelets

1ru·by \'rü-bē\ *n, pl* **rubies** [ME, fr. MF *rubis, rubi,* irreg. fr. L *rubeus* reddish; akin to L *ruber* red — more at RED] **1 a** : a precious stone that is a red corundum **b** : something made of ruby; *esp* : a watch bearing or other part of ruby or a substitute material **2 a** : the dark red color of the ruby **b** : something resembling a ruby in color **3** : a Brazilian hummingbird (genus *Clytolaema*) whose male has a ruby throat or breast

2ruby *adj* : of the color ruby

ruby glass *n* : glass of a deep red color containing selenium, an oxide of copper, or a chloride of gold

ruby spinel *n* : a usu. red spinel used as a gem

ru·by·throat \'rü-bē-ˌthrōt\ *n* : RUBY-THROATED HUMMINGBIRD

ru·by–throat·ed hummingbird \ˌrü-bē-ˌthrōt-əd-\ *n* : a hummingbird (*Archilochus colubris*) of eastern No. America having a bright bronzy green back, whitish underparts, and in the adult male a red throat with metallic reflections

ruche \'rüsh\ *or* **ruch·ing** \'rü-shiŋ\ *n* [F *ruche*] : a pleated, fluted, or gathered strip of fabric used for trimming

1ruck \'rək\ *n* [ME *ruke* pile of combustible material, of Scand origin; akin to ON *hraukr* rick — more at RICK] **1 a** : an indistinguishable gathering : JUMBLE **b** : the usual run of persons or things : GENERALITY ⟨his verse compares well with the general ~ of poets of his day —Bonamy Dobrée⟩ **2** : the persons or things following the vanguard

2ruck *vb* [*ruck,* n. (wrinkle)] : PUCKER, WRINKLE

ruck·sack \'rək-ˌsak, 'rük-\ *n* [G] : KNAPSACK

ruck·us \'rək-əs, 'rük-, 'růk-\ *n* [prob. blend of *ruction* and *rumpus*] : ROW, DISTURBANCE ⟨raise a ~⟩

ruc·tion \'rək-shən\ *n* [perh. by shortening & alter. fr. *insurrection*] **1** : a noisy fight **2** : DISTURBANCE, UPROAR

rud·beck·ia \ˌrəd-'bek-ē-ə, rüd-\ *n* [NL, genus name, fr. Olof *Rudbeck* †1702 Sw scientist] : any of a genus (*Rudbeckia*) of No. American perennial composite herbs having showy flower heads with mostly yellow ray flowers and a conical chaffy receptacle

rudd \'rəd, 'růd\ *n* [prob. fr. *rud* redness, red ocher, fr. ME *rude,* fr. OE *rudu* — more at RUDDY] : a freshwater European cyprinid fish (*Scardinius erythrophthalmus*) resembling the roach

rud·der \'rəd-ər\ *n* [ME *rother,* fr. OE *rōther* paddle; akin to OE *rōwan* to row] **1** : a flat piece or structure of wood or metal attached upright to a ship's stern so that it can be turned causing the ship's head to turn in the same direction **2** : a movable auxiliary airfoil usu. attached at the rear end that serves to control direction of flight of an airplane in the horizontal plane — see AIRPLANE illustration — **rud·der·less** \-ləs\ *adj*

rud·der·post \-ˌpōst\ *n* **1** : RUDDERSTOCK **2** : an additional sternpost in a ship with a single screw propeller to which the rudder is attached

rud·der·stock \-ˌstäk\ *n* : the shaft of a rudder

1rud·dle \'rəd-ᵊl\ *n* [dim. of *rud* red ocher] : RED OCHER

2ruddle *vt* **rud·dled; rud·dling** \'rəd-liŋ, -ᵊl-iŋ\ : to color with or as if with red ocher : REDDEN

rud·dle·man \'rəd-ᵊl-mən\ *n* : a dealer in red ocher

rud·dock \'rəd-ək, 'růd-\ *n* [ME *ruddok,* fr. OE *rudduc;* akin to OE *rudu*] : ROBIN 1a

rud·dy \'rəd-ē\ *adj* **rud·di·er; -est** [ME *rudi,* fr. OE *rudig,* fr. *rudu* redness; akin to OE *rēad* red — more at RED] **1** : having a healthy reddish color **2** : RED, REDDISH **3** *Brit* — used as an intensive ⟨a ~ lie⟩ — **rud·di·ly** \'rəd-ᵊl-ē\ *adv* — **rud·di·ness** \'rəd-ē-nəs\ *n*

rude \'rüd\ *adj* **rud·er; rud·est** [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *rudis;* akin to L *rudus* rubble, *ruere* to fall — more at RUG] **1 a** : being in a rough or unfinished state : CRUDE **b** : NATURAL, RAW ⟨~ cotton⟩ **c** : PRIMITIVE, UNDEVELOPED ⟨peasants use ~ wooden plows —Jack Raymond⟩ **d** : SIMPLE, ELEMENTAL ⟨landscape done in ~ whites, blacks, deep browns —Richard Harris⟩ **2** : lacking refinement or delicacy: **a** : IGNORANT, UNLEARNED **b** : INELEGANT, UNCOUTH **c** : offensive in manner or action : DISCOURTEOUS **d** : UNCIVILIZED, SAVAGE **e** : COARSE, VULGAR **3** : marked by or suggestive of lack of training or skill : INEXPERIENCED ⟨~ workmanship⟩ **4** : ROBUST, STURDY **5** : FORCEFUL, ABRUPT ⟨a ~ awakening⟩ — **rude·ly** *adv*

syn RUDE, ROUGH, CRUDE, RAW, CALLOW, GREEN *shared meaning element* : lacking in social refinement

rude·ness *n* **1** : the quality or state of being rude **2** : a rude action

1ru·der·al \'rüd-ə-rəl\ *adj* [NL *ruderalis,* fr. L *ruder-, rudus* rubble] : growing where the natural vegetational cover has been disturbed by man ⟨~ weeds of old fields and roadsides⟩

2ruderal *n* : a weedy and commonly introduced plant growing where the vegetational cover has been interrupted

rudes·by \'rüdz-bē\ *n, pl* **rudesbies** [*rude* + *-sby* (as in the name *Crosby*)] *archaic* : a rude person

ru·di·ment \'rüd-ə-mənt\ *n* [L *rudimentum* beginning, fr. *rudis* raw, rude] **1** : a basic principle or element or a fundamental skill — usu. used in pl. ⟨students . . . teaching themselves the ~s of rational government —G. B. Galanti⟩ **2 a** : something unformed or undeveloped : BEGINNING — usu. used in pl. ⟨the ~s of a plan⟩ **b** (1) : a body part so deficient in size or structure as to be entirely unable to perform its normal function (2) : an organ just beginning to develop : ANLAGE — **ru·di·men·tal** \ˌrüd-ə-'ment-ᵊl\ *adj*

ru·di·men·ta·ry \ˌrüd-ə-'mənt-ə-rē, -'men-trē\ *adj* **1** : consisting in first principles : FUNDAMENTAL ⟨these ~ truths —M. R. Cohen⟩ **2** : of a primitive kind : ELEMENTARY ⟨the equipment of these past empire-builders was ~ —A. J. Toynbee⟩ **3** : very imperfectly developed or represented only by a vestige ⟨the ~ tail of a hyrax⟩ — **ru·di·men·tari·ly** \-ˌmen-'ter-ə-lē, -'men-trə-lē\ *adv* — **ru·di·men·tari·ness** \-'ment-ə-rē-nəs, -'men-trē-\ *n*

1rue \'rü\ *vb* **rued; ru·ing** [ME *ruen,* fr. OE *hrēowan;* akin to OHG *hriuwan* to regret] *vt* : to feel penitence, remorse, or regret for ~ *vi* : to feel sorrow, remorse, or regret

2rue *n* : REGRET, SORROW

3rue *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *ruta,* fr. Gk *rhytē*] : a strong-scented perennial woody herb (*Ruta graveolens* of the family Rutaceae, the rue family) that has bitter leaves used in medicine

rue anemone *n* : a delicate vernal herb (*Anemonella thalictroides*) of the buttercup family with white flowers resembling those of the wood anemone

rue·ful \'rü-fəl\ *adj* **1** : exciting pity or sympathy : PITIABLE ⟨~ squalid poverty . . . by every wayside —John Morley⟩ **2** : MOURNFUL, REGRETFUL ⟨troubled her with a ~ disquiet —W. M. Thackeray⟩ — **rue·ful·ly** \-fə-lē\ *adv* — **rue·ful·ness** *n*

ru·fes·cent \rü-'fes-ᵊnt\ *adj* [L *rufescent-, rufescens,* prp. of *rufescere* to become reddish, fr. *rufus* red — more at RED] : REDDISH

1ruff \'rəf\ *n* [ME *ruf*] **1** *also* **ruffe** \'rəf\ : a small freshwater European perch (*Acerina cernua*) **2** : PUMPKINSEED 1

2ruff *n* [prob. back-formation fr. *ruffle*] **1** : a wheel-shaped stiff collar worn by men and women of the late 16th and early 17th centuries **2** : a fringe or frill of long hairs or feathers growing around or on the neck **3** : a common Eurasian sandpiper (*Philomachus pugnax*) whose male during the breeding season has a large ruff of erectile feathers on the neck — **ruffed** \'rəft\ *adj*



1, ruff 1

3ruff *n* [MF *roffle*] : the act of trumping

4ruff *vt* : to play a trump on (a card previously led or played) ~ *vi* : to take a trick with a trump

ruffed grouse *n* : a No. American grouse (*Bonasa umbellus*) valued as a game bird in the eastern U.S. and Canada



ruffed grouse

ruf·fi·an \'rəf-ē-ən\ *n* [MF *rufian*] : a brutal person : BULLY — **ruffian** *adj* — **ruf·fi·an·ism** \-ē-ə-ˌniz-əm\ *n* — **ruf·fi·an·ly** *adj*

1ruf·fle \'rəf-əl\ *vb* **ruf·fled; ruf·fling** \-(ə-)liŋ\ [ME *ruffelen;* akin to LG *ruffelen* to crumple] *vt* **1 a** : ROUGHEN, ABRADE **b** : TROUBLE, VEX ⟨*ruffled* his composure⟩ **2** : to erect (as feathers) in or like a ruff **3 a** : to flip through (as pages) **b** : SHUFFLE **4** : to make into a ruffle ~ *vi* : to become ruffled ⟨their dispositions ~ perceptibly —*Life*⟩

2ruffle *n* **1** : a state or cause of irritation **2** : COMMOTION, BRAWL **3** : an unevenness or disturbance of surface : RIPPLE **4 a** : a strip of fabric gathered or pleated on one edge **b** : 2RUFF 2 — **ruf·fly** \'rəf-(ə-)lē\ *adj*

3ruffle *n* [*ruff* (a drumbeat)] : a low vibrating drumbeat less loud than a roll

ru·fous \'rü-fəs\ *adj* [L *rufus* red — more at RED] : REDDISH

rug \'rəg\ *n* [(assumed) ME, rag, tuft, of Scand origin; akin to ON *rögg* tuft; akin to L *ruere* to rush, fall, dig up, Skt *ravate* he breaks

up] **1** : a piece of thick heavy fabric that usu. has a nap or pile and is used as a floor covering **2** : a floor mat of an animal pelt ⟨a bearskin ~⟩ **3** : LAP ROBE

ru·ga \'rü-gə\ *n, pl* **ru·gae** \-ˌgī, -ˌgē, -ˌjē\ [NL, fr. L, wrinkle — more at ROUGH] : an anatomical fold or wrinkle esp. of the viscera — usu. used in pl. — **ru·gal** \'rü-gəl\ *adj* — **ru·gate** \-ˌgāt\ *adj*

rug·by \'rəg-bē\ *n, often cap* [*Rugby* School, Rugby, England] : a football game in which play is continuous without time-outs or substitutions, interference and forward passing are not permitted, and kicking, dribbling, lateral passing, and tackling are featured

rug·ged \'rəg-əd\ *adj* [ME, fr. (assumed) ME *rug*] **1** *obs* : SHAGGY, HAIRY **2** : having a rough uneven surface : JAGGED ⟨~ mountains⟩ **3** : TURBULENT, STORMY **4 a** : seamed with wrinkles and furrows : WEATHERED **b** : showing signs of strength : STURDY ⟨there was a certain ~ air of fidelity about him —Charles Dickens⟩ **5 a** : AUSTERE, STERN **b** : COARSE, RUDE **6 a** : strongly built or constituted ⟨those that survive are stalwart, ~ men —L. D. Stamp⟩ **b** : presenting a severe test of ability, stamina, or resolution ***syn*** see ROUGH — **rug·ged·ly** *adv* — **rug·ged·ness** *n*

rug·ged·ize \'rəg-əd-ˌīz\ *vt* **-ized; -iz·ing** : to strengthen (as a machine) for better resistance to wear, stress, and abuse ⟨a *ruggedized* camera⟩ — **rug·ged·iza·tion** \ˌrəg-əd-ə-'zā-shən\ *n*

rug·ger \'rəg-ər\ *n* [by alter.] *Brit* : RUGBY

ru·go·sa rose \rü-ˌgō-sə-, -zə-\ *n* [NL *rugosa*, specific epithet of *Rosa rugosa* rugose rose] : any of various garden roses descended from a rose introduced from China and Japan

ru·gose \'rü-ˌgōs\ *adj* [L *rugosus*, fr. *ruga*] **1** : full of wrinkles ⟨~ cheeks⟩ **2** : having the veinlets sunken and the spaces between elevated ⟨~ leaves of the sage⟩ — **ru·gose·ly** *adv* — **ru·gos·i·ty** \rü-'gäs-ət-ē\ *n*

ru·gu·lose \'rü-gyə-ˌlōs\ *adj* [prob. fr. (assumed) NL *rugulosus*, fr. NL *rugula*, dim. of L *ruga*] : having small rugae : finely wrinkled

Ruhm·korff coil \ˌrüm-ˌkȯrf-, ˌrüm-\ *n* [Heinrich *Ruhmkorff* †1877 G physicist] : INDUCTION COIL

¹ru·in \'rü-ən, -ˌin\ *n* [ME *ruine*, fr. MF, fr. L *ruina*; akin to L *ruere* to fall — more at RUG] **1 a** *archaic* : a falling down : COLLAPSE ⟨from age to age . . . the crash of ~ fitfully resounds —William Wordsworth⟩ **b** : physical, moral, economic, or social collapse **2 a** : the state of being ruined ⟨the city lay in ~*s*⟩ **b** : the remains of something destroyed — usu. used in pl. ⟨the ~*s* of the ancient world —William Hazlitt †1830⟩ **3** : a cause of destruction **4 a** : the action of destroying, laying waste, or wrecking **b** : DAMAGE, INJURY **5** : a ruined building, person, or object — **ru·in·ate** \-ə-ˌnət, -ˌnāt\ *adj* — **ru·in·ate** \-ˌnāt\ *vt*

syn RUIN, HAVOC, DEVASTATION, DESTRUCTION *shared meaning element* : the bringing about of or the results of disaster

²ruin *vt* **1** : to reduce to ruins : DEVASTATE **2 a** : to damage irreparably **b** : BANKRUPT, IMPOVERISH ⟨~*ed* by speculation⟩ **3** : to subject to frustration, failure, or disaster ⟨~*ed* his chances of promotion⟩ ~ *vi* : to become ruined — **ru·in·er** *n*

syn RUIN, WRECK, DILAPIDATE *shared meaning element* : to subject to forces that are destructive of soundness, worth, or usefulness

ru·in·ation \ˌrü-ə-'nā-shən\ *n* : RUIN, DESTRUCTION

ru·in·ous \'rü-ə-nəs\ *adj* **1** : DILAPIDATED, RUINED **2** : causing or tending to cause ruin — **ru·in·ous·ly** *adv* — **ru·in·ous·ness** *n*

¹rule \'rül\ *n* [ME *reule*, fr. OF, fr. L *regula* straightedge, rule, fr. *regere* to lead straight — more at RIGHT] **1 a** : a prescribed guide for conduct or action **b** : the laws or regulations prescribed by the founder of a religious order for observance by its members **c** : an accepted procedure, custom, or habit **d** (1) : a usu. written order or direction made by a court regulating court practice or the action of parties (2) : a legal precept or doctrine **e** : a regulation or bylaw governing procedure or controlling conduct **2 a** (1) : a usu. valid generalization ⟨such statements . . . should be the ~, rather than the exception —J. K. Javits⟩ (2) : a generally prevailing quality, state, or mode ⟨fair weather was the ~ yesterday — *N.Y. Times*⟩ **b** : a standard of judgment : CRITERION **c** : a regulating principle **3 a** : the exercise of authority or control : DOMINION **b** : a period during which a specified ruler or government exercises control **4 a** : a strip of material marked off in units used for measuring or ruling off lengths **b** : a metal strip with a type-high face that prints a linear design; *also* : the design so printed — **as a rule** : for the most part : GENERALLY

²rule *vb* **ruled; rul·ing** *vt* **1 a** : to exert control, direction, or influence on ⟨the superstitions that ~ primitive minds⟩ **b** : to exercise control over esp. by curbing or restraining ⟨~ a fractious horse⟩ ⟨*ruled* his appetites firmly⟩ **2 a** : to exercise authority or power over often harshly or arbitrarily ⟨the speaker *ruled* the legislature with an iron hand⟩ **b** : to be preeminent in : DOMINATE **3** : to determine and declare authoritatively; *esp* : to command or determine judicially **4 a** (1) : to mark with lines drawn along or as if along the straight edge of a ruler (2) : to mark (a line) on a paper with a ruler **b** : to arrange in a line ~ *vi* **1 a** : to exercise supreme authority **b** : to be first in importance or prominence : PREDOMINATE ⟨the physical did not ~ in her nature —Sherwood Anderson⟩ **2** : to exist in a specified state or condition **3** : to lay down a legal rule ***syn*** see GOVERN, DECIDE

ruled surface *n* : a surface generated by a moving straight line with the result that through every point on the surface a line can be drawn lying wholly in the surface

rule·less \'rül-ləs\ *adj* : not restrained or regulated by law

rule of the road : a customary practice (as driving always on a particular side of the road or yielding the right of way) developed in the interest of safety and often subsequently reinforced by law; *esp* : any of the rules making up a code governing ships in matters relating to mutual safety

rule of thumb **1** : a method of procedure based upon experience and common sense **2** : a general principle regarded as roughly correct but not intended to be scientifically accurate

rule out *vt* **1** : EXCLUDE, ELIMINATE **2** : to make impossible : PREVENT ⟨heavy rain *ruled out* the picnic⟩

rul·er \'rü-lər\ *n* **1** : one that rules; *specif* : SOVEREIGN **2** : a worker or a machine that rules paper **3** : a smooth-edged strip (as of wood or metal) that is usu. marked off in units (as inches) and is used for guiding a pen or pencil in drawing lines or for measuring — **rul·er·ship** \-ˌship\ *n*

¹rul·ing \'rü-liŋ\ *n* : an official or authoritative decision, decree, statement, or interpretation (as by a judge on a point of law)

²ruling *adj* **1 a** : exerting power or authority ⟨the ~ party⟩ **b** : CHIEF, PREDOMINATING ⟨a ~ passion⟩ **2** : generally prevailing

¹rum \'rəm\ *adj* **rum·mer; rum·mest** [earlier *rome*, perh. fr. Romany *rom* gypsy man] **1** *chiefly Brit* : QUEER, ODD ⟨writing is a ~ trade . . . and what is all right one day is all wrong the next —Angela Thirkell⟩ **2** *chiefly Brit* : DIFFICULT, DANGEROUS

²rum *n* [prob. short for obs. *rumbullion* (rum)] **1** : an alcoholic liquor distilled from a fermented cane product (as molasses) **2** : alcoholic liquor ⟨the demon ~⟩

Rum *abbr* Rumania; Rumanian

Ru·ma·nian \rü-'mā-nē-ən, -nyən\ *n* **1** : a native or inhabitant of Rumania **2** : the Romance language of the Rumanians — **Rumanian** *adj*

rum·ba \'rəm-bə, 'rüm-, 'rüm-\ *n* [AmerSp] : a ballroom dance of Cuban Negro origin in $^2/_4$ or $^4/_4$ time with a basic pattern of step-close-step and marked by a delayed transfer of weight and pronounced hip movements; *also* : the music for this dance

¹rum·ble \'rəm-bəl\ *vb* **rum·bled; rum·bling** \-b(ə-)liŋ\ [ME *rumblen*; akin to MHG *rummeln* to rumble] *vi* **1** : to make a low heavy rolling sound ⟨thunder *rumbling* in the distance⟩ **2** : to travel with a low reverberating sound ⟨wagons *rumbled* into town⟩ **3** : to speak in a low rolling tone **4** : to engage in a rumble ~ *vt* **1** : to utter or emit in a low rolling voice **2** : to polish or otherwise treat (metal parts) in a tumbling barrel — **rum·bler** \-b(ə-)lər\ *n*

²rumble *n* **1 a** : a low heavy continuous reverberating often muffled sound (as of thunder) **b** : low frequency noise in phonographic playback caused by the transmission of mechanical vibrations by the turntable to the pickup **2** : a seat for servants behind the body of a carriage **3** : TUMBLING BARREL **4 a** : widespread expression of dissatisfaction or unrest **b** : a street fight esp. among gangs

rumble seat *n* : a folding seat in the back of an automobile (as a coupe or roadster) not covered by the top

rum·bling \'rəm-bliŋ\ *n* **1** : RUMBLE **2** : general but unofficial talk or opinion often of dissatisfaction — usu. used in pl. ⟨occasional ~*s* about . . . government spending —Paul Potter⟩

rum·bly \'rəm-b(ə-)lē\ *adj* : tending to rumble or rattle

rum·bus·tious \ˌrəm-'bəs-chəs\ *adj* [alter. of *robustious*] *chiefly Brit* : RAMBUNCTIOUS

ru·men \'rü-mən\ *n, pl* **ru·mi·na** \-mə-nə\ *or* **rumens** [NL *rumin-, rumen*, fr. L, gullet] : the large first compartment of the stomach of a ruminant in which cellulose is broken down by the action of symbionts — **ru·mi·nal** \-mən-ᵊl\ *adj*

¹ru·mi·nant \'rü-mə-nənt\ *n* : a ruminant mammal

²ruminant *adj* **1 a** (1) : chewing the cud (2) : characterized by chewing again what has been swallowed **b** : of or relating to a suborder (Ruminantia) of even-toed hoofed mammals (as sheep, giraffes, deer, and camels) that chew the cud and have a complex 3- or 4-chambered stomach **2** : given to or engaged in contemplation : MEDITATIVE ⟨stood there with her hands clasped in this attitude of ~ relish —Thomas Wolfe⟩ — **ru·mi·nant·ly** *adv*

ru·mi·nate \'rü-mə-ˌnāt\ *vb* **-nat·ed; -nat·ing** [L *ruminatus*, pp. of *ruminari* to chew the cud, muse upon, fr. *rumin-, rumen* gullet; akin to Skt *romantha* ruminant] *vt* **1** : to go over in the mind repeatedly and often casually or slowly **2** : to chew repeatedly for an extended period ~ *vi* **1** : to chew again what has been chewed slightly and swallowed : chew the cud **2** : to engage in contemplation : REFLECT ***syn*** see PONDER — **ru·mi·na·tion** \ˌrü-mə-'nā-shən\ *n* — **ru·mi·na·tive** \'rü-mə-ˌnāt-iv\ *adj* — **ru·mi·na·tive·ly** *adv* — **ru·mi·na·tor** \-ˌnāt-ər\ *n*

¹rum·mage \'rəm-ij\ *n* [obs. E *rummage* act of packing cargo, modif. of MF *arrimage*] **1** : a thorough search esp. among a confusion of objects **2 a** : a confused miscellaneous collection **b** : items for sale at a rummage sale

²rummage *vb* **rum·maged; rum·mag·ing** *vt* **1** : to make a thorough search through : RANSACK ⟨*rummaged* the attic⟩ **2** : to discover by searching **3** : to examine minutely and completely ~ *vi* **1** : to make a thorough search or investigation **2** : to engage in an undirected or haphazard search — **rum·mag·er** *n*

rummage sale *n* : a usu. informal sale of miscellaneous goods; *esp* : a sale of donated articles conducted by a nonprofit organization (as a church or charity) to help support its programs

rum·mer \'rəm-ər\ *n* [G or D; G *römer*, fr. D *roemer*] : a large-bowled footed drinking glass often elaborately etched or engraved

¹rum·my \'rəm-ē\ *adj* **rum·mi·er; -est** : QUEER, ODD ⟨were still feeling a little ~ from our trip up the escalator —*New Yorker*⟩

²rummy *n, pl* **rummies** : DRUNKARD

³rummy *n* [perh. fr. ¹*rummy*] : any of several card games for two or more players in which each player tries to assemble groups of three or more cards of the same rank or suit and to be the first to meld all his cards

¹ru·mor \'rü-mər\ *n* [ME *rumour*, fr. MF, fr. L *rumor*; akin to OE *rēon* to lament, Gk *ōryesthai* to howl] **1** : talk or opinion widely disseminated with no discernible source : HEARSAY **2** : a statement or report current without known authority for its truth **3** : a soft low indistinct sound : MURMUR ***syn*** see REPORT

²rumor *vt* **ru·mored; ru·mor·ing** \'rüm-(ə-)riŋ\ : to tell or spread by rumor

ru·mor·mon·ger \-ˌməŋ-gər, -ˌmäŋ-\ *n* : one who spreads rumors

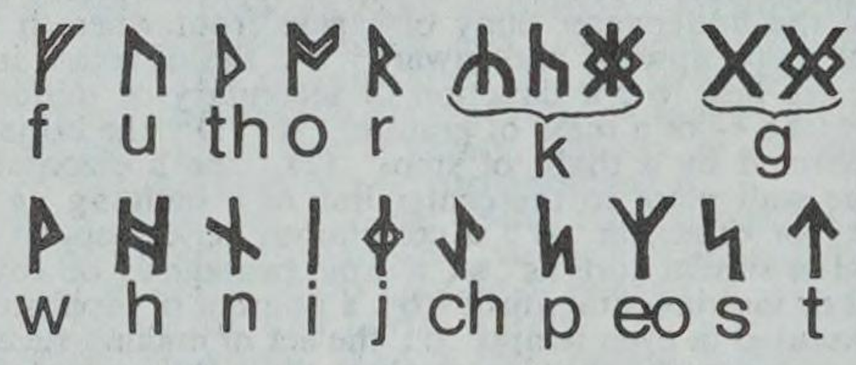
ru·mour \'rü-mər\ *chiefly Brit var of* RUMOR

rump \'rəmp\ *n* [ME, of Scand origin; akin to Icel *rumpr* rump; akin to MHG *rumph* torso] **1 a** : the upper rounded part of the hindquarters of a quadruped mammal **b** : BUTTOCKS **c** : the sacral or dorsal part of the posterior end of a bird **2** : a cut of beef between the loin and round — see BEEF illustration **3** : a small fragment remaining after the separation of the larger part of a group or an area; *esp* : a group (as a parliament) carrying on in the name of the original body after the departure or expulsion of a large number of its members

[1]rum·ple \'rəm-pəl\ *n* : FOLD, WRINKLE
[2]rumple *vb* **rum·pled; rum·pling** \-p(ə-)liŋ\ [D *rompelen;* akin to OHG *rimpfan* to wrinkle, L *curvus* curved] *vt* **1** : WRINKLE, CRUMPLE **2** : to make unkempt : TOUSLE ⟨~ his hair⟩ ~ *vi* : to become rumpled
rum·ply \'rəm-p(ə-)lē\ *adj* **rum·pli·er; -est** : having rumples
rum·pus \'rəm-pəs\ *n* [origin unknown] : a usu. noisy commotion
rumpus room *n* : a room usu. in the basement of a home that is used for games, parties, and recreation
rum·run·ner \'rəm-ˌrən-ər\ *n* : a person or ship engaged in bringing prohibited liquor ashore or across a border — **rum–run·ning** \-ˌrən-iŋ\ *adj*
[1]run \'rən\ *vb* **ran** \'ran\; **run; run·ning** [ME *ronnen,* alter. of *rinnen,* v.i. (fr. OE *iernan, rinnan* & ON *rinna*) & of *rennen,* v.t., fr. ON *renna;* akin to OHG *rinnan,* v.i., to run, OE *rīsan* to rise] *vi* **1 a** : to go faster than a walk; *specif* : to go steadily by springing steps so that both feet leave the ground for an instant in each step **b** *of a horse* : to move at a fast gallop **c** : FLEE, RETREAT, ESCAPE ⟨dropped his gun and *ran*⟩ **d** : to utilize a running play on offense — used of a football team **2 a** : to go without restraint : move freely about at will ⟨let his chickens ~ loose⟩ **b** : to keep company : CONSORT ⟨a ram *running* with ewes⟩ ⟨*ran* with a wild crowd when he was young⟩ **c** : to sail before the wind in distinction from reaching or sailing close-hauled **d** : ROAM, ROVE ⟨*running* about with no overcoat⟩ **3 a** : to go rapidly or hurriedly : HASTEN ⟨~ and fetch the doctor⟩ **b** : to go in urgency or distress : RESORT ⟨~*s* to his mother at every little difficulty⟩ **c** : to make a quick, easy, or casual trip or visit ⟨*ran* over to borrow some sugar⟩ **4 a** : to contend in a race **b** : to enter into an election contest **5 a** : to move on or as if on wheels : GLIDE ⟨file drawers *running* on ball bearings⟩ **b** : to roll forward rapidly or freely **c** : to pass or slide freely ⟨a rope ~*s* through the pulley⟩ **d** : to ravel lengthwise ⟨stockings guaranteed not to ~⟩ **6** : to sing or play a musical passage quickly ⟨~ up the scale⟩ **7 a** : to go back and forth : PLY ⟨the train ~*s* between New York and Washington⟩ **b** *of fish* : to migrate or move in schools; *esp* : to ascend a river to spawn **8 a** : TURN, ROTATE ⟨a swiftly *running* grindstone⟩ **b** : FUNCTION, OPERATE ⟨the engine ~*s* on gasoline⟩ **9 a** : to continue in force or operation ⟨the contract has two more years to ~⟩ **b** : to accompany as a valid obligation or right ⟨a right-of-way that ~*s* with the land⟩ **c** : to continue to accrue or become payable ⟨interest on the loan ~*s* from July 1st⟩ **10** : to pass from one state to another ⟨~ into debt⟩ **11 a** : to flow rapidly or under pressure **b** : MELT, FUSE **c** : SPREAD, DISSOLVE ⟨colors guaranteed not to ~⟩ **d** : to discharge pus or serum ⟨a *running* sore⟩ **12 a** : to develop rapidly in some specific direction; *esp* : to throw out an elongated shoot of growth **b** : to tend to produce or develop a specified quality or feature ⟨they ~ to big noses in that family⟩ **13 a** : to lie in or take a certain direction ⟨the boundary line ~*s* east⟩ **b** : to lie or extend in relation to something **c** : to go back : REACH **d** (1) : to be in a certain form or expression ⟨the letter ~*s* as follows⟩ (2) : to be in a certain order of succession **14 a** : to occur persistently ⟨musical talent ~*s* in his family⟩ **b** : to remain of a specified size, character, or quality ⟨profits were *running* high⟩ **c** : to exist or occur in a continuous range of variation ⟨shades ~ from white to dark gray⟩ **d** : to play on a stage a number of successive days or nights ⟨the musical *ran* for six months⟩ **15 a** : to spread or pass quickly from point to point ⟨chills *ran* up his spine⟩ **b** : to be current : CIRCULATE ⟨speculation *ran* rife on who would win⟩ ~ *vt* **1 a** : to cause (an animal) to go rapidly : ride or drive fast **b** : to bring to a specified condition by or as if by running ⟨*ran* himself to death⟩ **c** : to go in pursuit of : HUNT, CHASE ⟨dogs that ~ deer⟩ **d** : to follow the trail of backward : TRACE ⟨*ran* the rumor to its source⟩ **e** : to enter, register, or enroll as a contestant in a race **f** : to put forward as a candidate for office **2 a** : to drive (livestock) esp. to a grazing place **b** : to provide pasturage for (livestock) **c** : to keep or maintain (livestock) on or as if on pasturage **3 a** : to pass over or traverse with speed **b** : to accomplish or perform by or as if by running ⟨*ran* a great race⟩ ⟨*running* errands for a bank⟩ **c** : to slip through or past ⟨~ a blockade⟩ **4 a** : to cause to penetrate or enter : THRUST ⟨*ran* a splinter into his toe⟩ **b** : STITCH **c** : to cause to pass : LEAD ⟨~ a wire in from the antenna⟩ **d** : to cause to collide ⟨*ran* his head into a post⟩ **e** : SMUGGLE ⟨~ guns⟩ **5** : to cause to pass lightly or quickly over, along, or into something ⟨*ran* his eye down the list⟩ **6 a** : to cause or allow (as a vehicle or a vessel) to go in a specified manner or direction ⟨*ran* his car off the road⟩ **b** : OPERATE ⟨~ a lathe⟩ **c** : to carry on : MANAGE, CONDUCT ⟨~ a factory⟩ **7 a** : to be full of or drenched with ⟨streets *ran* blood⟩ **b** : CONTAIN, ASSAY **8** : to cause to move or flow in a specified way or into a specified position ⟨~ cards into a file⟩ **9 a** : to melt and cast in a mold ⟨~ bullets⟩ **b** : TREAT, PROCESS, REFINE ⟨~ oil in a still⟩ ⟨~ a problem through a computer⟩ **10** : to make oneself liable to : INCUR ⟨*ran* the risk of discovery⟩ **11** : to mark out : DRAW ⟨~ a contour line on a map⟩ **12** : to permit (as charges) to accumulate before settling ⟨~ an account at the grocery⟩ **13 a** : to run off ⟨a book to be ~ on lightweight paper⟩ **b** : to carry in a printed medium : PRINT **14 a** : to make (a series of counts) without a miss ⟨~ 19 in an inning in billiards⟩ **b** : to lead winning cards of (a suit) successively **15** : to make (a golf ball) roll forward after alighting — **run across** : to meet with or discover by chance — **run after** **1** : PURSUE, CHASE; *esp* : to seek the company of **2** : to take up with : FOLLOW ⟨*run after* new theories⟩ — **run against** **1** : to meet suddenly or unexpectedly **2** : to work or take effect unfavorably to : DISFAVOR, OPPOSE — **run a temperature** : to have a fever — **run false** : to save distance by running directly for the game instead of following the scent or track — **run foul of** **1** : to collide with ⟨*ran foul of* a hidden reef⟩ **2** : to come into conflict with ⟨*run foul of* the law⟩ — **run into** **1 a** : to change or transform into : BECOME **b** : to merge with **c** : to mount up to ⟨his yearly income often *runs into* six figures⟩ **2 a** : to collide with **b** : ENCOUNTER, MEET ⟨*ran into* an old classmate the other day⟩ — **run rings around** : to show marked superiority over : defeat decisively or overwhelmingly — **run riot** **1** : to act wildly or without restraint **2** : to occur in profusion — **run short** : to become insufficient — **run short of** : to use up — **run to** : to mount up to ⟨the book *runs to* 500 pages⟩ — **run upon** : to run across : meet with
[2]run *n* **1 a** : an act or the action of running : continued rapid movement **b** : a quickened gallop **c** (1) : the act of migrating or ascending a river to spawn (2) : an assemblage of fish that migrate or ascend a river to spawn **d** : a running race ⟨a mile ~⟩ **e** : a score made in baseball by a runner reaching home plate safely **f** : strength or ability to run ⟨two laps took most of the ~ out of him⟩ **g** : a gain of a usu. specified distance made on a running play in football ⟨a 25-yard ~⟩ **2 a** *chiefly Midland* : CREEK 2 **b** : something that flows in the course of a certain operation or during a certain time ⟨the first ~ of sap in sugar maples⟩ **3 a** : the stern of the underwater body of a ship from where it begins to curve or slope upward and inward **b** : the direction in which a vein of ore lies **c** : a direction of secondary or minor cleavage : GRAIN ⟨the ~ of a mass of granite⟩ **d** (1) : the horizontal distance covered by a flight of steps (2) : the horizontal distance from the wall plate to the center line of a building **e** : general tendency or direction **4** : a continuous series esp. of things of identical or similar sort: as **a** : a rapid passage up or down a scale in vocal or instrumental music **b** : a number of rapid small dance steps executed in even tempo **c** : the act of making successively a number of successful shots or strokes; *also* : the score thus made ⟨a ~ of 20 in billiards⟩ **d** : an unbroken course of performances or showings **e** : a set of consecutive measurements, readings, or observations **f** : persistent and heavy demands from depositors, creditors, or customers ⟨a ~ on a bank⟩ **g** : SEQUENCE 2b **5** : the quantity of work turned out in a continuous operation ⟨a newspaper press ~⟩ **6** : the usual or normal kind, character, type, or group ⟨the average ~ of students⟩ **7 a** : the distance covered in a period of continuous traveling or sailing **b** : a course or route esp. if mapped out and traveled with regularity : TRIP **c** : a news reporter's regular territory : BEAT **d** : the distance a golf ball travels after touching the ground **e** : freedom of movement in or access to a place or area ⟨has the ~ of the house⟩ **8 a** : the period during which a machine or plant is in continuous operation **b** : the use of machinery for a single set of processing procedures ⟨a computer ~⟩ **9 a** : a way, track, or path frequented by animals **b** : an enclosure for livestock where they may feed or exercise **c** *Austral* (1) : a large area of land used for grazing ⟨a sheep ~⟩ (2) : RANCH, STATION ⟨*run*-holder⟩ **d** : an inclined passageway **10 a** : an inclined course (as for skiing or bobsledding) **b** : a support (as a track, pipe, or trough) on which something runs **11 a** : a ravel in a knitted fabric (as in hosiery) caused by the breaking of stitches **b** : a paint defect caused by excessive flow — **in the long run** : in the course of sufficiently prolonged time, trial, or experience — **in the short run** : in the immediate future — **on the run** **1** : in haste : without pausing **2** : in retreat : running away
[3]run *adj* **1 a** : being in a melted state ⟨~ butter⟩ **b** : made from molten material : cast in a mold ⟨~ metal⟩ **2** *of fish* : having made a migration or spawning run ⟨a fresh ~ salmon⟩ **3** : exhausted or winded from running
run·about \'rən-ə-ˌbau̇t\ *n* **1** : one who wanders about : STRAY **2** : a light open wagon, roadster, or motorboat
run·a·gate \'rən-ə-ˌgāt\ *n* [alter. of *renegate,* fr. ML *renegatus* — more at RENEGADE] **1** : FUGITIVE, RUNAWAY **2** : VAGABOND
run along *vi* : to go away : be on one's way : DEPART
run·around \'rən-ə-ˌrau̇nd\ *n* **1** : matter typeset in shortened measure to run around something (as a cut) **2** : deceptive or delaying action esp. in response to a request
[1]run·away \'rən-ə-ˌwā\ *n* **1** : FUGITIVE **2** : the act of running away out of control; *also* : something (as a horse) that is running out of control **3** : a one-sided or overwhelming victory
[2]runaway *adj* **1 a** : running away : FUGITIVE **b** : leaving to gain special advantages (as lower wages) or avoid disadvantages (as governmental or union restrictions) ⟨~ shipping firms⟩ **2** : accomplished by elopement or during flight **3** : won by or having a long lead **4** : subject to uncontrolled changes ⟨~ inflation⟩
run away \ˌrən-ə-'wā\ *vi* **1 a** : FLEE, DESERT **b** : to leave home; *esp* : ELOPE **2** : to run out of control : STAMPEDE, BOLT **3** : to gain a substantial lead : win by a large margin — **run away with** **1** : to take away in haste or secretly; *esp* : STEAL **2** : to outshine the others in (a theatrical performance) **3** : to carry or drive beyond prudent or reasonable limits ⟨his imagination *ran away with* him⟩
run·back \'rən-ˌbak\ *n* : a run made in football after catching an opponent's kick or intercepting a pass
run·ci·ble spoon \ˌrən(t)-sə-bəl-\ *n* [coined with an obscure meaning by Edward Lear] : a sharp-edged fork with three broad curved prongs
run·ci·nate \'rən(t)-sə-ˌnāt\ *adj* [L *runcinatus,* pp. of *runcinare* to plane off, fr. *runcina* plane] : pinnately cut with the lobes pointing downward ⟨~ leaves of the dandelion⟩
run·dle \'rən-dᵊl\ *n* [ME *roundel* circle — more at ROUNDEL] **1** : a step of a ladder : RUNG **2** : the drum of a windlass or capstan
rund·let *or* **run·let** \'rən-(d)lət\ *n* [ME *roundelet* — more at ROUNDLET] **1** : a small barrel : KEG **2** : an old unit of liquid capacity equal to 18 U.S. gallons
run·down \'rən-ˌdau̇n\ *n* **1** : a maneuver in baseball in which a base runner who is caught off base is chased by two or more opposing players who throw the ball from one to another in an attempt to tag him out **2** : an item-by-item report : SUMMARY
run–down \'rən-'dau̇n\ *adj* **1** : being in poor repair : DILAPIDATED **2** : worn out : EXHAUSTED **3** : completely unwound
run down \'rən-'dau̇n, ˌrən-\ *vt* **1 a** : to collide with and knock down **b** : to run against and cause to sink **2 a** : to chase to

exhaustion or until captured **b** : to find by search : trace the source of **c** : to tag out (a base runner) between bases on a run-down **3** : DISPARAGE ~ *vi* **1** : to cease to operate because of the exhaustion of motive power ⟨that clock *ran down* hours ago⟩ **2** : to decline in physical condition

rune \'rün\ *n* [ON & OE *rūn* mystery, runic character, writing; akin to OHG *rūna* secret discussion] **1** : one of the characters of an alphabet prob. derived from Latin and Greek and used by the Germanic peoples from about the 3d to the 13th centuries **2** : MYSTERY, MAGIC **3** [Finn *runo*, of Gmc origin; akin to ON *rūn*] **a** : a Finnish or Old Norse poem **b** : POEM, SONG — **ru·nic** \'rü-nik\ *adj*



the runic alphabet

[1]rung *past part of* RING

[2]rung \'rəŋ\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *hrung*; akin to OE *hring* ring — more at RING] **1** *Scot* : a heavy staff or cudgel **2** : a spoke of a wheel **3** **a** : a rounded part placed as a crosspiece between the legs of a chair **b** : one of the crosspieces of a ladder **4** : a stage in an ascent ⟨rise a few ~*s* on the social scale —H. W. Van Loon⟩

run–in \'rən-ˌin\ *n* **1** : something inserted as a substantial addition in copy or typeset matter **2** : ALTERCATION, QUARREL

run in \'rən-'in, ˌrən-\ *vt* **1** **a** : to make (typeset matter) continuous without a paragraph or other break **b** : to insert as additional matter **2** : to arrest for a minor offense **3** : to break in ~ *vi* : to pay a casual visit

run·less \'rən-ləs\ *adj* : scoring no runs

run·let \'rən-lət\ *n* : RUNNEL

run·nel \'rən-ᵊl\ *n* [alter. of ME *rinel*, fr. OE *rynel*; akin to OE *rinnan* to run — more at RUN] : RIVULET, STREAMLET

run·ner \'rən-ər\ *n* **1** **a** : one that runs : RACER **b** : BASE RUNNER **c** : BALLCARRIER **2** **a** : MESSENGER **b** : one that smuggles or distributes illicit or contraband goods (as drugs, liquor, or guns) **3** : any of various large active carangid fishes **4** **a** : either of the longitudinal pieces on which a sled or sleigh slides **b** : the part of a skate that slides on the ice : BLADE **c** : the support of a drawer or a sliding door **5** **a** : a growth produced by a plant in running; *esp* : STOLON 1a **b** : a plant that forms or spreads by means of runners **c** : a twining vine (as a scarlet runner) **6** **a** : a long narrow carpet for a hall or staircase **b** : a narrow decorative cloth cover for a table or dresser top

runner bean *n, chiefly Brit* : SCARLET RUNNER

run·ner–up \'rən-ə-ˌrəp, ˌrən-ə-'\ *n, pl* **runners–up** *also* **runner–ups** : the competitor that finishes next to the winner in a contest involving several competitors

[1]run·ning \'rən-iŋ\ *n* **1** **a** : the action of running **b** : RACE **2** : physical condition for running **3** : MANAGEMENT, CARE — **in the running** **1** : competing in a contest **2** : having a chance to win a contest — **out of the running** **1** : not competing in a contest **2** : having no chance of winning a contest

[2]running *adj* **1** : FLUID, RUNNY **2** **a** : INCESSANT, CONTINUOUS ⟨a ~ battle⟩ **b** : made during the course of a process or activity ⟨a ~ commentary on the game⟩ **3** : measured in a straight line ⟨cost of lumber per ~ foot⟩ **4** : CURSIVE, FLOWING **5** **a** : initiated or performed while running or with a running start ⟨~ catch⟩ **b** : of, relating to, used in, or being a football play in which the ball is advanced by running rather than by passing ⟨their ~ game was off⟩ ⟨a ~ back⟩ **c** : designed for use for foot races ⟨a ~ track⟩ **6** : fitted or trained for running rather than walking, trotting, or jumping ⟨a ~ horse⟩

[3]running *adv* : in succession : CONSECUTIVELY ⟨for three days ~⟩

running board *n* : a footboard esp. at the side of an automobile

running gear *n* **1** : the parts of an automobile chassis not used in developing, transmitting, and controlling power **2** : the working and carrying parts of a machine (as a locomotive)

running hand *n* : handwriting in which the letters are usu. slanted and the words formed without lifting the pen

running head *n* : a headline repeated on consecutive pages (as of a book) — called also *running headline*

running knot *n* : a knot that slips along the rope or line round which it is tied; *esp* : an overhand slipknot

running light *n* : one of the lights carried by a vehicle (as a ship) under way at night that indicate size, position, and direction

running mate *n* **1** : a horse entered in a race to set the pace for a horse of the same owner or stable **2** : a candidate running for a subordinate place on a ticket; *esp* : the candidate for vice-president **3** : COMPANION

running start *n* : FLYING START

running stitch *n* : a small even stitch run in and out in cloth

running title *n* : the title or short title of a volume printed at the top of left-hand text pages or sometimes of all text pages

run·ny \'rən-ē\ *adj* : having a tendency to run ⟨a ~ nose⟩

run·off \'rən-ˌȯf\ *n* **1** : the portion of the precipitation on the land that ultimately reaches streams; *esp* : the water from rain or melted snow that flows over the surface **2** : a final race, contest, or election to decide an earlier one that has not resulted in a decision in favor of any one competitor

run off \'rən-'ȯf, ˌrən-\ *vt* **1** **a** : to recite or compose rapidly or glibly **b** : to produce copies (as with a printing press) **c** : to cause to be run or played to a finish **d** : to decide (as a race) by a runoff **e** : to carry out (a test) **2** : to draw off : drain off **3** **a** : to drive off (as trespassers) **b** : to steal (as cattle) by driving away ~ *vi* : to run away — **run off with** : to carry off : STEAL

run–of–paper \ˌrən-əv-'pā-pər\ *adj* : to be placed anywhere in a newspaper at the option of the editor ⟨~ advertisement⟩

run–of–the–mill \ˌrən-ə(v)-thə-'mil\ *adj* : not outstanding in quality or rarity : AVERAGE

run–of–the–mine \-'mīn\ *or* **run–of–mine** \-əv-'mīn\ *adj* **1** : not graded ⟨~ coal⟩ **2** : RUN-OF-THE-MILL

[1]run–on \'rən-'ȯn, -'än\ *adj* : continuing without rhetorical pause from one line of verse into another

[2]run–on \-ˌȯn, -ˌän\ *n* : something (as a dictionary entry) that is run on

run on \'rən-'ȯn, ˌrən-, -'än\ *vi* **1** : to keep going : CONTINUE **2** : to talk or narrate at length ~ *vt* **1** : to continue (matter in type) without a break or a new paragraph : run in **2** : to place or add (as an entry in a dictionary) at the end of a paragraphed item

run–on sentence *n* : a sentence containing a comma fault

run out *vi* **1** **a** : to come to an end : EXPIRE ⟨time *ran out*⟩ **b** : to become exhausted or used up : FAIL ⟨the gasoline *ran out*⟩ **2** : to jut out ~ *vt* **1** : to finish out (as a course, series, or contest) : COMPLETE **2** **a** : to fill out (a line) with quads, leaders, or ornaments **b** : to set (as the first line of a paragraph) with a hanging indention **3** : to exhaust (oneself) in running **4** : to cause to leave by force or coercion : EXPEL — **run out of** : to use up the available supply of — **run out on** : DESERT

run·over \'rən-ˌō-vər\ *n* : matter for publication that exceeds the space allotted

run–over \'rən-'ō-vər\ *adj* : extending beyond the allotted space

run over \ˌrən-'ō-vər\ *vi* **1** : OVERFLOW **2** : to exceed a limit ~ *vt* **1** : to go over, examine, repeat, or rehearse quickly **2** : to collide with, knock down, and often drive over ⟨*ran over* a dog⟩

runt \'rənt\ *n* [origin unknown] **1** *chiefly Scot* : a hardened stalk or stem of a plant **2** : an animal unusually small of its kind; *esp* : the smallest of a litter of pigs **3** : a person of small stature — **runt·i·ness** \'rənt-ē-nəs\ *n* — **runty** \'rənt-ē\ *adj*

run–through \'rən-ˌthrü\ *n* : a cursory reading, summary, or rehearsal

run through \ˌrən-'thrü\ *vt* **1** : PIERCE **2** : to spend or consume wastefully and rapidly **3** : to read or rehearse without pausing **4** **a** : to carry out : DO **b** : to subject to a process

run up *vi* : to grow rapidly : shoot up ~ *vt* **1** : to increase by bidding : bid up **2** : to stitch together quickly **3** : to erect hastily **4** : to run (an aircraft engine) at high speed for testing, checking, or warming

run·way \'rən-ˌwā\ *n* **1** : the channel of a stream **2** **a** : a beaten path made by animals **b** : a passageway for animals **3** : an artificially surfaced strip of ground on a landing field for the landing and takeoff of airplanes **4** : a narrow platform from a stage into an auditorium **5** : RUN 10b

ru·pee \rü-'pē, 'rü-ˌpē\ *n* [Hindi *rūpaiyā*, fr. Skt *rūpya* coined silver] — see MONEY table

ru·pi·ah \rü-'pē-ə\ *n, pl* **rupiah** *or* **rupiahs** [Hindi *rūpaiyā*] — see MONEY table

ru·pic·o·lous \rü-'pik-ə-ləs\ *or* **ru·pic·o·line** \-ˌlīn\ *adj* [L *rupes* rock + *-cola* inhabitant; akin to L *rumpere* — more at WHEEL] : living among, inhabiting, or growing on rocks

[1]rup·ture \'rəp-chər\ *n* [ME *ruptur*, fr. MF or L; MF *rupture*, fr. L *ruptura* fracture, fr. *ruptus*, pp. of *rumpere* to break — more at REAVE] **1** : breach of peace or concord; *specif* : open hostility or war between nations **2** **a** : the tearing apart of a tissue ⟨~ of the heart muscle⟩ ⟨~ of an intervertebral disk⟩ **b** : HERNIA **3** : a breaking apart or the state of being broken apart

[2]rupture *vb* **rup·tured; rup·tur·ing** \-chə-riŋ, -shriŋ\ *vt* **1** **a** : to part by violence : BREAK, BURST **b** : to create or induce a breach of **2** : to produce a rupture in ~ *vi* : to have or undergo a rupture

ru·ral \'růr-əl\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *ruralis*, fr. *rur-*, *rus* open land — more at ROOM] : of or relating to the country, country people or life, or agriculture — **ru·ral·i·ty** \rů-'ral-ət-ē\ *n* — **ru·ral·ly** \-ə-lē\ *adv*

syn RURAL, RUSTIC, PASTORAL, BUCOLIC *shared meaning element* : relating to or characteristic of the country. RURAL, the comprehensive turn, implies a contrast to *urban* ⟨they were well-off by *rural* standards⟩ ⟨a peaceful *rural* scene⟩ RUSTIC, often interchangeable with *rural*, is more likely to be chosen to describe less pleasing aspects of country life ⟨rude carts, bespattered with *rustic* mire —Charles Dickens⟩ or to stress a contrast with the refinements of city or town ⟨if education had not meddled with her *rustic* nature —Jean Stafford⟩ PASTORAL implies an idealized rusticity and separation from urban bustle ⟨*pastoral* dales, thin-set with modest farms —William Wordsworth⟩ BUCOLIC, a curiously dichotomous word, may come close to *pastoral* in stressing rural peace and charm ⟨there is here a *bucolic* atmosphere of peculiar beauty and inspiration —Sacheverell Sitwell⟩ or approach *rustic* in emphasizing the crudity and lack of refinement of rural life or people ⟨unable long to stand the *bucolic* tedium⟩

rural dean *n* : DEAN 1b

rural free delivery *n* : free delivery of mail to a rural area — called also *rural delivery*

ru·ral·ist \'růr-ə-ləst\ *n* : one who lives in a rural area

rural route *n* : a mail-delivery route in a rural free delivery area

rur·ban \'rər-bən, 'rů(ə)r-\ *adj* [blend of *rural* and *urban*] : of, relating to, or constituting an area which is chiefly residential but where some farming is carried on

Ru·ri·tan \'růr-ə-tən\ *n* [*Ruritan National* (club)] : a member of a major national service club

ruse \'rüs, 'rüz\ *n* [F, fr. MF, fr. *ruser* to dodge, deceive] : a wily subterfuge ***syn*** see TRICK

[1]rush \'rəsh\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *risc;* akin to MHG *rusch* rush, L *restis* rope] : any of various monocotyledonous often tufted marsh plants (as of the genera *Juncus* and *Scirpus* of the family Juncaceae, the rush family) with cylindrical often hollow stems which are used in bottoming chairs and plaiting mats — **rushy** \-ē\ *adj*

[2]rush *vb* [ME *russhen*, fr. MF *ruser* to put to flight, repel, deceive, fr. L *recusare* to refuse — more at RECUSANCY] *vi* **1** : to move forward, progress, or act with haste or eagerness or without preparation **2** : to advance a football by running plays ⟨~*ed* for a total of 150 yards⟩ ~ *vt* **1** : to push or impel on or forward with speed, impetuosity, or violence **2** : to perform in a short time or at high speed **3** : to urge to an unnatural or extreme speed **4** : to run toward or against in attack : CHARGE **5** **a** : to carry (a ball) forward in a running play **b** : to move in quickly on (a kicker or passer) to hinder, prevent, or block a kick or pass — used esp. of defensive linemen **6** **a** : to lavish attention on : COURT **b** : to try to secure a pledge of membership (as in a fraternity) from

[3]rush *n* **1** **a** : a violent forward motion **b** : ONSET, ATTACK **c** : a surging of emotion **2** **a** : a burst of activity, productivity, or speed **b** : a sudden insistent demand **3** : a thronging of people usu. to a new place in search of wealth ⟨gold ~⟩ **4** : the act of carrying a football during a game : running play **5** : a round of attention usu. involving extensive social activity **6** : a print of a motion-picture scene processed directly after the shooting for review by the director or producer **7** : the first rapid excitation produced by a narcotic drug

[4]rush *adj* : requiring or marked by special speed or urgency ⟨~ orders⟩ ⟨the ~ season⟩

rush candle *n* : RUSHLIGHT

rush·ee \ˌrəsh-'ē\ *n* : a college or university student who is being rushed by a fraternity or sorority

rush·er \'rəsh-ər\ *n* : one that rushes; *esp* : BALLCARRIER

rush hour *n* : a period of the day when the demands esp. of traffic or business are at a peak

rush·ing *n* : the act of advancing a football by running plays : the use of running plays; *also* : yardage gained by running plays

rush·light \'rəsh-ˌlīt\ *n* : a candle that consists of the pith of a rush dipped in grease

rusk \'rəsk\ *n* [modif. of Sp & Pg *rosca* coil, twisted roll] **1** : hard crisp bread orig. used as ship's stores **2** : a sweet or plain bread baked, sliced, and baked again until dry and crisp

[1]Russ \'rəs, 'rüs, 'růs\ *n, pl* **Russ** *or* **Russ·es** [Russ *Rus'*] : RUSSIAN — **Russ** *adj*

[2]Russ *abbr* Russia; Russian

[1]rus·set \'rəs-ət\ *n* [ME, fr. OF *rousset*, fr. *rousset*, adj., russet, fr. *rous* russet, fr. L *russus* red; akin to L *ruber* red — more at RED] **1** : coarse homespun usu. reddish brown cloth **2** : a variable color averaging a strong brown **3** : any of various winter apples having russet rough skins

[2]russet *adj* : of the color russet

rus·set·ing *also* **rus·set·ting** \'rəs-ət-iŋ\ *n* : a brownish roughened area on the skin of fruit (as apples) caused by injury

Rus·sia leather \ˌrəsh-ə-\ *n* [*Russia*, Europe] : leather made by tanning various skins with willow, birch, or oak and then rubbing the flesh side with a phenolic oil distilled from a European birch — called also *Russia calf*

Rus·sian \'rəsh-ən\ *n* **1** **a** : a native or inhabitant of Russia; *esp* : a member of the dominant Slavic-speaking Great Russian ethnic group of Russia **b** : one that is of Russian descent **2** **a** : a Slavic language of the Russian people that is the official language of the U.S.S.R. **b** : the three Slavic languages of the Russian people including Belorussian and Ukrainian — **Russian** *adj*

Russian blue *n, often cap B* : a slender long-bodied large-eared domestic cat with short silky bluish gray fur

Russian dressing *n* : a dressing (as of mayonnaise or oil and vinegar) with added chili sauce, chopped pickles, or pimientos

rus·sian·ize \'rəsh-ə-ˌnīz\ *vt* **-ized; -iz·ing** *often cap* : to make Russian — **rus·sian·iza·tion** \ˌrəsh-ə-nə-'zā-shən\ *n*

Russian olive *n* : a chiefly silvery Eurasian large shrub or small tree (*Elaeagnus angustifolia*) cultivated in arid windy regions esp. as a shelterbelt plant

Russian roulette *n* : an act of bravado consisting of spinning the cylinder of a revolver loaded with one cartridge, pointing the muzzle at one's own head, and pulling the trigger

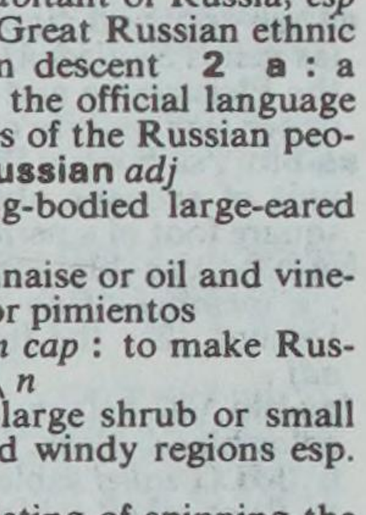
Russian thistle *n* : a prickly European herb (*Salsola kali tenuifolia*) that is a serious pest in No. America — called also *Russian tumbleweed*

Russian wolfhound *n* : BORZOI

rus·si·fy \'rəs-ə-ˌfī\ *vt* **-fied; -fy·ing** *often cap* : RUSSIANIZE — **rus·si·fi·ca·tion** \ˌrəs-ə-fə-'kā-shən\ *n*

Rus·so- *comb form* [*Russia & Russian*] **1** \ˌrəs-ə, 'rəs-, -ō\ : Russia : Russians ⟨*Russo*phobia⟩ **2** \'rəs(h)-(ˌ)ō, ˌrəs(h)-\ : Russian and ⟨*Russo*-Japanese⟩

[1]rust \'rəst\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *rūst;* akin to OE *rēad* red — more at RED] **1** **a** : the reddish brittle coating formed on iron esp. when chemically attacked by moist air and composed essentially of hydrated ferric oxide **b** : a comparable coating produced on a metal other than iron by corrosion **c** : something resembling rust : ACCRETION **2** : corrosive or injurious influence or effect **3** : any of numerous destructive diseases of plants produced by fungi (order Uredinales) and characterized by reddish brown pustular lesions; *also* : a fungus causing this **4** : a strong brown



rust 3: natural size on wheat; magnified to show spores

[2]rust *vi* **1** : to form rust : become oxidized ⟨iron ~*s*⟩ **2** : to degenerate esp. from inaction, lack of use, or passage of time ⟨most men would . . . have allowed their faculties to ~ —T. B. Macaulay⟩ **3** : to become reddish brown as if with rust ⟨the leaves slowly ~*ed*⟩ **4** : to be affected with a rust fungus ~ *vt* **1** : to cause (a metal) to form rust ⟨keep up your bright swords, for the dew will ~ them —Shak.⟩ **2** : to impair or corrode by or as if by time, inactivity, or deleterious use **3** : to cause to become reddish brown : turn the color of rust

[1]rus·tic \'rəs-tik\ *also* **rus·ti·cal** \-ti-kəl\ *adj* [ME *rustik*, fr. MF *rustique*, fr. L *rusticus*, fr. *rus* open land — more at ROOM] **1** : of, relating to, or suitable for the country : RURAL **2** **a** : made of the rough limbs of trees ⟨~ furniture⟩ **b** : finished by rusticating ⟨a ~ joint in masonry⟩ **3** **a** : characteristic of or resembling country people **b** : lacking in social graces or polish **4** : appropriate to the country (as in plainness or sturdiness) ⟨heavy ~ boots⟩ ***syn*** see RURAL — **rus·ti·cal·ly** \-ti-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **rus·tic·i·ty** \ˌrəs-'tis-ət-ē\ *n*

[2]rustic *n* **1** : an inhabitant of a rural area **2** **a** : an awkward coarse person **b** : an unsophisticated rural person

rus·ti·cate \'rəs-ti-ˌkāt\ *vb* **-cat·ed; -cat·ing** *vi* : to go into or reside in the country : follow a rustic life ~ *vt* **1** : to suspend from school or college **2** : to bevel or rebate (as the edges of stone blocks) to make the joints conspicuous ⟨a *rusticated* stone wall⟩ **3** **a** : to compel to reside in the country **b** : to cause to become rustic : implant rustic mannerisms in — **rus·ti·ca·tion** \ˌrəs-ti-'kā-shən\ *n* — **rus·ti·ca·tor** \'rəs-ti-ˌkāt-ər\ *n*

[1]rus·tle \'rəs-əl\ *vb* **rus·tled; rus·tling** \'rəs-(ə-)liŋ\ [ME *rustelen*] *vi* **1** : to make or cause a rustle **2** **a** : to act or move with energy or speed **b** : to forage food **3** : to steal cattle ~ *vt* **1** : to cause to rustle **2** : to procure by rustling; *esp* : FORAGE **3** : to take (as cattle) feloniously : STEAL — **rus·tler** \-(ə-)lər\ *n*

[2]rustle *n* : a quick succession or confusion of small sounds

rust mite *n* : any of various small gall mites that burrow in the surface of leaves or fruits usu. producing brown or reddish patches

rust·proof \'rəst-'prüf\ *adj* : incapable of rusting

[1]rusty \'rəs-tē\ *adj* **rust·i·er; -est** **1** : affected by or as if by rust; *esp* : stiff with or as if with rust **2** : inept and slow through lack of practice or old age **3** **a** : of the color rust **b** : dulled in color or appearance by age and use ⟨a ~ old suit of clothes⟩ **4** : OUTMODED **5** : HOARSE, GRATING — **rust·i·ly** \-tə-lē\ *adv* — **rust·i·ness** \-tē-nəs\ *n*

[2]rus·ty \'rəs-tē\ *adj* **rus·ti·er; -est** [alter. of *restive*] *chiefly dial* : ill-tempered : SURLY

[1]rut \'rət\ *n* [ME *rutte*, fr. MF *rut* roar, fr. LL *rugitus*, fr. L *rugitus*, pp. of *rugire* to roar; akin to OE *rēoc* wild, MIr *rucht* roar] **1** : an annually recurrent state of sexual excitement in the male deer; *broadly* : sexual excitement in a mammal esp. when periodic : ESTRUS, HEAT **2** : the period during which rut normally occurs — often used with *the*

[2]rut *vi* **rut·ted; rut·ting** : to be in or enter into a state of rut

[3]rut *n* [perh. modif. of MF *route* way, route] **1** **a** : a track worn by a wheel or by habitual passage **b** : a groove in which something runs **c** : CHANNEL, FURROW **2** : a usual or fixed practice; *esp* : a monotonous routine ⟨fall easily into a conversational ~⟩

[4]rut *vt* **rut·ted; rut·ting** : to make a rut in : FURROW

ru·ta·ba·ga \ˌrüt-ə-'bā-gə, ˌrůt-, -'beg-ə\ *n* [Sw dial. *rotabagge*, fr. *rot* root + *bagge* bag] : a turnip (*Brassica napobrassica*) commonly with a very large yellowish root

ruth \'rüth\ *n* [ME *ruthe*, fr. *ruen* to rue] **1** : compassion for the misery of another **2** : sorrow for one's own faults : REMORSE ***syn*** see SYMPATHY

Ruth \'rüth\ *n* [Heb *Rūth*] **1** : a Moabite woman who accompanied Naomi to Bethlehem and became the ancestress of David **2** : a short narrative book of canonical Jewish and Christian Scriptures — see BIBLE table

ru·the·nic \rü-'then-ik, -'thē-nik\ *adj* : of, relating to, or derived from ruthenium esp. with a relatively high valence

ru·the·ni·ous \rü-'thē-nē-əs\ *adj* : of, relating to, or derived from ruthenium esp. with a relatively low valence

ru·the·ni·um \-nē-əm\ *n* [NL, fr. ML *Ruthenia* Russia] : a hard brittle grayish polyvalent rare metallic element occurring in platinum ores and used in hardening platinum alloys — see ELEMENT table

Ruth·er·ford atom \ˌrəth-ə(r)-fərd-\ *n* [Baron Ernest *Rutherford*] : the atom held to consist of a small dense positively charged nucleus surrounded by planetary electrons

ruth·ful \'rüth-fəl\ *adj* **1** : full of ruth : TENDER **2** : full of sorrow : WOEFUL **3** : causing sorrow — **ruth·ful·ly** \-fə-lē\ *adv* — **ruth·ful·ness** *n*

ruth·less \'rüth-ləs *also* 'růth-\ *adj* : having no ruth : MERCILESS, CRUEL — **ruth·less·ly** *adv* — **ruth·less·ness** *n*

ru·ti·lant \'rüt-ᵊl-ənt\ *adj* [ME *rutilaunt*, fr. L *rutilant-*, *rutilans*, pp. of *rutilare* to be reddish, fr. *rutilus* reddish; akin to L *ruber* red — more at RED] : having a reddish glow

ru·tile \'rü-ˌtēl\ *n* [G *rutil*, fr. L *rutilus* reddish] : a mineral TiO_2 that consists of titanium dioxide usu. with a little iron, is typically of a reddish brown color but sometimes deep red or black, and has a brilliant metallic or adamantine luster

Rutland *abbr* Rutlandshire

rut·tish \'rət-ish\ *adj* : inclined to rut : LUSTFUL — **rut·tish·ly** *adv* — **rut·tish·ness** *n*

rut·ty \'rət-ē\ *adj* **rut·ti·er; -est** : full of ruts

RW *abbr* **1** radiological warfare **2** right worshipful **3** right worthy

rwy *or* **ry** *abbr* railway

Rx \'är-'eks\ *n* [alter. of ℞, symbol used at the beginning of a prescription, abbr. for L *recipe* — more at RECIPE] : a medical prescription

-ry \rē\ *n suffix* [ME *-rie*, fr. OF, short for *-erie* -ery] : -ERY ⟨wizard*ry*⟩ ⟨citizen*ry*⟩ ⟨ancient*ry*⟩

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rya \'rē-ə\ *n* [*Rya*, village in southwest Sweden] : a Scandinavian handwoven rug with a deep resilient comparatively flat pile; *also* : the weave typical of this rug

[1]rye \'rī\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *ryge*; akin to OHG *rocko* rye, Lith *rugys*] **1** : a hardy annual grass (*Secale cereale*) that is widely grown for grain and as a cover crop **2** : the seeds of rye **3** : RYE BREAD **4** : RYE WHISKEY

[2]rye *n* [Romany *rai*, fr. Skt *rājan* king — more at ROYAL] : a male gypsy

rye bread *n* : bread made wholly or in part of rye flour; *esp* : a light bread often with caraway seeds

rye-grass \'rī-ˌgras\ *n* : any of several grasses (genus *Lolium*); *esp* : either of two grasses (*L. perenne* and *L. multiflorum*) that are used esp. for pasture and as cover crops in the southern U.S. and in New Zealand

rye whiskey *n* : a whiskey distilled from rye or from rye and malt

S

[1]s \'es\ *n, pl* **s's** *or* **ss** \'es-əz\, *often cap, often attrib* **1 a** : the 19th letter of the English alphabet **b** : a graphic representation of this letter **c** : a speech counterpart of orthographic *s* **2** : a graphic device for reproducing the letter *s* **3** : one designated *s* esp. as the 19th in order or class **4** [abbr. for *satisfactory*] **a** : a grade rating a student's work as satisfactory **b** : one graded or rated with an S **5** : something shaped like the letter S

[2]s *abbr, often cap* **1** sabbath **2** saint **3** schilling **4** scruple **5** second; secondary **6** section **7** semi **8** senate **9** series **10** shilling **11** [L *signa*] label **12** signor **13** sine **14** singular **15** small **16** smooth **17** snow **18** society **19** son **20** sou **21** south; southern **22** stere **23** subject **24** symmetrical

[1]-s \s *after a voiceless consonant sound, z after a voiced consonant sound or a vowel sound*\ *n pl suffix* [ME *-es, -s*, fr. OE *-as*, nom. & acc. pl. ending of some masc. nouns; akin to OS *-os*] **1** — used to form the plural of most nouns that do not end in *s, z, sh, ch*, or postconsonantal *y* ⟨heads⟩ ⟨books⟩ ⟨boys⟩ ⟨beliefs⟩, to form the plural of proper nouns that end in postconsonantal *y* ⟨Marys⟩, and with or without a preceding apostrophe to form the plural of abbreviations, numbers, letters, and symbols used as nouns ⟨MCs⟩ ⟨Ph.D.'s⟩ ⟨4s⟩ ⟨the 1940's⟩ ⟨$s⟩ ⟨B's⟩; compare [1]-ES 1 **2** [ME *-es, -s*, pl. ending of nouns, fr. *-es*, gen. sing. ending of nouns (functioning adverbially), fr. OE *-es*] — used to form adverbs denoting usual or repeated action or state ⟨always at home Sundays⟩ ⟨mornings he stops by the newsstand⟩

[2]-s *vb suffix* [ME (Northern & North Midland dial.) *-es*, fr. OE (Northumbrian dial.) *-es, -as*, prob. fr. OE *-es, -as*, 2d sing. pres. indic. ending — more at -EST] — used to form the third person singular present of most verbs that do not end in *s, z, sh, ch*, or postconsonantal *y* ⟨falls⟩ ⟨takes⟩ ⟨plays⟩; compare [2]-ES

[1]'s *like* -'s\ *vb* [contr. of *is, has, does*] **1** : IS ⟨she's here⟩ **2** : HAS ⟨he's seen them⟩ **3** : DOES ⟨what's he want?⟩

[2]'s \s\ *pron* [by contr.] : US — used with *let* ⟨let's⟩

-'s \s *after voiceless consonant sounds other than* s, sh, ch; z *after vowel sounds and voiced consonant sounds other than* z, zh, j; əz *after* s, sh, ch, z, zh, j\ *n suffix or pron suffix* [ME *-es, -s*, gen. sing. ending, fr. OE *-es*; akin to OHG *-es*, gen. sing. ending, Gk *-oio, -ou*, Skt *-asya*] — used to form the possessive of singular nouns ⟨boy's⟩, of plural nouns not ending in *s* ⟨children's⟩, of some pronouns ⟨anyone's⟩, and of word groups functioning as nouns ⟨the man in the corner's hat⟩ or pronouns ⟨someone else's⟩

S *symbol* **1** entropy **2** standard deviation of a sample **3** sulfur **4** svedberg

SA *abbr* **1** Salvation Army **2** seaman apprentice **3** sex appeal **4** [L *sine anno* without year] without date **5** South Africa **6** South America **7** South Australia **8** subject to approval

Saa·nen \'sän-ən, 'zän-\ *n* [*Saanen*, locality in southwest Switzerland] : any of a Swiss breed of usu. white and hornless short-haired dairy goats

sab·a·dil·la \ˌsab-ə-'dil-ə, -'dē-(y)ə\ *n* [Sp *cebadilla*] : a Mexican plant (*Schoenocaulon officinalis*) of the lily family; *also* : its seeds that are used as a source of veratrine and in insecticides

sab·bat \'sab-ət, sa-'bä\ *n, often cap* [F, lit., sabbath, fr. L *sabbatum*] : a midnight assembly of diabolists (as witches and sorcerers) held esp. in medieval and Renaissance times to renew allegiance to the devil through mystic rites and orgies

[1]Sab·ba·tar·i·an \ˌsab-ə-'ter-ē-ən\ *n* [L *sabbatarius*, fr. *sabbatum* sabbath] **1** : one who observes the Sabbath on Saturday in conformity with the letter of the fourth commandment **2** : an adherent of Sabbatarianism

[2]Sabbatarian *adj* **1** : of or relating to the Sabbath **2** : of or relating to Sabbatarians or Sabbatarianism

Sab·ba·tar·i·an·ism \-ˌiz-əm\ *n* : strict and often rigorous observance of the Sabbath

Sab·bath \'sab-əth\ *n* [ME *sabat*, fr. OF & OE, fr. L *sabbatum*, fr. Gk *sabbaton*, fr. Heb *shabbāth*, lit., rest] **1 a** : the seventh day of the week observed from Friday evening to Saturday evening as a day of rest and worship by Jews and some Christians **b** : Sunday observed among Christians as a day of rest and worship **2** : a time of rest

[1]sab·bat·i·cal \sə-'bat-i-kəl\ *or* **sab·bat·ic** \-ik\ *adj* [LL *sabbaticus*, fr. Gk *sabbatikos*, fr. *sabbaton*] **1** : of or relating to the sabbath ⟨~ laws⟩ **2** : of or relating to a sabbatical year

[2]sabbatical *n* **1** : SABBATICAL YEAR 2 **2** : LEAVE 1b

sabbatical year *n* **1** *often cap S* : a year of rest for the land observed every seventh year in ancient Judea **2** : a leave often with pay granted usu. every seventh year (as to a college professor) for rest, travel, or research — called also *sabbatical leave*

Sa·bel·li·an \sə-'bel-ē-ən\ *n* [L *Sabellus* Sabine] **1** : a member of one of a group of early Italian peoples including Sabines and Samnites **2** : one or all of several little known languages or dialects of ancient Italy presumably closely related to Oscan and Umbrian — see INDO-EUROPEAN LANGUAGES table — **Sabellian** *adj*

[1]sa·ber *or* **sa·bre** \'sā-bər\ *n* [F *sabre*, modif. of G dial. *sabel*, fr. MHG, of Slav origin; akin to Russ *sablya* saber] **1** : a cavalry sword with a curved blade, thick back, and guard **2 a** : a light fencing or dueling sword having an arched guard that covers the back of the hand and a tapering flexible blade with a full cutting edge along one side and an 8-inch cutting edge on the back at the tip — compare ÉPÉE, FOIL **b** : the sport of fencing with the saber



saber 1

[2]saber *or* **sabre** *vt* **sa·bered** *or* **sa·bred; sa·ber·ing** *or* **sa·bring** \-b(ə-)riŋ\ : to strike, cut, or kill with a saber

saber rattling *n* : ostentatious display of military power

saber saw *n* : a light portable electric saw with a pointed reciprocating blade

sa·ber·tooth \'sā-bər-ˌtüth\ *n* : SABER-TOOTHED TIGER

sa·ber–toothed \ˌsā-bər-'tütht\ *adj* : having long sharp canine teeth

saber–toothed tiger \-ˌtüth(t)-\ *n* : any of numerous extinct cats (as genus *Smilodon*) widely distributed from the Oligocene through the Pleistocene and characterized by extreme development of the upper canines into curved swordlike piercing or slashing weapons

sa·bin \'sā-bən\ *n* [Wallace C. W. *Sabine* †1919 Am physicist] : a unit of acoustic absorption equivalent to the absorption by one square foot of a perfect absorber

Sa·bine \'sā-ˌbīn, *esp Brit* 'sab-ˌīn\ *n* [ME, *Sabin*, fr. L *Sabinus*] **1** : a member of an ancient people of the Apennines northeast of Latium **2** : the Italic language of the Sabine people — **Sabine** *adj*

[1]sa·ble \'sā-bəl\ *n, pl* **sables** [ME, sable or its fur, the heraldic color black, black, fr. MF, sable or its fur, the heraldic color black, fr. MLG *sabel* sable or its fur, fr. MHG *zobel*, of Slav origin; akin to Russ *sobol'* sable or its fur] **1 a** : the color black **b** : black clothing worn in mourning — usu. used in pl. **2 a** *or pl* **sable** (1) : a carnivorous mammal (*Martes zibellina*) of northern Europe and parts of northern Asia related to the martens and supplying a valuable fur (2) : any of various animals related to the sable **b** : the fur or pelt of a sable **3 a** : the usu. dark brown color of the fur of the sable **b** : a grayish yellowish brown

[2]sable *adj* **1** : of the color black **2** : DARK

sa·ble·fish \'sā-bəl-ˌfish\ *n* : a large spiny-finned gray to blackish fish (*Anoplopoma fimbria*) of the Pacific coast that is a leading market fish and has a liver rich in vitamins

sa·bot \sa-'bō, 'sab-(ˌ)ō, *for 1b also* 'sab-ət\ *n* [F] **1 a** : a wooden shoe worn in various European countries **b** (1) : a strap across the instep in a shoe esp. of the sandal type (2) : a shoe having a sabot strap **2** : a thrust-transmitting carrier that positions a missile in a gun barrel or launching tube and that prevents the escape of gas ahead of the missile

[1]sab·o·tage \'sab-ə-ˌtäzh\ *n* [F, fr. *saboter* to clatter with sabots, botch, sabotage, fr. *sabot*] **1** : destruction of an employer's property (as tools or materials) or the hindering of manufacturing by discontented workmen **2** : destructive or obstructive action carried on by a civilian or enemy agent designed to hinder a nation's war effort **3 a** : an act or process tending to hamper or hurt **b** : deliberate subversion

[2]sabotage *vt* **-taged; -tag·ing** : to practice sabotage on

sab·o·teur \ˌsab-ə-'tər, -'t(y)ü(ə)r\ *n* [F, fr. *saboter*] : one that commits sabotage

sa·bra \'säb-rə\ *n, often cap* [NHeb *ṣābhār*, lit., prickly pear] : a native-born Israeli

sac \'sak\ *n* [F, lit., bag, fr. L *saccus* — more at SACK] : a pouch within an animal or plant often containing a fluid ⟨a synovial ~⟩ — **sac·like** \-ˌlīk\ *adj*

SAC \'sak\ *abbr* Strategic Air Command

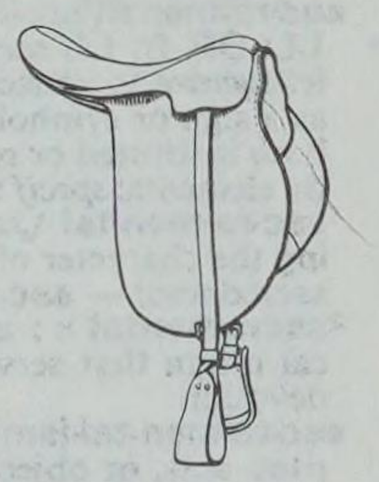
sa·ca·huis·te \ˌsak-ə-'wis-tə, ˌsäk-, -tē\ *n* [AmerSp *zacahuiscle*, of AmerInd origin; akin to Nahuatl *zacatl* coarse grass] : a bear grass (*Nolina texana*) with long linear leaves that is used for forage
sac·a·ton \'sak-ə-ˌtōn\ *n* [AmerSp *zacatón*, fr. *zacate* coarse grass, fr. Nahuatl *zacatl*] : a coarse perennial grass (*Sporobolus wrightii*) of the southwestern U.S. that is used for hay in alkaline regions
sac·cade \sa-'käd\ *n* [F, twitch, jerk, fr. MF, fr. *saquer* to pull, draw] : a small rapid jerky movement of the eye esp. as it jumps from fixation on one point to another (as in reading) — **sac·cad·ic** \-'käd-ik\ *adj*
sac·cate \'sak-ˌāt\ *adj* [NL *saccatus*, fr. L *saccus*] : having the form of a sac or pouch ⟨~ pollen grains⟩
sacchar- *or* **sacchari-** *or* **saccharo-** *comb form* [L *saccharum*, fr. Gk *sakcharon*, fr. Pali *sakkharā*, fr. Skt *śarkarā* gravel, sugar] : sugar ⟨*saccharic*⟩ ⟨*saccharify*⟩ ⟨*saccharometer*⟩
sac·cha·rase \'sak-ə-ˌrās, -ˌrāz\ *n* [ISV] : INVERTASE
sac·cha·rate \-ˌrāt\ *n* : a compound of a sugar usu. with a bivalent metal; *esp* : a metallic derivative of sucrose
sac·cha·ride \'sak-ə-ˌrīd\ *n* : a simple sugar, combination of sugars, or polymerized sugar : CARBOHYDRATE
sac·char·i·fy \sə-'kar-ə-ˌfī, sa-\ *vt* **-fied; -fy·ing** : to break (as a complex carbohydrate) into simple sugars — **sac·char·i·fi·ca·tion** \-ˌkar-ə-fə-'kā-shən\ *n*
sac·cha·rim·e·ter \ˌsak-ə-'rim-ət-ər\ *n* [ISV] : a device for measuring the amount of sugar in a solution; *esp* : a polarimeter so used — **sac·cha·rim·e·try** \-'rim-ə-trē\ *n*
sac·cha·rin \'sak-(ə-)rən\ *n* [ISV] : a crystalline compound $C_7H_5NO_3S$ that is unrelated to the carbohydrates, is several hundred times sweeter than cane sugar, and is used as a calorie-free sweetener
sac·cha·rine \'sak-(ə-)rən, -ə-ˌrēn, -ə-ˌrīn\ *adj* [L *saccharum*] **1 a** : of, relating to, or resembling that of sugar ⟨~ taste⟩ **b** : yielding or containing sugar ⟨~ vegetables⟩ **2** : overly or sickishly sweet ⟨~ flavor⟩ **3** : ingratiatingly or affectedly agreeable or friendly — **sac·cha·rin·i·ty** \ˌsak-ə-'rin-ət-ē\ *n*
sac·cha·roi·dal \ˌsak-ə-'rȯid-ᵊl\ *adj* : having or being a fine granular texture like that of loaf sugar ⟨~ marble⟩
sac·cha·rom·e·ter \-'räm-ət-ər\ *n* : SACCHARIMETER; *esp* : a hydrometer with a special scale
sac·cha·ro·my·ces \-rō-'mī-(ˌ)sēz\ *n* [NL, genus name, fr. *sacchar-* + *-myces* fungus, fr. Gk *mykēs* — more at MYC-] : any of a genus (*Saccharomyces* family Saccharomycetaceae) of usu. unicellular yeasts (as a brewer's yeast) that are distinguished by their sparse or absent mycelium and by their facility in reproducing asexually by budding
sac·cha·rose \'sak-ə-ˌrōs, -ˌrōz\ *n* : SUCROSE; *broadly* : DISACCHARIDE
sac·cu·lar \'sak-yə-lər\ *adj* : resembling a sac ⟨a ~ aneurysm⟩
sac·cu·late \-ˌlāt, -lət\ *or* **sac·cu·lat·ed** \ˌlāt-əd\ *adj* : having or formed of a series of saccular expansions — **sac·cu·la·tion** \ˌsak-yə-'lā-shən\ *n*
sac·cule \'sak-(ˌ)yü(ə)l\ *n* [NL *sacculus*, fr. L, dim. of *saccus* bag — more at SACK] : a little sac; *specif* : the smaller chamber of the membranous labyrinth of the ear
sac·cu·lus \'sak-yə-ləs\ *n, pl* **-li** \-ˌlī, -ˌlē\ [NL] : SACCULE
sac·er·do·tal \ˌsas-ər-'dōt-ᵊl, ˌsak-\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *sacerdotalis*, fr. *sacerdot-, sacerdos* priest, fr. *sacer* sacred + *-dot-, -dos* (akin to *facere* to make) — more at SACRED, DO] **1** : of or relating to priests or a priesthood : PRIESTLY **2** : of, relating to, or suggesting sacerdotalism — **sac·er·do·tal·ly** \-ᵊl-ē\ *adv*
sac·er·do·tal·ism \-ᵊl-ˌiz-əm\ *n* : religious belief emphasizing the powers of priests as essential mediators between God and man — **sac·er·do·tal·ist** \-ᵊl-əst\ *n*
sac fungus *n* : ASCOMYCETE
sa·chem \'sā-chəm, 'sach-əm\ *n* [Narraganset & Pequot *sachima*] **1** : a No. American Indian chief; *esp* : the chief of a confederation of the Algonquian tribes of the north Atlantic coast **2** : a Tammany leader — **sa·chem·ic** \sā-'chem-ik, sa-\ *adj*
sa·chet \sa-'shā\ *n* [F, fr. OF, dim. of *sac* bag — more at SAC] **1** : a small bag or packet **2** : a small bag containing a perfumed powder used to scent clothes and linens — **sa·cheted** \-'shād\ *adj*
¹sack \'sak\ *n* [ME *sak* bag, sackcloth, fr. OE *sacc;* akin to OHG *sac* bag; both fr. a prehistoric Gmc word borrowed fr. L *saccus* bag & LL *saccus* sackcloth, both fr. Gk *sakkos* bag, sackcloth, of Sem origin; akin to Heb *śaq* bag, sackcloth] **1** : a usu. rectangular-shaped bag (as of paper, burlap, or canvas) **2** : the amount contained in a sack; *esp* : a fixed amount of a commodity used as a unit of measure **3 a** : a woman's loose-fitting dress **b** : a short usu. loose-fitting coat for women and children **c** : SACQUE 2 **4** : DISMISSAL — usu. used with *get* or *give* **5 a** : HAMMOCK, BUNK **b** : BED **6** : a base in baseball — **sack·ful** \-ˌfůl\ *n*
²sack *vt* **1** : to put or place in a sack **2** : to dismiss esp. summarily — **sack·er** *n*
³sack *n* [modif. of MF *sec* dry, fr. L *siccus;* akin to OHG *sīhan* to filter, Gk *hikmas* moisture] : a white wine imported to England from the south of Europe during the 16th and 17th centuries
⁴sack *n* [MF *sac*, fr. OIt *sacco*, lit., bag, fr. L *saccus*] : the plundering of a captured town
⁵sack *vt* **1** : to plunder (as a town) after capture **2** : to strip of valuables : LOOT ***syn*** see RAVAGE — **sack·er** *n*
sack·but \'sak-(ˌ)bət\ *n* [MF *saqueboute*, lit., hooked lance, fr. OF, fr. *saquer* to pull + *bouter* to push — more at BUTT] : the medieval trombone
sack·cloth \'sak-ˌ(k)lȯth\ *n* [¹*sack*] **1** : a coarse cloth of goat or camel's hair or of flax, hemp, or cotton **2** : a garment of sackcloth worn as a sign of mourning or penitence
sack coat *n* : a man's jacket with a straight unfitted back
sack·ing \'sak-iŋ\ *n* : material for sacks; *esp* : a coarse fabric (as burlap or gunny)
sack out \'sak-'aůt\ *vi* [¹*sack*] : to go to bed : lie down
sack race *n* : a jumping race in which each contestant has his legs enclosed in a sack
sacque \'sak\ *n* [alter. of ¹*sack*] **1** : SACK 3a, 3b **2** : an infant's usu. short jacket that fastens at the neck

sacr- *or* **sacro-** *comb form* [NL, fr. *sacrum*, fr. L, neut. of *sacr-, sacer* sacred] **1** : sacrum ⟨*sacral*⟩ **2** : sacral and ⟨*sacroiliac*⟩
¹sa·cral \'sak-rəl, 'sā-krəl\ *adj* : of, relating to, or lying near the sacrum
²sa·cral \'sā-krəl, 'sak-rəl\ *adj* [L *sacr-, sacer* — more at SACRED] : HOLY, SACRED
sac·ra·ment \'sak-rə-mənt\ *n* [ME *sacrement, sacrament*, fr. OF & LL; OF, fr. LL *sacramentum*, fr. L, oath of allegiance, obligation, fr. *sacrare* to consecrate] **1** : a formal religious act that is sacred as a sign or symbol of a spiritual reality; *esp* : one believed to have been instituted or recognized by Jesus Christ **2** *cap* : the eucharistic elements; *specif* : BLESSED SACRAMENT
¹sac·ra·men·tal \ˌsak-rə-'ment-ᵊl\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or having the character of a sacrament **2** : suggesting a sacrament (as in sacredness) — **sac·ra·men·tal·ly** \-ᵊl-ē\ *adv*
²sacramental *n* : an action or object (as the rosary) of ecclesiastical origin that serves as an indirect means of grace by producing devotion
sac·ra·men·tal·ism \-ᵊl-ˌiz-əm\ *n* : belief in or use of sacramental rites, acts, or objects; *specif* : belief that the sacraments are inherently efficacious and necessary for salvation
sac·ra·men·tal·ist \-ᵊl-əst\ *n* **1** : SACRAMENTARIAN **2** : an adherent of sacramentalism
Sac·ra·men·tar·i·an \ˌsak-rə-ˌmen-'ter-ē-ən, -mən-\ *n* **1** : one who interprets sacraments as merely visible symbols **2** : SACRAMENTALIST — **Sacramentarian** *adj* — **Sac·ra·men·tar·i·an·ism** \-ē-ə-ˌniz-əm\ *n*
sa·crar·i·um \sə-'krer-ē-əm, sa-, sā-\ *n, pl* **-ia** \-ē-ə\ [ML, fr. L, pagan Roman shrine, fr. *sacr-, sacer* sacred] **1 a** : SANCTUARY 1b **b** : SACRISTY **c** : PISCINA **2** : an ancient Roman shrine or sanctuary in a temple or a home holding sacred objects
sa·cred \'sā-krəd\ *adj* [ME, fr. pp. of *sacren* to consecrate, fr. OF *sacrer*, fr. L *sacrare*, fr. *sacr-, sacer* holy, cursed; akin to L *sancire* to make sacred, Hitt *saklais* rite] **1 a** : dedicated or set apart for the service or worship of deity ⟨a tree ~ to the gods⟩ **b** : devoted exclusively to one service or use (as of a person or purpose) ⟨a fund ~ to charity⟩ **2 a** : worthy of religious veneration : HOLY **b** : entitled to reverence and respect **3** : of or relating to religion : not secular or profane ⟨~ music⟩ **4** *archaic* : ACCURSED — **sa·cred·ly** *adv* — **sa·cred·ness** *n*
syn SACRED, SACROSANCT, INVIOLATE, INVIOLABLE *shared meaning element* : protected (as by law, custom, or human respect) against abuse
sacred baboon *n* [fr. its veneration by the ancient Egyptians] : HAMADRYAD 2b
sacred cow *n* [fr. the veneration of the cow by the Hindus] : a person or thing immune from criticism
sacred mushroom *n* **1** : any of various New World hallucinogenic fungi (as genus *Psilocybe*) used esp. in some Indian ceremonies **2** : MESCAL BUTTON
¹sac·ri·fice \'sak-rə-ˌfīs, -fəs *also* -ˌfīz\ *n* [ME, fr. OF, fr. L *sacrificium*, fr. *sacr-, sacer* + *facere* to make — more at DO] **1** : an act of offering to deity something precious; *esp* : the killing of a victim on an altar **2** : something offered in sacrifice **3 a** : destruction or surrender of something for the sake of something else **b** : something given up or lost ⟨the ~s made by parents⟩ **4** : LOSS ⟨goods sold at a ~⟩ **5** : SACRIFICE HIT
²sac·ri·fice \-ˌfīs, -ˌfīz *also* -fəs\ *vb* **-ficed; -fic·ing** *vt* **1** : to offer as a sacrifice **2** : to suffer loss of, give up, renounce, injure, or destroy for an ideal, belief, or end **3** : to sell at a loss ~ *vi* **1** : to offer up or perform rites of a sacrifice **2** : to make a sacrifice hit in baseball — **sac·ri·fic·er** *n*
sacrifice fly *n* : an outfield fly in baseball caught by a fielder after which a runner scores
sacrifice hit *n* : a bunt in baseball that allows a runner to advance one base while the batter is put out
sac·ri·fi·cial \ˌsak-rə-'fish-əl\ *adj* : of, relating to, of the nature of, or involving sacrifice — **sac·ri·fi·cial·ly** \-ə-lē\ *adv*
sac·ri·lege \'sak-rə-lij\ *n* [ME, fr. OF, fr. L *sacrilegium*, fr. *sacrilegus* one who steals sacred things, fr. *sacr-, sacer* + *legere* to gather, steal — more at LEGEND] **1** : a technical and not necessarily intrinsically outrageous violation (as improper reception of a sacrament) of what is sacred because consecrated to God **2** : gross irreverence toward a hallowed person, place, or thing ***syn*** see PROFANATION — **sac·ri·le·gious** \ˌsak-rə-'lij-əs, -'lē-jəs\ *adj* — **sac·ri·le·gious·ly** *adv* — **sac·ri·le·gious·ness** *n*
sac·ris·tan \'sak-rə-stən\ *n* : a person in charge of the sacristy and ceremonial equipment; *also* : SEXTON
sac·ris·ty \'sak-rə-stē\ *n, pl* **-ties** [ML *sacristia*, fr. *sacrista* sacristan, fr. L *sacr-, sacer*] : a room in a church where sacred vessels and vestments are kept and where the clergy vests
¹sa·cro·il·i·ac \ˌsak-rō-'il-ē-ˌak, ˌsā-krō-\ *adj* [ISV] : of, relating to, or being the region of juncture of the sacrum and ilium
²sacroiliac *n* : the sacroiliac region; *also* : its firm fibrous cartilage
sac·ro·sanct \'sak-rō-ˌsaŋ(k)t\ *adj* [L *sacrosanctus*, prob. fr. *sacro sanctus* hallowed by a sacred rite] : most sacred or holy; *also* : having an imputed rather than a genuine sacred character ⟨~ institutions that have outlived their usefulness to society⟩ ***syn*** see SACRED — **sac·ro·sanc·ti·ty** \ˌsak-rō-'saŋ(k)-tət-ē\ *n*
sa·crum \'sak-rəm, 'sā-krəm\ *n, pl* **sa·cra** \'sak-rə, 'sā-krə\ [NL, fr. LL *os sacrum* last bone of the spine, lit., holy bone] : the part of the vertebral column that is directly connected with or forms a part of the pelvis and in man consists of five united vertebrae
sad \'sad\ *adj* **sad·der; sad·dest** [ME, fr. OE *sæd* sated; akin to OHG *sat* sated, L *satis* enough] **1 a** : affected with or expressive of grief or unhappiness : DOWNCAST **b** (1) : causing or associated

with grief or unhappiness : DEPRESSING ⟨~ news⟩ (2) : DEPLORABLE, REGRETTABLE ⟨a ~ relaxation of morals —C. W. Cunnington⟩ **c** : of little worth **2** : of a dull somber color — **sad·ly** *adv* — **sad·ness** *n*

sad·den \'sad-ᵊn\ *vb* **sad·dened; sad·den·ing** \'sad-niŋ, -ᵊn-iŋ\ *vt* : to make sad ~ *vi* : to become sad

¹sad·dle \'sad-ᵊl\ *n, often attrib* [ME *sadel*, fr. OE *sadol*; akin to OHG *satul* saddle] **1 a** (1) : a girthed usu. padded and leather-covered seat for the rider of an animal (as a horse) (2) : a part of a driving harness comparable to a saddle that is used to keep the breeching in place **b** : a seat to be straddled by the rider of a vehicle (as a bicycle) **2** : an often shaped mounted support for an object **3 a** : a ridge connecting two higher elevations **b** : COL 2 **4 a** : both sides of the unsplit back of a carcass including both loins **b** : a colored marking on the back of an animal **c** : the rear part of a male fowl's back extending to the tail — see COCK illustration **5** : the central part of the backbone of the binding of a book **6** : a piece of leather across the instep of a shoe — **sad·dle·less** \-ᵊl-(l)əs\ *adj* — **in the saddle** : in control



saddle 1a (1)

²saddle *vb* **sad·dled; sad·dling** \'sad-liŋ, -ᵊl-iŋ\ *vt* **1** : to put a saddle on **2 a** : to place under a burden or encumbrance **b** : to place (an onerous responsibility) on a person or group ~ *vi* : to mount a saddled horse

sad·dle·bag \'sad-ᵊl-ˌbag\ *n* : one of a pair of covered pouches laid across the back of a horse behind the saddle or hanging over the rear wheel of a bicycle or motorcycle

saddle blanket *n* : a folded blanket or pad under a saddle to prevent galling the horse

sad·dle·bow \'sad-ᵊl-ˌbō\ *n* : the arch in or the pieces forming the front of a saddle

sad·dle·cloth \-ˌklȯth\ *n* : a cloth placed under or over a saddle

sad·dled prominent \ˌsad-ᵊld-\ *n* [fr. the hump or prominence on the back of the larva] : a moth (*Heterocampa guttivitta*) whose larva is a serious defoliator of hardwood trees in the eastern and midwestern U.S.

saddle horn *n* : a hornlike prolongation of the pommel of a stock saddle

saddle horse *n* : a horse suited for or trained for riding

saddle leather *n* : leather made of the hide of cattle that is vegetable tanned and used for saddlery; *also* : smooth polished leather simulating this

sad·dler \'sad-lər\ *n* : one that makes, repairs, or sells saddles and other furnishings for horses

saddle roof *n* : a roof having two gables and one ridge

sad·dlery \'sad-lə-rē, 'sad-ᵊl-rē\ *n, pl* **-dler·ies** : the trade, articles of trade, or shop of a saddler

saddle seat *n* : a slightly concave chair seat (as of a Windsor chair) with sometimes a thickened ridge at the center front

saddle shoe *n* : an oxford-style shoe having a saddle of contrasting color or leather — called also *saddle oxford*

saddle soap *n* : a mild soap made with added unsaponified oil and used for cleansing and conditioning leather

saddle sore *n* **1** : a gall or open sore developing on the back of a horse at points of pressure from an ill-fitting or ill-adjusted saddle **2** : an irritation or sore on parts of the rider chafed by the saddle

sad·dle·tree \'sad-ᵊl-ˌtrē\ *n* : the frame of a saddle

Sad·du·ce·an \ˌsaj-ə-'sē-ən, ˌsad-yə-\ *adj* : of or relating to the Sadducees

Sad·du·cee \'saj-ə-ˌsē, 'sad-yə-\ *n* [ME *saducee*, fr. OE *sadduce*, fr. LL *sadducaeus*, fr. Gk *saddoukaios*, fr. LHeb *ṣāddūqī*] : a member of a Jewish party of the intertestamental period consisting of a traditional ruling class of priests and rejecting doctrines not in the Law (as resurrection, retribution in a future life, and the existence of angels) — **Sad·du·cee·ism** \-ˌiz-əm\ *n*

sa·dhe \'(t)säd-ə, -ē\ *n* [Heb *ṣādhē*] : the 18th letter of the Hebrew alphabet — see ALPHABET table

sa·dhu *or* **sad·dhu** \'säd-(ˌ)ü\ *n* [Skt *sādhu*] : a usu. Hindu mendicant ascetic

sad·iron \'sad-ˌī(-ə)rn\ *n* [*sad* (compact, heavy) + *iron*] : a flatiron pointed at both ends and having a removable handle

sa·dism \'sā-ˌdiz-əm, 'sad-ˌiz-\ *n* [ISV, fr. Marquis de *Sade*] **1** : a sexual perversion in which gratification is obtained by the infliction of physical or mental pain on others (as upon a love object) — compare MASOCHISM **2 a** : delight in cruelty **b** : excessive cruelty — **sa·dist** \'sād-əst, 'sad-\ *adj or n* — **sa·dis·tic** \sə-'dis-tik *also* sā- *or* sa-\ *adj* — **sa·dis·ti·cal·ly** \-ti-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

sa·do·mas·och·ism \ˌsād-(ˌ)ō-'mas-ə-ˌkiz-əm, ˌsad-, -'maz-\ *n* [ISV *sad*ism + *-o-* + *masochism*] : the derivation of pleasure from the infliction of physical or mental pain either on others or on oneself — **sa·do·mas·och·ist** \-kəst\ *n* — **sa·do·mas·och·is·tic** \-ˌmas-ə-'kis-tik, -ˌmaz-\ *adj*

sad sack *n* : an inept person; *esp* : an inept serviceman

Sa·far \sə-'fär\ *n* [Ar *ṣafar*] : the 2d month of the Muhammadan year — see MONTH table

sa·fa·ri \sə-'fär-ē, -'far-\ *n* [Ar *safarīy* of a trip] **1** : the caravan and equipment of a hunting expedition esp. in eastern Africa **2** : a hunting expedition in eastern Africa **3** : JOURNEY, EXPEDITION ⟨an arctic ~⟩ — **safari** *vi*

¹safe \'sāf\ *adj* **saf·er; saf·est** [ME *sauf*, fr. OF, fr. L *salvus* safe, healthy; akin to L *salus* health, safety, *salubris* healthful, *solidus* solid, Gk *holos* whole, safe] **1** : freed from harm or risk : UNHURT **2 a** : secure from threat of danger, harm, or loss **b** : successful in reaching base in baseball without being put out **3** : affording safety from danger **4** *obs, of mental or moral faculties* : HEALTHY, SOUND **5 a** : not threatening danger : HARMLESS **b** : unlikely to produce controversy **6 a** : not liable to take risks : CAUTIOUS **b** : TRUSTWORTHY, RELIABLE — **safe** *or* **safe·ly** *adv* — **safe·ness** *n*
syn SAFE, SECURE *shared meaning element* : free from danger or risk ***ant*** dangerous, unsafe

²safe *n* : a place or receptacle to keep articles (as valuables) safe

safe-con·duct \(')sāf-'kän-(ˌ)dəkt\ *n* [ME *sauf conduit*, fr. OF, safe conduct] **1** : protection given a person passing through a military zone or occupied area **2** : a document authorizing safe-conduct

safe·crack·er \'sāf-ˌkrak-ər\ *n* : one that breaks open safes to steal — **safe·crack·ing** \-iŋ\ *n*

safe-deposit box *n* : a box (as in the vault of a bank) for safe storage of valuables — called also *safety-deposit box*

¹safe·guard \'sāf-ˌgärd\ *n* [ME *saufgarde*, fr. MF *saufegarde*, fr. OF, fr *sauve* safe + *garde* guard] **1 a** : CONVOY, ESCORT **b** : PASS, SAFE-CONDUCT **2 a** : a precautionary measure or stipulation **b** : a technical contrivance to prevent accident

²safeguard *vt* **1** : to provide a safeguard for **2** : to make safe : PROTECT ***syn*** see DEFEND

safe·keep·ing \'sāf-'kē-piŋ\ *n* **1** : the act or process of preserving in safety **2** : the state of being preserved in safety

safe·light \'sā-ˌflīt\ *n* : a darkroom lamp with a filter to screen out rays that are harmful to sensitive film or paper

¹safe·ty \'sāf-tē\ *n, pl* **safeties** [ME *saufte*, fr. MF *sauveté*, fr. OF, fr. *sauve*, fem. of *sauf* safe] **1** : the condition of being safe from undergoing or causing hurt, injury, or loss **2** : a device (as on a gun, a mine, or a machine) designed to prevent inadvertent or hazardous operation **3 a** (1) : a situation in football in which a member of the offensive team is tackled behind its own goal line that counts two points for the defensive team — compare TOUCHBACK (2) : a member of a defensive backfield in football who occupies the deepest position in order to receive a kick, defend against a forward pass, or stop a ballcarrier — called also *safetyman* **b** : a billiard shot made with no attempt to score or so as to leave the balls in an unfavorable position for the opponent **c** : BASE HIT

²safety *vt* **safe·tied; safe·ty·ing** : to protect against failure, breakage, or accident ⟨~ a rifle⟩

safety belt *n* : a belt fastening a person to an object to prevent falling or injury

safety glass *n* : transparent material that is prepared by laminating a sheet of transparent plastic between sheets of clear glass and is used esp. for windows (as of automobiles) likely to be subjected to shock or impact

safety island *n* : an area within a roadway from which vehicular traffic is excluded (as by pavement markings or curbing)

safety lamp *n* : a miner's lamp constructed to avoid explosion in an atmosphere containing flammable gas usu. by enclosing the flame in fine wire gauze

safe·ty·man \'sāf-tē-ˌman\ *n* : SAFETY 3a(2)

safety match *n* : a match capable of being struck and ignited only on a specially prepared friction surface

safety pin *n* : a pin in the form of a clasp with a guard covering its point when fastened

safety razor *n* : a razor provided with a guard for the blade to prevent deep cuts in the skin

safety valve *n* **1** : an automatic escape or relief valve (as for a steam boiler) **2** : an outlet for pent-up energy or emotion ⟨a *safety valve* for many of the frustrations of life —N. L. Gerrard⟩

safety zone *n* : a safety island for pedestrians or for streetcar or bus passengers

saf·flow·er \'saf-ˌlau̇(-ə)r\ *n* [MF *saffleur*, fr. OIt *saffiore*, fr. Ar *aṣfar* a yellow plant] : a widely grown Old World composite herb (*Carthamus tinctorius*) with large orange or red flower heads and seeds rich in oil; *also* : a red dyestuff prepared from the flower heads

safflower oil *n* : an edible drying oil obtained from the seeds of the safflower

saf·fron \'saf-rən\ *n* [ME, fr. OF *safran*, fr. ML *safranum*, fr. Ar *za'farān*] **1** : a purple-flowered crocus (*Crocus sativus*) **2** : the deep orange aromatic pungent dried stigmas of saffron used to color and flavor foods and formerly as a dyestuff and in medicine **3** : a moderate orange to orange yellow

saf·ra·nine \'saf-rə-ˌnēn, -nən\ *or* **saf·ra·nin** \-nən\ *n* [ISV, fr. F or G *safran* saffron] **1** : any of various usu. red synthetic dyes that are amino derivatives of bases **2** : any of various mixtures of safranine salts used in dyeing and as microscopic stains

saf·role \'saf-ˌrōl\ *n* [ISV, fr. G *sassafras* sassafras + *-ole*] : a poisonous oily cyclic ether $C_{10}H_{10}O_2$ that is the principal component of sassafras oil and is used chiefly for perfuming and flavoring

¹sag \'sag\ *vb* **sagged; sag·ging** [ME *saggen*, prob. of Scand origin; akin to Sw *sacka* to sag] *vi* **1** : to droop, sink, or settle from or as if from pressure or loss of tautness **2 a** : to lose firmness, resiliency, or vigor ⟨spirits *sagging* from overwork⟩ **b** : to fall from a thriving state **3** : DRIFT **4** : to fail to stimulate or retain interest ~ *vt* : to cause to sag : leave slack in

²sag *n* **1** : a tendency to drift (as of a ship to leeward) **2 a** : a sagging part ⟨the ~ in a rope⟩ **b** : a drop or depression below the surrounding area **c** : an instance or amount of sagging ⟨~ is inevitable in a heavy unsupported span⟩ **3** : a temporary economic decline (as in the price of a commodity)

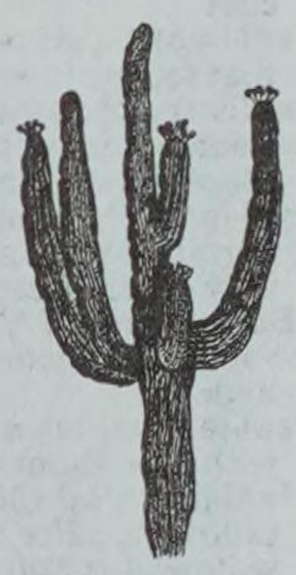
sa·ga \'säg-ə *also* 'sag-\ *n* [ON — more at SAW] **1** : a prose narrative recorded in Iceland in the 12th and 13th centuries of historic or legendary figures and events of the heroic age of Norway and Iceland **2** : a modern heroic narrative resembling the Icelandic saga **3** : a long detailed account ⟨the ~ of the winning of the West⟩ ⟨the great ~ of changing race relations —H. S. Ashmore⟩ ***syn*** see MYTH

sa·ga·cious \sə-'gā-shəs, sig-'ā-\ *adj* [L *sagac-*, *sagax* sagacious; akin to L *sagire* to perceive keenly — more at SEEK] **1** *obs* : keen in sense perception **2 a** : of keen and farsighted penetration and judgment : DISCERNING ⟨~ judge of character⟩ **b** : caused by or indicating acute discernment ⟨~ purchase of stock⟩ ***syn*** see SHREWD — **sa·ga·cious·ly** *adv* — **sa·ga·cious·ness** *n*

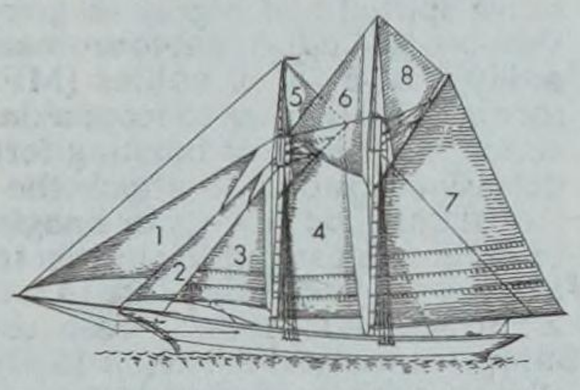
sa·gac·i·ty \sə-'gas-ət-ē, sig-'as-\ *n* : the quality of being sagacious

sag·a·more \'sag-ə-ˌmō(ə)r, -ˌmȯ(ə)r\ *n* [Abnaki *sāgimau*, lit., he prevails over] **1** : a subordinate chief of the Algonquian Indians of the north Atlantic coast **2** : SACHEM 1

saga novel *n* : ROMAN-FLEUVE
¹sage \'sāj\ *adj* [ME, fr. OF, fr. (assumed) VL *sapius*, fr. L *sapere* to taste, have good taste, be wise; akin to OE *sefa* mind, Oscan *sipus* knowing] **1 a** : wise through reflection and experience **b** *archaic* : GRAVE, SOLEMN **2** : proceeding from or characterized by wisdom, prudence, and good judgment ⟨~ counsel⟩ ***syn*** see WISE — **sage·ly** *adv* — **sage·ness** *n*
²sage *n* **1** : one (as a profound philosopher) distinguished for wisdom **2** : a mature or venerable man of sound judgment
³sage *n* [ME, fr. MF *sauge*, fr. L *salvia*, fr. *salvus* healthy; fr. its use as a medicinal herb — more at SAFE] **1** : a mint (*Salvia officinalis*) with grayish green aromatic leaves used esp. in flavoring meats; *broadly* : SALVIA **2** : SAGEBRUSH
sage·brush \'sāj-ˌbrəsh\ *n* : any of several No. American hoary composite undershrubs (genus *Artemisia*); *esp* : a common plant (*A. tridentata*) having a bitter juice and an odor resembling sage and often covering vast tracts of alkaline plains in the western U.S.
sage cheese *n* : a cheese similar to mild cheddar flecked with green and flavored with sage
sag·ger *or* **sag·gar** \'sag-ər\ *n* [prob. alter. of *safeguard*] : a box made of fireclay in which delicate ceramic pieces are fired
sag·it·tal \'saj-ət-ᵊl\ *adj* [L *sagitta* arrow] **1** : of or relating to the suture between the parietal bones of the skull **2** : of, relating to, situated in, or being the median plane of the body or any plane parallel thereto — **sag·it·tal·ly** \-ᵊl-ē\ *adv*
Sag·it·tar·i·us \ˌsaj-ə-'ter-ē-əs\ *n* [L (gen. *Sagittarii*), lit., archer, fr. *sagitta*] **1** : a southern constellation pictured as a centaur shooting an arrow **2 a** : the 9th sign of the zodiac in astrology — see ZODIAC table **b** : one born under this sign
sag·it·tate \'saj-ə-ˌtāt\ *adj* [L *sagitta*] : shaped like an arrowhead; *specif* : elongated, triangular, and having the two basal lobes prolonged downward ⟨~ leaf⟩
sa·go \'sā-(ˌ)gō\ *n, pl* **sagos** [Malay *sagu* sago palm] : a dry granulated or powdered starch prepared from the pith of a sago palm and used in foods and as textile stiffening
sago palm *n* : a plant that yields sago; *esp* : any of various lofty pinnate-leaved Indian and Malaysian palms (genus *Metroxylon*)
sa·gua·ro \sə-'wär-ə, -'(g)wär-(ˌ)ō\ *n, pl* **-ros** [MexSp] : an arborescent cactus (*Carnegiea gigantea*) of desert regions of the southwestern U.S. and Mexico that has a tall columnar simple or sparsely branched trunk of up to 60 feet and bears white flowers and edible fruit


saguaro

sa·hib \'sä-ˌ(h)ib\ *n* [Hindi *ṣāḥib*, fr. Ar] : SIR, MASTER — used esp. among Hindus and Muslims in colonial India when addressing or speaking of a European of some social or official status
sa·hi·wal \'sä-hē-ˌwäl\ *n, often cap* [*Sahiwal*, town in Pakistan] : any of an Indian breed of humped short-horned solid-colored dairy cattle
said \'sed\ *adj* [pp. of *say*] : AFOREMENTIONED
¹sail \'sā(ə)l, *as last element in compounds often* səl\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *segl*; akin to OHG *segal* sail, L *secare* to cut — more at SAW] **1 a** (1) : an extent of fabric (as canvas) by means of which wind is used to propel a ship through water (2) : the sails of a ship **b** *pl usu* **sail** : a ship equipped with sails **2** : an extent of fabric used in propelling a wind-driven vehicle (as an iceboat) **3** : something that resembles a sail **4** : a passage by a sailing ship : CRUISE — **sailed** \'sā(ə)ld\ *adj* — **under sail** : in motion with sails set



schooner's sails: *1* flying jib, *2* jib, *3* forestaysail, *4* foresail, *5* fore gaff-topsail, *6* main-topmast staysail, *7* mainsail, *8* main gaff-topsail

²sail *vi* **1 a** : to travel on water in a ship **b** : YACHT **2 a** : to travel on water by the action of wind upon sails or by other means **b** : to move without visible effort or in a stately manner (as through water) ⟨swans ~*ing* on the lake⟩ ⟨~*ed* gracefully into the room —L. C. Douglas⟩ **3** : to begin a water voyage ⟨~ with the tide⟩ ~ *vt* **1 a** : to travel upon (water) by means of motive power (as sail) **b** : to glide through **2** : to direct or manage the motion of (as a ship) — **sail·able** \'sā-lə-bəl\ *adj* — **sail into** : to attack vigorously or sharply ⟨*sailed into* his dinner⟩ ⟨*sailed into* me for being late⟩
sail·board \'sā(ə)l-ˌbō(ə)rd, -ˌbȯ(ə)rd\ *n* : a small flat sailboat that is designed for one or two passengers
sail·boat \'sā(ə)l-ˌbōt\ *n* : a boat usu. propelled by sail — **sail·boat·er** \-ər\ *n* — **sail·boat·ing** \-iŋ\ *n*
sail·cloth \-ˌklȯth\ *n* : a heavy canvas used for sails, tents, or upholstery; *also* : a lightweight canvas used for clothing
sail·er \'sā-lər\ *n* : a ship or boat esp. having specified sailing qualities
sail·fish \'sā(ə)l-ˌfish\ *n* : any of a genus (*Istiophorus*) of large pelagic fishes related to the swordfish but having teeth, scales, and a very large dorsal fin
sail·ing \'sā-liŋ\ *n* **1 a** : the technical skill of managing a ship : NAVIGATION **b** : the method of determining the course to be followed to reach a given point **2 a** : the sport of handling or riding in a sailboat **b** : a departure from a port
sail·or \'sā-lər\ *n* [alter. of *sailer*] **1 a** : one that sails; *esp* : MARINER **b** (1) : a member of a ship's crew (2) : SEAMAN 2b **2** : a traveler by water **3** : a stiff straw hat with a low flat crown and straight circular brim
sailor collar *n* : a broad collar having a square flap across the back and tapering to a V in the front
sail·or's–choice \ˌsā-lərz-'chȯis\ *n* : any of several small grunts of the Western Atlantic: as **a** : PINFISH **b** : PIGFISH 1
sail·plane \'sā(ə)l-ˌplān\ *n* : a glider of such design that it is able to rise in an upward air current — **sailplane** *vi* — **sail·plan·er** *n*
sain \'sān\ *vt* [ME *sainen*, fr. OE *segnian*, fr. LL *signare*, fr. L, to mark — more at SIGN] **1** *dial Brit* : to make the sign of the cross on (oneself) **2** *dial Brit* : BLESS
sain·foin \'sān-ˌfȯin, 'san-\ *n* [F, fr. MF, fr. *sain* healthy (fr. L *sanus*) + *foin* hay, fr. L *fenum*] : a Eurasian pink-flowered perennial leguminous forage herb (*Onobrychis viciaefolia*); *also* : any of several New World legumes
¹saint \'sānt, *before a name* (ˌ)sānt *or* sənt\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. LL *sanctus*, fr. L, sacred, fr. pp. of *sancire* to make sacred — more at SACRED] **1** : one officially recognized esp. through canonization as preeminent for holiness **2 a** : one of the spirits of the departed in heaven **b** : ANGEL 1a **3 a** : one of God's chosen and usu. Christian people **b** *cap* : a member of any of various Christian bodies; *specif* : LATTER-DAY SAINT **4** : one eminent for piety or virtue **5** : an illustrious predecessor — **saint·like** \'sānt-ˌlīk\ *adj*
²saint \'sānt\ *vt* : to recognize or designate as a saint; *specif* : CANONIZE
Saint Ag·nes' Eve \-ˌag-nəs-(əz-)'ēv\ *n* [*St. Agnes*] : the night of January 20 when a woman is traditionally held to have a revelation of her future husband
Saint An·drew's cross \-ˌan-ˌdrüz-\ *n* [*St. Andrew* †*ab* A.D. 60, one of the twelve apostles] : a figure of a cross that has the form of two intersecting oblique bars — see CROSS illustration
Saint An·tho·ny's cross \-ˌan(t)-thə-nēz-, *chiefly Brit* -ˌan-tə-\ *n* [*St. Anthony*] : TAU CROSS
Saint Anthony's fire *n* : any of several inflammations or gangrenous conditions (as erysipelas or ergotism) of the skin
saint au·gus·tine grass \-ˌȯ-gə-ˌstēn-\ *n, often cap S&A* [prob. fr. *St. Augustine*, Fla.] **1** : a perennial much-branched creeping grass (*Stenotaphrum secundatum*) of the southern U.S. that is valuable as a sand binder and as sod grass **2** : a grass (*Manisuris rugosa*) similar to Saint Augustine grass
Saint Ber·nard \-bər-'närd\ *n* [the hospice of Grand *St. Bernard*, where such dogs were first bred] : any of a Swiss alpine breed of tall powerful working dogs used esp. formerly in aiding lost travelers
saint·dom \'sānt-dəm\ *n* : the quality or state of being a saint
saint·ed \'sānt-əd\ *adj* **1** : befitting or relating to a saint **2** : SAINTLY, PIOUS **3** : entered into heaven : DEAD
Saint El·mo's fire \-ˌel-(ˌ)mōz-\ *n* [*St. Elmo* (*Erasmus*) †303 It bishop & patron saint of sailors] : a flaming phenomenon sometimes seen in stormy weather at prominent points on an airplane or ship and on land that is of the nature of a brush discharge of electricity — called also *Saint Elmo's light*
saint·hood \'sānt-ˌhůd\ *n* **1** : the quality or state of being a saint **2** : saints as a group
Saint–John's–wort \-'jänz-ˌwərt, -ˌwȯ(ə)rt\ *n* [*St. John* the Baptist] : any of a genus (*Hypericum* of the family Guttiferae, the Saint-John's-wort family) of herbs and shrubs with showy pentamerous yellow flowers
Saint Lawrence skiff *n* [*Saint Lawrence* (river)] : SKIFF 3
Saint Lou·is encephalitis \-ˌlü-əs-\ *n* [*St. Louis*, Mo.] : a No. American viral encephalitis that is transmitted by several culex mosquitoes
saint·ly \'sānt-lē\ *adj* : relating to, resembling, or befitting a saint : HOLY — **saint·li·ness** *n*
Saint Mar·tin's summer \-ˌmärt-ᵊn(z)-'səm-ər\ *n* [*Saint Martin's* Day, November 11] : Indian summer when occurring in November
Saint Pat·rick's Day \-'pa-triks-\ *n* : March 17 observed by the Roman Catholic Church in honor of St. Patrick and celebrated in Ireland in commemoration of his death
saint's day *n* : a day in a church calendar on which a saint is commemorated
saint·ship \'sānt-ˌship\ *n* : SAINTHOOD 1
Saint Val·en·tine's Day \-'val-ən-ˌtīnz-\ *n* [*St. Valentine* †*ab*270 It priest] : February 14 observed in honor of St. Valentine and as a time for sending valentines
Saint Vi·tus' dance *or* **Saint Vitus's dance** \-ˌvīt-əs(-əz)-\ *n* [*St. Vitus*, 3d cent. Christian child martyr] : CHOREA
saith \(')seth, 'sā-əth\ *archaic pres 3d sing of* SAY
saithe \'sāth, 'sāth\ *n, pl* **saithe** [of Scand origin; akin of ON *seithr* coalfish] : POLLACK
Sai·va \'s(h)ī-və\ *n* [Skt *Śaiva*, fr. *Śiva* Siva] : a member of a major Hindu sect devoted to the cult of Siva — **Sai·vism** \-ˌviz-əm\ *n*
¹sake \'sāk\ *n* [ME, dispute, guilt, purpose, fr. OE *sacu* guilt, action at law; akin to OHG *sahha* action at law, cause, OE *sēcan* to seek — more at SEEK] **1** : END, PURPOSE ⟨for the ~ of argument⟩ **2 a** : the good, advantage, or enhancement of some entity (as an ideal) ⟨free to pursue learning for its own ~ —M. S. Eisenhower⟩ **b** : personal or social welfare, safety, or benefit
²sa·ke *or* **sa·ki** \'säk-ē\ *n* [Jap *sake*] : a Japanese alcoholic beverage of fermented rice usu. served hot
sa·ker \'sā-kər\ *n* [ME *sagre*, fr. MF *sacre*, fr. Ar *ṣaqr*] : an Old World falcon (*Falco cherrug*) used in falconry
Sak·ti \'s(h)äk-tē\, **Saktism** *var of* SHAKTI, SHAKTISM
sal \'sal\ *n* [L — more at SALT] : SALT
¹sa·laam \sə-'läm\ *n* [Ar *salām*, lit., peace] **1** : a salutation or ceremonial greeting in the East **2** : an obeisance performed by bowing very low and placing the right palm on the forehead
²salaam *vt* : to greet or pay homage to with a salaam ⟨the attendant opened the door, ~*ed* him in —J. A. Phillips⟩ ~ *vi* : to perform a salaam
sal·able *or* **sale·able** \'sā-lə-bəl\ *adj* : capable of being or fit to be sold : MARKETABLE — **sal·abil·i·ty** \ˌsā-lə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n*

sa·la·cious \sə-'lā-shəs\ *adj* [L *salac-, salax* fond of leaping, lustful, fr. *salire* to leap — more at SALLY] **1** : arousing or appealing to sexual desire or imagination : LASCIVIOUS **2** : LECHEROUS, LUSTFUL — **sa·la·cious·ly** *adv* — **sa·la·cious·ness** *n*

sal·ad \'sal-əd\ *n* [ME *salade*, fr. MF, fr. OProv *salada*, fr. *salar* to salt, fr. *sal* salt, fr. L — more at SALT] **1 a** : green vegetables (as lettuce, endive, or romaine) and often tomatoes, cucumbers, or radishes served with dressing **b** : a dish of meat, fish, shellfish, eggs, fruits, or vegetables singly or in combination usu. served cold with a dressing **2** : a green vegetable or herb grown for salad; *esp* : LETTUCE

salad days *n pl* : time of youthful inexperience or indiscretion ⟨my *salad days* when I was green in judgment —Shak.⟩

salad dressing *n* : a dressing either uncooked (as French dressing) or cooked (as a boiled dressing) that is used for salad

salad oil *n* : an edible vegetable oil (as olive oil) suitable for using in salad dressings

sal·a·man·der \'sal-ə-ˌman-dər *also* ˌsal-ə-'\ *n* [ME *salamandre*, fr. MF, fr. L *salamandra*, fr. Gk] **1** : a mythical animal having the power to endure fire without harm **2** : an elemental being in the theory of Paracelsus inhabiting fire **3** : any of numerous amphibians (order Caudata) superficially resembling lizards but scaleless and covered with a soft moist skin and breathing by gills in the larval stage **4** : an article (as a cooking utensil for browning pastry or a portable stove or incinerator) used in connection with fire — **sal·a·man·drine** \ˌsal-ə-'man-drən\ *adj*

sa·la·mi \sə-'läm-ē\ *n* [It, pl. of *salame* salami, fr. *salare* to salt, fr. *sale* salt, fr. L *sal* — more at SALT] : highly seasoned sausage of pork and beef either dried or fresh

sal ammoniac \ˌsal-ə-'mō-nē-ˌak\ *n* [ME *sal armoniak*, fr. L *sal ammoniacus*, lit., salt of Ammon] : AMMONIUM CHLORIDE

sa·lar·i·at \sə-'lar-ē-ət, -'ler-\ *n* [F, fr. *sal*aire salary (fr. L *salarium*) + *-ariat* (as in *prolétariat* proletariat)] : the class or body of salaried persons usu. as distinguished from wage earners ⟨the proletariat, the ~, the peasantry —Harvey Wheeler⟩

sal·a·ry \'sal(-ə)-rē\ *n, pl* **-ries** [ME *salarie*, fr. L *salarium* salt money, pension, salary, fr. neut. of *salarius* of salt, fr. *sal* salt — more at SALT] : fixed compensation paid regularly for services ***syn*** see WAGE — **sal·a·ried** \-rēd\ *adj*

sale \'sā(ə)l\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *sala*, fr. ON — more at SELL] **1** : the act of selling; *specif* : the transfer of ownership of and title to property from one person to another for a price **2** : availability for purchase — usu. used in the phrases *for sale* and *on sale* **3 a** : opportunity of selling or being sold : DEMAND **b** : distribution by selling **4** : public disposal to the highest bidder : AUCTION **5** : a selling of goods at bargain prices **6** *pl* **a** : operations and activities involved in promoting and selling goods or services ⟨vice-president in charge of ~s⟩ **b** : gross receipts

sa·lep \'sal-əp, sə-'lep\ *n* [F or Sp, fr. Ar dial. *saḥlab*, alter. of Ar (*khuṣy ath-*) *tha'lab*, lit., testicles of the fox] : the starchy or mucilaginous dried tubers of various Old World orchids (esp. genus *Orchis*) used for food or in medicine

sal·era·tus \ˌsal-ə-'rāt-əs\ *n* [NL *sal aeratus* aerated salt] : a leavening agent consisting of potassium or sodium bicarbonate

sale·room \'sā(ə)l-ˌrüm, -ˌrům\ *chiefly Brit var of* SALESROOM

sales \'sā(ə)lz\ *adj* : of, relating to, or used in selling

sales check *n* : a strip or piece of paper used by retail stores as a memorandum, record, or receipt of a purchase or sale

sales·clerk \'sā(ə)lz-ˌklərk\ *n* : a salesman or saleswoman in a store

sales·girl \-ˌgər(-ə)l\ *n* : SALESWOMAN

Sa·le·sian \sə-'lē-zhən, sā-\ *n* : a member of the Society of St. Francis de Sales founded by St. John Bosco in Turin, Italy in the 19th century and devoted chiefly to education

sales·la·dy \'sā(ə)lz-ˌlād-ē\ *n* : SALESWOMAN

sales·man \'sā(ə)lz-mən\ *n* : one who sells either in a given territory or in a store — **sales·man·ship** \-ˌship\ *n*

sales·peo·ple \-ˌpē-pəl\ *n pl* : persons employed to sell goods or services

sales register *n* : CASH REGISTER

sales·room \'sā(ə)lz-ˌrüm, -ˌrům\ *n* : a place where goods are displayed for sale; *esp* : an auction room

sales slip *n* : SALES CHECK

sales tax *n* : a tax levied on the sale of goods and services that is usu. calculated as a percentage of the purchase price and collected by the seller

sales·wom·an \'sā(ə)lz-ˌwům-ən\ *n* : a woman employed to sell merchandise esp. in a store

sali- *comb form* [L, fr. *sal* — more at SALT] : salt ⟨*sali*ferous⟩

sal·ic \'sal-ik\ *adj* [by alter.] : SIALIC

Sa·lic \'sā-lik, 'sal-ik\ *adj* [MF or ML; MF *salique*, fr. ML *Salicus*, fr. LL *Salii* Salic Franks] : of, relating to, or being a Frankish people that settled on the IJssel river early in the 4th century

sal·i·cin \'sal-ə-sən\ *n* [F *salicine*, fr. L *salic-, salix* willow — more at SALLOW] : a bitter white crystalline glucoside $C_{13}H_{18}O_7$ found in the bark and leaves of several willows and poplars and used in medicine like salicylic acid

Salic law *n* **1** : the legal code of the Salic Franks **2** : a rule held to derive from the Salic code excluding females from the line of succession to a throne

sa·lic·y·late \sə-'lis-ə-ˌlāt\ *n* : a salt or ester of salicylic acid

sal·i·cyl·ic acid \ˌsal-ə-ˌsil-ik-\ *n* [ISV, fr. *salicyl* (the radical HOC_6H_4CO)] : a crystalline phenolic acid $C_7H_6O_3$ used esp. in the form of salts as an analgesic and antipyretic and in the treatment of rheumatism

sa·lience \'sā-lyən(t)s, -lē-ən(t)s\ *n* **1** : the quality or state of being salient **2** : a striking point or feature : HIGHLIGHT

sa·lien·cy \-lyən-sē, -lē-ən-\ *n, pl* **-cies** : SALIENCE

¹sa·lient \'sā-lyənt, -lē-ənt\ *adj* [L *salient-, saliens*, prp. of *salire* to leap — more at SALLY] **1** : moving by leaps or springs : JUMPING; *specif* : of, relating to, or being a salientian ⟨a ~ amphibian⟩ **2** : jetting upward ⟨a ~ fountain⟩ **3 a** : projecting beyond a line, surface, or level **b** : standing out conspicuously : PROMINENT, STRIKING ⟨~ traits⟩ ***syn*** see NOTICEABLE — **sa·lient·ly** *adv*

²salient *n* : something (as a promontory) that projects outward or upward from its surroundings; *esp* : an outwardly projecting part of a fortification, trench system, or line of defense

sa·li·en·tian \ˌsā-lē-'en-chən\ *n* [deriv. of L *salient-, saliens*] : any of an order (Salientia) of amphibians comprising the frogs, toads, and tree toads all of which lack a tail in the adult stage and have long strong hind limbs suited to leaping and swimming — **salientian** *adj*

sa·lim·e·ter \sā-'lim-ət-ər, -sə-\ *n* : a hydrometer for indicating the percentage of a salt in a solution

sa·li·na \sə-'lī-nə, -'lē-\ *n* [Sp, fr. L *salinae* saltworks, fr. fem. pl. of *salinus*] **1** : a salt-encrusted playa or flat **2** : a salt marsh, pond, or lake

¹sa·line \'sā-ˌlēn, -ˌlīn\ *adj* [ME, fr. L *salinus*, fr. *sal* salt — more at SALT] **1** : consisting of or containing salt ⟨a ~ solution⟩ **2** : of, relating to, or resembling salt : SALTY ⟨a ~ taste⟩ **3** : consisting of or relating to the salts of the alkali metals or of magnesium ⟨a ~ cathartic⟩ — **sa·lin·i·ty** \sā-'lin-ət-ē, sə-\ *n*

²saline *n* **1** : a metallic salt; *esp* : a salt of potassium, sodium, or magnesium with a cathartic action **2** : a saline solution; *esp* : one isotonic with body fluids

sa·li·nize \'sal-ə-ˌnīz *also* 'sā-lə-\ *vt* **-nized; -niz·ing** : to treat or impregnate with salt — **sa·li·ni·za·tion** \ˌsal-ə-nə-'zā-shən *also* ˌsā-lə-\ *n*

sa·li·nom·e·ter \ˌsal-ə-'näm-ət-ər, ˌsā-lə-\ *n* [ISV *saline* + *-o-* + *-meter*] : an instrument (as a hydrometer) for indicating the amount of salt in a solution

Sa·lique \'sā-lik, 'sal-ik; sa-'lēk, sā-\ *var of* SALIC

Salis·bury steak \ˌsȯlz-ˌber-ē-, ˌsalz-, -b(ə-)rē-\ *n* [J. H. *Salisbury*, 19th cent. E physician] : ground beef mixed with egg, milk, bread crumbs, and seasonings and formed into a large patty and cooked

Sa·lish \'sā-lish\ *n* **1** : a language stock of the Mosan phylum **2** : the peoples speaking Salish dialects — **Sa·lish·an** \-ən\ *adj*

sa·li·va \sə-'lī-və\ *n* [L — more at SALLOW] : a slightly alkaline secretion of water, mucin, protein, salts, and often a starch-splitting enzyme that is secreted into the mouth by salivary glands, lubricates ingested food, and often begins the breakdown of starches

sal·i·vary \'sal-ə-ˌver-ē\ *adj* : of or relating to saliva or the glands that secrete it; *esp* : producing or carrying saliva

salivary chromosome *n* : one of the very large polytene chromosomal strands that are made up of many chromatids and are typical of the salivary gland cells of various insects

sal·i·vate \'sal-ə-ˌvāt\ *vb* **-vat·ed; -vat·ing** *vt* : to produce an abnormal flow of saliva in (as by the use of mercury) ~ *vi* : to have a flow of saliva esp. in excess — **sal·i·va·tion** \ˌsal-ə-'vā-shən\ *n*

Salk vaccine \'sȯ(l)k-\ *n* [Jonas *Salk b*1914 Am physician] : a vaccine consisting of poliomyelitis virus inactivated with formaldehyde

sal·let \'sal-ət\ *n* [ME, fr. MF *sallade*] : a light 15th century helmet with or without a visor and with a projection over the neck

¹sal·low \'sal-(ˌ)ō, -ə(-w)\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *sealh;* akin to OHG *salha* sallow, L *salix* willow] : any of various Old World broad-leaved willows (as *Salix caprea*) including important sources of charcoal and tanbark

²sallow *adj* [ME *salowe*, fr. OE *salu;* akin to OHG *salo* murky, L *saliva* spittle] : of a grayish greenish yellow color — **sal·low·ish** \'sal-ə-wish\ *adj* — **sal·low·ness** \'sal-ō-nəs, 'sal-ə-\ *n*

¹sal·ly \'sal-ē\ *n, pl* **sallies** [MF *saillie*, fr. OF, fr. *saillir* to rush forward, fr. L *salire* to leap; akin to Gk *hallesthai* to leap] **1** : an action of rushing or bursting forth; *esp* : a sortie of troops from a defensive position to attack the enemy **2 a** : a brief outbreak : OUTBURST **b** : a witty or imaginative saying : QUIP **3** : a venture or excursion usu. off the beaten track : JAUNT

²sally *vi* **sal·lied; sal·ly·ing** **1** : to leap out or burst forth suddenly **2** : to set out : DEPART — usu. used with *forth*

Sal·ly Lunn \ˌsal-ē-'lən\ *n* [*Sally Lunn*, 18th cent. E baker] : a slightly sweetened yeast-leavened bread

sally port *n* : a gate or passage in a fortified place for use by troops making a sortie

sal·ma·gun·di \ˌsal-mə-'gən-dē\ *n* [F *salmigondis*] **1** : a salad plate of chopped meats, anchovies, eggs, and vegetables arranged in rows for contrast and dressed with a salad dressing **2** : a heterogeneous mixture : POTPOURRI

sal·mi \'sal-mē\ *n* [F *salmis*, short for *salmigondis*] : a ragout of partly roasted game stewed in a rich sauce

salm·on \'sam-ən\ *n, pl* **salmon** *also* **salmons** [ME *samon*, fr. MF, fr. L *salmon-, salmo*] **1 a** : a large soft-finned anadromous game fish (*Salmo salar*) of the northern Atlantic noted as a food fish **b** : any of various anadromous fishes (family Salmonidae) other than the salmon; *esp* : a fish (genus *Oncorhynchus*) that breeds in rivers tributary to the northern Pacific **c** : a fish (as a barramunda) resembling a salmon **2** : the variable color of salmon's flesh averaging a strong yellowish pink

salm·on·ber·ry \-ˌber-ē\ *n* : a showy red-flowered raspberry (*Rubus spectabilis*) of the Pacific coast; *also* : its edible salmon-colored fruit

sal·mo·nel·la \ˌsal-mə-'nel-ə\ *n, pl* **-nel·lae** \-'nel-(ˌ)ē, -ˌī\ *or* **-nellas** *or* **-nella** [NL, genus name, fr. Daniel E. *Salmon* †1914 Am veterinarian] : any of a genus (*Salmonella*) of aerobic rod-shaped usu. motile bacteria that are pathogenic for man and other warm-blooded animals and cause food poisoning, gastrointestinal inflammation, or diseases of the genital tract

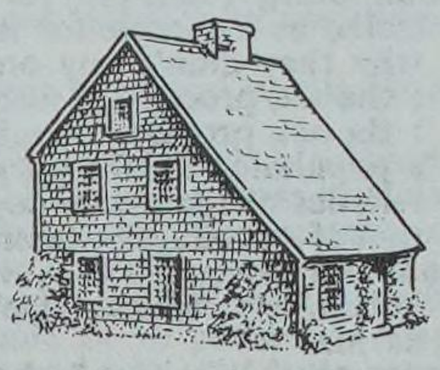
sal·mo·nel·lo·sis \ˌsal-mə-ˌnel-'ō-səs\ *n, pl* **-lo·ses** \-ˌsēz\ [NL] : infection with or disease caused by salmonellae

sal·mo·nid \'sa(l)m-ə-(ˌ)nid\ *n* [NL *Salmonidae* group name, fr. *Salmon-, Salmo*, genus name, fr. L *salmo* salmon] : any of a family (Salmonidae) of elongate soft-finned fishes (as a salmon or trout) that have the last vertebrae upturned — **salmonid** *adj*

salm·on·oid \'sam-ə-ˌnȯid\ *n* : SALMONID; *also* : a related fish — **salmonoid** *adj*

salmon pink *n* : a strong yellowish pink that is lighter and slightly redder than average salmon

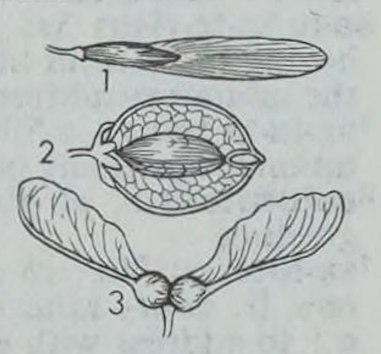
Sa·lo·me \sə-'lō-mē\ *n* [LL, fr. Gk *Salōmē*] : a niece of Herod Antipas given the head of John the Baptist as a reward for her dancing
sa·lom·e·ter \sā-'läm-ət-ər, sə-\ *n* [L *sal* salt + E *-o-* + *-meter*] : SALIMETER
sa·lon \sə-'län, 'sal-ˌän, sa-'lōⁿ\ *n* [F] **1** : an elegant apartment or living room (as in a fashionable home) **2** : a fashionable assemblage of notables (as literary figures, artists, or statesmen) held by custom at the home of a prominent person **3 a** : a hall for exhibition of art **b** *cap* : an annual exhibition of works of art **4** : a stylish business establishment or shop ⟨a beauty ~⟩
sa·loon \sə-'lün\ *n* [F *salon*, fr. It *salone*, aug. of *sala* hall, of Gmc origin; akin to OHG *sal* hall; akin to Lith *sala* village] **1** : SALON 1 **2** : SALON 2 **3 a** : an often elaborately decorated public apartment or hall (as a large cabin for social use of a ship's passengers) **b** : SALON 4 **c** : a room or establishment in which alcoholic beverages are sold and consumed **4** *Brit* **a** : PARLOR CAR **b** : SEDAN 2a
sa·loop \sə-'lüp\ *n* [modif. of F or Sp *salep*] **1** : SALEP **2** : a hot drink made from an infusion of salep or sassafras
sal·pa \'sal-pə\ *n* [NL, genus name, fr. L, a kind of stockfish, fr. Gk *salpē*] : a transparent barrel-shaped or fusiform free-swimming oceanic tunicate (family Salpidae and esp. genus *Salpa*) that is abundant in warm seas
sal·pi·glos·sis \ˌsal-pə-'gläs-əs\ *n* [NL, genus name, irreg. fr. Gk *salpinx* trumpet + *glōssa* tongue — more at GLOSS] : any of a small genus (*Salpiglossis*) of Chilean herbs of the nightshade family with large funnel-shaped varicolored flowers often strikingly marked
salping- *or* **salpingo-** *comb form* [NL, fr. *salping-*, *salpinx*] : salpinx ⟨*salping*itis⟩
sal·pin·gian \sal-'pin-j(ē-)ən\ *adj* : of or relating to a salpinx
sal·pin·gi·tis \ˌsal-pən-'jīt-əs\ *n* [NL] : inflammation of a fallopian or eustachian tube
sal·pinx \'sal-(ˌ)piŋ(k)s\ *n, pl* **sal·pin·ges** \sal-'pin-(ˌ)jēz\ [NL *salping-*, *salpinx*, fr. Gk, trumpet] **1** : EUSTACHIAN TUBE **2** : FALLOPIAN TUBE
sal·si·fy \'sal-sə-fē, -ˌfī\ *n* [F *salsifis*, modif. of It *sassefrica*, fr. LL *saxifrica*, any of various herbs, fr. L *saxum* rock + *fricare* to rub — more at SAXIFRAGE, FRICTION] : a European biennial composite herb (*Tragopogon porrifolius*) with a long fusiform edible root — called also *oyster plant, vegetable oyster*
sal soda \'sal-'sōd-ə\ *n* : a transparent crystalline hydrated sodium carbonate $Na_2CO_3 10H_2O$ — called also *washing soda*
¹salt \'sȯlt\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *sealt*; akin to OHG *salz* salt, L *sal*, Gk *hals* salt, sea] **1 a** : a crystalline compound NaCl that is the chloride of sodium, abundant in nature, and used esp. for seasoning or preserving food or in industry — called also *common salt* **b** : a substance (as sal soda) resembling common salt in some property **c** *pl* (1) : a mineral or saline mixture (as Epsom salts) used as an aperient or cathartic (2) : SMELLING SALTS **d** : any of numerous compounds that result from replacement of part or all of the acid hydrogen of an acid by a metal or a radical acting like a metal : an ionic or electrovalent crystalline compound **2 a** : an ingredient that gives savor, piquancy, or zest : FLAVOR ⟨a people . . . full of life, vigor, and the ~ of personality —Clifton Fadiman⟩ **b** : PUNGENCY ⟨songs that have the ~ of wit —John Simon⟩ **c** : COMMON SENSE **d** : RESERVE, SKEPTICISM — often used in the phrase *with a grain of salt* **e** : a scattered elite — usu. used in the phrase *salt of the earth* **3** : SAILOR ⟨a tale worthy of an old ~⟩ **4** : KEEP 3 — usu. used in the phrases *earn one's salt* and *worth one's salt* — **salt·like** \-ˌlīk\ *adj*
²salt *vt* **1 a** : to treat, provide, or season with common salt **b** : to preserve (food) with salt or in brine **c** : to supply (as an animal) with salt **2** : to give flavor or piquancy to (as a story) **3** : to enrich (as a mine) artificially by secretly placing valuable mineral in some of the working places **4** : to sprinkle with or as if with a salt ⟨~*ing* clouds with silver iodide⟩
³salt *adj* **1 a** : SALINE, SALTY **b** : being or inducing one of the four basic taste sensations — compare BITTER, SOUR, SWEET **2** : cured or seasoned with salt : SALTED **3** : overflowed with salt water ⟨a ~ pond⟩ **4** : SHARP, PUNGENT — **salt·ness** *n*
⁴salt *adj* [by shortening & alter. fr. *assaut*, fr. ME *a sawt*, fr. MF *a saut*, lit., on the jump] *obs* : LUSTFUL, LASCIVIOUS
sal·ta·rel·lo \ˌsal-tə-'rel-(ˌ)ō, ˌsäl-\ *n, pl* **-los** [It] : an Italian dance with a lively hop step beginning each measure
sal·ta·tion \sal-'tā-shən, sȯl-\ *n* [L *saltation-*, *saltatio*, fr. *saltatus*, pp. of *saltare* to leap, dance, fr. *saltus*, pp. of *salire* to leap — more at SALLY] **1 a** : the action or process of leaping or jumping **b** : DANCE **2 a** : the direct transformation of one organismic form into another when it occurs according to some evolutionary theories by major evolutionary steps; *broadly* : discontinuous variation **b** : MUTATION — used esp. of bacteria and fungi
sal·ta·to·ri·al \ˌsal-tə-'tōr-ē-əl, ˌsȯl-, -'tȯr-\ *adj* : relating to, marked by, or adapted for leaping ⟨~ legs of a grasshopper⟩
sal·ta·to·ry \'sal-tə-ˌtōr-ē, 'sȯl-, -ˌtȯr-\ *adj* **1** : of or relating to dancing ⟨the ~ art⟩ **2** : proceeding by leaps rather than by gradual transitions : DISCONTINUOUS
salt away *vt* : to lay away (as money) safely : SAVE
salt·box \'sȯlt-ˌbäks\ *n* : a frame dwelling with two stories in front and one behind and a roof with a long rear slope



saltbox

salt·bush \-ˌbůsh\ *n* : any of various shrubby plants of the goosefoot family that thrive in dry alkaline soil; *esp* : one of the oraches that are important browse plants in dry regions
salt·cel·lar \'sȯlt-ˌsel-ər\ *n* [ME *salt saler*, fr. *salt* + *saler* saltcellar fr. MF, fr. L *salarius* of salt — more at SALARY] : a small vessel for holding salt at the table
salt dome *n* : a domical anticline in sedimentary rock that has a mass of rock salt as its core
salt·ed \'sȯl-təd\ *adj, of an animal* : immune to a contagious disease because of prior infection and recovery
salt·er \'sȯl-tər\ *n* **1** : one that manufactures or deals in salt **2** : one that salts something (as meat, fish, or hides)
sal·tern \'sȯl-tərn\ *n* [OE *sealtern*, fr. *sealt* salt + *ærn* house; akin to ON *rann* house] : a place where salt is made (as by boiling)
salt flat *n* : a salt-encrusted flat area resulting from evaporation of a former body of water
salt gland *n* : a gland (as of a marine bird) capable of excreting a concentrated salt solution
salt grass *n* : a grass native to an alkaline habitat (as a salt meadow)
sal·tine \sȯl-'tēn\ *n* : a thin crisp cracker sprinkled with salt
salt·ing \'sȯl-tiŋ\ *n, chiefly Brit* : land flooded regularly by tides — usu. used in pl.
sal·tire \'sȯl-ˌtī(ə)r, 'sal-\ *n* [ME *sautire*, fr. MF *saultoir* X-shaped animal barricade that can be jumped over by people, saltire, fr. *saulter* to jump, fr. L *saltare* — more at SALTATION] : a heraldic charge consisting of a cross formed by a bend and a bend sinister crossing in the center
salt lake *n* : a landlocked body of water that has become salty through evaporation
salt·less \'sȯlt-ləs\ *adj* **1** : having no salt **2** : INSIPID
salt lick *n* : LICK 3
salt marsh *n* : flat land subject to overflow by salt water
salt–marsh caterpillar *n* : an American moth (*Estigmene acrea* of the family Arctiidae) whose larva is destructive to various crop plants
salt out *vt* : to precipitate, coagulate, or separate (as a dissolved substance or lyophilic sol) esp. from a solution by the addition of salt ~ *vi* : to become salted out
salt·pe·ter \'sȯlt-'pēt-ər\ *n* [alter. of earlier *salpeter*, fr. ME, fr. MF *salpetre*, fr. ML *sal petrae*, lit., salt of the rock] **1** : POTASSIUM NITRATE **2** : SODIUM NITRATE
salt pork *n* : fat pork cured in salt or brine
salt·shak·er \'sȯlt-ˌshā-kər\ *n* : a container with a perforated top for sprinkling salt
salt·wa·ter \ˌsȯlt-ˌwȯt-ər, -ˌwät-\ *adj* : relating to, living in, or consisting of salt water
salt·works \'sȯlt-ˌwərks\ *n pl but sing or pl in constr* : a plant where salt is prepared commercially
salt·wort \-ˌwərt, -ˌwȯ(ə)rt\ *n* **1** : any of a genus (*Salsola*) of plants of the goosefoot family used in making soda ash **2** : GLASSWORT **3** : a low-growing strong-smelling coastal shrub (*Batis maritima*) of warm parts of the New World
salty \'sȯl-tē\ *adj* **salt·i·er; -est** **1** : of, seasoned with, or containing salt **2** : smacking of the sea or nautical life **3 a** : PIQUANT **b** : EARTHY 3b — **salt·i·ly** \-tə-lē\ *adv* — **salt·i·ness** \-tē-nəs\ *n*
sa·lu·bri·ous \sə-'lü-brē-əs\ *adj* [L *salubris* — more at SAFE] : favorable to or promoting health or well-being — **sa·lu·bri·ous·ly** *adv* — **sa·lu·bri·ous·ness** *n* — **sa·lu·bri·ty** \-brət-ē\ *n*
sa·lu·ki \sə-'lü-kē\ *n* [Ar *salūqīy* of Saluq, fr. *Salūq* Saluq, ancient city in Arabia] : any of an old northern African and Asiatic breed of tall slender swift-footed keen-eyed hunting dogs having long narrow skulls, long silky ears, and a smooth silky coat ranging from white or cream to black or black and tan
sal·u·tary \'sal-yə-ˌter-ē\ *adj* [MF *salutaire*, fr. L *salutaris*, fr. *salut-*, *salus* health] **1** : promoting health : CURATIVE **2** : producing a beneficial effect : REMEDIAL ⟨~ advice⟩ — **sal·u·tari·ly** \ˌsal-yə-'ter-ə-lē\ *adv* — **sal·u·tari·ness** \'sal-yə-ˌter-ē-nəs\ *n*
sal·u·ta·tion \ˌsal-yə-'tā-shən\ *n* **1 a** : an expression of greeting, goodwill, or courtesy by word, gesture, or ceremony **b** *pl* : REGARDS **2** : the word or phrase of greeting (as *Gentlemen* or *Dear Sir*) that conventionally comes immediately before the body of a letter — **sal·u·ta·tion·al** \-shnəl, -shən-ᵊl\ *adj*
sa·lu·ta·to·ri·an \sə-ˌlüt-ə-'tōr-ē-ən, -'tȯr-\ *n* : the student usu. having the second highest rank in a graduating class who delivers the salutatory address at the commencement exercises
¹sa·lu·ta·to·ry \sə-'lüt-ə-ˌtōr-ē, -ˌtȯr-\ *adj* : of or relating to a salutation : expressing or containing a welcome or greeting
²salutatory *n, pl* **-ries** : an address or statement of welcome or greeting
¹sa·lute \sə-'lüt\ *vb* **sa·lut·ed; sa·lut·ing** [ME *saluten*, fr. L *salutare*, fr. *salut-*, *salus* health, safety, greeting — more at SAFE] *vt* **1 a** : to address with expressions of kind wishes, courtesy, or honor **b** : to give a sign of respect, courtesy, or goodwill to : GREET **2** : to become apparent to (one of the senses) **3 a** : to honor (as a person, nation, or event) by a conventional military or naval ceremony **b** : to show respect and recognition to (a military superior) by assuming a prescribed position **c** : to express commendation of : PRAISE ~ *vi* : to make a salute — **sa·lut·er** *n*
²salute *n* **1** : GREETING, SALUTATION **2 a** : a sign, token, or ceremony expressing goodwill, compliment, or respect ⟨the festival was a ~ to the arts⟩ **b** : the position (as of the hand) or the entire attitude of a person saluting a superior **3** : FIRECRACKER
sal·u·tif·er·ous \ˌsal-yə-'tif-(ə-)rəs\ *adj* [L *salutifer*, fr. *salut-*, *salus* + *-i-* + *-fer* -ferous] : SALUTARY
salv·able \'sal-və-bəl\ *adj* [LL *salvare* to save — more at SAVE] : capable of being saved or salvaged
Sal·va·dor·an \ˌsal-və-'dȯr-ən, -'dōr-\ *n* : a native or inhabitant of El Salvador — **Salvadoran** *adj*
¹sal·vage \'sal-vij\ *n* [F, fr. MF, fr. *salver* to save — more at SAVE] **1 a** : compensation paid for saving a ship or its cargo from the perils of the sea or for the lives and property rescued in a wreck **b** : the act of saving or rescuing a ship or its cargo **c** : the act of saving or rescuing property in danger (as from fire) **2 a** : property saved from destruction in a calamity (as a wreck or fire) **b** : something extracted (as from rubbish) as valuable or useful

²salvage *vt* **sal·vaged; sal·vag·ing** : to rescue or save (as from wreckage or ruin) — **sal·vage·abil·i·ty** \ˌsal-vij-ə-ˈbil-ət-ē\ *n* — **sal·vage·able** \-ə-bəl\ *adj* — **sal·vag·er** *n*
Sal·var·san \ˈsal-vər-ˌsan\ *trademark* — used for arsphenamine
sal·va·tion \sal-ˈvā-shən\ *n* [ME, fr. OF, fr. LL *salvation-, salvatio,* fr. *salvatus,* pp. of *salvare* to save — more at SAVE] **1 a** : deliverance from the power and effects of sin **b** : the agent or means that effects salvation **c** *Christian Science* : the realization of the supremacy of infinite Mind over all bringing with it the destruction of the illusion of sin, sickness, and death **2** : liberation from ignorance or illusion ⟨science is authoritative truth and the promise of ~ —L. H. Harshbarger⟩ **3 a** : preservation from destruction or failure **b** : deliverance from danger or difficulty — **sal·va·tion·al** \-shnəl, -shən-ᵊl\ *adj*
Salvation Army *n* : an international religious and charitable group organized on military lines and founded in 1865 by William Booth for evangelizing and social betterment (as of the poor)
sal·va·tion·ism \sal-ˈvā-shə-ˌniz-əm\ *n* : religious teaching emphasizing the saving of the soul
Sal·va·tion·ist \-sh(ə-)nəst\ *n* **1** : a soldier or officer of the Salvation Army **2** *often not cap* : EVANGELIST — **salvationist** *adj, often cap*
¹salve \ˈsav, ˈsȧv\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *sealf;* akin to OHG *salba* salve, Gk *olpē* oil flask] **1** : an unctuous adhesive substance for application to wounds or sores **2** : a remedial or soothing influence or agency ⟨a ~ to their hurt feelings⟩
²salve *vt* **salved; salv·ing** **1** : to remedy (as disease) with or as if with a salve **2** : QUIET, ASSUAGE ⟨give him a raise in salary to ~ his feelings —Upton Sinclair⟩
³salve \ˈsalv\ *vt* **salved; salv·ing** [back-formation fr. *salvage*] : SALVAGE — **sal·vor** \ˈsal-vər, -ˌvȯ(ə)r\ *n*
sal·ver \ˈsal-vər\ *n* [modif. of F *salve,* fr. Sp *salva* sampling of food to detect poison, tray, fr. *salvar* to save, sample food to detect poison, fr. LL *salvare* to save — more at SAVE] : a tray esp. for serving food or beverages
sal·ver-form \ˈsal-vər-ˌfȯrm\ *adj* : tubular with a spreading limb — used of a gamopetalous corolla
sal·ver-shaped \ˈsal-vər-ˌshāpt\ *adj* : SALVERFORM
sal·via \ˈsal-vē-ə\ *n* [NL, genus name, fr. L, sage — more at SAGE] : any of a large and widely distributed genus (*Salvia*) of herbs or shrubs of the mint family having a 2-lipped open calyx and two anthers; *esp* : one (*S. splendens*) with scarlet flowers
sal·vif·ic \sal-ˈvif-ik\ *adj* [LL *salvificus,* fr. L *salvus* safe + *-ficus* -fic] : having the intent or power to save or redeem ⟨the ~ life and death of Christ —E. A. Walsh⟩
¹sal·vo \ˈsal-(ˌ)vō\ *n, pl* **salvos** *or* **salvoes** [It *salva,* fr. F *salve,* fr. L, hail!, imper. of *salvēre* to be healthy, fr. *salvus* healthy — more at SAFE] **1 a** : a simultaneous discharge of two or more guns in military action or as a salute **b** : the release all at one time of a rack of bombs or rockets (as from an airplane) **c** : a series of shots by an artillery battery with each gun firing one round in turn after a prescribed interval **d** : the bombs or projectiles released in a salvo **2** : SALUTE, TRIBUTE ⟨received ~*s* of praise from . . . the . . . critics —Janet Flanner⟩ **3** : a sudden burst (as of cheers)
²salvo *vt* : to release a salvo of ~ *vi* : to fire a salvo
³salvo *n, pl* **salvos** [ML *salvo jure* with the right reserved] **1** : a mental reservation : PROVISO **2** : a means of safeguarding one's name or honor or allaying one's conscience : SALVE
sal vo·la·ti·le \ˌsal-və-ˈlat-ᵊl-ē\ *n* [NL, lit., volatile salt] : an aromatic solution of ammonium carbonate in alcohol or ammonia water or both
Sam *or* **Saml** *abbr* Samuel
SAM \ˈsam, ˌes-(ˌ)ā-ˈem\ *abbr* surface-to-air missile
sa·ma·ra \ˈsam-ə-rə; sə-ˈmar-ə, -ˈmär-\ *n* [NL, fr. L, seed of the elm] : a dry indehiscent usu. one-seeded winged fruit (as of an ash or elm tree) — called also *key*
Sa·mar·i·tan \sə-ˈmar-ət-ᵊn, -ˈmer-\ *n* [ME, fr. LL *samaritanus,* n. & adj., fr. Gk *samaritēs* inhabitant of Samaria, fr. *Samaria*] **1** : a native or inhabitant of Samaria **2** *often not cap* [fr. the parable of the good Samaritan, Lk 10:30–37] : one ready and generous in helping those in distress — **samaritan** *adj, often cap*
sa·mar·i·um \sə-ˈmer-ē-əm, -ˈmar-\ *n* [NL, fr. F *samarskite*] : a pale gray lustrous metallic element used esp. in alloys that form permanent magnets — see ELEMENT table



samaras: *1* ash, *2* elm, *3* maple

sa·mar·skite \sə-ˈmär-ˌskīt, ˈsam-ər-\ *n* [F, fr. Col. von *Samarski,* 19th cent. Russ mine official] : a black or brownish black orthorhombic mineral that is a complex oxide of rare earths, uranium, iron, lead, thorium, niobium, tantalum, titanium, and tin
sam·ba \ˈsam-bə, ˈsäm-\ *n* [Pg] : a Brazilian dance of African origin with a basic pattern of step-close-step-close and characterized by a dip and spring upward at each beat of the music; *also* : the music for this dance — **samba** *vi*
sam·bar *or* **sam·bur** \ˈsäm-bər, ˈsam-\ *n* [Hindi *sābar,* fr. Skt *śambara*] : a large Asiatic deer (*Cervus unicolor*) having strong three-pointed antlers and long coarse hair on the throat
sam·bo \ˈsam-(ˌ)bō, ˈsäm-\ *n* [Russ, fr. *samo*zashchita *bez o*ruzhiya self-defense without weapons] : an international style of wrestling employing judo techniques
Sam Browne belt \ˌsam-ˌbraůn-\ *n* [Sir *Sam*uel James *Browne* †1901 Brit army officer] : a leather belt for a dress uniform supported by a light strap passing over the right shoulder
¹same \ˈsām\ *adj* [ME, fr. ON *samr;* akin to OHG *sama* same, L *simulis* like, *simul* together, at the same time, *sem-* one, Gk *homos* same, *hama* together, *hen-, heis* one] **1 a** : resembling in every relevant respect **b** : conforming in every respect — used with *as* **2 a** : being one without addition, change, or discontinuance : IDENTICAL **b** : being the one under discussion or already referred to **3** : corresponding so closely as to be indistinguishable ⟨the ~ day last year⟩ **4** : of equal value or importance *syn* SAME, SELFSAME, VERY, IDENTICAL, EQUIVALENT, EQUAL *shared meaning element* : not different from another or others or not differing from each other. SAME may imply, and SELFSAME invariably implies, that the things under consideration are in reality one and not two or more different but like things ⟨they take their children to the *same* doctor⟩ ⟨this is the *selfsame* book I borrowed from you⟩ But *same* may also apply to things distinct in fact but not in kind ⟨all received the *same* ration⟩ VERY, like *selfsame,* implies identity ⟨there's the *very* man I mentioned⟩ or, like *same,* likeness in kind ⟨that is the *very* thing that I was saying —P. B. Shelley⟩ IDENTICAL can imply selfsameness ⟨went back to the *identical* spot where we had stopped⟩ or absolute agreement in all pertinent details ⟨their dresses were *identical*⟩ EQUIVALENT describes what amounts (as in worth or import) to the same thing as another ⟨barter involves the exchange of one thing for another of *equivalent* value⟩ EQUAL implies complete correspondence (as in number, size, or value) and, therefore, equivalence but not selfsameness ⟨receive *equal* pay for *equal* work⟩ ***ant*** different
²same *pron* **1** : something identical with or similar to another **2** : something previously defined or described
³same *adv* : in the same manner
sa·mekh \ˈsäm-ˌek\ *n* [Heb *sāmekh*] : the 15th letter of the Hebrew alphabet — see ALPHABET table
same·ness \ˈsām-nəs\ *n* **1** : the quality or state of being the same : IDENTITY, SIMILARITY **2** : MONOTONY, UNIFORMITY
sam·i·sen \ˈsam-ə-ˌsen\ *n* [Jap] : a 3-stringed Japanese musical instrument resembling a banjo
sa·mite \ˈsam-ˌīt, ˈsā-ˌmīt\ *n* [ME *samit,* fr. MF, fr. ML *examitum, samitum,* fr. MGk *hexamiton,* fr. Gk, neut. of *hexamitos* of six threads, fr. *hexa-* + *mitos* thread of the warp] : a rich medieval silk fabric interwoven with gold or silver
sam·let \ˈsam-lət\ *n* [irreg. fr. *salmon* + *-let*] : PARR
Sam·nite \ˈsam-ˌnīt\ *n* [*Samnium,* Italy] : a member of an ancient people of central Italy
Sa·mo·an \sə-ˈmō-ən\ *n* **1** : a native or inhabitant of Samoa **2** : the Polynesian language of the Samoans — **Samoan** *adj*
sam·o·var \ˈsam-ə-ˌvär\ *n* [Russ, fr. *samo-* self + *varit'* to boil] **1** : an urn with a spigot at its base used esp. in Russia to boil water for tea **2** : an urn similar to a Russian samovar with a device for heating the contents


samovar 1

Sam·o·yed *also* **Sam·o·yede** \ˈsam-ə-ˌyed, ˈsam-ˌȯi-ˌed\ *n* [Russ *samoed*] **1** : a member of a people of the Nenets district of the Arkhangelsk region of the U.S.S.R. **2** : any of a group of Uralic languages spoken by the Samoyed people **3** : any of a Siberian breed of medium-sized deep-chested white or cream-colored arctic dogs — **Samoyed** *adj* — **Sam·o·yed·ic** \ˌsam-ə-ˈyed-ik, -ˌȯi-ˈed-\ *adj*
samp \ˈsamp\ *n* [Narranganset *nasaump* corn mush] : coarse hominy or a boiled cereal made from it
sam·pan \ˈsam-ˌpan\ *n* [Chin (Pek) *san¹ pan³,* fr. *san¹* three + *pan³* board, plank] : a flat-bottomed Chinese skiff usu. propelled by two short oars


sampan

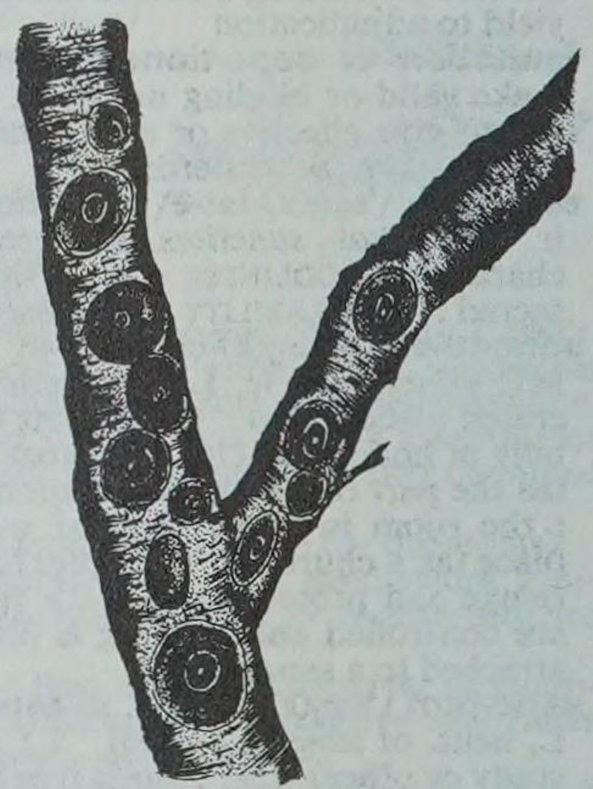
sam·phire \ˈsam-ˌfī(ə)r\ *n* [alter. of earlier *sampiere,* fr. MF (*herbe de*) *Saint Pierre,* lit., St. Peter's herb] **1** : a fleshy European seacoast plant (*Crithmum maritimum*) of the carrot family that is sometimes pickled **2** : a common glasswort (*Salicornia europaea*) that is sometimes pickled
¹sam·ple \ˈsam-pəl\ *n* [ME, fr. MF *essample,* fr. L *exemplum* — more at EXAMPLE] **1** : a representative part or a single item from a larger whole or group presented for inspection or shown as evidence of quality : SPECIMEN **2** : a finite part of a statistical population whose properties are studied to gain information about the whole ***syn*** see INSTANCE
²sample *vt* **sam·pled; sam·pling** \-p(ə-)liŋ\ : to take a sample of or from; *esp* : to judge the quality of by a sample : TEST ⟨*sampled* his output for defects⟩
³sample *adj* : serving as an illustration or example ⟨~ questions⟩
¹sam·pler \ˈsam-plər\ *n* : a decorative piece of needlework typically having letters or verses embroidered on it in various stitches as an example of skill
²sam·pler \-p(ə-)lər\ *n* **1** : one that collects, prepares, or examines samples **2** : something containing representative specimens or selections ⟨a ~ of nineteen poets —K. E. Judd⟩
sample room *n* : a room in which samples are displayed; *esp* : a hotel room in which salesmen display merchandise for the inspection of buyers for retail stores
sample space *n* : a set in which all of the possible outcomes of a statistical experiment are represented as points
sam·pling \ˈsam-pliŋ *for 2 & 3* -p(ə-)liŋ\ *n* **1** : a small part selected as a sample for inspection or analysis ⟨ask a ~ of people why they didn't buy one client's product —Vance Packard⟩ **2** : the act, process, or technique of selecting a suitable sample; *specif* : the act, process, or technique of selecting a representative part of a population for the purpose of determining parameters or characteristics of the whole population **3** : the introduction or promotion of a product by distributing trial packages of it
sam·sa·ra \səm-ˈsär-ə\ *n* [Skt *saṁsāra,* lit., passing through] : the indefinitely repeated cycles of birth, misery, and death caused by karma
sam·shu \ˈsam-(ˌ)shü, -ˈshü\ *n* [perh. fr. Chin (Pek) *shao¹ chiu³,* lit., spirits that will burn] : an alcoholic liquor distilled in China usu. from rice or large millet
Sam·son \ˈsam(p)-sən\ *n* [LL, fr. Gk *Sampsōn,* fr. Heb *Shimshōn*] : a Hebrew hero who wreaked havoc among the Philistines by means of his great strength

Sam·so·ni·an \sam(p)-'sō-nē-ən\ *adj* [*Samson*] : of heroic strength or proportions : MIGHTY
Sam·u·el \'sam-yə(-wə)l\ *n* [LL, fr. Gk *Samouel*, fr. Heb *Shĕmū'ēl*] **1** : the early Hebrew judge who successively anointed Saul and David king **2** : either of two narrative and historical books of canonical Jewish and Christian Scriptures — see BIBLE table
sam·u·rai \'sam-(y)ə-ˌrī\ *n, pl* **samurai** [Jap] **1** : a military retainer of a Japanese daimyo practicing the chivalric code of Bushido **2** : the warrior aristocracy of Japan
san·a·tar·i·um \ˌsan-ə-'ter-ē-əm\ *n, pl* **-iums** *or* **-ia** \-ē-ə\ [by alter.] : SANATORIUM
san·a·tive \'san-ət-iv\ *adj* [ME *sanatif*, fr. MF, fr. LL *sanativus*, fr. L *sanatus*, pp. of *sanare* to cure, fr. *sanus* healthy] : having the power to cure or heal : CURATIVE, RESTORATIVE
san·a·to·ri·um \ˌsan-ə-'tōr-ē-əm, -'tȯr-\ *n, pl* **-riums** *or* **-ria** \-ē-ə\ [NL, fr. LL, neut. of *sanatorius* curative, fr. *sanatus*] **1** : an establishment that provides therapy combined with a regimen (as of diet and exercise) for treatment or rehabilitation **2 a** : an institution for rest and recuperation (as of convalescents) **b** : an establishment for the treatment of the chronically ill
san·be·ni·to \ˌsan-bə-'nēt-(ˌ)ō, ˌsam-\ *n, pl* **-tos** [Sp *sambenito*, fr. *San Benito* St. Benedict of Nursia] **1** : a sackcloth coat worn by penitents on being reconciled to the church **2** : a Spanish Inquisition garment resembling a scapular and being either yellow with red crosses for the penitent or black with painted devils and flames for the impenitent condemned to an auto-da-fé
San·cho Pan·za \ˌsan-chō-'pan-zə\ *n* [Sp] : the squire of Don Quixote in Cervantes' *Don Quixote*
sanc·ti·fi·ca·tion \ˌsaŋ(k)-tə-fə-'kā-shən\ *n* **1** : an act of sanctifying **2 a** : the state of being sanctified **b** : the state of growing in divine grace as a result of Christian commitment after baptism or conversion
sanc·ti·fi·er \'saŋ(k)-tə-ˌfī(-ə)r\ *n* : one that sanctifies; *specif, cap* : HOLY SPIRIT
sanc·ti·fy \-ˌfī\ *vt* **-fied; -fy·ing** [ME *sanctifien*, fr. MF *sanctifier*, fr. LL *sanctificare*, fr. L *sanctus* sacred — more at SAINT] **1** : to set apart to a sacred purpose or to religious use : CONSECRATE **2** : to free from sin : PURIFY **3** : to give moral or social sanction to **4** : to make productive of holiness or piety ⟨observe the day of the sabbath, to ~ it —Deut 5:12 (DV)⟩
sanc·ti·mo·nious \ˌsaŋ(k)-tə-'mō-nē-əs, -nyəs\ *adj* **1** : affecting piousness : hypocritically devout **2** *obs* : possessing sanctity : HOLY ***syn*** see DEVOUT, HYPOCRITICAL — **sanc·ti·mo·nious·ly** *adv* — **sanc·ti·mo·nious·ness** *n*
sanc·ti·mo·ny \'saŋ(k)-tə-ˌmō-nē\ *n, pl* **-nies** [MF *sanctimonie*, fr. L *sanctimonia*, fr. *sanctus*] **1** *obs* : HOLINESS **2** : assumed or hypocritical holiness
¹sanc·tion \'saŋ(k)-shən\ *n* [MF or L; MF, fr. L *sanction-, sanctio*, fr. *sanctus*, pp. of *sancire* to make holy — more at SACRED] **1** : a formal decree; *esp* : an ecclesiastical decree **2 a** *obs* : a solemn agreement : OATH **b** : something that makes an oath binding **3** : the detriment, loss of reward, or coercive intervention annexed to a violation of a law as a means of enforcing the law **4 a** : a consideration, principle, or influence (as of conscience) that impels to moral action or determines moral judgment **b** : a mechanism of social control for enforcing a society's standards **c** : explicit or official permission or ratification : APPROBATION **5** : an economic or military coercive measure adopted usu. by several nations in concert for forcing a nation violating international law to desist or yield to adjudication
²sanction *vt* **sanc·tioned; sanc·tion·ing** \-sh(ə-)niŋ\ **1** : to make valid or binding usu. by a formal procedure (as ratification) **2** : to give effective or authoritative approval or consent to ***syn*** see APPROVE ***ant*** interdict
sanc·ti·ty \'saŋ(k)-tət-ē\ *n, pl* **-ties** [ME *saunctite*, fr. MF *saincteté*, fr. L *sanctitat-, sanctitas*, fr. *sanctus* sacred] **1** : holiness of life and character : GODLINESS **2 a** : the quality or state of being holy or sacred : INVIOLABILITY **b** *pl* : sacred objects, obligations, or rights
sanc·tu·ary \'saŋ(k)-chə-ˌwer-ē\ *n, pl* **-ar·ies** [ME *sanctuarie*, fr. MF *sainctuarie*, fr. LL *sanctuarium*, fr. L *sanctus*] **1** : a consecrated place: as **a** : the ancient Hebrew temple at Jerusalem or its holy of holies **b** (1) : the most sacred part of a religious building (as the part of a Christian church in which the altar is placed) (2) : the room in which general worship services are held (3) : a place (as a church or a temple) for worship **2 a** (1) : a place of refuge and protection (2) : a refuge for wildlife where predators are controlled and hunting is illegal **b** : the immunity from law attached to a sanctuary
sanc·tum \'saŋ(k)-təm\ *n, pl* **sanctums** *also* **sanc·ta** \-tə\ [LL, fr. L, neut. of *sanctus* sacred] **1** : a sacred place **2** : a place (as a study or office) where one is free from intrusion ⟨an editor's ~⟩
sanc·tum sanc·to·rum \ˌsaŋ(k)-təm-ˌsaŋ(k)-'tōr-əm, -'tȯr-\ *n* [LL] **1** : HOLY OF HOLIES **2** : SANCTUM 2
Sanc·tus \'saŋ(k)-təs; 'säŋ(k)-təs, -ˌtüs\ *n* [ME, fr. LL *Sanctus, sanctus, sanctus* Holy, holy, holy, opening of a hymn sung by the angels in Isa 6:3] : an ancient Christian hymn of adoration sung or said immediately before the prayer of consecration in traditional eucharistic liturgies
Sanctus bell *n* : a bell rung by the server at several points (as at the Sanctus) during the mass
¹sand \'sand\ *n* [ME, fr. OE; akin to OHG *sant* sand, L *sabulum*, Gk *psammos & ammos* sand, *psēn* to rub] **1 a** : a loose granular material that results from the disintegration of rocks, consists of particles smaller than gravel but coarser than silt, and is used in mortar, glass, abrasives, and foundry molds **b** : soil containing 85 percent or more of sand and a maximum of 10 percent of clay; *broadly* : sandy soil **2 a** : a tract of sand : BEACH **b** : a sandbank or sandbar **3** : the sand in an hourglass; *also* : the moments of a lifetime — usu. used in pl. ⟨the ~s of this government run out very rapidly —H. J. Laski⟩ **4** : an oil-producing formation of sandstone or unconsolidated sand **5** : firm resolution **6** : a variable color averaging a yellowish gray ***syn*** see FORTITUDE
²sand *vt* **1** : to sprinkle or dust with or as if with sand **2** : to cover or fill with sand **3** : to smooth or dress by grinding or rubbing with an abrasive (as sandpaper)
san·dal \'san-dᵊl\ *n* [ME *sandalie*, fr. L *sandalium*, fr. Gk *sandalion*, dim. of *sandalon* sandal] **1** : a shoe consisting of a sole strapped to the foot **2** : a low-cut shoe that fastens by an ankle strap **3** : a strap to hold on a slipper or low shoe **4** : a rubber overshoe cut very low
san·dal·wood \-ˌwůd\ *n* [*sandal* (sandalwood) (fr. ME, fr. MF, fr. ML *sandalum*, fr. LGk *santalon*, deriv. of Skt *candana*, of Dravidian origin; akin to Tamil *cāntu* sandalwood tree) + *wood*] **1** : the compact close-grained fragrant yellowish heartwood of an Indo-Malayan parasitic tree (*Santalum album* of the family Santalaceae, the sandalwood family) much used in ornamental carving and cabinetwork; *also* : the tree that yields this wood **2** : any of various trees other than sandalwood some of which yield dyewoods; *also* : the fragrant wood of such a tree
sandalwood oil *n* : an essential oil obtained from sandalwood: as **a** : a pale yellow somewhat viscous aromatic liquid obtained from a sandalwood (*Santalum album*) and used chiefly in perfumes and soaps **b** : an oil obtained from a sandalwood (*Eucarya spicata*) of Western Australia
san·da·rac \'san-də-ˌrak\ *n* [L *sandaraca* red coloring, fr. Gk *sandarakē* realgar, red pigment from realgar] : a brittle faintly aromatic translucent resin obtained esp. from the African sandarac tree and used chiefly in making varnish and as incense
sandarac tree *n* : a large northern African tree (*Callitris articulata*) of the pine family with a hard durable fragrant wood much used in building; *also* : any of several related Australian trees
¹sand·bag \'san(d)-ˌbag\ *n* : a bag filled with sand and used in fortifications, as ballast, or as a weapon
²sandbag *vt* **1** : to bank, stop up, or weight with sandbags **2 a** : to hit or stun with a sandbag **b** : to coerce by crude means ⟨are raiding the Treasury and *sandbagging* the government —C. W. Ferguson⟩ — **sand·bag·ger** *n*
sand·bank \'san(d)-ˌbaŋk\ *n* : a large deposit of sand (as in a hillside or forming a bar or shoal)
sand·bar \-ˌbär\ *n* : a ridge of sand built up by currents esp. in a river or in coastal waters
¹sand·blast \-ˌblast\ *n* : a stream of sand projected by air or steam (as for engraving, cutting, or cleaning glass or stone)
²sandblast *vt* : to use a sandblast on — **sand·blast·er** *n*
sand–blind \'san(d)-ˌblīnd\ *adj* [ME, prob. fr. (assumed) ME *samblind*, fr. OE *sam-* half + *blind*; akin to OHG *sāmi-* half — more at SEMI-] : having poor eyesight : PURBLIND
sand bluestem *n* : a tall rhizomatous American grass (*Andropogon hallii*) used for forage and as a soil binder
sand·box \'san(d)-ˌbäks\ *n* : a box or receptacle containing loose sand: as **a** : a shaker for sprinkling sand upon wet ink **b** : a box that contains sand for children to play in
sand·bur \'san(d)-ˌbər\ *n* : any of several weeds with burry fruit that occur esp. in waste places: as **a** : a No. American nightshade (*Solanum rostratum*) with prickly foliage and racemose yellow flowers **b** : an annual bristly herb (*Franseria acanthicarpa*) of western No. America that is related to the cocklebur
sand–cast \-ˌkast\ *vt* **-cast; -cast·ing** : to make (a casting) by pouring metal in a sand mold
sand casting *n* : a casting made in a mold of sand
sand crack *n* : a fissure in the wall of a horse's hoof often causing lameness
sand dollar *n* : any of numerous flat circular sea urchins (order Exocycloida) that live chiefly in shallow water on sandy bottoms


sand dollar

sand·er \'san-dər\ *n* : one that sands: as **a** : a device for spreading sand on newly surfaced or icy roads; *also* : the device together with the truck that bears it **b** : a machine or device that smooths, polishes, or scours by means of abrasive material usu. in the form of a disk or belt — called also *sanding machine*
sand·er·ling \'san-dər-liŋ\ *n* [perh. irreg. fr. *sand* + *-ling*] : a small sandpiper (*Crocethia alba*) with largely gray-and-white plumage
sand flea *n* **1** : a flea (as a chigoe) found in sandy places **2** : BEACH FLEA
sand fly *n* : any of various small biting two-winged flies (families Psychodidae, Simuliidae, and Ceratopogonidae)
sand·fly fever \ˌsan(d)-ˌflī-\ *n* : a virus disease of brief duration that is characterized by fever, headache, pain in the eyes, malaise, and leukopenia and is transmitted by the bite of a sand fly (*Phlebotomus papatasii*) — called also *phlebotomus fever*
sand·glass \'san(d)-ˌglas\ *n* : an instrument (as an hourglass) for measuring time by the running of sand
sand grouse *n* : any of numerous birds (family Pteroclidae) of arid parts of southern Europe, Asia, and Africa that are closely related to the pigeons but have precocial downy young
san·dhi \'san-dē, 'sän-\ *n* [Skt *saṁdhi*, lit., placing together] : modification of the sound of a morpheme (as a word or affix) conditioned by context in which it is uttered ⟨pronunciation of *-ed* as \d\ in *glazed* and as \t\ in *paced*, and occurrence of *a* in *a cow* and of *an* in *an old cow*, are examples of ~⟩

sand·hill crane \ˌsand-ˌhil-\ *n* : a crane (*Grus canadensis*) of eastern and central No. America that is chiefly bluish gray tinged with a sandy yellow
sand·hog \'sand-ˌhȯg, -ˌhäg\ *n* : a laborer who works in a caisson in driving underwater tunnels
sand jack *n* : a device for lowering a heavy weight (as a bridge section) into place by allowing sand on which it is supported to run out
sand lance *n* : any of several small elongate marine teleost fishes (genus *Ammodytes*) that associate in large schools and remain buried in sandy beaches at ebb tide — called also *sand eel, sand launce*
sand lily *n* : a western No. American spring herb (*Leucocrinum montanum*) of the lily family with narrow linear leaves and fragrant salver-shaped flowers
sand·ling \'san-(d)liŋ\ *n* : a small flounder
sand·lot \'san-ˌ(d)lät\ *n* : a vacant lot esp. when used for the unorganized sports of boys — **sand·lot·ter** \-ˌ(d)lät-ər\ *n*
sand·man \'san(d)-ˌman\ *n* : the genie of folklore who makes children sleepy supposedly by sprinkling sand in their eyes
sand myrtle *n* : a variable low-branching evergreen upland shrub (*Leiophyllum buxifolium*) of the heath family found in the southeastern U.S.
sand painting *n* : a Navaho and Pueblo Indian ceremonial design made of various materials (as colored sands) upon a flat surface of sand or buckskin
¹sand·pa·per \'san(d)-ˌpā-pər\ *n* : paper covered on one side with abrasive material (as sand) glued fast and used for smoothing and polishing — **sand·pa·pery** \-p(ə-)rē\ *adj*
²sandpaper *vt* : to rub with or as if with sandpaper
sand·pile \'san(d)-ˌpīl\ *n* : a pile of sand; *esp* : sand for children to play in
sand·pip·er \-ˌpī-pər\ *n* : any of numerous small shorebirds (suborder Charadrii) distinguished from the related plovers chiefly by the longer and soft-tipped bill
sand rat *n* : any of various rodents (as of Africa) native to sandy or desert areas
sand smelt *n* : SILVERSIDES
sand·soap \'san(d)-ˌsōp\ *n* : a gritty soap for all-purpose cleaning
sand·stone \-ˌstōn\ *n* : a sedimentary rock consisting of usu. quartz sand united by some cement (as silica or calcium carbonate)
sand·storm \-ˌstȯ(ə)rm\ *n* : a windstorm (as in a desert) driving clouds of sand before it
sand table *n* **1** : a table holding sand for children to mold **2** : a table bearing a relief model of a terrain built to scale for study or demonstration esp. of military tactics
sand trap *n* : an artificial hazard on a golf course consisting of a depression containing sand
sand verbena *n* : any of several western American herbs (genus *Abronia*) of the four-o'clock family having flowers like the verbena; *esp* : either of two plants (*A. latifolia* and *A. umbellata*) of the Pacific coast
¹sand·wich \'san-(ˌ)(d)wich\ *n* [John Montagu, 4th Earl of *Sandwich* †1792 E diplomat] **1** : a slice of bread covered with a filling (as of meat, cheese, fish, or various mixtures) which is usu. covered with another slice of bread; *also* : a partially split long or round roll stuffed with a filling **2** : something resembling a sandwich
²sandwich *vt* **1** : to make into or as if into a sandwich; *esp* : to insert or enclose between usu. two things of another quality or character **2** : to make a place for — often used with *in* or *between*
sandwich board *n* : two usu. hinged boards designed for hanging from the shoulders with one board before and one behind and used esp. for advertising or picketing
sandwich coin *n* : a clad coin
sandwich man *n* : one who advertises or pickets a place of business by wearing a sandwich board
sand·worm \'san-ˌ(d)wərm\ *n* : any of various sand-dwelling polychaete worms: as **a** : any of several large burrowing worms (esp. genus *Nereis*) often used as bait **b** : LUGWORM
sand·wort \'san-ˌ(d)wərt, -ˌ(d)wȯ(ə)rt\ *n* : any of a genus (*Arenaria*) of low tufted herbs of the pink family growing usu. in dry sandy regions
sandy \'san-dē\ *adj* **sand·i·er; -est** **1** : consisting of, containing, or sprinkled with sand **2** : of the color sand — **sand·i·ness** *n*
sane \'sān\ *adj* **san·er; san·est** [L *sanus* healthy, sane] **1** : free from hurt or disease : HEALTHY **2** : mentally sound; *esp* : able to anticipate and appraise the effect of one's actions **3** : proceeding from a sound mind : RATIONAL ***syn*** see WISE ***ant*** insane — **sane·ly** *adv* — **sane·ness** \'sān-nəs\ *n*
San·for·ized \'san-fə-ˌrīzd\ *trademark* — used for fabrics that are shrunk by a mechanical process before being manufactured into articles (as clothing)
sang *past of* SING
san·ga·ree \ˌsaŋ-gə-'rē\ *n* [Sp *sangría*] : a sweetened iced drink of wine or sometimes of ale, beer, or liquor garnished with nutmeg
sang-froid \'sä̃-'f(r)wä, ˌsä̃-frə-'wä\ *n* [F *sang-froid*, lit., cold blood] : self-possession or imperturbability esp. under strain ***syn*** see EQUANIMITY
San·greal \'san-'grā(ə)l, 'saŋ-\ *n* [ME *Sangrayll*, fr. MF *Saint Graal* Holy Grail] : GRAIL
san·gría \saŋ-'grē-ə, san-\ *n* [Sp] : a punch made of red wine, fruit juice, and soda water
san·gui·nar·ia \ˌsaŋ-gwə-'ner-ē-ə, -'nar-\ *n* [NL, fr. L, an herb that stanches blood, fr. fem. of *sanguinarius* sanguinary] **1** : BLOODROOT **2** : the rhizome and roots of a bloodroot used as an expectorant and emetic
san·gui·nary \'saŋ-gwə-ˌner-ē\ *adj* [L *sanguinarius*, fr. *sanguin-, sanguis* blood] **1** : BLOODTHIRSTY, MURDEROUS ⟨~ hatred⟩ **2** : attended by bloodshed : BLOODY ⟨this bitter and ~ war —T. H. D. Mahoney⟩ **3** : consisting of blood ⟨a ~ stream⟩ — **san·gui·nar·i·ly** \ˌsaŋ-gwə-'ner-ə-lē\ *adv*
¹san·guine \'saŋ-gwən\ *adj* [ME *sanguin*, fr. MF, fr. L *sanguineus*, fr. *sanguin-, sanguis*] **1** : BLOODRED **2** **a** : consisting of or relating to blood **b** : SANGUINARY 1 **c** *of the complexion* : RUDDY **3** : having blood as the predominating bodily humor; *also* : having the bodily conformation and temperament held characteristic of such predominance and marked by sturdiness, high color, and cheerfulness **4** : CONFIDENT, OPTIMISTIC — **san·guine·ly** *adv* — **san·guine·ness** \-gwən-nəs\ *n* — **san·guin·i·ty** \saŋ-'gwin-ət-ē, san-\ *n*
²sanguine *n* : a moderate to strong red
san·guin·e·ous \san-'gwin-ē-əs, saŋ-\ *adj* [L *sanguineus*] **1** : BLOODRED **2** : of, relating to, or involving bloodshed : BLOODTHIRSTY **3** : of, relating to, or containing blood
san·guin·o·lent \-'gwin-ᵊl-ənt\ *adj* [L *sanguinolentus*, fr. *sanguin-, sanguis*] : of, containing, or tinged with blood ⟨~ sputum⟩
san·gui·no·pu·ru·lent \ˌsaŋ-gwə-nō-'pyůr-(y)ə-lənt\ *adj* [L *sanguin-, sanguis* blood + E *-o-* + *purulent*] : containing blood and pus ⟨~ discharge⟩
San·he·drin \san-'hed-rən, sän-; san-'hēd-, 'san-əd-\ *n* [LHeb *sanhedhrīn gĕdhōlāh* great council] : the supreme council and tribunal of the Jews during post-exilic times headed by a High Priest and having religious, civil, and criminal jurisdiction
san·i·cle \'san-i-kəl\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. ML *sanicula*] : any of several plants sometimes held to have healing powers; *esp* : a plant (genus *Sanicula*) of the carrot family with a root used in folk medicine as an anodyne or astringent
sa·ni·ous \'sā-nē-əs\ *adj* [L *saniosus*, fr. *sanies* corrupted blood] : thin and seropurulent with a slightly bloody tinge
sanit *abbr* sanitary; sanitation
san·i·tar·i·an \ˌsan-ə-'ter-ē-ən\ *n* : a specialist in sanitary science and public health ⟨milk ~⟩
san·i·tar·i·ly \-'ter-ə-lē\ *adv* : in a sanitary manner : with regard to sanitation
san·i·tar·i·um \ˌsan-ə-'ter-ē-əm\ *n, pl* **-i·ums** *or* **-ia** \-ē-ə\ [NL, fr. L *sanitat-, sanitas* health] : SANATORIUM
san·i·tary \'san-ə-ˌter-ē\ *adj* [F *sanitaire*, fr. L *sanitas*] **1** : of or relating to health ⟨~ measures⟩ **2** : of, relating to, or used in the disposal esp. of domestic waterborne waste ⟨~ sewage⟩ **3** : characterized by or readily kept in cleanliness ⟨~ packages⟩
sanitary landfill *n* : LANDFILL
sanitary napkin *n* : a disposable absorbent pad (as of cellulose) in a gauze covering used postpartum or during menstruation to absorb the uterine flow
sanitary ware *n* : ceramic plumbing fixtures (as sinks, lavatories, or toilet bowls)
san·i·tate \'san-ə-ˌtāt\ *vt* **-tat·ed; -tat·ing** [back-formation fr. *sanitation*] : to make sanitary esp. by providing with sanitary appliances or facilities
san·i·ta·tion \ˌsan-ə-'tā-shən\ *n* **1** : the act or process of making sanitary **2** : the promotion of hygiene and prevention of disease by maintenance of sanitary conditions
san·i·tize \'san-ə-ˌtīz\ *vt* **-tized; -tiz·ing** [L *sanitas*] **1** : to make sanitary (as by cleaning or sterilizing) **2** : to make more acceptable by removing unpleasant or undesired features ⟨~ a document⟩ — **san·i·ti·za·tion** \ˌsan-ət-ə-'zā-shən\ *n*
san·i·to·ri·um \ˌsan-ə-'tōr-ē-əm, -'tȯr-\ *n, pl* **-ri·ums** *or* **-ria** \-ē-ə\ [by alter. (influenced by *sanitarium*)] : SANATORIUM
san·i·ty \'san-ət-ē\ *n* [ME *sanite*, fr. L *sanitat-, sanitas* health, sanity, fr. *sanus* healthy, sane] : the quality or state of being sane; *esp* : soundness or health of mind
San Ja·cin·to Day \ˌsan-jə-'sint-ə-\ *n* : April 21 observed as a legal holiday in Texas in commemoration of the battle of San Jacinto in 1836
San Jo·se scale \ˌsan-ə-ˌzā-, -(h)ō-\ *n* [*San Jose*, Calif.] : a scale insect (*Aspidiotus perniciosus*) that is naturalized in the U.S. prob. from Asia and is a most damaging pest to fruit trees


San Jose scale on tree branch

sank *past of* SINK
San·khya \'säŋ-kyə\ *n* [Skt *sāṁkhya*, lit., based on calculation] : an orthodox Hindu philosophy teaching salvation through knowledge of the distinction between matter and souls
sann hemp \'sən-, 'sän-\ *n* [Hindi *san*] : SUNN
san·nup \'san-əp\ *n* [Abnaki *senanbe*] : a married male American Indian
sann·ya·si \(ˌ)sən-'yäs-ē\ *or* **sann·ya·sin** \-'yäs-ᵊn\ *n* [Hindi *sannyāsī*, fr. Skt *sannyāsin*] : a Hindu mendicant ascetic
¹sans \(ˌ)sanz\ *prep* [ME *saun, sans*, fr. MF *san, sans*, modif. of L *sine* without — more at SUNDER] : WITHOUT ⟨my love to thee is sound, ~ crack or flaw —Shak.⟩
²sans \'sanz\ *n, pl* **sans** : SANS SERIF
sans-cu·lotte \ˌsan-skyů-'lät\ *n* [F *sans-culotte*, lit., without breeches] **1** : an extreme radical republican in France at the time of the Revolution **2** : a person of the lower class: as **a** : one lacking culture and refinement **b** : a radical or violent extremist in politics — **sans-cu·lott·ic** \-'lät-ik\ *adj* — **sans-cu·lott·ish** \-ish\ *adj* — **sans-cu·lott·ism** \-ˌiz-əm, 'san-skyů-ˌlät-\ *n*
san·sei \(')sän-'sā, 'sän-ˌ\ *n, pl* **sansei** *also* **sanseis** *often cap* [Jap *san* third + *sei* generation] : a son or daughter of nisei parents who is born and educated in America and esp. in the U.S.
san·se·vie·ria \ˌsan(t)-sə-'vir-ē-ə\ *n* [NL, genus name, fr. Raimondo di Sangro, prince of *San Severo* †1774 It scholar] : any of a genus (*Sansevieria*) of tropical herbs of the lily family with showy mottled sword-shaped leaves usu. yielding a strong fiber
San·skrit \'san-ˌskrit, 'san(t)-skrət\ *n* [Skt *saṁskṛta*, lit., perfected, fr. *sam* together + *karoti* he makes] **1** : an ancient Indic language

that is the classical language of India and of Hinduism as described by the Indian grammarians **2** : classical Sanskrit together with the older Vedic and various later modifications of classical Sanskrit — see INDO-EUROPEAN LANGUAGES table — **Sanskrit** *adj* — **San·skrit·ist** \-əst\ *n*

San·skrit·ic \san-'skrit-ik\ *n* **1** : INDIC **2** : a group of Indic languages developed directly from Sanskrit — see INDO-EUROPEAN LANGUAGES table — **Sanskritic** *adj*

sans ser·if *or* **san·ser·if** \san-'ser-əf, 'sanz-\ *n* [prob. fr. *sans* + modif. of D *schreef* stroke — more at SERIF] : a letter or typeface with no serifs

sans serif

San·ta Claus \'sant-ē-ˌklȯz, 'sant-ə-\ *n* [modif. of D *Sinterklaas*, alter. of *Sint Nikolaas* Saint Nicholas *fl*4th cent., bishop of Myra, Asia Minor and patron saint of children] : a plump white-bearded and red-suited old man of modern myth who delivers presents to good children at Christmas time

San·ta Ger·tru·dis \ˌsant-ə-(ˌ)gər-'trüd-əs\ *n* [*Santa Gertrudis*, section of the King Ranch, Kingsville, Texas] : any of a breed of cherry-red beef cattle developed from a Brahman-Shorthorn cross and valued for their hardiness in hot climes and thrifty growth on grass

san·tir \san-'ti(ə)r\ *or* **san·tour** \-'tu̇(ə)r\ *n* [Ar *santīr*, *santūr*, fr. Gk *psaltērion* psaltery] : a Persian dulcimer

san·to·li·na \ˌsant-ᵊl-'ē-nə\ *n* [NL, genus name, alter. of L *santonica*] : any of a genus (*Santolina*) of Mediterranean composite undershrubs that have dissected leaves and clustered flower heads lacking ray flowers

san·ton·i·ca \san-'tän-i-kə\ *n* [NL, fr. L (*herba*) *santonica* an herb, prob. wormwood, fem. of *santonicus* of the Santoni, fr. *Santoni*, a people of Aquitania] **1** : a European wormwood (*Artemisia pauciflora*) **2** : the unexpanded dried flower heads of santonica or a related plant used as an anthelmintic

san·to·nin \'sant-ᵊn-ən, san-'tän-ən\ *n* [ISV, fr. NL *santonica*] : a poisonous slightly bitter crystalline compound $C_{15}H_{18}O_3$ found esp. in santonica and used as an anthelmintic

San·tos \'sant-əs\ *n* [*Santos*, Brazil] : a Brazilian coffee of moderate body and somewhat acid flavor produced chiefly in the state of São Paulo

[1]sap \'sap\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *sæp*; akin to OHG *saf* sap] **1 a** : the fluid part of a plant; *specif* : a watery solution that circulates through a plant's vascular system **b** (1) : a body fluid (as blood) essential to life, health, or vigor (2) : bodily health and vigor **2** : a foolish gullible person **3** : BLACKJACK, BLUDGEON

[2]sap *vt* **sapped; sap·ping** **1** : to drain or deprive of sap **2** : to knock out with a sap

[3]sap *n* [MF & OIt; MF *sappe* hoe, fr. OIt *zappa*] : the extension of a trench from within the trench itself to a point beneath an enemy's fortifications

[4]sap *vb* **sapped; sap·ping** *vi* : to proceed by digging a sap ~ *vt* **1** : to subvert by digging or eroding the substratum or foundation : UNDERMINE ⟨*sapped* by floods, their houses fell —John Dryden⟩ **2** : to weaken or exhaust the energy or vitality of **3** : to operate against or pierce by a sap ***syn*** see WEAKEN

sap green *n* : a strong yellow green

sap·head \'sap-ˌhed\ *n* : a weak-minded stupid person : SAP — **sap·head·ed** \-'hed-əd\ *adj*

sa·phe·nous \sə-'fē-nəs, 'saf-ə-nəs\ *adj* [*saphena* (saphenous vein), fr. ME, fr. ML, fr. Ar *sāfin*] : of, relating to, or being either of the two chief superficial veins of the leg

sap house *n* : a maple sugarhouse

sap·id \'sap-əd\ *adj* [L *sapidus* tasty, fr. *sapere* to taste — more at SAGE] **1 a** : affecting the organs of taste : possessing flavor **b** : having a strong agreeable flavor **2** : agreeable to the mind — **sa·pid·i·ty** \sa-'pid-ət-ē\ *n*

sa·pi·ence \'sā-pē-ən(t)s, 'sap-ē-\ *n* : WISDOM, SAGENESS

sa·pi·ens \'sap-ē-ənz, 'sā-pē-, -ˌenz\ *adj* [NL (specific epithet of *Homo sapiens*), fr. L, pp. of *sapere*] : of, relating to, or being recent man (*Homo sapiens*) as distinguished from various fossil men

sa·pi·ent \'sā-pē-ənt, 'sap-ē-\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *sapient-*, *sapiens*, fr. prp. of *sapere* to taste, be wise] : possessing or expressing great sagacity or discernment ***syn*** see WISE — **sa·pi·ent·ly** *adv*

sap·less \'sap-ləs\ *adj* **1** : destitute of sap : DRY **2** : lacking vitality or vigor : FEEBLE — **sap·less·ness** *n*

sap·ling \'sap-liŋ, -lən\ *n* **1** : a young tree; *specif* : one not over four inches in diameter at breast height **2** : YOUTH 2a

sap·o·dil·la \ˌsap-ə-'dil-ə, -'dē-(y)ə\ *n* [Sp *zapotillo*, dim. of *zapote* sapodilla — more at SAPOTA] : a tropical evergreen tree (*Achras zapota* of the family Sapotaceae, the sapodilla family) with hard reddish wood, a latex that yields chicle, and a rough-skinned brownish edible fruit; *also* : its fruit

sa·po·ge·nin \ˌsap-ə-'jen-ən, sə-'päj-ə-nən\ *n* [ISV *saponin* + *-genin* (compound formed from another compound)] : a nonsugar portion of a saponin that is typically obtained by hydrolysis, has either a complex terpenoid or a steroidal structure, and in the latter case forms a practicable starting point in the synthesis of steroid hormones

sap·o·na·ceous \ˌsap-ə-'nā-shəs\ *adj* [NL *saponaceus*, fr. L *sapon-*, *sapo* soap, of Gmc origin; akin to OE *sāpe* soap] : resembling or having the qualities of soap — **sap·o·na·ceous·ness** *n*

sa·pon·i·fy \sə-'pän-ə-ˌfī\ *vb* **-fied; -fy·ing** [F *saponifier*, fr. L *sapon-*, *sapo*] *vt* : to convert (as fat) into soap; *specif* : to hydrolyze (a fat) with alkali to form a soap and glycerol ~ *vi* : to undergo saponifying — **sa·pon·i·fi·able** \-ˌfī-ə-bəl\ *adj* — **sa·pon·i·fi·ca·tion** \-ˌpän-ə-fə-'kā-shən\ *n* — **sa·pon·i·fi·er** \-ˌfī(-ə)r\ *n*

sa·po·nin \'sap-ə-nən, sə-'pō-\ *n* [F *saponine*, fr. L *sapon-*, *sapo*] : any of various mostly toxic surfactant glucosides that occur in plants (as soapwort or soapbark) and are characterized by the property of producing a soapy lather; *esp* : a hygroscopic amorphous saponin mixture used esp. as a foaming and emulsifying agent and detergent

sap·o·nite \'sap-ə-ˌnīt\ *n* [Sw *saponit*, fr. L *sapon-*, *sapo* soap] : a hydrous magnesium aluminum silicate occurring in soft soapy amorphous masses and filling veins and cavities (as in serpentine)

sa·por \'sā-pər, -ˌpȯ(ə)r\ *n* [ME, fr. L — more at SAVOR] : a property (as bitterness) that affects the sense of taste : SAVOR, FLAVOR — **sa·po·rous** \'sā-pə-rəs, 'sap-ə-\ *adj*

sa·po·ta \sə-'pōt-ə\ *n* [modif. of Sp *zapote*, fr. Nahuatl *tzapotl*] : SAPODILLA

sap·pan·wood \sə-'pan-ˌwu̇d; 'sap-ˌan-, -ən-\ *n* [Malay *sapang* heartwood of sappanwood + E *wood*] : a red brazilwood that is obtained from an East Indian leguminous tree (*Caesalpinia sappan*); *also* : this tree

sap·per \'sap-ər\ *n* **1** : a military specialist in field fortification work (as sapping) **2** : a military specialist who lays, detects, and disarms mines

[1]sap·phic \'saf-ik\ *adj* **1** *cap* : of or relating to the Greek lyric poet Sappho **2** : of, relating to, or consisting of a 4-line strophe made up of chiefly trochaic and dactylic feet **3** : LESBIAN 2

[2]sapphic *n* **1** : a sapphic strophe **2** : a verse having the metrical pattern of one of the first three lines of a sapphic strophe

sap·phire \'saf-ˌī(ə)r\ *n* [ME *safir*, fr. OF, fr. L *sapphirus*, fr. Gk *sappheiros*, fr. Heb *sappīr*, fr. Skt *śanipriya*, lit., dear to the planet Saturn, fr. *Śani* Saturn + *priya* dear] **1 a** : a gem variety of corundum in transparent or translucent crystals of a color other than red; *esp* : one of a transparent rich blue **b** : a gem of such corundum **2** : a variable color averaging a deep purplish blue — **sapphire** *adj*

sap·phi·rine \'saf-ə-ˌrīn, 'saf-ˌī(ə)r-ˌēn, sa-'fī-rən\ *adj* **1** : made of sapphire **2** : resembling sapphire esp. in color

sap·phism \'saf-ˌiz-əm\ *n* [*Sappho* + *-ism*; fr. the belief that Sappho was homosexual] : LESBIANISM

sap·pi·ness \'sap-ē-nəs\ *n* **1** : the state of being full of or smelling of sap **2** : the quality or state of being sappy : FOOLISHNESS

sap·py \'sap-ē\ *adj* **sap·pi·er; -est** **1** : abounding with sap **2** : resembling or consisting largely of sapwood **3 a** : foolishly or immaturely sentimental **b** : lacking in good sense : SILLY

sapr- *or* **sapro-** *comb form* [Gk, fr. *sapros*] **1** : rotten : putrid ⟨*sa*premia⟩ **2** : dead or decaying organic matter ⟨*sapro*phyte⟩

sa·pre·mia \sa-'prē-mē-ə\ *n* [NL] : a toxic state in which toxic products of putrefactive bacteria are present in the blood — **sa·pre·mic** \-mik\ *adj*

sap·robe \'sap-ˌrōb\ *n* [ISV *sapr-* + Gk *bios* life — more at QUICK] : a saprobic organism

sa·pro·bic \sa-'prō-bik\ *adj* : SAPROPHYTIC; *also* : living in or being an environment rich in organic matter and relatively free from oxygen — **sa·pro·bi·cal·ly** \-bi-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

sap·ro·gen·ic \ˌsap-rə-'jen-ik\ *adj* : of, causing, or resulting from putrefaction — **sap·ro·ge·nic·i·ty** \-rō-jə-'nis-ət-ē\ *n*

sap·ro·lite \'sap-rə-ˌlīt\ *n* : disintegrated rock that lies in its original place

sap·ro·pe·lic \ˌsap-rə-'pel-ik, -'pē-lik\ *adj* [ISV *sapr-* + Gk *pēlos* clay, mud] : living in mud or ooze rich in decaying organic matter

sa·proph·a·gous \sa-'präf-ə-gəs\ *adj* [NL *saprophagus*, fr. *sapr-* + *-phagus* -phagous] : feeding on decaying matter

sap·ro·phyte \'sap-rə-ˌfīt\ *n* [ISV] : a saprophytic organism; *esp* : a plant living on dead or decaying organic matter

sap·ro·phyt·ic \ˌsap-rə-'fit-ik\ *adj* : obtaining food by absorbing dissolved organic material; *esp* : obtaining nourishment osmotically from the products of organic breakdown and decay — **sap·ro·phyt·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

sap·ro·zo·ic \ˌsap-rə-'zō-ik\ *adj* : SAPROPHYTIC — used of animals (as protozoans)

sap·sa·go \sap-'sā-(ˌ)gō, 'sap-sə-ˌgō\ *n* [modif. of G *schabziger*] : a very hard green skim-milk cheese flavored with the powdered leaves of an aromatic legume (*Trigonella coerulea*) and shaped in truncated cones

sap·suck·er \'sap-ˌsək-ər\ *n* : any of various small American woodpeckers (esp. genus *Sphyrapicus*) that drill holes in trees in order to obtain sap and insects for food

sap·wood \-ˌwu̇d\ *n* : the younger softer living or physiologically active outer portion of wood that lies between the cambium and the heartwood and is more permeable, less durable, and usu. lighter in color than the heartwood

sar·a·band *or* **sar·a·bande** \'sar-ə-ˌband\ *n* [F *sarabande*, fr. Sp *zarabanda*] **1** : a stately court dance of the 17th and 18th centuries resembling the minuet **2** : the music for the saraband in slow triple time with accent on the second beat

Sar·a·cen \'sar-ə-sən\ *n* [ME, fr. LL *Saracenus*, fr. LGk *Sarakēnos*] : a member of a nomadic people of the deserts between Syria and Arabia; *broadly* : ARAB — **Saracen** *adj* — **Sar·a·cen·ic** \ˌsar-ə-'sen-ik\ *adj*

Sa·rah \'ser-ə, 'sar-ə, 'sā-rə\ *n* [Heb *Śārāh*] **1** : the wife of Abraham and mother of Isaac **2** : a kinswoman of Tobias married to him

sa·ran \sə-'ran\ *n* [fr. *Saran*, a trademark] : a tough flexible thermoplastic resin

sarape \sə-'räp-ē\ *var of* SERAPE

Sar·a·to·ga trunk \ˌsar-ə-ˌtō-gə-\ *n* [*Saratoga* Springs, N.Y.] : a large traveling trunk usu. with a rounded top

sarc- *or* **sarco-** *comb form* [Gk *sark-*, *sarko-*, fr. *sark-*, *sarx*] **1** : flesh ⟨*sarc*ous⟩ **2** : striated muscle ⟨*sarco*lemma⟩

sar·casm \'sär-ˌkaz-əm\ *n* [F *sarcasme*, fr. LL *sarcasmos*, fr. Gk *sarkasmos*, fr. *sarkazein* to tear flesh, bite the lips in rage, sneer, fr. *sark-*, *sarx* flesh; akin to Av *thwarəs* to cut] **1** : a sharp and often satirical or ironic utterance designed to cut or give pain ⟨tired of his contemptuous ~s⟩ **2 a** : a mode of satirical wit depending for its effect on bitter, caustic, and often ironic language that is usu. directed against an individual ⟨~ is another mode of humor that

requires a master hand —E. P. J. Corbett〉 **b** : the use or language of sarcasm 〈this is no time to indulge in ~〉 ***syn*** see WIT

sar·cas·tic \sär-'kas-tik\ *adj* [fr. *sarcasm*, after such pairs as E *enthusiasm: enthusiastic*] **1** : having the character of sarcasm 〈~ criticism〉 **2** : given to the use of sarcasm : CAUSTIC 〈a ~ critic〉 — **sar·cas·ti·cal·ly** \-ti-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

syn SARCASTIC, SATIRIC, IRONIC, SARDONIC *shared meaning element* : marked by bitterness and a power or will to cut or sting

sarce·net *or* **sarse·net** \'sär-snət\ *n* [ME *sarcenet*, fr. AF *sarzinett*] : a soft thin silk in plain or twill weaves used for dresses, veilings, or trimmings — **sarcenet** *adj*

sar·co·carp \'sär-kə-ˌkärp\ *n* [F *sarcocarpe*, fr. *sarc-* + *-carpe* -carp] **1** : a usu. thickened and fleshy mesocarp **2** : a fleshy fruit

sar·coid \'sär-ˌkȯid\ *n* **1** : any of various diseases characterized esp. by the formation of nodules in the skin **2** : a nodule characteristic of sarcoid or of sarcoidosis

sar·coid·osis \ˌsär-ˌkȯid-'ō-səs\ *n, pl* **-o·ses** \-ˌsēz\ [NL] : a chronic disease of unknown cause that is characterized by the formation of nodules resembling true tubercles esp. in the lymph nodes, lungs, bones, and skin

sar·co·lem·ma \ˌsär-kə-'lem-ə\ *n* [NL, fr. *sarc-* + Gk *lemma* husk — more at LEMMA] : the thin transparent homogeneous sheath enclosing a striated muscle fiber — **sar·co·lem·mal** \-əl\ *adj*

sar·co·ma \sär-'kō-mə\ *n, pl* **-mas** *or* **-ma·ta** \-mət-ə\ [NL, fr. Gk *sarkōmat-, sarkōma* fleshy growth, fr. *sarkoun* to grow flesh, fr. *sark-, sarx*] : a malignant neoplasm arising in tissue of mesodermal origin (as connective tissue, bone, cartilage, or striated muscle) — **sar·co·ma·tous** \sär-'kō-mət-əs\ *adj*

sar·co·ma·to·sis \(ˌ)sär-ˌkō-mə-'tō-səs\ *n, pl* **-to·ses** \-ˌsēz\ [NL] : a disease characterized by the presence and spread of sarcomas

sar·co·mere \'sär-kə-ˌmi(ə)r\ *n* : one of the repeating structural units of striated muscle fibrils — **sar·co·mer·ic** \ˌsär-kə-'mi(ə)r-ik, -'mer-\ *adj*

sar·coph·a·gous \sär-'käf-ə-gəs\ *or* **sar·co·phag·ic** \ˌsär-kə-'faj-ik\ *adj* [L *sarcophagus* flesh-eating, fr. Gk *sarkophagos*] : CARNIVOROUS — **sar·coph·a·gy** \sär-'käf-ə-jē\ *n*

sar·coph·a·gus \sär-'käf-ə-gəs\ *n, pl* **-gi** \-ˌgī, -ˌjī, -ˌgē\ *also* **-gus·es** [L *sarcophagus* (*lapis*) limestone used for coffins, fr. Gk (*lithos*) *sarkophagos*, lit., flesh-eating stone, fr. *sark-* sarc- + *phagein* to eat — more at BAKSHEESH] : a stone coffin

sar·co·plasm \'sär-kə-ˌplaz-əm\ *n* [NL *sarcoplasma*] : the cytoplasm of a striated muscle fiber — **sar·co·plas·mic** \ˌsär-kə-'plaz-mik\ *adj*

sar·co·plas·ma \ˌsär-kə-'plaz-mə\ *n, pl* **-ma·ta** \-mət-ə\ [NL] : SARCOPLASM — **sar·co·plas·mat·ic** \-ˌplaz-'mat-ik\ *adj*

sarcoplasmic reticulum *n* : the endoplasmic reticulum of a striated muscle fiber

sar·cop·tic mange \(ˌ)sär-ˌkäp-tik-\ *n* [NL *Sarcoptes*, genus of mites, fr. *sarc-* + Gk *koptein* to cut — more at CAPON] : mange caused by mites (genus *Sarcoptes*) burrowing in the skin esp. of the head and face

sar·co·some \'sär-kə-ˌsōm\ *n* [NL *sarcosoma*, fr. *sarc-* + *-soma* -some] : a mitochondrion of a striated muscle fiber — **sar·co·som·al** \ˌsär-kə-'sō-məl\ *adj*

sard \'särd\ *n* [F *sarde*, fr. L *sarda*] : a deep orange-red variety of chalcedony classed by some as a variety of carnelian

sardar *var of* SIRDAR

sar·dine \sär-'dēn\ *n, pl* **sardines** *also* **sardine** [ME *sardeine*, fr. MF *sardine*, fr. L *sardina*] **1** : any of several small or immature clupeid fishes; *esp* : the young of the European pilchard (*Sardinia pilchardus*) when of a size suitable for preserving for food **2** : any of various small fishes (as an anchovy) resembling the true sardines or similarly preserved for food

Sar·din·ian \sär-'din-ē-ən, -'din-yən\ *n* **1** : a native or inhabitant of Sardinia **2** : the Romance language of central and southern Sardinia — **Sardinian** *adj*

sar·don·ic \sär-'dän-ik\ *adj* [F *sardonique*, fr. Gk *sardonios*] : disdainfully or skeptically humorous : derisively mocking 〈a ~ comment〉 〈his ~ expression〉 ***syn*** see SARCASTIC — **sar·don·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

sar·don·i·cism \sär-'dän-ə-ˌsiz-əm\ *n* : sardonic quality or humor

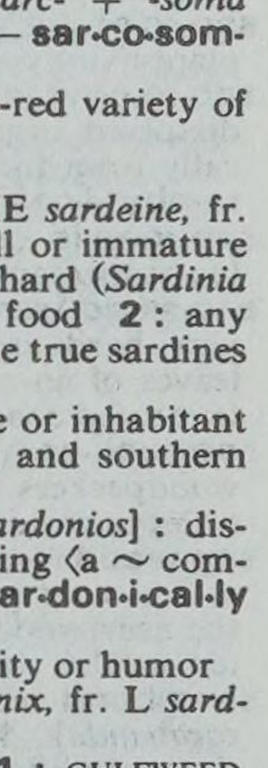
sard·onyx \sär-'dän-iks *also* 'särd-ᵊn-\ *n* [ME *sardonix*, fr. L *sardonyx*, fr. Gk] : an onyx having parallel layers of sard

sar·gas·so \sär-'gas-(ˌ)ō\ *n, pl* **-sos** [Pg *sargaço*] **1** : GULFWEED, SARGASSUM **2** : a mass of floating vegetation and esp. sargassums

sar·gas·sum \sär-'gas-əm\ *n* [NL, genus name, fr. ISV *sargasso*] : any of a genus (*Sargassum*) of brown algae that have a branching thallus with lateral outgrowths differentiated as leafy segments, air bladders, or spore-bearing structures : GULFWEED

sarge \'särj\ *n* [by shortening & alter.] : SERGEANT

sa·ri *or* **sa·ree** \'sär-ē\ *n* [Hindi *sāṛī*, fr. Skt *śāṭī*] : a garment of Hindu women that consists of yards of lightweight cloth draped so that one end forms a skirt and the other a head or shoulder covering



sari

sa·rin \'sär-ən, zä-'rēn\ *n* [G] : an extremely toxic chemical warfare agent $C_4H_{10}FO_2P$ that is a powerful cholinesterase inhibitor

sark \'särk\ *n* [ME (Sc) *serk*, fr. OE *serc*; akin to ON *serkr* shirt] *dial chiefly Brit* : SHIRT

sa·rod *also* **sa·rode** \sə-'rōd\ *n* [Hindi *sarod*, fr. Per] : a lute of northern India — **sa·rod·ist** \-'rōd-əst\ *n*

sa·rong \sə-'rȯŋ, -'räŋ\ *n* [Malay *kain sarong* cloth sheath] **1** : a loose skirt made of a long strip of cloth wrapped around the body and worn by men and women of the Malay archipelago and the Pacific islands **2** : cloth for sarongs

Sar·pe·don \sär-'pēd-ᵊn\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *Sarpēdōn*] : a son of Zeus and Europa and king of Lycia killed in the Trojan War

sar·ra·ce·nia \ˌsar-ə-'sē-nē-ə, -'sen-ē-\ *n* [NL, genus name, fr. Michel *Sarrazin* †1734 F physician & naturalist] : any of a genus (*Sarracenia* of the family Sarraceniaceae) that includes the insectivorous bog herbs of eastern No. America with pitcher-shaped or tubular leaves having an arched or hooded flap at the apex

sar·sa·pa·ril·la \ˌsas-(ə-)pə-'ril-ə, ˌsärs-, -'rel-\ *n* [Sp *zarzaparilla*] **1 a** : any of various tropical American greenbriers **b** : the dried roots of a sarsaparilla used esp. as a flavoring **2** : any of various plants (as wild sarsaparilla) that resemble or are used as a substitute for sarsaparilla **3** : a sweetened carbonated beverage flavored with birch oil and sassafras

sar·to·ri·al \sär-'tōr-ē-əl, sə(r)-, -'tȯr-\ *adj* [L *sartor*] : of or relating to a tailor or tailored clothes — **sar·to·ri·al·ly** \-ē-ə-lē\ *adv*

sar·to·ri·us \sär-'tōr-ē-əs, -'tȯr-\ *n, pl* **-rii** \-ē-ˌī, -ē-ˌē\ [NL, fr. L *sartor* tailor, fr. *sartus*, pp. of *sarcire* to mend — more at EXORCISE] : a muscle that crosses the front of the thigh obliquely, assists in rotating the leg to the position assumed in sitting like a tailor, and in man is the longest muscle

Sar·um \'sar-əm, 'ser-\ *adj* [*Sarum*, old borough near Salisbury, England] : of or relating to the Roman rite as modified in Salisbury and used in England, Wales, and Ireland before the Reformation

SASE *abbr* self-addressed stamped envelope

¹sash \'sash\ *n* [Ar *shāsh* muslin] : a band worn about the waist or over one shoulder and used as a dress accessory or the emblem of an honorary or military order — **sashed** \'sasht\ *adj*

²sash *n, pl* **sash** *also* **sash·es** [prob. modif. of F *châssis* chassis (taken as pl.)] : the framework in which panes of glass are set in a window or door; *also* : such a framework together with its panes forming a usu. movable part of a window

¹sa·shay \sa-'shā, sī-\ *vi* [alter. of *chassé*] **1** : to make a chassé **2 a** : WALK, GLIDE, GO **b** : to strut or move about in an ostentatious or conspicuous manner **c** : to proceed or move in a diagonal or sideways manner

²sashay *n* [by alter.] **1** : CHASSE **2** : TRIP, EXCURSION **3** : a square-dance figure in which partners sidestep in a circle around each other with the man moving behind the woman

sa·shi·mi \'säsh-ə-mē\ *n* [Jap] : a Japanese dish consisting of thinly sliced raw fish

Sask *abbr* Saskatchewan

sas·ka·toon \ˌsas-kə-'tün\ *n* [*Saskatoon*, Saskatchewan, Canada] : SERVICEBERRY 2; *esp* : a shrubby western serviceberry (*Amelanchier alnifolia*) with sweet usu. purple fruit

¹sass \'sas\ *n* [alter. of ¹*sauce*] : impudent speech

²sass *vt* : to talk impudently or disrespectfully to

sas·sa·fras \'sas-(ə-)ˌfras\ *n* [Sp *sasafrás*] **1** : a tall eastern No. American tree (*Sassafras albidum*) of the laurel family with mucilaginous twigs and leaves **2** : the dried root bark of the sassafras used esp. as a diaphoretic or flavoring agent

¹Sas·sa·ni·an *or* **Sa·sa·ni·an** \sə-'sā-nē-ən, sa-'sā-\ *adj* : of, relating to, or having the characteristics of the Sassanid dynasty of ancient Persia or its art or architecture

²Sassanian *or* **Sasanian** *n* : SASSANID

Sas·sa·nid \sə-'sän-əd, -'san-; 'sas-ᵊn-\ *n* [NL *Sassanidae* Sassanids, fr. *Sassan*, founder of the dynasty] : a member of a dynasty of Persian kings of the 3d to 7th centuries — **Sassanid** *adj*

sass·wood \'sas-ˌwùd\ *n* [earlier *sassywood*, fr. *sassy* sasswood + *wood*] : a western African leguminous tree (*Erythrophloeum guineënse*) with a poisonous bark and a hard strong insect-resistant wood

sassy \'sas-ē\ *adj* **sass·i·er; -est** [alter. of *saucy*] **1** : IMPUDENT, SAUCY **2** : VIGOROUS, LIVELY **3** : distinctively smart and stylish 〈a ~ black-and-white bow tie —Jean Stafford〉

sas·sy bark \'sas-ē-\ *n* [*sassy* sasswood, prob. of African origin; akin to Ewe *se³se³wu³*, an African timber tree] : sasswood bark formerly used (as by tribal Africans) as poison in ordeals

¹sat *past of* SIT

²sat *abbr* saturate; saturated; saturation

Sat *abbr* Saturday

SAT *abbr* Scholastic Aptitude Test

Sa·tan \'sāt-ᵊn\ *n* [ME, fr. OE, fr. LL, fr. Gk, fr. Heb *śāṭān*] : the adversary of God and lord of evil in Judaism and Christianity

sa·tang \sə-'täŋ\ *n, pl* **satang** *or* **satangs** [Thai *satāṅ*] — see *baht* at MONEY table

sa·tan·ic \sə-'tan-ik, sā-\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or characteristic of Satan or satanism 〈~ pride〉 〈~ rites〉 **2** : characterized by extreme cruelty or viciousness — **sa·tan·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

sa·tan·ism \'sāt-ᵊn-ˌiz-əm\ *n, often cap* **1** : innate wickedness : DIABOLISM **2** : obsession with or affinity for evil; *specif* : the worship of Satan marked by the travesty of Christian rites — **sa·tan·ist** \-ᵊn-əst\ *n, often cap*

satch·el \'sach-əl\ *n* [ME *sachel*, fr. MF, fr. L *sacellus*, dim. of *saccus* bag — more at SACK] : a small bag often with a shoulder strap 〈schoolboys with their ~s〉 — **satch·el·ful** \-ˌfůl\ *n*

satd *abbr* saturated

¹sate \'sāt, 'sat\ *archaic past of* SIT

²sate \'sāt\ *vt* **sat·ed; sat·ing** [prob. by shortening & alter. fr. *satiate*] **1** : to cloy with overabundance : GLUT **2** : to appease (as a thirst) by indulging to the full ***syn*** see SATIATE

sa·teen \sa-'tēn, sə-\ *n* [alter. of *satin*] : a smooth durable lustrous fabric usu. made of cotton in satin weave

sat·el·lite \'sat-ᵊl-ˌīt\ *n* [MF, fr. L *satellit-, satelles* attendant] **1** : a hired agent or obsequious follower : MINION, SYCOPHANT **2 a** : a celestial body orbiting another of larger size **b** : a man-made object or vehicle intended to orbit the earth, the moon, or another celestial body **3** : someone or something attendant, subordinate, or dependent; *esp* : a country politically and economically dominated or controlled by another more powerful country **4** : a usu. independent urban community situated near but not immediately adjacent to a large city ***syn*** see FOLLOWER — **satellite** *adj*

sa·tem \'sät-əm\ *adj* [Av *satəm* hundred; fr. the fact that its initial sound (derived fr. an alveolar fricative) is the representative of an IE palatal stop — more at HUNDRED] : of, relating to, or constituting that part of the Indo-European language family in which the palatal stops became in prehistoric times palatal or alveolar fricatives — compare CENTUM

sa·ti \(ˌ)sə-'tē, 'sə-ˌtē\ *var of* SUTTEE

sa·tia·ble \'sā-shə-bəl\ *adj* : capable of being appeased or satisfied
[1]sa·tiate \'sā-sh(ē-)ət\ *adj* : filled to satiety : SATIATED
[2]sa·ti·ate \'sā-shē-ˌāt\ *vt* **-at·ed; -at·ing** [L *satiatus*, pp. of *satiare*, fr. *satis* enough — more at SAD] : to satisfy (as a need or desire) fully or to excess — **sa·ti·a·tion** \ˌsā-s(h)ē-'ā-shən\ *n*
syn SATIATE, SATE, SURFEIT, CLOY, PALL, GLUT, GORGE *shared meaning element* : to fill to repletion
sa·ti·ety \sə-'tī-ət-ē *also* 'sā-sh(ē-)ət-\ *n* [MF *satieté*, fr. L *satietat-*, *satietas*, fr. *satis*] **1** : the quality or state of being fed or gratified to or beyond capacity : SURFEIT, FULLNESS **2** : the revulsion or disgust caused by overindulgence or excess
[1]sat·in \'sat-ᵊn\ *n* [ME, fr. MF] : a fabric (as of silk) in satin weave with lustrous face and dull back
[2]satin *adj* **1** : made of or covered with satin **2** : suggestive of satin esp. in smooth lustrous appearance or sleekness to touch
sat·in·et \ˌsat-ᵊn-'et\ *n* **1** : a thin silk satin or imitation satin **2** : a variation of satin weave used in making satinet
satin stitch *n* : an embroidery stitch nearly alike on both sides and worked so closely as to resemble satin
satin weave *n* : a weave in which warp threads interlace with filling threads to produce a smooth-faced fabric
sat·in·wood \'sat-ᵊn-ˌwu̇d\ *n* **1 a** : an East Indian tree (*Chloroxylon swietenia*) of the mahogany family that yields a lustrous yellowish brown wood **b** : a tree (as a yellowwood) with wood resembling true satinwood **2** : the wood of a satinwood
sat·iny \'sat-nē, 'sat-ᵊn-ē\ *adj* : having or resembling the soft lustrous smoothness of satin
sat·ire \'sa-ˌtī(ə)r\ *n* [MF, fr. L *satura, satira*, fr. (*lanx*) *satura* full plate, medley, fr. fem. of *satur* sated; akin to L *satis* enough — more at SAD] **1** : a literary work holding up human vices and follies to ridicule or scorn **2** : trenchant wit, irony, or sarcasm used to expose and discredit vice or folly ***syn*** see WIT
sa·tir·ic \sə-'tir-ik\ *or* **sa·tir·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or constituting satire ⟨~ writers⟩ ⟨the ~ undertone of his essay⟩ **2** : manifesting or given to satire ⟨watched by his ~ companion⟩ ***syn*** see SARCASTIC — **sa·tir·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
sat·i·rist \'sat-ə-rəst\ *n* : one that satirizes; *esp* : a writer of satire
sat·i·rize \-ˌrīz\ *vb* **-rized; -riz·ing** *vi* : to utter or write satire ~ *vt* : to censure or ridicule by means of satire
sat·is·fac·tion \ˌsat-əs-'fak-shən\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. LL *satisfaction-*, *satisfactio*, fr. L, reparation, amends, fr. *satisfactus*, pp. of *satisfacere* to satisfy] **1 a** : the payment through penance of the temporal punishment incurred by a sin **b** : reparation for sin that meets the demands of divine justice **2 a** : fulfillment of a need or want **b** : the quality or state of being satisfied : CONTENTMENT **c** : a source or means of enjoyment : GRATIFICATION **3 a** : compensation for a loss or injury : ATONEMENT, RESTITUTION **b** : the discharge of a legal obligation or claim **c** : VINDICATION **4** : convinced assurance or certainty ⟨proved to the ~ of the court⟩
sat·is·fac·to·ri·ly \-'fak-t(ə-)rə-lē\ *adv* : in a satisfactory manner
sat·is·fac·to·ry \ˌsat-əs-'fak-t(ə-)rē\ *adj* : giving satisfaction : ADEQUATE — **sat·is·fac·to·ri·ness** *n*
sat·is·fi·able \'sat-əs-ˌfī-ə-bəl\ *adj* : capable of being satisfied
sat·is·fy \'sat-əs-ˌfī\ *vb* **-fied; -fy·ing** [ME *satisfien*, fr. MF *satisfier*, modif. of L *satisfacere*, fr. *satis* enough + *facere* to do, make — more at SAD, DO] *vt* **1 a** : to carry out the terms of (as a contract) : DISCHARGE **b** : to meet a financial obligation to **2** : to make reparation to (an injured party) : INDEMNIFY **3 a** : to make happy : PLEASE **b** : to gratify to the full : APPEASE **4 a** : CONVINCE **b** : to put an end to (doubt or uncertainty) : DISPEL **5 a** : to conform to (as specifications) : be adequate to (an end in view) **b** : to make true by fulfilling a condition ⟨values that ~ an equation⟩ ⟨~ a hypothesis⟩ **6** : to respond to by chemical union ⟨~ valences⟩ ~ *vi* : to be adequate : SUFFICE; *also* : PLEASE — **sat·is·fy·ing·ly** \-iŋ-lē\ *adv*
syn **1** SATISFY, FULFILL, MEET, ANSWER *shared meaning element* : to measure up to a set of criteria or requirements
2 see PAY
sa·to·ri \sə-'tōr-ē, sä-, -'tȯr-\ *n* [Jap] : a state of intuitive illumination sought in Zen Buddhism
sa·trap \'sā-ˌtrap *also* 'sa-ˌtrap *or* 'sa-trəp\ *n* [ME, fr. L *satrapes*, fr. Gk *satrapēs*, fr. OPer *xshathrapāvan*, lit., protector of the dominion] **1** : the governor of a province in ancient Persia **2 a** : RULER **b** : a subordinate official : HENCHMAN
sa·tra·py \'sā-trə-pē, 'sa-, -ˌtrap-ē\ *n, pl* **-pies** : the territory or jurisdiction of a satrap
sat·u·ra·ble \'sach-(ə-)rə-bəl\ *adj* : capable of being saturated
sat·u·rant \'sach-(ə-)rənt\ *n* : something that saturates
[1]sat·u·rate \'sach-ə-ˌrāt\ *vt* **-rat·ed; -rat·ing** [L *saturatus*, pp. of *saturare*, fr. *satur* sated — more at SATIRE] **1** : to satisfy fully : SATIATE **2** : to treat, furnish, or charge with something to the point where no more can be absorbed, dissolved, or retained ⟨water *saturated* with salt⟩ **3 a** : to fill completely with something that permeates or pervades ⟨moonglow . . . ~*s* an empty sky — Henry Miller⟩ **b** : to load to capacity **4** : to cause to combine till there is no further tendency to combine ***syn*** see SOAK — **sat·u·ra·tor** \-ˌrāt-ər\ *n*
[2]sat·u·rate \'sach-(ə-)rət\ *adj* : SATURATED
sat·u·rat·ed \'sach-ə-ˌrāt-əd\ *adj* **1** : full of moisture : made thoroughly wet **2 a** : being the most concentrated solution that can persist in the presence of an excess of the dissolved substance **b** : being a compound that does not tend to unite directly with another compound — used esp. of organic compounds containing no double or triple bonds
sat·u·ra·tion \ˌsach-ə-'rā-shən\ *n* **1 a** : the act of saturating : the state of being saturated **b** : SATIETY, SURFEIT **2** : conversion of an unsaturated to a saturated chemical compound (as by hydrogenation) **3** : a state of maximum impregnation: as **a** : complete infiltration : PERMEATION **b** : the presence in air of the most water possible under existent pressure and temperature **c** : magnetization to the point beyond which a further increase in the intensity of the magnetizing force will produce no further magnetization **4 a** : chromatic purity : freedom from dilution with white **b** (1) : degree of difference from the gray having the same lightness — used of an object color (2) : degree of difference from the achromatic light-source color of the same brightness — used of a light-source color **5** : the supplying of a market with all the goods it will absorb **6** : an overwhelming concentration of military forces or firepower
Sat·ur·day \'sat-ərd-ē\ *n* [ME *saterday*, fr. OE *sæterndæg*; akin to OFris *sāterdei*; both fr. a prehistoric WGmc compound whose first component was borrowed fr. L *Saturnus* Saturn and whose second component is represented by OE *dæg* day] : the seventh day of the week — **Sat·ur·days** \-ēz\ *adv*
Sat·urn \'sat-ərn\ *n* [L *Saturnus*] **1** : a Roman god of agriculture and father by Ops of Jupiter **2** : the planet 6th in order from the sun — see PLANET table
sat·ur·na·lia \ˌsat-ər-'nāl-yə, -'nā-lē-ə\ *n pl but sing or pl in constr* [L, fr. neut. pl. of *saturnalis* of Saturn, fr. *Saturnus*] **1** *cap* : the festival of Saturn in ancient Rome beginning on Dec. 17 **2** *sing, pl* **saturnalias** *also* **saturnalia** **a** : an unrestrained often licentious celebration : ORGY **b** : EXCESS, EXTRAVAGANCE — **sat·ur·na·lian** \-'nāl-yən, -'nā-lē-ən\ *adj* — **sat·ur·na·lian·ly** *adv*
Sa·tur·ni·an \sa-'tər-nē-ən, sə-\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or influenced by the planet Saturn **2** *archaic* : of or relating to the god Saturn or the golden age of his reign
sa·tur·ni·id \-nē-əd\ *n* [deriv. of NL *Saturnia*, genus of moths, fr. L, daughter of the god Saturn] : any of a large family (Saturniidae) of stout strong-winged moths (as a luna moth or a cecropia moth) with hairy bodies — **saturniid** *adj*
sat·ur·nine \'sat-ər-ˌnīn\ *adj* **1** : born under or influenced astrologically by the planet Saturn **2 a** : cold and steady in mood : slow to act or change **b** : of a gloomy or surly disposition **c** : having a sardonic aspect ⟨a ~ smile⟩ **3** : of, relating to, or produced by the absorption of lead into the system ⟨~ poisoning⟩ — **sat·ur·nine·ly** *adv*
sat·urn·ism \'sat-ər-ˌniz-əm\ *n* [*saturn* (lead)] : LEAD POISONING
sa·tya·gra·ha \(ˌ)sə-'tyä-grə-hə\ *n* [Skt *satyāgraha*, lit., insistence on truth] : pressure for social and political reform through friendly passive resistance practiced by M. K. Gandhi and his followers in India
sa·tyr \'sāt-ər, 'sat-\ *n* [ME, fr. L *satyrus*, fr. Gk *satyros*] **1** *often cap* : a sylvan deity of Greek mythology having certain characteristics of a horse or goat and fond of Dionysian revelry **2** : a lecherous man : one having satyriasis **3** : any of many usu. brown and gray butterflies (family Satyridae) often with ocelli on the wings — **sa·tyr·ic** \sā-'tir-ik, sə-, sa-\ *adj*


satyr 1

sa·ty·ri·a·sis \ˌsāt-ə-'rī-ə-səs, ˌsat-\ *n* [LL, fr. Gk, fr. *satyros*] : excessive or abnormal sexual craving in the male
sa·ty·rid \sə-'tī-rəd\ *n* [NL *Satyridae*, group name, deriv. of Gk *satyros*] : any of a family (Satyridae) of usu. brownish butterflies that feed on grasses as larvae and have one or more main wing veins swollen basally — **satyrid** *adj*
satyr play *n* : a comic play of ancient Greece burlesquing a mythological subject and having a chorus representing satyrs
sau \sə-'ü\ *n, pl* **sau** [Vietnamese *xu, sau*, fr. F *sou* sou] : XU
[1]sauce \'sȯs, *usu* 'sas *for 4*\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *salsa*, fem. of *salsus* salted, fr. pp. of *sallere* to salt, fr. *sal* salt — more at SALT] **1** : a condiment or relish for food; *esp* : a fluid dressing or topping **2** : something that adds zest or piquancy **3** : stewed or canned fruit eaten with other food or as a dessert ⟨cranberry ~⟩ **4** : pert or impudent language or actions **5** *slang* : LIQUOR
[2]sauce \'sȯs, *usu* 'sas *for 3*\ *vt* **sauced; sauc·ing** **1** : to dress with relish or seasoning **2 a** *archaic* : to modify the harsh or unpleasant characteristics of **b** : to give zest or piquancy to **3** : to be rude or impudent to
sauce·box \'sas-ˌbäks *also* 'sȯs-\ *n* : a saucy impudent person
sauce·pan \'sȯ-ˌspan, *esp Brit* -spən\ *n* : a small deep cooking pan with a handle
sau·cer \'sȯ-sər\ *n* [ME, plate containing sauce, fr. MF *saussier*, fr. *sausse, sauce*] **1** : a small shallow dish in which a cup is set at table **2** : something resembling a saucer esp. in shape; *esp* : FLYING SAUCER — **sau·cer·like** \-ˌlīk\ *adj*
saucy \'sas-ē *also* 'sȯs-ē\ *adj* **sauc·i·er; -est** **1 a** : impertinently bold and impudent **b** : amusingly forward and flippant : IRREPRESSIBLE **2** : SMART, TRIM ⟨a ~ ship⟩ — **sauc·i·ly** \-ə-lē\ *adv* — **sauc·i·ness** \-ē-nəs\ *n*
syn SAUCY, PERT, ARCH *shared meaning element* : flippant and bold in manner or attitude
sau·er·bra·ten \'saù(-ə)r-ˌbrät-ᵊn\ *n* [G, fr. *sauer* sour + *braten* roast meat] : oven-roasted or pot-roasted beef marinated before cooking in vinegar with peppercorns, garlic, onions, and bay leaves
sau·er·kraut \'saù(-ə)r-ˌkraùt\ *n* [G, fr. *sauer* sour + *kraut* cabbage] : cabbage cut fine and fermented in a brine made of its own juice with salt
sau·ger \'sȯ-gər\ *n* [origin unknown] **1** : a pike perch (*Stizostedion canadense*) similar to but smaller than the walleye **2** : WALLEYE
saugh *or* **sauch** \'säk, 'sȯk\ *n* [ME (Sc) *sauch*, fr. OE *salh*, alter. of *sealh*] *chiefly Scot* : SALLOW
Saul \'sȯl\ *n* [LL *Saulus*, fr. Gk *Saulos*, fr. Heb *Shā'ūl*] **1** : the first king of Israel **2** : the apostle Paul — called also *Saul of Tarsus*
sault \'sü\ *n* [obs. F, lit., leap, fr. L *saltus*, fr. *saltus*, pp. of *salire* to leap — more at SALLY] : a falls or rapids in a river

sau·na \'saù-nə\ *n* [Finn] **1** : a Finnish steam bath in which the steam is provided by water thrown on hot stones; *also* : a bathhouse or room used for such a bath **2** : a dry heat bath; *also* : a room or cabinet used for such a bath

saun·ter \'sȯnt-ər, 'sänt-\ *vi* [prob. fr. ME *santren* to muse] : to walk about in an idle or leisurely manner : STROLL — **saunter** *n* — **saun·ter·er** \-ər-ər\ *n*

sau·rel \sȯ-'rel\ *n* [F, fr. LL *saurus* horse mackerel, fr. Gk *sauros*] : either of two carangid fishes (genus *Trachurus*): **a** : a horse mackerel (*T. trachurus*) **b** : a jack mackerel (*T. symmetricus*)

sau·ri·an \'sȯr-ē-ən\ *n* [deriv. of Gk *sauros* horse mackerel, lizard; akin to Gk *psauein* to touch, graze] : any of a group (Sauria) of reptiles including the lizards and in older classifications the crocodiles and various extinct forms (as the dinosaurs and ichthyosaurs) that resemble lizards — **saurian** *adj*

sau·ro·pod \'sȯr-ə-ˌpäd\ *n* [NL *Sauropoda*, suborder of dinosaurs, fr. Gk *sauros* lizard + NL *-poda*] : any of a suborder (Sauropoda) of dinosaurs comprising herbivorous forms with long neck and tail, small head, and more or less plantigrade 5-toed limbs — **sauropod** *adj* — **sau·rop·o·dous** \sȯ-'räp-əd-əs\ *adj*

sau·ry \'sȯr-ē\ *n, pl* **sauries** [NL *saurus* lizard, fr. Gk *sauros*] : a slender long-beaked fish (*Scombresox saurus*) related to the needlefishes and found in temperate parts of the Atlantic

sau·sage \'sȯ-sij\ *n* [ME *sausige*, fr. ONF *saussiche*, fr. LL *salsicia*, fr. L *salsus* salted — more at SAUCE] : a highly seasoned minced meat (as pork) usu. stuffed in casings of prepared animal intestine

S Aust *abbr* South Australia

[1]sau·té \sȯ-'tā, sō-\ *n* [F, pp. of *sauter* to jump, fr. L *saltare* — more at SALTATION] : a sautéed dish — **sauté** *adj*

[2]sauté *vt* **sau·téed** *or* **sau·téd; sau·té·ing** : to fry in a small amount of fat

sau·terne \sō-'tərn, sȯ-, -'te(ə)rn\ *n, often cap* [F *sauternes*, fr. *Sauternes*, commune in France] : a usu. semisweet golden-colored table wine

[1]sav·age \'sav-ij\ *adj* [ME *sauvage*, fr. MF, fr. ML *salvaticus*, alter. of L *silvaticus* of the woods, wild, fr. *silva* wood, forest] **1 a** : not domesticated or under human control : UNTAMED ⟨~ beasts⟩ **b** : lacking the restraints normal to civilized man : FIERCE, FEROCIOUS **2** : WILD, UNCULTIVATED ⟨seldom have I seen such ~ scenery — Douglas Carruthers⟩ **3** : BOORISH, RUDE ⟨the ~ bad manners of most motorists —M. P. O'Connor⟩ **4** : lacking complex or advanced culture : UNCIVILIZED ***syn*** see BARBARIAN, FIERCE — **sav·age·ly** *adv* — **sav·age·ness** *n*

[2]savage *n* **1** : a person belonging to a primitive society **2** : a brutal person **3** : a rude or unmannerly person

[3]savage *vt* **sav·aged; sav·ag·ing** : to attack or treat brutally

sav·age·ry \'sav-ij-(ə-)rē\ *n, pl* **-ries** **1 a** : the quality of being savage **b** : an act of cruelty or violence **2** : an uncivilized state

sav·ag·ism \'sav-ij-ˌiz-əm\ *n* : SAVAGERY

sa·van·na *or* **sa·van·nah** \sə-'van-ə\ *n* [Sp *zavana*, fr. Taino *zabana*] **1** : a treeless plain esp. in Florida **2** : a tropical or subtropical grassland containing scattered trees and drought-resistant undergrowth

sa·vant \sa-'vänt, sə-, -'vä[n]; sə-'vant, 'sav-ənt\ *n* [F, fr. prp. of *savoir* to know, fr. L *sapere* to be wise — more at SAGE] : a man of learning; *esp* : a person with detailed knowledge in some specialized field (as of science or literature)

sa·vate \sə-'vät, sa-, -'vat\ *n* [F, lit., old shoe] : a form of boxing in which blows are delivered with either the hands or the feet

[1]save \'sāv\ *vb* **saved; sav·ing** [ME *saven*, fr. OF *salver*, fr. LL *salvare*, fr. L *salvus* safe — more at SAFE] *vt* **1 a** : to deliver from sin **b** : to rescue or deliver from danger or harm **c** : to preserve or guard from injury, destruction, or loss **2** : to put aside as a store or reserve : ACCUMULATE **3 a** : to make unnecessary : AVOID ⟨it ~ *s* an hour's waiting⟩ **b** (1) : to keep from being lost to an opponent (2) : to prevent an opponent from scoring or winning **4** : MAINTAIN, PRESERVE ⟨~ appearances⟩ ~ *vi* **1** : to rescue or deliver someone **2 a** : to put aside money **b** : to avoid unnecessary waste or expense : ECONOMIZE **3** : to make a save — **sav·able** *or* **save·able** \'sā-və-bəl\ *adj* — **sav·er** *n*

syn **1** see RESCUE
2 SAVE, PRESERVE, CONSERVE *shared meaning element* : to keep secure from injury, decay, or loss ***ant*** spend, consume

[2]save *n* **1** : a play that prevents an opponent from scoring or winning **2** : a baseball game in which a relief pitcher successfully protects a team's lead

[3]save \(ˌ)sāv\ *prep* [ME *sauf*, fr. OF, fr. *sauf*, adj., safe — more at SAFE] : other than : BUT, EXCEPT ⟨no hope ~ one⟩

[4]save \(ˌ)sāv\ *conj* **1** : were it not : ONLY — used with *that* **2** : BUT, EXCEPT — used before a word often taken to be the subject of a clause ⟨no one knows about it ~ she⟩

save–all \'sā-ˌvȯl\ *n* : something that prevents waste, loss, or damage: as **a** : a device to hold a candle end in a candlestick and permit it to burn to the very end **b** (1) : a small sail sometimes set under the foot of another sail or between two sails **b** (2) : a net hung between ship and pier to catch articles lost over the side **c** : a receptacle for catching waste products for further utilization

sav·e·loy \'sav-ə-ˌlȯi\ *n* [modif. of F *cervelas*] *Brit* : a ready-cooked highly seasoned dry sausage

sav·in \'sav-ən\ *n* [ME, fr. MF *savine*, fr. L *sabina*] **1** : a Eurasian juniper (*Juniperus sabina*) with dark foliage and small yellowish green berries **2** : RED CEDAR 1; *also* : a related shrubby juniper (*Juniperus horizontalis*)

[1]sav·ing \'sā-viŋ\ *n* [gerund of *save*] **1** : preservation from danger or destruction : DELIVERANCE **2** : the act or an instance of economizing **3 a** *pl* : money put by **b** : the excess of income over consumption expenditures — often used in pl.

[2]sav·ing \ˌsā-viŋ, 'sā-\ *prep* [prp. of *save*] **1** : EXCEPT, SAVE **2** : without disrespect to

[3]sav·ing \ˌsā-viŋ, 'sā-\ *conj* : EXCEPT, SAVE

saving grace *n* : a redeeming quality or factor

savings account *n* : an account (as in a bank) on which interest is usu. paid and from which withdrawals can be made usu. only by presentation of a passbook or by written authorization on a prescribed form

savings and loan association *n* : a cooperative association that solicits savings in the form of share capital and invests its funds in mortgages

savings bank *n* : a bank organized to receive savings accounts only

savings bond *n* : a nontransferable registered U.S. bond issued in denominations of $25 to $1000

sav·ior *or* **sav·iour** \'sāv-yər *also* -ˌyȯ(ə)r\ *n* [ME *saveour*, fr. MF, fr. LL *salvator*, fr. *salvatus*, pp. of *salvare* to save] **1** : one that saves from danger or destruction **2** : one who brings salvation; *specif, cap* : the savior acknowledged by Christians

sa·voir faire \ˌsav-ˌwär-'fa(ə)r, -'fe(ə)r\ *n* [F *savoir-faire*, lit., knowing how to do] : capacity for appropriate action; *esp* : a polished sureness in social behavior ***syn*** see TACT

[1]sa·vor *also* **sa·vour** \'sā-vər\ *n* [ME, fr. OF, fr. L *sapor*; akin to L *sapere* to taste — more at SAGE] **1** : the taste or smell of something **2** : a particular flavor or smell **3** : a distinctive quality — **sa·vor·less** \-ləs\ *adj* — **sa·vor·ous** \'sāv-(ə-)rəs\ *adj*

[2]savor *also* **savour** *vb* **sa·vored; sa·vor·ing** \'sāv-(ə-)riŋ\ *vi* : to have a specified smell or quality : SMACK ~ *vt* **1** : to give flavor to : SEASON **2 a** : to have experience of : TASTE **b** : to taste or smell with pleasure : RELISH **c** : to delight in : ENJOY — **sa·vor·er** \'sā-vər-ər\ *n*

[1]sa·vory *also* **savoury** \'sāv(-ə)-rē\ *adj* : having savor: as **a** : piquantly pleasant to the mind ⟨a ~ collection of essays⟩ **b** : morally attractive : EDIFYING ⟨his reputation was anything but ~⟩ **c** : pleasing to the sense of taste esp. by reason of effective seasoning ***syn*** see PALATABLE ***ant*** bland, acrid — **sa·vor·i·ly** \-rə-lē\ *adv* — **sa·vor·i·ness** \-rē-nəs\ *n*

[2]savory *also* **savoury** *n, pl* **sa·vor·ies** *Brit* : a dish of stimulating flavor served usu. at the end of dinner but sometimes as an appetizer

[3]sa·vo·ry \'sāv(-ə)-rē\ *n, pl* **-ries** [ME *saverey*] : an aromatic mint (genus *Satureia*); *esp* : SUMMER SAVORY

Sa·voy·ard \sə-'vȯi-ˌärd, ˌsav-ˌȯi-'ärd, ˌsav-ˌwä-'yär(d)\ *n* [*Savoy* theater, London, built for the presentation of Gilbert and Sullivan operas] : a devotee, performer, or producer of the comic operas of W. S. Gilbert and A. S. Sullivan

sa·voy cabbage \sə-ˌvȯi-, ˌsav-ˌȯi-\ *n* [trans. of F *chou de Savoie* cabbage of Savoy] : a cabbage with compact heads of wrinkled and curled leaves

[1]sav·vy \'sav-ē\ *vb* **sav·vied; sav·vy·ing** [modif. of Sp *sabe* he knows, fr. *saber* to know, fr. L *sapere* to be wise — more at SAGE] : COMPREHEND, UNDERSTAND

[2]savvy *n* : practical know-how ⟨political ~⟩ — **savvy** *adj*

[1]saw *past of* SEE

[2]saw \'sȯ\ *n* [ME *sawe*, fr. OE *sagu*; akin to OHG *sega* saw, L *secare* to cut, *secula* sickle] **1** : a hand or power tool used to cut hard material (as wood, metal, or bone) and equipped usu. with a toothed blade or disk **2** : a tool or machine that incorporates a saw ⟨a power ~⟩ — **saw·like** \-ˌlīk\ *adj*

[3]saw *vb* **sawed** \'sȯd\; **sawed** *or* **sawn** \'sȯn\; **saw·ing** \'sȯ(-)iŋ\ *vt* **1** : to cut with a saw **2** : to produce or form by cutting with a saw **3** : to slash as though with a saw ~ *vi* **1 a** : to use a saw **b** : to cut with or as if with a saw **2** : to undergo cutting with a saw **3** : to make motions as though using a saw ⟨~*ed* at the reins⟩ — **saw·er** \'sȯ(-ə)r\ *n*

[4]saw *n* [ME *sawe*, fr. OE *sagu* discourse; akin to OHG & ON *saga* tale, OE *secgan* to say — more at SAY] : MAXIM, PROVERB

Sa·wan \'sä-wən\ *n* [Hindi *sāwan*, fr. Skt *śrāvaṇa*] : a month of the Hindu year — see MONTH table

saw·bones \'sȯ-ˌbōnz\ *n, pl* **sawbones** *or* **saw·bones·es** *slang* : PHYSICIAN, SURGEON

saw·buck \'sȯ-ˌbək\ *n* **1** : SAWHORSE **2** [prob. fr. the resemblance of the Roman numeral X to the ends of a sawhorse] *slang* : a 10= dollar bill

saw·dust \'sȯd-(ˌ)əst\ *n* : fine particles (as of wood) made by a saw in cutting

saw–edged \'sȯ-'ejd\ *adj* : having a toothed or badly nicked edge

sawed–off \'sȯ-ˌdȯf\ *adj* **1** : having an end sawed off ⟨a ~ shotgun⟩ **2** : of less than average height

saw·fish \'sȯ-ˌfish\ *n* : any of a family (Pristidae) of several large elongate viviparous rays having a long flattened snout with a row of stout serrate structures along each edge and living in warm shallow seas and in or near the mouths of rivers principally in tropical America and Africa

saw·fly \-ˌflī\ *n* : any of numerous hymenopterous insects (superfamily Tenthredinoidea) whose female usu. has a pair of serrated blades in her ovipositor and whose larva resembles a plant-feeding caterpillar

saw grass *n* : a sedge (as of the genus *Cladium*) having the edges of the leaves set with minute sharp teeth

saw·horse \'sȯ-ˌhȯ(ə)rs\ *n* : a rack on which wood is laid for sawing by hand; *esp* : one with X-shaped ends

saw·log \-ˌlȯg, -ˌläg\ *n* : a log of suitable size for sawing into lumber

saw·mill \-ˌmil\ *n* : a mill or machine for sawing logs

saw·ney \'sȯ-nē\ *n* [prob. alter. of *zany*] *chiefly Brit* : FOOL, SIMPLETON — **sawney** *adj*

saw palmetto *n* : any of several shrubby palms with spiny= toothed leafstalks esp. of the southern U.S. and West Indies; *esp* : a common stemless palm (*Serenoa repens*) of the southern U.S.

saw set *n* : an instrument used to set the teeth of saws

saw·tim·ber \'sȯ-ˌtim-bər\ *n* : timber suitable for sawing into lumber

saw·tooth \-ˌtüth\ *adj* : having serrations : arranged or having parts arranged like the teeth of a saw ⟨a ~ roof⟩

saw–toothed \-'tütht\ *adj* **1** : having teeth like those of a saw ⟨a ~ shark⟩ **2** : SAWTOOTH

saw–whet \'sȯ-ˌ(h)wet\ *n* [fr. the resemblance of its cry to the sound made in filing a saw] : a very small harsh-voiced No. Ameri-

can owl (*Cryptoglaux acadica*) that is largely dark brown above and white beneath

saw·yer \'sȯ-yər, 'sȯi-ər\ *n* **1** : one that saws **2** : any of several large longicorn beetles whose larvae bore large holes in timber or dead wood **3** : a tree fast in the bed of a stream with its branches projecting to the surface

sax \'saks\ *n* : SAXOPHONE

sax·horn \'saks-ˌhȯ(ə)rn\ *n* [Antoine *Sax* †1894 + E *horn*] : one of a group of valved brass instruments ranging from soprano to bass and characterized by a conical tube, oval shape, and cup-shaped mouthpiece

sax·ic·o·lous \sak-'sik-ə-ləs\ *or* **sax·ic·o·line** \-ˌlīn\ *adj* [L *saxum* rock + *-cola* inhabitant; akin to L *colere* to inhabit — more at WHEEL] : inhabiting or growing among rocks ⟨~ lichens⟩

sax·i·frage \'sak-sə-frij, -ˌfrāj\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. LL *saxifraga*, fr. L, fem. of *saxifragus* breaking rocks, fr. *saxum* rock + *frangere* to break; akin to OE *sæx* knife, *sagu* saw — more at SAW, BREAK] : any of a genus (*Saxifraga* of the family Saxifragaceae, the saxifrage family) of mostly perennial herbs with showy pentamerous flowers and often with basal tufted leaves

saxi·tox·in \ˌsak-sə-'täk-sən\ *n* [NL *Saxidomus giganteus*, species of butter clam from which it is isolated + E *toxin*] : a potent nonprotein poison $C_{10}H_{17}N_7O_4.2HCl$ that originates in a causative agent (*Gonyaulax catenella*) of red tide and sometimes occurs in normally edible mollusks

Sax·on \'sak-sən\ *n* [ME, fr. LL *Saxones* Saxons, of Gmc origin; akin to OE *Seaxan* Saxons] **1 a** (1) : a member of a Germanic people that entered and conquered England with the Angles and Jutes in the 5th century A.D. and merged with them to form the Anglo-Saxon people (2) : an Englishman or lowlander as distinguished from a Welshman, Irishman, or Highlander **b** : a native or inhabitant of Saxony **2 a** : the Germanic language or dialect of any of the Saxon peoples **b** : the Germanic element in the English language esp. as distinguished from the French and Latin — **Saxon** *adj*

sax·o·ny \'sak-s(ə-)nē\ *n, pl* **-nies** *often cap* [*Saxony*, Germany] **1 a** : a fine soft woolen fabric **b** : a fine closely twisted knitting yarn **2** : a Wilton jacquard carpet

sax·o·phone \'sak-sə-ˌfōn\ *n* [F, fr. Antoine J. (known as Adolphe) *Sax* †1894 Belgian maker of musical instruments + F *-phone*] : one of a group of single-reed woodwind instruments ranging from soprano to bass and characterized by a conical metal tube and finger keys — **sax·o·phon·ic** \ˌsak-sə-'fōn-ik, -'fän-\ *adj* — **sax·o·phon·ist** \'sak-sə-ˌfō-nəst, *esp Brit* sak-'säf-ə-\ *n*



alto saxophone

sax·tu·ba \'sak-'st(y)ü-bə\ *n* [Antoine *Sax* + E *tuba*] : a bass saxhorn

[1]say \'sā, *South also* 'se\ *vb* **said** \'sed, *esp when subject follows* səd\; **say·ing** \'sā-iŋ\; **says** \'sez, *esp when subject follows* səz\ [ME *sayen*, fr. OE *secgan;* akin to OHG *sagēn* to say, Gk *ennepein* to speak, tell] *vt* **1 a** : to express in words : STATE **b** : to state as opinion or belief : DECLARE **2 a** : UTTER, PRONOUNCE **b** : RECITE, REPEAT ⟨*said* his prayers⟩ **3 a** : INDICATE, SHOW ⟨the clock ~*s* five minutes after twelve⟩ **b** : to give expression to : COMMUNICATE ⟨a glance that *said* all that was necessary⟩ ~ *vi* : to express oneself : SPEAK — **say·er** \'sā-ər, 'se(-ə)r\ *n* — **say uncle** : to admit defeat — **that is to say** : in other words : in effect

[2]say *n, pl* **says** \'sāz, *South also* 'sez\ **1** *archaic* : something that is said : STATEMENT **2** : an expression of opinion ⟨had his ~⟩ **3** : a right or power to influence action or decision; *esp* : the authority to make final decisions

[3]say *adv* [fr. imper. of [1]*say*] **1** : ABOUT, APPROXIMATELY ⟨the property is worth, ~, four million dollars⟩ **2** : for example : AS ⟨if we compress any gas, ~ oxygen⟩

say·able \'sā-ə-bəl, 'se-\ *adj* **1** : capable of being said **2** : capable of being spoken effectively or easily ⟨readings in ~ Chinese — *Linguistic Reporter*⟩

say·ing \'sā-iŋ, 'se-\ *n* : something said; *esp* : ADAGE

say–so \'sā-(ˌ)sō, 'se-\ *n* **1 a** : one's unsupported assertion : one's bare word or assurance **b** : an authoritative pronouncement ⟨left the hospital on the ~ of his doctor⟩ **2** : a right of final decision ⟨has the ultimate ~ on what will be taught⟩

say·yid \'sī-(y)əd, 'sēd-ē\ *n* [Ar] **1** : an Islamic chief or leader **2** : LORD, SIR — used as a courtesy title for a Muslim of rank or lineage

Saz·e·rac \'saz-ə-ˌrak\ *trademark* — used for an alcoholic cocktail

sb *abbr* substantive

Sb *symbol* [L *stibium*] antimony

SB *abbr* **1** [NL *Scientiae Baccalaureus*] bachelor of science **2** simultaneous broadcast **3** southbound

SBA *abbr* Small Business Administration

SBN *abbr* Standard Book Number

sc *abbr* **1** scale **2** scene **3** science **4** scilicet **5** screw **6** [L *sculpsit*] he carved it; he engraved it

[1]Sc *abbr* **1** Scots **2** stratocumulus

[2]Sc *symbol* scandium

SC *abbr* **1** Sisters of Charity **2** South Carolina **3** supercalendered **4** supreme court

[1]scab \'skab\ *n* [ME, of Scand origin; akin to OSw *skabbr* scab; akin to OE *sceabb* scab, L *scabies* mange, *scabere* to scratch — more at SHAVE] **1** : scabies of domestic animals **2** : a crust of hardened blood and serum over a wound **3 a** : a contemptible person **b** (1) : one who refuses to join a labor union (2) : a union member who refuses to strike or returns to work before a strike has ended (3) : a worker who accepts employment or replaces a union worker during a strike (4) : one who works for less than union wages or on nonunion terms **4** : any of various bacterial or fungous diseases of plants characterized by crustaceous spots; *also* : one of the spots

[2]scab *vi* **scabbed; scab·bing** **1** : to become covered with a scab **2** : to act as a scab

[1]scab·bard \'skab-ərd\ *n* [ME *scaubert*, fr. AF *escaubers*] : a sheath for a sword, dagger, or bayonet

[2]scabbard *vt* : to put in a scabbard

scab·ble \'skab-əl\ *vt* **scab·bled; scab·bling** \-(ə-)liŋ\ [ME *scaplen*, fr. MF *escapler* to dress timber] : to dress (as stone) roughly

scab·by \'skab-ē\ *adj* **scab·bi·er; -est** **1 a** : covered with or full of scabs ⟨~ skin⟩ **b** : diseased with scab ⟨a ~ animal⟩ ⟨~ potatoes⟩ **2** : MEAN, CONTEMPTIBLE ⟨a ~ trick⟩

sca·bies \'skā-bēz\ *n, pl* **scabies** [L] : itch or mange esp. with exudative crusts — **sca·bi·et·ic** \ˌskā-bē-'et-ik\ *adj*

sca·bi·o·sa \ˌskā-bē-'ō-sə, ˌskab-ē-, -zə\ *n* [NL, genus name, fr. ML, scabious, n.] : any of a genus (*Scabiosa*) of herbs of the teasel family with terminal flower heads subtended by a leafy involucre

[1]sca·bi·ous \'skā-bē-əs, 'skab-ē-\ *n* [ME *scabiose*, fr. ML *scabiosa*, fr. L, fem. of *scabiosus*, adj.] **1** : SCABIOSA **2** : any of several fleabanes (genus *Erigeron*)

[2]scabious *adj* [L *scabiosus*, fr. *scabies*] **1** : SCABBY **2** : of, relating to, or resembling scabies ⟨~ eruptions⟩

sca·brous \'skab-rəs *also* 'skāb-\ *adj* [L *scabr-, scaber* rough, scurfy; akin to L *scabies* mange — more at SCAB] **1** : DIFFICULT, KNOTTY ⟨a ~ problem⟩ **2** : rough to the touch: as **a** : having small raised dots, scales, or points ⟨a ~ leaf⟩ **b** : covered with raised, roughened, or unwholesome patches ⟨~ paint⟩ ⟨yellowed ~ skin⟩ **3** : dealing with suggestive, indecent, or scandalous themes : SALACIOUS; *also* : SQUALID ***syn*** see ROUGH ***ant*** glabrous, smooth — **sca·brous·ly** *adv* — **sca·brous·ness** *n*

[1]scad \'skad\ *n, pl* **scad** *also* **scads** [origin unknown] : any of several carangid fishes (esp. of the genus *Decapterus*)

[2]scad *n* [prob. alter. of E dial. *scald* a multitude, fr. [2]*scald*] **1** : a large number or quantity ⟨hooked a ~ of little fish —*Field & Stream*⟩ **2** *pl* : a great abundance ⟨~*s* of money⟩

scaf·fold \'skaf-əld *also* -ˌōld\ *n* [ME, fr. ONF *escafaut*, modif. of (assumed) VL *catafalicum*, fr. Gk *kata-* cata- + L *fala* tower] **1 a** : a temporary or movable platform for workmen (as bricklayers, painters, or miners) to stand or sit on when working at a height above the floor or ground **b** : a platform on which a criminal is executed (as by hanging or beheading) **c** : a platform at a height above ground or floor level **2** : a supporting framework

scaf·fold·ing \-iŋ\ *n* : a system of scaffolds; *also* : material for scaffolds

scag \'skag\ *n* [origin unknown] *slang* : HEROIN

sca·glio·la \skal-'yō-lə, -'yȯ-\ *n* [It, lit., little chip] : an imitation of ornamental marble consisting of finely ground gypsum mixed with glue

scal·able \'skā-lə-bəl\ *adj* : capable of being scaled

sca·lade \skə-'lād, -'läd\ *or* **sca·la·do** \-'lād-(ˌ)ō, -'läd-\ *n, pl* **-lades** *or* **-la·dos** [obs. It *scalada*, fr. *scalare* to scale, fr. *scala* ladder, staircase, fr. LL — more at SCALE] *archaic* : ESCALADE

scal·age \'skā-lij\ *n* **1** : an allowance or percentage by which something (as listed weights, bulks, or prices of goods) is scaled down to compensate for loss (as by shrinkage) **2** : the act of scaling in weight, quantity, or dimensions **3** : the amount that logs or timber scale

[1]sca·lar \'skā-lər, -ˌlär\ *adj* [L *scalaris*, fr. *scalae* stairs, ladder — more at SCALE] **1** : having an uninterrupted series of steps : GRADUATED ⟨~ chain of authority⟩ ⟨~ cells⟩ **2 a** : capable of being represented by a point on a scale ⟨~ quantity⟩ **b** : of or relating to a scalar or scalar product ⟨~ multiplication⟩

[2]scalar *n* **1** : a real number rather than a vector **2** : a quantity (as mass or time) that has a magnitude describable by a real number and no direction

sca·la·re \skə-'la(ə)r-ē, -'le(ə)r-, -'lär-\ *n* [NL, specific epithet, fr. L, neut. of *scalaris;* fr. the barred pattern on its body] : a black and silver laterally compressed So. American cichlid fish (*Pterophyllum scalare*) popular in aquariums

sca·lari·form \skə-'lar-ə-ˌfȯrm\ *adj* [NL *scalariformis*, fr. L *scalaris* + *-iformis* -iform] : resembling a ladder esp. in having transverse bars or markings like the rounds of a ladder ⟨~ cells in plants⟩ — **sca·lari·form·ly** *adv*

scalar product *n* : a real number that is the product of the lengths of two vectors and the cosine of the angle between them — called also *dot product, inner product*

scal·ation \skā-'lā-shən\ *n* [[3]*scale*] : LEPIDOSIS

scal·a·wag \'skal-i-ˌwag\ *n* [origin unknown] **1** : SCAMP, REPROBATE **2** : an animal of little value esp. because of poor feeding, smallness, or age **3** : a white Southerner acting as a Republican in the time of reconstruction after the Civil War

[1]scald \'skȯld\ *vb* [ME *scalden*, fr. ONF *escalder*, fr. LL *excaldare* to wash in warm water, fr. L *ex-* + *calida, calda* warm water, fr. fem. of *calidus* warm — more at CALDRON] *vt* **1** : to burn with or as if with hot liquid or steam **2 a** : to subject to the action of boiling water or steam **b** : to bring to a temperature just below the boiling point ⟨~ milk⟩ **3** : SCORCH ~ *vi* **1** : to scald something **2** : to become scalded

[2]scald *n* **1** : an injury to the body caused by scalding **2** : an act or process of scalding **3 a** : a plant disease marked esp. by discoloration suggesting injury by heat **b** : a burning and browning of plant tissues resulting from high temperatures or high temperature and intense light

[3]scald *adj* [*scall* + *-ed*] **1** *archaic* : SCABBY, SCURFY **2** *archaic* : SHABBY, CONTEMPTIBLE ⟨~ rogues⟩

[4]scald \'skȯld, 'skäld\ *var of* SKALD

[5]scald \'skȯld\ *adj* [alter. of *scalded*] : subjected to scalding ⟨like coffee . . . with ~ cream —Charles Kingsley⟩

scald·ing \'skȯl-diŋ\ *adj* **1** : causing the sensation of scalding or burning **2** : BOILING **3** : ARDENT, SCORCHING ⟨the ~ sun⟩ **4** : BITING, SCATHING ⟨a series of ~ editorials⟩

[1]scale \'skā(ə)l\ *n* [ME, bowl, scale of a balance, fr. ON *skāl;* akin to ON *skel* shell — more at SHELL] **1 a** : either pan or tray of a balance **b** : a beam that is supported freely in the center and has two pans of equal weight suspended from its ends — usu. used in pl. **2** : an instrument or machine for weighing

[2]scale *vb* **scaled; scal·ing** *vt* : to weigh in scales ~ *vi* : to have a specified weight on scales

[3]scale *n* [ME, fr. MF *escale,* of Gmc origin; akin to OE *scealu* shell, husk — more at SHELL] **1 a** : a small, flattened, rigid, and definitely circumscribed plate forming part of the external body covering esp. of a fish **b** : a small thin plate suggesting a fish scale ⟨~*s* of mica⟩ ⟨the ~*s* on a moth's wing⟩ **c** : the scaly covering of a scaled animal **2** : a small thin dry lamina shed (as in many skin diseases) from the skin **3** : a thin coating, layer, or incrustation: **a** (1) : a black scaly coating of oxide (as magnetic oxide) forming on the surface of iron when heated for processing (2) : a similar coating forming on other metals **b** : a hard incrustation usu. rich in sulfate of calcium that is deposited on the inside of a vessel (as a boiler) in which water is heated **4 a** : a modified leaf protecting a seed plant bud before expansion **b** : a thin, membranous, chaffy, or woody bract **5 a** : one of the small overlapping usu. metal pieces forming the outer surface of scale armor **b** : SCALE ARMOR **6 a** : SCALE INSECT **b** : infestation with or disease caused by scale insects — **scaled** \'skā(ə)ld\ *adj* — **scale·less** \'skā(ə)l-ləs\ *adj*

[4]scale *vb* **scaled; scal·ing** *vt* **1** : to remove the scale or scales from (as by scraping) ⟨~ a fish⟩ **2** : to take off in thin layers or scales **3** : to form scale on ⟨hard water ~*s* a boiler⟩ **4** : to throw (as a thin flat stone) so that the edge cuts the air or so that it skips on water : SKIM ~ *vi* **1** : to separate and come off in scales : FLAKE **2** : to shed scales ⟨*scaling* skin⟩ **3** : to become encrusted with scale

[5]scale *n* [ME, fr. LL *scala* ladder, staircase, fr. L *scalae,* pl., stairs, rungs, ladder; akin to L *scandere* to climb — more at SCAN] **1 a** *obs* : LADDER **b** *archaic* : a means of ascent **2** : a graduated series of musical tones ascending or descending in order of pitch according to a specified scheme of their intervals **3** : something graduated esp. when used as a measure or rule: as **a** : a series of spaces marked by lines and used to measure distances or to register something (as the height of the mercury in a thermometer) **b** : a divided line on a map or chart indicating the length used to represent a larger unit of measure (as an inch to a mile) **c** : an instrument consisting of a strip (as of wood, plastic, or metal) with one or more sets of spaces graduated and numbered on its surface for measuring or laying off distances or dimensions **4** : a graduated series or scheme of rank or order ⟨a ~ of taxation⟩ **5** : a proportion between two sets of dimensions (as between those of a drawing and its original) **6** : a graded series of tests or of performances used in rating individual intelligence or achievement — **scale** *adj* — **to scale** : according to the proportions of an established scale of measurement ⟨floor plans drawn *to scale*⟩

[6]scale *vb* **scaled; scal·ing** *vt* **1 a** : to attack with or take by means of scaling ladders ⟨~ a castle wall⟩ **b** : to climb up or reach by means of a ladder **c** : to reach the highest point of : SURMOUNT **2 a** : to arrange in a graduated series ⟨~ a test⟩ **b** (1) : to measure by or as if by a scale (2) : to measure or estimate the sound content of (as logs) **c** : to pattern, make, regulate, set, or estimate according to some rate or standard ⟨a production schedule *scaled* to actual need⟩ — often used with *down* or *up* ⟨~ down imports⟩ ~ *vi* **1** : to climb by or as if by a ladder **2** : to rise in a graduated series **3** : MEASURE ***syn*** see ASCEND

[7]scale *n* [[6]*scale*] **1** *obs* : ESCALADE **2** : an estimate of the amount of sound lumber in logs or standing timber

scale armor *n* : armor of small metallic scales on leather or cloth

scale–down \'skā(ə)l-ˌdaůn\ *n* : a reduction according to a fixed ratio ⟨a ~ of debts⟩

scale insect *n* : any of numerous small but very prolific homopterous insects (esp. family Coccidae) which have winged males, degenerated scale-covered females attached to the host plant, and young that suck the juices of plants and some of which are economic pests — compare LAC

scale leaf *n* : a modified usu. small and scaly leaf (as a bud scale or bract or the leaf of cypress)

scale·like \'skā(ə)l-ˌlīk\ *adj* : resembling a scale ⟨~ design⟩; *specif* : reduced to a minute appressed element resembling a scale

sca·lene \'skā-ˌlēn, skā-'\ *adj* [LL *scalenus,* fr. Gk *skalēnos,* lit., uneven; akin to Gk *skolios* crooked — more at CYLINDER] *of a triangle* : having the three sides of unequal length

scale·pan \'skā(ə)l-ˌpan\ *n* : a pan of a scale for weighing

scal·er \'skā-lər\ *n* **1** : one that scales **2** : an electronic device that operates a recorder or produces an output pulse after a specified number of input impulses

scale–up \'skā-ˌləp\ *n* : an increase according to a fixed ratio

scall \'skȯl\ *n* [ME, fr. ON *skalli* bald head] : a scurf or scabby disorder (as of the scalp)

scal·lion \'skal-yən\ *n* [ME *scaloun,* fr. AF *scalun,* fr. (assumed) VL *escalonia,* fr. L *ascalonia* (*caepa*) onion of Ascalon, fr. fem. of *ascalonius* of Ascalon, fr. *Ascalon-, Ascalo* Ascalon, seaport in southern Palestine] **1** : SHALLOT **2** : LEEK **3** : an onion forming a thick basal portion without a bulb; *also* : GREEN ONION

[1]scal·lop \'skäl-əp, 'skal-\ *n* [ME *scalop,* fr. MF *escalope* shell, of Gmc origin; akin to MD *schelpe* shell] **1 a** : any of many marine bivalve mollusks (family Pectinidae) that have a radially ribbed shell with the edge undulated and that swim by opening and closing the valves **b** : the adductor muscle of a scallop as an article of food **2** : a scallop-shell valve or a similarly shaped dish used for baking **3** : one of a continuous series of circle segments or angular projections forming a border **4** : CYMLING **5** [F *escalope,* perh. fr. E [1]*scallop;* fr. its being served curled like a scallop-shell valve] : a thin slice of boneless meat (as veal)

[2]scallop *vt* **1** [fr. earlier *escallop* scallop shell, alter. (influenced by MF *escalope* shell) of [1]*scallop*] : to bake in a sauce usu. covered with seasoned bread or cracker crumbs ⟨~*ed* potatoes⟩ **2** [[1]*scallop*] **a** : to shape, cut, or finish in scallops **b** : to form scallops in ~ *vi* : to gather or dredge scallops — **scal·lop·er** *n*

scal·lo·pi·ni \ˌskäl-ə-'pē-nē, ˌskal-\ *n* [modif. of It *scaloppine*] : thin slices of meat (as veal) sautéed or coated with flour and fried

scal·ly·wag *var of* SCALAWAG

sca·lo·gram \'skā-lə-ˌgram\ *n* [[5]*scale* + *-o-* + *-gram*] : an arrangement of items (as of a psychological or sociological test) in ascending order of difficulty ⟨analysis by ~⟩

[1]scalp \'skalp\ *n* [ME, of Scand origin; akin to ON *skālpr* sheath; akin to MD *schelpe* shell] **1 a** : the part of the integument of the human head usu. covered with hair in both sexes **b** : the part of a lower animal (as a wolf or fox) corresponding to the human scalp **2 a** : a part of the human scalp with attached hair cut or torn from an enemy as a token of victory esp. by Indian warriors of No. America **b** : a trophy of victory **3** *chiefly Scot* : a projecting mass of bare ground or rock

[2]scalp *vt* **1 a** : to deprive of the scalp **b** : to remove an upper part from **2 a** : to screen or sift (as ore or meal) in order to remove foreign materials or to separate out coarser grades **b** : to remove a desired constituent from and discard the rest **3 a** : to buy and sell so as to make small quick profits ⟨~ stocks⟩ ⟨~ grain⟩ **b** : to obtain and resell at greatly increased prices ⟨~ theater tickets⟩ ~ *vi* **1** : to take scalps **2** : to profit by slight market fluctuations — **scalp·er** *n*

scal·pel \'skal-pəl *also* skal-'pel\ *n* [L *scalpellus, scalpellum,* dim. of *scalper, scalprum* chisel, knife, fr. *scalpere* to carve — more at SHELF] : a small straight thin-bladed knife used esp. in surgery

scalp lock *n* : a long tuft of hair on the crown of the otherwise shaved head of a warrior of some Amerindian tribes

scaly \'skā-lē\ *adj* **scal·i·er; -est** **1 a** : covered with, composed of, or rich in scale or scales **b** : FLAKY **2** : of or relating to scaly animals **3** : DESPICABLE, POOR **4** : infested with scale insects ⟨~ fruit⟩ — **scal·i·ness** *n*

scaly anteater *n* : PANGOLIN

scam·mo·ny \'skam-ə-nē\ *n, pl* **-nies** [ME *scamonie,* fr. L *scammonia,* fr. Gk *skammōnia*] **1** : a twining convolvulus (*Convolvulus scammonia*) of Asia Minor with a large thick root **2 a** : the dried root of scammony **b** : a cathartic resin obtained from scammony

[1]scamp \'skamp\ *n* [obs. *scamp* (to roam about idly)] **1** : RASCAL, ROGUE **2** : an impish or playful young person — **scamp·ish** \'skam-pish\ *adj*

[2]scamp *vt* [perh. of Scand origin; akin to ON *skammr* short — more at SCANT] : to perform in a hasty, neglectful, or imperfect manner ⟨brief, but never hurried or ~*ed* —Crane Brinton⟩

[1]scam·per \'skam-pər\ *vi* **scam·pered; scam·per·ing** \-p(ə-)riŋ\ [prob. fr. obs. D *schampen* to flee, fr. MF *escamper,* fr. It *scampare,* fr. (assumed) VL *excampare* to decamp, fr. L *ex-* + *campus* field — more at CAMP] : to run nimbly and playfully about

[2]scamper *n* : a playful scurry

scam·pi \'skam-pē, 'skäm-\ *n, pl* **scampi** [It, pl. of *scampo,* a European lobster] : SHRIMP; *esp* : large shrimp prepared with a garlic-flavored sauce

[1]scan \'skan\ *vb* **scanned; scan·ning** [ME *scannen,* fr. LL *scandere,* fr. L, to climb; akin to Gk *skandalon* trap, stumbling block, offense, Skt *skandati* he leaps] *vt* **1** : to read or mark so as to show metrical structure **2** : to examine by point-by-point observation or checking: **a** : to investigate thoroughly by checking point by point and often repeatedly ⟨a fire lookout *scanning* the hills with binoculars⟩ **b** : to glance from point to point of often hastily, casually, or in search of a particular item ⟨~ the want ads looking for a job⟩ **3 a** : to examine successive small portions of (as an object) with a sensing device (as a photometer or a beam of radiation) **b** : to make a detailed examination of (as the human body) for the presence or localization of radioactive material **c** : to bring under a moving electron beam for conversion of light and dark picture or image values into corresponding electrical values to be transmitted by facsimile or television; *also* : to bring under a moving electron beam in the reconstruction of the image or picture **d** : to direct a succession of radar beams over in searching for a target **e** : to check (as a magnetic tape or a punch card) for recorded data by means of a mechanical or electronic device ~ *vi* **1** : to scan verse **2** : to conform to a metrical pattern ***syn*** see SCRUTINIZE — **scan·na·ble** \'skan-ə-bəl\ *adj*

[2]scan *n* **1** : the act or process of scanning **2** : a radar display **3** : a radar or television trace **4** : a depiction (as a photograph) of the distribution of a radioactive material in something (as a bodily organ)

Scand *abbr* Scandinavia; Scandinavian

[1]scan·dal \'skan-dᵊl\ *n* [LL *scandalum* stumbling block, offense, fr. Gk *skandalon*] **1 a** : discredit brought upon religion by unseemly conduct in a religious person **b** : conduct that causes or encourages a lapse of faith or of religious obedience in another **2** : loss of or damage to reputation caused by actual or apparent violation of morality or propriety : DISGRACE **3 a** : a circumstance or action that offends propriety or established moral conceptions or disgraces those associated with it **b** : a person whose conduct offends propriety or morality **4** : malicious or defamatory gossip **5** : indignation, chagrin, or bewilderment brought about by a flagrant violation of morality, propriety, or religious opinion ***syn*** see OFFENSE

[2]scandal *vt* **1** *obs* : DISGRACE **2** *chiefly dial* : DEFAME, SLANDER

scan·dal·ize \'skan-də-ˌlīz\ *vt* **-ized; -iz·ing** **1** : to speak falsely or maliciously of **2** *archaic* : to bring into reproach **3** : to offend the moral sense of : SHOCK — **scan·dal·iza·tion** \ˌskan-də-lə-'zā-shən\ *n* — **scan·dal·iz·er** \'skan-də-ˌlī-zər\ *n*

scan·dal·mon·ger \'skan-dᵊl-ˌməŋ-gər, -ˌmäŋ-\ *n* : a person who circulates scandal

scan·dal·ous \'skan-d(ə-)ləs\ *adj* **1** : LIBELOUS, DEFAMATORY **2** : offensive to propriety or morality : SHOCKING — **scan·dal·ous·ly** *adv* — **scan·dal·ous·ness** *n*

scandal sheet *n* : a newspaper or periodical dealing to a large extent in scandal and gossip

scan·dent \'skan-dənt\ *adj* [L *scandent-, scandens*, prp. of *scandere* to climb — more at SCAN] : characterized by a climbing mode of growth ⟨~ stems⟩

Scan·di·an \'skan-dē-ən\ *adj* [L *Scandia*] **1** : SCANDINAVIAN **2** : of or relating to the languages of Scandinavia — **Scandian** *n*

Scan·di·na·vian \ˌskan-də-'nā-vē-ən, -vyən\ *n* **1 a** : a native or inhabitant of Scandinavia **b** : a person of Scandinavian descent **2** : the No. Germanic languages — **Scandinavian** *adj*

scan·di·um \'skan-dē-əm\ *n* [NL, fr. L *Scandia*, ancient name of southern Scandinavian peninsula] : a white trivalent metallic element found in association with rare-earth elements — see ELEMENT table

scan·ner \'skan-ər\ *n* : one that scans: as **a** : a device that automatically checks a process or condition and may initiate a desired corrective action **b** : a device for sensing recorded data

scanning electron microscope *n* : an electron microscope in which a beam of focused electrons moves across the object with the secondary electrons produced by the object and the electrons scattered by the object being collected to form a three-dimensional image on a cathode-ray tube — called also *scanning microscope*

scan·sion \'skan-chən\ *n* [LL *scansion-, scansio*, fr. L, act of climbing, fr. (assumed) L *scansus*, pp. of L *scandere*] : the analysis of verse to show its meter

1scant \'skant\ *adj* [ME, fr. ON *skamt*, neut. of *skammr* short; akin to Gk *koptein* to cut — more at CAPON] **1** *dial* **a** : excessively frugal **b** : not prodigal : CHARY **2 a** : barely or scarcely sufficient; *specif* : not quite coming up to a stated measure **b** : lacking in amplitude or quantity **3** : having a small or insufficient supply ⟨he's fat, and ~ of breath —Shak.⟩ ***syn*** see MEAGER ***ant*** plentiful, profuse — **scant·ly** *adv* — **scant·ness** *n*

2scant *adv, dial* : SCARCELY, HARDLY

3scant *vt* **1** : to provide with a meager or inadequate portion or allowance : STINT **2** : to make small, narrow, or meager : SKIMP **3** : to provide an incomplete supply of : WITHHOLD **4** : to give scant attention to : SLIGHT

scant·ies \'skant-ēz\ *n pl* [blend of *1scant* and *panties*] : abbreviated panties for women

scant·ling \'skant-liŋ, -lən\ *n* [alter. of ME *scantilon*, lit., mason's or carpenter's gauge, fr. ONF *escantillon*] **1 a** : the dimensions of timber and stone used in building **b** : the dimensions of a frame or strake used in shipbuilding **2** : a small quantity, amount, or proportion : MODICUM **3** : a small piece of lumber (as an upright piece in house framing)

scanty \'skant-ē\ *adj* **scant·i·er; -est** [E dial. *scant* scanty supply, fr. ME, fr. ON *skamt*, fr. neut. of *skammr* short] **1** : barely sufficient **2** : somewhat less than is needed or normal : INSUFFICIENT ***syn*** see MEAGER ***ant*** ample, plentiful, profuse — **scant·i·ly** \'skant-ᵊl-ē\ *adv* — **scant·i·ness** \'skant-ē-nəs\ *n*

1scape \'skāp\ *vb* **scaped; scap·ing** [ME *scapen*, short for *escapen*] : ESCAPE

2scape *n* [L *scapus* shaft, stalk — more at SHAFT] **1** : a peduncle arising at or beneath the surface of the ground in an acaulescent plant (as the tulip); *broadly* : a flower stalk **2 a** : the shaft of a column **b** : the small concave curve at the top or bottom of the shaft of a column where it joins the capital or the base **3** : the shaft of an animal part (as an antenna or feather)

-scape \ˌskāp\ *n comb form* [*landscape*] : view or picture of a (specified) type of scene ⟨city*scape*⟩

1scape·goat \'skāp-ˌgōt\ *n* [*1scape*; intended as trans. of Heb *'azāzēl* (prob. name of a demon), as if *'ēz 'ōzēl* goat that departs, Lev 16:8 (AV)] **1** : a goat upon whose head are symbolically placed the sins of the people after which he is sent into the wilderness in the biblical ceremony for Yom Kippur **2** : a person or thing bearing the blame for others

2scapegoat *vt* : to make a scapegoat of

scape·goat·ing \'skāp-ˌgōt-iŋ\ *n* : the action or process of casting blame for shortcomings or failure on an innocent or at most only partly responsible individual or group

scape·goat·ism \-ˌgōt-ˌiz-əm\ *n* : SCAPEGOATING

scape·grace \'skāp-ˌgrās\ *n* [*1scape*] : an incorrigible rascal

1scaph·oid \'skaf-ˌȯid\ *adj* [NL *scaphoides*, fr. Gk *skaphoeidēs*, fr. *skaphos* boat] : shaped like a boat : NAVICULAR

2scaphoid *n* : the navicular of the carpus or tarsus

scap·o·lite \'skap-ə-ˌlīt\ *n* [F, fr. L *scapus* shaft + F *-o-* + *-lite*; fr. the prismatic shape of its crystals] : any of a group of minerals that are essentially complex silicates of aluminum, calcium, and sodium and that include some used as semiprecious stones

sca·pose \'skā-ˌpōs\ *adj* : bearing, resembling, or consisting of a scape

scap·u·la \'skap-yə-lə\ *n, pl* **-lae** \-ˌlē, -ˌlī\ *or* **-las** [NL, fr. L, shoulder blade, shoulder] : either of a pair of large triangular bones lying one in each dorsal lateral part of the thorax, forming the principal bone of the corresponding half of the shoulder girdle, and articulating with the corresponding clavicle or coracoid — called also *shoulder blade*

1scap·u·lar \-lər\ *n* [ME *scapulare*, fr. LL, fr. L *scapula* shoulder] **1 a** : a long wide band of cloth with an opening for the head worn front and back over the shoulders as part of a monastic habit **b** : a pair of small cloth squares joined by shoulder tapes and worn under the clothing on the breast and back as a sacramental and often also as a badge of a third order or confraternity **2 a** : SCAPULA **b** : one of the feathers covering the base of a bird's wing — see BIRD illustration

2scapular *adj* [NL *scapularis*, fr. *scapula*] : of or relating to the shoulder, the scapula, or scapulars

scapular medal *n* : a medal worn in place of a sacramental scapular

1scar \'skär\ *n* [ME *skere*, fr. ON *sker* skerry; akin to ON *skera* to cut — more at SHEAR] **1** : an isolated or protruding rock **2** : a steep rocky eminence : a bare place on the side of a mountain

2scar *n* [ME *escare, scar*, fr. MF *escare* scab, fr. LL *eschara*, fr. Gk, hearth, scab] **1** : a mark left (as in the skin) by the healing of injured tissue **2 a** : a mark left on a stem or branch by a fallen leaf or harvested fruit **b** : CICATRIX 2 **3** : a mark or indentation resulting from damage or wear ⟨the ~*s* of bullets on the . . . church door —Kay Boyle⟩ **4** : a lasting moral or emotional injury ⟨one of his men had been killed . . . in a manner that left a ~ upon his mind —H. G. Wells⟩ — **scar·less** \-ləs\ *adj*

3scar *vb* **scarred; scar·ring** *vt* **1** : to mark with a scar **2** : to do lasting injury to ~ *vi* **1** : to form a scar **2** : to become scarred

scar·ab \'skar-əb\ *n* [MF *scarabee*, fr. L *scarabaeus*] **1** : SCARABAEUS 1; *broadly* : a scarabaeid beetle **2** : SCARABAEUS 2

scar·a·bae·id \ˌskar-ə-'bē-əd\ *n* [deriv. of L *scarabaeus*] : any of a family (Scarabaeidae) of stout-bodied beetles with lamellate antennae including the dung beetles — **scarabaeid** *adj*

scar·a·bae·us \ˌskar-ə-'bē-əs\ *n* [L] **1** *pl* **-bae·us·es** *or* **-bae·i** \-'bē-ˌī\ : a large black or nearly black dung beetle (*Scarabaeus sacer*) **2** : a stone or faience beetle used in ancient Egypt as a talisman, ornament, and a symbol of the resurrection



scarabaeus 1

scar·a·mouch *or* **scar·a·mouche** \'skar-ə-ˌmüsh, -ˌmüch, -ˌmau̇ch\ *n* [F *Scaramouche*, fr. It *Scaramuccia*] **1** *cap* : a stock character in the Italian commedia dell'arte that burlesques the Spanish don and is characterized by boastfulness and cowardliness **2 a** : a cowardly buffoon **b** : RASCAL, SCAMP

1scarce \'ske(ə)rs, 'ska(ə)rs\ *adj* **scarc·er; scarc·est** [ME *scars*, fr. ONF *escars*, fr. (assumed) VL *excarpsus*, lit., plucked out, pp. of L *excerpere* to pluck out — more at EXCERPT] : deficient in quantity or number compared with the demand : not plentiful or abundant ***syn*** see INFREQUENT ***ant*** abundant — **scarce·ness** *n*

2scarce *adv* : SCARCELY, HARDLY

scarce·ly *adv* **1 a** : by a narrow margin : only just ⟨had ~ rung the bell when the door flew open —Agnes S. Turnbull⟩ **b** : almost not ⟨~ ever wore this mantle —Arnold Bennett⟩ **2 a** : certainly not ⟨could ~ interfere between another man and his own beast —Owen Wister⟩ **b** : probably not ⟨there could ~ have been found a leader better equipped —V. L. Parrington⟩

scar·ci·ty \'sker-sət-ē, 'sker-stē, 'skar-\ *n, pl* **-ties** : the quality or state of being scarce; *esp* : want of provisions for the support of life

1scare \'ske(ə)r, 'ska(ə)r\ *vb* **scared; scar·ing** [ME *skerren*, fr. ON *skirra*, fr. *skjarr* shy, timid] *vt* : to frighten suddenly : ALARM ~ *vi* : to become scared — **scar·er** *n*

2scare *n* **1** : a sudden fright **2** : a widespread state of alarm : PANIC — **scare** *adj*

scare·crow \'ske(ə)r-ˌkrō, 'ska(ə)r-\ *n* **1 a** : an object usu. suggesting a human figure that is set up to frighten birds (as crows) away from crops **b** : something frightening but harmless **2** : a skinny or ragged person

scared *adj* : thrown into or living in a state of fear, fright, or panic

scaredy–cat \'ske(ə)rd-ē-ˌkat, 'ska(ə)rd-\ *n* [*scared*, pp. of *scare* + *-y* + *cat*] : an unduly fearful person

scare·head \'ske(ə)r-ˌhed, 'ska(ə)r-\ *n* : a big, sensational, or alarming newspaper headline

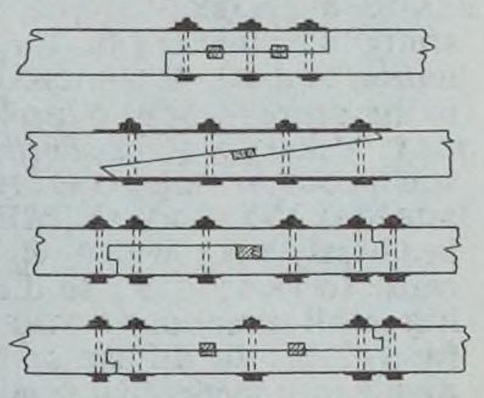
scare·mon·ger \-ˌməŋ-gər, -ˌmäŋ-\ *n* : one inclined to raise or excite alarms esp. needlessly

scare up *vt* : to bring to light or get together with considerable labor or difficulty : scrape up ⟨managed to *scare up* the money⟩

1scarf \'skärf\ *n, pl* **scarves** \'skärvz\ *or* **scarfs** [ONF *escarpe* sash, sling] **1** : a broad band of cloth worn about the shoulders, around the neck, or over the head **2 a** : a military or official sash usu. indicative of rank **b** *archaic* : TIPPET 3 **3** : RUNNER 6b

2scarf *vt* **1** : to wrap, cover, or adorn with or as if with a scarf **2** : to wrap or throw on (a scarf or mantle) loosely

3scarf *n, pl* **scarfs** [ME *skarf*, prob. of Scand origin; akin to ON *skarfr* scarf; akin to Gk *skorpios* scorpion] **1** : either of the chamfered or cutaway ends that fit together to form a scarf joint **2** : a joint made by chamfering, halving, or notching two pieces to correspond and lapping and bolting them — called also *scarf joint*



scarfs 2

4scarf *or* **scarph** \'skärf\ *vt* **1** : to unite by a scarf joint **2** : to form a scarf on

scarf·pin \'skärf-ˌpin\ *n* : TIEPIN

scarf·skin \'skärf-ˌskin\ *n* [*1scarf*] : EPIDERMIS; *esp* : that forming the cuticle of a nail

scar·i·fi·ca·tion \ˌskar-ə-fə-'kā-shən, ˌsker-\ *n* **1** : the act or process of scarifying **2** : a mark or marks made by scarifying

1scar·i·fy \'skar-ə-ˌfī, 'sker-\ *vt* **-fied; -fy·ing** [MF *scarifier*, fr. LL *scarificare*, alter. of L *scarifare*, fr. Gk *skariphasthai* to scratch an outline, sketch — more at SCRIBE] **1** : to make scratches or small cuts in (as the skin) ⟨~ an area for vaccination⟩ **2** : to lacerate the feelings of ⟨denounces, *scarifies*, blasts the pedantic schoolmasters —Gilbert Highet⟩ **3** : to break up and loosen the surface of (as a field or road) **4** : to cut or soften the wall of (a hard seed) to hasten germination — **scar·i·fi·er** \-ˌfī(-ə)r\ *n*

2scar·ify \'sker-ə-ˌfī, 'skar-\ *vt* **-fied; -fy·ing** : SCARE, FRIGHTEN

scar·i·ous \'sker-ē-əs, 'skar-\ *adj* [NL *scariosus*] : dry and membranous in texture ⟨a ~ bract⟩
scar·la·ti·na \ˌskär-lə-'tē-nə\ *n* [NL, fr. ML *scarlata* scarlet] : SCARLET FEVER — **scar·la·ti·nal** \-'tēn-ᵊl\ *adj*
¹scar·let \'skär-lət\ *n* [ME *scarlat, scarlet,* fr. OF or ML; OF *escarlate,* fr. ML *scarlata,* fr. Per *saqalāt,* a kind of rich cloth] **1** : scarlet cloth or clothes **2** : any of various bright reds
²scarlet *adj* **1** : of the color scarlet **2 a** : grossly and glaringly offensive ⟨sinning in flagrant and ~ fashion —G. W. Johnson⟩ **b** [fr. the use of the word in Isa 1:18 & Rev 17:1–6 (AV)] : WHORISH ⟨~ women who became the hostesses of the gambling dens and nightclubs —Mabel Elliot⟩
scarlet fever *n* : an acute contagious febrile disease caused by a hemolytic streptococcus and characterized by inflammation of the nose, throat, and mouth, generalized toxemia, and a red rash
scarlet letter *n* [fr. the novel *The Scarlet Letter* (1850) by Nathaniel Hawthorne] : a scarlet A worn as a punitive mark of adultery
scarlet pimpernel *n* **1** : a common pimpernel (*Anagallis arvensis*) having scarlet, white, or purplish flowers that close in cloudy weather **2** [*The Scarlet Pimpernel,* assumed name of the hero of *The Scarlet Pimpernel* (1905), novel by Baroness Orczy] : a person who rescues others from mortal danger by smuggling them across a border
scarlet runner *n* : a tropical American high-climbing bean (*Phaseolus coccineus*) that has large bright red flowers and red-and-black seeds and is grown widely as an ornamental and in Great Britain as a preferred food bean
scarlet sage *n* : a garden salvia (*Salvia splendens*) of Brazil with long racemes of intense scarlet flowers
scarlet tanager *n* : a common American tanager (*Piranga olivacea*) of which the male is scarlet with black wings and the female and young are chiefly olive
¹scarp \'skärp\ *n* [It *scarpa*] **1** : the inner side of a ditch below the parapet of a fortification **2 a** : a line of cliffs produced by faulting or erosion **b** : a low steep slope along a beach caused by wave erosion
²scarp *vt* : to cut down vertically or to a steep slope
scar·per \'skär-pər\ *vi* [perh. fr. It *scappare,* fr. (assumed) VL *excappare* — more at ESCAPE] *Brit* : to run away
scar·ry \'skär-ē\ *adj* [²*scar*] : bearing marks of wounds : SCARRED
¹scart \'skärt\ *vb* [ME *skarten,* alter. of *scratten*] *chiefly Scot* : SCRATCH, SCRAPE
²scart *n, chiefly Scot* : SCRATCH, MARK; *esp* : one made in writing
scar tissue *n* : the connective tissue forming a scar and composed chiefly of fibroblasts in recent scars and largely of dense collagenous fibers in old scars
scary *also* **scar·ey** \'ske(ə)r-ē, 'ska(ə)r-\ *adj* **scar·i·er; -est** **1** : causing fright : ALARMING ⟨told us a ~ story⟩ **2** : easily scared : TIMID **3** : feeling alarm or fright : FRIGHTENED
¹scat \'skat\ *vi* **scat·ted; scat·ting** [*scat,* interj. used to drive away a cat] **1** : to go away quickly **2** : to move fast : SCOOT
²scat *n* [Gk *skat-, skōr* excrement — more at SCAT-] : an animal fecal dropping
³scat *n* [perh. imit.] : jazz singing with nonsense syllables
⁴scat *vi* **scat·ted; scat·ting** : to improvise nonsense syllables to an instrumental accompaniment : sing scat
SCAT *abbr* **1** School and College Ability Test **2** supersonic commercial air transport
scat- *or* **scato-** *comb form* [Gk *skato-,* fr. *skat-, skōr* excrement; akin to OE *scearn* dung, L mus*cerda* mouse dropping] : ordure ⟨*scat*ology⟩
scat·back \'skat-ˌbak\ *n* [¹*scat* + *back*] : an offensive back in football who is an esp. fast and elusive ballcarrier
¹scathe \'skāth, 'skāth\ *n* [ME *skathe,* fr. ON *skathi;* akin to OE *sceatha* injury, Gk *askēthēs* unharmed] : HARM, INJURY — **scathe·less** \-ləs\ *adj*
²scathe \'skāth\ *vt* **scathed; scath·ing** **1** : to do harm to; *specif* : SCORCH, SEAR **2** : to assail with withering denunciation
scath·ing \'skā-thiŋ\ *adj* : bitterly severe ⟨a ~ condemnation⟩ — **scath·ing·ly** \-thiŋ-lē\ *adv*
sca·tol·o·gy \ska-'täl-ə-jē, skə-\ *n* **1** : the biologically oriented study of excrement (as for taxonomic purposes or for the determination of diet) **2** : interest in or treatment of obscene matters esp. in literature — **scat·o·log·i·cal** \ˌskat-ᵊl-'äj-i-kəl\ *adj*
scatt \'skat\ *n* [ON *skattr;* akin to OE *sceat* property, money, a small coin] *archaic* : TAX, TRIBUTE
¹scat·ter \'skat-ər\ *vb* [ME *scateren*] *vt* **1** *archaic* : to fling away heedlessly : SQUANDER **2 a** : to cause to separate widely **b** : to cause to vanish **3** : to distribute irregularly **4** : to sow by casting in all directions : STREW **5 a** : to reflect irregularly and diffusely **b** : to diffuse or disperse (a beam of radiation) **6** : to divide into ineffectual small portions ~ *vi* **1** : to separate and go in various directions : DISPERSE **2** : to occur or fall irregularly or at random — **scat·ter·er** \-ər-ər\ *n* — **scat·ter·ing·ly** \'skat-ə-riŋ-lē\ *adv*
syn SCATTER, DISPERSE, DISSIPATE, DISPEL *shared meaning element* : to cause to separate or break up
²scatter *n* **1** : the act of scattering **2** : a small supply or number irregularly distributed or strewn about **3** : the state or extent of being scattered; *esp* : DISPERSION
scat·ter·ation \ˌskat-ə-'rā-shən\ *n* **1** : the act or process of scattering : the state of being scattered **2** : the movement of people and industry away from the city; *also* : the resulting regional urbanization **3** : a policy of distributing funds and energies in too many ineffectively small units
scat·ter·brain \'skat-ər-ˌbrān\ *n* : a giddy heedless person
scat·ter·brained \-ˌbrānd\ *adj* : having the characteristics of a scatterbrain
scatter diagram *n* : a two-dimensional graph in rectangular coordinates consisting of points whose coordinates represent values of two variables under study
scat·ter·good \'skat-ər-ˌgu̇d\ *n* : a wasteful person : SPENDTHRIFT
scat·ter·gram \-ˌgram\ *n* : SCATTER DIAGRAM
scat·ter·graph \-ˌgraf\ *n* : SCATTER DIAGRAM
scat·ter–gun \-ˌgən\ *n* : SHOTGUN
¹scat·ter·ing *n* **1** : an act or process in which something scatters or is scattered **2** : something scattered; *esp* : a small number or quantity interspersed here and there ⟨a ~ of visitors⟩
²scattering *adj* **1** : going in various directions **2** : found or placed far apart and in no order **3** : divided among many or several ⟨~ votes⟩ — **scat·ter·ing·ly** \-ə-riŋ-lē\ *adv*
scatter pin *n* : a small ornamental pin worn usu. in groups of two or more on a woman's dress
scatter rug *n* : a rug of such a size that several can be used (as to fill vacant places) in a room
scat·ter·shot \'skat-ər-ˌshät\ *adj* : broadly inclusive : SHOTGUN
scat·ty \'skat-ē\ *adj* **scat·ti·er; -est** [prob. fr. *scatt*erbrain + *-y*] *Brit* : CRAZY
scaup \'skȯp\ *n, pl* **scaup** *or* **scaups** [perh. alter. of *scalp* (bed of shellfish); fr. its fondness for shellfish] : any of several diving ducks (genus *Aythya* and esp. *A. affinis* and *A. marila*)
scav·enge \'skav-ənj, -inj\ *vb* **scav·enged; scav·eng·ing** [back-formation fr. *scavenger*] *vt* **1 a** (1) : to remove (as dirt or refuse) from an area (2) : to clean away dirt or refuse from : CLEANSE ⟨~ a street⟩ **b** : to feed on (carrion or refuse) **2 a** : to remove (burned gases) from the cylinder of an internal-combustion engine after a working stroke **b** : to remove (as an undesirable constituent) from a substance or region by chemical or physical means **c** : to clean and purify (molten metal) by taking up foreign elements in chemical union **3** : to salvage from discarded or refuse material; *also* : to salvage usable material from ~ *vi* : to work or act as a scavenger
scav·en·ger \'skav-ən-jər\ *n* [alter. of earlier *scavager,* fr. ME *skawager* collector of a toll on goods sold by nonresident merchants, fr. *skawage* toll on goods sold by nonresident merchants, fr. ONF *escauwage* inspection] **1** *chiefly Brit* : a person employed to remove dirt and refuse from streets **2** : one that scavenges: as **a** : a garbage collector **b** : a junk collector **c** : a chemically active substance acting to make innocuous or remove an undesirable substance **3** : an organism that feeds habitually on refuse or carrion
scavenger hunt *n* : a party contest in which usu. couples are sent out with a time limit in which to acquire without buying one or more articles that are esp. difficult to obtain
SCCA *abbr* Sports Car Club of America
sce·na \'shā-(ˌ)nä\ *n* [It, lit., scene, fr. L] : an elaborate solo vocal composition that consists of a recitative usu. followed by one or more aria sections
sce·nar·io \sə-'nar-ē-ˌō, -'ner-\ *n, pl* **-i·os** [It, fr. L *scaenarium,* fr. *scaena* stage] **1 a** : an outline or synopsis of a play; *esp* : a plot outline used by actors of the commedia dell'arte **b** : the libretto of an opera **2 a** : SCREENPLAY **b** : SHOOTING SCRIPT **3** : an account or synopsis of a projected course of action or events ⟨his ~ for a settlement envisages . . . reunification —Selig Harrison⟩
sce·nar·ist \-'nar-əst, -'ner-\ *n* : a writer of scenarios
¹scend \'send\ *vi* [alter. of *send*] : to rise or heave upward under the influence of a natural force (as on a wave)
²scend *n* **1** : the upward movement of a pitching ship **2** : the lift of a wave : SEND
scene \'sēn\ *n* [MF, stage, fr. L *scena, scaena* stage, scene, fr. Gk *skēnē* temporary shelter, tent, building forming the background for a dramatic performance, stage; akin to Gk *skia* shadow — more at SHINE] **1** : one of the subdivisions of a play: as **a** : a division of an act presenting continuous action in one place **b** : a single situation or unit of dialogue in a play ⟨the love ~⟩ **c** : a motion-picture or television episode or sequence **2 a** : a stage setting **b** : a real or imaginary prospect suggesting a stage setting ⟨a sylvan ~⟩ **3** : the place of an occurrence or action : LOCALE ⟨~ of the crime⟩ **4** : an exhibition of anger or indecorous behavior ⟨make a ~⟩ **5 a** : sphere of activity ⟨the drug ~⟩ **b** : SITUATION ⟨your ~ . . . was unimportant, nobody wanted to hear about it —Michael Herr⟩ — **behind the scenes** **1** : out of public view : in secret **2** : in a position to see the hidden workings ⟨taken *behind the scenes* and told just how in fact the actual government . . . has operated —William Clark⟩
scene dock *n* : a space near the stage in a theater where scenery is stored
scen·ery \'sēn-(ə-)rē\ *n, pl* **-er·ies** **1** : the painted scenes or hangings and accessories used on a theater stage **2** : a picturesque view or landscape
scene·shift·er \-ˌshif-tər\ *n* : a worker who moves the scenes in a theater
scene–steal·er \'sēn-ˌstē-lər\ *n* : an actor who diverts attention to himself when he is not intended to be the center of attention
sce·nic \'sēn-ik *also* 'sen-\ *also* **sce·ni·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj* **1** : of or relating to the stage, a stage setting, or stage representation **2** : of or relating to natural scenery ⟨a ~ view⟩ **3** : representing graphically an action, event, or episode ⟨a ~ bas-relief⟩ — **sce·ni·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
scenic railway *n* : a miniature railway (as in an amusement park) with artificial scenery along the way
sce·nog·ra·phy \sē-'näg-rə-fē\ *n* [Gk *skēnographia* painting of scenery, fr. *skēnē* + *-graphia* -graphy] : the art of perspective representation esp. as applied to the painting of stage scenery (as by the ancient Greeks) — **sce·no·graph·ic** \ˌsē-nə-'graf-ik\ *adj* — **sce·no·graph·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
¹scent \'sent\ *vb* [ME *senten,* fr. MF *sentir* to feel, smell, fr. L *sentire* to perceive, feel — more at SENSE] *vt* **1 a** : to perceive by the olfactory organs : SMELL **b** : to get or have an inkling of ⟨~ trouble⟩ **2** : to imbue or fill with odor ⟨~*ed* the air with perfume⟩ ~ *vi* **1** : to yield an odor of some specified kind ⟨this ~*s* of sulfur⟩; *also* : to bear indication or suggestions **2** : to use the nose in seeking or tracking prey
²scent *n* **1** : effluvia from a substance that affect the sense of smell: as **a** : an odor left by an animal on a surface passed over **b** : a characteristic or particular odor; *esp* : one that is agreeable **2 a** : power of smelling : sense of smell ⟨a keen ~⟩ **b** : power of detection : NOSE ⟨a ~ for heresy⟩ **3** : a course of pursuit or dis-

covery ⟨throw one off the ~⟩ **4** : INKLING, INTIMATION ⟨a ~ of trouble⟩ **5** : PERFUME 2 **6** : bits of paper dropped in the game of hare and hounds **7** : a mixture prepared for use as a lure in hunting or fishing ***syn*** see FRAGRANCE, SMELL — **scent·less** \'sent-ləs\ *adj*

scent·ed *adj* : having scent: as **a** : having the sense of smell **b** : having a perfumed smell **c** : having or exhaling an odor

¹scep·ter \'sep-tər\ *n* [ME *sceptre*, fr. OF *ceptre*, fr. L *sceptrum*, fr. Gk *skēptron* staff, scepter — more at SHAFT] **1** : a staff or baton borne by a sovereign as an emblem of authority **2** : royal or imperial authority : SOVEREIGNTY

²scepter *vt* **scep·tered; scep·ter·ing** \-t(ə-)riŋ\ : to endow with the scepter in token of royal authority

scep·tered \'sep-tərd\ *adj* **1** : invested with a scepter or sovereign authority **2** : of or relating to a sovereign or to royalty

sceptic, sceptical, scepticism *var of* SKEPTIC, SKEPTICAL, SKEPTICISM

sceptre *Brit var of* SCEPTER

sch *abbr* school

scha·den·freu·de \'shäd-ᵊn-ˌfrȯid-ə\ *n* [G, fr. *schaden* damage + *freude* joy] : enjoyment obtained from others' troubles

¹sched·ule \'skej-(ˌ)ü(ə)l, 'skej-əl, *Canad also* 'shej-, *Brit usu* 'shed-(ˌ)yü(ə)l\ *n* [ME *cedule*, fr. MF, slip of paper, note, fr. LL *schedula* slip of paper, dim. of L *scheda, scida* sheet of papyrus, fr. (assumed) Gk *schidē*; akin to Gk *schizein* to split — more at SHED] **1 a** *obs* : a written document **b** : a statement of supplementary details appended to a legal or legislative document **2** : a written or printed list, catalog, or inventory; *also* : TIMETABLE **3** : PROGRAM, PROPOSAL **4** : a body of items to be dealt with : AGENDA

²schedule *vt* **sched·uled; sched·ul·ing** **1 a** : to place in a schedule **b** : to make a schedule of **2** : to appoint, assign, or designate for a fixed time — **sched·ul·er** *n*

schee·lite \'shā-ˌlīt\ *n* [G *scheelit*, fr. Karl W. *Scheele* †1786 Sw chemist] : a mineral $CaWO_4$ consisting of the tungstate of calcium that is a source of tungsten and its compounds

Sche·her·a·zade \shə-ˌher-ə-'zäd(-ə), -'zäd(-ē)\ *n* [G *Scheherezade*, fr. Per *Shīrazād*] : the fictional wife of an oriental king and the narrator of the tales in the *Arabian Nights' Entertainments*

sche·ma \'skē-mə\ *n, pl* **sche·ma·ta** \-mət-ə\ [Gk *schēmat-, schēma*] : a diagrammatic presentation; *specif* : FIGURE 6

¹sche·mat·ic \ski-'mat-ik\ *adj* [NL *schematicus*, fr. Gk *schēmat-, schēma*] : of or relating to a scheme or schema : DIAGRAMMATIC — **sche·mat·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

²schematic *n* : a schematic drawing or diagram

sche·ma·tism \'skē-mə-ˌtiz-əm\ *n* : the disposition of constituents in a pattern or according to a scheme : DESIGN; *also* : a particular systematic disposition of parts

sche·ma·tize \'skē-mə-ˌtīz\ *vt* **-tized; -tiz·ing** [Gk *schēmatizein*, fr. *schēmat-, schēma*] **1** : to form or to form into a scheme or systematic arrangement **2** : to express or depict schematically — **sche·ma·ti·za·tion** \ˌskē-mət-ə-'zā-shən\ *n*

¹scheme \'skēm\ *n* [L *schemat-, schema* arrangement, figure, fr. Gk *schēmat-, schēma*, fr. *echein* to have, hold, be in (such) a condition; akin to OE *sige* victory, Skt *sahate* he prevails] **1 a** *archaic* (1) : a mathematical or astronomical diagram (2) : a representation of the astrological aspects of the planets at a particular time **b** : a graphic sketch or outline **2** : a concise statement or table : EPITOME **3** : a plan or program of action; *esp* : a crafty or secret one **4** : a systematic or organized framework : DESIGN ***syn*** see PLAN

²scheme *vb* **schemed; schem·ing** *vt* : to form a scheme for ~ *vi* : to form plans; *also* : PLOT, INTRIGUE — **schem·er** *n*

schem·ing *adj* : given to forming schemes; *esp* : shrewdly devious and intriguing

¹scher·zan·do \skert-'sän-(ˌ)dō\ *adv or adj* [It, fr. verbal of *scherzare* to joke, of Gmc origin; akin to MHG *scherzen* to leap for joy, joke; akin to Gk *skairein* to gambol — more at CARDINAL] : in sportive manner : PLAYFULLY — used as a direction in music indicating style and tempo ⟨allegretto ~⟩

²scherzando *n, pl* **-dos** : a passage or movement in scherzando style

scher·zo \'ske(ə)rt-(ˌ)sō\ *n, pl* **scherzos** *or* **scher·zi** \-(ˌ)sē\ [It, lit., joke, fr. *scherzare*] : a sprightly humorous instrumental musical composition or movement commonly in quick triple time

Schick test \'shik-\ *n* [Béla *Schick*] : a serological test by cutaneous injection of a diluted diphtheria toxin that causes an area of reddening and induration in a subject susceptible to diphtheria

Schiff's reagent \ˌshifs-\ *n* [Hugo *Schiff* †1915 G chemist] : a solution of fuchsine decolorized by treatment with sulfur dioxide that gives a useful test for aldehydes because they restore the reddish violet color of the dye — called also *Schiff reagent*; compare FEULGEN REACTION

schil·ler \'shil-ər\ *n* [G] : a bronzy iridescent luster (as of a mineral)

schil·ling \'shil-iŋ\ *n* [G, fr. OHG *skilling*, a gold coin — more at SHILLING] — see MONEY table

schip·per·ke \'skip-ər-kē, -ərk(-ə)\ *n* [Flem, dim. of *schipper* skipper; fr. its use as a watchdog on boats — more at SKIPPER] : any of a Belgian breed of small stocky black dogs with foxy head and erect triangular ears

schism \'siz-əm, 'skiz-; 'skiz- *is rare among churchmen*\ *n* [ME *scisme*, fr. MF *cisme*, fr. LL *schismat-, schisma*, fr. Gk, cleft, division, fr. *schizein* to split] **1** : DIVISION, SEPARATION; *also* : DISCORD, DISHARMONY **2 a** : formal division in or separation from a church or religious body **b** : the offense of promoting schism

¹schis·mat·ic \siz-'mat-ik, skiz-\ *n* : one who creates or takes part in schism

²schismatic *also* **schis·mat·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj* : of, relating to, or guilty of schism — **schis·mat·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

schis·ma·tist \'siz-mət-əst, 'skiz-\ *n* [prob. fr. *schismatize*] : SCHISMATIC

schis·ma·tize \-mə-ˌtīz\ *vb* **-tized; -tiz·ing** *vi* : to take part in schism; *esp* : to make a breach of union (as in the church) ~ *vt* : to induce into schism

schist \'shist\ *n* [F *schiste*, fr. L *schistos* (*lapis*), lit., fissile stone, fr. Gk *schistos* that may be split, fr. *schizein*] : a metamorphic crystalline rock having a closely foliated structure and admitting of division along approximately parallel planes

schis·tose \'shis-ˌtōs\ *also* **schis·tous** \-təs\ *adj* : of or relating to schist : having the character or structure of a schist — **schis·tos·i·ty** \shis-'täs-ət-ē\ *n*

schis·to·some \'shis-tə-ˌsōm\ *n* [NL *Schistosoma*, genus name, fr. Gk *schistos* + *sōma* body — more at SOMAT-] : any of a genus (*Schistosoma*) of elongated trematode worms with the sexes separate that parasitize the blood vessels of birds and mammals and in man cause destructive schistosomiases; *broadly* : a worm of the family (Schistosomatidae) that includes this genus — **schis·to·som·al** \ˌshis-tə-'sō-məl\ *adj* — **schistosome** *adj*

schis·to·so·mi·a·sis \ˌshis-tə-sō-'mī-ə-səs\ *n, pl* **-a·ses** \-ˌsēz\ [NL, fr. *Schistosoma*] : infestation with or disease caused by schistosomes; *specif* : a severe endemic disease of man in much of Asia, Africa, and So. America marked esp. by blood loss and tissue damage

schiz- *or* **schizo-** *comb form* [NL, fr. Gk *schizo-*, fr. *schizein* to split] **1** : split : cleft ⟨*schizo*carp⟩ **2** : characterized by or involving cleavage ⟨*schizo*genesis⟩ **3** : schizophrenia ⟨*schizo*thymia⟩

schizo \'skit-(ˌ)sō\ *n, pl* **schiz·os** : a schizophrenic individual

schizo·carp \'skiz-ə-ˌkärp, 'skit-sə-\ *n* [ISV] : a dry compound fruit that splits at maturity into several indehiscent one-seeded carpels

schi·zog·o·ny \skiz-'äg-ə-nē, skit-'säg-\ *n* [NL *schizogonia*, fr. *schiz-* + L *-gonia* -gony] : asexual reproduction by multiple segmentation characteristic of sporozoans (as the malaria parasite) — **schi·zog·o·nous** \-nəs\ *or* **schizo·gon·ic** \ˌskiz-ə-'gän-ik, ˌskit-sə-\ *adj*

schiz·oid \'skit-ˌsȯid\ *adj* [ISV] : characterized by, resulting from, tending toward, or suggestive of schizophrenia — **schizoid** *n*

schizo·my·cete \ˌskiz-ə-'mī-ˌsēt, ˌskit-sə-, -ˌmī-'\ *n* [deriv. of Gk *schizo-* schiz- + *mykēt-, mykēs* fungus — more at MYC-] : BACTERIUM — **schizo·my·ce·tous** \-ˌmī-'sēt-əs\ *adj*

schiz·ont \'skiz-ˌänt, 'skit-ˌsänt\ *n* [ISV] : a multinucleate sporozoan that reproduces by schizogony

schizo·phrene \'skit-sə-ˌfrēn\ *n* [ISV, prob. back-formation fr. NL *schizophrenia*] : one affected with schizophrenia : SCHIZOPHRENIC

schizo·phre·nia \ˌskit-sə-'frē-nē-ə\ *n* [NL] : a psychotic disorder characterized by loss of contact with the environment and by disintegration of personality expressed as disorder of feeling, thought, and conduct — **schizo·phren·ic** \-'fren-ik\ *adj or n* — **schizophren·i·cal·ly** \-'fren-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

schizo·phyte \'skiz-ə-ˌfīt, 'skit-sə-\ *n* [deriv. of Gk *schizo-* + *phyton* plant — more at PLANT] : any of a division (*Schizophyta*) of plants comprising the blue-green algae and bacteria and characterized by unicellular or loosely colonial and often filamentous organization, by lack of an obvious nucleus, and by chiefly asexual reproduction — **schizo·phyt·ic** \ˌskiz-ə-'fit-ik, ˌskit-sə-\ *adj*

schizo·thy·mic \ˌskit-sə-'thī-mik\ *adj* [NL *schizothymia* state of being schizothymic, fr. *schiz-* + *-thymia*] : tending toward an introverted temperament that while remaining within the bounds of normality somewhat resembles schizophrenia

schle·miel \shlə-'mē(ə)l\ *n* [Yiddish *shlumiel*] : an unlucky bungler : CHUMP

schlepp \'shlep\ *vb* [Yiddish *shleppen*, fr. MHG *sleppen*, fr. MLG *slēpen*] *slang* : DRAG, HAUL

schlie·ren \'shlir-ən\ *n pl* [G] **1** : small masses or streaks in an igneous rock that differ in composition from the main body **2** : regions of varying refraction in a transparent medium often caused by pressure or temperature differences and detectable esp. by photographing the passage of a beam of light — **schlie·ric** \'shli(ə)r-ik\ *adj*

schlock \'shläk\ *adj* [Yiddish *shlak*, fr. *shlak* curse, cheap merchandise, lit., blow, fr. MHG *slag, slac*, fr. OHG *slag*, fr. *slahan* to strike — more at SLAY] : of low quality or value — **schlock** *n*

schmaltz *or* **schmalz** \'shmȯlts, 'shmälts\ *n* [Yiddish *shmalts*, lit., rendered fat, fr. MHG *smalz*; akin to OHG *smelzan* to melt — more at SMELT] : sentimental or florid music or art — **schmaltzy** \-ē\ *adj*

Schmidt system \'s(h)mit-\ *n* [B. *Schmidt* †1935 G optical scientist] : an optical system (as for a telescope or camera) that utilizes an objective composed of a concave spherical mirror having in front of it a transparent plate to offset spherical aberration

schmo *or* **schmoe** \'shmō\ *n, pl* **schmoes** [prob. modif. of Yiddish *shmok* penis, fool, fr. G *schmuck* adornment] *slang* : JERK 4

schmuck \'shmək\ *n* [Yiddish *shmok* penis, fool, fr. G *schmuck* adornment] *slang* : JERK 4

schnapps \'shnaps\ *n, pl* **schnapps** [G *schnaps*, lit., dram of liquor, fr. LG *snaps* dram, mouthful, fr. *snappen* to snap] : any of various distilled liquors; *esp* : strong Holland gin

schnau·zer \'shnau̇t-sər, 's(h)nau̇-zər\ *n* [G, fr. *schnauze* snout — more at SNOUT] : a dog of any of three breeds that originated in Germany and are characterized by a long head, small ears, heavy eyebrows, mustache and beard, and a wiry coat: **a** : STANDARD SCHNAUZER **b** : GIANT SCHNAUZER **c** : MINIATURE SCHNAUZER

schnit·zel \'s(h)nit-səl\ *n* [G, lit., shaving, chip, fr. MHG *snitzel*, dim. of *sniz* slice; akin to OHG *snīdan* to cut, OE *snithan*, Czech *snět* bough] : a seasoned and garnished veal cutlet

schnook \'shnu̇k\ *n* [origin unknown] *slang* : a stupid or unimportant person : DOLT

schnor·kel \'s(h)nȯr-kəl\ *var of* SNORKEL

schnor·rer \'shnȯr-ər, 'shnōr-\ *n* [Yiddish *shnorer*] : BEGGAR; *esp* : one who wheedles others into supplying his wants

schnoz·zle \'s(h)näz-əl\ *n* [prob. modif. of Yiddish *shnoitsl*, dim. of *shnoits* snout, fr. G *schnauze* snout, muzzle — more at SNOUT] *slang* : NOSE

scho·la can·to·rum \ˌskō-lə-kan-ˈtōr-əm, -ˈtȯr-\ *n, pl* **scho·lae cantorum** \-ˌlē-, -ˌlā-, -ˌlī-\ [ML, school of singers] **1** : a singing school esp. for church choristers; *specif* : the choir or choir school of a monastery or of a cathedral **2** : an enclosure designed for a choir and located in the center of the nave in early church buildings

schol·ar \ˈskäl-ər\ *n* [ME *scoler*, fr. OE *scolere* & OF *escoler*, fr. ML *scholaris*, fr. LL, of a school, fr. L *schola* school] **1** : one who attends a school or studies under a teacher : PUPIL **2 a** : one who has done advanced study in a special field **b** : a learned person **3** : a holder of a scholarship

schol·ar·ly \-ər-lē\ *adj* : characteristic of or suitable to learned persons : LEARNED, ACADEMIC

schol·ar·ship \-ər-ˌship\ *n* **1** : a grant-in-aid to a student (as by a college or foundation) **2** : the character, qualities, or attainments of a scholar : LEARNING **3** : a fund of knowledge and learning ⟨drawing on the ~ of the ancients⟩ ***syn*** see KNOWLEDGE

¹scho·las·tic \skə-ˈlas-tik\ *adj* [ML & L; ML *scholasticus* of the schoolmen, fr. L, of a school, fr. Gk *scholastikos*, fr. *scholazein* to keep a school, fr. *scholē* school] **1 a** *often cap* : of or relating to Scholasticism ⟨~ theology⟩ ⟨~ philosophy⟩ **b** : suggestive or characteristic of a scholastic esp. in subtlety or aridity : PEDANTIC ⟨turned out dull ~ reports⟩ **2** : of or relating to schools or scholars; *esp* : of or relating to high school or secondary school ***syn*** see PEDANTIC — **scho·las·ti·cal·ly** \-ti-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

²scholastic *n* **1 a** *cap* : a Scholastic philosopher **b** : PEDANT, FORMALIST **2** [NL *scholasticus*, fr. L *scholasticus*, adj.] : a student in a scholasticate **3** : one who adopts academic or traditional methods in art

scho·las·ti·cate \skə-ˈlas-tə-ˌkāt, -ti-kət\ *n* [NL *scholasticatus*, fr. *scholasticus* student in a scholasticate] : a college-level school of general study for those preparing for membership in a Roman Catholic religious order

scho·las·ti·cism \skə-ˈlas-tə-ˌsiz-əm\ *n* **1** *cap* **a** : a philosophical movement dominant in western Christian civilization from the 9th until the 17th century and combining religious dogma with the mystical and intuitional tradition of patristic philosophy esp. of St. Augustine and later with Aristotelianism **b** : NEO-SCHOLASTICISM **2 a** : close adherence to the traditional teachings or methods of a school or sect **b** : pedantic adherence to scholarly methods

scho·li·ast \ˈskō-lē-ˌast, -lē-əst\ *n* [MGk *scholiastēs*, fr. *scholiazein* to write scholia on, fr. Gk *scholion*] : a maker of scholia : COMMENTATOR, ANNOTATOR — **scho·li·as·tic** \ˌskō-lē-ˈas-tik\ *adj*

scho·li·um \ˈskō-lē-əm\ *n, pl* **-lia** \-lē-ə\ *or* **-li·ums** [NL, fr. Gk *scholion* comment, scholium, fr. dim. of *scholē* lecture] **1** : a marginal annotation or comment (as on the text of a classic by an early grammarian) **2** : a remark or observation subjoined but not essential to a demonstration or a train of reasoning

¹school \ˈskül\ *n* [ME *scole*, fr OE *scōl*, fr. L *schola*, fr. Gk *scholē* leisure, discussion, lecture, school; akin to Gk *echein* to hold — more at SCHEME] **1** : an organization that provides instruction: as **a** : an institution for the teaching of children **b** : COLLEGE, UNIVERSITY **c** (1) : a group of scholars and teachers pursuing knowledge together that with similar groups constituted a medieval university (2) : one of the four faculties of a medieval university (3) : an institution for specialized higher education often associated with a university ⟨the ~ of engineering⟩ **d** : an establishment offering specialized instruction ⟨a ~ of beauty culture⟩ ⟨driving ~*s*⟩ **2 a** (1) : the process of teaching or learning esp. at a school (2) : attendance at a school (3) : a session of a school **b** : a school building **c** : the students attending a school; *also* : its teachers and students **3** : a source of knowledge ⟨experience was his ~⟩ **4 a** : persons who hold a common doctrine or follow the same teacher (as in philosophy, theology, or medicine) ⟨the Aristotelian ~⟩ **b** : a group of artists under a common influence **c** : persons of similar opinions or behavior ⟨other ~*s* of thought⟩ **5** : the regulations governing military drill of individuals or units; *also* : the exercises carried out ⟨the ~ of the soldier⟩

²school *vt* **1** : to educate in an institution of learning **2 a** : to teach or drill in a specific knowledge or skill ⟨well ~*ed* in languages⟩ **b** : to discipline or habituate to something ⟨~ oneself in patience⟩ ***syn*** see TEACH

³school *n* [ME *scole*, fr MD *schole;* akin to OE *scolu* multitude, *scylian* to separate — more at SKILL] : a large number of fish or aquatic animals of one kind swimming together

⁴school *vi* : to swim or feed in a school ⟨bluefish are ~*ing*⟩

school age *n* : the period of life during which a child is considered mentally and physically fit to attend school and is commonly required to do so by law

school·bag \ˈskül-ˌbag\ *n* : a usu. cloth bag for carrying schoolbooks and school supplies

school board *n* : a board in charge of local public schools

school·book \-ˌbu̇k\ *n* : a textbook for use in schoolwork

school·boy \-ˌbȯi\ *n* : a boy attending school ⟨the whining ~, with his satchel and shining morning face —Shak.⟩

school bus *n* : a vehicle that is either publicly owned or privately owned and operated for compensation and that is used for transporting children to or from school or on activities connected with school

school·child \ˈskül-ˌchīld\ *n* : a child attending school

school committee *n* : SCHOOL BOARD

school district *n* : an area within a state often comprising several towns that has its own board and power of taxation and that serves as the unit for administration of a public-school system

school edition *n* : an edition of a book issued esp. for use in schools and usu. simplified, condensed, or emended esp. with glossarial or explanatory matter

-school·er \ˈskü-lər\ *comb form* : one who attends (such) a school ⟨grade-*schooler*⟩

school·fel·low \ˈskül-ˌfel-(ˌ)ō, -ə(-w)\ *n* : SCHOOLMATE

school·girl \-ˌgər(-ə)l\ *n* : a girl attending school

school·house \-ˌhau̇s\ *n* : a building used as a school and esp. as an elementary school

school·ing *n* **1 a** : instruction in school ⟨was an educated man despite his lack of ~ —Paul Woodring⟩ **b** : training, guidance, or discipline derived from experience ⟨long and arduous ~ as a performer in several . . . bands —Irving Kolodin⟩ **2** *archaic* : chastisement for correction : REPROOF **3** : the cost of instruction and maintenance at school **4** : the training of a horse to service; *esp* : the teaching and exercising of horse and rider in the formal techniques of equitation

school–leav·er \ˈskül-ˌlē-vər\ *n, Brit* : a pupil who has recently left school often without completing his course of studies

school·man \ˈskül-mən, -ˌman\ *n* **1 a** : one skilled in academic disputation **b** *cap* : SCHOLASTIC 1a **2** : a schoolteacher or school administrator

school·marm \-ˌmä(r)m\ *or* **school·ma'am** \-ˌmäm, -ˌmam\ *n* [*school* + *marm*, alter. of ma'am] **1** : a female schoolteacher esp. in a rural or small-town school ⟨he was displaced in favor of a local ~ —*Science*⟩ **2** : a person who exhibits characteristics attributed to schoolteachers ⟨the point of view of the ~ (for convenience' sake, the term is used bisexually) who . . . objects to all linguistic change —Thomas Pyles⟩

school·mas·ter \-ˌmas-tər\ *n* **1** : a male schoolteacher **2** : one that disciplines or directs **3** : a reddish brown edible snapper (*Lutjanus apodus*) of the tropical Atlantic and the Gulf of Mexico

school·mate \-ˌmāt\ *n* : a companion at school

school·mis·tress \-ˌmis-trəs\ *n* : a female schoolteacher

school·room \-ˌrüm, -ˌru̇m\ *n* : CLASSROOM

school·teach·er \-ˌtē-chər\ *n* : a person who teaches in a school

school·time \-ˌtīm\ *n* **1** : the time for beginning a session of school or during which school is held **2** : the period of life spent in school or in study

school·work \-ˌwərk\ *n* : lessons done in classes at school or assigned to be done at home

schoo·ner \ˈskü-nər\ *n* [origin unknown] **1** : a fore-and-aft rigged ship having two masts with a smaller sail on the foremast and with the mainmast stepped nearly amidships; *broadly* : any of various larger fore-and-aft rigged ships with three to seven masts **2** : a large tall drinking glass (as for beer or ale) **3** : PRAIRIE SCHOONER

schooner rig *n* : FORE-AND-AFT RIG — **schoo·ner–rigged** \ˌskü-nə(r)-ˈrigd\ *adj*

schorl \ˈshȯr(ə)l\ *n* [G *schörl*] : TOURMALINE; *esp* : tourmaline of the black variety — **schorl·aceous** \shȯr-ˈlā-shəs\ *adj*

schot·tische \ˈshät-ish, shä-ˈtēsh\ *n* [G, fr. *schottisch* Scottish, fr. *Schotte* Scotchman; akin to OE *Scottas* Scotchmen] **1** : a round dance in duple measure resembling a slow polka **2** : music for the schottische

schtick *var of* SHTICK

¹schuss \ˈshu̇s, ˈshüs\ *n* [G, lit., shot, fr. OHG *scuz* — more at SHOT] **1** : a straight high-speed run on skis **2** : a straightaway downhill skiing course

²schuss *vt* : to make a schuss over ⟨~ a slope⟩ ~ *vi* : to ski directly down a slope

schuss·boom·er \-ˌbü-mər\ *n* [*schuss* + ³*boom* + *-er*] : one who skis usu. straight downhill at high speed

schwa \ˈshwä\ *n* [G, fr. Heb *shĕwā*] **1** : an unstressed mid-central vowel that is the usual sound of the first and last vowels of the English word *America* **2** : the symbol ə used for the schwa sound and less widely for a similarly articulated stressed vowel (as in *cut*)

Schwann cell \ˈshwän-\ *n* [Theodor *Schwann* †1882 G naturalist] : a cell of the neurilemma of a nerve fiber

schwar·me·rei \ˌshfer-mə-ˈrī\ *n* [G *schwärmerei*, fr. *schwärmen* to be enthusiastic, lit., to swarm] : excessive or unwholesome sentiment

sci *abbr* science; scientific

sci·ae·nid \sī-ˈē-nəd\ *n* [deriv. of Gk *skiaina*, a fish] : any of a family (Sciaenidae) of carnivorous mostly marine percoid fishes comprising the croakers and including numerous food fishes — **sciaenid** *adj* — **sci·ae·noid** \-ˌnȯid\ *adj or n*

sci·at·ic \sī-ˈat-ik\ *adj* [MF *sciatique*, fr. LL *sciaticus*, alter. of L *ischiadicus* of sciatica, fr. Gk *ischiadikos*, fr. *ischiad-, ischias* sciatica, fr. *ischion* ischium] **1** : of, relating to, or situated near the hip **2** : of, relating to, or caused by sciatica ⟨~ pains⟩

sci·at·i·ca \sī-ˈat-i-kə\ *n* [ME, fr. ML, fr. LL, fem. of *sciaticus*] : pain along the course of a sciatic nerve esp. in the back of the thigh; *broadly* : pain in the lower back, buttocks, hips, or adjacent parts

sciatic nerve *n* : either of the pair of largest nerves in the body that arise one on each side from the nerve plexus supplying the posterior limb and pelvic region and that pass out of the pelvis and down the back of the thigh

sci·ence \ˈsī-ən(t)s\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *scientia*, fr. *scient-, sciens* having knowledge, fr. prp. of *scire* to know; akin to L *scindere* to cut — more at SHED] **1 a** : possession of knowledge as distinguished from ignorance or misunderstanding **b** : knowledge attained through study or practice **2 a** : a department of systematized knowledge as an object of study ⟨the ~ of theology⟩ **b** : something (as a sport or technique) that may be studied or learned like systematized knowledge **c** : one of the natural sciences **3 a** : knowledge covering general truths or the operation of general laws esp. as obtained and tested through scientific method **b** : such knowledge concerned with the physical world and its phenomena : NATURAL SCIENCE **4** : a system or method based or purporting to be based on scientific principles **5** *cap* : CHRISTIAN SCIENCE

science fiction *n* : fiction dealing principally with the impact of actual or imagined science upon society or individuals; *broadly* : literary fantasy including a scientific factor as an essential orienting component

sci·en·tial \sī-ˈen-chəl\ *adj* **1** : relating to or producing knowledge or science **2** : having efficient knowledge : CAPABLE

sci·en·tif·ic \ˌsī-ən-ˈtif-ik\ *adj* [ML *scientificus* producing knowledge, fr. L *scient-, sciens* + *-i-* + *-ficus* -fic] : of, relating to, or exhibiting the methods or principles of science — **sci·en·tif·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

scientific method *n* : principles and procedures for the systematic pursuit of knowledge involving the recognition and formulation of

a problem, the collection of data through observation and experiment, and the formulation and testing of hypotheses
scientific notation *n* : a widely used floating-point system in which numbers are expressed as products consisting of a number between 1 and 10 multiplied by an appropriate power of 10
sci·en·tism \'sī-ən-ˌtiz-əm\ *n* **1** : methods and attitudes typical of or attributed to the natural scientist **2** : an exaggerated trust in the efficacy of the methods of natural science to explain social or psychological phenomena, to solve pressing human problems, or to provide a comprehensive unified picture of the meaning of the cosmos
sci·en·tist \'sī-ənt-əst\ *n* [L *scientia*] **1** : one learned in science and esp. natural science : a scientific investigator **2** *cap* : CHRISTIAN SCIENTIST
sci–fi \'sī-'fī\ *adj* [*sci*ence *fi*ction] : of, relating to, or being science fiction ⟨a ~ story⟩
scil *abbr* scilicet
sci·li·cet \'skē-li-ˌket, 'sī-lə-ˌset\ *adv* [ME, fr. L, surely, to wit, fr. *scire* to know + *licet* it is permitted, fr. *licēre* to be permitted — more at LICENSE] : to wit : NAMELY
scil·la \'s(k)il-ə\ *n* [NL, genus name, fr. L, squill — more at SQUILL] : any of a genus (*Scilla*) of Old World bulbous herbs of the lily family with narrow basal leaves and pink, blue, or white racemose flowers
scim·i·tar \'sim-ət-ər, -ə-ˌtär\ *n* [It *scimitarra*] : a saber made of a curved blade with the edge on the convex side and used chiefly by Arabs and Turks


scimitar

scin·tig·ra·phy \sin-'tig-rə-fē\ *n* [*scinti*llation + *-graphy*; fr. the scintillation counter used to record radiation on the picture] : a diagnostic technique in which a two-dimensional picture of a bodily radiation source is obtained by the use of radioisotopes — **scin·ti·graph·ic** \ˌsint-ə-'graf-ik\ *adj*
scin·til·la \sin-'til-ə\ *n* [L] : SPARK, TRACE
scin·til·lant \'sint-ᵊl-ənt\ *adj* : that scintillates : SPARKLING — **scin·til·lant·ly** *adv*
scin·til·late \'sint-ᵊl-ˌāt\ *vb* **-lat·ed; -lat·ing** [L *scintillatus*, pp. of *scintillare* to sparkle, fr. *scintilla* spark] *vi* **1** : to emit sparks : SPARK **2** : to emit quick flashes as if throwing off sparks; *also* : SPARKLE, TWINKLE ~ *vt* : to throw off as a spark or as sparkling flashes ⟨~ witticisms⟩ — **scin·til·la·tor** \-ˌāt-ər\ *n*
scin·til·la·tion \ˌsint-ᵊl-'ā-shən\ *n* **1** : an act or instance of scintillating; *esp* : rapid changes in the brightness of a celestial body **2 a** : a spark or flash emitted in scintillating **b** : a flash of light produced in a phosphor by an ionizing event **3** : a brilliant outburst (as of wit) **4** : a flash of the eye
scintillation counter *n* : a device for detecting and registering individual scintillations (as in radioactive emission)
scin·til·lom·e·ter \ˌsint-ᵊl-'äm-ət-ər\ *n* [L *scintilla* + ISV *-o-* + *-meter*] : SCINTILLATION COUNTER
sci·o·lism \'sī-ə-ˌliz-əm\ *n* [LL *sciolus* smatterer, fr. dim. of L *scius* knowing, fr. *scire* to know — more at SCIENCE] : a superficial show of learning — **sci·o·list** \-ləst\ *n* — **sci·o·lis·tic** \ˌsī-ə-'lis-tik\ *adj*
scio·man·cy \'sī-ə-ˌman(t)-sē, 'skē-ə-\ *n* [LL *sciomantia*, fr. LGk *skiomanteia*, fr. Gk *skia* shadow, shade + *-manteia* -mancy — more at SHINE] : divination by consulting the ghosts of the dead — **scio·man·tic** \ˌsī-ə-'mant-ik, ˌskē-ə-\ *adj*
sci·on \'sī-ən\ *n* [ME, fr. MF *cion*, of Gmc origin; akin to OHG *chīnan* to sprout, split open, OE *cīnan* to gape] **1** : a detached living portion of a plant joined to a stock in grafting and usu. supplying solely aerial parts to a graft **2** : DESCENDANT, CHILD
sci·re fa·cias \ˌsī-rē-'fā-sh(ē-)əs\ *n* [ME, fr. ML, you should cause to know] **1** : a judicial writ founded upon some matter of record and requiring the party proceeded against to show cause why the record should not be enforced, annulled, or vacated **2** : a legal proceeding instituted by a scire facias
sci·roc·co \shi-'räk-(ˌ)ō, sə-\ *var of* SIROCCO
scir·rhous \'s(k)ir-əs\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or being a scirrhus **2** : hard or indurated with or as if with fibrous tissue
scir·rhus \'s(k)ir-əs\ *n, pl* **scir·rhi** \'s(k)i(ə)r-ˌī, 'ski(ə)r-ˌē\ [NL, fr. Gk *skiros, skirrhos*, fr. *skiros* hard] : a hard slow-growing malignant tumor having a preponderance of fibrous tissue
scis·sile \'sis-əl, -ˌīl\ *adj* [F, fr. L *scissilis*, fr. *scissus*, pp. of *scindere* to split — more at SHED] : capable of being cut smoothly or split easily ⟨a ~ peptide bond⟩
scis·sion \'sizh-ən\ *n* [F, fr. LL *scission-, scissio*, fr. L *scissus*, pp.] **1** : a division or split in a group or union : SCHISM **2** : an action or process of cutting, dividing, or splitting : the state of being cut, divided, or split
¹scis·sor \'siz-ər\ *n* [ME *sisoure*, fr. MF *cisoire*, fr. LL *cisorium* cutting instrument, irreg. fr. L *caesus*, pp. of *caedere* to cut — more at CONCISE] : SCISSORS
²scissor *vt* **scis·sored; scis·sor·ing** \-(ə-)riŋ\ : to cut, cut up, or cut off with scissors or shears
scis·sors \'siz-ərz\ *n pl but sing or pl in constr* **1** : a cutting instrument having two blades whose cutting edges slide past each other **2 a** : a gymnastic feat in which the leg movements suggest the opening and closing of scissors **b** : SCISSORS HOLD
scissors hold *n* : a wrestling hold in which the legs are locked around the head or body of an opponent
scissors kick *n* : a swimming kick used in trudgen strokes and sidestrokes in which the legs move like scissors
scis·sor·tail \'siz-ər-ˌtāl\ *n* : a flycatcher (*Muscivora forficata*) of the southern U.S. and Mexico with a deeply forked tail
¹sclaff \'sklaf\ *n* [prob. imit.] : a golf stroke in which the club head strikes the ground behind the ball before touching the ball
²sclaff *vi* : to make a sclaff in golf ~ *vt* **1** : to cause (a golf club) to make a sclaff **2** : to strike (the ground) in making a sclaff — **sclaff·er** *n*
scler- *or* **sclero-** *comb form* [NL, fr. Gk *sklēr-, sklēro-*, fr. *sklēros* — more at SKELETON] **1 a** : hard ⟨*scler*ite⟩ ⟨*sclero*derma⟩ **b** : hardness ⟨*sclero*meter⟩ **2** : sclera ⟨*scler*itis⟩
sclera \'skler-ə\ *n* [NL, fr. Gk *sklēros* hard] : the dense fibrous opaque white outer coat enclosing the eyeball except the part covered by the cornea — see EYE illustration — **scler·al** \-əl\ *adj*
scler·e·id \'skler-ē-əd\ *n* [*scleren*chyma + *-id*] : a sclerenchymatous cell of a higher plant that is nearly isodiametric
scle·ren·chy·ma \sklə-'reŋ-kə-mə\ *n* [NL] : a protective or supporting tissue in higher plants composed of cells with walls thickened and lignified and often mineralized — **scler·en·chy·ma·tous** \ˌskler-ən-'kim-ət-əs, -'kī-mət-\ *adj*
scler·ite \'skle(ə)r-ˌīt\ *n* [ISV] : a hard chitinous or calcareous plate, piece, or spicule (as of the arthropod integument)
sclero·der·ma \ˌskler-ə-'dər-mə\ *n* [NL] : a disease of the skin characterized by thickening and hardening of the subcutaneous tissues
scle·rom·e·ter \sklə-'räm-ət-ər\ *n* [ISV] : an instrument for determining the relative hardnesses of materials
sclero·pro·tein \ˌskler-ō-'prō-ˌtēn, -'prōt-ē-ən\ *n* [ISV] : any of various fibrous proteins esp. from connective and skeletal tissues
scle·rose \sklə-'rōz, -'rōs\ *vb* [back-formation fr. *sclerosis*] *vt* : to cause sclerosis in : INDURATE ~ *vi* : to undergo sclerosis
scle·ro·sis \sklə-'rō-səs\ *n* [ME *sclirosis*, fr. ML, fr. Gk *sklērōsis* hardening, fr. *sklēroun* to harden, fr. *sklēros*] **1** : pathological hardening of tissue esp. from overgrowth of fibrous tissue or increase in interstitial tissue; *also* : a disease characterized by sclerosis **2** : hardening of plant cell walls usu. by lignification
¹scle·rot·ic \sklə-'rät-ik\ *adj* **1** : being or relating to the sclera **2** : of, relating to, or affected with sclerosis
²sclerotic *n* [ML *sclerotica*, fr. (assumed) Gk *sklērōtos*, verbal of Gk *sklēroun* to harden] : SCLERA
scler·o·tin \'skler-ə-tən, sklə-'rōt-ᵊn\ *n* [(assumed) Gk *sklērōtos* + ISV *-in*] : an insoluble tanned protein permeating and stiffening the chitin of the cuticle of arthropods
scle·ro·tium \sklə-'rō-sh(ē-)əm\ *n, pl* **-tia** \-sh(ē-)ə\ [NL, fr. (assumed) Gk *sklērōtos*, verbal of Gk *sklēroun* to harden] : a compact mass of hardened mycelium stored with reserve food material that in some higher fungi becomes detached and remains dormant until a favorable opportunity for growth occurs — **scle·ro·tial** \-'rō-shəl\ *adj*
scler·o·ti·za·tion \ˌskler-ət-ə-'zā-shən\ *n* : the quality or state of being sclerotized
scler·o·tized \'skler-ə-ˌtīzd\ *adj* [(assumed) Gk *sklērōtos* + E *-ize* + *-ed*] : hardened by substances other than chitin — used chiefly of the cuticle of an insect
¹scoff \'skäf, 'skȯf\ *n* [ME *scof*, prob. of Scand origin; akin to obs. Dan *skof* jest; akin to OFris *skof* mockery] **1** : an expression of scorn, derision, or contempt : GIBE **2** : an object of scorn, mockery, or derision
²scoff *vi* : to show contempt by derisive acts or language : MOCK ~ *vt* : to treat or address with derision : mock at — **scoff·er** *n*
syn SCOFF, JEER, GIBE, FLEER, SNEER, FLOUT *shared meaning element* : to show contempt in derision or mockery
scoff·law \-ˌlȯ\ *n* : a contemptuous law violator
¹scold \'skōld\ *n* [ME *scald, scold*, prob. of Scand origin; akin to ON *skāld* poet, skald, Icel *skālda* to make scurrilous verse] **1 a** : one who scolds habitually or persistently ⟨he is under the dominion of a forbidding ~, who, in addition . . . is slovenly and unthrifty —Patrick Barry⟩ **b** : a woman who disturbs the public peace by noisy and quarrelsome or abusive behavior **2** : SCOLDING
²scold *vi* **1** *obs* : to quarrel noisily : BRAWL **2** : to find fault noisily and wordily ~ *vt* : to censure usu. severely or angrily : rebuke or reprove sharply — **scold·er** *n*
syn SCOLD, UPBRAID, BERATE, RAIL, REVILE, VITUPERATE *shared meaning element* : to reproach angrily and abusively
scold·ing *n* **1** : the action of one who scolds **2** : a harsh reproof
sco·le·cite \'skäl-ə-ˌsīt, 'skō-lə-\ *n* [G *skolezit*, fr. Gk *skōlēk-, skōlēx* worm; fr. the motion of some forms when heated] : a zeolite mineral $CaAl_2Si_3O_{10}.3H_2O$ that is a hydrous calcium aluminum silicate and occurs in radiating groups of crystals, in fibrous masses, and in nodules
sco·lex \'skō-ˌleks\ *n, pl* **sco·li·ces** \-lə-ˌsēz\ [NL *scolic-, scolex*, fr. Gk *skōlēk-, skōlēx* worm; akin to Gk *skelos* leg — more at CYLINDER] : the head of a tapeworm either in the larva or adult stage
sco·li·o·sis \ˌskō-lē-'ō-səs\ *n, pl* **-o·ses** \-ˌsēz\ [NL, fr. Gk *skoliōsis* crookedness of a bodily part, fr. *skolios* crooked — more at CYLINDER] : a lateral curvature of the spine — **sco·li·ot·ic** \-'ät-ik\ *adj*
scol·lop \'skäl-əp\ *var of* SCALLOP
scol·o·pen·dra \'skäl-ə-'pen-drə\ *n* [NL, genus of centipedes, fr. L, a kind of millipede, fr. Gk *skolopendra*] : CENTIPEDE
scom·broid \'skäm-ˌbrȯid\ *n* [deriv. of Gk *skombros* mackerel] : any of a suborder (Scombroidea) of marine spiny-finned fishes (as mackerels, tunas, albacores, bonitos, and swordfishes) of great economic importance as food fishes — **scombroid** *adj*
¹sconce \'skän(t)s\ *n* [ME, fr. MF *esconse* screened lantern, fr. OF, fr. fem. of *escons*, pp. of *escondre* to hide, fr. L *abscondere* — more at ABSCOND] : a bracket candlestick or group of candlesticks; *also* : an electric light fixture patterned on a candle sconce
²sconce *n* [D *schans*, fr. G *schanze*] : a detached defensive work
scone \'skōn, 'skän\ *n* [perh. fr. D *schoonbrood* fine white bread, fr. *schoon* pure, clean + *brood* bread] : a quick bread of oatmeal or barley flour rolled round, cut into quarters, and baked on a griddle
¹scoop \'sküp\ *n* [ME *scope*, fr. MD *schope*; akin to OHG *skepfen* to shape — more at SHAPE] **1 a** : a large ladle **b** : a deep shovel or similar implement for digging, dipping, or shoveling **c** : a hemispherical utensil for dipping soft food **d** : a small spoon-shaped utensil or instrument for cutting or gouging **2** : the action

of scooping **3 a** : a hollow place : CAVITY **b** : a part forming or surrounding an opening for channeling a fluid (as air) into a desired path **4 a** : information esp. of immediate interest **b** : BEAT 7b — **scoop·ful** \-ˌfůl\ *n*

²scoop *vt* **1** : to take out or up with or as if with a scoop : DIP **2** : to empty by ladling out the contents **3** : to make hollow : dig out **4** : BEAT 5a(2) — **scoop·er** *n*

scoot \'sküt\ *vt* [prob. of Scand origin; akin to ON *skjōta* to shoot — more at SHOOT] : to go suddenly and swiftly — **scoot** *n*

scoot·er \'süt-ər\ *n* **1** : a child's foot-operated vehicle consisting of a narrow board mounted between two wheels tandem with an upright steering handle attached to the front wheel **2** : MOTOR SCOOTER

scop \'säp, 'skōp, 'shōp\ *n* [OE; akin to OHG *schof* poet] : an Old English bard or poet

¹scope \'skōp\ *n* [It *scopo* purpose, goal, fr. Gk *skopos;* akin to Gk *skeptesthai* to watch, look at — more at SPY] **1** : space or opportunity for unhampered motion, activity, or thought **2** : INTENTION, OBJECT **3** : extent of treatment, activity, or influence **4** : range of operation

²scope *n* [*-scope*] **1** : any of various instruments for viewing: as **a** : MICROSCOPE **b** : TELESCOPE **c** : OSCILLOSCOPE **d** : RADARSCOPE **2** : HOROSCOPE

-scope \ˌskōp\ *n comb form* [NL *-scopium,* fr. Gk *-skopion;* akin to Gk *skeptesthai*] : means (as an instrument) for viewing or observing ⟨micro*scope*⟩

sco·pol·amine \skō-'päl-ə-ˌmēn, -mən\ *n* [G *scopolamin,* fr. NL *Scopolia,* genus of plants + G *amin* amine] : a poisonous alkaloid $C_{17}H_{21}NO_4$ found in the roots of various plants (esp. genus *Scopolia*) of the nightshade family and used esp. as a truth serum or usu. with morphine as a sedative in surgery and obstetrics

scop·u·la \'skäp-yə-lə\ *n* [NL, fr. LL, dim. of L *scopa* broom — more at SCULLION] : a bushy tuft of hairs — **scop·u·late** \-ˌlāt\ *adj*

-s·co·py \s-kə-pē\ *n comb form* [Gk *-skopia,* fr. *skeptesthai*] : viewing : observation ⟨radio*scopy*⟩

scor·bu·tic \skȯr-'byüt-ik\ *adj* [NL *scorbuticus,* fr. *scorbutus* scurvy, prob. of Gmc origin; akin to OE *scurf*] : of, relating to, or resembling scurvy; *also* : diseased with scurvy — **scor·bu·ti·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

¹scorch \'skȯ(ə)rch\ *vb* [ME *scorcnen, scorchen,* prob. of Scand origin; akin to ON *skorpna* to shrivel up — more at SHRIMP] *vt* **1** : to burn a surface of so as to change its color and texture **2 a** : to parch with or as if with intense heat **b** : to afflict painfully with censure or sarcasm **3** : to devastate completely esp. before abandoning — used in the phrase *scorched earth* esp. of property of possible use to an enemy ~ *vi* **1** : to become scorched **2** : to travel at great and usu. excessive speed — **scorch·ing·ly** \'skȯr-chiŋ-lē\ *adv*

²scorch *n* **1** : a result of scorching **2** : a browning of plant tissues usu. from disease or heat

³scorch *vt* [alter. of ²*score*] *dial Brit* : CUT, SLASH

scorched *adj* : parched or discolored by scorching

scorch·er \'skȯr-chər\ *n* : one that scorches; *esp* : a very hot day

¹score \'skō(ə)r, 'skȯ(ə)r\ *n, pl* **scores** [ME *scor,* fr. ON *skor* notch, tally, twenty; akin to OE *scieran* to cut — more at SHEAR] **1** *or pl* **score** **a** : TWENTY **b** : a group of 20 things — often used in combination with a cardinal number ⟨five*score*⟩ **c** *pl* : a group of an indefinite large number **2 a** : a line (as a scratch or incision) made with or as if with a sharp instrument **b** (1) : a mark used as a starting point or goal (2) : a mark used for keeping account **3 a** : an account or reckoning kept by making marks on a tally **b** : ACCOUNT **c** : amount due : INDEBTEDNESS **4** : an obligation or injury kept in mind for requital : GRUDGE **5 a** : REASON, GROUND **b** : SUBJECT, TOPIC **6 a** : the copy of a musical composition in written or printed notation **b** : a musical composition; *specif* : the music for a movie or theatrical production **c** : a complete description of a dance composition in choreographic notation **7 a** : a number that expresses accomplishment (as in a game or test) or excellence (as in quality) either absolutely in points gained or by comparison to a standard **b** : an act (as a goal, run, or touchdown) in any of various games or contests that gains points **c** : success esp. in obtaining marijuana or narcotics **8** : the stark inescapable facts of a situation ⟨knows the ~⟩

²score *vb* **scored; scor·ing** *vt* **1 a** : to keep a record or account of by or as if by notches on a tally : RECORD **b** : to enter in a record **c** : to mark with significant lines or notches (as in keeping account) **2** : to mark with lines, grooves, scratches, or notches **3** : BERATE, SCOLD **4 a** (1) : to make (a score) in a game or contest ⟨*scored* a touchdown⟩ ⟨*scored* three points⟩ (2) : to enable (a base runner) to make a score (3) : to have as a value in a game or contest : COUNT ⟨a touchdown ~*s* six points⟩ **b** : ACHIEVE, WIN **5** : to determine the merit of : GRADE **6 a** : to write or arrange (music) for a specific performance medium **b** : to make an orchestration of **c** : to compose a score for (a movie) ~ *vi* **1** : to keep score in a game or contest **2** : to make a score in a game or contest **3 a** : to gain or have the advantage **b** (1) : to be successful (2) : to obtain marijuana or narcotics **c** : ³RATE — **scor·er** *n*

score·board \'skō(ə)r-ˌbō(ə)rd, 'skȯ(ə)r-ˌbȯ(ə)rd\ *n* : a large board for displaying the score of a game or match and sometimes other information

score·card \-ˌkärd\ *n* : a card for recording the score of a game

score·keep·er \-ˌkē-pər\ *n* : an official who records the score during the progress of a game or contest

score·less \-ləs\ *adj* : having no score; *specif* : involving no points

sco·ria \'skōr-ē-ə, 'skȯr-\ *n, pl* **-ri·ae** \-ē-ˌē, -ē-ˌī\ [ME, fr. L, fr. Gk *skōria,* fr. *skōr* excrement — more at SCAT-] **1** : the refuse from melting of metals or reduction of ores : SLAG **2** : rough vesicular cindery lava — **sco·ri·a·ceous** \ˌskōr-ē-'ā-shəs, ˌskȯr-\ *adj*

¹scorn \'skȯ(ə)rn\ *n* [ME, fr. OF *escarn,* of Gmc origin; akin to OHG *scern* jest; akin to Gk *skairein* to gambol — more at CARDINAL] **1** : an emotion involving both anger and disgust : vigorous contempt : DISDAIN **2** : an expression of extreme contempt **3** : an object of extreme disdain, contempt, or derision

²scorn *vt* **1** : to reject with vigorous or angry contempt : CONTEMN ⟨~*ed* all warnings of disaster⟩ **2** : to refuse because of scorn : DISDAIN ⟨~*ed* to reply to the charge⟩ ~ *vi* : to show disdain or derision : SCOFF ***syn*** see DESPISE — **scorn·er** *n*

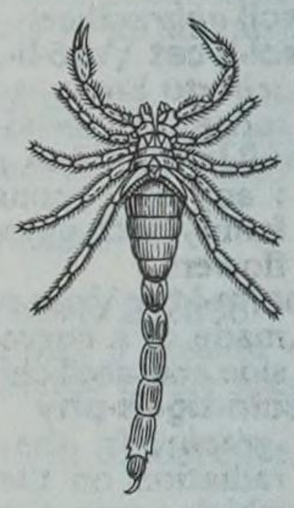
scorn·ful \'skȯrn-fəl\ *adj* : full of scorn : CONTEMPTUOUS — **scorn·ful·ly** \-fə-lē\ *adv* — **scorn·ful·ness** *n*

scor·pae·nid \skȯr-'pē-nəd\ *n* [deriv. of Gk *skorpaina,* a kind of fish] : any of a family (Scorpaenidae) of marine spiny-finned fishes comprising the scorpion fishes — **scorpaenid** *adj*

Scor·pio \'skȯr-pē-ˌō\ *n* [L (gen. *Scorpionis*), fr. Gk *Skorpios,* lit., scorpion] **1** : SCORPIUS **2 a** : the 8th sign of the zodiac in astrology — see ZODIAC table **b** : one born under this sign

scor·pi·oid \-pē-ˌȯid\ *adj* [Gk *skorpioeidēs* resembling a scorpion, fr. *skorpios*] : curved at the end like a scorpion's tail : CIRCINATE ⟨a ~ inflorescence⟩

scor·pi·on \'skȯr-pē-ən\ *n* [ME, fr. OF, fr. L *scorpion-, scorpio,* fr. Gk *skorpios;* akin to OE *scieran* to cut — more at SHEAR] **1 a** : any of an order (Scorpionida) of arachnids that have an elongated body and a narrow segmented tail bearing a venomous sting at the tip **b** *cap* : SCORPIO **2** : a scourge prob. studded with metal **3** : something that incites to action like the sting of an insect



scorpion

scorpion fish *n* : a scorpaenid fish; *esp* : one with a venomous spine on the dorsal fin

scorpion fly *n* : any of a family (Panorpidae) of mecopterous insects that have cylindrical bodies and the male genitalia enlarged into a swollen bulb; *broadly* : a mecopterous insect

Scor·pi·us \'skȯr-pē-əs\ *n* [L (gen. *Scorpii*), fr. Gk *Skorpios,* lit., scorpion] : a southern constellation partly in the Milky Way and next to Libra

scot \'skät\ *n* [ME, fr. ON *skot* shot, contribution — more at SHOT] : money assessed or paid

¹Scot \'skät\ *n* [ME *Scottes* Scotchmen, fr. OE *Scottas* Irishmen, Scotchmen, fr. LL *Scotus* Irishman] **1** : one of a Gaelic people of northern Ireland settling in Scotland about A.D. 500 **2 a** : a native or inhabitant of Scotland **b** : a person of Scotch descent

²Scot *abbr* Scotland; Scottish

scot and lot *n* **1** : a parish assessment formerly laid on subjects in Great Britain according to their ability to pay **2** : obligations of all kinds taken as a whole

¹scotch \'skäch\ *vt* [ME *scocchen* to gash] **1** : to injure so as to make temporarily harmless **2 a** : to stamp out : CRUSH **b** : to end decisively by demonstrating the falsity of

²scotch *n* : a slight cut : SCORE

³scotch *n* [origin unknown] : a chock to prevent rolling or slipping

⁴scotch *vt* **1** : to block with a chock **2** : HINDER, THWART

¹Scotch \'skäch\ *adj* [contr. of *Scottish*] **1** : of, relating to, or characteristic of Scotland, the Scotch, or Scots **2** : inclined to frugality

syn SCOTCH, SCOTTISH, SCOTS *shared meaning element* : constituting, belonging to, or deriving from Scotland or its people. SCOTCH is more widely used outside Scotland and is likely to occur in casual context or in the spoken language ⟨we referred to ourselves as *Scotch* and not Scots. When, years later, I learned that the usage was different it seemed to me rather an affectation —J. K. Galbraith⟩ SCOTTISH has a more literary, less casual flavor and use ⟨the *Scottish* Universities⟩ ⟨when Mary assumed the *Scottish* crown⟩ SCOTS, otherwise interchangeable with *Scottish,* may be preferred in reference to law and in historical reference to money ⟨a pound *Scots*⟩ In Scotland itself *Scottish* and *Scots* are often preferred to *Scotch* ⟨a delegation of *Scottish* editors —*Scotsman*⟩ ⟨the *Scots* community in New York —*Scotsman*⟩ but *Scotch* is also used ⟨I'm pure *Scotch* . . . the correct term is *Scottish,* but that sounds so pompous —Margaret, Duchess of Argyll⟩

²Scotch *n* **1** : SCOTS **2** *pl in constr* : the people of Scotland **3** *often cap* : SCOTCH WHISKY

³Scotch *trademark* —used for any of numerous adhesive tapes

Scotch broom *n* : a deciduous broom (*Cytisus scoparius*) of western Europe that is widely cultivated for its bright yellow or partly red flowers and that has become a pest in some areas (as California)

Scotch broth *n* : a soup made from beef or mutton and vegetables and thickened with barley

Scotch–Irish *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or characteristic of the population of northern Ireland that is descended from Scotch settlers **2** : of, relating to, or characteristic of the people of Scotch descent emigrating from northern Ireland to the U.S. before 1846 or their descendants

Scotch·man \'skäch-mən\ *n* : a man of Scotch descent : a male Scot

Scotch pine *n* : a pine (*Pinus sylvestris*) of northern Europe and Asia with spreading or pendulous branches, short rigid twisted needles, and hard yellow wood that provides valuable timber

Scotch terrier *n* : SCOTTISH TERRIER

Scotch verdict *n* **1** : a verdict of not proven that is allowed by Scottish criminal law in some cases instead of a verdict of not guilty **2** : an inconclusive decision or pronouncement

Scotch whisky *n* : whiskey distilled in Scotland esp. from malted barley

Scotch·wom·an \'skäch-ˌwům-ən\ *n* : a woman who is Scotch

Scotch woodcock *n* : buttered toast spread with anchovy paste and scrambled egg

sco·ter \'skōt-ər\ *n, pl* **scoters** *or* **scoter** [origin unknown] : any of several sea ducks (genera *Oidemia* and *Melanitta*) of northern coasts of Europe and No. America and some larger inland waters

scot–free \'skät-'frē\ *adj* [*scot* + *free*] : completely free from obligation, harm, or penalty

sco·tia \'skō-sh(ē-)ə, 'skōt-ē-ə\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *skotia,* fr. fem. of *skotios* dark, shadowy, fr. *skotos* darkness — more at SHADE] : a concave

molding used esp. in classical architecture in the bases of columns — see BASE illustration, MOLDING illustration
Scot·ic \'skät-ik\ *adj* : of or relating to the ancient Scots
Sco·tism \'skōt-ˌiz-əm\ *n* : the doctrines of Duns Scotus (as voluntarism, logical realism, and the plurality of substantial forms) — **Sco·tist** \'skōt-əst\ *n*
Scot·land Yard \ˌskät-lən(d)-'yärd\ *n* [*Scotland Yard*, street in London formerly the headquarters of the metropolitan police] : the detective department of the metropolitan police force of London
sco·to·ma \skə-'tō-mə\ *n, pl* **-mas** *or* **-ma·ta** \-mət-ə\ [NL *scotomat-, scotoma*, fr. ML, dimness of vision, fr. Gk *skotōmat-, skotōma*, fr. *skotoun* to darken, fr. *skotos*] : a blind or dark spot in the visual field — **sco·to·ma·tous** \-mət-əs\ *adj*
sco·to·pic \skə-'tō-pik, -'täp-ik\ *adj* [NL *scotopia* scotopic vision, fr. Gk *skotos* darkness + NL *-opia*] : relating to or being vision in dim light with dark-adapted eyes that is mediated by the retinal rods
[1]Scots \'skäts\ *adj* [ME *Scottis*, alter. of *Scottish*] : SCOTCH 1 — used esp. of the people and language and in legal context ***syn*** see SCOTCH
[2]Scots *n* : the English language of Scotland
Scots·man \'skät-smən\ *n* : SCOTCHMAN
Scots pine *n* : SCOTCH PINE
Scot·ti·cism \'skät-ə-ˌsiz-əm\ *n* [LL *scotticus* of the ancient Scots, fr. *Scotus* Scot] : a characteristic feature of Scottish English esp. as contrasted with standard English
scot·tie \'skät-ē\ *n* **1** *cap* : SCOTCHMAN **2** : SCOTTISH TERRIER
[1]Scot·tish \'skät-ish\ *adj* [ME, fr. *Scottes* Scotchmen] : SCOTCH 1 — often preferred by natives of Scotland ***syn*** see SCOTCH
[2]Scottish *n* : SCOTS
Scottish deerhound *n* : any of a breed of large tall dogs that have the general form of a greyhound but are larger and taller with a rough usu. blue-gray coat
Scottish Gaelic *n* : the Gaelic language of Scotland
Scottish rite *n* **1** : a ceremonial observed by one of the Masonic systems **2** : a system or organization that observes the Scottish rite and confers 33 degrees
Scottish terrier *n* : any of an old Scottish breed of terrier that has short legs, a large head with small erect ears and a powerful muzzle, a broad deep chest, and a very hard coat of wiry hair
scoun·drel \'skaůn-drəl\ *n* [origin unknown] : a mean worthless fellow : VILLAIN — **scoundrel** *adj* — **scoun·drel·ly** \-drə-lē\ *adj*
[1]scour \'skaů(ə)r\ *vb* [ME *scuren*, prob. of Scand origin; akin to Sw *skura* to rush] *vi* : to move about quickly esp. in search ~ *vt* **1** : to move through or range over usu. rapidly **2** : to examine minutely and rapidly
[2]scour *vb* [ME *scouren*] *vt* **1 a** : to rub hard for the purpose of cleansing **b** : to remove by rubbing hard and washing **2** *archaic* : to make (a region) free (as from undesired occupants) **3** : to clean by purging : PURGE **4** : to clear (as a pipe or ditch) by removing dirt and debris **5** : to free from foreign matter or impurities by or as if by washing ⟨~ wool⟩ **6** : to clear, dig, or remove by or as if by a powerful current of water ~ *vi* **1** : to perform a process of scouring **2** : to suffer from diarrhea or dysentery : PURGE **3** : to become clean and bright by rubbing
[3]scour *n* **1** : a place scoured by running water **2** : scouring action (as of a glacier) **3** : DIARRHEA, DYSENTERY — usu. used in pl. but sing. or pl. in constr. **4** : SCOURING 1; *also* : damage done by scouring action
scour·er \'skaůr-ər\ *n* : one that scours
[1]scourge \'skərj *also* 'skō(ə)rj, 'skȯ(ə)rj, 'sků(ə)rj\ *n* [ME, fr. AF *escorge*, fr. (assumed) OF *escorgier* to whip, fr. OF *es-* ex- + L *corrigia* whip] **1** : WHIP; *esp* : one used to inflict pain or punishment **2 a** : an instrument of punishment or criticism **b** : a cause of widespread or great affliction
[2]scourge *vt* **scourged; scourg·ing** **1** : to whip severely : FLOG **2 a** : to punish severely **b** : to subject to affliction : DEVASTATE **c** : to force as if by blows of a whip **d** : to subject to severe criticism or satire — **scourg·er** *n*
scour·ing \'skaů(ə)r-iŋ\ *n* **1** : material removed by scouring or cleaning **2** : the lowest rank of society — usu. used in pl.
scouring rush *n* : HORSETAIL; *esp* : one (*Equisetum hyemale*) with strongly siliceous stems formerly used for scouring
scouse \'skaůs\ *n* : LOBSCOUSE
[1]scout \'skaůt\ *vb* [ME *scouten*, fr. MF *escouter* to listen, fr. L *auscultare* — more at AUSCULTATION] *vi* **1** : to explore an area to obtain information (as about an enemy) **2 a** : to make a search **b** : to act as an athletic or entertainment scout ~ *vt* **1** : to observe in order to obtain information or evaluate **2** : to explore in order to obtain information **3** : to find by making a search
[2]scout *n* **1 a** : the act of scouting **b** : a scouting expedition : RECONNAISSANCE **2 a** : one sent to obtain information; *esp* : a soldier, ship, or plane sent out in war to reconnoiter **b** : WATCHMAN, LOOKOUT **c** : a person who searches for talented newcomers **3 a** : BOY SCOUT **b** : GIRL SCOUT **4** : FELLOW, GUY
[3]scout *vb* [of Scand origin; akin to ON *skūti* taunt; akin to OE *scēotan* to shoot — more at SHOOT] *vt* **1** : to make fun of : MOCK **2** : to reject scornfully as absurd or unworthy of consideration ⟨~ a new theory⟩ ~ *vi* : SCOFF ***syn*** see DESPISE
scout car *n* : a fast armored military reconnaissance vehicle with four-wheel drive and open top
scout·craft \'skaůt-ˌkraft\ *n* : the craft, skill, or practice of a scout
scout·er \'skaůt-ər\ *n* **1** : one that scouts **2** : a member of the Boy Scouts of America over 18 years of age
scouth \'skůth, 'skaůth\ *n* [origin unknown] *Scot* : PLENTY
scout·ing \'skaůt-iŋ\ *n* **1** : the action of one that scouts **2** : the activities of the various boy scout and girl scout movements
scout·mas·ter \'skaůt-ˌmas-tər\ *n* : the leader of a band of scouts; *specif* : the adult leader of a troop of boy scouts
scow \'skaů\ *n* [D *schouw*; akin to OHG *scalta* punt pole] : a large flat-bottomed boat with broad square ends used chiefly for transporting bulk material (as ore, sand, or refuse)
[1]scowl \'skaů(ə)l\ *vb* [ME *skoulen*, prob. of Scand origin; akin to Dan *skule* to scowl] *vi* **1** : to draw down the forehead and make a face in expression of displeasure **2** : to exhibit a threatening aspect ~ *vt* : to express with a scowl ***syn*** see FROWN — **scowl·er** *n*
[2]scowl *n* : a facial expression of displeasure : FROWN
SCPO *abbr* senior chief petty officer
[1]scrab·ble \'skrab-əl\ *vb* **scrab·bled; scrab·bling** \-(ə-)liŋ\ [D *schrabbelen* to scratch] *vi* **1** : SCRAWL, SCRIBBLE **2** : to scratch or claw about clumsily or frantically **3 a** : SCRAMBLE, CLAMBER **b** : to struggle by or as if by scraping or scratching ~ *vt* **1** : SCRAMBLE **2** : SCRIBBLE — **scrab·bler** \-(ə-)lər\ *n*
[2]scrabble *n* **1** : SCRIBBLE **2** : a repeated scratching or clawing **3** : SCRAMBLE
scrab·bly \'skrab-(ə-)lē\ *adj* **1** : SCRATCHY, RASPY **2** : SPARSE, SCRUBBY
[1]scrag \'skrag\ *n* [perh. alter. of [2]*crag*] **1** : a rawboned or scrawny person or animal **2** : the lean end of a neck of mutton or veal; *broadly* : NECK
[2]scrag *vt* **scragged; scrag·ging** **1 a** : to execute by hanging or garroting **b** : to wring the neck of **2** : CHOKE
scrag·gly \'skrag-(ə-)lē\ *adj* : IRREGULAR; *also* : RAGGED, UNKEMPT
scrag·gy \'skrag-ē\ *adj* **scrag·gi·er; -est** **1** : ROUGH, JAGGED **2** : being lean and long : SCRAWNY
scram \'skram\ *vi* **scrammed; scram·ming** [short for *scramble*] : to go away at once ⟨~, you're not wanted⟩
[1]scram·ble \'skram-bəl\ *vb* **scram·bled; scram·bling** \-b(ə-)liŋ\ [perh. alter. of [1]*scrabble*] *vi* **1 a** : to move or climb hastily on all fours **b** : to move with urgency or panic **2 a** : to struggle eagerly or unceremoniously for possession of something ⟨~ for front seats⟩ **b** : to get or gather something with difficulty or in irregular ways ⟨~ for a living⟩ **3 a** : to spread or grow irregularly : SPRAWL, STRAGGLE **b** *of a plant* : to climb over a support **4** : to take off quickly in response to an alert **5** *of a football quarterback* : to run with the ball after the pass protection breaks down ~ *vt* **1** : to collect by scrambling **2 a** : to toss or mix together : JUMBLE **b** : to prepare (eggs) by stirring during frying **3** : to cause or order (a fighter-interceptor group) to scramble **4** : to disarrange the elements of telephone, teletype, facsimile, or television transmissions in order to make unintelligible to interception — **scrambler** \-b(ə-)lər\ *n*
[2]scramble *n* **1** : a scrambling movement or struggle **2** : a disordered mess : JUMBLE **3** : a rapid emergency takeoff of fighter-interceptor planes
scran·nel \'skran-ᵊl\ *adj* [origin unknown] : HARSH, UNMELODIOUS
[1]scrap \'skrap\ *n* [ME, fr. ON *skrap* scraps; akin to ON *skrapa* to scrape] **1** *pl* : fragments of discarded or leftover food **2 a** : a small detached piece : BIT ⟨a ~ of paper⟩ **b** : a fragment of something written or printed **c** : the least piece ⟨not a ~ of evidence⟩ **3** *pl* : CRACKLINGS **4 a** : fragments of stock removed in manufacturing **b** : manufactured articles or parts rejected or discarded and useful only as material for reprocessing; *esp* : waste and discarded metal
[2]scrap *vt* **scrapped; scrap·ping** **1** : to convert into scrap **2** : to abandon or get rid of as no longer of enough worth or effectiveness to retain ⟨~ outworn methods⟩ ***syn*** see DISCARD
[3]scrap *n* [origin unknown] : FIGHT
[4]scrap *vi* **scrapped; scrap·ping** : QUARREL, FIGHT
scrap·book \'skrap-ˌbůk\ *n* : a blank book in which miscellaneous items (as newspaper clippings or pictures) may be pasted or inserted
[1]scrape \'skrāp\ *vb* **scraped; scrap·ing** [ME *scrapen*, fr. ON *skrapa*; akin to OE *scrapian* to scrape, L *scrobis* ditch, Gk *keirein* to cut — more at SHEAR] *vt* **1 a** : to remove (excrescent matter) from a surface by usu. repeated strokes of an edged instrument **b** : to make (a surface) smooth or clean with strokes of an edged instrument or an abrasive **2 a** : to grate harshly over or against **b** : to damage or injure the surface of by contact with a rough surface **c** : to draw roughly or noisily over a surface **3** : to collect by or as if by scraping — often used with *up* or *together* ⟨~ up the price of a bottle⟩ ~ *vi* **1** : to move in sliding contact with a rough surface **2** : to accumulate money by small economies **3** : to draw back the foot along the ground in making a bow **4** : to make one's way with difficulty or succeed by a narrow margin — **scrap·er** *n* — **scrape a leg** : to make a low bow
[2]scrape *n* **1 a** : the act or process of scraping **b** : a sound made by scraping **2** : a bow made with a drawing back of the foot along the ground **3 a** : a disagreeable predicament **b** : QUARREL, FIGHT
scrap heap *n* **1** : a pile of discarded metal **2** : the place to which useless things are relegated : DISCARD
scra·pie \'skrā-pē\ *n* [[1]*scrape*] : a usu. fatal virus disease of sheep that is characterized by twitching, excitability, intense itching, excessive thirst, emaciation, weakness, and finally paralysis
scrap·per \'skrap-ər\ *n* : FIGHTER, QUARRELER
scrap·pi·ness \'skrap-ē-nəs\ *n* : the quality or state of being scrappy
scrap·ple \'skrap-əl\ *n* [dim. of [1]*scrap*] : a seasoned mixture of ground meat (as pork) and cornmeal set in a mold and served sliced and fried
[1]scrap·py \'skrap-ē\ *adj* **scrap·pi·er; -est** : consisting of scraps
[2]scrappy *adj* **scrap·pi·er; -est** **1** : QUARRELSOME **2** : aggressive and determined in spirit
[1]scratch \'skrach\ *vb* [blend of E dial. *scrat* (to scratch) and obs. E *cratch* (to scratch)] *vt* **1** : to scrape or dig with the claws or nails **2** : to rub and tear or mark the surface of with something sharp or jagged **3** : to scrape or rub lightly (as to relieve itching) **4** : to scrape together **5** : to write or draw on a surface **6 a** : to cancel or erase by or as if by drawing a line through **b** : to withdraw

(an entry) from competition **7** : SCRIBBLE, SCRAWL **8** : to scrape along a rough surface ⟨~ a match⟩ ~ *vi* **1** : to use the claws or nails in digging, tearing, or wounding **2** : to scrape or rub oneself lightly (as to relieve itching) **3** : to gather money or get a living by hard work and saving **4** : to make a thin grating sound **5** : to withdraw from a contest or engagement **6** : to make a scratch in billiards or pool — **scratch·er** *n*

²scratch *n* **1** : a mark or injury produced by scratching; *also* : a slight wound **2** : SCRAWL, SCRIBBLE **3** : the sound made by scratching **4 a** : the starting line in a race **b** : a point at which everything remains to be done ⟨build a school system from ~⟩ **5 a** : a test of courage **b** : satisfactory condition or performance ⟨not up to ~⟩ **6** : a contestant whose name is withdrawn **7** : poultry feed (as mixed grains) scattered on the litter or ground esp. to induce birds to exercise — called also *scratch feed* **8 a** : a shot in billiards or pool that ends a player's turn; *specif* : a shot in pool in which the cue ball falls into the pocket **b** : a shot that scores by chance : FLUKE **9** *slang* : MONEY, FUNDS

³scratch *adj* **1** : made as or used for a tentative effort **2** : made or done by chance and not as intended ⟨a ~ shot⟩ **3** : arranged or put together with little selection : HAPHAZARD ⟨a ~ team⟩ **4** : without handicap or allowance ⟨a ~ golfer⟩

scratch hit *n* : a batted ball not solidly hit yet credited to the batter as a base hit

scratch line *n* **1** : a starting line for a race **2** : a line that marks the extreme limit of the takeoff for a long jump **3** : a line from which the javelin is thrown and which must not be overstepped by the thrower

scratch pad *n* : a pad of scratch paper

scratch paper *n* : paper that may be used for casual writing

scratch sheet *n* : a racing publication listing horses scratched from races and giving the handicapper's grading of the horses in order of winning chances

scratch test *n* : a test for allergic susceptibility made by rubbing an extract of an allergy-producing substance into small breaks or scratches in the skin

scratchy \'skrach-ē\ *adj* **scratch·i·er; -est** **1** : likely to scratch : PRICKLY ⟨~ undergrowth⟩ **2** : making a scratching noise **3** : marked or made with scratches ⟨~ drawing⟩ ⟨~ handwriting⟩ **4** : uneven in quality : RAGGED **5** : causing tingling or itching : IRRITATING ⟨~ wool⟩ — **scratch·i·ness** *n*

scrawl \'skrȯl\ *vb* [origin unknown] *vt* : to write or draw awkwardly, hastily, or carelessly ~ *vi* : to write awkwardly or carelessly — **scrawl** *n* — **scrawl·er** *n* — **scrawly** \'skrȯ-lē\ *adj*

scraw·ny \'skrȯ-nē\ *adj* **scraw·ni·er; -est** [origin unknown] : exceptionally thin and slight or meager in body ⟨~ scrub cattle⟩ ***syn*** see LEAN ***ant*** brawny, fleshy — **scraw·ni·ness** *n*

screak \'skrēk\ *vi* [of Scand origin; akin to ON *skrækja* to screak; akin to ME *scremen* to scream] : to make a harsh shrill noise : SCREECH — **screak** *n* — **screaky** \-ē\ *adj*

¹scream \'skrēm\ *vb* [ME *scremen;* akin to OHG *scrīan* to scream] *vi* **1 a** (1) : to voice a sudden sharp loud cry (2) : to produce harsh high tones **b** : to move with or make a noise resembling a scream **2 a** : to speak or write with intense hysterical expressions **b** : to protest violently **3** : to produce a vivid startling effect ~ *vt* : to utter with or as if with a scream

²scream *n* **1** : a loud sharp penetrating cry or noise **2** : one that provokes mirth

scream·er \'skrē-mər\ *n* **1** : one that screams **2** : any of several So. American birds (family Anhimidae) with large stout bills, spurred wings, and more or less webbed feet **3** : a sensationally startling headline

scream·ing·ly \'skrē-miŋ-lē\ *adv* : to an extreme degree

scree \'skrē\ *n* [of Scand origin; akin to ON *skritha* landslide, fr. *skrītha* to creep; akin to OHG *scrītan* to go, Lith *skrytis* felly, n.] : an accumulation of stones or rocky debris lying on a slope or at the base of a hill or cliff : TALUS

¹screech \'skrēch\ *vb* [alter. of earlier *scritch,* fr. ME *scrichen;* akin to ON *skrækja* to screak] *vi* **1** : to utter a high shrill piercing cry : make an outcry usu. in terror or pain **2** : to make a sound resembling a screech ~ *vt* : to utter with or as if with a screech — **screech·er** *n*

²screech *n* **1** : a high shrill piercing cry usu. expressing pain or terror **2** : a sound resembling a screech

screech owl *n* : any of numerous New World owls (genus *Otus*); *esp* : a small No. American owl (*O. asio*) with a pair of tufts of lengthened feathers on the head resembling ears

screed \'skrēd\ *n* [ME *screde* fragment, fr. OE *scrēade* — more at SHRED] **1 a** : a lengthy discourse **b** : an informal piece of writing **2** : a strip (as of plaster of the thickness planned for the coat) laid on as a guide **3** : a leveling device drawn over freshly poured concrete

¹screen \'skrēn\ *n* [ME *screne,* fr. MF *escren,* fr. MD *scherm;* akin to OHG *skirm* screen, L *corium* skin — more at CUIRASS] **1 a** : a device used as a protection from heat or drafts or as an ornament **b** : a nonbearing partition often ornamental carried up to a height necessary for separation and protection **2 a** : something that shelters, protects, or conceals; *esp* : a body of troops, ships, or planes whose function is to protect a command, an area, or a larger force **b** : a shield for secret usu. evil practices **c** : a maneuver in various sports whereby an opponent is legally cut off from the play; *specif* : a maneuver in basketball in which an offensive player positions himself in such a way as to momentarily impede the movement of a defensive player attempting to guard his man **d** : SCREEN PASS **3 a** : a perforated plate or cylinder or a meshed wire or cloth fabric usu. mounted and used to separate coarser from finer parts **b** : a system for examining and separating into different groups **c** : a piece of apparatus designed to prevent agencies in one part from affecting other parts ⟨an optical ~⟩ ⟨an electric ~⟩ ⟨a magnetic ~⟩ **d** : a frame holding a usu. metallic netting used esp. in a window or door to exclude pests (as insects) **4 a** : a flat surface upon which a picture or series of pictures is projected or reflected **b** : something that receives or retains a mental image or impression **c** : the surface upon which the image appears in a television or radar receiver **5** : a glass plate ruled with crossing opaque lines through which an image is photographed in making a halftone **6** : the motion-picture industry

²screen *vt* **1** : to guard from injury or danger **2 a** : to give shelter or protection to with or as if with a screen **b** : to separate with or as if with a screen; *also* : to shield (an opponent) from a play or from view of a play **3 a** : to pass (as coal, gravel, or ashes) through a screen to separate the fine part from the coarse; *also* : to remove by a screen **b** (1) : to examine usu. methodically in order to make a separation into different groups (2) : to select or eliminate by a screening process **4** : to provide with a screen to keep out pests (as insects) **5 a** : to project on a screen **b** : to present in a motion picture ~ *vi* **1** : to appear on a motion-picture screen **2** : to provide a screen in a game or sport ***syn*** see HIDE — **screen·able** \'skrē-nə-bəl\ *adj* — **screen·er** *n*

screen·ing \'skrē-niŋ\ *n* **1** *pl but sing or pl in constr* : material (as waste or fine coal) separated out by passage through or retention on a screen **2** : metal or plastic mesh (as for window screens) **3** : a showing of a motion picture

screen·land \'skrēn-ˌland\ *n* : FILMDOM

screen memory *n* : a recollection of early childhood that may be falsely recalled or magnified in importance and that masks another memory of deep emotional significance

screen pass *n* : a forward pass in football to a receiver at or behind the line of scrimmage who is protected by a screen of blockers

screen·play \'skrēn-ˌplā\ *n* : the written form of a story prepared for motion-picture production including description of characters, details of scenes and settings, dialogue, and stage directions

screen test *n* : a short film sequence testing the ability of a prospective motion-picture actor — **screen–test** *vt*

screen·writ·er \'skrēn-ˌrīt-ər\ *n* : a writer of screenplays

¹screw \'skrü\ *n* [ME, fr. MF *escroe* female screw, nut, fr. ML *scrofa,* fr. L, sow] **1 a** : a simple machine of the inclined plane type in which the applied force acts along a spiral path about a cylinder while the resisting force acts along the axis of the cylinder **b** : a usu. pointed and headed cylindrical fastener that is helically or spirally threaded and designed for insertion into material by rotating (as with a screwdriver) **2 a** : a screwlike form : SPIRAL **b** : a turn of a screw; *also* : a twist like the turn of a screw **c** : a screwlike device (as a corkscrew) **3** : a worn-out horse **4** *chiefly Brit* : a small packet (as of tobacco) **5** : one who bargains shrewdly; *also* : SKINFLINT **6** : a prison guard : TURNKEY **7** : SCREW PROPELLER **8** : THUMBSCREW 2 **9** : an act of sexual intercourse — usu. considered vulgar — **screw·like** \-ˌlīk\ *adj*

²screw *vt* **1 a** (1) : to attach, fasten, or close by means of a screw (2) : to unite or separate by means of a screw or a twisting motion ⟨~ the two pieces together⟩ (3) : to press tightly in a device (as a vise) operated by a screw (4) : to operate, tighten, or adjust by means of a screw (5) : to torture by means of a thumbscrew **b** : to cause to rotate spirally about an axis **2 a** (1) : to twist into strained configurations : CONTORT ⟨~*ed* up his face⟩ (2) : SQUINT (3) : CRUMPLE **b** : to furnish with a spiral groove or ridge : THREAD **3** : to increase the intensity, quantity, or capability of **4 a** : to practice extortion upon : OPPRESS **b** : to extract by pressure or threat **5** : to copulate with — usu. considered vulgar ~ *vi* **1** : to rotate like or as a screw **2** : to turn or move with a twisting or writhing motion **3** : COPULATE — usu. considered vulgar — **screw·er** *n*

¹screw·ball \'skrü-ˌbȯl\ *n* **1** : a baseball pitch that spins and breaks in the opposite direction to a curve **2** : a whimsical, eccentric, or crazy person : ZANY

²screwball *adj* : crazily eccentric or whimsical : ZANY

screw·bean \'skrü-ˌbēn\ *n* **1** : a leguminous shrub or small tree (*Prosopis pubescens*) of the southwestern U.S. — called also *screwbean mesquite* **2** : a spirally twisted sweet pod that is the fruit of the screwbean

screw·driv·er \'skrü-ˌdrī-vər\ *n* **1** : a tool for turning screws **2** : vodka and orange juice served with ice

screw eye *n* : a wood screw with a head in the form of a loop

screw jack *n* : JACKSCREW

screw pine *n* : any of a genus (*Pandanus* of the family Pandanaceae, the screw-pine family) of tropical monocotyledonous plants with slender palmlike stems, often huge prop roots, and terminal crowns of swordlike leaves

screw propeller *n* : a device that consists of a central hub with radiating blades placed and twisted so that each forms part of a helical surface and that is used to propel a vehicle (as a ship or airplane)

screw thread *n* **1** : the projecting helical rib of a screw **2** : one complete turn of a screw thread

screw up *vt* **1** : to tighten, fasten, or lock by or as if by a screw **2** : BUNGLE, BOTCH ~ *vi* : to botch an activity or undertaking

screw·worm \'skrü-ˌwərm\ *n* : a two-winged fly (*Cochliomyia hominivorax*) of the warmer parts of America whose larva develops in sores or wounds or in the nostrils of mammals including man with serious or sometimes fatal results; *broadly* : any of several flies whose larvae parasitize the flesh of mammals

screwy \'skrü-ē\ *adj* **screw·i·er; -est** **1** : crazily absurd, eccentric, or unusual **2** : CRAZY, INSANE — **screw·i·ness** *n*

scrib·al \'skrī-bəl\ *adj* : of, relating to, or due to a scribe

scrib·ble \'skrib-əl\ *vb* **scrib·bled; scrib·bling** \-(ə-)liŋ\ [ME *scriblen,* fr. ML *scribillare,* fr. L *scribere* to write] *vt* **1** : to write hastily or carelessly without regard to legibility or thought **2** : to cover with careless or worthless writings or drawings ~ *vi* : to write or draw hastily and carelessly — **scribble** *n*

scrib·bler \'skrib-(ə-)lər\ *n* **1** : one that scribbles **2** : a minor or worthless author

¹scribe \'skrīb\ *n* [ME, fr. L *scriba* official writer, fr. *scribere* to write; akin to Gk *skariphasthai* to scratch an outline, *keirein* to cut — more at SHEAR] **1** : one of a learned class in ancient Israel through New Testament times studying the Scriptures and serving as copyists, editors, teachers, and jurists **2 a** : an official or public secretary or clerk **b** : a copier of manuscripts **3** : AUTHOR; *specif* : JOURNALIST

²scribe *vi* **scribed; scrib·ing** : to work as a scribe : WRITE
³scribe *vt* **scribed; scrib·ing** [prob. short for *describe*] **1** : to mark a line on by cutting or scratching with a pointed instrument **2** : to make by cutting or scratching
⁴scribe *n* : SCRIBER
scrib·er \'skrī-bər\ *n* : a sharp-pointed tool for making marks and esp. for marking off material (as wood or metal) to be cut
scrieve \'skrēv\ *vi* [of Scand origin; akin to ON *skrefa* to stride] *Scot* : to move along swiftly and smoothly
scrim \'skrim\ *n* [origin unknown] **1** : a durable plain-woven usu. cotton fabric for use in clothing, curtains, building, and industry **2** : a transparent or translucent theater drop or section of a drop
¹scrim·mage \'skrim-ij\ *n* [alter. of ¹*skirmish*] **1 a** : a minor battle : SKIRMISH **b** : a confused fight : SCUFFLE **2 a** : SCRUMMAGE **b** : the interplay between two football teams that begins with the snap of the ball and continues until the ball is dead **c** (1) : a play that begins at a line of scrimmage as opposed to a runback in football ⟨raced 93 yards from ~ —*N.Y. Times*⟩ (2) : LINE OF SCRIMMAGE **d** : practice play (as in football or basketball) between a team's squads
²scrimmage *vi* **scrim·maged; scrim·mag·ing** : to take part in a scrimmage — **scrim·mag·er** *n*
scrimp \'skrimp\ *vb* [perh. of Scand origin; akin to Sw *skrympa* to shrink, ON *skorpna* to shrivel up — more at SHRIMP] *vt* **1** : to be niggardly in providing for **2** : to make too small, short, or scanty ~ *vi* : to be frugal or niggardly — **scrimpy** \'skrim-pē\ *adj*
¹scrim·shaw \'skrim-ˌshȯ\ *n* [origin unknown] **1** : any of various carved or engraved articles made esp. by American whalers usu. from whalebone or whale ivory **2** : scrimshawed work **3** : the art, practice, or technique of producing scrimshaw
²scrimshaw *vt* : to carve or engrave into scrimshaw ~ *vi* : to produce scrimshaw
¹scrip \'skrip\ *n* [ME *scrippe*, fr. ML *scrippum* pilgrim's knapsack] *archaic* : a small bag or wallet
²scrip *n* [short for *script*] **1** : a short writing (as a certificate, schedule, or list) **2** : a small piece **3 a** : any of various documents used as evidence that the holder or bearer is entitled to receive something (as a fractional share of stock or an allotment of land) **b** : paper currency or a token issued for temporary use in an emergency
¹script \'skript\ *n* [L *scriptum* thing written, fr. neut. of *scriptus*, pp. of *scribere* to write — more at SCRIBE] **1 a** : something written : TEXT **b** : an original or principal instrument or document **c** (1) : MANUSCRIPT 1 (2) : the written text of a stage play, screenplay, or broadcast; *specif* : the one used in production or performance **2 a** : printed lettering resembling handwritten lettering **b** : written characters : HANDWRITING **c** : ALPHABET **3** : a plan of action
²script *vt* : to prepare a script for or from
³script *abbr* scripture
scrip·to·ri·um \skrip-'tōr-ē-əm, -'tȯr-\ *n, pl* **-ria** \-ē-ə\ [ML, fr. L *scriptus*] : a copying room in a medieval monastery set apart for the scribes
scrip·tur·al \'skrip-chə-rəl, 'skrip-shrəl\ *adj* : of, relating to, contained in, or according to a sacred writing; *specif* : BIBLICAL — **scrip·tur·al·ly** \-ē\ *adv*
scrip·ture \'skrip-chər\ *n* [ME, fr. LL *scriptura*, fr. L, act or product of writing, fr. *scriptus*] **1 a** (1) *cap* : the books of the Old and New Testaments or of either of them : BIBLE — often used in pl. (2) *often cap* : a passage from the Bible **b** : the sacred writings of a religion **c** : a body of writings considered as authoritative **2** : something written ⟨the primitive man's awe for any ~ — George Santayana⟩
script·writ·er \'skrip-ˌtrīt-ər\ *n* : one that writes screenplays or radio or television programs
scriv·en·er \'skriv-(ə-)nər\ *n* [ME *scriveiner*, alter. of *scrivein*, fr. MF *escrivein*, fr. (assumed) VL *scriban-, scriba*, alter. of L *scriba* scribe] **1** : a professional or public copyist or writer : SCRIBE **2** : NOTARY PUBLIC
scrod \'skräd\ *n* [perh. fr. obs. D *schrood* shred; akin to OE *scrēade* shred — more at SHRED] : a young fish (as a cod or haddock); *esp* : one split and boned for cooking
scrof·u·la \'skrȯf-yə-lə, 'skräf-\ *n* [ML, fr. LL *scrofulae*, pl., swellings of the lymph glands of the neck, fr. pl. of *scrofula*, dim. of L *scrofa* breeding sow] : tuberculosis of lymph glands esp. in the neck
scrof·u·lous \-ləs\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or affected with scrofula **2 a** : having a diseased appearance **b** : morally contaminated
scroll \'skrōl\ *n* [ME *scrowle*, alter. of *scrowe*, fr. MF *escroue* scrap, scroll, of Gmc origin; akin to OE *scrēade* shred] **1 a** : a roll (as of papyrus, leather, or parchment) for writing a document **b** *archaic* : a written message **c** : ROSTER, LIST **d** : a riband with rolled ends often inscribed with a motto **2 a** : something resembling a scroll in shape; *esp* : a spiral or convoluted form in ornamental design derived from the curves of a loosely or partly rolled parchment scroll **b** : the curved head of a bowed stringed musical instrument — see VIOLIN illustration
scroll saw *n* **1** : a thin handsaw for cutting curves or irregular designs **2** : FRETSAW **3** : JIGSAW 1
scroll·work \'skrōl-ˌwərk\ *n* : ornamentation characterized by scrolls; *esp* : fancy designs in wood often made with a scroll saw
scrooge \'skrüj\ *n, often cap* [Ebenezer *Scrooge*, character in *A Christmas Carol*, story by Charles Dickens] : a miserly person
scro·tum \'skrōt-əm\ *n, pl* **scro·ta** \-ə\ *or* **scrotums** [L; akin to L *scrupus* sharp stone — more at SHRED] : the external pouch that in most mammals contains the testes — **scro·tal** \'skrōt-ᵊl\ *adj*
scrouge \'skraůj, 'skrüj\ *vb* **scrouged; scroug·ing** [alter. of E dial. *scruze* (to squeeze)] *chiefly dial* : CROWD, PRESS
scrounge \'skraůnj\ *vb* **scrounged; scroung·ing** [alter. of E dial. *scrunge* (to wander about idly)] *vt* **1** : to collect by or as if by foraging **2** : CADGE, WHEEDLE ~ *vi* **1** : FORAGE, HUNT **2** : WHEEDLE — **scroung·er** *n*
¹scrub \'skrəb\ *n, often attrib* [ME, alter. of *schrobbe* shrub — more at SHRUB] **1 a** : a stunted tree or shrub **b** : vegetation consisting chiefly of scrubs **c** : a tract covered with scrub **2** : a domestic animal of mixed or unknown parentage and usu. inferior conformation : MONGREL **3** : a person of insignificant size or standing **4** : a player not belonging to the first string
²scrub *vb* **scrubbed; scrub·bing** [of LG or Scand origin; akin to MLG & MD *schrubben* to scrub, Sw *skrubba*] *vt* **1 a** (1) : to clean with hard rubbing : SCOUR (2) : to remove by scrubbing **b** : to subject to friction : RUB **2** : WASH 6c(2) **3** : CANCEL, ELIMINATE ~ *vi* : to use hard rubbing in cleaning
³scrub *n* **1** : an act or instance of scrubbing; *esp* : CANCELLATION **2** : one that scrubs
scrub·bed \'skrəb-əd\ *adj* [¹*scrub*] *archaic* : SCRUBBY 1
scrub·ber \'skrəb-ər\ *n* : one that scrubs; *esp* : an apparatus for removing impurities esp. from gases
scrub brush *n* : a brush with hard bristles for heavy cleaning — called also *scrubbing brush*
scrub·by \'skrəb-ē\ *adj* **scrub·bi·er; -est** [¹*scrub*] **1** : inferior in size or quality : STUNTED ⟨~ cattle⟩ **2** : covered with or consisting of scrub **3** : lacking distinction : PALTRY
scrub·land \'skrəb-ˌland\ *n* : land covered with scrub
scrub pine *n* : a pine of dwarf, straggly, or scrubby growth usu. by reason of environmental conditions; *specif* : a pine tree unsuitable for lumber by reason of inferior or defective growth
scrub typhus *n* : TSUTSUGAMUSHI DISEASE
scrub·wom·an \'skrəb-ˌwům-ən\ *n* : a woman who hires herself out for cleaning : CHARWOMAN
scruff \'skrəf\ *n* [alter. of earlier *scuff*, of unknown origin] : the back of the neck : NAPE
scruffy \'skrəf-ē\ *adj* **scruff·i·er; -est** [E dial. *scruff* (something worthless)] : SHABBY, CONTEMPTIBLE — **scruff·i·ness** *n*
scrum \'skrəm\ *or* **scrum·mage** \'skrəm-ij\ *n* [*scrum* short for *scrummage*, alter. of *scrimmage*] : a Rugby play in which the forwards of each side crouch in a tight formation with locked arms and with the two front rows of each team meeting head to head so that the ball can be put in play between them — **scrummage** *vi*
scrump·tious \'skrəm(p)-shəs\ *adj* [prob. alter. of *sumptuous*] : DELIGHTFUL, EXCELLENT — **scrump·tious·ly** *adv*
¹scrunch \'skrənch, 'skrůnch\ *vb* [alter. of ¹*crunch*] *vt* **1** : CRUNCH, CRUSH **2 a** : CONTRACT, HUNCH **b** : CRUMPLE, RUMPLE ~ *vi* **1** : to move with or make a crunching sound **2** : CROUCH, SQUEEZE
²scrunch *n* : a crunching sound
¹scru·ple \'skrü-pəl\ *n* [ME *scriple*, fr. L *scrupulus* a unit of weight, fr. *scrupulus* small sharp stone] **1** — see WEIGHT table **2** : a minute part or quantity : IOTA
²scruple *n* [MF *scrupule*, fr. L *scrupulus* small sharp stone, cause of mental discomfort, scruple, dim. of *scrupus* sharp stone — more at SHRED] **1** : an ethical consideration or principle that inhibits action **2** : the quality or state of being scrupulous ***syn*** see QUALM
³scruple *vi* **scru·pled; scru·pling** \-p(ə-)liŋ\ **1** : to have scruples **2** : to be reluctant on grounds of conscience : HESITATE
scru·pu·los·i·ty \ˌskrü-pyə-'läs-ət-ē\ *n* **1** : the quality or state of being scrupulous **2** : SCRUPLE 1
scru·pu·lous \'skrü-pyə-ləs\ *adj* [ME, fr. L *scrupulosus*, fr. *scrupulus*] **1** : having moral integrity : inclined to scruple : high-principled **2** : punctiliously exact : PAINSTAKING ⟨working with ~ care⟩ ***syn*** **1** see CAREFUL ***ant*** remiss **2** see UPRIGHT ***ant*** unscrupulous — **scru·pu·lous·ly** *adv* — **scru·pu·lous·ness** *n*
scru·ta·ble \'skrüt-ə-bəl\ *adj* [LL *scrutabilis* searchable, fr. L *scrutari* to search, investigate, examine — more at SCRUTINY] : capable of being deciphered : COMPREHENSIBLE
scru·ta·tor \'skrü-ˌtāt-ər, skrü-'\ *n* [L, fr. *scrutatus*, pp. of *scrutari* to search] : OBSERVER, EXAMINER
scru·ti·neer \ˌskrüt-ᵊn-'i(ə)r\ *n* **1** : one that examines **2** *Brit* : one who takes or counts votes
scru·ti·nize \'skrüt-ᵊn-ˌīz\ *vb* **-nized; -niz·ing** *vt* : to examine closely and minutely ~ *vi* : to make a scrutiny — **scru·ti·niz·er** *n*
syn SCRUTINIZE, SCAN, INSPECT, EXAMINE *shared meaning element* : to look at or over carefully and usu. critically
scru·ti·ny \'skrüt-ᵊn-ē, 'skrüt-nē\ *n, pl* **-nies** [L *scrutinium*, fr. *scrutari* to search, examine, fr. *scruta* trash] **1** : a searching study, inquiry, or inspection : EXAMINATION **2** : a searching look **3** : close watch : SURVEILLANCE
sct *abbr* scout
sctd *abbr* scattered
scu·ba \'sk(y)ü-bə\ *n* [self-contained *u*nderwater *b*reathing *a*pparatus] : an apparatus used for breathing while swimming under water
scuba diver *n* : one who swims under water with the aid of scuba gear — **scuba dive** *vi*
¹scud \'skəd\ *vi* **scud·ded; scud·ding** [prob. of Scand origin; akin to Norw *skudda* to push; akin to L *quatere* to shake — more at QUASH] **1** : to move or run swiftly esp. as if driven forward **2** : to run before a gale
²scud *n* **1** : the action of scudding : RUSH **2 a** : loose vapory clouds driven swiftly by the wind **b** (1) : a slight sudden shower (2) : mist, rain, snow, or spray driven by the wind **c** : a gust of wind
scu·do \'sküd-(ˌ)ō\ *n, pl* **scu·di** \-(ˌ)ē\ [It, lit., shield] **1** : a gold coin first issued in the 15th century or a silver coin first issued in the 16th century, used in Italy to the 19th century, and approximately equivalent to a dollar **2** : a unit of value equivalent to a scudo
¹scuff \'skəf\ *vb* [prob. of Scand origin; akin to Sw *skuffa* to push] *vi* **1 a** : to walk without lifting the feet : SHUFFLE **b** : to poke or shuffle a foot in exploration or embarrassment **2** : to become scratched, chipped, or roughened by wear ~ *vt* **1** : ³CUFF **2 a**

: to scrape (the feet) along a surface while walking or back and forth while standing **b** : to poke at with the toe **3** : to scratch, gouge, or wear away the surface of

²scuff *n* **1 a** : a noise of or as if of scuffing **b** : the act or an instance of scuffing **c** : a mark or injury caused by scuffing **2** : a flat-soled slipper without quarter or heel strap

scuf·fle \'skəf-əl\ *vi* **scuf·fled; scuf·fling** \-(ə-)liŋ\ [prob. of Scand origin; akin to Sw *skuffa* to push] **1** : to struggle at close quarters with disorder and confusion **2 a** : to move with a quick shuffling gait : SCURRY **b** : SHUFFLE — **scuffle** *n*

scuffle hoe *n* : a garden hoe that has both edges sharpened and can be pushed forward or drawn back

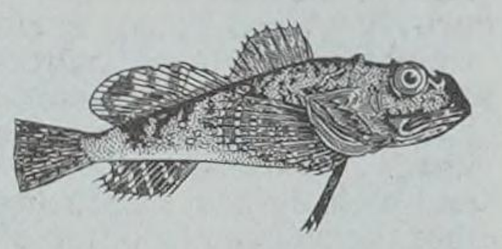
¹scull \'skəl\ *n* [ME *sculle*] **1 a** : an oar used at the stern of a boat to propel it forward with a thwartwise motion **b** : one of a pair of oars usu. less than 10 feet in length and operated by one person **2** : a racing shell propelled by one or two persons using sculls

²scull *vt* : to propel (a boat) by sculls or by a large oar worked thwartwise ~ *vi* : to scull a boat — **scull·er** *n*

scul·lery \'skəl-(ə-)rē\ *n, pl* **-ler·ies** [ME, department of household in charge of dishes, fr. MF *escuelerie*, fr. *escuelle* bowl, fr. L *scutella* drinking bowl — more at SCUTTLE] : a room for cleaning and storing dishes and culinary utensils, washing vegetables, and similar coarse work

scul·lion \'skəl-yən\ *n* [ME *sculion*, fr. MF *escouillon* dishcloth, alter. of *escouvillon*, fr. *escouve* broom, fr. L *scopa*, lit., twig; akin to L *scapus* stalk — more at SHAFT] : a kitchen helper

scul·pin \'skəl-pən\ *n, pl* **sculpins** *also* **sculpin** [origin unknown] **1** : any of a family (Cottidae) of numerous spiny large-headed broad-mouthed usu. scaleless fishes **2** : a scorpion fish (*Scorpaena guttata*) of the southern California coast caught for food and sport



sculpin 1

sculpt \'skəlpt\ *vb* [F *sculpter*, alter. of obs. *sculper*, fr. L *sculpere*] : CARVE, SCULPTURE

sculp·tor \'skəlp-tər\ *n* [L, fr. *sculptus*, pp. of *sculpere*] : one that sculptures : an artist who produces works of sculpture

sculp·tress \-trəs\ *n* : a female sculptor

sculp·tur·al \'skəlp-chə-rəl, 'skəlp-shrəl\ *adj* **1** : of or relating to sculpture **2** : resembling sculpture : SCULPTURESQUE — **sculp·tur·al·ly** \-ē\ *adv*

¹sculp·ture \'skəlp-chər\ *n* [ME, fr. L *sculptura*, fr. *sculptus*, pp. of *sculpere* to carve, alter. of *scalpere* — more at SHELF] **1 a** : the action or art of processing (as by carving, modeling, or welding) plastic or hard materials into works of art **b** (1) : work produced by sculpture (2) : a three-dimensional work of art (as a statue) **2** : impressed or raised markings or a pattern of such esp. on a plant or animal part

²sculpture *vb* **sculp·tured; sculp·tur·ing** \'skəlp-chə-riŋ, 'skəlp-shriŋ\ *vt* **1 a** : to form an image or representation of from solid material (as wood or stone) **b** : to form into a three-dimensional work of art **2** : to change (the form of the earth's surface) by natural processes (as erosion and deposition) **3** : to shape by or as if by carving or molding ~ *vi* : to work as a sculptor

sculp·tur·esque \ˌskəlp-chə-'resk\ *adj* : done in the manner of or resembling sculpture — **sculp·tur·esque·ly** *adv*

¹scum \'skəm\ *n* [ME, fr. MD *schum*; akin to OHG *scūm* foam] **1 a** : extraneous matter or impurities risen to or formed on the surface of a liquid often as a foul filmy covering **b** : the scoria of metals in a molten state : DROSS **2 a** : REFUSE **b** : the lowest class : RABBLE — **scum·my** \'skəm-ē\ *adj*

²scum *vi* **scummed; scum·ming** : to become covered with or as if with scum

¹scum·ble \'skəm-bəl\ *vt* **scum·bled; scum·bling** \-b(ə-)liŋ\ [freq. of ²*scum*] **1 a** : to make (as color or a painting) less brilliant by covering with a thin coat of opaque or semiopaque color **b** : to apply (a color) in this manner **2** : to soften the lines or colors of (a drawing) by rubbing lightly

²scumble *n* **1** : the act or effect of scumbling **2** : a material used for scumbling

¹scun·ner \'skən-ər\ *vi* [ME (Sc dial.) *skunniren*] *chiefly Scot* : to be in a state of disgusted irritation

²scunner *n* : an unreasonable or extreme dislike or prejudice

scup \'skəp\ *n, pl* **scup** *also* **scups** [Narraganset *mishcùp*] : a porgy (*Stenotomus chrysops*) that is distributed along the Atlantic coast of the U.S. from So. Carolina to Maine and that is used as a panfish

scup·per \'skəp-ər\ *n* [ME *skopper*] **1** : an opening cut through the waterway and bulwarks of a ship so that water falling on deck may flow overboard **2** : an opening in the wall of a building through which water can drain from a floor or flat roof

scup·per·nong \-ˌnȯŋ, -ˌnäŋ\ *n* [*Scuppernong*, river and lake in No. Carolina] **1** : MUSCADINE; *esp* : a cultivated muscadine with yellowish green plum-flavored fruits **2** : a white aromatic table wine made from scuppernongs

scurf \'skərf\ *n* [ME, of Scand origin; akin to Icel *skurfa* scurf; akin to OHG *scorf* scurf, L *carpere* to pluck — more at HARVEST] **1** : thin dry scales detached from the epidermis esp. in an abnormal skin condition **2 a** : something like flakes or scales adhering to a surface **b** : the foul remains of something adherent **3 a** : a scaly deposit or covering on some plant parts; *also* : a localized or general darkening and roughening of a plant surface usu. more pronounced than russeting **b** : a plant disease characterized by scurf — **scurfy** \'skər-fē\ *adj*

scur·rile *or* **scur·ril** \'skər-əl, 'skə-rəl\ *adj* [MF *scurrile*, fr. L *scurrilis*, fr. *scurra* buffoon] : SCURRILOUS

scur·ril·i·ty \skə-'ril-ət-ē\ *n, pl* **-ties** **1** : the quality or state of being scurrilous **2 a** : scurrilous or abusive language **b** : an offensively rude or abusive remark ***syn*** see ABUSE

scur·ri·lous \'skər-ə-ləs, 'skə-rə-\ *adj* **1 a** : using or given to coarse language **b** : being vulgar and evil ⟨~ imposters who used a religious exterior to rob poor people —Edwin Benson⟩ **2** : containing obscenities or coarse abuse ⟨a . . . campaign filled with ~ charges and countercharges —A. D. Graeff⟩ — **scur·ri·lous·ly** *adv* — **scur·ri·lous·ness** *n*

scur·ry \'skər-ē, 'skə-rē\ *vi* **scur·ried; scur·ry·ing** [short for *hurry-scurry*, redupl. of *hurry*] **1** : to move in or as if in a brisk rapidly alternating step : SCAMPER **2** : to circulate in an agitated, confused, or fluttering manner — **scurry** *n*

¹scur·vy \'skər-vē\ *adj* [*scurf*] : disgustingly mean or contemptible : DESPICABLE ⟨a ~ trick⟩ ***syn*** see CONTEMPTIBLE — **scur·vi·ly** \-və-lē\ *adv* — **scur·vi·ness** \-vē-nəs\ *n*

²scurvy *n* : a disease marked by spongy gums, loosening of the teeth, and a bleeding into the skin and mucous membranes and caused by a lack of ascorbic acid

scurvy grass *n* : a cress (as *Cochlearia officinalis*) formerly believed useful in preventing or treating scurvy

scut \'skət\ *n* [origin unknown] : a short erect tail (as of a hare)

scu·tage \'sk(y)üt-ij\ *n* [ME, fr. ML *scutagium*, fr. L *scutum* shield — more at ESQUIRE] : a tax levied upon a tenant of a knight's estate in place of military service

¹scutch \'skəch\ *vt* [obs. F *escoucher* (now *écoucher*), fr. (assumed) VL *excuticare* to beat out, fr. L *excutere*, fr. *ex-* + *quatere* to shake, strike — more at QUASH] : to separate the woody fiber from (flax or hemp) by beating

²scutch *n* **1** : SCUTCHER **2** : a bricklayer's hammer for cutting, trimming, and dressing bricks

scutch·eon \'skəch-ən\ *n* [ME *scochon*, fr. MF *escuchon*] : ESCUTCHEON

scutch·er \'skəch-ər\ *n* : an implement or machine for scutching flax or cotton

scute \'sk(y)üt\ *n* [NL *scutum*, fr. L, shield — more at ESQUIRE] : an external bony or horny plate or large scale

scu·tel·late \sk(y)ü-'tel-ət, 'sk(y)üt-ᵊl-ˌāt\ *adj* **1** : of or resembling a scutellum **2** *or* **scu·tel·lat·ed** \'sk(y)üt-ᵊl-ˌāt-əd\ : having or covered with scutella

scu·tel·la·tion \ˌsk(y)üt-ᵊl-'ā-shən\ *n* : LEPIDOSIS

scu·tel·lum \sk(y)ü-'tel-əm\ *n, pl* **-la** \-ə\ [NL, dim. of L *scutum* shield] **1** : any of several small shield-shaped plant structures **2** : a hard plate or scale (as on the thorax of an insect or the tarsus of a bird) — **scu·tel·lar** \-ər\ *adj*

scut·ter \'skət-ər\ *vi* [alter. of ⁴*scuttle*] : SCURRY, SCAMPER

¹scut·tle \'skət-ᵊl\ *n* [ME *scutel*, fr. L *scutella* drinking bowl, tray, dim. of *scutra* platter] **1** : a shallow open basket for carrying something (as grain or garden produce) **2** : a metal pail that usu. has a bail and a sloped lip and is used esp. for carrying coal

²scuttle *n* [ME *skottell*] **1** : a small opening in a wall or roof furnished with a lid: as **a** : a small opening or hatchway in the deck of a ship large enough to admit a man and with a lid for covering it **b** : a small hole in the side or bottom of a ship furnished with a lid or glazed **2** : a lid that closes a scuttle

³scuttle *vt* **scut·tled; scut·tling** \'skət-liŋ, -ᵊl-iŋ\ **1** : to cut a hole through the bottom, deck, or side of (a ship); *specif* : to sink or attempt to sink by making holes through the bottom **2** : DESTROY, WRECK

⁴scuttle *vi* **scut·tled; scut·tling** \'skət-liŋ, -ᵊl-iŋ\ [prob. blend of *scud* and *shuttle*] : SCURRY

⁵scuttle *n* **1** : a quick shuffling pace **2** : a short swift run

scut·tle·butt \'skət-ᵊl-ˌbət\ *n* [²*scuttle*] **1 a** : a cask on shipboard to contain fresh water for a day's use **b** : a drinking fountain on a ship or at a naval or marine installation **2** : RUMOR, GOSSIP

scu·tum \'sk(y)üt-əm\ *n, pl* **scu·ta** \-ə\ [NL, fr. L, shield — more at ESQUIRE] : a bony, horny, or chitinous plate : SCUTE

Scyl·la \'sil-ə\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *Skyllē*] : a nymph changed into a monster who terrorized Odysseus and other mariners in the Straits of Messina — **between Scylla and Cha·ryb·dis** \-kə-'rib-dəs\ : between two equally hazardous alternatives

scy·phis·to·ma \sī-'fis-tə-mə\ *n, pl* **-mae** \-(ˌ)mē\ *also* **-mas** [NL, fr. L *scyphus* cup + Gk *stoma* mouth] : a sexually produced scyphozoan larva that ultimately repeatedly constricts transversely to form free-swimming medusae

scy·pho·zo·an \ˌsī-fə-'zō-ən\ *n* [NL *Scyphozoa*, class name, fr. L *scyphus* + NL *-zoa*] : any of a class (Scyphozoa) of coelenterates that comprise jellyfishes lacking a true polyp and usu. a velum — **scyphozoan** *adj*

¹scythe \'sīt͟h\ *n* [ME *sithe*, fr. OE *sīthe*; akin to OE *sagu* saw — more at SAW] : an implement used for mowing (as grass) and composed of a long curving blade fastened at an angle to a long handle

²scythe *vt* **scythed; scyth·ing** : to cut with or as if with a scythe

Scyth·i·an \'sith-ē-ən, 'sit͟h-\ *n* [L *Scytha*, fr. Gk *Skythēs*] **1** : a member of an ancient nomadic people inhabiting Scythia **2** : the Iranian language of the Scythians — **Scythian** *adj*

sd *abbr* **1** said **2** sewed

SD *abbr* **1** sea-damaged **2** sight draft **3** sine die **4** South Dakota **5** special delivery **6** stage direction **7** standard deviation

SDA *abbr* **1** specific dynamic action **2** Students for Democratic Action

S Dak *abbr* South Dakota

SDI *abbr* selective dissemination of information

SDS *abbr* Students for a Democratic Society

Se *symbol* selenium

SE *abbr* **1** southeast **2** stock exchange **3** straight edge

sea \'sē\ *n* [ME *see*, fr. OE *sæ*; akin to OS & OHG *sē* sea] **1 a** : a great body of salty water that covers much of the earth; *broadly* : the waters of the earth as distinguished from the land and air **b** : a body of salt water of second rank more or less landlocked ⟨the Mediterranean ~⟩ **c** : OCEAN **d** : an inland body of water esp. if large or if salt or brackish ⟨the Caspian ~⟩ **e** : a small freshwater lake ⟨the *Sea* of Galilee⟩ **2 a** : surface motion on a large body of water or its direction; *also* : rough water : a heavy swell or wave **b** : the disturbance of the ocean or other body of water due to the wind **3** : something vast or overwhelming likened to the sea **4** : the seafaring life **5** : ³MARE — **sea** *adj* — **at sea** **1** : on the sea; *specif* : on a sea voyage **2** : LOST, BEWILDERED — **to sea** : to or upon the open waters of the sea

sea anchor *n* : a drag typically of canvas thrown overboard to retard the drifting of a ship or seaplane and to keep its head to the wind

sea anemone *n* : any of numerous usu. solitary polyps (order Actiniaria) whose form, bright and varied colors, and cluster of tentacles superficially resemble a flower



sea anemone

sea·bag \'sē-ˌbag\ *n* : a cylindrical canvas bag used esp. by a sailor for clothes and other gear

sea bass *n* **1** : any of numerous marine fishes (family Serranidae) that are usu. smaller and more active than the groupers; *esp* : a food and sport fish (*Centropristes striatus*) of the Atlantic coast of the U.S. **2** : any of numerous croakers or drums including noted sport and food fishes

sea·beach \'sē-ˌbēch\ *n* : a beach lying along the sea

sea·bed \-ˌbed\ *n* : the floor of a sea or ocean

Sea·bee \'sē-(ˌ)bē\ *n* [alter. of *cee* + *bee*; fr. the initials of *construction battalion*] : a member of one of the U.S. Navy construction battalions for building naval shore facilities in combat zones

sea·bird \'sē-ˌbərd\ *n* : a bird (as a gull or albatross) frequenting the open ocean

sea biscuit *n* : hard biscuit or bread for use on shipboard

sea·board \'sē-ˌbō(ə)rd, -ˌbȯ(ə)rd\ *n* : SEACOAST; *also* : the country bordering a seacoast — **seaboard** *adj*

sea·boot \-ˌbüt\ *n* : a very high waterproof boot used esp. by sailors and fishermen

sea·borne \-ˌbō(ə)rn, -ˌbȯ(ə)rn\ *adj* **1** : borne over or upon the sea ⟨a ~ invasion⟩ **2** : engaged in or carried on by oversea shipping ⟨~ trade⟩

sea bread *n* : HARDTACK

sea bream *n* : any of numerous marine percoid fishes (as of the families Sparidae or Bramidae)

sea breeze *n* : a cooling breeze blowing generally in the daytime inland from the sea

sea captain *n* : the master esp. of a merchant vessel

sea change *n* **1** *archaic* : a change brought about by the sea **2** : TRANSFORMATION

sea chest *n* : a sailor's storage chest for personal property

sea·coast \'sē-ˌkōst\ *n* : the shore or border of the land adjacent to the sea

sea cow *n* : MANATEE, DUGONG

sea·craft \'sē-ˌkraft\ *n* **1** : seagoing ships **2** : skill in navigation

sea crawfish *n* : SPINY LOBSTER

sea crayfish *n* : SPINY LOBSTER

sea cucumber *n* : HOLOTHURIAN; *esp* : one whose contracted body suggests a cucumber in form



sea cucumber

sea devil *n* **1** : DEVILFISH 1 **2** : any of a family (Certiidae) of deep-sea fishes that often have luminous organs and are related to the anglers but are black in color

sea·dog \'sē-ˌdȯg\ *n* : FOGBOW

sea dog *n* **1** : any of several seals **2** : a veteran sailor

sea·drome \-ˌdrōm\ *n* : a usu. floating airdrome on water serving esp. as an intermediate or emergency landing place

sea duck *n* : a diving duck (as a scoter, merganser, or eider) that frequents the sea

sea duty *n* : duty in the U.S. Navy performed outside the continental U.S. or specified dependencies thereof

sea eagle *n* **1** : any of various fish-eating eagles **2** : OSPREY

sea–ear \'sē-ˌi(ə)r\ *n* : ABALONE

sea fan *n* : a gorgonian with a fan-shaped skeleton; *esp* : one (*Gorgonia flabellum*) of Florida and the West Indies

sea·far·er \'sē-ˌfar-ər, -ˌfer-\ *n* [*sea* + [1]*fare* + *-er*] : MARINER

sea·far·ing \-ˌfar-iŋ, -ˌfer-\ *n* : a mariner's calling — **seafaring** *adj*

sea feather *n* : a gorgonian with a plumose skeleton; *esp* : SEA PEN

sea fight *n* : an engagement between ships at sea

sea fire *n* : marine bioluminescence

sea·floor \'sē-ˌflō(ə)r, -ˌflȯ(ə)r\ *n* : SEABED

sea·food \-ˌfüd\ *n* : edible marine fish and shellfish

sea·fowl \-ˌfau̇l\ *n* : SEABIRD

sea·front \-ˌfrənt\ *n* : the waterfront of a seaside place

sea gate *n* : a way (as a gate, beach, or channel) that gives access to the sea

sea·girt \'sē-ˌgərt\ *adj* : surrounded by the sea

sea·go·ing \-ˌgō-iŋ, -ˌgȯ(-)iŋ\ *adj* : OCEANGOING

sea grape *n* : a variable plant (*Coccoloba uvifera*) of sandy shores of Florida and tropical America that has rounded leaves with cordate bases and bears clusters of bluish edible berries

sea green *n* **1** : a moderate green or bluish green **2** : a moderate yellow green

sea gull *n* : a gull frequenting the sea; *broadly* : GULL

sea hare *n* : any of various large naked mollusks (genus *Aplysia*) with arched backs and anterior tentacles that project like ears

sea holly *n* : a European coastal herb (*Eryngium maritimum*) of the carrot family with spiny leaves and pale blue flowers

sea horse *n* **1** : WALRUS **2** : a fabulous creature half horse and half fish **3** : any of numerous small fishes (family Syngnathidae) related to the pipefishes but stockier with the head and forepart of the body sharply flexed like the head and neck of a horse

sea is·land cotton \ˌsē-ˌī-lən(d)-\ *n, often cap S&I* [*Sea islands*, chain of islands in the Atlantic] : a cotton (*Gossypium barbadense*) with esp. long silky fiber — called also *sea island*

sea kale *n* : a European fleshy plant (*Crambe maritima*) of the mustard family used as a potherb

sea king *n* : a Norse pirate chief

[1]**seal** \'sē(ə)l\ *n, pl* **seals** *also* **seal** [ME *sele*, fr. OE *seolh*; akin to OHG *selah* seal] **1** : any of numerous marine aquatic carnivorous mammals (families Phocidae and Otariidae) that occur chiefly in cold regions and have limbs modified into webbed flippers adapted primarily to swimming; *esp* : FUR SEAL **2 a** : the pelt of a fur seal **b** : leather made from the skin of a seal **3** : a dark grayish yellowish brown

[2]**seal** *vi* : to hunt seal

[3]**seal** *n* [ME *seel*, fr. OF, fr. L *sigillum* seal, fr. dim. of *signum* sign, seal] **1 a** : something that confirms, ratifies, or makes secure : GUARANTEE, ASSURANCE **b** (1) : a device with a cut or raised emblem, symbol, or word used to certify a signature or authenticate a document (2) : a medallion or ring face bearing such a device incised so that it can be impressed on wax or moist clay; *also* : a piece of wax or a wafer bearing such an impression **c** : an impression, device, or mark given the effect of a common-law seal by statute law or by American local custom recognized by judicial decision **d** : a usu. ornamental adhesive stamp that may be used to close a letter or package; *esp* : one given in a fund-raising campaign **2 a** : something that secures (as a wax seal on a document) **b** : a closure that must be broken to be opened and that thus reveals tampering **c** (1) : a tight and perfect closure (as against the passage of gas or water) (2) : a device to prevent the passage or return of gas or air into a pipe or container **3** : a seal that is a symbol or mark of office — **under seal** : with an authenticating seal affixed

[4]**seal** *vt* **1 a** : to confirm or make secure by or as if by a seal **b** : to solemnize for eternity (as a marriage) by a Mormon rite **2 a** : to set or affix an authenticating seal to; *also* : AUTHENTICATE, RATIFY **b** : to mark with a stamp or seal usu. as an evidence of standard exactness, legal size, weight, or capacity, or merchantable quality **3 a** : to fasten with or as if with a seal to prevent tampering **b** : to close or make secure against access, leakage, or passage by a fastening or coating **c** : to fix in position or close breaks in with a filling (as of plaster) **4** : to determine irrevocably or indisputably ⟨that answer ~*ed* our fate⟩

sea ladder *n* **1** : a rope ladder or set of steps to be lowered over a ship's side for use in coming aboard (as at sea) **2** : SEA STEPS

sea lamprey *n* : a large anadromous lamprey (*Petromyzon marinus*) that is sometimes used as food and is a pest destructive of native fish fauna in the Great Lakes

sea–lane \'sē-ˌlān\ *n* : an established sea route

seal·ant \'sē-lənt\ *n* : a sealing agent ⟨radiator ~⟩

sea lavender *n* : any of a genus (*Limonium*) of mostly coastal plants of the plumbago family

sea lawyer *n* : an argumentative captious sailor

sealed–beam \'sē(ə)l(d)-ˈbēm\ *adj* : of, relating to, or being an electric light with prefocussed reflector and lens sealed in the lamp vacuum

sea legs *n pl* : bodily adjustment to the motion of a ship indicated esp. by ability to walk steadily and by freedom from seasickness

[1]**seal·er** \'sē-lər\ *n* **1** : an official who attests or certifies conformity to a standard of correctness **2** : a coat (as of size) applied to prevent subsequent coats of paint or varnish from sinking in

[2]**sealer** *n* : a mariner or a ship engaged in hunting seals

seal·ery \'sē-lə-rē\ *n, pl* **-er·ies** : a seal fishery

sea lettuce *n* : any of several seaweeds (esp. genus *Ulva*, of the family Ulvaceae) with green fronds sometimes eaten as salad

sea level *n* : the level of the surface of the sea esp. at its mean position midway between mean high and low water

sea lily *n* : CRINOID; *esp* : a stalked crinoid

sealing wax *n* : a resinous composition that is plastic when warm and is used for sealing (as letters, dry cells, or cans)

sea lion *n* : any of several large Pacific eared seals (genus *Zalophus* and *Otaria*) that are related to the fur seals but lack their valuable coat

seal off *vt* : to close tightly

seal point *n* [[1]*seal* (the color)] : a Siamese cat with cream or fawn-colored body and dark grayish yellowish brown points

seal ring *n* : a finger ring engraved with a seal : SIGNET RING

seal·skin \'sē(ə)l-ˌskin\ *n* **1** : the fur or pelt of a fur seal **2** : a garment (as a jacket, coat, or cape) of sealskin — **sealskin** *adj*

Sea·ly·ham terrier \ˌsē-lē-ˌham-, *esp Brit* -lē-əm-\ *n* [*Sealyham*, Pembrokeshire, Wales] : a short-legged long-headed strong-jawed heavy-boned chiefly white terrier of a breed developed in Wales

[1]**seam** \'sēm\ *n* [ME *seem*, fr. OE *sēam*; akin to OE *sīwian* to sew — more at SEW] **1 a** : the joining of two pieces (as of cloth or leather) by sewing usu. near the edge **b** : the stitching used in such a joining **2** : the space between adjacent planks or strakes of a ship **3 a** : a line, groove, or ridge formed by the abutment of edges **b** : a thin layer or stratum (as of rock) between distinctive layers; *also* : a bed of valuable mineral and esp. coal irrespective of thickness **c** : a line left by a cut or wound; *also* : WRINKLE — **seam·like** \-ˌlīk\ *adj*

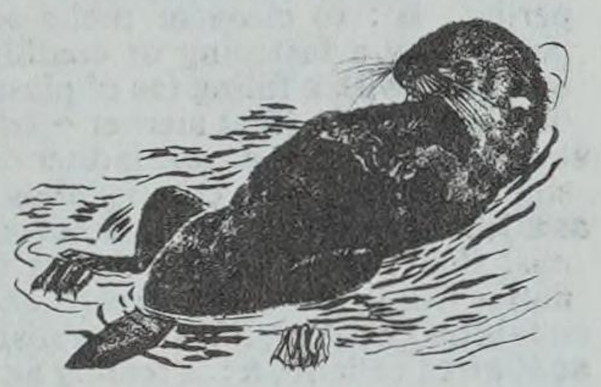
[2]**seam** *vt* **1 a** : to join by sewing **b** : to join as if by sewing (as by welding, riveting, or heat-sealing) **2** : to mark with lines suggesting seams ~ *vi* : to become fissured or ridgy — **seam·er** *n*

sea–maid \'sē-ˌmād\ *or* **sea–maid·en** \-ˌmād-ᵊn\ *n* : MERMAID; *also* : a goddess or nymph of the sea

sea·man \'sē-mən\ *n* **1** : SAILOR, MARINER **2 a** : one of the three ranks below petty officer in the navy or coast guard **b** : an enlisted man in the navy or coast guard ranking above a seaman apprentice and below a petty officer

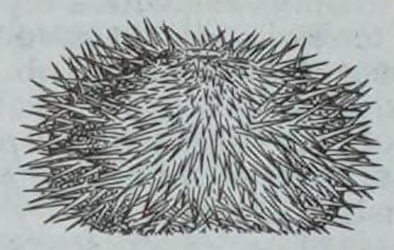
seaman apprentice *n* : an enlisted man in the navy or coast guard ranking above a seaman recruit and below a seaman

sea·man·like \'sē-mən-ˌlīk\ *adj* : characteristic of or befitting a competent seaman
sea·man·ly \-lē\ *adj* : SEAMANLIKE
seaman recruit *n* : an enlisted man of the lowest rank in the navy or coast guard
sea·man·ship \'sē-mən-ˌship\ *n* : the art or skill of handling, working, and navigating a ship
sea·mark \-ˌmärk\ *n* **1** : a line on a coast marking the tidal limit **2** : an elevated object serving as a beacon to mariners
sea mew *n* : SEA GULL; *esp* : a European gull (*Larus canus*)
sea mile *n* : NAUTICAL MILE
seam·less \'sēm-ləs\ *adj* : having no seam — **seam·less·ly** *adv* — **seam·less·ness** *n*
sea·mount \'sē-ˌmau̇nt\ *n* : a submarine mountain rising above the deep-sea floor
sea mouse *n* : a large broad marine polychaete worm (esp. genus *Aphrodite*) covered with hairlike setae
seam·ster \'sēm(p)-stər *also* 'sem(p)-\ *n* [ME *semester, semster*, fr. OE *sēamestre* seamstress, tailor, fr. *sēam* seam] : a person employed at sewing; *esp* : TAILOR
seam·stress \-strəs\ *n* : a woman whose occupation is sewing
seamy \'sē-mē\ *adj* **seam·i·er; -est** **1** *archaic* : having the rough side of the seam showing **2** **a** : UNPLEASANT **b** : DEGRADED, SORDID — **seam·i·ness** *n*
sé·ance \'sā-ˌän(t)s, -ˌäⁿs, sā-'\ *n* [F, fr. *seoir* to sit, fr. L *sedēre* — more at SIT] **1** : SESSION, SITTING **2** : a spiritualist meeting to receive spirit communications
sea nettle *n* : a stinging jellyfish
sea oats *n pl but sing or pl in constr* : a tall grass (*Uniola panicolata*) that has panicles resembling those of the oat, grows on the coast of the southern U.S., and is useful as a sand binder
sea onion *n* : SQUILL 1a
sea otter *n* : a rare large marine otter (*Enhydra lutris*) of the northern Pacific coasts that attains a maximum length of nearly six feet and feeds largely on shellfish


sea otter

sea–otter's–cabbage *n* : a gigantic kelp (*Nereocystis lütkeana*) of the northern Pacific
sea pen *n* : any of numerous anthozoans (as of the genus *Pennatula*) whose colonies have a feathery form
sea·piece \'sē-ˌpēs\ *n* : SEASCAPE 2
sea·plane \-ˌplān\ *n* : an airplane designed to take off from and land on the water
sea·port \'sē-ˌpō(ə)rt, -ˌpȯ(ə)rt\ *n* : a port, harbor, or town accessible to seagoing ships
sea power *n* **1** : a nation having formidable naval strength **2** : naval strength
sea purse *n* : the horny egg case of skates and of some sharks
sea puss \-ˌpu̇s\ *n* [by folk etymology fr. a word of Algonquian origin; akin to Delaware *sepus* small brook] : a swirling or alongshore undertow
sea·quake \'sē-ˌkwāk\ *n* [*sea* + *-quake* (as in *earthquake*)] : a submarine earthquake
[1]sear *var of* SERE
[2]sear \'si(ə)r\ *vb* [ME *seren*, fr. OE *sēarian* to become sere, fr. *sēar* sere] *vi* : to cause withering or drying ~ *vt* **1** : to make withered and dry : PARCH **2** : to burn, scorch, or injure with or as if with sudden application of intense heat — **sear·ing·ly** \-iŋ-lē\ *adv*
[3]sear *n* : a mark or scar left by searing
[4]sear *n* [prob. fr. MF *serre* grasp, fr. *serrer* to press, grasp, fr. LL *serare* to bolt, latch, fr. L *sera* bar for fastening a door] : the catch that holds the hammer of a gunlock at cock or half cock
sea raven *n* : a large sculpin (*Hemitripterus americanus*) of the northern Atlantic coast of America
[1]search \'sərch\ *vb* [ME *cerchen*, fr. MF *cerchier* to go about, survey, search, fr. LL *circare* to go about, fr. L *circum* round about] *vt* **1** : to look into or over carefully or thoroughly in an effort to find or discover something: as **a** : to examine in seeking something ⟨~*ed* the north field⟩ **b** : to look through or explore by inspecting possible places of concealment or investigating suspicious circumstances **c** : to read thoroughly : CHECK; *esp* : to examine a public record or register for information about ⟨~ land titles⟩ **d** : to examine for articles concealed on the person **e** : to look at as if to discover or penetrate intention or nature **2** : to uncover, find, or come to know by inquiry or scrutiny ~ *vi* **1** : to look or inquire carefully ⟨~*ed* for the papers⟩ **2** : to make painstaking investigation or examination — **search·able** \'sər-chə-bəl\ *adj* — **search·er** *n* — **search·ing·ly** \-chiŋ-lē\ *adv*
[2]search *n* **1** **a** : an act of searching **b** : an act of boarding and inspecting a ship on the high seas in exercise of right of search **2** *obs* : a party that searches **3** : power or range of penetrating; *also* : a penetrating effect
search·less \'sərch-ləs\ *adj* : INSCRUTABLE, IMPENETRABLE
search·light \-ˌlīt\ *n* **1** : an apparatus for projecting a beam of light; *also* : a beam of light projected by it **2** : FLASHLIGHT 3
search warrant *n* : a warrant authorizing a search (as of a house) for stolen goods or unlawful possessions (as gambling implements)
sea robin *n* : any of various marine fishes (family Triglidae) with a spiny armored head and three pairs of modified fin rays used as feelers and in crawling — called also *gurnard*
sea room *n* : room for maneuver at sea
sea rover *n* : one that roves the sea; *specif* : PIRATE
sea–run \ˌsē-ˌrən\ *adj* : ANADROMOUS ⟨a ~ salmon⟩
sea·scape \'sē-ˌskāp\ *n* **1** : a view of the sea **2** : a picture representing a scene at sea
sea scorpion *n* : SCULPIN
sea scout *n* : a boy enrolled in the boy-scout program that provides training for older boys in seamanship and water activities
sea serpent *n* : a large marine animal resembling a serpent often reported to have been seen but never proved to exist
sea·shell \'sē-ˌshel\ *n* : the shell of a marine animal and esp. a mollusk
sea·shore \-ˌshō(ə)r, -ˌshȯ(ə)r\ *n* **1** **a** : land adjacent to the sea : SEACOAST **b** : NATIONAL SEASHORE **2** : all the ground between the ordinary high-water and low-water marks : FORESHORE
sea·sick \-ˌsik\ *adj* : affected with or suggestive of seasickness
sea·sick·ness \-nəs\ *n* : motion sickness experienced on the water
sea·side \'sē-ˌsīd\ *n* : the district or land bordering the sea : country adjacent to the sea : SEASHORE
sea slater *n* : SLATER 2b
sea slug *n* **1** : HOLOTHURIAN **2** : a naked marine gastropod; *specif* : NUDIBRANCH
sea snake *n* **1** : any of numerous venomous aquatic viviparous snakes (family Hydrophidae) of warm seas **2** : SEA SERPENT
[1]sea·son \'sēz-ᵊn\ *n* [ME, fr. OF *saison*, fr. L *sation-, satio* action of sowing, fr. *satus*, pp. of *serere* to sow — more at SOW] **1** **a** : a time characterized by a particular circumstance or feature ⟨at the age of eighteen, in a ~ of religious awakening —F. A. Christie⟩ **b** : a suitable or natural time or occasion ⟨when my ~ comes to sit on David's throne —John Milton⟩ **c** : an indefinite period of time : WHILE ⟨sent home again to her father for a ~ —Francis Hackett⟩ **2** **a** : a period of the year characterized by or associated with a particular activity or phenomenon ⟨hay fever ~⟩: as (1) : a period associated with some phase or activity of agriculture (as growth or harvesting) (2) : a period in which an animal engages in some activity (as migrating or mating) (3) : the period normally characterized by a particular kind of weather ⟨a long rainy ~⟩ (4) : a period marked by special activity in some field ⟨the theatrical ~⟩ ⟨the hunting ~⟩ (5) : a period in which a place is most frequented **b** : one of the four quarters into which the year is commonly divided **c** : the time of a major holiday **3** : YEAR ⟨a boy of seven ~*s*⟩ **4** [ME *sesoun*, fr. *sesounen* to season] *obs* : SEASONING **5** : the total schedule of games played or to be played by a sports team during a playing season ⟨try to get through the ~ undefeated⟩ **6** : OFF-SEASON ⟨closed for the ~⟩ — **in season** **1** : at the right time **2** : at the stage of greatest fitness (as for eating) ⟨peaches are *in season*⟩ **3** : legally available to be hunted or caught — **out of season** : not in season
[2]season *vb* **sea·soned; sea·son·ing** \'sēz-niŋ, -ᵊn-iŋ\ [ME *sesounen*, fr. MF *assaisoner* to ripen, season, fr. OF, fr. *a-* (fr. L *ad-*) + *saison* season] *vt* **1** **a** : to give (food) more flavor or zest by adding seasoning or savory ingredients; *also* : to add seasoning to **b** : to make more agreeable ⟨advice ~*ed* with wit⟩ **c** *archaic* : to qualify by admixture : TEMPER **2** **a** : to treat (as lumber) so as to prepare for use **b** : to make fit by experience ⟨a ~*ed* veteran⟩ ~ *vi* : to become seasoned
sea·son·able \'sēz-nə-bəl, -ᵊn-ə-bəl\ *adj* **1** : occurring in good or proper time : OPPORTUNE ⟨a ~ time for discussion⟩ **2** : suitable to the season or circumstances : TIMELY ⟨a ~ frost⟩ — **sea·son·able·ness** *n* — **sea·son·ably** \-blē\ *adv*
syn SEASONABLE, TIMELY, OPPORTUNE, PAT *shared meaning element* : appropriate to the time or situation ***ant*** unseasonable
sea·son·al \'sēz-nəl, -ᵊn-əl\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or occurring at a particular season ⟨~ storms⟩ **2** : affected or caused by seasonal need or availability ⟨~ unemployment⟩ ⟨~ industries⟩ — **sea·son·al·ly** \-ē\ *adv*
sea·son·er \'sēz-nər, -ᵊn-ər\ *n* : one that seasons: as **a** : a user of seasonings ⟨a heavy ~⟩ **b** : SEASONING
sea·son·ing \'sēz-niŋ, -ᵊn-iŋ\ *n* : something that serves to season; *esp* : an ingredient (as a condiment, spice, or herb) added to food primarily for the savor that it imparts
season ticket *n* : a ticket (as to all of a club's home games or for specified daily transportation) valid during a specified time
sea spider *n* : any of various small long-legged marine arthropods (class Pycnogonida) that superficially resemble spiders
sea squirt *n* : a sessile tunicate : ASCIDIAN
sea star *n* : STARFISH
sea steps *n pl* : projecting metal plates or bars attached to the side of a ship by which it may be boarded
sea stores *n pl* : supplies (as of foodstuffs) laid in before starting on a sea voyage
sea·strand \'sē-ˌstrand\ *n* : SEASHORE
[1]seat \'sēt\ *n* [ME *sete*, fr. ON *sæti*; akin to OE *sittan* to sit] **1** **a** : a special chair of one in eminence; *also* : the status represented by it **b** : a chair, stool, or bench intended to be sat in or on **c** : the particular part of something on which one rests in sitting ⟨the ~ of a chair⟩ ⟨trouser ~⟩; *also* : the part of the body that bears the weight in sitting : BUTTOCKS **2** **a** : a seating accommodation ⟨a ~ for the game⟩ ⟨a 200-*seat* restaurant⟩ **b** : a right of sitting ⟨lost his ~ in Congress⟩ **c** : membership on an exchange **3** **a** : a place occupied by something **b** : a place from which authority is exercised ⟨the county ~⟩ **c** : a bodily part in which some function or condition is centered ⟨the brain as the ~ of the mind⟩ **4** : posture in or way of sitting on horseback **5** **a** : a part at or forming the base of something **b** : a part (as a socket) or surface on or in which another part or surface rests
[2]seat *vt* **1** **a** : to install in a seat of dignity or office **b** (1) : to cause to sit or assist in finding a seat (2) : to provide seats for ⟨a theater ~*ing* 1000 persons⟩ **c** : to put in a sitting position **2** : to repair the seat of or provide a new seat for **3** : to fit to or with a seat ⟨~ a valve⟩ ~ *vi* **1** *archaic* : to take one's seat or place **2** : to fit correctly on a seat — **seat·er** *n*
seat belt *n* : an arrangement of straps designed to hold a person steady in a seat (as during the takeoff of an airplane or while driving an automobile)
-seat·er \'sēt-ər\ *n comb form* : one that has a specified number of seats ⟨the car was a four-*seater*⟩
seat·ing \'sēt-iŋ\ *n* **1** : the act of providing with seats **2** **a** : material for covering or upholstering seats **b** : a seat on or in which something rests ⟨a valve ~⟩
seat·mate \'sēt-ˌmāt\ *n* : one with whom one shares a seat
SEATO \'sē-ˌtō\ *abbr* Southeast Asia Treaty Organization

sea·train \'sē-ˌtrān\ *n* : a seagoing ship equipped for carrying a train of railroad cars
sea trout *n* **1** : any of various trouts or chars that as adults inhabit the sea but ascend rivers to spawn **2** : any of various marine fishes felt to resemble trouts: as **a** (1) : WEAKFISH 1 (2) : SPOTTED SEA TROUT **b** : a greenling (*Hexagrammos decagrammus*)
sea urchin *n* : any of a class (Echinoidea) of echinoderms usu. enclosed in thin brittle shells that are flattened and globular and covered with movable spines



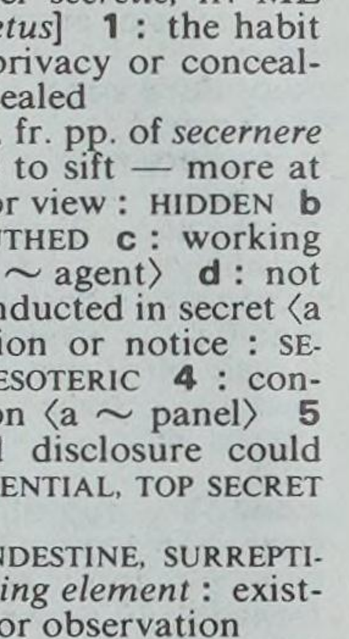
sea urchin

sea·wall \'sē-ˌwȯl\ *n* : a wall or embankment to protect the shore from erosion or to act as a breakwater
[1]sea·ward \'sē-wərd\ *also* **sea·wards** \-wərdz\ *adv* : toward the sea
[2]seaward *n* : the direction or side away from land and toward the open sea
[3]seaward *adj* **1** directed or situated toward the sea **2** : coming from the sea ⟨a ~ wind⟩
sea·ware \'sē-ˌwa(ə)r, -ˌwe(ə)r\ *n* : sea wrack for use as manure
sea wasp *n* : any of various scyphozoan jellyfishes (order or suborder Cubomedusae) that sting virulently and sometimes fatally
sea·wa·ter \'sē-ˌwȯt-ər, -ˌwät-\ *n* : water in or from the sea
sea·way \-ˌwā\ *n* **1** : a moderate or rough sea **2** : a ship's headway **3** : the sea as a route for travel; *also* : an ocean traffic lane **4** : a deep inland waterway that admits ocean shipping
sea·weed \-ˌwēd\ *n* **1** : a mass or growth of marine plants **2** : a plant growing in the sea; *esp* : a marine alga (as a kelp)
sea whip *n* : a gorgonian with an elongated flexible unbranched or little-branched axis
sea·wor·thy \'sē-ˌwər-<u>th</u>ē\ *adj* : fit or safe for a sea voyage ⟨a ~ ship⟩ — **sea·wor·thi·ness** \-<u>th</u>ē-nəs\ *n*
sea wrack *n* : SEAWEED; *esp* : that cast ashore in masses
se·ba·ceous \si-'bā-shəs\ *adj* [L *sebaceus* made of tallow, fr. *sebum* tallow — more at SOAP] **1** : of, relating to, or being fatty material : FATTY ⟨a ~ exudate⟩ **2** : secreting sebum ⟨~ glands⟩
se·ba·cic acid \si-ˌbas-ik-, ˌsē-, -ˌbā-sik-\ *n* [ISV, fr. L *sebaceus*] : a crystalline dicarboxylic acid $C_{10}H_{18}O_4$ used esp. in the manufacture of synthetic resins
seb·or·rhea \ˌseb-ə-'rē-ə\ *n* [NL, fr. L *sebum* + NL *-rrhea*] : abnormally increased secretion and discharge of sebum — **seb·or·rhe·ic** \-'rē-ik\ *adj*
se·bum \'sēb-əm\ *n* [L, tallow, grease] : fatty lubricant matter secreted by sebaceous glands of the skin
[1]sec \'sek\ *adj* [F, lit., dry — more at SACK] *of champagne* : containing three to five percent sugar by volume : DRY
[2]sec *abbr* **1** second; secondary **2** secretary **3** section **4** [L *secundum*] according to
[3]sec *symbol* secant
SEC *abbr* Securities and Exchange Commission
se·cant \'sē-ˌkant, -kənt\ *n* [NL *secant-, secans*, fr. L, prp. of *secare* to cut — more at SAW] **1** : a straight line cutting a curve at two or more points **2** **a** : a straight line drawn from the center of a circle through one end of a circular arc to a tangent drawn from the other end of the arc **b** : the trigonometric function that for an acute angle is the ratio of the hypotenuse of a right triangle of which the angle is considered part and the side adjacent to the angle
sec·a·teur \ˌsek-ə-'tər\ *n* [F *sécateur*, fr. L *secare* to cut] *chiefly Brit* : pruning shears — usu. used in pl.
[1]sec·co \'sek-(ˌ)ō\ *n* [It, fr. *secco* dry, fr. L *siccus* — more at SACK] : the art of painting on dry plaster
[2]secco *adj or adv* [It, lit., dry] **1** : short and very staccato — used as a direction in music **2** *of a recitative* : accompanied only by the instruments playing the continuo
se·cede \si-'sēd\ *vi* **se·ced·ed; se·ced·ing** [L *secedere*, fr. *sed-, se-* apart (fr. *sed, se* without) + *cedere* to go — more at IDIOT, CEDE] : to withdraw from an organization (as a religious communion or political party or federation) — **se·ced·er** *n*
se·cern \si-'sərn\ *vt* [L *secernere* to separate — more at SECRET] : to discriminate in thought : DISTINGUISH
se·ces·sion \si-'sesh-ən\ *n* [L *secession-, secessio*, fr. *secessus*, pp. of *secedere*] **1** : withdrawal into privacy or solitude : RETIREMENT **2** : formal withdrawal from an organization
se·ces·sion·ism \-'sesh-ə-ˌniz-əm\ *n* : the doctrine or policy of secession
se·ces·sion·ist \-'sesh-(ə-)nəst\ *n* : one who joins in a secession or maintains that secession is a right
se·clude \si-'klüd\ *vt* **se·clud·ed; se·clud·ing** [ME *secluden* to keep away, fr. L *secludere* to separate, seclude, fr. *se-* apart + *claudere* to close — more at SECEDE, CLOSE] **1** : to remove or separate from intercourse or outside influence : ISOLATE **2** *obs* : to exclude from a privilege, rank, or dignity : DEBAR **3** *obs* : to shut off : SCREEN
se·clud·ed *adj* **1** : screened or hidden from view : SEQUESTERED ⟨a ~ valley⟩ **2** : living in seclusion : SOLITARY ⟨~ monks⟩ — **se·clud·ed·ly** *adv* — **se·clud·ed·ness** *n*
se·clu·sion \si-'klü-zhən\ *n* [ML *seclusion-, seclusio*, fr. L *seclusus*, pp. of *secludere*] **1** : the act of secluding : the condition of being secluded **2** : a secluded or isolated place ***syn*** see SOLITUDE — **se·clu·sive** \-'klü-siv, -ziv\ *adj* — **se·clu·sive·ly** *adv* — **se·clu·sive·ness** *n*
seco·bar·bi·tal \ˌsek-ō-'bär-bə-ˌtȯl\ *n* [fr. *Seco*nal, a trademark + *barbital*] : a barbiturate $C_{12}H_{18}N_2O_3$ that is used chiefly in the form of its bitter hygroscopic powdery sodium salt as a hypnotic and sedative
[1]sec·ond \'sek-ənd *also* -ənt, *esp before a consonant* -ən, -ᵊŋ\ *adj* [ME, fr. OF, fr. L *secundus* second, following, favorable, fr. *sequi* to follow — more at SUE] **1** **a** : next to the first in place or time ⟨was ~ in line⟩ **b** (1) : next to the first in value, excellence, or degree ⟨his ~ choice of schools⟩ (2) : INFERIOR, SUBORDINATE ⟨was ~ to none⟩ **c** : ranking next below the top of a grade or degree in authority or precedence ⟨~ mate⟩ **d** : ALTERNATE, OTHER ⟨elects a mayor every ~ year⟩ **e** : resembling or suggesting a prototype : ANOTHER ⟨a ~ Thoreau⟩ **f** : ingrained by discipline, training, or effort : ACQUIRED ⟨~ nature⟩ **g** : being the forward gear or speed next higher than first in a motor vehicle **2** : relating to or having a part typically subordinate to and lower in pitch than the first part in concerted or ensemble music — **second** *or* **sec·ond·ly** *adv*
[2]second *n* **1** **a** — see NUMBER table **b** : one that is next after the first in rank, position, authority, or precedence ⟨the ~ in line⟩ **2** : one that assists or supports another; *esp* : the assistant of a duelist or boxer **3** **a** : the musical interval embracing two diatonic degrees **b** : a tone at this interval; *specif* : SUPERTONIC **c** : the harmonic combination of two tones a second apart **4** **a** *pl* : merchandise that is usu. slightly flawed and does not meet the manufacturer's standard for firsts or irregulars **b** : an article of such merchandise **5** : the act or declaration by which a parliamentary motion is seconded **6** : a place next below the first in a competition, examination, or contest **7** : SECOND BASE **8** : the second forward gear or speed of a motor vehicle **9** *pl* : a second helping of food
[3]second *n* [ME *secunde*, fr. ML *secunda*, fr. L, fem. of *secundus* second; fr. its being the second sexagesimal division of a unit, as a minute is the first] **1** : the 60th part of a minute of time or of a minute of angular measure **2** : an instant of time : MOMENT
[4]second *vt* [L *secundare*, fr. *secundus* second, favorable] **1** **a** : to give support or encouragement to : ASSIST **b** : to support (a fighting man) in combat : to bring up reinforcements for **2** **a** : to support or assist in contention or debate **b** : to endorse (a motion or a nomination) so that debate or voting may begin **3** *chiefly Brit* : to release (as a military officer) from a regularly assigned position for temporary duty with another unit or organization — **sec·onder** *n*
[1]sec·ond·ary \'sek-ən-ˌder-ē\ *adj* **1** **a** : of second rank, importance, or value **b** : of, relating to, or constituting the second strongest of the three or four degrees of stress recognized by most linguists ⟨the fourth syllable of *basketball team* carries ~ stress⟩ **c** *of a tense* : expressive of past time **2** **a** : immediately derived from something original, primary, or basic **b** : of or relating to the induced current or its circuit in an induction coil or transformer ⟨a ~ coil⟩ ⟨~ voltage⟩ **c** : characterized by or resulting from the substitution of two atoms or groups in a molecule ⟨a ~ salt⟩; *esp* : being or characterized by a carbon atom united by two valences to chain or ring members **d** (1) : not first in order of occurrence or development (2) : produced by activity of formative tissue and esp. cambium other than that at a growing point ⟨~ growth⟩ ⟨~ phloem⟩ **3** **a** : of or relating to the second order or stage in a series **b** : of, relating to, or being the second segment of the wing of a bird or the quills of this segment **c** : of or relating to a secondary school ⟨~ education⟩ — **sec·ond·ari·ly** \ˌsek-ən-'der-ə-lē\ *adv* — **sec·ond·ari·ness** \'sek-ən-ˌder-ē-nəs\ *n*
[2]secondary *n, pl* **-ar·ies** **1** : one occupying a subordinate or auxiliary position rather than that of a principal **2** : a defensive football backfield **3** : a secondary electrical circuit or coil **4** : any of the quill feathers of the forearm of a bird — see BIRD illustration
secondary cell *n* : STORAGE CELL
secondary color *n* : a color formed by mixing primary colors in equal or equivalent quantities
secondary emission *n* : the emission of electrons from a surface that is bombarded by particles (as electrons or ions) from a primary source
secondary radiation *n* : rays (as X rays or beta rays) emitted by molecules or atoms as the result of the incidence of a primary radiation
secondary road *n* **1** : a road not of primary importance **2** : a feeder road
secondary root *n* : one of the branches of a primary root
secondary school *n* : a school intermediate between elementary school and college and usu. offering general, technical, vocational, or college-preparatory courses
secondary sex characteristic *n* : a physical or mental characteristic (as the breasts of a female mammal or the nuptial plumage of a male bird) that appears in members of one sex at puberty or in seasonal breeders at the breeding season and is not directly concerned with reproduction — called also *secondary sexual characteristic*
secondary syphilis *n* : the second stage of syphilis that appears from 2 to 6 months after primary infection, that is marked by lesions esp. in the skin but also in organs and tissues, and that lasts from 3 to 12 weeks
second base *n* **1** : the base that must be touched second by a base runner in baseball **2** : the player position for defending the area of the baseball infield on the first-base side of second base — **second baseman** *n*
sec·ond–best \ˌsek-ən-'best, -ᵊŋ-\ *adj* : next to the best
[1]second best *n* : one that is below or after the best
[2]second best *adv* : in second place
second blessing *n* : sanctification as a second gift of the Holy Spirit that follows an initial experience of conversion
second childhood *n* : DOTAGE
second–class *adj* **1** : of or relating to a second class **2** : INFERIOR, MEDIOCRE; *also* : socially, politically, or economically deprived ⟨~ citizens⟩
second class *n* **1** : the second and usu. next to highest group in a classification **2** : CABIN CLASS **3** : a class of U.S. or Canadian mail comprising newspapers and periodicals sent to regular subscribers
Second Coming *n* : the coming of Christ as judge on the last day
second consonant shift *n* : CONSONANT SHIFT b

second–degree burn *n* : a burn marked by pain, blistering, and superficial destruction of dermis with edema and hyperemia of the tissues beneath the burn
Second Empire \ˌsek-ən-ˈdem-ˌpī(ə)r\ *adj* : of, relating to, or characteristic of a style (as of furniture) developed in France under Napoleon III and marked by heavy ornate modification of Empire styles
second estate *n, often cap S&E* : the second of the traditional political classes; *specif* : NOBILITY
second growth *n* : forest trees that come up naturally after removal of the first growth by cutting or by fire
sec·ond–guess \ˌsek-ˀn-ˈges, -ən-\ *vt* **1** : to think out alternative strategies or explanations for after the event **2 a** : OUTGUESS **b** : PREDICT — **sec·ond–guess·er** *n*
1sec·ond·hand \ˌsek-ən-ˈ\ *adj* **1 a** : received from or through an intermediary : BORROWED **b** : DERIVATIVE ⟨~ ideas⟩ **2 a** : acquired after being used by another : not new ⟨~ books⟩ **b** : dealing in secondhand merchandise ⟨a ~ bookstore⟩
2secondhand \ˌsek-ən-ˈ\ *adv* : at second hand : INDIRECTLY
1second hand \ˌsek-ən-ˈhand\ *n* : an intermediate person or means : INTERMEDIARY — usu. used in the phrase *at second hand*
2second hand \ˈsek-ən-ˌ\ *n* : the hand marking seconds on a timepiece
second lieutenant *n* : a commissioned officer of the lowest rank in the army, air force, or marine corps
second mortgage *n* : a mortgage the lien of which is subordinate to that of a first mortgage
se·con·do \si-ˈkōn-(ˌ)dō, -ˈkän-\ *n, pl* **-di** \-(ˌ)dē\ [It, fr. *secondo*, adj., second, fr. L *secundus*] : the second part in a concerted piece; *esp* : the lower part (as in a piano duet)
second person *n* **1 a** : a set of linguistic forms (as verb forms, pronouns, and inflectional affixes) referring to the person or thing addressed in the utterance in which they occur **b** : a linguistic form belonging to such a set **2** : reference of a linguistic form to the person or thing addressed in the utterance in which it occurs
sec·ond–rate \ˌsek-ən-ˈ(d)rāt\ *adj* : of second or inferior quality or value : MEDIOCRE — **sec·ond–rate·ness** *n* — **sec·ond–rat·er** \-ˈ(d)rāt-ər\ *n*
Second Reader *n* : a member of a Christian Science church or society chosen for a term of office to assist the First Reader in conducting services by reading aloud selections from the Bible
second reading *n* **1** : the stage in the British legislative process following the first reading and usu. providing for debate on the principal features of a bill before its submission to a committee for consideration of details **2** : the stage in the U.S. legislative process that occurs when a bill has been reported back from committee and that provides an opportunity for full debate and amendment before a vote is taken on the question of a third reading
second sight *n* : the capacity to see remote or future objects or events : CLAIRVOYANCE, PRECOGNITION
second–story man *n* : a burglar who enters a house by an upstairs window
sec·ond–string \ˌsek-ən-ˌstriŋ, ˌsek-ˀŋ-\ *adj* [fr. the reserve bowstring carried by an archer in case the first breaks] : being a substitute as distinguished from a regular (as on a ball team)
second thought *n* : reconsideration or a revised opinion of a previous often hurried decision ⟨began to have *second thoughts*⟩
second wind *n* : renewed energy or endurance
se·cre·cy \ˈsē-krə-sē\ *n, pl* **-cies** [alter. of earlier *secretie*, fr. ME *secretee*, fr. *secre* secret, fr. MF *secré*, fr. L *secretus*] **1** : the habit or practice of keeping secrets or maintaining privacy or concealment **2** : the condition of being hidden or concealed
1se·cret \ˈsē-krət\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *secretus*, fr. pp. of *secernere* to separate, distinguish, fr. *se-* apart + *cernere* to sift — more at SECEDE, CERTAIN] **1 a** : kept from knowledge or view : HIDDEN **b** : marked by the habit of discretion : CLOSEMOUTHED **c** : working with hidden aims or methods : UNDERCOVER ⟨a ~ agent⟩ **d** : not acknowledged : UNAVOWED ⟨a ~ bride⟩ **e** : conducted in secret ⟨a ~ trial⟩ **2** : remote from human frequentation or notice : SECLUDED **3** : revealed only to the initiated : ESOTERIC **4** : constructed so as to elude observation or detection ⟨a ~ panel⟩ **5** : containing information whose unauthorized disclosure could endanger national security — compare CONFIDENTIAL, TOP SECRET — **se·cret·ly** *adv*

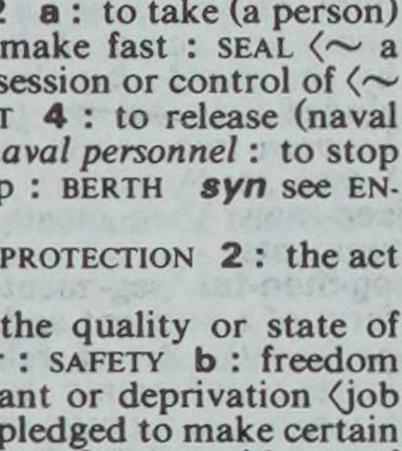
syn SECRET, COVERT, STEALTHY, FURTIVE, CLANDESTINE, SURREPTITIOUS, UNDERHAND, UNDERHANDED *shared meaning element* : existing or done in such a way as to elude attention or observation

2secret *n* **1 a** : something kept hidden or unexplained : MYSTERY **b** : something kept from the knowledge of others or shared only confidentially with a few **c** : a method, formula, or process used in an art or a manufacturing operation and divulged only to those of one's own company or craft **d** *pl* : the practices or knowledge making up the shared discipline or culture of an esoteric society **2** : a prayer traditionally said inaudibly by the celebrant just before the preface of the mass **3** : something taken to be a specific or key to a desired end ⟨the ~ of longevity⟩ — **in secret** : in a private place or manner : in secrecy


secretary 4b

se·cre·ta·gogue \si-ˈkrēt-ə-ˌgäg\ *n* [*secretion* + *-agogue*] : a substance stimulating secretion (as by the stomach or pancreas)
sec·re·tar·i·at \ˌsek-rə-ˈter-ē-ət\ *n* [F *secrétariat*, fr. ML *secretariatus*, fr. *secretarius*] **1** : the office of secretary **2** : a secretarial corps; *specif* : the clerical staff of an organization **3** : the administrative department of a governmental organization
sec·re·tary \ˈsek-rə-ˌter-ē\ *n, pl* **-tar·ies** [ME *secretarie*, fr. ML *secretarius*, confidential employee, secretary, fr. L *secretum* secret, fr. neut. of *secretus*, pp.] **1** : one employed to handle correspondence and manage routine and detail work for a superior **2 a** : an officer of a business concern who may keep records of directors' and stockholders' meetings and of stock ownership and transfer and help supervise the company's legal interests **b** : an officer of an organization or society responsible for its records and correspondence **3** : an officer of state who superintends a government administrative department **4 a** : WRITING DESK, ESCRITOIRE **b** : a writing desk with a top section for books — **sec·re·tari·al** \ˌsek-rə-ˈter-ē-əl\ *adj* — **sec·re·tary·ship** \ˈsek-rə-ˌter-ē-ˌship\ *n*
secretary bird *n* [prob. fr. the resemblance of its crest to a bunch of quill pens stuck behind the ear] : a large long-legged African bird of prey (*Sagittarius serpentarius*) that feeds largely upon reptiles
secretary–general *n, pl* **secretaries–general** : a principal administrative officer
secret ballot *n* : AUSTRALIAN BALLOT
1se·crete \si-ˈkrēt\ *vt* **se·cret·ed; se·cret·ing** [back-formation fr. *secretion*] : to form and give off (a secretion)
2se·crete \si-ˈkrēt, ˈsē-krət\ *vt* **se·cret·ed; se·cret·ing** [alter. of obs. *secret*, fr. *1secret*] **1** : to deposit or conceal in a hiding place **2** : to appropriate secretly : ABSTRACT ***syn*** see HIDE
se·cre·tin \si-ˈkrēt-ˀn\ *n* [*secretion* + *-in*] : an intestinal hormone capable of stimulating the pancreas and liver to secrete
se·cre·tion \si-ˈkrē-shən\ *n* [F *sécrétion*, fr. L *secretion-*, *secretio* separation, fr. *secretus*, pp. of *secernere* to separate — more at SECRET] **1 a** : the process of segregating, elaborating, and releasing some material either functionally specialized (as saliva) or isolated for excretion (as urine) **b** : a product of secretion formed by an animal or plant; *esp* : one performing a specific useful function in the organism **2** [*2secrete*] : the act of hiding something : CONCEALMENT — **se·cre·tion·ary** \-shə-ˌner-ē\ *adj*
se·cre·tive \ˈsē-krət-iv, si-ˈkrēt-\ *adj* [back-formation fr. *secretiveness*, part trans. of F *secrétivité*] : disposed to secrecy : not open or outgoing in speech, activity, or purposes ***syn*** see SILENT ***ant*** frank — **se·cre·tive·ly** *adv* — **se·cre·tive·ness** *n*
se·cre·tor \si-ˈkrēt-ər\ *n* : an individual of blood group A, B, or AB who secretes the antigens characteristic of these blood groups in bodily fluids (as saliva)
se·cre·to·ry \si-ˈkrēt-ə-rē\ *adj* : of, relating to, or promoting secretion; *also* : produced by secretion
secret partner *n* : a partner whose membership in a partnership is kept secret from the public
secret police *n* : a police organization operating for the most part in secrecy and esp. for the political purposes of its government often with terroristic methods
secret service *n* **1** : a governmental service of a secret nature **2** *cap both Ss* : a division of the U.S. Treasury Department charged chiefly with the suppression of counterfeiting and the protection of the president
secret society *n* : any of various oath-bound societies often devoted to brotherhood, moral discipline, and mutual assistance
1sect \ˈsekt\ *n* [ME *secte*, fr. MF & LL & L; MF, group, sect, fr. LL *secta* organized ecclesiastical body, fr. L, way of life, class of persons, fr. *sequi* to follow] **1 a** : a dissenting or schismatic religious body; *esp* : one regarded as extreme or heretical **b** : a religious denomination **2** *archaic* : SEX ⟨so is all her ~ —Shak.⟩ **3 a** : a group adhering to a distinctive doctrine or to a leader **b** : PARTY **c** : FACTION
2sect *abbr* section; sectional
1-sect \ˌsekt\ *adj comb form* [L *sectus*, pp. of *secare* to cut — more at SAW] : cut : divided ⟨pinnati*sect*⟩
2-sect \ˌsekt, ˈsekt\ *vb comb form* [L *sectus*] : cut : divide ⟨bi*sect*⟩
1sec·tar·i·an \sek-ˈter-ē-ən\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or characteristic of a sect or sectarian **2** : limited in character or scope : PAROCHIAL — **sec·tar·i·an·ism** \-ē-ə-ˌniz-əm\ *n*
2sectarian *n* **1** : an adherent of a sect **2** : a narrow or bigoted person
sec·tar·i·an·ize \sek-ˈter-ē-ə-ˌnīz\ *vb* **-ized; -iz·ing** *vi* : to act as sectarians ~ *vt* : to make sectarian
sec·ta·ry \ˈsek-tə-rē\ *n, pl* **-ries** : a member of a sect
sec·tile \ˈsek-tˀl, -ˌtīl\ *adj* [L *sectilis*, fr. *sectus*] : capable of being severed by a knife with a smooth cut — **sec·til·i·ty** \sek-ˈtil-ət-ē\ *n*
1sec·tion \ˈsek-shən\ *n* [L *section-*, *sectio*, fr. *sectus*] **1 a** : the action or an instance of cutting or separating by cutting **b** : a part set off by or as if by cutting **2** : a distinct part or portion of a writing: as **a** : a subdivision of a chapter **b** : a division of a law **c** : a distinct component part of a newspaper **3 a** : the profile of something as it would appear if cut through by an intersecting plane **b** : the plane figure resulting from the cutting of a solid by a plane **4** : a natural subdivision of a taxonomic group **5** : a character § used in printing as a mark for the beginning of a section and as the fourth in series of the reference marks **6** : a piece of land one square mile in area forming one of the 36 subdivisions of a township **7** : a distinct part of a territorial or political area, community, or group of people **8 a** : a part that is, may be, or is viewed as separated ⟨chop the stalks into ~*s*⟩ ⟨the northern ~ of the route⟩ **b** : one segment of a fruit : CARPEL **9** : a basic military unit usu. having a special function **10** : a very thin slice (as of tissue) suitable for microscopic examination **11 a** : one of the classes formed by dividing the students taking a course **b** : one of the discussion groups into which a conference or organization is divided **12 a** : a division of a railroad sleeping car with an upper and a lower berth **b** : a part of a permanent railroad way under the care of a particular set of men **c** : one of two or more vehicles or trains which run on the same schedule **13** : one of several component parts that may be assembled or reassembled ⟨a bookcase in ~*s*⟩ **14** : a division of an orchestra composed of one class of instruments **15** : SIGNATURE 3b ***syn*** see PART
2section *vb* **sec·tioned; sec·tion·ing** \-sh(ə-)niŋ\ *vt* **1** : to cut or separate into sections **2** : to represent in sections ~ *vi* : to become cut or separated into parts
1sec·tion·al \ˈsek-shnəl, -shən-ˀl\ *adj* **1 a** : of or relating to a section **b** : local or regional rather than general in character ⟨~ interests⟩ **2** : consisting of or divided into sections ⟨~ furniture⟩ — **sec·tion·al·ly** \-ē\ *adv*

²sectional *n* : a piece of furniture made up of modular units capable of use separately or in various combinations
sec·tion·al·ism \'sek-shnə-ˌliz-əm, -shən-ᵊl-ˌiz-\ *n* : an exaggerated devotion to the interests of a region
Section Eight *n* [*Section VIII*, Army Regulation 615-360, in effect from December 1922 to July 1944] **1** : a discharge from the U.S. Army for military inaptitude or undesirable habits or traits of character **2** : a soldier discharged for military inaptitude or undesirable habits or traits of character
section gang *n* : a crew of track workers employed to maintain a railroad section
section hand *n* : a laborer belonging to a section gang
¹sec·tor \'sek-tər, -ˌtȯ(ə)r\ *n* [LL, fr. L, cutter, fr. *sectus*, pp. of *secare* to cut — more at SAW] **1 a** : a geometrical figure bounded by two radii and the included arc of a circle **b** (1) : a subdivision of a defensive military position (2) : a portion of a military front or area of operation **2** : a mathematical instrument consisting of two rulers connected at one end by a joint and marked with several scales **3** : a distinctive part (as of an economy)
²sec·tor \-tər\ *vt* **sec·tored; sec·tor·ing** \-t(ə-)riŋ\ : to divide into or furnish with sectors
sec·to·ri·al \sek-'tōr-ē-əl, -'tȯr-\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or having the shape of a sector of a circle **2** *of a chimera* : having a sector of variant growth interposed in an otherwise normal body of tissue
¹sec·u·lar \'sek-yə-lər\ *adj* [ME, fr. OF *seculer*, fr. LL *saecularis*, fr. L, coming once in an age, fr. *saeculum* breed, generation; akin to L *serere* to sow — more at SOW] **1 a** : of or relating to the worldly or temporal ⟨~ concerns⟩ **b** : not overtly or specif. religious ⟨~ music⟩ **c** : not ecclesiastical or clerical ⟨~ courts⟩ ⟨~ landowners⟩ **2** : not bound by monastic vows or rules; *specif* : of, relating to, or forming clergy not belonging to a religious order or congregation ⟨a ~ priest⟩ **3 a** : occurring once in an age or a century **b** : existing or continuing through ages or centuries **c** : of or relating to a long term of indefinite duration — **sec·u·lar·i·ty** \ˌsek-yə-'lar-ət-ē\ *n* — **sec·u·lar·ly** \'sek-yə-lər-lē\ *adv*
²secular *n, pl* **seculars** *or* **secular** **1** : a secular ecclesiastic (as a parish priest) **2** : LAYMAN
sec·u·lar·ism \'sek-yə-lə-ˌriz-əm\ *n* : indifference to or rejection or exclusion of religion and religious considerations — **sec·u·lar·ist** \-rəst\ *n* — **secularist** *or* **sec·u·lar·is·tic** \ˌsek-yə-lə-'ris-tik\ *adj*
sec·u·lar·ize \'sek-yə-lə-ˌrīz\ *vt* **-ized; -iz·ing** **1** : to make secular **2** : to transfer from ecclesiastical to civil or lay use, possession, or control **3** : to convert to or imbue with secularism — **sec·u·lar·iza·tion** \ˌsek-yə-lə-rə-'zā-shən\ *n* — **sec·u·lar·iz·er** *n*
se·cund \si-'kənd, 'sē-ˌ\ *adj* [L *secundus* following — more at SECOND] : having some part or element arranged on one side only : UNILATERAL ⟨~ racemes⟩
¹se·cure \si-'kyu̇(ə)r\ *adj* **se·cur·er; -est** [L *securus* safe, secure, fr. *se* without + *cura* care — more at IDIOT, CURE] **1 a** *archaic* : unwisely free from fear or distrust : OVERCONFIDENT **b** : easy in mind : CONFIDENT **c** : assured in opinion or expectation : having no doubt **2 a** : free from danger **b** : free from risk of loss **c** : affording safety : INVIOLABLE ⟨a ~ hideaway⟩ **d** : TRUSTWORTHY, DEPENDABLE ⟨~ foundation⟩ **3** : ASSURED, CERTAIN ⟨~ victory⟩ ***syn*** see SAFE ***ant*** precarious, dangerous — **se·cure·ly** *adv* — **se·cure·ness** *n*
²secure *vb* **se·cured; se·cur·ing** *vt* **1 a** : to relieve from exposure to danger : act to make safe against adverse contingencies ⟨he locked the door to ~ them from interruption⟩ ⟨~ a supply line from enemy raids⟩ **b** : to put beyond hazard of losing or of not receiving : GUARANTEE ⟨~ the blessings of liberty —*U.S. Constitution*⟩ **c** : to give pledge of payment to (a creditor) or of (an obligation) ⟨~ a note by a pledge of collateral⟩ **2 a** : to take (a person) into custody : hold fast : PINION **b** : to make fast : SEAL ⟨~ a door⟩ **3 a** : to get secure usu. lasting possession or control of ⟨~ employment⟩ **b** : to bring about : EFFECT **4** : to release (naval personnel) from work or duty ~ *vi* **1** *of naval personnel* : to stop work : go off duty **2** *of a ship* : to tie up : BERTH ***syn*** see ENSURE, GET — **se·cur·er** *n*
se·cure·ment \si-'kyu̇(ə)r-mənt\ *n* **1** *obs* : PROTECTION **2** : the act or process of securing
se·cu·ri·ty \si-'kyu̇r-ət-ē\ *n, pl* **-ties** **1** : the quality or state of being secure: as **a** : freedom from danger : SAFETY **b** : freedom from fear or anxiety **c** : freedom from want or deprivation ⟨job ~⟩ **2 a** : something given, deposited, or pledged to make certain the fulfillment of an obligation **b** : SURETY **3** : an evidence of debt or of ownership (as a stock certificate or bond) **4 a** : something that secures : PROTECTION **b** (1) : measures taken to guard against espionage or sabotage, crime, attack, or escape (2) : an organization or department whose task is security
security blanket *n* **1** : a blanket carried by a child as a protection against anxiety **2** : a usu. familiar object whose presence dispels anxiety
Security Council *n* : a permanent council of the United Nations having primary responsibility for the maintenance of peace and security
security interest *n* : the rights that a creditor has in the personal property of a debtor that secures an obligation : LIEN
security police *n* **1** : police engaged in counterespionage **2** : AIR POLICE
secy *abbr* secretary
sed *abbr* sediment; sedimentation
se·dan \si-'dan\ *n* [origin unknown] **1** : a portable often covered chair that is designed to carry one person and that is borne on poles by two men **2 a** : an enclosed automobile seating four to seven persons including the driver and having a single compartment, two or four doors, and a permanent top **b** : a motorboat having one passenger compartment



sedan 1

¹se·date \si-'dāt\ *adj* [L *sedatus*, fr. pp. of *sedare* to calm; akin to *sedēre* to sit — more at SIT] : keeping a quiet steady attitude or pace : UNRUFFLED ***syn*** see SERIOUS ***ant*** flighty — **se·date·ly** *adv* — **se·date·ness** *n*
²sedate *vt* **se·dat·ed; se·dat·ing** [back-formation fr. *sedative*] : to dose with sedatives
se·da·tion \si-'dā-shən\ *n* **1** : the inducing of a relaxed easy state esp. by the use of sedatives **2** : a state resulting from or like that resulting from sedation
¹sed·a·tive \'sed-ət-iv\ *adj* : tending to calm, moderate, or tranquilize nervousness or excitement
²sedative *n* : a sedative agent or drug
sed·en·tary \'sed-ᵊn-ˌter-ē\ *adj* [MF *sedentaire*, fr. L *sedentarius*, fr. *sedent-, sedens*, prp. of *sedēre* to sit] **1** : not migratory : SETTLED ⟨~ birds⟩ **2** : doing or requiring much sitting **3** : permanently attached ⟨~ barnacles⟩
se·der \'sād-ər\ *n, often cap* [Heb *sēdher* order] : a Jewish home or community service including a ceremonial dinner held on the first evening of the Passover and repeated on the second by Orthodox Jews except in Israel in commemoration of the exodus from Egypt
se·de·runt \sə-'dir-ənt, -'der-\ *n* [L, there sat (fr. *sedēre* to sit), word used to introduce list of those attending a session — more at SIT] : a prolonged sitting (as for discussion)
sedge \'sej\ *n* [ME *segge*, fr. OE *secg;* akin to MHG *segge* sedge, OE *sagu* saw — more at SAW] : any of a family (Cyperaceae, the sedge family) of usu. tufted marsh plants differing from the related grasses in having achenes and solid stems; *esp* : any of a cosmopolitan genus (*Carex*) — **sedgy** \'sej-ē\ *adj*
se·di·lia \sə-'dēl-yə, -'dil-, *esp Brit* -'dīl-\ *n pl* [L, pl. of *sedile* seat, fr. *sedēre*] : seats on the south side of the chancel for the celebrant, deacon, and subdeacon
¹sed·i·ment \'sed-ə-mənt\ *n* [MF, fr. L *sedimentum* settling, fr. *sedēre* to sit, sink down] **1** : the matter that settles to the bottom of a liquid **2** : material deposited by water, wind, or glaciers
²sed·i·ment \-ˌment\ *vt* : to deposit as sediment ~ *vi* **1** : to settle to the bottom in a liquid **2** : to deposit sediment
sed·i·men·ta·ry \ˌsed-ə-'ment-ə-rē, -'men-trē\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or containing sediment ⟨~ deposits⟩ **2** : formed by or from deposits of sediment
sedimentary rock *n* : rock formed of mechanical, chemical, or organic sediment: as **a** : rock (as sandstone or shale) formed of fragments transported from their source and deposited elsewhere by water **b** : rock (as rock salt or gypsum) formed by precipitation or solution **c** : rock (as limestone) formed from inorganic remains (as shells and skeletons) of organisms
sed·i·men·ta·tion \ˌsed-ə-mən-'tā-shən, -ˌmen-\ *n* : the action or process of forming or depositing sediment : SETTLING
sed·i·men·tol·o·gy \ˌsed-ə-mən-'täl-ə-jē, -ˌmen-\ *n* : a branch of science that deals with sedimentary rocks and their inclusions — **sed·i·men·to·log·ic** \-ˌment-ᵊl-'äj-ik\ *or* **sed·i·men·to·log·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj* — **sed·i·men·to·log·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **sed·i·men·tol·o·gist** \-mən-'täl-ə-jəst, -ˌmen-\ *n*
se·di·tion \si-'dish-ən\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *sedition-, seditio*, lit., separation, fr. *se-* apart + *ition-, itio* act of going, fr. *itus*, pp. of *ire* to go — more at SECEDE, ISSUE] : incitement of resistance to or insurrection against lawful authority
se·di·tious \si-'dish-əs\ *adj* **1** : disposed to arouse or take part in or guilty of sedition **2** : of, relating to, or tending toward sedition — **se·di·tious·ly** *adv* — **se·di·tious·ness** *n*
se·duce \si-'d(y)üs\ *vt* **se·duced; se·duc·ing** [LL *seducere*, fr. L, to lead away, fr. *se-* apart + *ducere* to lead — more at TOW] **1** : to persuade to disobedience or disloyalty **2** : to lead astray usu. by persuasion or false promises **3** : to carry out the physical seduction of **4** : ATTRACT ***syn*** see LURE — **se·duc·er** *n*
se·duce·ment \-'d(y)ü-smənt\ *n* **1** : SEDUCTION **2** : something that serves to seduce
se·duc·tion \si-'dək-shən\ *n* [MF, fr. LL *seduction-, seductio*, fr. L, act of leading aside, fr. *seductus*, pp. of *seducere*] **1** : the act of seducing to wrong; *specif* : the enticement of a female to unlawful sexual intercourse without use of force **2** : something that seduces : TEMPTATION **3** : something that attracts or charms
se·duc·tive \-'dək-tiv\ *adj* : tending to seduce : having alluring or tempting qualities ⟨a ~ woman⟩ ⟨a ~ spring morning⟩ — **se·duc·tive·ly** *adv* — **se·duc·tive·ness** *n*
se·duc·tress \-'dək-trəs\ *n* [obs. *seductor* male seducer, fr. LL, fr. *seductus*, pp. of *seducere* to seduce] : a female seducer
se·du·li·ty \si-'d(y)ü-lət-ē\ *n* : sedulous activity : DILIGENCE
sed·u·lous \'sej-ə-ləs\ *adj* [L *sedulus*, fr. *sedulo* sincerely, diligently, fr. *se* without + *dolus* guile — more at IDIOT, TALE] **1** : involving or accomplished with careful perseverance ⟨~ craftsmanship⟩ **2** : diligent in application or pursuit ⟨a ~ student⟩ ***syn*** see BUSY — **sed·u·lous·ly** *adv* — **sed·u·lous·ness** *n*
se·dum \'sēd-əm\ *n* [NL, genus name, fr. L, houseleek] : any of a genus (*Sedum*) of fleshy widely distributed herbs of the orpine family : STONECROP
¹see \'sē\ *vb* **saw** \'sȯ\; **seen** \'sēn\; **see·ing** \'sē-iŋ\ [ME *seen*, fr. OE *sēon;* akin to OHG *sehan* to see, OE *secgan* to say — more at SAY] *vt* **1** : to perceive by the eye **2 a** : to have experience of : UNDERGO ⟨~ army service⟩ **b** : to come to know : DISCOVER **3 a** : to form a mental picture of : VISUALIZE ⟨can still ~ her as she was years ago⟩ **b** : to perceive the meaning or importance of : UNDERSTAND **c** : to be aware of : RECOGNIZE ⟨~*s* only his faults⟩ **d** : to imagine as a possibility : SUPPOSE ⟨couldn't ~ him as a crook⟩ **4 a** : EXAMINE, WATCH ⟨want to ~ how he handles the problem⟩ **b** (1) : READ (2) : to read of **c** : to attend as a spectator ⟨~ a play⟩ **5 a** : to take care of : provide for ⟨had enough money to ~ us through⟩ **b** : to make sure ⟨~ that order is kept⟩ **6 a** : to regard as : JUDGE **b** : to prefer to have ⟨I'll ~ him

hanged first〉 〈I'll ~ you dead before I accept your terms〉 **c** : to find acceptable or attractive 〈can't understand what he ~*s* in her〉 **7 a** : to call on : VISIT **b** (1) : to keep company with esp. in courtship or dating 〈had been ~*ing* each other for a year〉 (2) : to grant an interview to : RECEIVE 〈the president will ~ you〉 **8** : ACCOMPANY, ESCORT 〈~ the girls home〉 **9** : to meet (a bet) in poker or to equal the bet of (a player) : CALL ~ *vi* **1 a** : to give or pay attention **b** : to look about **2 a** : to have the power of sight **b** : to apprehend objects by sight **3** : to grasp something mentally **4** : to make investigation or inquiry

syn SEE, LOOK, WATCH *shared meaning element* : to perceive something by use of the eyes

— **see after** : to attend to : care for — **see eye to eye** : to have a common viewpoint : AGREE — **see things** : HALLUCINATE — **see through** : to grasp the true nature of 〈*saw through* his deceptions〉 — **see to** : to attend to : care for

²see *n* [ME *se*, fr. OF, fr. L *sedes* seat; akin to L *sedēre* to sit — more at SIT] **1 a** *archaic* : CATHEDRA **b** : a cathedral town **c** : a seat of a bishop's office, power, or authority **2** : the authority or jurisdiction of a bishop

see·able \'sē-ə-bəl\ *adj* : capable of being seen

¹seed \'sēd\ *n, pl* **seed** *or* **seeds** [ME, fr. OE *sǣd;* akin to OHG *sāt* seed, OE *sāwan* to sow — more at SOW] **1 a** (1) : the grains or ripened ovules of plants used for sowing (2) : the fertilized ripened ovule of a flowering plant containing an embryo and capable normally of germination to produce a new plant; *broadly* : a propagative plant structure (as a spore or small dry fruit) **b** : a propagative animal structure: (1) : MILT, SEMEN (2) : a small egg (as of an insect) (3) : a developmental form of a lower animal suitable for transplanting; *specif* : SPAT **c** : the condition or stage of bearing seed 〈in ~〉 **2** : PROGENY **3** : a source of development or growth : GERM 〈sowed the ~*s* of discord〉 **4** : something (as a tiny particle or a bubble in glass) that resembles a seed in shape or size **5** : a competitor who has been seeded in a tournament — **seed** *adj* — **seed·ed** \-əd\ *adj* — **seed·less** \-ləs\ *adj* — **seed·like** \-ˌlīk\ *adj* — **go to seed** *or* **run to seed** **1** : to develop seed **2** : DECAY

²seed *vi* **1** : to sow seed : PLANT **2** : to bear or shed seed ~ *vt* **1 a** : to plant seeds in : SOW 〈~ land to grass〉 **b** : to furnish with something that causes or stimulates growth or development **c** : INOCULATE **d** : to supply with nuclei (as of crystallization or condensation); *esp* : to treat (a cloud) with solid particles to convert water droplets into ice crystals in an attempt to produce precipitation **2** : PLANT 1a **3** : to extract the seeds from (as raisins) **4 a** : to schedule (tournament players or teams) so that superior ones will not meet in early rounds **b** : to rank (a contestant) relative to others in a tournament on the basis of previous record 〈the top-*seeded* tennis star〉

seed·bed \'sēd-ˌbed\ *n* **1** : soil or a bed of soil prepared for planting seed **2** : a place or source of growth or development

seed·cake \-ˌkāk\ *n* **1** : a cake or cookie containing aromatic seeds (as sesame or caraway) **2** : OIL CAKE

seed coat *n* : an outer protective covering of a seed

seed·eat·er \'sēd-ˌēt-ər\ *n* : a bird (as a finch) whose diet consists basically of seeds — called also *hard-bill*

seed·er \'sēd-ər\ *n* **1** : an implement for planting or sowing seeds **2** : a device for seeding fruit **3** : one that seeds clouds

seed fern *n* : any of an order (Cycadofilicales) of extinct plants with foliage like that of ferns and with naked seeds

seed leaf *n* : COTYLEDON 2

seed·ling \'sēd-liŋ\ *n* **1** : a plant grown from seed **2** : a young plant: as **a** : a tree smaller than a sapling **b** : a nursery plant not yet transplanted — **seedling** *adj*

seed money *n* : money used for setting up a new enterprise

seed oyster *n* : a young oyster esp. of a size for transplantation

seed pearl *n* **1** : a very small and often irregular pearl **2** : minute pearls imbedded in some binding material

seed plant *n* : a plant that bears seeds; *specif* : SPERMATOPHYTE

seed·pod \'sēd-ˌpäd\ *n* : ²POD 1

seeds·man \'sēdz-mən\ *n* **1** : one who sows seeds **2** : a dealer in seeds

seed stock *n* : a supply (as of seed) for planting; *broadly* : a source of new individuals 〈a *seed stock* of trout in the streams〉

seed tick *n* : the 6-legged larva of a tick

seed·time \'sēd-ˌtīm\ *n* **1** : the season of sowing **2** : a period of original development

seed vessel *n* : PERICARP

seedy \'sēd-ē\ *adj* **seed·i·er; -est** **1 a** : containing or full of seeds 〈a ~ fruit〉 **b** : containing many small similar inclusions 〈glass ~ with air bubbles〉 **2** : inferior in condition or quality: as **a** : SHABBY, RUN-DOWN 〈~ clothes〉 **b** : somewhat disreputable : SQUALID 〈a ~ district〉 〈~ entertainment〉 **c** : slightly unwell : DEBILITATED 〈felt ~ and went home early〉 — **seed·i·ly** \'sēd-ᵊl-ē\ *adv* — **seed·i·ness** \'sēd-ē-nəs\ *n*

see·ing \'sē-iŋ\ *conj* : inasmuch as

Seeing Eye *trademark* — used for a guide dog trained to lead the blind

seek \'sēk\ *vb* **sought** \'sȯt\; **seek·ing** [ME *seken*, fr. OE *sēcan;* akin to OHG *suohhen* to seek, L *sagire* to perceive keenly, Gk *hēgeisthai* to lead] *vt* **1** : to resort to : go to **2 a** : to go in search of : look for **b** : to try to discover **3** : to ask for : REQUEST 〈~*s* advice〉 **4** : to try to acquire or gain : aim at 〈~ fame〉 **5** : to make an attempt : TRY — used with an infinitive 〈governments . . . ~ to keep the bulk of their people contented —D. M. Potter〉 ~ *vi* **1** : to make a search or inquiry **2 a** : to be sought **b** : to be lacking 〈in critical judgment . . . they were sadly to ~ — *Times Lit. Supp.*〉 — **seek·er** *n*

seel \'sē(ə)l\ *vt* [alter. of ME *silen*, fr. MF *siller*, fr. ML *ciliare*, fr. L *cilium* eyelid] **1** : to close the eyes of (as a hawk) by drawing threads through the eyelids **2** *archaic* : to close up (one's eyes)

see·ly \'sē-lē\ *adj* [ME *sely* — more at SILLY] *archaic* : pitiable esp. because of weak physical or mental condition : FRAIL

seem \'sēm\ *vi* [ME *semen*, of Scand origin; akin to ON *sōma* to beseem, *samr* same — more at SAME] **1** : to give the impression of being **2** : to appear to the observation or understanding

syn SEEM, LOOK, APPEAR *shared meaning element* : to give the impression of being as stated without necessarily being so in fact

¹seem·ing *n* : external appearance as distinguished from true character : LOOK

²seeming *adj* : having an often deceptive or delusive appearance on superficial examination 〈their wealth gave them a ~ security〉 ***syn*** see APPARENT — **seem·ing·ly** \'sē-miŋ-lē\ *adv*

seem·ly \'sēm-lē\ *adj* **seem·li·er; -est** [ME *semely*, fr. ON *sæmiligr*, fr. *sæmr* becoming; akin to ON *sōma* to beseem] **1 a** : good-looking : HANDSOME **b** : agreeably fashioned : ATTRACTIVE **2** : conventionally proper : DECOROUS **3** : suited to the occasion, purpose, or person : FIT — **seem·li·ness** *n* — **seemly** *adv*

¹seep \'sēp\ *vi* [alter. of earlier *sipe*, fr. ME *sipen*, fr. OE *sipian;* akin to MLG *sipen* to seep] : to flow or pass slowly through fine pores or small openings : OOZE 〈water ~*ed* in through a crack〉

²seep *n* **1 a** : a spot where a fluid (as water, oil, or gas) contained in the ground oozes slowly to the surface and often forms a pool **b** : a small spring **2** : SEEPAGE — **seepy** \'sē-pē\ *adj*

seep·age \'sē-pij\ *n* **1** : the process of seeping : OOZING **2** : a quantity of fluid that has seeped (as through porous material)

¹seer \'si(ə)r, *esp for 1 also* 'sē-ər\ *n* **1** : one that sees **2 a** : one that predicts events or developments **b** : a person credited with extraordinary moral and spiritual insight **3** : one that practices divination esp. by concentrating on a glass or crystal globe

²seer \'si(ə)r\ *n, pl* **seers** *or* **seer** [Hindi *ser*] **1** : any of various Indian units of weight; *esp* : a unit equal to 2.057 pounds **2** : an Afghan unit of weight equal to 15.6 pounds

seer·ess \'si(ə)r-əs\ *n* : a female seer : PROPHETESS

seer·sucker \'si(ə)r-ˌsək-ər\ *n* [Hindi *śīrśaker*, fr. Per *shīr-o-shakar*, lit., milk and sugar] : a light fabric of linen, cotton, or rayon usu. striped and slightly puckered

¹see·saw \'sē-ˌsȯ\ *n* [prob. fr. redupl. of ³*saw*] **1** : an alternating up-and-down or backward-and-forward motion or movement; *also* : a contest or struggle in which now one side now the other has the lead **2 a** : a pastime in which two children or groups of children ride on opposite ends of a plank balanced in the middle so that one end goes up as the other goes down **b** : the plank or apparatus so used — **seesaw** *adj*

²seesaw *vi* **1 a** : to move backward and forward or up and down **b** : to play at seesaw **2** : ALTERNATE ~ *vt* : to cause to move in seesaw fashion

¹seethe \'sēth\ *vb* **seethed; seeth·ing** [ME *sethen*, fr. OE *sēothan;* akin to OHG *siodan* to seethe, Lith *siausti* to rage] *vt* **1** *archaic* : BOIL, STEW **2** : to soak or saturate in a liquid ~ *vi* **1** *archaic* : BOIL **2 a** : to be in a state of rapid agitated movement **b** : to churn or foam as if boiling **3** : to suffer violent internal excitement

²seethe *n* : a state of seething : EBULLITION

seeth·ing *adj* **1** : intensely hot : BOILING 〈a ~ inferno〉 **2** : constantly moving or active : AGITATED

see–through \'sē-ˌthrü\ *adj* : TRANSPARENT

seg·e·tal \'sej-ət-ᵊl\ *adj* [LL *segetalis*, fr. L *seget-, seges* field of grain, crop] : growing in fields of grain

¹seg·ment \'seg-mənt\ *n* [L *segmentum*, fr. *secare* to cut — more at SAW] **1 a** : a separate piece of something : BIT, FRAGMENT 〈chop the stalks into short ~*s*〉 **b** : one of the constituent parts into which a body, entity, or quantity is divided or marked off by or as if by natural boundaries 〈all ~*s* of the population agree〉 **2** : a portion cut off from a geometrical figure by one or more points, lines, or planes: as **a** : the part of a circular area bounded by a chord and an arc of that circle or so much of the area as is cut off by the chord **b** : the part of a sphere cut off by a plane or included between two parallel planes **c** : the finite part of a line between two points in the line ***syn*** see PART — **seg·men·tary** \-mən-ˌter-ē\ *adj*

²seg·ment \'seg-ˌment\ *vt* : to separate into segments : give off as segments

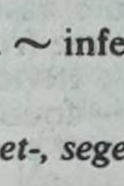
seg·men·tal \seg-'ment-ᵊl\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or having the form of a segment and esp. the sector of a circle 〈~ fanlight〉 〈~ pediment〉 **2** : of, relating to, or composed of somites or metameres : METAMERIC **3 a** : divided into segments 〈~ knowledge〉 **b** : PARTIAL, INCOMPLETE **c** : resulting from segmentation — **seg·men·tal·ly** \-ᵊl-ē\ *adv*

seg·men·ta·tion \ˌseg-mən-'tā-shən, -ˌmen-\ *n* : the process of dividing into segments; *esp* : the formation of many cells from a single cell (as in a developing egg)

segmentation cavity *n* : BLASTOCOEL

seg·ment·ed \'seg-ˌment-əd, seg-'\ *adj* : divided into or composed of segments or sections 〈~ worms〉

se·gno \'sān-(ˌ)yō\ *n, pl* **segnos** [It, sign, fr. L *signum*] : a notational sign; *specif* : the sign that marks the beginning or end of a musical repeat


segno

sego lily \ˌsē-(ˌ)gō-\ *n* [*sego* (the bulb of the sego lily), fr. Paiute] : a western No. American perennial herb (*Calochortus nuttallii*) of the lily family with bell-shaped flowers white within and largely green without

seg·re·gant \'seg-ri-gənt\ *n* : SEGREGATE

¹seg·re·gate \'seg-ri-ˌgāt\ *vb* **-gat·ed; -gat·ing** [L *segregatus*, pp. of *segregare*, fr. *se-* apart + *greg-, grex* herd — more at SECEDE, GREGARIOUS] *vt* **1** : to separate or set apart from others or from the general mass : ISOLATE **2** : to cause or force the separation of (as from the rest of society) ~ *vi* **1** : SEPARATE, WITHDRAW **2** : to practice or enforce a policy of segregation **3** : to undergo genetic segregation — **seg·re·ga·tive** \-ˌgāt-iv\ *adj*

²seg·re·gate \'seg-ri-gət, -ˌgāt\ *n* : one that is in some respect segregated; *esp* : one that differs genetically from the parental line because of genetic segregation

seg·re·gat·ed *adj* **1 a** : set apart or separated from others of the same kind or group 〈a ~ account in a bank〉 **b** : divided in facilities or administered separately for members of different groups or races 〈~ education〉 **c** : restricted to members of one group or

one race by a policy of segregation ⟨~ schools⟩ **2** : practicing or maintaining segregation esp. of races ⟨~ states⟩

seg·re·ga·tion \ˌseg-ri-ˈgā-shən\ *n* **1** : the act or process of segregating : the state of being segregated **2 a** : the separation or isolation of a race, class, or ethnic group by enforced or voluntary residence in a restricted area, by barriers to social intercourse, by separate educational facilities, or by other discriminatory means **b** : the separation for special treatment or observation of individuals or items from a larger group ⟨~ of gifted children into accelerated classes⟩ ⟨~ of incorrigibles at a prison⟩ **3** : the separation of allelic genes that occurs typically during meiosis

seg·re·ga·tion·ist \-sh(ə-)nəst\ *n* : a person who believes in or practices segregation esp. of races — **segregationist** *adj*

[1]se·gue \ˈsāg-(ˌ)wā, ˈseg-\ *vb imper* [It, there follows, fr. *seguire* to follow, fr. L *sequi* — more at SUE] **1** : proceed to what follows without pause — used as a direction in music **2** : perform the music that follows like that which has preceded — used as a direction in music

[2]segue *vi* **se·gued; se·gue·ing** : to proceed without pause from one musical number or theme to another

[3]segue *n* : a transition from one musical number to another

se·gui·di·lla \ˌseg-ə-ˈdē-(y)ə, -ˈdēl-yə\ *n* [Sp] **1** : a Spanish stanza of four or seven short partly assonant verses **2 a** : a Spanish dance with many regional variations **b** : the music for such a dance

sei \ˈsā, ˈsī\ *n* [short for *sei whale*, part trans. of Norw *seihval*, fr. *sei* coalfish + *hval* whale; fr. its habit of following the coalfish in search of food] : a common and widely distributed small white-spotted rorqual (*Balaenopterus borealis*) — called also *sei whale*

sei·cen·to \sā-ˈchen-(ˌ)tō\ *n* [It, lit., six-hundred, fr. *sei* six (fr. L *sex*) + *cento* hundred — more at SIX, CINQUECENTO] : the 17th century; *specif* : the 17th century period in Italian literature and art

seiche \ˈsāsh, ˈsēch\ *n* [F] : an oscillation of the surface of a lake or landlocked sea that varies in period from a few minutes to several hours

sei·del \ˈsīd-ᵊl, ˈzīd-\ *n* [G, fr. L *situla* bucket] : a large glass for beer

Seid·litz powders \ˈsed-ləts-\ *n pl* [*Sedlitz*, Bohemia, Czechoslovakia; fr. the similarity of their effect to that of the water of the village] : effervescing salts consisting of one powder of sodium bicarbonate and Rochelle salt and another of tartaric acid that are mixed in water and drunk as a mild cathartic

sei·gneur \sān-ˈyər\ *n, often cap* [MF, fr. ML *senior*, fr. L, adj., elder — more at SENIOR] : LORD, SEIGNIOR

sei·gneur·ial \-ˈyůr-ē-əl, -ˈyər-\ *adj* : of, relating to, or befitting a seigneur

sei·gneury \ˈsān-yə-rē\ *n, pl* **-gneur·ies** **1 a** : the territory under the government of a feudal lord **b** : a landed estate held in Canada by feudal tenure until 1854 **2** : the manor house of a Canadian seigneur

sei·gnior \sān-ˈyȯ(ə)r, ˈsān-ˌ\ *n* [ME *seignour*, fr. MF *seigneur*] : a man of rank or authority; *esp* : the feudal lord of a manor

sei·gnior·age *or* **sei·gnor·age** \ˈsān-yə-rij\ *n* [ME *seigneurage*, fr. MF, right of the lord (esp. to coin money), fr. *seigneur*] : a government revenue from the manufacture of coins calculated as the difference between the face value and the metal value of the coins

sei·gniory *or* **sei·gnory** \ˈsān-yə-rē\ *n, pl* **-gnior·ies** *or* **-gnor·ies** **1** : LORDSHIP, DOMINION; *specif* : the power or authority of a feudal lord **2** : the territory over which a lord holds jurisdiction

sei·gno·ri·al \sān-ˈyōr-ē-əl, -ˈyȯr-\ *adj* : of, relating to, or befitting a seignior : MANORIAL

[1]seine \ˈsān\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *segne*; akin to OHG *segīna* seine; both fr. a prehistoric WGmc word borrowed fr. L *sagena* seine, fr. Gk *sagēnē*] : a large net with sinkers on one edge and floats on the other that hangs vertically in the water and is used to enclose fish when its ends are pulled together or are drawn ashore

[2]seine *vb* **seined; sein·ing** *vi* : to fish with or catch fish with a seine ~ *vt* : to fish for or in with a seine — **sein·er** *n*

sei·sin *or* **sei·zin** \ˈsēz-ᵊn\ *n* [ME *seisine*, fr. OF *saisine*, fr. *saisir* to seize — more at SEIZE] **1** : the possession of land or chattels **2** : the possession of a freehold estate in land by one having title thereto

seism \ˈsī-zəm\ *n* [Gk *seismos*] : EARTHQUAKE

seism- *or* **seismo-** *comb form* [Gk, fr. *seismos*] : earthquake : vibration ⟨*seismo*meter⟩

seis·mic \ˈsīz-mik, ˈsīs-\ *adj* [Gk *seismos* shock, earthquake, fr. *seiein* to shake; akin to Skt *tveṣati* he is violently moved] **1** : of, subject to, or caused by an earthquake; *also* : of or relating to an earth vibration caused by something else (as an explosion or the impact of a meteorite) **2** : of or relating to a vibration on a celestial body (as the moon) comparable to a seismic event on earth — **seis·mic·i·ty** \sīz-ˈmis-ət-ē, sīs-\ *n*

seis·mo·gram \ˈsīz-mə-ˌgram, ˈsīs-\ *n* [ISV] : the record of an earth tremor by a seismograph

seis·mo·graph \-ˌgraf\ *n* [ISV] : an apparatus to measure and record vibrations within the earth and of the ground — **seis·mog·ra·pher** \sīz-ˈmäg-rə-fər, sīs-\ *n* — **seis·mo·graph·ic** \ˌsīz-mə-ˈgraf-ik, ˌsīs-\ *adj* — **seis·mog·ra·phy** \sīz-ˈmäg-rə-fē, sīs-\ *n*

seis·mol·o·gy \sīz-ˈmäl-ə-jē, sīs-\ *n* [ISV] : a science that deals with earthquakes and with artificially produced vibrations of the earth — **seis·mo·log·i·cal** \ˌsīz-mə-ˈläj-i-kəl, ˌsīs-\ *adj* — **seis·mol·o·gist** \sīz-ˈmäl-ə-jəst, sīs-\ *n*

seis·mom·e·ter \sīz-ˈmäm-ət-ər, sīs-\ *n* : a seismograph measuring the actual movements of the ground (as on the earth or the moon) — **seis·mo·met·ric** \ˌsīz-mə-ˈme-trik, ˌsīs-\ *adj*

seis·mom·e·try \sīz-ˈmäm-ə-trē, sīs-\ *n* [ISV] : the scientific study of earthquakes

seize \ˈsēz\ *vb* **seized; seiz·ing** [ME *saisen*, fr. OF *saisir* to put in possession of, fr. ML *sacire*, of Gmc origin; akin to OHG *sezzen* to set — more at SET] *vt* **1 a** *usu* **seise** \ˈsēz\ : to vest ownership of a freehold estate in **b** *often* **seise** : to put in possession of something ⟨the biographer will be *seized* of all pertinent papers⟩ **2 a** : to take possession of : CONFISCATE **b** : to take possession of by legal process **3 a** : to possess or take by force : CAPTURE **b** : to take prisoner : ARREST **4 a** : to take hold of : CLUTCH **b** : to possess oneself of : GRASP **c** : to understand fully and distinctly : APPREHEND **5 a** : to attack or overwhelm physically : AFFLICT ⟨suddenly *seized* with an acute illness —H. G. Armstrong⟩ **b** : to possess (one's mind) completely or overwhelmingly ⟨*seized* the popular imagination —Basil Davenport⟩ **6** : to bind or fasten together with a lashing of small stuff (as yarn, marline, or fine wire) ~ *vi* **1** : to take or lay hold suddenly or forcibly **2 a** : to cohere to a relatively moving part through excessive pressure, temperature, or friction — used esp. of machine parts (as bearings, brakes, or pistons) **b** : to fail to operate due to the seizing of a part — used of an engine ***syn*** see TAKE — **seiz·er** *n*

seiz·ing *n* **1** : the operation of fastening together or lashing with tarred small stuff **2 a** : the cord or lashing used in seizing **b** : the fastening so made — see KNOT illustration

sei·zure \ˈsē-zhər\ *n* **1 a** : the act, action, or process of seizing : the state of being seized **b** : the taking possession of person or property by legal process **2** : a sudden attack (as of disease)

se·jant \ˈsē-jənt\ *adj* [modif. of MF *seant*, prp. of *seoir* to sit, fr. L *sedēre* — more at SIT] : SITTING — used of a heraldic animal

[1]sel \ˈsel\ *chiefly Scot var of* SELF

[2]sel *abbr* select; selected; selection

se·la·chi·an \sə-ˈlā-kē-ən\ *n* [deriv. of Gk *selachos* cartilaginous phosphorescent fish; akin to Gk *selas* brightness — more at SELENIUM] : any of a variously defined group (Selachii) of elasmobranch fishes that includes all the elasmobranchs or all elasmobranchs except the chimaeras, the existing sharks and rays or in its most restricted use the existing sharks as distinguished from the rays — **selachian** *adj*

se·lag·i·nel·la \sə-ˌlaj-ə-ˈnel-ə\ *n* [NL, genus name, fr. L *selagin-*, *selago*, a plant resembling the savin] : any of a genus (*Selaginella*) of mossy lower tracheophytes that have branching stems and scalelike leaves and produce one-celled sporangia containing both megaspores and microspores



selaginella

se·lah \ˈsē-lə, -ˌlä\ *interj* [Heb *selāh*] — a term of uncertain meaning found in the Hebrew text of the Psalms and Habakkuk carried over untranslated into some English versions

sel·couth \ˈsel-ˌküth\ *adj* [ME, fr. OE *seldcūth*, fr. *seldan* seldom + *cūth* known — more at UNCOUTH] *archaic* : UNUSUAL, STRANGE

[1]sel·dom \ˈsel-dəm\ *adv* [ME, fr. OE *seldan*; akin to OHG *seltan* seldom, L *sed*, *se* without — more at IDIOT] : in few instances : RARELY, INFREQUENTLY

[2]seldom *adj* : RARE, INFREQUENT

[1]se·lect \sə-ˈlekt\ *adj* [L *selectus*, pp. of *seligere* to select, fr. *se-* apart (fr. *sed*, *se* without) + *legere* to gather, select — more at LEGEND] **1** : chosen from a number or group by fitness or preference **2 a** : of special value or excellence : SUPERIOR, CHOICE **b** : exclusively or fastidiously chosen often with regard to social, economic, or cultural characteristics **3** : judicious or restrictive in choice : DISCRIMINATING ⟨pleased with the ~ appreciation of his books —Osbert Sitwell⟩ — **se·lect·ness** \sə-ˈlek(t)-nəs\ *n*

[2]select *n* : one that is select — often used in pl.

[3]select *vt* : to take by preference from a number or group : pick out : CHOOSE ~ *vi* : to make a choice

se·lect·ed *adj* : SELECT; *specif* : of a higher grade or quality than the ordinary

se·lect·ee \sə-ˌlek-ˈtē\ *n* : one inducted into military service under selective service

se·lec·tion \sə-ˈlek-shən\ *n* **1** : the act or process of selecting : the state of being selected **2** : one that is selected : CHOICE; *also* : a collection of selected things **3** : a natural or artificial process that results or tends to result in the survival and propagation of some individuals or organisms but not of others with the result that the inherited traits of the survivors are perpetuated

se·lec·tive \sə-ˈlek-tiv\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or characterized by selection : selecting or tending to select **2** : of, relating to, or constituting the ability of a radio circuit or apparatus to respond to a specific frequency without interference — **se·lec·tive·ly** *adv* — **se·lec·tive·ness** *n* — **se·lec·tiv·i·ty** \sə-ˌlek-ˈtiv-ət-ē, ˌsē-\ *n*

selective service *n* : a system under which men are called up for military service : DRAFT

se·lect·man \si-ˈlek(t)-ˌman, -ˌlek(t)-ˈman, -ˈlek(t)-mən; ˈsē-ˌlek(t)-ˌman\ *n* : one of a board of officials elected in towns of all New England states except Rhode Island to serve as the chief administrative authority of the town

se·lec·tor \sə-ˈlek-tər\ *n* : one that selects

[1]selen- *or* **seleno-** *comb form* [L *selen-*, fr. Gk *selēn-*, fr. *selēnē* — more at SELENIUM] : moon ⟨*seleni*um⟩ ⟨*seleno*graphy⟩

[2]selen- *or* **seleni-** *or* **seleno-** *comb form* [Sw, fr. NL *selenium*] : selenium ⟨*seleni*ferous⟩ ⟨*seleni*ous⟩

sel·e·nate \ˈsel-ə-ˌnāt\ *n* [Sw *selenat*, fr. *selen* selenic] : a salt or ester of selenic acid

se·le·nic \sə-ˈlēn-ik, -ˈlen-\ *adj* [Sw *selen*, fr. NL *selenium*] : of, relating to, or containing selenium esp. with a relatively high valence

selenic acid *n* : a strong acid H_2SeO_4 whose aqueous solution attacks gold and platinum

sel·e·nide \ˈsel-ə-ˌnīd\ *n* : a binary compound of selenium usu. with a more electropositive element or radical

sel·e·nif·er·ous \ˌsel-ə-'nif-(ə-)rəs\ *adj* [ISV] : containing or yielding selenium ⟨~ vegetation⟩ ⟨~ soils⟩
se·le·ni·ous \sə-'lē-nē-əs\ *adj* [ISV] : of, relating to, or containing selenium esp. with a relatively low valence
sel·e·nite \'sel-ə-ˌnīt\ *n* [L *selenites*, fr. Gk *selēnitēs* (*lithos*), lit., stone of the moon, fr. *selēnē*; fr. the belief that it waxed and waned with the moon] : a variety of gypsum occurring in transparent crystals or crystalline masses
se·le·ni·um \sə-'lē-nē-əm\ *n* [NL, fr. Gk *selēnē* moon; akin to Gk *selas* brightness, L *sol* sun — more at SOLAR] : a nonmetallic element that resembles sulfur and tellurium chemically, is obtained chiefly as a by-product in copper refining, and occurs in allotropic forms of which a gray stable form varies in electrical conductivity with the intensity of its illumination and is used in electronic devices — see ELEMENT table
selenium cell *n* : an insulated strip of selenium mounted with electrodes and used as a photoconductive element
se·le·no·cen·tric \sə-ˌlē-nə-'sen-trik\ *adj* [ISV] : of or relating to the center of the moon; *also* : referred to or involving the moon as a center
sel·e·nog·ra·phy \ˌsel-ə-'näg-rə-fē\ *n* **1** : the science of the physical features of the moon **2** : the physical geography of the moon — **sel·e·nog·ra·pher** \-fər\ *n* — **se·le·no·graph·ic** \ˌsel-ə-nō-'graf-ik, sə-ˌlē-nə-\ *adj* — **sel·e·nog·ra·phist** \ˌsel-ə-'näg-rə-fəst\ *n*
sel·e·nol·o·gy \ˌsel-ə-'näl-ə-jē\ *n* : a branch of astronomy that deals with the moon — **se·le·no·log·i·cal** \ˌsel-ə-nō-'läj-i-kəl, sə-ˌlēn-ᵊl-'äj-\ *adj* — **selenologist** *n*
sel·e·no·sis \ˌsel-ə-'nō-səs\ *n* [NL] : poisoning of livestock by selenium due to ingestion of plants grown in seleniferous soils
¹self \'self, *South also* 'sef\ *pron* [ME (intensive pron.), fr. OE; akin to OHG *selb*, intensive pron., L *sui* (reflexive pron.) of oneself — more at SUICIDE] : MYSELF, HIMSELF, HERSELF ⟨check payable to ~⟩
²self *adj* **1** *obs* : belonging to oneself : OWN **2** *obs* : IDENTICAL, SAME **3 a** : having a single character or quality throughout; *specif* : having one color only ⟨a ~ flower⟩ **b** : of the same kind (as in color, material, or pattern) as something with which it is used ⟨a ~ belt⟩ ⟨~ trimming⟩
³self *n, pl* **selves** \'selvz, *South also* 'sevz\ **1 a** : the entire person of an individual **b** : the realization or embodiment of an abstraction **2 a** (1) : an individual's typical character or behavior ⟨his true ~ was revealed⟩ (2) : an individual's temporary behavior or character ⟨his better ~⟩ **b** : a person in his best condition ⟨looked like his old ~⟩ **3** : the union of elements (as body, emotions, thoughts, and sensations) that constitute the individuality and identity of a person **4** : personal interest or advantage
⁴self *vt* **1** : INBREED **2** : to pollinate with pollen from the same flower or plant ~ *vi* : to undergo self-pollination
self- *comb form* [ME, fr. OE, fr. *self*] **1 a** : oneself or itself ⟨*self*-supporting⟩ **b** : of oneself or itself ⟨*self*-abasement⟩ **c** : by oneself or itself ⟨*self*-propelled⟩ ⟨*self*-acting⟩ **2 a** : to, with, for, or toward oneself or itself ⟨*self*-consistent⟩ ⟨*self*-addressed⟩ ⟨*self*-love⟩ **b** : of or in oneself or itself inherently ⟨*self*-evident⟩ **c** : from or by means of oneself or itself ⟨*self*-fertile⟩
self–aban·doned \ˌsel-fə-'ban-dənd\ *adj* : abandoned by oneself; *esp* : given up to one's impulses
self–aban·don·ment \-dən-mənt\ *n* **1** : a surrender of one's selfish interests or desires **2** : a lack of self-restraint
self–abase·ment \ˌsel-fə-'bā-smənt\ *n* : humiliation of oneself based on feelings of inferiority, guilt, or shame
self–ab·ne·gat·ing \'sel-'fab-ni-ˌgāt-iŋ\ *adj* : SELF-DENYING
self–ab·ne·ga·tion \ˌsel-ˌfab-ni-'gā-shən\ *n* : SELF-DENIAL
self–ab·sorbed \ˌsel-fəb-'sȯ(ə)rbd, -'zȯ(ə)rbd\ *adj* : absorbed in one's own thoughts, activities, or interests
self–ab·sorp·tion \-'sȯrp-shən, -'zȯrp-\ *n* : preoccupation with oneself
self–abuse \ˌsel-fə-'byüs\ *n* **1** : reproach of oneself **2** : MASTURBATION
self–ac·cu·sa·tion \ˌsel-ˌfak-yə-'zā-shən\ *n* : the act or an instance of accusing oneself
self–ac·cu·sa·to·ry \ˌsel-fə-'kyü-zə-ˌtōr-ē, -ˌtȯr-\ *adj* : SELF-ACCUSING
self–ac·cus·ing \-'kyü-ziŋ\ *adj* : acting or serving to accuse oneself
self–ac·quired \ˌsel-fə-'kwī(ə)rd\ *adj* : acquired by oneself
self–act·ing \'sel-'fak-tiŋ\ *adj* : acting or capable of acting of or by itself : AUTOMATIC
self–ac·tiv·i·ty \ˌsel-ˌfak-'tiv-ət-ē\ *n* : independent and esp. self-determined activity
self–ac·tu·al·ize \'sel-'fak-ch(ə-w)ə-ˌlīz, -'faksh-wə-\ *vi* : to realize fully one's potential — **self–ac·tu·al·iza·tion** \ˌsel-ˌfak-ch(ə-w)ə-lə-'zā-shən, -ˌfaksh-wə-\ *n* — **self–ac·tu·al·iz·er** \'sel-'fak-ch(ə-w)ə-ˌlī-zər, -'faksh-wə-\ *n*
self–ad·dressed \ˌsel-fə-'drest, 'sel-'fad-ˌrest\ *adj* : addressed for return to the sender ⟨a ~ envelope⟩
self–ad·just·ing \ˌsel-fə-'jəs-tiŋ\ *adj* : adjusting by itself
self–ad·just·ment \-'jəs(t)-mənt\ *n* : adjustment to oneself or one's environment
self–ad·min·is·tered \ˌsel-fəd-'min-ə-stərd\ *adj* : administered, managed, or dispensed by oneself
self–ad·mi·ra·tion \ˌsel-ˌfad-mə-'rā-shən\ *n* : SELF-CONCEIT
self–ad·vance·ment \ˌsel-fəd-'van(t)-smənt\ *n* : the act of advancing oneself
self–af·fect·ed \ˌsel-fə-'fek-təd\ *adj* : CONCEITED, SELF-LOVING
self–ag·gran·dize·ment \ˌsel-fə-'gran-dəz-mənt, -ˌdīz-; ˌsel-ˌfag-rən-'dīz-\ *n* : the act or process of making oneself greater
self–ag·gran·diz·ing \ˌsel-fə-'gran-ˌdī-ziŋ, 'sel-'fag-rən-\ *adj* : acting or seeking to make oneself greater
self–anal·y·sis \ˌsel-fə-'nal-ə-səs\ *n* : a systematic attempt by an individual to understand his own personality without the aid of another person
self–an·a·lyt·i·cal \ˌsel-ˌfan-ᵊl-'it-i-kəl\ *also* **self–an·a·lyt·ic** *adj* : using self-analysis
self–an·ni·hi·la·tion \ˌsel-fə-ˌnī-ə-ᵊlā-shən\ *n* : annihilation of the self (as in mystical contemplation of God)
self–ap·plaud·ing \ˌsel-fə-'plȯd-iŋ\ *adj* : marked by self-applause
self–ap·plause \-'plȯz\ *n* : an expression or feeling of approval of oneself
self–ap·point·ed \ˌsel-fə-'pȯint-əd\ *adj* : appointed by oneself usu. without warrant or qualifications ⟨a ~ guardian of public morals⟩
self–ap·pro·ba·tion \ˌsel-ˌfap-rə-'bā-shən\ *n* : satisfaction with one's actions and achievements
self–as·sert·ing \ˌsel-fə-'sərt-iŋ\ *adj* **1** : asserting oneself or one's own rights, claims, or opinions **2 a** : SELF-ASSURED, CONFIDENT **b** : ARROGANT — **self–as·sert·ing·ly** \-iŋ-lē\ *adv*
self–as·ser·tion \ˌsel-fə-'sər-shən\ *n* **1** : the act of asserting oneself or one's own rights, claims, or opinions **2** : the act of asserting one's superiority over others
self–as·sert·ive \-'sərt-iv\ *adj* : given to or characterized by self-assertion *syn* see AGGRESSIVE — **self–as·sert·ive·ly** *adv* — **self–as·sert·ive·ness** *n*
self–as·sump·tion \ˌsel-fə-'səm(p)-shən\ *n* : SELF-CONCEIT
self–as·sur·ance \ˌsel-fə-'shůr-ən(t)s\ *n* : SELF-CONFIDENCE
self–as·sured \-'shůr(ə)rd\ *adj* : sure of oneself : SELF-CONFIDENT — **self–as·sured·ly** \-'shůr-əd-lē, -'shů(ə)rd-\ *adv* — **self–as·sured·ness** \-'shůr-əd-nəs, -'shů(ə)rd-\ *n*
self–aware \ˌsel-fə-'wa(ə)r, -'we(ə)r\ *adj* : characterized by self-awareness
self–aware·ness *n* : an awareness of one's own personality or individuality
self–be·tray·al \ˌself-bi-'trā(-ə)l\ *n* : SELF-REVELATION
self–bind·er \'self-'bīn-dər\ *n* : a harvesting machine that cuts grain and binds it into bundles
self–born \-'bȯ(ə)rn\ *adj* **1** : arising within the self ⟨~ sorrows⟩ **2** : springing from a prior self ⟨phoenix rising ~ from the fire⟩
self–care \-'ke(ə)r, -'ka(ə)r\ *n* : care for oneself
self–cas·ti·ga·tion \ˌself-ˌkas-tə-'gā-shən\ *n* : SELF-PUNISHMENT
self–cen·tered \'self-'sent-ərd\ *adj* **1** : independent of outside force or influence : SELF-SUFFICIENT **2** : concerned solely with one's own desires, needs, or interests : SELFISH — **self–cen·tered·ly** *adv* — **self–cen·tered·ness** *n*
self–charg·ing \-'chär-jiŋ\ *adj* : that charges itself
self–clos·ing \-'klō-ziŋ\ *adj* : closing or shutting automatically after being opened
self–cock·ing \-'käk-iŋ\ *adj* : cocked by the operation of some part of the action ⟨~ on closing the bolt⟩
self–col·lect·ed \ˌself-kə-'lek-təd\ *adj* : SELF-POSSESSED
self–col·ored \'self-'kəl-ərd\ *adj* : of a single color ⟨a ~ flower⟩
self–com·mand \ˌself-kə-'mand\ *n* : control of one's own behavior and emotions : SELF-CONTROL
self–com·pat·i·ble \-kəm-'pat-ə-bəl\ *adj* : capable of effective self-pollination that results in the production of seeds and fruits — **self–com·pat·i·bil·i·ty** \-ˌpat-ə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n*
self–com·pla·cen·cy \-'plās-ᵊn-sē\ *n* : SELF-SATISFACTION
self–com·pla·cent \-ᵊnt\ *adj* : SELF-SATISFIED — **self–com·pla·cent·ly** *adv*
self–com·posed \ˌself-kəm-'pōzd\ *adj* : having control over one's emotions : CALM — **self–com·pos·ed·ly** \-'pō-zəd-lē\ *adv* — **self–com·posed·ness** \-'pō-zəd-nəs, -'pōz(d)-nəs\ *n*
self–con·ceit \ˌself-kən-'sēt\ *n* : an exaggerated opinion of one's own qualities or abilities : VANITY — **self–con·ceit·ed** \-əd\ *adj*
self–con·cept \'self-'kän-ˌsept\ *n* : the mental image one has of oneself
self–con·cep·tion \ˌself-kən-'sep-shən\ *n* : SELF-CONCEPT
self–con·cern \-'sərn\ *n* : a selfish or morbid concern for oneself — **self–con·cerned** \-'sərnd\ *adj*
self–con·dem·na·tion \ˌself-ˌkän-ˌdem-'nā-shən, -dəm-\ *n* : condemnation of one's own character or actions
self–con·demned \-kən-'demd\ *adj* : condemned by oneself
self–con·fessed \-'fest\ *adj* : openly acknowledged : AVOWED
self–con·fes·sion \-'fesh-ən\ *n* : open acknowledgment : AVOWAL
self–con·fi·dence \'self-'kän-fəd-ən(t)s, -fə-ˌden(t)s\ *n* : confidence in oneself and in one's powers and abilities — **self–con·fi·dent** \-fəd-ənt, -fə-ˌdent\ *adj* — **self–con·fi·dent·ly** *adv*
self–con·grat·u·la·tion \ˌself-kən-ˌgrach-ə-'lā-shən\ *n* : congratulation of oneself; *esp* : a complacent acknowledgment of one's own superiority or good fortune
self–con·grat·u·la·to·ry \-'grach-(ə-)lə-ˌtōr-ē, -ˌtȯr-\ *adj* : indulging in self-congratulation
self–con·scious \'self-'kän-chəs\ *adj* **1 a** : conscious of one's own acts or states as belonging to or originating in oneself : aware of oneself as an individual **b** : intensely aware of oneself : CONSCIOUS ⟨a rising and ~ social class⟩; *also* : produced or done with such awareness ⟨~ art⟩ **2** : uncomfortably conscious of oneself as an object of the observation of others : ill at ease — **self–con·scious·ly** *adv* — **self–con·scious·ness** *n*
self–con·se·cra·tion \ˌself-ˌkän(t)-sə-'krā-shən\ *n* : the act or an instance of consecrating oneself
self–con·se·quence \'self-'kän(t)-sə-ˌkwen(t)s, -si-kwən(t)s\ *n* : SELF-IMPORTANCE
self–con·sis·ten·cy \ˌself-kən-'sis-tən-sē\ *n* : the quality or state of being self-consistent
self–con·sis·tent \-tənt\ *adj* : having each part logically consistent with the rest
self–con·sti·tut·ed \'self-'kän(t)-stə-ˌt(y)üt-əd\ *adj* : constituted by oneself or itself
self–con·tained \ˌself-kən-'tānd\ *adj* **1 a** : complete in itself : INDEPENDENT ⟨a ~ machine⟩ ⟨a ~ program of study⟩ **b** : BUILT-IN ⟨a lectern with a ~ light fixture⟩ **2 a** : showing self-command **b** : formal and reserved in manner — **self–con·tained·ly** \-'tā-nəd-lē, -'tān-dlē\ *adv* — **self–con·tained·ness** \-'tā-nəd-nəs, -'tān(d)-nəs\ *n* — **self–con·tain·ment** \-'tān-mənt\ *n*
self–con·tam·i·na·tion \ˌself-kən-ˌtam-ə-'nā-shən\ *n* **1** : contamination by oneself **2** : contamination from within
self–con·tem·pla·tion \ˌself-ˌkänt-əm-'plā-shən, -ˌkän-ˌtem-\ *n* : the act or an instance of contemplating oneself
self–con·tempt \ˌself-kən-'tem(p)t\ *n* : contempt for oneself
self–con·tent \-'tent\ *n* : SELF-SATISFACTION
self–con·tent·ed \-əd\ *adj* : SELF-SATISFIED — **self–con·tent·ed·ly** *adv* — **self–con·tent·ed·ness** *n*

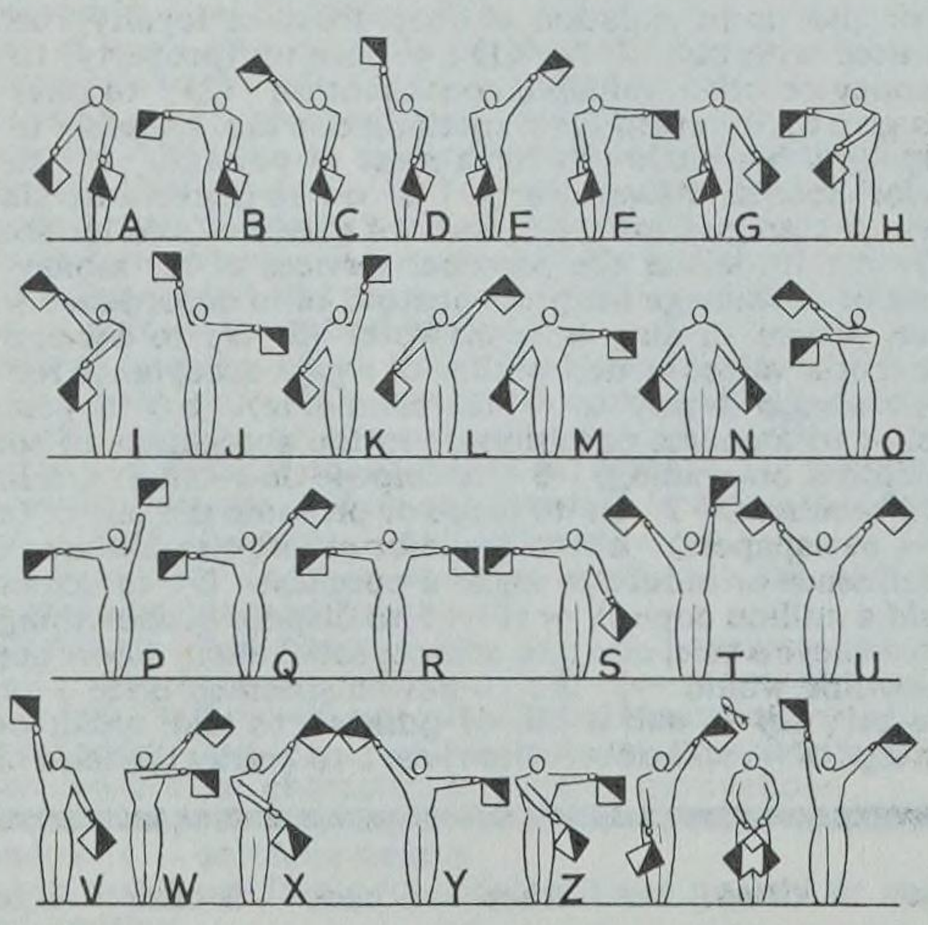
self–con·tent·ment \-'tent-mənt\ *n* : SELF-SATISFACTION
self–con·tra·dic·tion \ˌself-ˌkän-trə-'dik-shən\ *n* **1** : contradiction of oneself **2** : a self-contradictory statement or proposition
self–con·tra·dic·to·ry \-'dik-t(ə-)rē\ *adj* : consisting of two contradictory members or parts
self–con·trol \ˌself-kən-'trōl\ *n* : restraint exercised over one's own impulses, emotions, or desires — **self–con·trolled** \-'trōld\ *adj*
self–cor·rect·ing \ˌself-kə-'rek-tiŋ\ *adj* : correcting or compensating for one's own errors or weaknesses
self–cor·rec·tive \-'rek-tiv\ *adj* : SELF-CORRECTING
self–cre·at·ed \ˌself-krē-'āt-əd, 'self-'krē-ˌ\ *adj* : created or appointed by oneself
self–crit·i·cal \'self-'krit-i-kəl\ *adj* : critical of oneself or itself
self–crit·i·cism \-'krit-ə-ˌsiz-əm\ *n* : the act of or capacity for criticizing one's own faults or shortcomings
self–cul·ti·va·tion \ˌself-ˌkəl-tə-'vā-shən\ *n* : the act of cultivating oneself
self–cul·ture \'self-'kəl-chər\ *n* : the development of one's mind or capacities through one's own efforts
self–de·ceit \ˌself-di-'sēt\ *n* : SELF-DECEPTION
self–de·ceived \-'sēvd\ *adj* : deceived or misled by one's own misconceptions
self–de·ceiv·er \-'sē-vər\ *n* : one who practices self-deception
self–de·ceiv·ing \-'sē-viŋ\ *adj* **1** : given to self-deception ⟨a ~ hypocrite⟩ **2** : serving to deceive oneself ⟨~ excuses⟩
self–de·cep·tion \-'sep-shən\ *n* : the act of deceiving oneself : the state of being deceived by oneself
self–de·cep·tive \-'sep-tiv\ *adj* : SELF-DECEIVING
self–ded·i·ca·tion \ˌself-ˌded-i-'kā-shən\ *n* : dedication of oneself to a cause or ideal
self–de·feat·ing \ˌself-di-'fēt-iŋ\ *adj* : acting to defeat its own purpose
self–de·fense \-'fen(t)s\ *n* **1** : the act of defending oneself, one's property, or a close relative **2** : a plea of justification for the use of force or for homicide
self–de·fen·sive \-'fen(t)-siv\ *adj* : of, relating to, or given to self-defense ⟨a ~ person⟩ ⟨a ~ attitude⟩
self–de·lud·ed \-'lüd-əd\ *adj* : SELF-DECEIVED
self–de·lu·sion \-'lü-zhən\ *n* : SELF-DECEPTION
self–de·ni·al \ˌself-di-'nī(-ə)l\ *n* : a restraint or limitation of one's own desires or interests
self–de·ny·ing \-'nī-iŋ\ *adj* : showing self-denial — **self–de·ny·ing·ly** \-iŋ-lē\ *adv*
self–de·pen·dence \-'pen-dən(t)s\ *n* : SELF-RELIANCE
self–de·pen·dent \-dənt\ *adj* : showing or marked by self-dependence
self–dep·re·cat·ing \'self-'dep-ri-ˌkāt-iŋ\ *adj* : given to self-depreciation — **self–dep·re·cat·ing·ly** \-iŋ-lē\ *adv*
self–dep·re·ca·to·ry \-kə-ˌtōr-ē, -ˌtȯr-\ *adj* : SELF-DEPRECATING
self–de·pre·ci·a·tion \ˌself-di-ˌprē-shē-'ā-shən\ *n* : disparagement or undervaluation of oneself
self–de·spair \-di-'spa(ə)r, -'spe(ə)r\ *n* : despair of oneself : HOPELESSNESS
self–de·stroy·er \-di-'strȯi(-ə)r\ *n* : one who destroys himself
self–de·stroy·ing \-'strȯi-iŋ\ *adj* : SELF-DESTRUCTIVE
self–de·struct \ˌself-di-'strəkt\ *vi* : to destroy itself
self–de·struc·tion \-'strək-shən\ *n* : destruction of oneself; *esp* : SUICIDE
self–de·struc·tive \-'strək-tiv\ *adj* : acting or tending to harm or destroy oneself; *also* : SUICIDAL — **self–de·struc·tive·ness** *n*
self–de·ter·mi·na·tion \ˌself-di-ˌtər-mə-'nā-shən\ *n* **1** : free choice of one's own acts or states without external compulsion **2** : determination by the people of a territorial unit of their own future political status
self–de·ter·mined \-'tər-mənd\ *adj* : determined by oneself
self–de·ter·min·ing \-'tərm-(ə-)niŋ\ *adj* : capable of determining one's own acts
self–de·ter·min·ism \-'tər-mə-ˌniz-əm\ *n* : a doctrine that the actions of a self are determined by itself
self–de·vel·op·ment \ˌself-di-'vel-əp-mənt\ *n* : development of the capabilities or possibilities of oneself
self–de·vot·ed \-'vōt-əd\ *adj* : characterized by self-devotion — **self–de·vot·ed·ly** *adv* — **self–de·vot·ed·ness** *n*
self–de·vot·ing \-'vōt-iŋ\ *adj* : SELF-DEVOTED
self–de·vo·tion \-'vō-shən\ *n* : devotion of oneself esp. in service or sacrifice ⟨his ~ to science cost him his life⟩
self–de·vour·ing \-'vau̇(ə)r-iŋ\ *adj* : devouring itself
self–di·ges·tion \ˌself-(ˌ)dī-'jes(h)-chən, -də-\ *n* : decomposition of plant or animal tissue by internal process : AUTOLYSIS
self–di·rect·ed \ˌself-də-'rek-təd, -(ˌ)dī-\ *adj* : directed by oneself; *specif* : not guided or impelled by an outside force or agency
self–di·rect·ing \-'rek-tiŋ\ *adj* : directing oneself
self–di·rec·tion \-'rek-shən\ *n* : guidance of oneself
self–dis·ci·pline \'self-'dis-ə-plən\ *n* : correction or regulation of oneself for the sake of improvement
self–dis·ci·plined \-plənd\ *adj* : capable of or subject to self-discipline
self–dis·cov·ery \ˌself-dis-'kəv-(ə-)rē\ *n* : the act or process of achieving self-knowledge
self–dis·trib·ut·ing \-'trib-yət-iŋ\ *adj* : distributing itself automatically
self–dis·trust \-'trəst\ *n* : a lack of confidence in oneself : DIFFIDENCE — **self–dis·trust·ful** \-fəl\ *adj*
self·dom \'self-dəm, -təm\ *n* : the essence of one's self : INDIVIDUALITY
self–doubt \'self-'daut\ *n* : a lack of faith in oneself — **self–doubt·ing** \-iŋ\ *adj*
self–dra·ma·ti·za·tion \ˌself-ˌdram-ət-ə-'zā-shən, -ˌdräm-\ *n* : the act or an instance of dramatizing oneself
self–dra·ma·tiz·ing \'self-'dram-ə-ˌtī-ziŋ, -'dräm-\ *adj* : seeing and presenting oneself as an important or dramatic figure
self–drive \'self-'drīv\ *adj, chiefly Brit* : being a rental car

self–ed·u·cat·ed \'sel-'fej-ə-ˌkāt-əd\ *adj* : educated by one's own efforts without formal instruction — **self–ed·u·ca·tion** \ˌsel-ˌfej-ə-'kā-shən\ *n*
self–ef·face·ment \ˌsel-fə-'fā-smənt\ *n* : the placing or keeping of oneself in the background
self–ef·fac·ing \-'fā-siŋ\ *adj* : RESERVED, SHY — **self–ef·fac·ing·ly** \-siŋ-lē\ *adv*
self–elect·ed \ˌsel-fə-'lek-təd\ *adj* : SELF-APPOINTED
self–em·ployed \ˌsel-fim-'plȯid\ *adj* : earning income directly from one's own business, trade, or profession rather than as a specified salary or wages from an employer
self–em·ploy·ment \-'plȯi-mənt\ *n* : the state of being self-employed
self–en·er·giz·ing \'sel-'fen-ər-ˌjī-ziŋ\ *adj* : containing means for augmentation of power within itself ⟨a ~ brake⟩
self–en·forc·ing \ˌsel-fin-'fōr-siŋ, -'fȯr-\ *adj* : containing in itself the authority or means that provide for its enforcement
self–en·rich·ment \ˌsel-fin-'rich-mənt\ *n* : the act or process of increasing one's intellectual or spiritual resources
self–es·teem \ˌsel-fə-'stēm\ *n* **1** : a confidence and satisfaction in oneself : SELF-RESPECT **2** : SELF-CONCEIT
self–ev·i·dence \'sel-'fev-əd-ənts, -ə-ˌden(t)s\ *n* : the quality or state of being self-evident
self–ev·i·dent \-əd-ənt, -ə-ˌdent\ *adj* : evident without proof or reasoning — **self–ev·i·dent·ly** *adv*
self–ex·al·ta·tion \ˌsel-ˌfeg-ˌzȯl-'tā-shən, -ˌfek-ˌsȯl-\ *n* : exaltation of oneself : VAINGLORY
self–ex·alt·ing \ˌsel-fig-'zȯl-tiŋ\ *adj* : VAINGLORIOUS — **self–ex·alt·ing·ly** \-tiŋ-lē\ *adv*
self–ex·am·i·na·tion \ˌsel-fig-ˌzam-ə-'nā-shən\ *n* : a reflective examination (as of one's beliefs or motives) : INTROSPECTION
self–ex·cit·ed \ˌsel-fik-'sīt-əd\ *adj* : excited by a current produced by the dynamo itself ⟨~ generator⟩
self–ex·e·cut·ing \'sel-'fek-sə-ˌkyüt-iŋ\ *adj* : taking effect immediately without implementing legislation ⟨a ~ treaty⟩
self–ex·ile \'sel-'feg-ˌzīl, -'fek-ˌsīl\ *n* : one who is self-exiled
self–ex·iled \-ˌzīld, -ˌsīld\ *adj* : exiled by one's own wish or decision
self–ex·is·tence \ˌsel-fig-'zis-tən(t)s\ *n* : the quality or state of being self-existent
self–ex·is·tent \-tənt\ *adj* : existing of or by itself
self–ex·plain·ing \ˌsel-fik-'splā-niŋ\ *adj* : SELF-EXPLANATORY
self–ex·plan·a·to·ry \ˌsel-fik-'splan-ə-ˌtōr-ē, -ˌtȯr-\ *adj* : explaining itself : capable of being understood without explanation
self–ex·pres·sion \ˌsel-fik-'spresh-ən\ *n* : the expression of one's own personality : assertion of one's individual traits — **self–ex·pres·sive** \-'spres-iv\ *adj*
self–feed \'self-'fēd\ *vt* **-fed** \-'fed\; **-feed·ing** : to provide rations to (animals) in bulk so as to permit selecting food in kind and quantity as wanted — compare HAND-FEED
self–feed·er \-ər\ *n* : a device for feeding livestock that is equipped with a feed hopper that automatically supplies a trough below
self–feel·ing \'self-'fē-liŋ\ *n* : self-centered emotion
self–fer·tile \'self-'fərt-ᵊl\ *adj* : fertile by means of its own pollen or sperm — **self–fer·til·i·ty** \ˌself-(ˌ)fər-'til-ət-ē\ *n*
self–fer·til·iza·tion \ˌself-ˌfərt-ᵊl-ə-'zā-shən\ *n* : fertilization effected by union of ova with pollen or sperm from the same individual
self–fer·til·ized \'self-'fərt-ᵊl-ˌīzd\ *adj* : fertilized by one's own pollen or sperm
self–fer·til·iz·ing \-ˌī-ziŋ\ *adj* : SELF-FERTILIZED
self–flag·el·la·tion \ˌself-ˌflaj-ə-'lā-shən\ *n* : extreme criticism of oneself
self–flat·ter·ing \'self-'flat-ə-riŋ\ *adj* : given to self-flattery
self–flat·tery \-ə-rē\ *n* : the glossing over of one's own weaknesses or mistakes and the exaggeration of one's own good qualities and achievements
self–for·get·ful \ˌself-fər-'get-fəl\ *adj* : having or showing no thought of self or selfish interests — **self–for·get·ful·ly** \-fə-lē\ *adv* — **self–for·get·ful·ness** *n*
self–for·get·ting \-'get-iŋ\ *adj* : SELF-FORGETFUL — **self–for·get·ting·ly** \-iŋ-lē\ *adv*
self–formed \'self-'fȯ(ə)rmd\ *adj* : formed or developed by one's own efforts
self–fruit·ful \-'früt-fəl\ *adj* : capable of setting a crop of self-pollinated fruit — **self–fruit·ful·ness** *n*
self–ful·fill·ing \ˌself-fül-'fil-iŋ\ *adj* **1** : marked by or achieving self-fulfillment **2** : attaining fulfillment by virtue of having been predicted or assumed beforehand ⟨a ~ prophecy⟩
self–ful·fill·ment \-'fil-mənt\ *n* : fulfillment of oneself
self–gen·er·at·ed \'self-'jen-ə-ˌrāt-əd\ *adj* : generated from within oneself ⟨~ humor⟩
self–giv·en \'self-'giv-ən\ *adj* **1** : derived from itself ⟨a ~ entity⟩ **2** : given by oneself ⟨~ authority⟩
self–giv·ing \-'giv-iŋ\ *adj* : giving completely of oneself : SELF-SACRIFICING, UNSELFISH
self–glo·ri·fi·ca·tion \ˌself-ˌglōr-ə-fə-'kā-shən, -ˌglȯr-\ *n* : a feeling or expression of one's own superiority
self–glo·ri·fy·ing \'self-'glōr-ə-ˌfī-iŋ, -'glȯr-\ *adj* : given to or marked by boasting : BOASTFUL
self–glo·ry \-'glōr-ē, -'glȯr-ē\ *n* : personal vanity : PRIDE
self–gov·er·nance \-'gəv-ər-nən(t)s\ *n* : SELF-GOVERNMENT 2
self–gov·erned \-'gəv-ərnd\ *adj* **1** : not influenced or controlled by others **2** : exercising self-control
self–gov·ern·ing \-'gəv-ər-niŋ\ *adj* : having control or rule over oneself; *specif* : having self-government : AUTONOMOUS

self–gov·ern·ment \-'gəv-ər(n)-mənt, -'gəv-ᵊm-ənt\ *n* **1** : SELF-COMMAND, SELF-CONTROL **2** : government under the control and direction of the inhabitants of a political unit rather than by an outside authority; *broadly* : control of one's own affairs
self–grat·i·fi·ca·tion \ˌself-ˌgrat-ə-fə-'kā-shən\ *n* : the act of pleasing oneself or of satisfying one's desires
self–grat·u·la·tion \-ˌgrach-ə-'lā-shən\ *n* : SELF-CONGRATULATION
self–grat·u·la·to·ry \'self-'grach-(ə-)lə-ˌtōr-ē, -ˌtȯr-\ *adj* : SELF-CONGRATULATORY
self–hard·en·ing \-'härd-niŋ, -ᵊn-iŋ\ *adj* : hardening by itself or without quenching after heating ⟨~ steel⟩
self–hate \-'hāt\ *n* : hatred redirected toward oneself
self–hat·ing \-'hāt-iŋ\ *adj* : given to self-hate
self–ha·tred \-'hā-trəd\ *n* : SELF-HATE
self–heal \'self-ˌhēl\ *n* : any of several plants sometimes believed to possess healing properties; *esp* : a blue-flowered Eurasian mint (*Prunella vulgaris*) naturalized throughout No. America
self–help \'self-'help\ *n* : the act or an instance of providing for or helping oneself without dependence on others
self·hood \-ˌhůd\ *n* **1** : INDIVIDUALITY **2** : the quality or state of being selfish
self–hum·bling \-'həm-b(ə-)liŋ, -'əm-\ *adj* : acting or serving to humble oneself
self–hu·mil·i·a·tion \ˌself-hyü-ˌmil-ē-'ā-shən, ˌself-yü-\ *n* : the act or an instance of humbling oneself
self–hyp·no·sis \ˌself-(h)ip-'nō-səs\ *n* : hypnosis of oneself
self–iden·ti·cal \ˌsel-ˌfī-'dent-i-kəl, -fə-\ *adj* : having self-identity
self–iden·ti·fi·ca·tion \-ˌdent-ə-fə-'kā-shən\ *n* : identification with someone or something outside oneself
self–iden·ti·ty \-'den(t)-ət-ē\ *n* **1** : sameness of a thing with itself **2** : INDIVIDUALITY ⟨self-understanding is the necessary condition of a sense of ~ —J. C. Murray⟩
self–ig·nite \ˌsel-fig-'nīt\ *vi* : to become ignited without flame or spark (as under high compression)
self–ig·ni·tion \-'nish-ən\ *n* : ignition without flame or spark
self–im·age \'sel-'fim-ij\ *n* : one's conception of oneself or of one's role
self–im·mo·la·tion \ˌsel-ˌfim-ə-'lā-shən\ *n* : a deliberate and willing sacrifice of oneself
self–im·por·tance \ˌsel-fim-'pȯrt-ᵊn(t)s, -ən(t)s\ *n* **1** : an exaggerated estimate of one's own importance : SELF-CONCEIT **2** : arrogant or pompous behavior — **self–im·por·tant** \-ᵊnt, -ənt\ *adj* — **self–im·por·tant·ly** *adv*
self–im·posed \-'pōzd\ *adj* : imposed on one by oneself : voluntarily assumed
self–im·prove·ment \-'prüv-mənt\ *n* : improvement of oneself by one's own action
self–in·clu·sive \ˌsel-fin-'klü-siv, -ziv\ *adj* **1** : enclosing itself **2** : complete in itself
self–in·com·pat·i·ble \ˌsel-ˌfin-kəm-'pat-ə-bəl\ *adj* : incapable of effective self-pollination — **self–in·com·pat·i·bil·i·ty** \-ˌpat-ə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n*
self–in·crim·i·nat·ing \ˌsel-fin-'krim-ə-ˌnāt-iŋ\ *adj* : serving or tending to incriminate oneself
self–in·crim·i·na·tion \-ˌkrim-ə-'nā-shən\ *n* : incrimination of oneself; *specif* : the giving of evidence or answering of questions the tendency of which would be to subject one to criminal prosecution
self–in·duced \ˌsel-fin-'d(y)üst\ *adj* : induced by oneself; *specif* : produced by self-induction ⟨a ~ voltage⟩
self–in·duc·tance \-'dək-tən(t)s\ *n* : inductance that induces an electromotive force in the same circuit as the one in which the current varies
self–in·duc·tion \-'dək-shən\ *n* : induction of an electromotive force in a circuit by a varying current in the same circuit
self–in·dul·gence \-'dəl-jən(t)s\ *n* : excessive or unrestrained gratification of one's own appetites, desires, or whims — **self–in·dul·gent** \-jənt\ *adj* — **self–in·dul·gent·ly** *adv*
self–in·flict·ed \ˌsel-fin-'flik-təd\ *adj* : inflicted by oneself; *esp* : inflicted by one's own hand ⟨a ~ wound⟩
self–ini·ti·at·ed \ˌsel-fin-'ish-ē-ˌāt-əd\ *adj* : initiated by oneself
self–in·struct·ed \ˌsel-fin-'strək-təd\ *adj* : SELF-TAUGHT
self–in·struc·tion·al \-'strək-shnəl, -shən-ᵊl\ *adj* : of, relating to, or designed for independent study
self–in·sur·ance \ˌsel-fin-'shůr-ən(t)s, 'sel-'fin-ˌ\ *n* : insurance of oneself or of one's own interests by the setting aside of money at regular intervals to provide a fund to cover possible losses
self–in·sured \ˌsel-fin-'shů(ə)rd\ *adj* : insured by oneself
self–in·sur·er \-'shůr-ər\ *n* : one who practices self-insurance
self–in·ter·est \'sel-'fin-trəst; -'fint-ə-rəst, -ə-ˌrest, -ərst; -'fin-ˌtrest\ *n* **1** : one's own interest or advantage ⟨~ requires that we be generous in foreign aid⟩ **2** : a concern for one's own advantage and well-being ⟨acted out of ~ and fear⟩ — **self–in·ter·est·ed** \-əd\ *adj* — **self–in·ter·est·ed·ness** *n*
self–in·volved \ˌsel-fin-'välvd, -'vȯlvd\ *adj* : SELF-ABSORBED
self·ish \'sel-fish\ *adj* **1** : concerned excessively or exclusively with oneself : seeking or concentrating on one's own advantage, pleasure, or well-being without regard for others **2** : arising from concern with one's own welfare or advantage in disregard of others ⟨a ~ act⟩ — **self·ish·ly** *adv* — **self·ish·ness** *n*
self–jus·ti·fi·ca·tion \ˌself-ˌjəs-tə-fə-'kā-shən\ *n* : the act or an instance of making excuses for oneself
self–jus·ti·fy·ing \'self-'jəs-tə-ˌfī-iŋ\ *adj* **1** : seeking to justify oneself **2** : automatically justifying itself ⟨a ~ typewriter⟩
self–know·ing \'self-'nō-iŋ\ *adj* : having self-knowledge
self–knowl·edge \'self-'näl-ij\ *n* : knowledge or understanding of one's own capabilities, character, feelings, or motivations
self·less \'sel-fləs\ *adj* : having no concern for self : UNSELFISH — **self·less·ly** *adv* — **self·less·ness** *n*
self–lim·i·ta·tion \ˌsel-ˌflim-ə-'tā-shən\ *n* : the quality or state of being self-limiting
self–lim·it·ed \'sel-'flim-ət-əd\ *adj* : limited by one's or its own nature; *specif* : running a definite and limited course ⟨a ~ disease⟩
self–lim·it·ing \-ət-iŋ\ *adj* : limiting oneself or itself
self–liq·ui·dat·ing \'sel-'flik-wə-ˌdāt-iŋ\ *adj* **1** : of or relating to a commercial transaction in which goods are converted into cash in a short time **2** : generating funds from its own operations to repay the investment made to create it ⟨a ~ housing project⟩
self–load·er \'sel-'flōd-ər\ *n* : a semiautomatic firearm
self–load·ing \'sel-'flōd-iŋ\ *adj, of a firearm* : SEMIAUTOMATIC
self–lock·ing \'sel-'fläk-iŋ\ *adj* : locking by its own action
self–love \'sel-'fləv\ *n* : love of self: **a** : CONCEIT **b** : regard for one's own happiness or advantage — **self–lov·ing** \-'fləv-iŋ\ *adj*
self–lu·bri·cat·ing \'sel-'flü-brə-ˌkāt-iŋ\ *adj* : lubricating itself
self–lu·mi·nous \'sel-'flü-mə-nəs\ *adj* : having in itself the property of emitting light
self–made \'self-'mād\ *adj* **1** : made such by one's own actions **2** : raised from poverty or obscurity by one's own efforts ⟨a ~ man⟩
self–mail·er \-'mā-lər\ *n* : a folder that can be sent by mail without enclosure in an envelope by use of a gummed sticker or a precanceled stamp to hold the leaves together
self–mail·ing \-liŋ\ *adj* : capable of being mailed without being enclosed in an envelope
self–mas·tery \'self-'mas-t(ə-)rē\ *n* : SELF-COMMAND, SELF-CONTROL
self–moved \-'müvd\ *adj* : moved by inherent power
self–mur·der \-'mərd-ər\ *n* : SELF-DESTRUCTION, SUICIDE
self–naught·ing \'self-'nȯt-iŋ, -'nät-\ *n* : SELF-EFFACEMENT
self·ness \'self-nəs\ *n* **1** : EGOISM, SELFISHNESS **2** : PERSONALITY, SELFHOOD
self–ob·ser·va·tion \ˌsel-ˌfäb-sər-'vā-shən, -zər-\ *n* **1** : observation of one's own appearance **2** : INTROSPECTION
self–op·er·at·ing \'sel-'fäp-(ə-)ˌrāt-iŋ\ *adj* : SELF-ACTING
self–op·er·a·tive \-'fäp-(ə-)rət-iv, -'fäp-ə-ˌrāt-\ *adj* : SELF-ACTING
self–opin·ion \ˌsel-fə-'pin-yən\ *n* : high or exaggerated opinion of oneself : SELF-CONCEIT
self–opin·ion·at·ed \-yə-ˌnāt-əd\ *adj* **1** : CONCEITED **2** : stubbornly holding to one's own opinion : OPINIONATED — **self–opin·ion·at·ed·ness** *n*
self–opin·ioned \ˌsel-fə-'pin-yənd\ *adj* : SELF-OPINIONATED
self–or·ga·ni·za·tion \ˌsel-ˌfȯrg-(ə-)nə-'zā-shən\ *n* : organization of oneself or itself; *specif* : the act or process of forming or joining a labor union
self–orig·i·nat·ed \ˌsel-fə-'rij-ə-ˌnāt-əd\ *adj* : originated by oneself
self–orig·i·nat·ing \-ˌnāt-iŋ\ *adj* : originating by or from oneself
self–par·o·dy \'self-'par-əd-ē\ *n* : parody of oneself
self–par·tial·i·ty \ˌself-ˌpär-shē-'al-ət-ē, -ˌpär-'shal-\ *n* **1** : an excessive estimate of oneself as compared with others **2** : a prejudice in favor of one's own claims or interests
self–per·cep·tion \ˌself-pər-'sep-shən\ *n* : perception of oneself; *esp* : SELF-IMAGE
self–per·pet·u·at·ing \-'pech-ə-ˌwāt-iŋ\ *adj* : capable of continuing or renewing oneself or itself indefinitely ⟨~ board of trustees⟩
self–per·pet·u·a·tion \-ˌpech-ə-'wā-shən\ *n* : perpetuation of oneself or itself
self–pity \'self-'pit-ē\ *n* : pity for oneself; *esp* : a self-indulgent dwelling on one's own sorrows or misfortunes — **self–pity·ing** \-ē-iŋ\ *adj* — **self–pity·ing·ly** \-iŋ-lē\ *adv*
self–pleased \-'plēzd\ *adj* : SELF-SATISFIED
self–pleas·ing \-'plē-ziŋ\ *adj* : pleasing to oneself
self–poise \-'pȯiz\ *n* : the quality or state of being self-poised
self–poised \-'pȯizd\ *adj* **1** : balanced without support **2** : having poise through self-command
self–pol·li·nate \'self-'päl-ə-ˌnāt\ *vi* : to undergo self-pollination ~ *vt* : SELF 2
self–pol·li·na·tion \ˌself-ˌpäl-ə-'nā-shən\ *n* : the transfer of pollen from the anther of a flower to the stigma of the same flower or sometimes to that of a genetically identical flower (as of the same plant or clone)
self–por·trait \'self-'pōr-trət, -'pȯr-, -ˌtrāt\ *n* : a portrait of oneself done by oneself
self–pos·sessed \ˌself-pə-'zest, *also* -'sest\ *adj* : having or showing self-possession : composed in mind or manner : CALM — **self–pos·sessed·ly** \-'zes-əd-lē, -'ses-; -'zest-lē, -'sest-\ *adv*
self–pos·ses·sion \ˌself-pə-'zesh-ən, *also* -'sesh-\ *n* : control of one's emotions or reactions esp. when under stress : PRESENCE OF MIND, COMPOSURE ***syn*** see CONFIDENCE
self–praise \'self-'prāz\ *n* : praise of oneself
self–pres·er·va·tion \ˌself-ˌprez-ər-'vā-shən\ *n* **1** : preservation of oneself from destruction or harm **2** : a natural or instinctive tendency to act so as to preserve one's own existence
self–pre·serv·ing \ˌself-pri-'zər-viŋ\ *adj* : acting or tending to preserve oneself
self–pride \'self-'prīd\ *n* : pride in oneself or in that which relates to oneself
self–pro·claimed \ˌself-prō-'klāmd, -prə-\ *adj* : SELF-STYLED
self–pro·duced \ˌself-prə-'d(y)üst, -prō-\ *adj* : produced by oneself
self–pro·pelled \ˌself-prə-'peld\ *adj* **1** : containing within itself the means for its own propulsion ⟨a ~ vehicle⟩ **2** : mounted on or fired from a moving vehicle ⟨a ~ gun⟩
self–pro·pel·ling \-'pel-iŋ\ *adj* : SELF-PROPELLED 1
self–pro·pul·sion \-'pəl-shən\ *n* : propulsion by one's own power
self–pro·tec·tion \-'tek-shən\ *n* : protection of oneself : SELF-DEFENSE
self–pro·tec·tive \-'tek-tiv\ *adj* : serving or tending to protect oneself — **self–pro·tec·tive·ness** *n*
self–pun·ish·ment \'self-'pən-ish-mənt\ *n* : punishment of oneself
self–pu·ri·fi·ca·tion \ˌself-ˌpyůr-ə-fə-'kā-shən\ *n* **1** : purification by natural process ⟨~ of water⟩ **2** : purification of oneself
self–ques·tion \'self-'kwes(h)-chən\ *n* : a question put to a person by himself
self–ques·tion·ing \-chə-niŋ\ *n* : examination of one's own actions and motives
self–raised \'sel-'frāzd\ *adj* : raised by one's own power or effort
self–rat·ing \'sel-'frāt-iŋ\ *n* : determination of one's own rating with reference to a standard scale
self–re·al·iza·tion \ˌsel-ˌfrē-ə-lə-'zā-shən, -ˌfri-ə-\ *n* : fulfillment by oneself of the possibilities of one's character or personality

self–re·al·iza·tion·ism \-shə-ˌniz-əm\ *n* : the ethical theory that the highest good for man consists in realizing or fulfilling himself usu. on the assumption that he has certain inborn abilities constituting his real or ideal self
self–re·al·iza·tion·ist \-sh(ə-)nəst\ *n* : an advocate of self-realizationism
self–re·cord·ing \ˌsel-fri-ˈkȯrd-iŋ\ *adj* : making an automatic record ⟨~ instruments⟩
self–re·crim·i·na·tion \-ˌkrim-ə-ˈnā-shən\ *n* : the act of accusing or blaming oneself
self–re·flec·tion \-ˈflek-shən\ *n* : SELF-EXAMINATION
self–re·flec·tive \-ˈflek-tiv\ *adj* : marked by or engaging in self-reflection
self–ref·or·ma·tion \ˌsel-ˌfref-ər-ˈmā-shən\ *n* : the act or an instance of reforming oneself
self–re·gard \ˌsel-fri-ˈgärd\ *n* **1** : regard for or consideration of oneself or one's own interests **2** : SELF-RESPECT
self–re·gard·ing \-iŋ\ *adj* : concerned with oneself or one's own interests
self–reg·is·ter·ing \ˈsel-ˈfrej-ə-st(ə-)riŋ\ *adj* : registering automatically ⟨a ~ barometer⟩
self–reg·u·lat·ing \ˈsel-ˈfreg-yə-ˌlāt-iŋ\ *adj* : regulating oneself or itself; *esp* : AUTOMATIC ⟨a ~ mechanism⟩
self–reg·u·la·tion \ˌsel-ˌfreg-yə-ˈlā-shən\ *n* : regulation of or by oneself or itself
self–reg·u·la·tive \ˈsel-ˈfreg-yə-ˌlāt-iv\ *adj* : serving or tending to regulate oneself or itself
self–reg·u·la·to·ry \-lə-ˌtōr-ē, -ˌtȯr-\ *adj* : SELF-REGULATIVE
self–re·li·ance \ˌsel-fri-ˈlī-ənts\ *n* : reliance upon one's own efforts and abilities
self–re·li·ant \-ənt\ *adj* : having confidence in and exercising one's own powers or judgment
self–re·nounc·ing \ˌsel-fri-ˈnau̇n(t)-siŋ\ *adj* : marked by self-renunciation
self–re·nun·ci·a·tion \-ˌnən(t)-sē-ˈā-shən\ *n* : renunciation of one's own desires or ambitions
self–rep·li·cat·ing \ˈsel-ˈfrep-lə-ˌkāt-iŋ\ *adj* : reproducing itself autonomously ⟨DNA is a ~ molecule⟩
self–re·pres·sion \ˌsel-fri-ˈpresh-ən\ *n* : the keeping to oneself of one's thoughts, wishes, or feelings
self–re·proach \ˌsel-fri-ˈprōch\ *n* : the act of blaming or accusing oneself — **self–re·proach·ful** \-fəl\ *adj*
self–re·proach·ing \-ˈprō-chiŋ\ *adj* : of, relating to, or characterized by self-reproach — **self–re·proach·ing·ly** \-chiŋ-lē\ *adv* — **self–re·proach·ing·ness** *n*
self–re·proof \ˌsel-fri-ˈprüf\ *n* : the act of reproving oneself
self–re·prov·ing \-ˈprü-viŋ\ *adj* : feeling or expressing self-reproof — **self–re·prov·ing·ly** \-viŋ-lē\ *adv*
self–re·spect \ˌsel-fri-ˈspekt\ *n* **1** : a proper respect for oneself as a human being **2** : regard for one's own standing or position
self–re·spect·ing \-ˈspek-tiŋ\ *adj* : having or characterized by self-respect
self–re·strain·ing \-ˈstrā-niŋ\ *adj* : marked by self-restraint
self–re·straint \-ˈstrānt\ *n* : restraint imposed on oneself
self–re·veal·ing \ˌsel-fri-ˈvē-liŋ\ *adj* : marked by self-revelation
self–rev·e·la·tion \ˌsel-ˌfrev-ə-ˈlā-shən\ *n* : revelation of one's own thoughts, feelings, and attitudes esp. without deliberate intent
self–re·ward·ing \ˌsel-fri-ˈwȯrd-iŋ\ *adj* : containing or producing its own reward ⟨a ~ virtue⟩
self–righ·teous \ˈsel-ˈfrī-chəs\ *adj* : convinced of one's own righteousness esp. in contrast with the actions and beliefs of others : narrow-mindedly moralistic — **self–righ·teous·ly** *adv* — **self–righ·teous·ness** *n*
self–right·ing \ˈsel-ˈfrīt-iŋ\ *adj* : capable of righting itself when capsized ⟨a ~ boat⟩
self–ris·ing flour \ˌsel-ˌfrī-ziŋ-\ *n* : a commercially prepared mixture of flour, salt, and a leavening agent
self–rule \ˈsel-ˈfrül\ *n* : SELF-GOVERNMENT
self–rul·ing \-ˈfrü-liŋ\ *adj* : SELF-GOVERNING
self–sac·ri·fice \ˈself-ˈsak-rə-ˌfīs, -fəs *also* -ˌfīz\ *n* : sacrifice of oneself or one's interest for others or for a cause or ideal
self–sac·ri·fic·er \-ˌfīs-ər, -ˌfīz- *also* -fəs-\ *n* : one that practices self-sacrifice
self–sa·cri·fic·ing \-ˌfīs-iŋ, -ˌfīz- *also* -fəs-\ *adj* : sacrificing oneself for others — **self–sac·ri·fic·ing·ly** \-iŋ-lē\ *adv*
self·same \ˈself-ˌsām\ *adj* : being the one mentioned or in question : IDENTICAL ⟨he left the ~ day⟩ ***syn*** see SAME ***ant*** diverse — **self·same·ness** \-ˌsām-nəs, -ˈsām-\ *n*
self–sat·is·fac·tion \ˌself-ˌsat-əs-ˈfak-shən\ *n* : a usu. smug satisfaction with oneself or one's position or achievements
self–sat·is·fied \ˈself-ˈsat-əs-ˌfīd\ *adj* : feeling or showing self-satisfaction
self–sat·is·fy·ing \-ˌfī-iŋ\ *adj* : giving satisfaction to oneself
self–scru·ti·ny \ˈself-ˈskrüt-ᵊn-ē, -ˈskrüt-nē\ *n* : SELF-EXAMINATION
self–seal·ing \ˈself-ˈsē-liŋ\ *adj* **1** : capable of sealing itself (as after puncture) ⟨a ~ tire⟩ **2** : capable of being sealed by pressure without the addition of moisture ⟨~ envelopes⟩
self–search·ing \-ˈsər-chiŋ\ *adj* : SELF-QUESTIONING
self–seek·er \-ˈsē-kər\ *n* : one who is self-seeking
[1]self–seek·ing \-kiŋ\ *n* : the act or practice of selfishly advancing one's own ends
[2]self–seeking *adj* : seeking only to further one's own interests
self–se·lec·tion \ˌself-sə-ˈlek-shən\ *n* : selection of or by oneself; *esp* : selection of goods by retail customers from display racks or counters in a store
self–ser·vice \ˈself-ˈsər-vəs\ *n* : the serving of oneself (as in a cafeteria or supermarket) with things to be paid for at a cashier's desk usu. upon leaving — **self–service** *adj*
self–serv·ing \-ˈsər-viŋ\ *adj* : serving one's own interests often in disregard of the truth or the interests of others
self–slaugh·ter \-ˈslȯt-ər\ *n* : SUICIDE
self–slaugh·tered \-ərd\ *adj* : killed by oneself
self–slay·er \ˈself-ˌslā-ər\ *n* : one who kills himself
self–sow \-ˈsō\ *vi* **-sowed** \-ˈsōd\; **-sown** \-ˈsōn\ *or* **-sowed; -sow·ing** : to sow itself by dropping seeds or by natural action (as of wind or water)
self–start·er \-ˈstärt-ər\ *n* **1** : a more or less automatic attachment for starting an engine; *esp* : an electric motor used to start an internal-combustion engine **2** : a person who has initiative
self–start·ing \-ˈstärt-iŋ\ *adj* : capable of starting by oneself or itself
self–ster·ile \-ˈster-əl\ *adj* : sterile to its own pollen or sperm — **self–ste·ril·i·ty** \ˌself-stə-ˈril-ət-ē\ *n*
self–stim·u·la·tion \ˌself-ˌstim-yə-ˈlā-shən\ *n* : stimulation of oneself as a result of one's own activity or behavior ⟨electrical ~ of the brain in rats⟩
self–study \ˈself-ˈstəd-ē\ *n* : study of oneself; *also* : a record of observations from such study
self–styled \-ˈstī(ə)ld\ *adj* : called by oneself ⟨~ experts⟩
self–sub·sis·tence \ˌself-səb-ˈsis-tən(t)s\ *n* : the quality or state of being self-subsistent
self–sub·sis·tent \-tənt\ *adj* : subsisting independently of anything external to itself
self–sub·sist·ing \-ˈsis-tiŋ\ *adj* : SELF-SUBSISTENT
self–suf·fi·cien·cy \ˌself-sə-ˈfish-ən-sē\ *n* : the quality or state of being self-sufficient
self–suf·fi·cient \-ˈfish-ənt\ *adj* **1** : able to maintain oneself or itself without outside aid : capable of providing for one's own needs **2** : having an extreme confidence in one's own ability or worth : HAUGHTY, OVERBEARING
self–suf·fic·ing \-ˈfī-siŋ *also* -ziŋ\ *adj* : SELF-SUFFICIENT — **self–suf·fic·ing·ly** \-siŋ-lē, -ziŋ-\ *adv* — **self–suf·fic·ing·ness** *n*
self–sug·ges·tion \ˌself-sə(g)-ˈjes(h)-chən\ *n* : AUTOSUGGESTION
self–sup·port \ˌself-sə-ˈpō(ə)rt, -ˈpȯ(ə)rt\ *n* : independent support of oneself or itself — **self–sup·port·ed** \-əd\ *adj*
self–sup·port·ing \-iŋ\ *adj* : characterized by self-support: as **a** : meeting one's needs by one's own efforts or output **b** : supporting itself or its own weight ⟨a ~ wall⟩
self–sur·ren·der \-sə-ˈren-dər\ *n* : surrender of the self : a yielding up (as to some influence) of oneself or one's will
self–sus·tained \-sə-ˈstānd\ *adj* : sustained by oneself or itself
self–sus·tain·ing \-ˈstā-niŋ\ *adj* **1** : maintaining or able to maintain oneself or itself by independent effort **2** : maintaining or able to maintain itself once commenced ⟨a ~ nuclear reaction⟩
self–taught \ˈself-ˈtȯt\ *adj* **1** : having knowledge or skills acquired by one's own efforts without formal instruction ⟨a ~ musician⟩ **2** : learned by oneself ⟨~ knowledge⟩
self–tor·ment \ˈself-ˈtȯr-ˌment\ *n* : the act of tormenting oneself — **self–tor·ment·ing** \ˌself-tȯr-ˈment-iŋ, ˈself-ˈtȯr-ˌ\ *adj* — **self–tor·men·tor** \ˌself-tȯr-ˈment-ər, ˈself-ˈtȯr-ˌ\ *n*
self–tran·scen·dence \ˌself-tran(t)s-ˈen-dən(t)s\ *n* : the capacity to transcend oneself
self–treat·ment \ˈself-ˈtrēt-mənt\ *n* : medication of oneself or treatment of one's own disease without medical supervision or prescription
self–trust \-ˈtrəst\ *n* : SELF-CONFIDENCE
self–un·der·stand·ing \ˌsel-ˌfən-dər-ˈstan-diŋ\ *n* : SELF-KNOWLEDGE
self–un·fruit·ful \ˌsel-ˌfən-ˈfrüt-fəl\ *adj* : setting few or no fruits in the absence of cross-pollination — **self–un·fruit·ful·ness** *n*
self–will \ˈself-ˈwil\ *n* : stubborn or willful adherence to one's own desires or ideas : OBSTINACY
self–willed \-ˈwild\ *adj* : governed by one's own will : not yielding to the wishes of others : OBSTINATE — **self–willed·ly** \-ˈwil-(d)lē\ *adv* — **self–willed·ness** \-ˈwil(d)-nəs\ *n*
self–wind·ing \-ˈwīn-diŋ\ *adj* : not needing to be wound by hand ⟨a ~ watch⟩
self–wor·ship \-ˈwər-shəp\ *n* : worship of oneself — **self–wor·ship·er** *n*
Sel·juk \ˈsel-ˌjük, sel-ˈ\ *or* **Sel·ju·ki·an** \sel-ˈjü-kē-ən\ *adj* [Turk *Selçuk*, eponymous ancestor of the dynasties] **1** : of or relating to any of several Turkish dynasties ruling over a great part of western Asia in the 11th, 12th, and 13th centuries **2** : of, relating to, or characteristic of a Turkish people ruled over by a Seljuk dynasty — **Seljuk** *or* **Seljukian** *n*
Selk *abbr* Selkirkshire
[1]sell \ˈsel\ *vb* **sold** \ˈsōld\; **sell·ing** [ME *sellen*, fr. OE *sellan;* akin to OHG *sellen* to sell, ON *sala* sale, Gk *helein* to take] *vt* **1** : to deliver or give up in violation of duty, trust, or loyalty : BETRAY — often used with *out* **2 a** (1) : to give up (property) to another for money or other valuable consideration (2) : to offer for sale **b** : to give up in return for something else esp. foolishly or dishonorably ⟨*sold* his birthright for a mess of pottage⟩ **c** : to exact a price for ⟨*sold* their lives dearly⟩ **3 a** : to deliver into slavery for money **b** : to give into the power of another ⟨*sold* his soul to the devil⟩ **c** : to deliver the personal services of for money **4** : to dispose of or manage for profit instead of in accordance with conscience, justice, or duty ⟨*sold* his vote⟩ **5 a** : to develop a belief in the truth, value, or desirability of : gain acceptance for ⟨a campaign manager trying to ~ his candidate⟩ **b** : to persuade or influence to a course of action or to the acceptance of something ⟨~ children on reading⟩ **6** : to impose on : CHEAT ⟨realized that he had been *sold*⟩ **7 a** : to cause or promote the sale of ⟨advertising ~*s* newspapers⟩ **b** : to make or attempt to make sales to **c** : to influence or induce to make a purchase **8** : to achieve a sale of ⟨*sold* a million copies⟩ ~ *vi* **1** : to dispose of something by sale **2** : to achieve a sale; *also* : to achieve satisfactory sales ⟨hoped that the new line would ~⟩ **3** : to have a specified price — **sell·able** \ˈsel-ə-bəl\ *adj* — **sell a bill of goods** : to take unfair or unjust advantage of — **sell down the river** : to betray the faith of — **sell**

short 1 : to make a short sale 2 : to fail to value properly : UNDERESTIMATE
²sell *n* 1 : a deliberate deception : HOAX 2 : the act or an instance of selling
³sell *or* **selle** \'sel\ *n* [ME *selle*, fr. MF, fr. L *sella* — more at SETTLE] *archaic* : SADDLE
⁴sell *chiefly Scot var of* SELF
sell·er \'sel-ər\ *n* 1 : one that offers for sale 2 : a product offered for sale and selling well, to a specified extent, or in a specified manner ⟨a million-copy ~⟩ ⟨a poor ~⟩
seller's market *n* : a market in which goods are scarce, buyers have a limited range of choice, and prices are high — compare BUYER'S MARKET
selling climax *n* : a sharp decline in stock prices for a short time on very heavy trading volume followed by a rally
sell·ing–plat·er \'sel-iŋ-ˌplāt-ər\ *n* : a horse that runs in selling races
selling point *n* : an aspect or detail of something that is emphasized (as in selling or promoting)
selling race *n* : a claiming race in which the winning horse is put up for auction
sell–off \'sel-ˌȯf\ *n* : a usu. sudden sharp decline in security prices accompanied by increased volume of trading
sell off \(')sel-'ȯf\ *vt* : to dispose of completely by selling ~ *vi* : to suffer a drop in prices
sell·out \'sel-ˌau̇t\ *n* 1 : the act or an instance of selling out 2 : a show, exhibition, or contest for which all seats are sold 3 : one who sells out
sell out \(')sel-'au̇t\ *vt* 1 : to dispose of entirely by sale 2 **a** : to sell the goods of (a debtor) in order to satisfy creditors **b** : to sell security or commodity holdings of usu. to satisfy an uncovered margin ~ *vi* 1 : to dispose of one's goods by sale; *esp* : to sell one's business 2 : to betray one's cause or associates
sel·syn \'sel-ˌsin\ *n* [*self-syn*chronizing] : a system comprising a generator and a motor so connected by wire that angular rotation or position in the generator is reproduced simultaneously in the motor — called also *synchro*
selt·zer \'selt-sər\ *n* [modif. of G *Selterser* (*wasser*) water of Selters, fr. Nieder *Selters*, Germany] : an artificially prepared mineral water containing carbon dioxide
sel·vage *or* **sel·vedge** \'sel-vij\ *n* [ME *selvage*, prob. fr. MFlem *selvegge*, *selvage*, fr. *selv* self + *egge* edge; akin to OE *self* and to OE *ecg* edge — more at EDGE] 1 **a** : the edge on either side of a woven or flat-knitted fabric so finished as to prevent raveling; *specif* : a narrow border often of different or heavier threads than the fabric and sometimes in a different weave **b** : an edge (as of fabric or paper) meant to be cut off and discarded 2 : an outer or peripheral part: as **a** : BORDER, EDGE **b** : the edge plate of a lock through which the bolt is projected — **sel·vaged** *or* **sel·vedged** \-vijd\ *adj*
selves *pl of* SELF
sem *abbr* 1 seminar 2 seminary
Sem *abbr* Semitic
SEM *abbr* scanning electron microscope
se·man·tic \si-'mant-ik\ *also* **se·man·ti·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj* [Gk *sēmantikos* significant, fr. *sēmainein* to signify, mean, fr. *sēma* sign, token; akin to Skt *dhyāti* he thinks] 1 : of or relating to meaning in language 2 : of or relating to semantics — **se·man·ti·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
se·man·ti·cist \-'mant-ə-səst\ *n* : a specialist in semantics
se·man·tics \si-'mant-iks\ *n pl but sing or pl in constr* 1 : the study of meanings: **a** : the historical and psychological study and the classification of changes in the signification of words or forms viewed as factors in linguistic development **b** (1) : SEMIOTIC (2) : a branch of semiotic dealing with the relations between signs and what they refer to and including theories of denotation, extension, naming, and truth 2 : GENERAL SEMANTICS 3 **a** : the meaning or relationship of meanings of a sign or set of signs; *esp* : connotative meaning **b** : the exploitation of connotation and ambiguity (as in propaganda)
¹sema·phore \'sem-ə-ˌfō(ə)r, -ˌfȯ(ə)r\ *n* [Gk *sēma* sign, signal + ISV *-phore*] 1 : an apparatus for visual signaling (as by the position of one or more movable arms) 2 : a system of visual signaling by two flags held one in each hand



semaphore 2: alphabet; 3 positions following Z: error, end of word, numerals follow; numerals 1,2, 3,4,5,6,7,8,9,0 same as A through J

²semaphore *vb* **-phored; -phor·ing** *vt* : to convey (information) by or as if by semaphore ~ *vi* : to send signals by or as if by semaphore
se·ma·si·ol·o·gy \si-ˌmā-sē-'äl-ə-jē, -ˌmā-zē-\ *n* [ISV, fr. Gk *sēmasia* meaning, fr. *sēmainein* to mean] : SEMANTICS 1 — **se·ma·si·o·log·i·cal** \-sē-ə-'läj-i-kəl, -zē-\ *adj* — **se·ma·si·ol·o·gist** \-sē-'äl-ə-jəst, -zē-\ *n*
se·mat·ic \si-'mat-ik\ *adj* [Gk *sēmat-*, *sēma* sign] : warning of danger — used of conspicuous colors of a poisonous or noxious animal ⟨the ~ coloration of the skunk⟩
¹sem·bla·ble \'sem-blə-bəl\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF, fr. OF, fr. *sembler* to be like, seem] 1 : SIMILAR 2 : SUITABLE 3 : APPARENT, SEEMING — **sem·bla·bly** \-blə-blē\ *adv*
²semblable *n* 1 *archaic* : something similar : LIKE 2 : one that is like oneself : one's fellow
sem·blance \'sem-blən(t)s\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. OF *sembler* to be like, seem — more at RESEMBLE] 1 **a** : outward and often specious appearance or show : FORM ⟨wrapped in a ~ of composure —Harry Hervey⟩ **b** : MODICUM ⟨has been struggling to get some ~ of justice for his people —Bayard Rustin⟩ 2 : COUNTENANCE, ASPECT 3 **a** : phantasmal form : APPARITION **b** : IMAGE, LIKENESS 4 : actual or apparent resemblance
se·mé \sə-'mā, 'sem-(ˌ)ā\ *adj* [MF, pp. of *semer* to sow, fr. L *seminare*, fr. *semen*] : having an ornamental pattern consisting of usu. regularly disposed separate objects or groups of small figures (as flowers or stars) : SOWN, DOTTED — **semé** *n*
se·mei·ol·o·gy *var of* SEMIOLOGY
Sem·e·le \'sem-ə-ˌlē\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *Semelē*] : a daughter of Cadmus consumed by flames when visited by Zeus in his divine splendor
se·men \'sē-mən\ *n* [NL, fr. L, seed; akin to OHG *sāmo* seed, L *serere* to sow — more at SOW] : a viscid whitish fluid of the male reproductive tract consisting of spermatozoa suspended in secretions of accessory glands
se·mes·ter \sə-'mes-tər\ *n* [G, fr. L *semestris* half-yearly, fr. *sex* six + *mensis* month — more at SIX, MOON] 1 : a period of six months 2 : either of the two usu. 18-week periods of instruction into which an academic year is often divided — **se·mes·tral** \-trəl\ *or* **se·mes·tri·al** \-trē-əl\ *adj*
semester hour *n* : a unit of academic credit representing an hour of class (as lecture class) or three hours of laboratory work each week for an academic semester
semi \'sem-ē, -ˌī\ *n* : SEMITRAILER
semi- \ˌsem-i, 'sem-, -ˌī\ *prefix* [ME, fr. L; akin to OHG *sāmi-* half, Gk *hēmi-*] 1 **a** : precisely half of: (1) : forming a bisection of ⟨*semi*ellipse⟩ ⟨*semi*oval⟩ (2) : being a usu. vertically bisected form of (a specified architectural feature) ⟨*semi*arch⟩ ⟨*semi*dome⟩ **b** : half in quantity or value : half of or occurring halfway through a specified period of time ⟨*semi*annual⟩ ⟨*semi*centenary⟩ — compare BI- 2 : to some extent : partly : incompletely ⟨*semi*civilized⟩ ⟨*semi*-independent⟩ ⟨*semi*dry⟩ — compare DEMI-, HEMI- 3 **a** : partial : incomplete ⟨*semi*consciousness⟩ ⟨*semi*darkness⟩ **b** : having some of the characteristics of ⟨*semi*porcelain⟩ **c** : quasi ⟨*semi*governmental⟩ ⟨*semi*monastic⟩
semi·ab·stract \ˌsem-ē-ab-'strakt, ˌsem-ˌī-, -'ab-ˌ\ *adj* : having subject matter that is easily recognizable although the form is stylized ⟨~ art⟩ — **semi·ab·strac·tion** \-ab-'strak-shən\ *n*
semi·an·nu·al \-'an-yə(-wə)l\ *adj* : occurring every six months or twice a year — **semi·an·nu·al·ly** \-ē\ *adv*
semi·aquat·ic \-ə-'kwät-ik, -'kwat-\ *adj* : growing equally well in or adjacent to water; *also* : frequenting but not living wholly in water
semi·ar·bo·re·al \-är-'bōr-ē-əl, -'bȯr-\ *adj* : often inhabiting and frequenting trees but not completely arboreal
semi·ar·id \-'ar-əd\ *adj* : characterized by light rainfall; *specif* : having from about 10 to about 20 inches of annual precipitation — **semi·arid·i·ty** \-ə-'rid-ət-ē, -a-'rid-\ *n*
semi·au·to·mat·ic \-ˌȯt-ə-'mat-ik\ *adj* : not fully automatic: as **a** : operated partly automatically and partly by hand **b** *of a firearm* : employing gas pressure or force of recoil and mechanical spring action to eject the empty cartridge case after the first shot and load the next cartridge from the magazine but requiring release and another pressure of the trigger for each successive shot — **semiautomatic** *n* — **semi·au·to·mat·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
semi·au·ton·o·mous \-ȯ-'tän-ə-məs\ *adj* : largely self-governing within a larger political or organizational entity
semi·base·ment \ˌsem-i-'bā-smənt, ˌsem-ˌī-\ *n* : a basement that is below ground level for only part of its depth
semi·breve \'sem-i-ˌbrēv, 'sem-ˌī-, -ˌbrev\ *n* : WHOLE NOTE
semi·cen·te·na·ry \ˌsem-i-sen-'ten-ə-rē, ˌsem-ˌī-, -'sent-ᵊn-ˌer-ē, -sen-'tē-nə-rē\ *n* : SEMICENTENNIAL — **semicentenary** *adj*
semi·cen·ten·ni·al \-sen-'ten-ē-əl\ *n* : a 50th anniversary or its celebration — **semicentennial** *adj*
semi·cir·cle \'sem-i-ˌsər-kəl\ *n* [L *semicirculus*, fr. *semi-* + *circulus* circle] 1 : a half of a circle 2 : an object or arrangement of objects in the form of a half circle — **semi·cir·cu·lar** \ˌsem-i-'sər-kyə-lər\ *adj*
semicircular canal *n* : any of the loop-shaped tubular parts of the labyrinth of the ear that together constitute a sensory organ associated with the maintenance of bodily equilibrium — see EAR illustration
semi·civ·i·lized \ˌsem-i-'siv-ə-ˌlīzd, ˌsem-ˌī-\ *adj* : partly civilized
semi·clas·sic \-'klas-ik\ *n* : a semiclassical work (as of music)
semi·clas·si·cal \-i-kəl\ *adj* : having some of the characteristics of the classical: as **a** : of, relating to, or being a musical composition that acts as a bridge between classical and popular music **b** : of, relating to, or being a classical composition that has developed popular appeal
semi·co·lon \'sem-i-ˌkō-lən\ *n* : a punctuation mark ; used chiefly in a coordinating function between major sentence elements (as independent clauses of a compound sentence)
semi·co·lo·nial \ˌsem-i-kə-'lō-nyəl, ˌsem-ˌī-, -nē-əl\ *adj* 1 : nominally independent but actually under foreign domination 2 : de-

pendent on foreign nations as suppliers of manufactured goods and as purchasers of raw materials — **semi·co·lo·nial·ism** \-ˌīz-əm\ *n*
semi·col·o·ny \-ˈkäl-ə-nē\ *n* : a semicolonial state
semi·com·mer·cial \-kə-ˈmər-shəl\ *adj* : of, relating to, adapted to, or characterized by limited marketing of an experimental product
semi·con·duct·ing \ˌsem-i-kən-ˈdək-tiŋ, ˌsem-ˌī-\ *adj* : of, relating to, or having the characteristics of a semiconductor
semi·con·duc·tor \-ˈdək-tər\ *n* : any of a class of solids (as germanium or silicon) whose electrical conductivity is between that of a conductor and that of an insulator in being nearly metallic at high temperatures and nearly absent at low temperatures
semi·con·scious \-ˈkän-chəs\ *adj* : incompletely conscious : imperfectly aware or responsive — **semi·con·scious·ly** *adv* — **semi·con·scious·ness** *n*
semi·con·ser·va·tive \-kən-ˈsər-vət-iv\ *adj* : relating to or being replication (as of DNA) in which the original separates into parts each of which is incorporated into a new whole and serves as a template for the formation of the missing parts — **semi·con·ser·va·tive·ly** *adv*
semi·crys·tal·line \-ˈkris-tə-lən\ *adj* : incompletely or imperfectly crystalline
semi·cy·lin·dri·cal \-sə-ˈlin-dri-kəl\ *adj* : having the shape of a longitudinal half of a cylinder
semi·dark·ness \-ˈdärk-nəs\ *n* : partial darkness
semi·de·ify \-ˈdē-ə-ˌfī, -ˈdā-\ *vt* : to regard as somewhat godlike
semi·des·ert \-ˈdez-ərt\ *n* : an area that has some of the characteristics of a desert and is often located between a desert and grassland or woodland
semi·de·tached \-di-ˈtacht\ *adj* : forming one of a pair of residences joined into one building by a common sidewall
semi·di·am·e·ter \ˌsem-i-dī-ˈam-ət-ər\ *n* : RADIUS; *specif* : the apparent radius of a generally spherical celestial body
semi·di·ur·nal \-dī-ˈərn-ᵊl\ *adj* **1** : relating to or accomplished in half a day **2** : occurring twice a day **3** : occurring approximately every half day ⟨the ~ tides⟩
semi·di·vine \ˌsem-i-də-ˈvīn, ˌsem-ˌī-\ *adj* : more than mortal but not fully divine
semi·doc·u·men·ta·ry \-ˌdäk-yə-ˈment-ə-rē, -ˈmen-trē\ *n* : a motion picture that uses many details taken from actual events or situations in presenting a fictional story — **semidocumentary** *adj*
semi·dome \ˈsem-i-ˌdōm, ˈsem-ˌī-\ *n* : a roof or ceiling covering a semicircular or nearly semicircular room or recess — **semi·domed** \-ˌdōmd\ *adj*
semi·do·mes·ti·cat·ed \ˌsem-i-də-ˈmes-ti-ˌkāt-əd, ˌsem-ˌī-\ *or* **semi·do·mes·tic** \-ˈmes-tik\ *adj* : of, relating to, or living in semidomestication
semi·do·mes·ti·ca·tion \-ˌmes-ti-ˈkā-shən\ *n* : a captive state (as in a zoo) of a wild animal in which its living conditions and often its breeding are controlled by man
semi·dom·i·nant \-ˈdäm-(ə-)nənt\ *adj* : producing an intermediate phenotype in the heterozygous condition ⟨a ~ mutant gene⟩
semi·dou·ble \-ˈdəb-əl\ *adj* : having more than the normal number of petals or ray florets though retaining some pollen-bearing stamens or some perfect disk florets ⟨a ~ daisy⟩
semi·dry \ˌsem-i-ˈdrī\ *adj* : moderately dry
semi·dry·ing \-ˈdrī-iŋ\ *adj* : that dries imperfectly or slowly — used of some oils (as cottonseed oil)
semi·el·lipse \ˌsem-ē-ə-ˈlips, ˌsem-ˌī-\ *n* : the part of an ellipse from one end of usu. the transverse diameter to the other — **semi·el·lip·tic** \-ˈlip-tik\ *or* **semi·el·lip·ti·cal** \-ti-kəl\ *adj*
semi·erect \-ə-ˈrekt\ *adj* **1** : incompletely upright in bodily posture ⟨~ primates⟩ **2** : erect for half the length ⟨~ stems⟩
semi·ev·er·green \-ˈev-ər-ˌgrēn\ *adj* : HALF-EVERGREEN
¹semi·fi·nal \ˌsem-i-ˈfīn-ᵊl\ *adj* **1** : being next to the last in an elimination tournament **2** : of or participating in a semifinal
²semi·fi·nal \ˈsem-i-ˌ\ *n* **1** : a semifinal match **2** : a semifinal round — **semi·fi·nal·ist** \ˌsem-i-ˈfīn-ᵊl-əst\ *n*
semi·fin·ished \ˌsem-i-ˈfin-isht, ˌsem-ˌī-\ *adj* : partially finished or processed; *esp, of steel* : rolled from raw ingots into shapes (as bars, billets, or plates) suitable for further processing
semi·fit·ted \-ˈfit-əd\ *adj* : conforming somewhat to the lines of the body
semi·flex·i·ble \-ˈflek-sə-bəl\ *adj* **1** : somewhat flexible **2** *of a book cover* : consisting of a heavy flexible board under the covering material
semi·flu·id \-ˈflü-əd\ *adj* : having the qualities of both a fluid and a solid : VISCOUS ⟨fluid and ~ lubricants⟩ — **semifluid** *n*
semi·for·mal \-ˈfȯr-məl\ *adj* : being or suitable for an occasion of moderate formality ⟨a ~ dinner⟩ ⟨~ gowns⟩
semi·fos·sil \-ˈfäs-əl\ *adj* : incompletely fossilized
semi·gloss \ˈsem-i-ˌgläs, ˈsem-ˌī-, -ˌglȯs\ *adj* : having a low luster; *specif* : producing a finish midway between gloss and flat
semi·gov·ern·men·tal \ˌsem-i-ˌgəv-ər(n)-ˈment-ᵊl, ˌsem-ˌī-, -ˌgəv-ᵊm-ˈent-\ *adj* : having some governmental functions and powers
semi·group \ˈsem-i-ˌgrüp, ˈsem-ˌī-\ *n* : a mathematical set that is closed under an associative binary operation
semi–in·de·pen·dent \ˈsem-ē-ˌin-də-ˈpen-dənt, ˈsem-ˌī-\ *adj* : partially independent; *specif* : SEMIAUTONOMOUS
semi–in·di·rect \-ˌin-də-ˈrekt, -dī-\ *adj, of lighting* : using a translucent reflector that transmits some primary light while reflecting most of it
semi·leg·end·ary \ˌsem-i-ˈlej-ən-ˌder-ē, ˌsem-ˌī-\ *adj* : having historical foundation but elaborated in legend
semi·le·thal \-ˈlē-thəl\ *n* : a mutation that in the homozygous condition produces more than 50 percent mortality but not complete mortality — **semilethal** *adj*
semi·liq·uid \-ˈlik-wəd\ *adj* : having the qualities of both a liquid and a solid : SEMIFLUID ⟨~ manure⟩ — **semiliquid** *n*
semi·lit·er·ate \-ˈlit-ə-rət, -ˈli-trət\ *adj* **1 a** : able to read and write on an elementary level **b** : able to read but unable to write **2** : having limited knowledge or understanding : not well-versed ⟨differentiate . . . between efforts of professional engineers and of ~ technicians —L. A. Orleans⟩
semi·log \-ˈlȯg, -ˈläg\ *adj* : SEMILOGARITHMIC
semi·log·a·rith·mic \-ˌlȯg-ə-ˈrith-mik, -ˌläg-\ *adj* : having one scale logarithmic and the other arithmetic — used of graph paper or of a graph on such paper
semi·lu·nar \-ˈlü-nər\ *adj* [NL *semilunaris*, fr. L *semi-* + *lunaris* lunar] : shaped like a crescent
semilunar valve *n* : any of the crescentic cusps that occur as a set of three between the heart and the aorta and another of three between the heart and the pulmonary artery, are forced apart by pressure in the ventricles during systole and pushed together by pressure in the arteries during diastole, and prevent regurgitation of blood into the ventricles; *also* : either set of three cusps
semi·lus·trous \ˌsem-i-ˈləs-trəs, ˌsem-ˌī-\ *adj* : slightly lustrous
semi·man·u·fac·tures \-ˌman-(y)ə-ˈfak-chərz\ *n pl* : products (as steel or newsprint) that are made from raw materials and that require further processing to become finished goods
semi·mat *or* **semi·matt** *or* **semi·matte** \-ˈmat\ *adj* [*semi-* + ⁴*mat*] : having a slight luster
semi·met·al \-ˈmet-ᵊl\ *n* : an element (as arsenic) possessing metallic properties in an inferior degree and not malleable — **semi·me·tal·lic** \-mə-ˈtal-ik\ *adj*
semi·mi·cro \-ˈmī-(ˌ)krō\ *adj* : of, relating to, or dealing with quantities intermediate between those treated as micro and macro ⟨~ analysis for chlorine⟩ ⟨a ~ balance⟩
semi·moist \-ˈmȯist\ *adj* : slightly moist
semi·mo·nas·tic \-mə-ˈnas-tik\ *adj* : having some features characteristic of a monastic order
¹semi·month·ly \-ˈmən(t)th-lē\ *adj* : occurring twice a month
²semimonthly *n* : a semimonthly publication
³semimonthly *adv* : twice a month
semi·mys·ti·cal \ˌsem-i-ˈmis-ti-kəl, ˌsem-ˌī-\ *adj* : having some of the qualities of mysticism
sem·i·nal \ˈsem-ən-ᵊl\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *seminalis*, fr. *semin-, semen* seed — more at SEMEN] **1** : of, relating to, or consisting of seed or semen **2** : containing or contributing the seeds of later development : CREATIVE, ORIGINAL ⟨a ~ book⟩ ⟨one of the most ~ of the great poets⟩ — **sem·i·nal·ly** \-ᵊl-ē\ *adv*
seminal duct *n* : a tube or passage serving esp. or exclusively as an efferent duct of the testis and in man being made up of the tubules of the epididymis, the vas deferens, and the ejaculatory duct
seminal fluid *n* **1** : SEMEN **2** : the part of the semen that is produced by various accessory glands : semen excepting the spermatozoa
seminal vesicle *n* : a pouch on either side of the male reproductive tract that is variously formed in different mammals, is connected with the seminal duct, and serves for temporary storage of semen
sem·i·nar \ˈsem-ə-ˌnär\ *n* [G, fr. L *seminarium* seminary] **1** : a group of advanced students studying under a professor with each doing original research and all exchanging results through reports and discussions **2 a** (1) : a course of study pursued by a seminar (2) : an advanced or graduate course often featuring informality and discussion **b** : a scheduled meeting of a seminar or a room for such meetings **3** : a meeting for giving and discussing information
sem·i·nar·i·an \ˌsem-ə-ˈner-ē-ən\ *n* : a student in a seminary esp. of the Roman Catholic Church
sem·i·na·rist \ˈsem-ə-nə-rəst\ *n* : SEMINARIAN
sem·i·nary \ˈsem-ə-ˌner-ē\ *n, pl* **-nar·ies** [ME, seedbed, nursery, seminary, fr. L *seminarium*, fr. *semin-, semen* seed] **1** : an environment in which something originates and from which it is propagated ⟨a ~ of vice and crime⟩ **2 a** : an institution of secondary or higher education; *esp* : an academy for girls **b** : an institution for the training of candidates for the priesthood, ministry, or rabbinate
sem·i·nif·er·ous \ˌsem-ə-ˈnif-(ə-)rəs\ *adj* [L *semin-, semen* seed + E *-iferous*] : producing or bearing seed or semen
seminiferous tubule *n* : any of the coiled threadlike tubules that make up the bulk of the testis and are lined with a germinal epithelium from which the spermatozoa are produced
Sem·i·nole \ˈsem-ə-ˌnōl\ *n, pl* **Seminoles** *or* **Seminole** [Creek *simaló-ni, simanó-li*, lit., wild, fr. AmerSp *cimarrón*] : a member of an Amerindian people of Florida
semi·no·mad \ˌsem-i-ˈnō-ˌmad, ˌsem-ˌī-\ *n* : a member of a people living usu. in portable or temporary dwellings and practicing seasonal migration but having a base camp at which some crops are cultivated — **semi·no·mad·ic** \-nō-ˈmad-ik\ *adj*
semi·nude \-ˈn(y)üd\ *adj* : partially nude — **semi·nu·di·ty** \-ˈn(y)üd-ət-ē\ *n*
semi·of·fi·cial \ˌsem-ē-ə-ˈfish-əl, ˌsem-ˌī-\ *adj* : having some official authority or standing — **semi·of·fi·cial·ly** \-ˈfish-(ə-)lē\ *adv*
se·mi·ol·o·gy \ˌsē-ˌmī-ˈäl-ə-jē\ *n* [Gk *sēmeion* sign] : the study of signs; *esp* : SEMIOTIC — **se·mi·o·log·i·cal** \(ˌ)sē-ˌmī-ə-ˈläj-i-kəl\ *adj*
semi·opaque \ˌsem-ē-ō-ˈpāk, ˌsem-ˌī-\ *adj* : nearly opaque
se·mi·o·sis \ˌsē-ˌmī-ˈō-səs\ *n* [NL, fr. Gk *sēmeiōsis* observation of signs, fr. *sēmeioun*] : a process in which something functions as a sign to an organism
se·mi·ot·ic \ˌsē-ˌmī-ˈät-ik\ *or* **se·mi·ot·ics** \-iks\ *n, pl* **semiotics** [Gk *sēmeiōtikos* observant of signs, fr. *sēmeiousthai* to interpret signs, fr. *sēmeion* sign; akin to Gk *sēma* sign — more at SEMANTIC] : a general philosophical theory of signs and symbols that deals esp. with their function in both artificially constructed and natural languages and comprises syntactics, semantics, and pragmatics — **semiotic** *also* **semi·ot·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj* — **se·mi·o·ti·cian** \(ˌ)sē-ˌmī-ə-ˈtish-ən\ *n*
semi·pal·mat·ed \ˌsem-i-ˈpal-ˌmāt-əd, ˌsem-ˌī-, -ˈpä(l)m-ˌāt-\ *adj* : having the anterior toes joined only part way down with a web ⟨the ~ feet of the plover⟩

semi·par·a·sit·ic \-ˌpar-ə-ˈsit-ik\ *adj* : of, relating to, or being a hemiparasite
semi·per·ma·nent \-ˈpərm-(ə-)nənt\ *adj* : lasting or intended to last for a long time but not permanent
semi·per·me·able \-ˈpər-mē-ə-bəl\ *adj* : partially but not freely or wholly permeable; *specif* : permeable to some usu. small molecules but not to other usu. larger particles ⟨a ~ membrane⟩ — **semi·per·me·abil·i·ty** \-ˌpər-mē-ə-ˈbil-ət-ē\ *n*
semi·po·lit·i·cal \-pə-ˈlit-i-kəl\ *adj* : of, relating to, or involving some political features or activity
semi·por·ce·lain \-ˈpōr-s(ə-)lən, -ˈpȯr-\ *n* : any of several ceramic wares resembling or imitative of porcelain; *esp* : a relatively high-fired and hard-glazed white earthenware widely used for tableware
semi·post·al \ˌsem-i-ˈpōs-tᵊl, ˌsem-ˌī-\ *n* : a postage stamp sold at a premium over its postal value esp. for a humanitarian purpose
semi·pre·cious \-ˈpresh-əs\ *adj, of a gemstone* : of less commercial value than a precious stone
semi·pri·vate \-ˈprī-vət\ *adj* : of, receiving, or associated with hospital service giving a patient more privileges than a ward patient but fewer than a private patient
semi·pro \ˈsem-i-ˌprō, ˈsem-ˌī-\ *adj or n* : SEMIPROFESSIONAL
¹semi·pro·fes·sion·al \ˌsem-i-prə-ˈfesh-nəl, -ən-ᵊl, ˌsem-ˌī-\ *adj* **1** : engaging in an activity for pay or gain but not as a full-time occupation **2** : engaged in by semiprofessional players ⟨~ baseball⟩ — **semi·pro·fes·sion·al·ly** \-ē\ *adv*
²semiprofessional *n* : one who engages in an activity (as a sport) semiprofessionally
semi·pub·lic \ˌsem-i-ˈpəb-lik, ˌsem-ˌī-\ *adj* **1** : having some features of a public institution; *specif* : maintained as a public service by a private nonprofit organization **2** : open to some persons outside the regular constituency
semi·quan·ti·ta·tive \-ˈkwän(t)-ə-ˌtāt-iv\ *adj* : constituting or involving less than quantitative precision — **semi·quan·ti·ta·tive·ly** *adv*
semi·qua·ver \ˈsem-i-ˌkwā-vər, ˈsem-ˌī-\ *n* : SIXTEENTH NOTE
semi·re·li·gious \-ri-ˈlij-əs\ *adj* : somewhat religious in character
semi·re·tired \-ri-ˈtī(ə)rd\ *adj* : working only part-time esp. because of age or ill health
semi·re·tire·ment \-ˈtī(ə)r-mənt\ *n* : the state or condition of being semiretired
semi·rig·id \ˌsem-i-ˈrij-əd, ˌsem-ˌī-\ *adj* **1** : rigid to some degree or in some parts **2** *of an airship* : having a flexible cylindrical gas container with an attached stiffening keel that carries the load
semi·sa·cred \-ˈsā-krəd\ *adj* : SEMIRELIGIOUS
semi·se·cret \-ˈsē-krət\ *adj* : not publicly announced but widely known nevertheless
semi·sed·en·tary \-ˈsed-ᵊn-ˌter-ē\ *adj* : sedentary during part of the year and nomadic otherwise ⟨~ tribes⟩
semi·shrub \ˈsem-i-ˌshrəb, ˈsem-ˌī-, *esp South* -ˌsrəb\ *n* : SUBSHRUB, UNDERSHRUB — **semi·shrub·by** \-ē\ *adj*
semi·skilled \ˌsem-i-ˈskild, ˌsem-ˌī-\ *adj* : having or requiring less training than skilled labor and more than unskilled labor
semi·soft \-ˈsȯft\ *adj* : moderately soft; *specif* : firm but easily cut ⟨~ cheese⟩
semi·sol·id \-ˈsäl-əd\ *adj* : having the qualities of both a solid and a liquid : highly viscous — **semisolid** *n*
semi·sweet \-ˈswēt\ *adj* : slightly sweetened ⟨~ chocolate⟩
semi·syn·thet·ic \-sin-ˈthet-ik\ *adj* **1** : produced by chemical alteration of a natural starting material ⟨~ penicillins⟩ **2** : containing both chemically identified and complex natural ingredients ⟨a ~ diet⟩
Sem·ite \ˈsem-ˌīt, *esp Brit* ˈsē-ˌmīt\ *n* [F *sémite*, fr. *Sem* Shem, fr. LL, fr. Gk *Sēm*, fr. Heb *Shēm*] : a member of any of a group of peoples of southwestern Asia chiefly represented now by the Jews and Arabs but in ancient times also by the Babylonians, Assyrians, Aramaeans, Canaanites, and Phoenicians
semi·ter·res·tri·al \ˌsem-i-tə-ˈres-trē-əl, ˌsem-ˌī-, -ˈres(h)-chəl\ *adj* **1** : growing on boggy ground **2** : frequenting but not living wholly on land
¹Se·mit·ic \sə-ˈmit-ik\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or characteristic of the Semites; *specif* : JEWISH **2** : of, relating to, or constituting a subfamily of the Afro-Asiatic language family that includes Hebrew, Aramaic, Arabic, and Ethiopic
²Semitic *n* : any or all of the Semitic languages
Se·mit·i·cist \sə-ˈmit-ə-səst\ *n* : SEMITIST
Se·mit·ics \-ˈmit-iks\ *n pl but sing in constr* : the study of the language, literature, and history of Semitic peoples; *specif* : Semitic philology
Sem·i·tism \ˈsem-ə-ˌtiz-əm\ *n* **1 a** : Semitic character or qualities **b** : a characteristic feature of a Semitic language occurring in another language **2** : policy favorable to Jews : predisposition in favor of Jews
Sem·i·tist \-ət-əst\ *n* **1** : a scholar of the Semitic languages, cultures, or histories **2** *often not cap* : a person favoring or disposed to favor the Jews
semi·ton·al \ˌsem-i-ˈtōn-ᵊl, ˌsem-ˌī-\ *adj* : CHROMATIC 3a, SEMITONIC — **semi·ton·al·ly** \-ᵊl-ē\ *adv*
semi·tone \ˈsem-i-ˌtōn, ˈsem-ˌī-\ *n* : the tone at a half step; *also* : HALF STEP — **semi·ton·ic** \ˌsem-i-ˈtän-ik, ˌsem-ˌī-\ *adj* — **semi·ton·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
semi·trail·er \ˈsem-i-ˌtrā-lər, ˈsem-ˌī-\ *n* **1** : a freight trailer that when attached is supported at its forward end by the fifth wheel device of the truck tractor **2** : a trucking rig made up of a tractor and a semitrailer
semi·trans·lu·cent \ˌsem-i-ˌtran(t)s-ˈlüs-ᵊnt, -ˌtranz-\ *adj* : somewhat translucent
semi·trans·par·ent \-ˌtran(t)s-ˈpar-ənt, -ˈper-\ *adj* : imperfectly transparent
semi·trop·i·cal \-ˈträp-i-kəl\ *also* **semi·trop·ic** \-ik\ *adj* : SUBTROPICAL
semi·trop·ics \-iks\ *n pl* : SUBTROPICS
semi·vow·el \ˈsem-i-ˌvaù(-ə)l\ *n* **1** : one of the glides (as English \y\, \w\, or \r\) **2** : a letter representing a semivowel
¹semi·week·ly \ˌsem-i-ˈwē-klē, ˌsem-ˌī-\ *adj* : occurring twice a week — **semiweekly** *adv*
²semiweekly *n* : a semiweekly publication
semi·works \ˈsem-i-ˌwərks, ˈsem-ˌī-\ *n pl, often attrib* : a manufacturing plant operating on a limited commercial scale to provide final tests of a new product or process
semi·year·ly \ˌsem-i-ˈyi(ə)r-lē, ˌsem-ˌī-\ *adj* : occurring twice a year
sem·o·li·na \ˌsem-ə-ˈlē-nə\ *n* [It *semolino*, dim. of *semola* bran, fr. L *simila* finest wheat flour] : the purified middlings of hard wheat (as durum) used for pasta (as macaroni or spaghetti)
sem·per·vi·vum \ˌsem-pər-ˈvī-vəm\ *n* [NL, fr. L, neuter of *sempervivus* ever-living, fr. *semper* ever + *vivus* living — more at QUICK] : any of a large genus (*Sempervivum*) of Old World fleshy herbs of the orpine family often grown as ornamentals
sem·pi·ter·nal \ˌsem-pi-ˈtərn-ᵊl\ *adj* [ME, fr. LL *sempiternalis*, fr. L *sempiternus*, fr. *semper* ever, always, fr. *sem-* one, same (akin to ON *samr* same) + *per* through — more at SAME, FOR] : of never-ending duration : ETERNAL — **sem·pi·ter·nal·ly** \-ᵊl-ē\ *adv*
sem·pi·ter·ni·ty \-ˈtər-nət-ē\ *n* : ETERNITY
sem·ple \ˈsem-pəl\ *adj* [alter. of *simple*] *Scot* : of humble birth
sem·pli·ce \ˈsem-pli-ˌchā\ *adj or adv* [It, fr. L *simplic-*, *simplex* — more at SIMPLE] : SIMPLE — used as a direction in music
sem·pre \ˈsem-(ˌ)prā\ *adv* [It, fr. L *semper*] : ALWAYS — used in music directions ⟨~ legato⟩
semp·stress \ˈsem(p)-strəs\ *var of* SEAMSTRESS
¹sen \ˈsen\ *n, pl* **sen** [Jap] — see *yen* at MONEY table
²sen *n, pl* **sen** [Indonesian *sén*, prob. fr. E *cent*] — see *rupiah* at MONEY table
³sen *n, pl* **sen** [prob. fr. Indonesian *sén*] — see *dollar, riel* at MONEY table
⁴sen *abbr* **1** senate; senator **2** senior
se·nar·i·us \si-ˈnar-ē-əs, -ˈner-\ *n, pl* **se·nar·ii** \-ē-ˌī, -ē-ˌē\ [L, fr. *senarius* consisting of six each, fr. *seni* six each, fr. *sex* six — more at SIX] : a verse consisting of six feet esp. in Latin prosody
se·na·ry \ˈsen-ə-rē, ˈsēn-\ *adj* [L *senarius* consisting of six] : of, based upon, or characterized by six : compounded of six things or six parts ⟨~ scale⟩ ⟨~ division⟩
sen·ate \ˈsen-ət\ *n* [ME *senat*, fr. OF, fr. L *senatus*, lit., council of elders, fr. *sen-*, *senex* old, old man — more at SENIOR] **1** : an assembly or council usu. possessing high deliberative and legislative functions: as **a** : the supreme council of the ancient Roman republic and empire **b** : the second chamber in the bicameral legislature of a major political unit (as a nation, state, or province) **2** : the hall or chamber in which a senate meets **3** : a governing body of some universities charged with maintaining academic standards and regulations and usu. composed of the principal or representative members of the faculty
sen·a·tor \ˈsen-ət-ər, *as a title also* ˈsen-tər\ *n* [ME *senatour*, fr. OF *senateur*, fr. L *senator*, fr. *senatus*] : a member of a senate
sen·a·to·ri·al \ˌsen-ə-ˈtōr-ē-əl, -ˈtȯr-\ *adj* : of, relating to, or befitting a senator or a senate ⟨~ office⟩ ⟨~ rank⟩
senatorial courtesy *n* : a custom of the U.S. Senate of refusing to confirm a presidential appointment of an official in or from a state when the appointment is opposed by the senators or senior senator of the president's party from that state
senatorial district *n* : a territorial division from which a senator is elected — compare CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
sen·a·to·ri·an \ˌsen-ə-ˈtōr-ē-ən, -ˈtȯr-\ *adj* : SENATORIAL; *specif* : of or relating to the ancient Roman senate
sen·a·tor·ship \ˈsen-ət-ər-ˌship\ *n* : the office or position of senator
se·na·tus con·sul·tum \sə-ˌnät-ə-skən-ˈsəl-təm, -ˈsül-\ *n, pl* **sena·tus con·sul·ta** \-tə\ [L, decree of the senate] : a decree of the ancient Roman senate
¹send \ˈsend\ *vb* **sent** \ˈsent\; **send·ing** [ME *senden*, fr. OE *sendan*; akin to OHG *sendan* to send, OE *sith* road, journey, OIr *sēt*] *vt* **1** : to cause to go: as **a** : to propel or throw in a particular direction **b** : DELIVER ⟨*sent* a blow to his chin⟩ **c** : DRIVE ⟨*sent* the ball between the goalposts⟩ **2** : to cause to happen ⟨whatever fate may ~⟩ **3** : to dispatch by a means of communication **4 a** : to direct, order, or request to go **b** : to permit or enable to attend a term or session ⟨~ a child to college⟩ **c** : to direct by advice or reference **d** : to cause or order to depart : DISMISS **5 a** : to force to go : drive away **b** : to cause to assume a specified state ⟨*sent* him into a rage⟩ **6** : to cause to issue: as **a** : to pour out : DISCHARGE ⟨clouds ~*ing* forth rain⟩ **b** : UTTER ⟨~ forth a cry⟩ **c** : EMIT ⟨*sent* out waves of perfume⟩ **d** : to grow out (parts) in the course of development ⟨a plant ~*ing* forth shoots⟩ **7** : to cause to be carried to a destination; *esp* : to consign to death or a place of punishment **8** : to convey or cause to be conveyed or transmitted by an agent **9** : to strike or thrust so as to impel violently ⟨*sent* him sprawling⟩ **10** : DELIGHT, THRILL ~ *vi* **a** : to dispatch someone to convey a message or do an errand — often used with *out* ⟨~ out for coffee⟩ **b** : to dispatch a request or order — often used with *away* **2** : SCEND **3** : TRANSMIT — **send·er** *n* — **send for** : to request by message to come : SUMMON — **send packing** : to send off or dismiss roughly or in disgrace
²send *n* **1** : the lift of a wave **2** : SCEND 1
send down *vt, Brit* : to suspend or expel from a university
send in *vt* **1** : to cause to be delivered ⟨*send in* a letter of complaint⟩ **2** : to give (one's name or card) to a servant when making a call **3** : to send (a player) into an athletic contest
send–off \ˈsen-ˌdȯf\ *n* : a demonstration of goodwill and enthusiasm for the beginning of a new venture (as a trip)
send out *vt* **1** : ISSUE ⟨had *sent* the invitations *out*⟩ **2** : to dispatch (as an order) from a store or similar establishment
send–up \ˈsen-ˌdəp\ *n* [Brit. slang *send up* to take off, parody] : PARODY, TAKEOFF
send up \(ˈ)sen-ˈdəp\ *vt* : to sentence to imprisonment : send to jail
se·ne \ˈsā-(ˌ)nā\ *n* [Samoan, fr. E *cent*] — see *tala* at MONEY table
Sen·e·ca \ˈsen-i-kə\ *n, pl* **Seneca** *or* **Senecas** [D *Sennecaas*, pl., the Seneca, Oneida, Onondaga, and Cayuga people collectively, fr. Mahican *A'sinnika* Oneida, trans. of Iroquois *Onẽyóde'*, lit., stand-

ing rock] **1 a** : an Amerindian people of western New York **b** : a member of this people **2** : the language of the Seneca people

seneca snakeroot *n* : a No. American milkwort (*Polygala senega*) with tufted leafy stems terminated by small white flowers — called also *rattlesnake root, senega root;* compare SENEGA

se·ne·cio \si-'nē-sh(ē-ˌ)ō\ *n, pl* **-cios** [NL, genus name, fr. L, old man, groundsel (fr. its hoary pappus), fr. *sen-, senic-, senex* old man] : any of a genus (*Senecio*) of widely distributed composite plants that have alternate or basal leaves and flower heads with both tubular and radiate or only tubular flowers and with the ray flowers mostly yellow and pistillate

se·nec·ti·tude \si-'nek-tə-ˌt(y)üd\ *n* [ML *senectitudo,* alter. of L *senectus* old age, fr. *sen-, senic-, senex* old, old man — more at SENIOR] : the final stage of the normal life span

sen·e·ga \'sen-i-gə\ *or* **sen·e·ca** \-kə\ *n* **1** : the dried root of seneca snakeroot that contains an irritating saponin **2** : the dried root of a plant (*Polygala alba*) related to seneca snakeroot

senega root *n* [alter. of *Seneca root;* fr. its use by the Seneca as a remedy for snakebite] **1** : SENECA SNAKEROOT **2** : SENEGA 1

se·nes·cence \si-'nes-ᵊn(t)s\ *n* [*senescent,* fr. L *senescent-, senescens,* prp. of *senescere* to grow old, fr. *sen-, senex* old] **1** : the state of being old : the process of becoming old **2** : the plant growth phase from full maturity to death that is characterized by an accumulation of metabolic products, increase in respiratory rate, and a loss in dry weight esp. in leaves and fruit — **se·nes·cent** \-ᵊnt\ *adj*

sen·e·schal \'sen-ə-shəl\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, of Gmc origin; akin to Goth *sineigs* old, and to OHG *scalc* servant — more at SENIOR] : an agent or bailiff in charge of a lord's estate in feudal times

sen·gi \'seŋ-gē\ *n, pl* **sengi** [native name in Zaire] — see *zaire* at MONEY table

se·nhor \si-'nyō(ə)r, -'nyȯ(ə)r\ *n, pl* **senhors** *or* **se·nho·res** \-'nyōr-ēs(h), -'nyȯr-, -ēz(h)\ [Pg, fr. ML *senior* superior, lord, fr. L, adj., elder] : a Portuguese or Brazilian gentleman — used as a title equivalent to *Mister*

se·nho·ra \-'nyōr-ə, -'nyȯr-\ *n* [Pg, fem. of *senhor*] : a married Portuguese or Brazilian woman — used as a title equivalent to *Mrs.*

se·nho·ri·ta \ˌsē-nyə-'rēt-ə\ *n* [Pg, fr. dim. of *senhora*] : an unmarried Portuguese or Brazilian girl or woman — used as a title equivalent to *Miss*

se·nile \'sēn-ˌīl *also* 'sen-\ *adj* [L *senilis,* fr. *sen-, senex* old, old man] **1** : of, relating to, exhibiting, or characteristic of old age ⟨~ weakness⟩; *esp* : exhibiting a loss of mental faculties associated with old age **2** : approaching the end of a geological cycle of erosion — **se·nile·ly** \-ˌīl-lē\ *adv*

se·nil·i·ty \si-'nil-ət-ē *also* se-\ *n* : the quality or state of being senile; *specif* : the physical and mental infirmity of old age

[1]se·nior \'sē-nyər\ *n* [ME, fr. L, fr. *senior,* adj.] **1** : a person older than another ⟨five years his ~⟩ **2 a** : a person with higher standing or rank **b** : a senior fellow of a college at an English university **c** : a student in the year preceding graduation from a school of secondary or higher level

[2]senior *adj* [ME, fr. L, older, elder, compar. of *sen-, senex* old; akin to Goth *sineigs* old, Gk *henos*] **1 a** : of prior birth, establishment, or enrollment — often used to distinguish a father with the same given name as his son **b** : having reached the age of retirement ⟨~ citizens⟩ **2** : SUPERIOR ⟨the ~ officers⟩ **3** : of or relating to seniors ⟨the ~ class⟩ **4** : having a claim on corporate assets and income prior to other securities

senior chief petty officer *n* : an enlisted man in the navy or coast guard ranking above a chief petty officer and below a master chief petty officer

senior high school *n* : a school usu. including grades 10–12

se·nior·i·ty \sēn-'yȯr-ət-ē, -'yär-\ *n* **1** : the quality or state of being senior : PRIORITY **2** : a privileged status attained by length of continuous service (as in a company)

senior master sergeant *n* : a noncommissioned officer in the air force ranking above a master sergeant and below a chief master sergeant

sen·i·ti \'sen-ə-tē\ *n, pl* **seniti** [Tongan, modif. of E *cent*] — see *pa'anga* at MONEY table

sen·na \'sen-ə\ *n* [NL, fr. Ar *sanā*] **1** : any of a genus (*Cassia*) of leguminous herbs, shrubs, and trees native to warm regions; *esp* : one used medicinally **2** : the dried leaflets of various sennas (esp. *Cassia acutifolia* and *C. angustifolia*) used as a purgative

sen·net \'sen-ət\ *n* [prob. alter. of obs. *signet* (signal)] : a signal call on a trumpet or cornet for entrance or exit on the stage

sen·night *also* **se'n·night** \'sen-ˌīt\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *seofon nihta* seven nights] *archaic* : the space of seven nights and days : WEEK

sen·nit \'sen-ət\ *n* [perh. fr. F *coussinet,* dim. of *coussin* cushion; fr. its use to protect cables from fraying] **1** : a braided cord or fabric (as of plaited rope yarns) **2** : a straw or grass braid for hats

se·nor *or* **se·ñor** \sān-'yȯ(ə)r\ *n, pl* **senors** *or* **se·ño·res** \-'yō(ə)r-ˌās, -'yȯ(ə)r-\ [Sp *señor,* fr. ML *senior* superior, lord, fr. L, adj., elder] : a Spanish or Spanish-speaking man — used as a title equivalent to *Mister*

se·no·ra *or* **se·ño·ra** \sān-'yōr-ə, -'yȯr-\ *n* [Sp *señora,* fem. of *señor*] : a married Spanish or Spanish-speaking woman — used as a title equivalent to *Mrs.*

se·no·ri·ta *or* **se·ño·ri·ta** \ˌsān-yə-'rēt-ə\ *n* [Sp *señorita,* fr. dim. of *señora*] : an unmarried Spanish or Spanish-speaking girl or woman — used as a title equivalent to *Miss*

sen·sate \'sen-ˌsāt\ *adj* [ML, fr. LL, endowed with sense, fr. L *sensus* sense] **1** : relating to, apprehending, or apprehended through the senses **2** : preoccupied with things that can be experienced through a sense modality — **sen·sate·ly** *adv*

sen·sa·tion \sen-'sā-shən, sən-\ *n* [ML *sensation-, sensatio,* fr. LL *sensatus* endowed with sense] **1 a** : a mental process (as seeing, hearing, or smelling) due to immediate bodily stimulation often as distinguished from awareness of the process — compare PERCEPTION **b** : awareness (as of heat or pain) due to stimulation of a sense organ **c** : a state of consciousness of a kind usu. due to physical objects or internal bodily changes ⟨a binding ~ in his chest⟩ **d** : an indefinite bodily feeling ⟨a ~ of buoyancy⟩ **2** : something (as a physical object, sense-datum, pain, or afterimage) that causes or is the object of sensation **3 a** : a state of excited interest or feeling ⟨their elopement caused a ~⟩ **b** : a cause of such excitement ⟨the fire was the ~ of the season⟩; *esp* : one (as a person) in some respect exceptional or outstanding

syn SENSATION, SENSE, FEELING, SENSIBILITY *shared meaning element* : the power to respond or the capacity for or act of responding to stimuli. SENSATION may center attention on the fact of perception through or as if through the sense organs whether with or without a higher intellectual component ⟨the stage of *sensation* precedes that of rational comprehension⟩ ⟨the visual impression is a *sensation* and is derived from past experience —Adelbert Ames Jr.⟩ SENSE may differ little from *sensation* ⟨as the fire burned lower a *sense* of chill crept over them⟩ or it may be applied specifically to any of the basic sensory powers ⟨the *sense* of smell⟩ but in its typical application to the power or act of responding it is likely to stress intellectual awareness and full consciousness ⟨the *sense* of frustration felt among students —J. M. Feron⟩ ⟨her life was shadowed by a deep *sense* of loss⟩ FEELING may apply to sensations (as touch, heat, cold, or pressure) that are perceived through the skin ⟨a *feeling* of warmth⟩ or to a complex response to stimulation involving sensation, emotion, and a degree of thought ⟨the plea left her with the *feeling* that she ought to help⟩ or to the power to respond ⟨a person of strong *feeling* and responsive spirit⟩ SENSIBILITY often replaces *feeling* in this last use, especially when a keenly impressionable nature is to be implied ⟨the extreme *sensibility* to physical suffering which characterizes modern civilization —W. R. Inge⟩ or excessive or affected responsiveness suggested ⟨the . . . sentimentalist . . . who spends his life in a weltering sea of *sensibility* —William James⟩

sen·sa·tion·al \-shnəl, -shən-ᵊl\ *adj* **1** : of or relating to sensation or the senses **2** : arousing or tending to arouse (as by lurid details) a quick, intense, and usu. superficial interest, curiosity, or emotional reaction **3** : exceedingly or unexpectedly excellent or great — **sen·sa·tion·al·ly** \-ē\ *adv*

sen·sa·tion·al·ism \-ˌiz-əm\ *n* **1** : the use or effect of sensational subject matter or treatment **2** : empiricism that limits experience as a source of knowledge to sensation or sense perceptions — **sen·sa·tion·al·ist** \-əst\ *n* — **sen·sa·tion·al·is·tic** \-ˌsā-shnəl-'is-tik, -shən-ᵊl-\ *adj*

[1]sense \'sen(t)s\ *n* [MF or L; MF *sens* sensation, feeling, mechanism of perception, meaning, fr. L *sensus,* fr. *sensus,* pp. of *sentire* to perceive, feel; akin to OHG *sin* mind, sense, OE *sith* journey — more at SEND] **1** : a meaning conveyed or intended : IMPORT, SIGNIFICATION; *esp* : one of a set of meanings a word or phrase may bear esp. as segregated in a dictionary entry **2 a** : the faculty of perceiving by means of sense organs **b** : a specialized animal function or mechanism (as sight, hearing, smell, taste, or touch) basically involving a stimulus and a sense organ **c** : the sensory mechanisms constituting a unit distinct from other functions (as movement or thought) **3** : conscious awareness or rationality — usu. used in pl. ⟨when he came to his ~s he was shocked to hear what he had done⟩ **4 a** : a particular sensation or kind or quality of sensation ⟨a good ~ of balance⟩ **b** : a definite but often vague awareness or impression ⟨felt a ~ of insecurity⟩ ⟨a ~ of danger⟩ **c** : a motivating awareness ⟨a ~ of shame⟩ **d** : a discerning awareness and appreciation ⟨her ~ of humor⟩ **5** : CONSENSUS ⟨the ~ of the meeting⟩ **6 a** : capacity for effective application of the powers of the mind as a basis for action or response : INTELLIGENCE **b** : sound mental capacity and understanding typically marked by shrewdness and practicality; *also* : agreement with or satisfaction of such power ⟨this decision makes ~⟩ **7** : one of two opposite directions of motion (as of a point, line, or surface)

syn **1** see SENSATION
2 SENSE, COMMON SENSE, GUMPTION, JUDGMENT, WISDOM *shared meaning element* : ability to reach intelligent conclusions
3 see MEANING

[2]sense *vt* **sensed; sens·ing** **1 a** : to perceive by the senses **b** : to be or become conscious of ⟨~ danger⟩ **2** : GRASP, COMPREHEND **3** : to detect (as a symbol or radiation) automatically

sense–datum *n, pl* **sense–data** : an immediate unanalyzable private object of sensation

sense·ful \'sen(t)s-fəl\ *adj* : REASONABLE, JUDICIOUS

sense·less \'sen(t)-sləs\ *adj* : destitute of, deficient in, or contrary to sense: as **a** : UNCONSCIOUS ⟨knocked ~⟩ **b** : FOOLISH, STUPID ⟨it was some ~ practical joke —A. Conan Doyle⟩ **c** : MEANINGLESS, PURPOSELESS ⟨a ~ murder⟩ — **sense·less·ly** *adv* — **sense·less·ness** *n*

sense organ *n* : a bodily structure that receives a stimulus (as heat or sound waves) and is affected in such a manner as to initiate a wave of excitation in associated sensory nerve fibers which convey specific impulses to the central nervous system where they are interpreted as corresponding sensations : RECEPTOR

sen·si·bil·ia \ˌsen(t)-sə-'bil-ē-ə, -'bil-yə\ *n pl* [LL, fr. neut. pl. of L *sensibilis* sensible] : what may be sensed

sen·si·bil·i·ty \ˌsen(t)-sə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n, pl* **-ties** **1** : ability to receive sensations : SENSITIVENESS ⟨tactile ~⟩ **2** : peculiar susceptibility to a pleasurable or painful impression (as from praise or a slight) — often used in pl. **3** : awareness of and responsiveness toward something (as emotion in another) **4** : refined or excessive sensitiveness in emotion and taste with especial responsiveness to the pathetic ***syn*** see SENSATION

[1]sen·si·ble \'sen(t)-sə-bəl\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *sensibilis,* fr. *sensus,* pp.] **1** : of a kind to be felt or perceived: as **a** : perceptible to the senses or to reason or understanding ⟨felt a ~ chill⟩ ⟨his distress was ~ from his manner⟩ **b** : perceptibly large : CONSID-

ERABLE ⟨a ~ error⟩ **c** (1) : perceptible as real or material : SUBSTANTIAL ⟨the ~ world in which we live⟩ (2) : of a kind to arouse emotional response ⟨his whipping was a ~ expression of his father's anger⟩ **2 a** : capable of receiving sensory impressions ⟨~ to pain⟩ **b** : receptive to external influences : SENSITIVE ⟨disturbed in the most ~ reaches of his spirit⟩ **3 a** : perceiving through the senses or mind : COGNIZANT ⟨~ of the increasing heat⟩; *also* : convinced by perceived evidence : SATISFIED ⟨~ of my error⟩ **b** : emotionally aware and responsive ⟨we are ~ of your problems⟩ **c** : CONSCIOUS **4** : having, containing, or indicative of good sense or reason : RATIONAL, REASONABLE ⟨~ men⟩ ⟨made a ~ answer⟩ ***syn*** **1** see MATERIAL ***ant*** intelligible **2** see PERCEPTIBLE ***ant*** insensible **3** see AWARE ***ant*** insensible (*of* or *to*) **4** see WISE ***ant*** absurd, foolish, fatuous — **sen·si·ble·ness** *n* — **sen·si·bly** \-blē\ *adv*

²sensible *n* : something that can be sensed

sen·sil·lum \sen-'sil-əm\ *n, pl* **-sil·la** \-'sil-ə\ [NL, dim. of ML *sensus* sense organ, fr. L, sense] : a simple epithelial sense organ usu. in the form of a spine, plate, rod, cone, or peg that is composed of one or a few cells with a nerve connection

¹sen·si·tive \'sen(t)-sət-iv, 'sen(t)-stiv\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF *sensitif*, fr. ML *sensitivus*, irreg. fr. L *sensus*] **1** : SENSORY 2 **2 a** : receptive to sense impressions **b** : capable of being stimulated or excited by external agents (as light, gravity, or contact) ⟨a photographic emulsion ~ to red light⟩ ⟨~ protoplasm⟩ **3** : highly responsive or susceptible: as **a** (1) : easily hurt or damaged; *esp* : easily hurt emotionally (2) : delicately aware of the attitudes and feelings of others or of the nuances of a work of art **b** : excessively or abnormally susceptible : HYPERSENSITIVE ⟨~ to egg protein⟩ **c** : readily fluctuating in price or demand ⟨~ commodities⟩ **d** : capable of indicating minute differences : DELICATE ⟨~ scales⟩ **e** : readily affected or changed by various agents (as light or mechanical shock) **f** : high in radio sensitivity **4** : concerned with highly classified government information or involving discretionary authority over important policy matters — **sen·si·tive·ly** *adv* — **sen·si·tive·ness** *n*

²sensitive *n* **1** : a person having occult or psychical abilities **2** : a sensitive person

sensitive plant *n* : any of several mimosas (esp. *Mimosa pudica*) with leaves that fold or droop when touched; *broadly* : a plant responding to touch with movement

sen·si·tiv·i·ty \ˌsen(t)-sə-'tiv-ət-ē\ *n, pl* **-ties** : the quality or state of being sensitive: as **a** : the capacity of an organism or sense organ to respond to stimulation : IRRITABILITY **b** : the quality or state of being hypersensitive **c** : the degree to which a radio receiving set responds to incoming waves **d** : the capacity of being easily hurt **e** : awareness of the needs and emotions of others

sen·si·ti·za·tion \ˌsen(t)-sət-ə-'zā-shən, ˌsen(t)-stə-'zā-\ *n* **1** : the quality or state of being sensitized (as to an antigen) **2** : the action or process of sensitizing

sen·si·tize \'sen(t)-sə-ˌtīz\ *vb* **-tized; -tiz·ing** [*sensitive* + *-ize*] *vt* : to make sensitive or hypersensitive ~ *vi* : to become sensitive — **sen·si·tiz·er** *n*

sen·si·tom·e·ter \ˌsen(t)-sə-'täm-ət-ər\ *n* [ISV *sensitive* + *-o-* + *-meter*] : an instrument for measuring sensitivity of photographic material — **sen·si·to·met·ric** \ˌsen(t)-sət-ə-'me-trik\ *adj* — **sen·si·tom·e·try** \-sə-'täm-ə-trē\ *n*

sen·sor \'sen-ˌsȯ(ə)r, 'sen(t)-sər\ *n* [L *sensus*, pp. of *sentire* to perceive — more at SENSE] : a device that responds to a physical stimulus (as heat, light, sound, pressure, magnetism, or a particular motion) and transmits a resulting impulse (as for measurement or operating a control); *also* : SENSE ORGAN

sen·so·ri·al \sen-'sōr-ē-əl, -'sȯr-\ *adj* : SENSORY — **sen·so·ri·al·ly** \-ə-lē\ *adv*

sen·so·ri·mo·tor \ˌsen(t)s-(ə-)rē-'mōt-ər\ *adj* : of, relating to, or functioning in both sensory and motor aspects of bodily activity

sen·so·ri·neu·ral \-'n(y)ůr-əl\ *adj* [*sensory* + *neural*] : of, relating to, or involving the aspects of sense perception mediated by nerves ⟨~ hearing loss⟩

sen·so·ri·um \sen-'sōr-ē-əm, -'sȯr-\ *n, pl* **-ri·ums** *or* **-ria** \-ē-ə\ [LL, sense organ, fr. L *sensus* sense] : the parts of the brain or the mind concerned with the reception and interpretation of sensory stimuli; *broadly* : the entire sensory apparatus

sen·so·ry \'sen(t)s-(ə-)rē\ *adj* **1** : of or relating to sensation or to the senses **2** : conveying nerve impulses from the sense organs to the nerve centers : AFFERENT

sen·su·al \'sench-(ə-)wəl, 'sen-shəl\ *adj* [ME, fr. LL *sensualis*, fr. L *sensus* sense + *-alis* -al] **1** : SENSORY **2** : relating to or consisting in the gratification of the senses or the indulgence of appetite : FLESHLY **3 a** : devoted to or preoccupied with the senses or appetites **b** : VOLUPTUOUS **c** : deficient in moral, spiritual, or intellectual interests : WORLDLY; *esp* : IRRELIGIOUS ***syn*** see CARNAL — **sen·su·al·i·ty** \ˌsen-chə-'wal-ət-ē\ *n* — **sen·su·al·ly** \'sench-(ə-)wə-lē, 'sen-shə-lē\ *adv*

sen·su·al·ism \'sench-(ə-)wə-ˌliz-əm, 'sen-shə-ˌliz-\ *n* : persistent or excessive pursuit of sensual pleasures and interests — **sen·su·al·ist** \-ləst\ *n* — **sen·su·al·is·tic** \ˌsench-(ə-)wə-'lis-tik, ˌsen-shə-'lis-\ *adj*

sen·su·al·ize \'sench-(ə-)wə-ˌlīz, 'sen-shə-ˌlīz\ *vt* **-ized; -iz·ing** : to make sensual — **sen·su·al·iza·tion** \ˌsench-(ə-)wə-lə-'zā-shən, ˌsen-shə-lə-\ *n*

sen·sum \'sen(t)-səm\ *n, pl* **sen·sa** \-sə\ [ML, fr. L, neut. of *sensus*, pp. of *sentire* to feel — more at SENSE] : SENSE-DATUM

sen·su·ous \'sench-(ə-)wəs\ *adj* [L *sensus* sense + E *-ous*] **1 a** : of or relating to the senses or sensible objects **b** : producing or characterized by gratification of the senses : having strong sensory appeal ⟨~ pleasure⟩ **2** : characterized by sense impressions or imagery aimed at the senses ⟨~ verse⟩ **3** : highly susceptible to influence through the senses — **sen·su·os·i·ty** \ˌsen-chə-'wäs-ət-ē\ *n* — **sen·su·ous·ly** \'sench-ə-wə-slē\ *adv* — **sen·su·ous·ness** *n*

sent *past of* SEND

¹sen·tence \'sent-ᵊn(t)s, -ᵊnz\ *n* [ME, fr. OF, fr. L *sententia*, lit., feeling, opinion, fr. (assumed) *sentent-, sentens*, irreg. prp. of *sentire* to feel — more at SENSE] **1** *obs* : OPINION; *esp* : a conclusion given on request or reached after deliberation **2 a** : JUDGMENT 2a; *specif* : one formally pronounced by a court or judge in a criminal proceeding and specifying the punishment to be inflicted upon the convict **b** : the punishment so imposed ⟨serve out a ~⟩ **3** *archaic* : MAXIM, SAW **4** : a grammatically self-contained speech unit consisting of a word or a syntactically related group of words that expresses an assertion, a question, a command, a wish, or an exclamation, that in writing usu. begins with a capital letter and concludes with appropriate end punctuation, and that in speaking is phonetically distinguished by various patterns of stress, pitch, and pauses **5** : PERIOD 1b **6** : a meaningful logical formula : PROPOSITION 2a — **sen·ten·tial** \sen-'ten-chəl\ *adj* — **sen·ten·tial·ly** \-chə-lē\ *adv*

²sentence *vt* **sen·tenced; sen·tenc·ing** **1** : to impose a sentence on **2** : to cause to suffer something ⟨*sentenced* these most primitive cultures to extinction —E. W. Count⟩

sentence fragment *n* : a word, phrase, or clause that usu. has in speech the intonation of a sentence but lacks the grammatically self-contained structure usu. found in the sentences of formal and esp. written composition

sentence stress *n* : the manner in which stresses are distributed on the syllables of words assembled into sentences — called also *sentence accent*

sen·ten·tia \sen-'ten-ch(ē-)ə\ *n, pl* **-ti·ae** \-chē-ˌē\ [L, lit., feeling, opinion — more at SENTENCE] : APHORISM — usu. used in pl.

sentential calculus *n* : PROPOSITIONAL CALCULUS

sentential function *n* : an expression that contains one or more variables and becomes a declarative sentence when constants are substituted for the variables

sen·ten·tious \sen-'ten-chəs\ *adj* [ME, fr. L *sententiosus*, fr. *sententia* sentence, maxim] **1** : terse, aphoristic, or moralistic in expression : PITHY, EPIGRAMMATIC **2 a** : given to or abounding in aphoristic expression **b** : given to or abounding in excessive moralizing — **sen·ten·tious·ly** *adv* — **sen·ten·tious·ness** *n*

sen·ti \'sent-ē\ *n, pl* **senti** [Swahili, modif. of E *cent*] — see *shilingi* at MONEY table

sen·tience \'sen-ch(ē-)ən(t)s, 'sent-ē-ən(t)s\ *n* **1** : a sentient quality or state **2** : feeling or sensation as distinguished from perception and thought

sen·tient \'sen-ch(ē-)ənt, 'sent-ē-ənt\ *adj* [L *sentient-, sentiens*, prp. of *sentire* to perceive, feel] **1** : responsive to or conscious of sense impressions **2** : AWARE **3** : finely sensitive in perception or feeling — **sen·tient·ly** *adv*

sen·ti·ment \'sent-ə-mənt\ *n* [F or ML; F, fr. ML *sentimentum*, fr. L *sentire*] **1 a** : an attitude, thought, or judgment prompted by feeling : PREDILECTION **b** : a specific view or notion : OPINION **2 a** : EMOTION **b** : refined feeling : delicate sensibility esp. as expressed in a work of art **c** : emotional idealism **d** : a romantic or nostalgic feeling verging on sentimentality **3 a** : an idea colored by emotion **b** : the emotional significance of a passage or expression as distinguished from its verbal context ***syn*** see FEELING, OPINION

sen·ti·men·tal \ˌsent-ə-'ment-ᵊl\ *adj* **1 a** : marked or governed by feeling, sensibility, or emotional idealism **b** : resulting from feeling rather than reason or thought **2** : having an excess of sentiment or sensibility — **sen·ti·men·tal·ly** \-ᵊl-ē\ *adv*

sen·ti·men·tal·ism \ˌsent-ə-'ment-ᵊl-ˌiz-əm\ *n* **1** : the disposition to favor or indulge in sentimentality **2** : an excessively sentimental conception or statement — **sen·ti·men·tal·ist** \-ᵊl-əst\ *n*

sen·ti·men·tal·i·ty \ˌsent-ə-ˌmen-'tal-ət-ē, -mən-\ *n, pl* **-ties** **1** : the quality or state of being sentimental esp. to excess or in affectation **2** : a sentimental idea or its expression

sen·ti·men·tal·ize \-'ment-ᵊl-ˌīz\ *vb* **-ized; -iz·ing** *vi* : to indulge in sentiment ~ *vt* : to look upon or imbue with sentiment — **sen·ti·men·tal·iza·tion** \-ˌment-ᵊl-ə-'zā-shən\ *n*

sen·ti·mo \sen-'tē-(ˌ)mō\ *n, pl* **-mos** [Pilipino, fr. Sp *céntimo*] — see *peso* at MONEY table

¹sen·ti·nel \'sent-nəl, -ᵊn-əl\ *n* [MF *sentinelle*, fr. OIt *sentinella*, fr. *sentina* vigilance, fr. *sentire* to perceive, fr. L] : SENTRY

²sentinel *vt* **-neled** *or* **-nelled; -nel·ing** *or* **-nel·ling** **1** : to watch over as a sentinel **2** : to furnish with a sentinel **3** : to post as sentinel

sen·try \'sen-trē\ *n, pl* **sentries** [perh. fr. obs. *sentry* (sanctuary, watch tower)] : GUARD, WATCH; *esp* : a soldier standing guard at a point of passage (as a gate)

sentry box *n* : a shelter for a sentry on his post

sep *abbr* separate; separated

Sep *abbr* September

se·pal \'sēp-əl, 'sep-\ *n* [NL *sepalum*, fr. *sepa-* (fr. Gk *skepē* covering) + *-lum* (as in *petalum* petal); akin to Lith *kepùrė* head covering] : one of the modified leaves comprising a calyx — see FLOWER illustration

se·pal·oid \-ə-ˌlȯid\ *adj* : resembling or functioning as a sepal

-sep·al·ous \'sep-ə-ləs\ *adj comb form* [*sepal*] : having (such or so many) sepals ⟨gamo*sepalous*⟩

sep·a·ra·ble \'sep-(ə-)rə-bəl\ *adj* **1** : capable of being separated or dissociated **2** *obs* : causing separation — **sep·a·ra·bil·i·ty** \ˌsep-(ə-)rə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* — **sep·a·ra·ble·ness** *n* — **sep·a·ra·bly** \-blē\ *adv*

¹sep·a·rate \'sep-(ə-)ˌrāt\ *vb* **-rat·ed; -rat·ing** [ME *separaten*, fr. L *separatus*, pp. of *separare*, fr. *se-* apart + *parare* to prepare, procure — more at SECEDE, PARE] *vt* **1 a** : to set or keep apart : DISCONNECT, SEVER **b** : to make a distinction between : DISCRIMINATE, DISTINGUISH ⟨~ religion from magic⟩ **c** : SORT ⟨~ mail⟩ **d** : to disperse in space or time : SCATTER ⟨widely *separated* homesteads⟩ **2** *archaic* : to set aside for a special purpose : CHOOSE, DEDICATE **3** : to part by a legal separation: **a** : to sever conjugal ties with **b** : to sever contractual relations with : DISCHARGE ⟨*separated* from the army⟩ **4** : to block off : SEGREGATE **5 a** : to isolate from a mixture : EXTRACT ⟨~ cream from milk⟩ **b** : to divide into constituent parts ~ *vi* **1** : to become divided or detached **2 a** : to sever an association : WITHDRAW **b** : to cease to live together as man and wife **3** : to go in different directions **4** : to become isolated from a mixture

syn SEPARATE, PART, DIVIDE, SEVER, SUNDER, DIVORCE *shared meaning element* : to become or cause to become disunited or disjoined ***ant*** combine

²sep·a·rate \'sep-(ə-)rət\ *adj* **1 a** *archaic* : SOLITARY, SECLUDED **b** : IMMATERIAL, DISEMBODIED **c** : set or kept apart : DETACHED **2 a** : not shared with another : INDIVIDUAL ⟨~ rooms⟩ **b** *often cap* : estranged from a parent body ⟨*separate* churches⟩ **3 a** : existing by itself : AUTONOMOUS **b** : dissimilar in nature or identity ***syn*** see DISTINCT, SINGLE — **sep·a·rate·ly** \-(ə-)rət-lē, 'sep-ərt-lē\ *adv* — **sep·a·rate·ness** \-(ə-)rət-nəs\ *n*

³sep·a·rate \'sep-(ə-)rət\ *n* **1** : OFFPRINT **2** : an article of dress designed to be worn interchangeably with others to form various costume combinations — usu. used in pl.

sep·a·ra·tion \ˌsep-ə-'rā-shən\ *n* **1** : the act or process of separating : the state of being separated **2 a** : a point, line, or means of division **b** : an intervening space : GAP **3 a** : cessation of cohabitation between husband and wife by mutual agreement or judicial decree **b** : termination of a contractual relationship (as employment or military service)

sep·a·ra·tion·ist \-sh(ə-)nəst\ *n* : SEPARATIST

sep·a·rat·ism \'sep-(ə-)rət-ˌiz-əm\ *n* : a belief in, movement for, or state of separation (as schism, secession, or segregation)

sep·a·rat·ist \'sep-(ə-)rət-əst, 'sep-ə-ˌrāt-\ *n, often cap* : one that favors separatism: as **a** *cap* : one of a group of 16th and 17th century English Protestants preferring to separate from rather than to reform the Church of England **b** : an advocate of independence or autonomy for a part of a political unit (as a nation) **c** : an advocate of racial or cultural separation — **separatist** *adj, often cap* — **sep·a·ra·tis·tic** \ˌsep-(ə-)rə-'tis-tik\ *adj*

sep·a·ra·tive \'sep-ə-ˌrāt-iv, 'sep-(ə-)rət-\ *adj* : tending toward, causing, or expressing separation

sep·a·ra·tor \'sep-(ə-)ˌrāt-ər\ *n* : one that separates; *specif* : a device for separating liquids of different specific gravities (as cream from milk) or liquids from solids

sepd *abbr* separated

sepg *abbr* separating

Se·phar·di \sə-'färd-ē\ *n, pl* **Se·phar·dim** \-'färd-əm\ [LHeb *sĕphāradhī*, fr. *sĕphāradh* Spain, fr. Heb, region where Jews were once exiled (Obad 1: 20)] : a member of the occidental branch of European Jews or one of their descendants that settled in Spain and Portugal — **Se·phar·dic** \-'färd-ik\ *adj*

¹se·pia \'sē-pē-ə\ *n* [NL, genus comprising cuttlefish, fr. L, cuttlefish, fr. Gk *sēpia;* akin to Gk *sēpein* to make putrid, *sapros* rotten] **1 a** : the inky secretion of a cuttlefish **b** : a brown melanin-containing pigment from the ink of cuttlefishes **2** : a print or photograph of a brown color resembling sepia **3** : a brownish gray to dark olive brown

²sepia *adj* **1** : of the color sepia **2** : made of or done in sepia

se·pi·o·lite \'sē-pē-ə-ˌlīt\ *n* [G *sepiolith*, fr. Gk *sēpion* cuttlebone (fr. *sēpia*) + G *-lith* -lite] : MEERSCHAUM 1

sepn *abbr* separation

se·poy \'sē-ˌpȯi\ *n* [Pg *sipai*, fr. Hindi *sipāhī*, fr. Per, cavalryman] : a native of India employed as a soldier by a European power

sep·pu·ku \se-'pü-(ˌ)kü, 'sep-ə-ˌkü\ *n* [Jap] : HARA-KIRI

sep·sis \'sep-səs\ *n, pl* **sep·ses** \'sep-ˌsēz\ [NL, fr. Gk *sēpsis* decay, fr. *sēpein* to make putrid] : a toxic condition resulting from the spread of bacteria or their products from a focus of infection; *esp* : SEPTICEMIA

sept \'sept\ *n* [prob. alter. of *sect*] : a branch of a family; *esp* : CLAN

Sept *abbr* September

sep·tal \'sep-tᵊl\ *adj* : of or relating to a septum

sep·tate \'sep-ˌtāt\ *adj* : divided by or having a septum

Sep·tem·ber \sep-'tem-bər, səp-\ *n* [ME *Septembre*, fr. OF, fr. L *September* (seventh month), fr. *septem* seven — more at SEVEN] : the 9th month of the Gregorian calendar

sep·te·nar·i·us \ˌsep-tə-'nar-ē-əs, -'ner-\ *n, pl* **-nar·ii** \-ē-ˌī, -ē-ˌē\ [L, fr. *septenarius* of seven, fr. *septeni* seven each, fr. *septem* seven] : a verse consisting of seven feet esp. in Latin prosody

sep·ten·de·cil·lion \(ˌ)sep-ˌten-di-'sil-yən\ *n, often attrib* [L *septendecim* seventeen (fr. *septem* seven + *decem* ten) + E *-illion* (as in *million*) — more at TEN] — see NUMBER table

sep·ten·ni·al \sep-'ten-ē-əl\ *adj* [LL *septennium* period of seven years, fr. L *septem* + *-ennium* (as in *biennium*)] **1** : consisting of or lasting for seven years **2** : occurring or being done every seven years — **sep·ten·ni·al·ly** \-ə-lē\ *adv*

sep·ten·tri·on \sep-'ten-trē-ˌän, -trē-ən\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *septentrio*, sing. of *septentriones* the seven stars of Ursa Major or Ursa Minor, lit., the seven plow oxen, fr. *septem* seven + *trio* plow ox] *obs* : the northern regions : NORTH

sep·ten·tri·o·nal \-trē-ən-ᵊl\ *adj* : NORTHERN

sep·tet \sep-'tet\ *n* [G *septet*, fr. L *septem*] **1** : a musical composition for seven instruments or voices **2** : a group or set of seven; *esp* : the performers of a septet

sep·tic \'sep-tik\ *adj* [L *septicus*, fr. Gk *sēptikos*, fr. *sēpein* to make putrid — more at SEPIA] **1** : PUTREFACTIVE **2** : relating to, involving, or characteristic of sepsis

sep·ti·ce·mia \ˌsep-tə-'sē-mē-ə\ *n* [NL, fr. L *septicus* + NL *-emia*] : invasion of the bloodstream by virulent microorganisms from a local seat of infection accompanied esp. by chills, fever, and prostration — called also *blood poisoning;* compare SEPSIS — **sep·ti·ce·mic** \-'sē-mik\ *adj*

sep·ti·ci·dal \ˌsep-tə-'sīd-ᵊl\ *adj* [NL *septum* + L *-cidere* to cut, fr. *caedere* — more at CONCISE] : dehiscent longitudinally at or along a septum ⟨a ~ fruit⟩

septic sore throat *n* : an inflammatory sore throat caused by hemolytic streptococci and marked by fever, prostration, and toxemia

septic tank *n* : a tank in which the solid matter of continuously flowing sewage is disintegrated by bacteria

sep·tif·ra·gal \sep-'tif-ri-gəl\ *adj* [NL *septum* + L *frangere* to break — more at BREAK] : dehiscing by breaking away from the dissepiments ⟨a ~ pod⟩

sep·til·lion \sep-'til-yən\ *n, often attrib* [F, fr. L *septem* + F *-illion* (as in *million*) — more at SEVEN] — see NUMBER table

sep·tu·a·ge·nar·i·an \(ˌ)sep-ˌt(y)ü-ə-jə-'ner-ē-ən, ˌsep-tə-ˌwaj-ə-\ *n* [LL *septuagenarius* 70 years old, fr. L, of or containing 70, fr. *septuageni* 70 each, fr. *septuaginta*] : a person who is in his seventies — **septuagenarian** *adj*

Sep·tu·a·ge·si·ma \ˌsep-tə-wə-'jes-ə-mə, -'jā-zə-\ *n* [ME, fr. LL, fr. L, fem. of *septuagesimus* 70th, fr. *septuginta* seventy; fr. its being approximately 70 days before Easter] : the third Sunday before Lent

Sep·tu·a·gint \sep-'t(y)ü-ə-jənt, 'sep-tə-wə-ˌjint\ *n* [LL *Septuaginta*, fr. L, seventy, irreg. fr. *septem* seven + *-ginta* (akin to L *viginti* twenty); fr. the approximate number of its translators — more at SEVEN, VIGESIMAL] : a pre-Christian Greek version of the Jewish Scriptures redacted by Jewish scholars and adopted by Greek-speaking Christians — **Sep·tu·a·gin·tal** \(ˌ)sep-ˌt(y)ü-ə-'jint-ᵊl, ˌsep-tə-wə-\ *adj*

sep·tum \'sep-təm\ *n, pl* **sep·ta** \-tə\ [NL, fr. L *saeptum* enclosure, fence, wall, fr. *saepire* to fence in, fr. *saepes* fence, hedge; akin to Gk *haimasia* stone wall] : a dividing wall or membrane esp. between bodily spaces or masses of soft tissue — compare DISSEPIMENT

¹sep·ul·cher *or* **sep·ul·chre** \'sep-əl-kər\ *n* [ME *sepulcre*, fr. OF, fr. L *sepulcrum, sepulchrum*, fr. *sepelire* to bury; akin to Gk *hepein* to care for, Skt *sapati* he serves] **1** : a place of burial : TOMB **2** : a receptacle for religious relics esp. in an altar

²sepulcher *or* **sepulchre** *vt* **-chered** *or* **-chred; -chering** *or* **-chring** \-k(ə-)riŋ\ **1** *archaic* : to place in a sepulcher : BURY **2** *archaic* : to serve as a sepulcher for

se·pul·chral \sə-'pəl-krəl *also* -'půl-\ *adj* **1** : MORTUARY **2** : suited to or suggestive of a sepulcher : FUNEREAL — **se·pul·chral·ly** \-krə-lē\ *adv*

sep·ul·ture \'sep-əl-ˌchů(ə)r\ *n* [ME, fr. OF, fr. L *sepultura*, fr. *sepultus*, pp. of *sepelire*] **1** : BURIAL **2** : SEPULCHER

seq *abbr* [L *sequens, sequentes, sequentia*] the following

seqq *abbr* [L *sequentes, sequentia*] the following

se·qua·cious \si-'kwā-shəs\ *adj* [L *sequac-, sequax* inclined to follow, fr. *sequi*] **1** *archaic* : SUBSERVIENT, TRACTABLE **2** : intellectually servile — **se·qua·cious·ly** *adv* — **se·quac·i·ty** \-'kwas-ət-ē\ *n*

se·quel \'sē-kwəl *also* -ˌkwel\ *n* [ME, fr. MF *sequelle*, fr. L *sequela*, fr. *sequi* to follow — more at SUE] **1** : CONSEQUENCE, RESULT **2 a** : subsequent development **b** : the next installment (as of a speech or narrative); *esp* : a literary work continuing the course of a narrative begun in a preceding one

se·quela \si-'kwel-ə\ *n, pl* **se·quel·ae** \-'kwel-(ˌ)ē\ [NL, fr. L, sequel] **1** : an aftereffect of disease or injury **2** : a secondary result

¹se·quence \'sē-kwən(t)s, -ˌkwen(t)s\ *n* [ME, fr. ML *sequentia*, fr. LL, sequel, lit., act of following, fr. L *sequent-, sequens*, prp. of *sequi*] **1** : a hymn in irregular meter between the gradual and Gospel in masses for special occasions (as Easter) **2** : a continuous or connected series: as **a** : an extended series of poems united by a single theme ⟨a sonnet ~⟩ **b** : three or more playing cards usu. of the same suit in consecutive order of rank **c** : a succession of repetitions of a melodic phrase or harmonic pattern each in a new position **d** : a set of elements ordered as are the natural numbers **e** (1) : a succession of related shots or scenes developing a single subject or phase of a film story (2) : EPISODE **3 a** : order of succession **b** : an arrangement of the tenses of successive verbs in a sentence designed to express a coherent relationship esp. between main and subordinate parts **4 a** : CONSEQUENCE, RESULT **b** : a subsequent development **5** : continuity of progression

²sequence *vt* **se·quenced; se·quenc·ing** : to arrange in a sequence

se·quenc·er \'sē-kwən-sər, -ˌkwen(t)-sər\ *n* : any of various devices for arranging (as informational items or the events in the launching of a rocket) into or separating (as amino acids from protein) in a sequence

se·quen·cy \'sē-kwən-sē\ *n* [LL *sequentia*] : SEQUENCE 3a, 5

se·quent \'sē-kwənt\ *adj* [L *sequent-, sequens*, prp.] **1** : CONSECUTIVE, SUCCEEDING **2** : CONSEQUENT, RESULTANT

se·quen·tial \si-'kwen-chəl\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or arranged in a sequence : SERIAL ⟨~ file systems⟩ **2** : following in sequence **3** : relating to or based on a method of testing a statistical hypothesis that involves examination of a sequence of samples for each of which the decision is made to accept or reject the hypothesis or to continue sampling — **se·quen·tial·ly** \-'kwench-(ə-)lē\ *adv*

¹se·ques·ter \si-'kwes-tər\ *vt* **se·ques·tered; se·ques·ter·ing** \-t(ə-)riŋ\ [ME *sequestren*, fr. MF *sequestrer*, fr. LL *sequestrare* to surrender for safekeeping, set apart, fr. L *sequester* agent, depositary, bailee; akin to L *sequi* to follow] **1 a** : to set apart : SEGREGATE **b** : SECLUDE, WITHDRAW **2 a** : to seize esp. by a writ of sequestration **b** : to place (property) in custody esp. in sequestration **3** : to hold (as a metallic ion) in solution usu. by inclusion in an appropriate coordination complex

²sequester *n, obs* : SEPARATION, ISOLATION

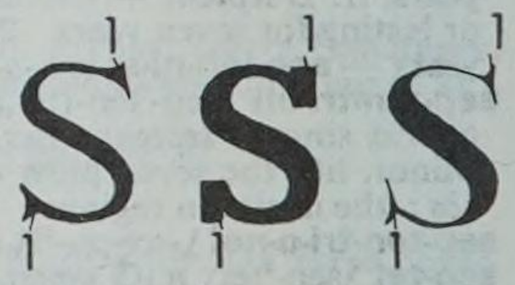
se·ques·trate \'sēk-wəs-ˌtrāt, 'sek-; si-'kwes-\ *vt* **-trat·ed; -trat·ing** [LL *sequestratus*, pp. of *sequestrare*] : SEQUESTER

se·ques·tra·tion \ˌsēk-wəs-'trā-shən, ˌsek-; (ˌ)sē-ˌkwes-\ *n* **1** : the act of sequestering : the state of being sequestered **2 a** : a legal writ authorizing a sheriff or commissioner to take into custody the property of a defendant who is in contempt until he complies with the orders of a court **b** : a deposit whereby a neutral depositary agrees to hold property in litigation and to restore it to the party to whom it is adjudged to belong **3** : the formation of a sequestrum

se·ques·trum \si-'kwes-trəm\ *n, pl* **-trums** *also* **-tra** \-trə\ [NL, fr. L, legal sequestration; akin to L *sequester* bailee] : a fragment of dead bone detached from adjoining sound bone

se·quin \'sē-kwən\ *n* [F, fr. It *zecchino*, fr. *zecca* mint, fr. Ar *sikkah* die, coin] **1** : an old gold coin of Italy and Turkey **2** : SPANGLE

se·quined *or* **se·quinned** \-kwənd\ *adj* : ornamented with or as if with sequins
se·qui·tur \'sek-wət-ər, -wə-ˌtu̇(ə)r\ *n* [L, it follows, 3d pers. sing. pres. indic. of *sequi* to follow — more at SUE] : the conclusion of an inference : CONSEQUENCE
se·quoia \si-'kwȯi-(y)ə\ *n* [NL, genus name, fr. *Sequoya* (George Guess) †1843 Am Indian scholar] : either of two huge coniferous California trees of the pine family that reach a height of over 300 feet: **a** : BIG TREE **b** : REDWOOD 3a
ser *abbr* **1** serial **2** series **3** service
sera *pl of* SERUM
se·rac \sə-'rak, sā-\ *n* [F *sérac*, lit., a kind of white cheese, fr. ML *seracium* whey, fr. L *serum* whey — more at SERUM] : a pinnacle, sharp ridge, or block of ice among the crevasses of a glacier
se·ra·glio \sə-'ral-(ˌ)yō, -'räl-\ *n, pl* **-glios** [It *serraglio* enclosure, seraglio, partly fr. ML *serraculum* bar of a door, bolt, fr. LL *serare* to bolt; partly fr. Turk *saray* palace — more at SEAR] **1** : HAREM 1a **2** : a palace of a sultan
se·rai \sə-'rī\ *n* [Turk & Per; Turk *saray* mansion, palace, fr. Per *sarāī* mansion, inn] **1** : CARAVANSARY **2** : SERAGLIO 2
ser·al \'sir-əl\ *adj* : of, relating to, or constituting an ecological sere
se·ra·pe \sə-'räp-ē, -'rap-\ *n* [MexSp *sarape*] : a colorful woolen shawl worn over the shoulders esp. by Mexican men
ser·aph \'ser-əf\ *also* **ser·a·phim** \-ə-ˌfim\ *n, pl* **seraphim** *or* **seraphs** [LL *seraphim*, pl., seraphs, fr. Heb *šĕrāphīm*] **1** : one of the 6-winged angels standing in the presence of God **2** *pl* : an order of angels — see CELESTIAL HIERARCHY — **se·raph·ic** \sə-'raf-ik\ *adj* — **se·raph·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
Se·ra·pis \sə-'rā-pəs\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *Sarapis*] : an Egyptian god combining attributes of Osiris and Apis and having a widespread cult throughout Greece and Rome
¹Serb \'sərb\ *n* [Serb *Srb*] **1** : a native or inhabitant of Serbia **2** : SERBIAN 2 — **Serb** *adj*
²Serb *abbr* Serbian
Ser·bi·an \'sər-bē-ən\ *n* **1** : SERB 1 **2 a** : the Serbo-Croatian language as spoken in Serbia **b** : a literary form of Serbo-Croatian using the Cyrillic alphabet — **Serbian** *adj*
Ser·bo–Cro·atian \ˌsər-(ˌ)bō-krō-'ā-shən\ *n* **1** : the Slavic language of the Serbs and Croats consisting of Serbian written in the Cyrillic alphabet and Croatian written in the Roman alphabet **2** : one whose native language is Serbo-Croatian — **Serbo–Croatian** *adj*
¹sere \'si(ə)r\ *adj* [ME, fr. OE *sēar* dry; akin to OHG *sōrēn* to wither, Gk *hauos* dry] **1** : WITHERED **2** *archaic* : THREADBARE
²sere *n* [L *series* series] : a series of ecological communities that succeed one another in the biotic development of an area or formation
¹ser·e·nade \ˌser-ə-'nād\ *n* [F *sérénade*, fr. It *serenata*, fr. *sereno* clear, calm (of weather), fr. L *serenus*] **1 a** : a complimentary vocal or instrumental performance; *esp* : one given outdoors at night for a woman **b** : a work so performed **2** : an instrumental composition in several movements, written for a small ensemble, and midway between the suite and the symphony in style
²serenade *vb* **-nad·ed; -nad·ing** *vt* : to perform a serenade in honor of ~ *vi* : to play a serenade — **ser·e·nad·er** *n*
ser·e·na·ta \ˌser-ə-'nät-ə\ *n* [It, serenade] : an 18th century secular cantata of a dramatic character usu. composed in honor of an individual or event
ser·en·dip·i·tous \ˌser-ən-'dip-ət-əs\ *adj* : obtained or characterized by serendipity ⟨~ discoveries⟩ — **ser·en·dip·i·tous·ly** *adv*
ser·en·dip·i·ty \-'dip-ət-ē\ *n* [fr. its possession by the heroes of the Per fairy tale *The Three Princes of Serendip*] : the faculty of finding valuable or agreeable things not sought for
¹se·rene \sə-'rēn\ *adj* [L *serenus;* akin to OHG *serawēn* to become dry, Gk *xēros* dry] **1 a** : clear and free of storms or unpleasant change ⟨~ skies⟩ **b** : shining bright and steady ⟨the moon, ~ in glory —Alexander Pope⟩ **2** : marked by or suggestive of utter calm and unruffled repose or quietude ⟨a ~ smile⟩ **3** : AUGUST — used as part of a title ⟨His *Serene* Highness⟩ ***syn*** see CALM — **se·rene·ly** *adv* — **se·rene·ness** \-'rēn-nəs\ *n*
²serene *n* **1** : a serene condition or expanse (as of sky, sea, or light) **2** : SERENITY, TRANQUILLITY
se·ren·i·ty \sə-'ren-ət-ē\ *n* : the quality or state of being serene
serf \'sərf\ *n* [F, fr. L *servus* slave, servant, serf — more at SERVE] : a member of a servile feudal class bound to the soil and subject to the will of his lord — **serf·age** \'sər-fij\ *n* — **serf·dom** \'sərf-dəm, -təm\ *n*
serg *or* **sergt** *abbr* sergeant
serge \'sərj\ *n* [ME *sarge*, fr. MF, fr. (assumed) VL *sarica*, fr. L *serica*, fem. of *sericus* silken — more at SERICEOUS] : a durable twilled fabric having a smooth clear face and a pronounced diagonal rib on the front and the back
ser·gean·cy \'sär-jən-sē\ *n* : the function, office, or rank of a sergeant
ser·geant \'sär-jənt\ *n* [ME, servant, attendant, sergeant, fr. OF *sergent, serjant*, fr. L *servient-, serviens*, prp. of *servire* to serve] **1** : SERGEANT AT ARMS **2** *obs* : an officer who enforces the judgments of a court or the commands of one in authority **3** : an officer in a police force ranking in the U.S. just below captain or sometimes lieutenant and in England just below inspector **4** : a noncommissioned officer ranking in the army and marine corps above a corporal and below a staff sergeant and in the air force above an airman first class and below a staff sergeant; *broadly* : NONCOMMISSIONED OFFICER
sergeant at arms : an officer of an organization (as a legislative body or court of law) who preserves order and executes commands
sergeant first class *n* : a noncommissioned officer in the army ranking above a staff sergeant and below a master sergeant
sergeant fish *n* **1** : COBIA **2** : SNOOK 1
sergeant major *n, pl* **sergeants major** *or* **sergeant majors** **1** : a noncommissioned officer in the army, air force, or marine corps serving as chief administrative assistant in a headquarters **2** : a noncommissioned officer in the marine corps ranking above a first sergeant **3** : a bluish green to yellow percoid fish (*Abudefduf saxatilis*) with black vertical stripes on the sides that is widely distributed in the western tropical Atlantic ocean
sergeant major of the army : the ranking noncommissioned officer of the army serving as adviser to the chief of staff
sergeant major of the marine corps : the ranking noncommissioned officer of the marine corps serving as adviser to the commandant
ser·geanty \'sär-jənt-ē\ *n, pl* **-geant·ies** [ME *sergeantie*, fr. MF *sergentie*, fr. *sergent* sergeant] : any of numerous feudal services of a personal nature by which an estate is held of the king or other lord distinct from military tenure and from socage tenure
serg·ing \'sər-jiŋ\ *n* [*serge*] : the process of overcasting the raw edges of a fabric (as a carpet) to prevent raveling
¹se·ri·al \'sir-ē-əl\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, consisting of, or arranged in a series, rank, or row ⟨~ order⟩ **2** : appearing in successive parts or numbers ⟨a ~ story⟩ **3** : belonging to a series maturing periodically rather than on a single date ⟨~ bonds⟩ **4** : of, relating to, or being music based on a series of tones in an arbitrary but fixed pattern without regard for traditional tonality ⟨~ technique⟩ — **se·ri·al·ly** \-ə-lē\ *adv*
²serial *n* **1 a** : a work appearing (as in a magazine or on television) in parts at intervals **b** : one part of a serial work : INSTALLMENT **2** : a publication (as a newspaper or journal) issued as one of a consecutively numbered and indefinitely continued series — **se·ri·al·ist** \-ə-ləst\ *n*
se·ri·al·ism \'sir-ē-ə-ˌliz-əm\ *n* : serial music; *also* : the theory or practice of composing serial music
se·ri·al·iza·tion \ˌsir-ē-ə-lə-'zā-shən\ *n* : the act or process of serializing
se·ri·al·ize \'sir-ē-ə-ˌlīz\ *vt* **-ized; -iz·ing** : to arrange or publish in serial form
serial number *n* : a number indicating place in a series and used as a means of identification
¹se·ri·ate \'sir-ē-ˌāt, -ē-ət\ *adj* [(assumed) NL *seriatus*, fr. L *series*] : arranged in a series or succession — **se·ri·ate·ly** *adv*
²se·ri·ate \'sir-ē-ˌāt\ *vt* **-at·ed; -at·ing** : to arrange in a series
¹se·ri·a·tim \ˌsir-ē-'āt-əm, -'at-\ *adv* [ML, fr. L *series*] : in a series
²seriatim *adj* : following seriatim
se·ri·ceous \sə-'rish-əs\ *adj* [LL *sericeus* silken, fr. L *sericum* silk garment, silk, fr. neut. of *sericus* silken, fr. Gk *sērikos*, fr. *Sēres*, an eastern Asiatic people producing silk in ancient times] : finely pubescent ⟨~ leaf⟩
ser·i·cin \'ser-ə-sən\ *n* [ISV, fr. L *sericum* silk] : a gelatinous protein that cements the two fibroin filaments in a silk fiber
seri·cul·ture \'ser-ə-ˌkəl-chər\ *n* [L *sericum* silk + E *culture*] : the production of raw silk by raising silkworms — **seri·cul·tur·al** \-'kəlch(-ə)-rəl\ *adj* — **seri·cul·tur·ist** \-rəst\ *n*
se·ries \'si(ə)r-(ˌ)ēz\ *n, pl* **series** *often attrib* [L, fr. *serere* to join, link together; akin to Gk *eirein* to string together, *hormos* chain, necklace] **1** : a number of things or events of the same class coming one after another in spatial or temporal succession ⟨a concert ~⟩ ⟨the hall opened into a ~ of small rooms⟩ **2** : the indicated sum of a usu. infinite sequence of numbers **3 a** : the coins or currency of a particular country and period **b** : a group of postage stamps in different denominations **4** : a succession of volumes or issues published with related subjects or authors, similar format and price, or continuous numbering **5** : a division of rock formations that is smaller than a system and comprises rocks deposited during an epoch **6** : a group of chemical compounds related in composition and structure **7** : an arrangement of the parts of or elements in an electric circuit whereby the whole current passes through each part or element without branching **8** : a set of vowels connected by ablaut (as *i, a, u* in *ring, rang, rung*) **9 a** : a number of games (as of baseball) played usu. on consecutive days between two teams ⟨in town for a 3-game ~⟩ **b** : WORLD SERIES **10** : a group of successive coordinate sentence elements joined together ⟨an a, b, and c ~⟩ **11** : SOIL SERIES **12** : three consecutive games in bowling — **in series** : in a serial arrangement
series winding *n* : a winding in which the armature coil and the field-magnet coil are in series with the external circuit — **se·ries–wound** \ˌsir-ēz-'waůnd\ *adj*
ser·if \'ser-əf\ *n* [prob. fr. D *schreef* stroke, line, fr. MD, fr. *schriven* to write, fr. L *scribere* — more at SCRIBE] : any of the short lines stemming from and at an angle to the upper and lower ends of the strokes of a letter


1 serifs

seri·graph \'ser-ə-ˌgraf\ *n* [L *sericum* silk + Gk *graphein* to write, draw — more at CARVE] : an original color print made by pressing pigments through a silk screen with a stencil design — **se·rig·ra·pher** \sə-'rig-rə-fər\ *n* — **se·rig·ra·phy** \-fē\ *n*
se·rin \sə-'ra^{n}\ *n* [F] : a small European finch (*Serinus canarius*) related to the canary
ser·ine \'se(ə)r-ˌēn\ *n* [ISV *sericin* + *-ine*] : a crystalline amino acid $C_3H_7NO_3$ that occurs as a structural part of many proteins or cephalins
se·rio·com·ic \ˌsir-ē-ō-'käm-ik\ *adj* [*serious* + *-o-* + *comic*] : having a mixture of the serious and the comic ⟨a ~ novel⟩ — **se·rio·com·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
se·ri·ous \'sir-ē-əs\ *adj* [ME *seryows*, fr. MF or LL; MF *serieux*, fr. LL *seriosus*, alter. of L *serius*] **1** : thoughtful or subdued in appearance or manner : SOBER **2 a** : requiring much thought or work ⟨~ study⟩ **b** : of or relating to a matter of importance ⟨a ~ play⟩ **3 a** : not joking or trifling : being in earnest **b** *archaic* : PIOUS **c** : deeply interested : DEVOTED ⟨~ fishermen⟩ **4 a** : not easily answered or solved ⟨~ objections⟩ **b** : having important or dangerous possible consequences ⟨a ~ injury⟩
syn SERIOUS, GRAVE, SOLEMN, SEDATE, STAID, SOBER, EARNEST *shared meaning element* : not light or frivolous ***ant*** light, flippant

se·ri·ous·ly *adv* **1** : in a sincere manner : EARNESTLY **2** : to a serious extent : SEVERELY
se·ri·ous–mind·ed \ˌsir-ē-ə-ˈsmīn-dəd\ *adj* : having a serious disposition or trend of thought — **se·ri·ous–mind·ed·ly** *adv* — **se·ri·ous–mind·ed·ness** *n*
se·ri·ous·ness *n* : the quality or state of being serious
ser·jeant, ser·jeanty *var of* SERGEANT, SERGEANTY
ser·jeant–at–law \ˌsär-jənt-ət-ˈlȯ\ *n, pl* **ser·jeants–at–law** : a member of a former class of barristers of the highest rank
ser·mon \ˈsər-mən\ *n* [ME, fr. OF, fr. ML *sermon-, sermo,* fr. L, speech, conversation, fr. *serere* to link together — more at SERIES] **1** : a religious discourse delivered in public usu. by a clergyman as a part of a worship service **2** : a speech on conduct or duty — **ser·mon·ic** \ˌsər-ˈmän-ik\ *adj*
ser·mon·ize \ˈsər-mə-ˌnīz\ *vb* **-ized; -iz·ing** *vi* **1** : to compose or deliver a sermon **2** : to speak didactically or dogmatically ~ *vt* : to preach to or on at length — **ser·mon·iz·er** *n*
Sermon on the Mount : an ethical discourse delivered by Jesus and recorded in Matthew 5–7 and paralleled briefly in Luke 6: 20–49
sero- *comb form* [L *serum*] : serum ⟨*sero*logy⟩
se·ro·di·ag·no·sis \ˈsir-ō-ˌdī-ig-ˈnō-səs\ *n* [NL] : diagnosis by the use of serum (as in the Wassermann test) — **se·ro·di·ag·nos·tic** \-ˈnäs-tik\ *adj*
se·rol·o·gy \sə-ˈräl-ə-jē, sir-ˈäl-\ *n* [ISV] : a science dealing with serums and esp. their reactions and properties — **se·ro·log·i·cal** \ˌsir-ə-ˈläj-i-kəl\ *or* **se·ro·log·ic** \-ik\ *adj* — **se·ro·log·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **se·rol·o·gist** \sə-ˈräl-ə-jəst, sir-ˈäl-\ *n*
se·ro·pu·ru·lent \ˌsir-ō-ˈpyůr-(y)ə-lənt, ˌser-\ *adj* : consisting of a mixture of serum and pus ⟨a ~ exudate⟩
se·ro·sa \sə-ˈrō-zə\ *n* [NL, fr. fem. of *serosus* serous, fr. L *serum*] : a usu. enclosing serous membrane — **se·ro·sal** \-zəl\ *adj*
se·ro·ti·nal \sə-ˈrät-nəl, -ᵊn-əl; ˌser-ə-ˈtīn-ᵊl\ *adj* [L *serotinus* coming late] : of or relating to the latter and usu. drier part of summer
se·rot·i·nous \sə-ˈrät-nəs, -ᵊn-əs; ˌser-ə-ˈtī-nəs\ *adj* [L *serotinus* coming late, fr. *sero* late — more at SOIREE] : late esp. in developing or flowering
se·ro·to·nin \ˌsir-ə-ˈtō-nən, ˌser-\ *n* [*sero-* + *tonic* + *-in*] : a phenolic amine $C_{10}H_{12}N_2O$ that is a powerful vasoconstrictor and is found esp. in the blood serum and gastric mucosa of mammals
se·ro·type \ˈsir-ə-ˌtīp, ˈser-\ *n* [*sero-* + *type*] : a group of intimately related organisms distinguished by a common set of antigens; *also* : the set of antigens characteristic of such a group
se·rous \ˈsir-əs\ *adj* [MF *sereux,* fr. *serum,* fr. L] : of, relating to, or resembling serum; *esp* : of thin watery constitution ⟨a ~ exudate⟩
serous membrane *n* : a thin membrane (as the peritoneum) with cells that secrete a serous fluid; *esp* : SEROSA
se·row \sə-ˈrō\ *n* [Lepcha *să-ro* long-haired Tibetan goat] : any of several goat antelopes (genus *Capricornis*) of eastern Asia which are usu. rather dark and heavily built and some of which have distinct manes
ser·pent \ˈsər-pənt\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *serpent-, serpens,* fr. prp. of *serpere* to creep; akin to Gk *herpein* to creep, Skt *sarpati* he creeps] **1 a** *archaic* : a noxious creature that creeps, hisses, or stings **b** : SNAKE **2** : DEVIL 1 **3** : a treacherous person
[1]ser·pen·tine \ˈsər-pən-ˌtēn, -ˌtīn\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF *serpentin,* fr. LL *serpentinus,* fr. L *serpent-, serpens*] **1** : of or resembling a serpent (as in form or movement) **2** : subtly wily or tempting **3 a** : winding or turning one way and another **b** : having a compound curve whose central curve is convex — **ser·pen·tine·ly** *adv*
[2]serpentine *n* : something that winds sinuously
[3]ser·pen·tine \-ˌtēn\ *n* [ME, fr. ML *serpentina, serpentinum,* fr. LL fem. & neut. of *serpentinus* resembling a serpent] : a mineral or rock consisting essentially of a hydrous magnesium silicate $Mg_3Si_2O_7{\cdot}2H_2O$ usu. having a dull green color and often a mottled appearance
ser·pig·i·nous \(ˌ)sər-ˈpij-ə-nəs\ *adj* [ML *serpigin-, serpigo* creeping skin disease, fr. L *serpere* to creep] : CREEPING, SPREADING; *esp* : healing over in one portion while continuing to advance in another ⟨~ ulcer⟩ — **ser·pig·i·nous·ly** *adv*
ser·ra·nid \sə-ˈran-əd, ˈser-ə-nəd\ *n* [deriv. of L *serra* saw] : any of a large family (Serranidae) of carnivorous marine percoid fishes which have an oblong compressed body covered with ctenoid scales and many of which are important food and sport fishes (as the sea basses) esp. of warm seas — **serranid** *adj* — **ser·ra·noid** \ˈser-ə-ˌnȯid\ *adj or n*
[1]ser·rate \sə-ˈrāt, ˈse(ə)r-ˌāt\ *vt* **ser·rat·ed; ser·rat·ing** [LL *serratus,* pp. of *serrare* to saw, fr. L *serra*] : to mark with serrations
[2]ser·rate \ˈse(ə)r-ˌāt, sə-ˈrāt\ *adj* [L *serratus,* fr. *serra* saw] : notched or toothed on the edge; *specif* : having marginal teeth pointing forward or toward the apex ⟨a ~ leaf⟩
ser·ra·tion \sə-ˈrā-shən, se-\ *n* **1** : the condition of being serrate **2** : a formation resembling the toothed edge of a saw **3** : one of the teeth in a serrate margin
ser·ried \ˈser-ēd\ *adj* **1** : crowded or pressed together : COMPACT ⟨the crowd collected in a ~ mass —W. S. Maugham⟩ **2** [by alter.] : marked by ridges : SERRATE ⟨the ~ contours of the . . . mountains —*Amer. Guide Series: Oregon*⟩ — **ser·ried·ly** *adv* — **ser·ried·ness** *n*
ser·ry \ˈser-ē\ *vb* **ser·ried; ser·ry·ing** [MF *serré,* pp. of *serrer* to press, crowd — more at SEAR] *vi, archaic* : to press together esp. in ranks ~ *vt* : to crowd together
Ser·to·man \(ˌ)sər-ˈtō-mən\ *n* [*Sertoma* (club)] : a member of a major international service club
ser·tu·lar·i·an \ˌsər-chə-ˈler-ē-ən, ˌsərt-ᵊl-ˈer-\ *n* [NL *Sertularia,* genus name, fr. L *sertula,* dim. of *serta* melilot, fr. fem. of *sertus,* pp. of *serere* to link together, entwine — more at SERIES] : any of a genus (*Sertularia*) of delicate branching hydroids — **sertularian** *adj*
se·rum \ˈsir-əm\ *n, pl* **serums** *or* **se·ra** \-ə\ [L, whey, serum; akin to Gk *oros* whey, serum, *hormē* onset, assault, Skt *sarati* it flows] **1** : the watery portion of an animal fluid remaining after coagulation: **a** : BLOOD SERUM; *esp* : immune blood serum that contains specific immune bodies (as antitoxins or agglutinins) ⟨antitoxin ~⟩ **b** : WHEY **c** : a normal or pathological serous fluid (as in a blister) **2** : the watery part of a plant fluid
serum albumin *n* : a crystallizable albumin or mixture of albumins that normally constitutes more than half of the protein in blood serum and serves to maintain the osmotic pressure of the blood
serum globulin *n* : a globulin or mixture of globulins occurring in blood serum and containing most of the antibodies of the blood
serum sickness *n* : an allergic reaction to the injection of foreign serum manifested by urticaria, swelling, eruption, arthritis, and fever
serv *abbr* service
ser·val \ˈsər-vəl, (ˌ)sər-ˈval\ *n* [F, fr. Pg *lobo cerval* lynx, fr. ML *lupus cervalis,* lit., cervine wolf] : a long-legged African wildcat (*Felis capensis*) having large untufted ears and a tawny black-spotted coat
ser·vant \ˈsər-vənt\ *n* [ME, fr. OF, fr. prp. of *servir*] : one that serves others; *specif* : one that performs duties about the person or home of a master or personal employer
[1]serve \ˈsərv\ *vb* **served; serv·ing** [ME *serven,* fr. OF *servir,* fr. L *servire* to be a slave, serve, fr. *servus* slave, servant, perh. of Etruscan origin] *vi* **1 a** : to be a servant **b** : to do military or naval service **2** : to assist a celebrant as server at mass **3 a** : to be of use ⟨in a day when few people could write, seals *served* as signatures —Elizabeth W. King⟩ **b** : to be favorable, opportune, or convenient **c** : to stand by : ASSIST **d** : to hold an office : discharge a duty or function ⟨~ on a jury⟩ **4** : to prove adequate or satisfactory : SUFFICE ⟨a safe-conduct that *served* not only for him but for the entire party⟩ **5** : to help persons to food: as **a** : to wait at table **b** : to set out portions of food or drink **6** : to wait on customers **7** : to put the ball or shuttlecock in play in any of various games (as tennis, volleyball, or badminton) ~ *vt* **1 a** : to be a servant to : ATTEND **b** : to give the service and respect due to (a superior) **c** : to comply with the commands or demands of : GRATIFY **d** : to give military or naval service to **e** : to perform the duties of (an office or post) **2** : to act as server at (mass) **3** *archaic* : to pay a lover's or suitor's court to (a lady) ⟨that gentle lady, whom I love and ~ —Edmund Spenser⟩ **4 a** : to work through or perform (a term of service) ⟨*served* his time as a mate⟩ **b** : to put in (a term of imprisonment) **5 a** : to wait on at table **b** : to bring (food) to a diner **6 a** : to furnish or supply with something needed or desired **b** : to wait on (a customer) in a store **c** : to furnish professional service to **7 a** : to answer the needs of : AVAIL **b** : to be enough for : SUFFICE **c** : to contribute or conduce to : PROMOTE **8** : to treat or act toward in a specified way : REQUITE ⟨he *served* me ill⟩ **9 a** : to bring to notice, deliver, or execute as required by law **b** : to make legal service upon (a person named in a process) **10** *of an animal* : to copulate with **11** : to wind yarn or wire tightly around (a rope or stay) for protection **12** : to provide services that benefit or help **13** : to put (the ball or shuttlecock) in play (as in tennis or badminton) — **serve one right** : to be deserved
[2]serve *n* : the act of putting the ball or shuttlecock in play in any of various games (as volleyball, badminton, or tennis); *also* : a turn to serve
serv·er \ˈsər-vər\ *n* **1** : one that serves food or drink **2** : the player who serves (as in tennis) **3** : something used in serving food or drink **4** : one that serves legal processes upon another **5** : the celebrant's assistant at low mass
[1]ser·vice \ˈsər-vəs\ *n* [ME, fr. OF, fr. L *servitium* condition of a slave, body of slaves, fr. *servus* slave] **1 a** : the occupation or function of serving ⟨in active ~⟩ **b** : employment as a servant ⟨entered his ~⟩ **2 a** : the work performed by one that serves ⟨gives good ~⟩ **b** : HELP, USE, BENEFIT ⟨be of ~ to them⟩ **c** : contribution to the welfare of others **d** : disposal for use ⟨put the capability of the entire system at his ~ —C. R. Bowen⟩ **3 a** : a form followed in worship or in a religious ceremony ⟨the burial ~⟩ **b** *often pl* : a meeting for worship ⟨held evening ~*s*⟩ **4** : the act of serving: as **a** : a helpful act ⟨did him a ~⟩ **b** : useful labor that does not produce a tangible commodity — usu. used in pl. ⟨charge for professional ~*s*⟩ **c** : SERVE **5** : a set of articles for a particular use ⟨a silver ~ for 12⟩ **6 a** : an administrative division (as of a government or business) ⟨the consular ~⟩ **b** : one of a nation's military forces (as the army or navy) **7 a** : a facility supplying some public demand ⟨telephone ~⟩ ⟨bus ~⟩ **b** : a facility providing maintenance and repair ⟨television ~⟩ **8** : the materials (as spun yarn, small lines, or canvas) used for serving a rope **9** : the act of bringing a legal writ, process, or summons to notice as prescribed by law **10** : the act of copulating with a female animal **11** : a branch of a hospital medical staff devoted to a particular specialty ⟨obstetrical ~⟩
[2]service *adj* **1** : of or relating to the armed services **2** : used in serving or supplying ⟨delivery men use the ~ entrance⟩ **3** : intended for hard or everyday use **4 a** : providing services ⟨the ~ trades—from filling stations to universities —John Fischer⟩ **b** : offering repair, maintenance, or incidental services
[3]service *vt* **ser·viced; ser·vic·ing** : to perform services for: as **a** : to repair or provide maintenance for **b** : to meet interest and sinking fund payments on (as government debt) **c** : to perform any of the business functions auxiliary to production or distribution of **d** *of an animal* : SERVE 10 — **ser·vic·er** *n*
[4]ser·vice \ˈsər-vəs\ *n* [ME *serves,* pl. of *serve* serviceberry, service tree, fr. OE *syrfe,* fr. (assumed) VL *sorbea,* fr. L *sorbus* service tree] : an Old World tree (*Sorbus domestica*) resembling the related mountain ashes but having larger flowers and larger edible fruit; *also* : a related Old World tree (*S. torminalis*) with bitter fruits

ser·vice·able \'sər-və-sə-bəl\ *adj* **1** : HELPFUL, USEFUL **2** : wearing well in use — **ser·vice·abil·i·ty** \ˌsər-və-sə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* — **service·able·ness** \'sər-və-sə-bəl-nəs\ *n* — **ser·vice·ably** \-blē\ *adv*
ser·vice·ber·ry \'sər-vəs-ˌber-ē, *2 is also* 'sär-\ *n* **1** : the fruit of a service tree **2** : any of various No. American trees and shrubs (genus *Amelanchier*) of the rose family sometimes cultivated for their showy white flowers or edible purple or red fruits — called also *Juneberry, shadblow, shadbush*
service book *n* : a book setting forth forms of worship used in religious services
service box *n* : the area in which a player stands while serving in various court games (as squash racquets or handball)
service break *n* : a game won on an opponent's serve (as in tennis)
service cap *n* : a flat-topped visor cap worn as part of a military uniform — compare GARRISON CAP
service ceiling *n* : the altitude at which under standard air conditions a particular airplane can no longer rise at a rate greater than a small designated rate (as 100 feet per minute)
service charge *n* : a fee charged for a particular service often in addition to a standard or basic fee
service club *n* **1** : a club of business or professional men or women organized for their common benefit and active in community service **2** : a recreation center for enlisted men provided by one of the armed services
service court *n* : a part of the court into which the ball or shuttlecock must be served
service line *n* : a line marked on a court in various games (as handball or tennis) parallel to the front wall or to the net to mark a boundary which must not be overstepped in serving
ser·vice·man \'sər-və-ˌsman, -smən\ *n* **1** : a male member of the armed forces **2** : a man employed to repair or maintain equipment **3** : a service station attendant
service mark *n* : a mark or device used to identify a service (as transportation or insurance) offered to customers
service medal *n* : a medal awarded to an individual for military service in a specified war or campaign
service module *n* : a space vehicle module that contains propellant tanks, fuel cells, and the main rocket engine
service road *n* : FRONTAGE ROAD
service sideline *n* : either of the lines on a doubles tennis court inside and parallel to the sidelines and marking the edges of the service courts
service station *n* **1** : a retail station for servicing motor vehicles esp. with gasoline and oil **2** : a place at which some service is offered
service stripe *n* : a stripe worn on an enlisted man's left sleeve to indicate three years of service in the army or four years in the navy
ser·vice tree \'sər-vəs-\ *n* [*4service*] : 4SERVICE
ser·vi·ette \ˌsər-vē-'et\ *n* [F, fr. MF, fr. *servir* to serve] *chiefly Brit* : a table napkin
ser·vile \'sər-vəl, -ˌvīl\ *adj* [ME, fr. L *servilis*, fr. *servus* slave — more at SERVE] **1** : of or befitting a slave or a menial position **2** : meanly or cravenly submissive : ABJECT ***syn*** see SUBSERVIENT ***ant*** authoritative — **ser·vile·ly** \-və(l)-lē, -ˌvīl-lē\ *adv* — **ser·vile·ness** \-vəl-nəs, -ˌvīl-\ *n* — **ser·vil·i·ty** \(ˌ)sər-'vil-ət-ē\ *n*
serv·ing \'sər-viŋ\ *n* : a helping of food or drink
Ser·vite \'sər-ˌvīt\ *n* [ML *Servitae*, pl. Servites, fr. L *servus*] : a member of the mendicant Order of Servants of Mary founded in Florence, Italy, in 1233 — **Servite** *adj*
ser·vi·tor \'sər-vət-ər, -və-ˌtȯ(ə)r\ *n* [ME *servitour*, fr. MF, fr. LL *servitor*, fr. L *servitus*, pp. of *servire* to serve] : a male servant
ser·vi·tude \'sər-və-ˌt(y)üd\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *servitudo* slavery, fr. *servus* slave] **1** : a condition in which one lacks liberty esp. to determine one's course of action or way of life **2** : a right by which something (as a piece of land) owned by one person is subject to a specified use or enjoyment by another
syn SERVITUDE, SLAVERY, BONDAGE *shared meaning element* : the state of being subject to a master
ser·vo \'sər-(ˌ)vō\ *n, pl* **servos** **1** : SERVOMOTOR **2** : SERVOMECHANISM
ser·vo·mech·a·nism \'sər-vō-ˌmek-ə-ˌniz-əm\ *n* [*servo-* (as in *servomotor*) + *mechanism*] : an automatic device for controlling large amounts of power by means of very small amounts of power and automatically correcting performance of a mechanism
ser·vo·mo·tor \'sər-vō-ˌmōt-ər\ *n* [F *servo-moteur*, fr. L *servus* slave, servant + F *-o-* + *moteur* motor, fr. L *motor* one that moves — more at MOTOR] : a power-driven mechanism that supplements a primary control operated by a comparatively feeble force (as in a servomechanism)
-ses *pl of* -SIS
ses·a·me \'ses-ə-mē *also* 'sez-\ *n* [alter. of earlier *sesam, sesama*, fr. L *sesamum, sesama*, fr. Gk *sēsamon, sēsamē*, of Sem origin; akin to Assyr *šamaššamu* sesame, Ar *simsim*] **1** : an East Indian annual erect herb (*Sesamum indicum* of the family Pedaliaceae); *also* : its small somewhat flat seeds used as a source of oil and a flavoring agent **2** : OPEN SESAME
sesame oil *n* : a pale yellow bland semidrying fatty oil obtained from sesame seeds and used chiefly as an edible oil, as a vehicle for various pharmaceuticals, and in cosmetics and soaps
ses·a·moid \'ses-ə-ˌmȯid\ *adj* [Gk *sēsamoeidēs*, lit., resembling sesame seed, fr. *sēsamon*] : of, relating to, or being a nodular mass of bone or cartilage in a tendon esp. at a joint or bony prominence — **sesamoid** *n*
sesqui- *comb form* [L, one and a half, half again, lit., and a half, fr. *semis* half (fr. *semi-*) + *-que* (enclitic) and; akin to Gk *te* and, Skt *ca*, Goth *-h, -uh*] **1** : one and a half times ⟨*sesqui*centennial⟩ **2 a** : containing three atoms or equivalents of a specified element or radical esp. combined with two of another ⟨*sesqui*oxide⟩ **b** : intermediate : combination ⟨*sesqui*carbonate⟩
ses·qui·car·bon·ate \ˌses-kwi-'kär-bə-ˌnāt, -nət\ *n* : a salt that is neither a simple normal carbonate nor a simple bicarbonate but often a combination of the two
ses·qui·cen·te·na·ry \-kwi-sen-'ten-ə-rē, -'sent-ᵊn-ˌer-ē, -sen-'tē-nə-rē\ *n* : SESQUICENTENNIAL
ses·qui·cen·ten·ni·al \-sen-'ten-ē-əl\ *n* : a 150th anniversary or its celebration — **sesquicentennial** *adj*
ses·qui·pe·da·lian \ˌses-kwə-pə-'dāl-yən\ *adj* [L *sesquipedalis*, lit., a foot and a half long, fr. *sesqui-* + *ped-, pes* foot — more at FOOT] **1** : having many syllables : LONG ⟨~ terms⟩ **2** : given to or characterized by the use of long words ⟨a ~ orator⟩
ses·sile \'ses-īl, -əl\ *adj* [L *sessilis* of or fit for sitting, low, dwarf (of plants), fr. *sessus*, pp.] **1** : attached directly by the base : not raised upon a stalk or peduncle ⟨a ~ leaf⟩ ⟨~ bubbles⟩ **2** : permanently attached or established : not free to move about ⟨~ polyps⟩ ⟨~ wealth⟩ — **ses·sil·i·ty** \se-'sil-ət-ē\ *n*
ses·sion \'sesh-ən\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *session-, sessio*, lit., act of sitting, fr. *sessus*, pp. of *sedēre* to sit — more at SIT] **1** : a meeting or series of meetings of a body (as a court or legislature) for the transaction of business ⟨morning ~⟩ **2** *pl* **a** (1) : a sitting of English justices of peace in execution of the powers conferred by their commissions **2** (2) : an English court holding such sessions **b** : any of various courts similar to the English sessions **3** : the period between the first meeting of a legislative or judicial body and the prorogation or final adjournment **4** : the ruling body of a Presbyterian congregation consisting of the elders in active service **5** : the period during the year or day in which a school conducts classes **6** : a meeting or period devoted to a particular activity ⟨a recording ~⟩ — **ses·sion·al** \'sesh-nəl, -ən-ᵊl\ *adj*
ses·terce \'ses-ˌtərs\ *n* [L *sestertius*, fr. *sestertius* two and a half times as great (fr. its being equal orig. to two and a half asses), fr. *semis* half (fr. *semi-*) + *tertius* third — more at THIRD] : an ancient Roman coin equal to ¼ denarius
ses·ter·tium \se-'stər-sh(ē-)əm\ *n, pl* **-tia** \-sh(ē-)ə\ [L, fr. gen. pl. of *sestertius* (in the phrase *milia sestertium* thousands of sesterces)] : a unit of value in ancient Rome equal to 1000 sesterces
ses·tet \se-'stet\ *n* [It *sestetto*, fr. *sesto* sixth, fr. L *sextus* — more at SEXT] : a stanza or a poem of six lines; *specif* : the last six lines of an Italian sonnet
ses·ti·na \se-'stē-nə\ *n* [It, fr. *sesto* sixth] : a lyrical fixed form consisting of six six-line usu. unrhymed stanzas in which the end words of the first stanza recur as end words of the following five stanzas in a successively rotating order and as the middle and end words of the three verses of the concluding tercet
[1]set \'set\ *vb* **set; set·ting** [ME *setten*, fr. OE *settan*; akin to OHG *sezzen* to set, OE *sittan* to sit] *vt* **1** : to cause to sit : place in or on a seat **2 a** : to put (a fowl) on eggs to hatch them **b** : to put (eggs) for hatching under a fowl or into an incubator **3** : to place (oneself) in position to start running in a race **4 a** : to place with care or deliberate purpose and with relative stability ⟨~ a ladder against the wall⟩ ⟨~ a stone on the grave⟩ **b** : TRANSPLANT 1 ⟨~ seedlings⟩ **c** (1) : to make (as a trap) ready to catch prey (2) : to fix (a hook) firmly into the jaw of a fish **d** : to put aside (as dough containing yeast) for fermenting **5** : to direct with fixed attention ⟨~ your mind to it⟩ **6** : to cause to assume a specified condition, relation, or occupation ⟨slaves were ~ free⟩ **7 a** : to appoint or assign to an office or duty **b** : POST, STATION **8** : to cause to assume a specified posture or position ⟨~ the door ajar⟩ **9 a** : to fix as a distinguishing imprint, sign, or appearance ⟨the years have ~ their mark on him⟩ **b** : AFFIX **c** : APPLY ⟨~ a match to kindling⟩ **10** : to fix or decide on as a time, limit, or regulation : PRESCRIBE ⟨~ a wedding day⟩ ⟨~ the rules for the game⟩ **11 a** : to establish as the highest level or best perform- ance ⟨~ a record for the half mile⟩ **b** : to furnish as a pattern or model ⟨~ an example of generosity⟩ **c** : to allot as a task ⟨*setting* lessons for the children to work upon at home —*Manchester Examiner*⟩ **12 a** : to adjust (a device and esp. a measuring device) to a desired position ⟨~ the alarm for 7:00⟩ ⟨~ a thermostat at 70⟩; *also* : to adjust (as a clock) in conformity with a standard **b** : to restore to normal position or connection when dislocated or fractured ⟨~ a broken bone⟩ **c** : to spread to the wind ⟨~ the sails⟩ **13 a** : to put in order for use ⟨~ a place for a guest⟩ **b** : to make scenically ready for a performance ⟨~ the stage⟩ **c** (1) : to arrange (type) for printing ⟨~ type by hand⟩ (2) : to put into type or its equivalent (as on film) ⟨~ the first word in italic⟩ **14 a** : to put a fine edge on by grinding or honing ⟨~ a razor⟩ **b** : to bend slightly the tooth points of (a saw) alternately in opposite directions **c** : to sink (the head of a nail) below the surface **15** : to fix in a desired position (as by heating or stretching) **16** : to wave, curl, or arrange (hair) **17 a** : to adorn with something affixed or infixed : STUD, DOT ⟨clear sky ~ with stars⟩ **b** : to fix (as a precious stone) in a border of metal : place in a setting **18 a** : to hold something in regard or esteem at the rate of ⟨~*s* a great deal by daily exercise⟩ **b** : to place in a relative rank or category ⟨~ duty before pleasure⟩ **c** : to fix at a certain amount ⟨~ bail at $500⟩ **d** : VALUE, RATE ⟨his promises were ~ at naught⟩ **e** : to place as an estimate of worth ⟨~ a high value on life⟩ **19** : to place in relation for comparison or balance ⟨theory ~ against practice⟩ **20 a** : to direct to action **b** : to incite to attack or antagonism ⟨war ~*s* brother against brother⟩ **21 a** : to place by transporting ⟨was ~ ashore on the island⟩ **b** : to put in motion **c** : to put and fix in a direction ⟨~ our faces toward home once more⟩ **d** *of a dog* : to point out the position of (game) by holding a fixed attitude **22** : to defeat (an opponent or his contract) in bridge **23 a** : to fix firmly : make immobile : give rigid form or condition to ⟨~ his jaw in determination⟩ **b** : to make unyielding or obstinate **24** : to cause to become firm or solid ⟨~ milk for cheese⟩ **25** : to cause (as fruit) to develop ~ *vi* **1** *chiefly dial* : SIT **2** : to be becoming : be suitable : FIT ⟨his behavior does not ~ well with his years⟩ **3** : to cover and warm eggs to hatch them **4 a** : to become lodged or fixed ⟨the pudding ~ heavily on his stomach⟩ **b** : to place oneself in position in preparation for an action (as running) **5** *of a plant part* : to undergo development usu. as a result of pollination **6 a** : to pass below the horizon : go down ⟨the sun ~*s*⟩ **b** : to sink out of sight : pass away **7** : to apply oneself to some activity ⟨~ to work⟩ **8** : to have a specified direction in motion : FLOW, TEND ⟨the wind was *setting* from Pine Hill to the farm —Esther Forbes⟩ **9** *of a dog* : to indicate the position of game by crouching or pointing **10** : to dance

face to face with another in a square dance ⟨~ to your partner and turn⟩ **11 a** : to become solid or thickened by chemical or physical alteration ⟨the cement ~*s* rapidly⟩ **b** *of a dye or color* : to become permanent **c** *of a bone* : to become whole by knitting **d** *of metal* : to acquire a permanent twist or bend from strain

syn SET, SETTLE, FIX, ESTABLISH *shared meaning element* : to put securely in position

— **set about** : to begin to do — **set apart** **1** : to reserve to a particular use **2** : to make noticeable or outstanding — **set aside** **1** : to put to one side : DISCARD **2** : to set apart for a purpose : RESERVE, SAVE **3** : DISMISS **4** : ANNUL, OVERRULE — **set at** : to mount an attack on : ASSAIL ⟨would go although . . . devils should *set at* me —Charlotte Yonge⟩ — **set eyes on** : to catch sight of — **set foot in** : ENTER — **set foot on** : to step onto — **set forth** **1** : PUBLISH **2** : to give an account or statement of **3** : to start out on a journey — **set forward** **1** : FURTHER **2** : to start out on a journey — **set in motion** : to give impulse to ⟨*sets* the story *in motion* vividly —Howard Thompson⟩ — **set one's hand to** : to become engaged in — **set one's heart on** : RESOLVE ⟨she *set her heart on* succeeding⟩ — **set one's house in order** : to organize one's affairs — **set one's sights on** : to determine to pursue — **set one straight** : to inform fully — **set sail** : to begin a voyage ⟨*set sail* for Europe⟩ — **set store** : to consider valuable, trustworthy, or worthwhile — used with *by* or *on* — **set the stage** : to provide the basis for ⟨this trend will *set the stage* for higher earnings⟩ — **set to music** : to provide music or instrumental accompaniment for (a text) — **set upon** : to attack usu. with violence ⟨the dogs *set upon* the trespassers⟩

²set *adj* [ME *sett*, fr. pp. of *setten* to set] **1** : INTENT, DETERMINED ⟨~ upon going⟩ **2** : fixed by authority or appointment : PRESCRIBED, SPECIFIED ⟨~ hours of study⟩ **3** : INTENTIONAL, PREMEDITATED ⟨did it of ~ purpose⟩ **4** : reluctant to change ⟨~ in his ways⟩ **5 a** : IMMOVABLE, RIGID ⟨~ frown⟩ **b** : BUILT-IN **6** : SETTLED, PERSISTENT ⟨~ defiance⟩ **7** : being in readiness : PREPARED ⟨~ for an early morning start⟩

³set *n* **1 a** : the act or action of setting **b** : the condition of being set **2 a** : mental inclination, tendency, or habit : BENT ⟨a ~ toward mathematics⟩ **b** : a state of psychological preparedness usu. of limited duration for action in response to an anticipated stimulus or situation ⟨the influence of mental ~ on the effect experienced with marijuana⟩ **3** : a number of things of the same kind that belong or are used together **4** : direction of flow ⟨the ~ of the wind⟩ **5** : form or carriage of the body or of its parts **6** : the manner of fitting or of being placed or suspended ⟨in order to give the skirt a pretty ~ —Mary J. Howell⟩ **7** : amount of deflection from a straight line **8** : permanent change of form (as of metal) due to repeated or excessive stress **9** : the act of arranging hair by curling or waving **10 a** : a young plant or rooted cutting ready for transplanting **b** : a small bulb, corm, or tuber or a piece of tuber used for propagation ⟨onion ~*s*⟩ **11** : the width of the body of a piece of type **12** : an artificial setting for a scene of a theatrical or film production **13** : a division of a tennis match won by the side that wins at least six games beating the opponent by two games or by winning a tie breaker **14** : a collection of books or periodicals forming a unit **15** : a clutch of eggs **16** : the basic formation in a country-dance or square dance **17** : a session of music (as jazz or dance music) usu. followed by an intermission; *also* : the music played at one session **18** : a group of persons associated by common interests **19** : a collection of mathematical elements (as numbers or points) — called also *class* **20** : an apparatus of electronic components assembled so as to function as a unit ⟨a radio ~⟩ **21** : a usu. offensive formation in football

syn SET, CIRCLE, COTERIE, CLIQUE *shared meaning element* : a more or less closed and exclusive group of persons

se·ta \'sēt-ə\ *n, pl* **se·tae** \'sē-ˌtē\ [NL, fr. L *saeta, seta* bristle — more at SINEW] : a slender usu. rigid or bristly and springy organ or part of an animal or plant — **se·tal** \'sēt-ᵊl\ *adj*

se·ta·ceous \si-'tā-shəs\ *adj* [L *saeta, seta*] **1** : set with or consisting of bristles **2** : resembling a bristle in form or texture — **se·ta·ceous·ly** *adv*

set–aside \'set-ə-ˌsīd\ *n* : something (as a portion of receipts or production) that is set aside for a specified purpose

set·back \'set-ˌbak\ *n* **1** : a checking of progress **2** : DEFEAT, REVERSE **3** : ⁴PITCH 7 **4** : a placing of the face of a building on a line some distance to the rear of the building line or of the wall below

¹set back \(')set-'bak\ *vt* [¹*set* + ²*back*] **1** : to slow the progress of : HINDER, DELAY **2** : COST ⟨a new suit *set* him *back* $65⟩

²set back \'set-ˌbak\ *n* [*set*, pp. of ¹*set* + ¹*back*] : an offensive football back who usu. lines up behind the quarterback — compare FLANKER, SLOTBACK

set by *vt* : to set apart for future use

set down *vt* **1** : to cause to sit down : SEAT **2** : to place at rest on a surface or on the ground **3** : to suspend (a jockey) from racing **4** : to cause or allow to get off a vehicle : DELIVER **5** : to land (an airplane) on the ground or water **6 a** : ORDAIN, ESTABLISH **b** : to put in writing **7 a** : REGARD, CONSIDER ⟨*set* him *down* as a liar⟩ **b** : ATTRIBUTE

se te·nant \sə-'ten-ənt, ˌset-ə-'näⁿ\ *adj* [F, lit., holding one another] *of postage stamps* : joined together as in the original sheet but differing in design, overprint, color, or perforation

Seth \'seth\ *n* [Heb *Shēth*] : a son of Adam

¹set–in \ˌset-ˌin\ *adj* **1** : placed, located, or built as a part of some other construction ⟨a ~ bookcase⟩ ⟨a ~ washbasin⟩ **2** : cut separately and stitched in ⟨~ sleeves⟩

²set–in \'set-ˌin\ *n* : INSERT

set in *vt* **1** : INSERT; *esp* : to stitch (a small part) within a large article ⟨*set in* a sleeve of a dress⟩ **2** : to direct (a ship) toward shore ~ *vi* **1** : to become established **2** : to blow or flow toward shore ⟨the wind was beginning to *set in*⟩

set·line \'set-ˌlīn\ *n* : a long heavy fishing line to which several hooks are attached in series

set-off \'set-ˌȯf\ *n* **1** : something that is set off against another thing: **a** : DECORATION, ORNAMENT **b** : COMPENSATION, COUNTERBALANCE **2** : the discharge of a debt by setting against it a distinct claim in favor of the debtor; *also* : the claim itself **3** : OFFSET 7a

set off \(')set-'ȯf\ *vt* **1 a** : to put in relief : show up by contrast **b** : ADORN, EMBELLISH **c** : to set apart : make distinct or outstanding **2 a** : OFFSET, COMPENSATE ⟨more variety in the Lancashire weather to *set off* its most disagreeable phases —*Geog. Jour.*⟩ **b** : to make a setoff of ⟨the respective totals shall be *set off* against one another —O. R. Hobson⟩ **3 a** : to set in motion **b** : to cause to explode **4** : to measure off on a surface ~ *vi* **1** : to start out on a course or a journey ⟨*set off* for home⟩ **2** : OFFSET

set on *vt* **1** : ATTACK **2 a** *obs* : PROMOTE **b** : to urge (as a dog) to attack or pursue **c** : to incite to action : INSTIGATE **d** : to set to work ~ *vi* : to go on : ADVANCE

se·tose \'sē-ˌtōs\ *adj* [L *saetosus*, fr. *saeta*] : SETACEOUS, BRISTLY

set·out \'set-ˌau̇t\ *n* **1 a** (1) : ARRAY, DISPLAY (2) : ARRANGEMENT, LAYOUT **b** : BUFFET, SPREAD **c** : TURNOUT 5 **2** : PARTY, ENTERTAINMENT **3** : BEGINNING, OUTSET

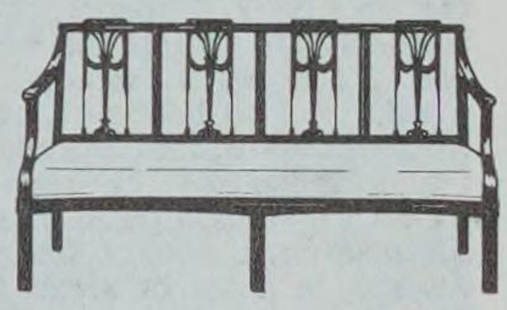
set out \(')set-'au̇t\ *vt* **1** : to state, describe, or recite at length ⟨distributed copies of a pamphlet *setting out* his ideas in full —S. F. Mason⟩ **2 a** : to arrange and present graphically or systematically **b** : to mark out (as a design) : lay out the plan of **3** : to begin with a definite purpose : INTEND, UNDERTAKE ~ *vi* : to start out on a course, a journey, or a career

set piece *n* **1** : a realistic piece of stage scenery standing by itself **2** : a composition (as in literature) executed in a fixed or ideal form often with studied artistry and brilliant effect **3** : a precisely planned and conducted military operation

set point *n* : a situation (as in tennis) in which one player will win the game and set by winning the next point; *also* : the point won

set·screw \'set-ˌskrü\ *n* **1** : a screw screwed through one part tightly upon or into another part to prevent relative movement **2** : a screw for regulating a valve opening or a spring tension

set·tee \se-'tē\ *n* [alter. of *settle*] **1** : a long seat with a back **2** : a medium-sized sofa with arms and a back



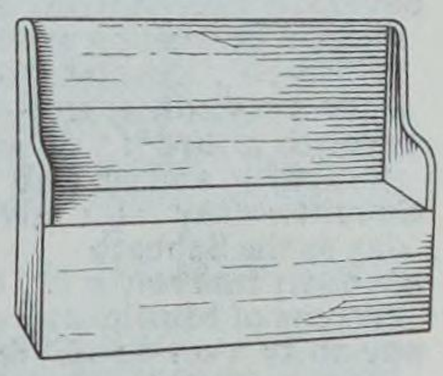
settee 2

set·ter \'set-ər\ *n* **1** : one that sets **2** : a large bird dog of a type that was formerly trained to crouch on finding game but is now expected to point

set theory *n* : a branch of mathematics or of symbolic logic that deals with the nature and relations of sets — **set theoretic** *adj*

set·ting \'set-iŋ\ *n* **1** : the manner, position, or direction in which something is set **2** : the frame or bed in which a gem is set; *also* : style of mounting **3 a** : BACKGROUND, ENVIRONMENT **b** : the time and place of the action of a literary, dramatic, or cinematic work **c** : the scenery used in a theatrical or film production **4** : the music composed for a text (as a poem) **5** : the articles of tableware for setting a place at table ⟨two ~*s* of sterling silver⟩ **6** : a batch of eggs for incubation

¹set·tle \'set-ᵊl\ *n* [ME, place for sitting, seat, chair, fr. OE *setl*; akin to OHG *sezzal* seat, L *sella* seat, chair, saddle, OE *sittan* to sit] : a wooden bench with arms, a high solid back, and an enclosed foundation which can be used as a chest



settle

²set·tle *vb* **set·tled; set·tling** \'set-liŋ, -ᵊl-iŋ\ [ME *settlen* to seat, bring to rest, come to rest, fr. OE *setlan*, fr. *setl* seat] *vt* **1** : to place so as to stay **2 a** : to establish in residence **b** : to furnish with inhabitants : COLONIZE **3 a** : to cause to pack down **b** : to clarify by causing dregs or impurities to sink **4** : to make quiet or orderly **5 a** : to fix or resolve conclusively ⟨~ the question⟩ **b** : to establish or secure permanently ⟨~ the order of royal succession⟩ **6** : to arrange in a desired position **7** : to make or arrange for final disposition of ⟨*settled* his affairs⟩ **8** *of an animal* : IMPREGNATE ~ *vi* **1** : to come to rest **2 a** : to sink gradually or to the bottom **b** : to become clear by the deposit of sediment or scum **c** : to become compact by sinking **3 a** : to become fixed, resolved, or established ⟨a cold *settled* in his chest⟩ **b** : to establish a residence or colony ⟨*settled* in Europe for a few years⟩ **4 a** : to become quiet or orderly **b** : to take up an ordered or stable life — often used with *down* ⟨marry and ~ down⟩ **5** : to adjust differences or accounts **6** *of an animal* : CONCEIVE

syn **1** see SET ***ant*** unsettle **2** see DECIDE — **settle for** : to be content with — **settle the stomach** : to remove or relieve the distress or nausea of indigestion in the stomach

set·tle·ment \'set-ᵊl-mənt\ *n* **1** : the act or process of settling **2 a** : an act of bestowing or giving possession under legal sanction **b** : the sum, estate, or income secured to one by such a settlement **3 a** : a place or region newly settled **b** : a small village **4** : an institution providing various community services esp. to large city populations **5** : an agreement composing differences

settlement house *n* : SETTLEMENT 4

set·tler \'set-lər, -ᵊl-ər\ *n* : one that settles (as a new region)

set·tling \'set-liŋ, -ᵊl-iŋ\ *n* : SEDIMENT, DREGS — usu. used in pl.

set·tlor \'set-ˌlȯ(ə)r, -ᵊl-ˌȯ(ə)r\ *n* : one that makes a settlement or creates a trust of property

set–to \'set-ˌtü\ *n, pl* **set–tos** : a usu. brief and vigorous contest

set to \(')set-'tü\ *vi* **1** : to begin actively and earnestly **2** : to begin fighting
set·up \'set-ˌəp\ *n* **1 a** : carriage of the body; *esp* : erect and soldierly bearing **b** : CONSTITUTION, MAKEUP **2 a** : the assembly and arrangement of the tools and apparatus required for the performance of an operation **b** : the preparation and adjustment of machines for an assigned task **3 a** : a table setting **b** : glass, ice, and mixer served to patrons who supply their own liquor **4 a** : a camera position from which a scene is filmed; *also* : the footage taken from one camera position **b** : the final arrangement of the scenery and properties for a scene of a theatrical or cinematic production **5 a** : a position of the balls in billiards or pool from which it is easy to score **b** : a task or contest purposely made easy **c** : something easy to get or accomplish **6 a** : the manner in which the elements or components of a machine, apparatus, or mechanical, electrical, or hydraulic system are arranged, designed, or assembled **b** : the patterns within which political, social, or administrative forces operate : customary or established practice **7** : PROJECT, PLAN
set up \(')set-'əp\ *vt* **1 a** : to raise to and place in a high position **b** : to place in view : POST **c** : to put forward (as a plan) for acceptance **2 a** : to place upright : ERECT ⟨*set up* a statue⟩ **b** : to assemble the parts of and erect in position ⟨*set up* a printing press⟩ **c** : to put (a machine) in readiness or adjustment for a tooling operation **3** : CAUSE, CREATE ⟨*set up* a clamor⟩ **4** : to place in power or in office ⟨*set up* the general as dictator⟩ **5 a** : to raise from depression : ELATE, GRATIFY **b** : to make proud or vain **6 a** : to put forward or extol as a model **b** : to claim oneself to be ⟨*sets* himself *up* as an authority⟩ **7** : FOUND, INAUGURATE ⟨*set up* a home for orphans⟩ **8 a** : to provide with means of making a living ⟨*set* him *up* in business⟩ **b** : to bring or restore to normal health **c** : to cause (one) to take on a soldierly or athletic appearance esp. through drill **9** : to erect (a perpendicular or a figure) on a base in a drawing **10 a** : to make taut (a stay or hawser) **b** : to tighten firmly **11** : to make carefully worked out plans for ⟨*set up* a bank robbery⟩ **12 a** : to pay for (drinks) **b** : to treat (someone) to something ~ *vi* **1** : to come into active operation or use **2** : to begin business **3** : to make pretensions ⟨*setting up* for a wit⟩ **4** : to become firm or consolidated : HARDEN — **set up housekeeping** : to establish one's living quarters — **set up shop** : to establish one's business
sev·en \'sev-ən\ *n* [ME, fr. *seven*, adj., fr. OE *seofon;* akin to OHG *sibun* seven, L *septem*, Gk *hepta*] **1** — see NUMBER table **2** : the seventh in a set or series ⟨the ~ of diamonds⟩ **3** : something having seven units or members — **seven** *adj or pron*
sev·en·fold \'sev-ən-ˌfōld\ *adj* **1** : having seven units or members **2** : being seven times as great or as many — **sevenfold** *adv*
seven seas *n pl* : all the waters or oceans of the world
sev·en·teen \ˌsev-ən-'tēn\ *n* [*seventeen*, adj., fr. ME *seventene*, fr. OE *seofontēne;* akin to OE *tīen* ten] — see NUMBER table — **seventeen** *adj or pron* — **sev·en·teenth** \-'tēn(t)th\ *adj or n*
seventeen-year locust *n* : a cicada (*Cicada septendecim*) of the U.S. that has in the North a life of seventeen years and in the South of thirteen years of which most is spent underground as a nymph and only a few weeks as a winged adult
sev·enth \'sev-ən(t)th\ *n* **1** — see NUMBER table **2 a** : a musical interval embracing seven diatonic degrees **b** : a tone at this interval; *specif* : LEADING TONE **c** : the harmonic combination of two tones a seventh apart — **seventh** *adj or adv*
seventh chord *n* : a chord comprising a fundamental tone with its third, fifth, and seventh
Seventh-Day *adj* : advocating or practicing observance of Saturday as the Sabbath
seventh heaven *n* [fr. the seventh being the highest of the seven heavens of Muslim and cabalist doctrine] : a state of extreme joy
sev·en·ty \'sev-ən-tē, -dē\ *n, pl* **-ties** [*seventy*, adj., fr. ME, fr. OE *seofontig*, short for *hundseofontig*, fr. *hundseofontig*, n., group of 70, fr. *hund* hundred + *seofon* seven + *-tig* group of ten — more at HUNDRED, EIGHTY] **1** — see NUMBER table **2** *pl* : the numbers 70 to 79; *specif* : the years 70 to 79 in a lifetime or century **3** *cap* : a Mormon elder ordained for missionary work under the apostles — **sev·en·ti·eth** \-tē-əth, -dē-\ *adj or n* — **seventy** *adj or pron*
sev·en·ty-eight \ˌsev-ən-tē-'āt, -ən-dē-\ *n* **1** — see NUMBER table **2** : a phonograph record designed to be played at 78 revolutions per minute — usu. written 78 — **seventy-eight** *adj or pron*
sev·en-up \ˌsev-ə-'nəp\ *n* : an American variety of all fours in which a total of seven points constitutes game
sev·er \'sev-ər\ *vb* **sev·ered; sev·er·ing** \-(ə-)riŋ\ [ME *severen*, fr. MF *severer*, fr. L *separare* — more at SEPARATE] *vt* : to put or keep apart : DIVIDE; *esp* : to remove (as a part) by or as if by cutting ~ *vi* : to become separated *syn* see SEPARATE
sev·er·able \'sev-(ə-)rə-bəl\ *adj* : capable of being severed; *esp* : capable of being divided into legally independent rights or obligations — **sev·er·abil·i·ty** \ˌsev-(ə-)rə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n*
[1]sev·er·al \'sev-(ə-)rəl\ *adj* [ME, fr. AF, fr. ML *separalis*, fr. L *separ* separate, back-formation fr. *separare* to separate] **1 a** : separate or distinct from one another ⟨federal union of the ~ states⟩ **b** (1) : individually owned or controlled : EXCLUSIVE ⟨a ~ fishery⟩ — compare COMMON (2) : of or relating separately to each individual involved ⟨a ~ judgment⟩ **c** : being separate and distinctive : RESPECTIVE ⟨specialists in their ~ fields⟩ **2 a** : more than one ⟨~ pleas⟩ **b** : more than two but fewer than many ⟨moved ~ inches⟩ **c** *chiefly dial* : being a great many *syn* see DISTINCT — **sev·er·al·ly** \-ē\ *adv*
[2]several *pron, pl in constr* : an indefinite number more than two and fewer than many ⟨~ of the guests⟩
sev·er·al·fold \ˌsev-(ə-)rəl-'fōld\ *adj* **1** : having several parts or aspects **2** : being several times as large, as great, or as many as some understood size, degree, or amount ⟨a ~ increase⟩ — **severalfold** *adv*
sev·er·al·ty \'sev-(ə-)rəl-tē\ *n* [MF *severalte*, fr. AF *severalté*, fr. *several*] **1** : the quality or state of being several : DISTINCTNESS, SEPARATENESS **2 a** : a sole, separate, and exclusive possession, dominion, or ownership : one's own right without a joint interest in any other person ⟨tenants in ~⟩ **b** : the quality or state of being individual or particular **3 a** : land owned in severalty **b** : the quality or state of being held in severalty
sev·er·ance \'sev-(ə-)rən(t)s\ *n* : the act or process of severing : the state of being severed
severance pay *n* : an allowance usu. based on length of service that is payable to an employee on termination of employment
se·vere \sə-'vi(ə)r\ *adj* **se·ver·er; -est** [MF or L; MF, fr. L *severus*] **1 a** : strict in judgment, discipline, or government **b** : of a strict or stern bearing or manner : AUSTERE **2** : rigorous in restraint, punishment, or requirement : STRINGENT, RESTRICTIVE **3** : strongly critical or condemnatory : CENSORIOUS ⟨a ~ critic⟩ **4 a** : maintaining a scrupulously exacting standard of behavior or self-discipline **b** : establishing exacting standards of accuracy and integrity in intellectual processes ⟨a ~ logician⟩ **5** : sober or restrained in decoration or manner : PLAIN **6 a** : inflicting physical discomfort or hardship : HARSH ⟨~ winters⟩ **b** : inflicting pain or distress : GRIEVOUS ⟨a ~ wound⟩ **7** : requiring great effort : ARDUOUS ⟨a ~ test⟩ **8** : of a great degree : MARKED, SERIOUS ⟨~ depression⟩ — **se·vere·ly** *adv* — **se·vere·ness** *n*
syn SEVERE, STERN, AUSTERE, ASCETIC *shared meaning element* : given to or marked by strict discipline and firm restraint *ant* tolerant, tender
se·ver·i·ty \sə-'ver-ət-ē\ *n* : the quality or state of being severe
Sevres \'sev-rə, 'sev(r²)\ *n* [*Sèvres*, France] : an often elaborately decorated French porcelain
sew \'sō\ *vb* **sewed; sewn** \'sōn\ *or* **sewed; sew·ing** [ME *sewen*, fr. OE *sīwian;* akin to OHG *siuwen* to sew, L *suere*] *vt* **1** : to unite or fasten by stitches **2** : to close or enclose by sewing ⟨~ the money in a bag⟩ ~ *vi* : to practice or engage in sewing
sew·age \'sü-ij\ *n* [*[3]sewer*] : refuse liquids or waste matter carried off by sewers
[1]sew·er \'sü-ər, 'sù(-ə)r\ *n* [ME, fr. AF *asseour*, lit., seater, fr. OF *asseoir* to seat — more at ASSIZE] : a medieval household officer often of high rank in charge of serving the dishes at table and sometimes of seating and tasting
[2]sew·er \'sō(-ə)r\ *n* : one that sews
[3]sew·er \'sü-ər, 'sù(-ə)r\ *n* [ME, fr. MF *esseweur, seweur*, fr. *essewer* to drain, fr. (assumed) VL *exaquare*, fr. L *ex-* + *aqua* water — more at ISLAND] : an artificial usu. subterranean conduit to carry off sewage and sometimes surface water (as from rainfall)
sew·er·age \'sü-ə-rij, 'sù(-ə)r-ij\ *n* **1** : SEWAGE **2** : the removal and disposal of sewage and surface water by sewers **3** : a system of sewers
sew·ing \'sō-iŋ\ *n* **1** : the act, method, or occupation of one that sews **2** : material that has been or is to be sewed
sew up *vt* **1** : to mend completely by sewing **2** : to get exclusive use or control of **3** : to make certain of : ASSURE
[1]sex \'seks\ *n* [ME, fr. L *sexus*] **1** : either of two divisions of organisms distinguished respectively as male or female **2** : the sum of the structural, functional, and behavioral characteristics of living beings that subserve reproduction by two interacting parents and that distinguish males and females **3 a** : sexually motivated phenomena or behavior **b** : SEXUAL INTERCOURSE **4** : GENITALIA
[2]sex *vt* **1** : to identify the sex of ⟨~ chicks⟩ **2 a** : to increase the sexual appeal of **b** : to arouse the sexual desires of
sex- *or* **sexi-** *comb form* [L *sex* — more at SIX] : six ⟨*sexi*valent⟩ ⟨*sex*partite⟩
sex·a·ge·nar·i·an \ˌsek-sə-jə-'ner-ē-ən, (ˌ)sek-ˌsaj-ə-\ *n* [L *sexagenarius* of or containing 60, 60 years old, fr. *sexageni* 60 each, fr. *sexaginta* sixty, irreg. fr. *sex* six + *-ginta* (akin to L *viginti* twenty) — more at SIX, VIGESIMAL] : a person who is in his sixties — **sexagenarian** *adj*
Sex·a·ges·i·ma \ˌsek-sə-'jes-ə-mə, -'jā-zə-\ *n* [LL, fr. L, fem. of *sexagesimus* sixtieth; fr. its being approximately 60 days before Easter] : the second Sunday before Lent
[1]sex·a·ges·i·mal \-'jes-ə-məl\ *adj* [L *sexagesimus* sixtieth, fr. *sexaginta* sixty] : of, relating to, or based on the number 60
[2]sexagesimal *n* : a sexagesimal fraction
sex appeal *n* **1** : personal appeal or physical attractiveness for members of the opposite sex **2** : general attractiveness
sex cell *n* : GAMETE; *also* : its cellular precursor
sex chromosome *n* : a chromosome that is inherited differently in the two sexes, that is or is held to be concerned directly with the inheritance of sex, and that is the seat of factors governing the inheritance of various sex-linked and sex-limited characters
sex·de·cil·lion \ˌseks-di-'sil-yən\ *n, often attrib* [L *sedecim, sexdecim* sixteen (fr. *sex* six + *decem* ten) + E *-illion* (as in *million*) — more at TEN] — see NUMBER table
sexed \'sekst\ *adj* **1** : having sex or sexual instincts **2** : having sex appeal
sex gland *n* : GONAD
sex hormone *n* : a hormone (as from the gonads or adrenal cortex) that affects the growth or function of the reproductive organs or the development of secondary sex characteristics
sex·ism \'sek-ˌsiz-əm\ *n* [*[1]sex* + *-ism* (as in *racism*)] : prejudice or discrimination based on sex; *esp* : discrimination against women — **sex·ist** \'sek-səst\ *adj or n*
sex kitten *n* : a woman who has sex appeal
sex·less \'sek-sləs\ *adj* **1** : lacking sex : NEUTER **2** : lacking sexiness — **sex·less·ly** *adv* — **sex·less·ness** *n*
sex-lim·it·ed \'sek-'slim-ət-əd\ *adj* : expressed in the phenotype of only one sex
sex-link·age \'sek-ˌsliŋ-kij\ *n* : the quality or state of being sex-linked
sex-linked \'sek-ˌsliŋ(k)t\ *adj* **1** : located in a sex chromosome ⟨a ~ gene⟩ **2** : mediated by a sex-linked gene ⟨a ~ character⟩
sex·ol·o·gy \sek-'säl-ə-jē\ *n* : the study of sex or of the interaction of the sexes esp. among human beings
sex·pot \'sek-ˌspät\ *n* : a conspicuously sexy woman
sext \'sekst\ *n, often cap* [ME *sexte*, fr. LL *sexta*, fr. L, sixth hour of the day, fr. fem. of *sextus* sixth, fr. *sex* six] : the fourth of the canonical hours

Sex·tans \sek-ˌstanz\ *n* [NL (gen. *Sextantis*), lit., sextant] : a constellation on the equator south of Leo

sex·tant \'sek-stənt\ *n* [NL *sextant-, sextans* sixth part of a circle, fr. L, sixth part, fr. *sextus* sixth] : an instrument for measuring angular distances used esp. in navigation to observe altitudes of celestial bodies (as in ascertaining latitude and longitude)



sextant

sex·tet \sek-'stet\ *n* [alter. of *sestet*] **1** : a musical composition for six instruments or voices **2** : a group or set of six: as **a** : the performers of a sextet **b** : a hockey team

sex·til·lion \sek-'stil-yən\ *n, often attrib* [F, irreg. fr. *sex-* (fr. L *sex*) + *-illion* (as in *million*)] — see NUMBER table

sex·to \'sek-(ˌ)stō\ *n, pl* **sextos** [L *sexto*, abl. of *sextus* sixth] : SIXMO

sex·to·dec·i·mo \ˌsek-stə-'des-ə-ˌmō\ *n, pl* **-mos** [L, abl. of *sextus decimus* sixteenth, fr. *sextus* sixth + *decimus* tenth — more at DIME] : SIXTEENMO

sex·ton \'sek-stən\ *n* [ME *secresteyn, sexteyn*, fr. MF *secrestain*, fr. ML *sacristanus* — more at SACRISTAN] : a church officer or employee who takes care of the church property and at some churches rings the bell for services and digs graves

¹sex·tu·ple \sek-'st(y)üp-əl, -'stəp-; 'sek-stəp-\ *adj* [prob. fr. ML *sextuplus*, fr. L *sextus* sixth + *-plus* multiplied by — more at DOUBLE] **1** : having six units or members **2** : being six times as great or as many **3** : marked by six beats per measure of music ⟨~ time⟩ — **sextuple** *n*

²sextuple *vb* **sex·tu·pled; sex·tu·pling** \-(ə-)liŋ\ *vt* : to make six times as much or as many ~ *vi* : to become six times as much or as numerous

sex·tu·plet \sek-'stəp-lət, -'st(y)üp-; 'sek-st(y)əp-\ *n* **1** : a combination of six of a kind **2** : one of six offspring born at one birth **3** : a group of six equal musical notes performed in the time ordinarily given to four of the same value

¹sex·tu·pli·cate \sek-'st(y)ü-pli-kət\ *adj* [blend of *sextuple* and *-plicate* (as in *duplicate*)] **1** : repeated six times **2** : SIXTH ⟨file the ~ copy⟩ — **sextuplicate** *n*

²sex·tu·pli·cate \-plə-ˌkāt\ *vt* **-cat·ed; -cat·ing** **1** : SEXTUPLE **2** : to provide in sextuplicate

sex·u·al \'seksh-(ə-)wəl, 'sek-shəl\ *adj* [LL *sexualis*, fr. L *sexus* sex] **1** : of, relating to, or associated with sex or the sexes ⟨~ differentiation⟩ ⟨~ conflict⟩ **2** : having or involving sex ⟨~ reproduction⟩ — **sex·u·al·ly** \'seksh-(ə-)wə-lē, 'seksh-(ə-)lē\ *adv*

sexual generation *n* : the generation of an organism with alternation of generations that reproduces sexually

sexual intercourse *n* **1** : heterosexual intercourse involving penetration of the vagina by the penis : COITUS **2** : intercourse involving genital contact between individuals other than penetration of the vagina by the penis

sex·u·al·i·ty \ˌsek-shə-'wal-ət-ē\ *n* : the quality or state of being sexual: **a** : the condition of having sex **b** : sexual activity **c** : expression of sexual receptivity or interest esp. when excessive

sex·u·al·ize \'seksh-(ə-)wə-ˌlīz, 'sek-shə-ˌlīz\ *vt* **-ized; -iz·ing** : to make sexual : endow with a sexual character or cast

sexual relations *n pl* : COITUS

sexy \'sek-sē\ *adj* **sex·i·er; -est** : sexually suggestive or stimulating : EROTIC — **sex·i·ly** \-sə-lē\ *adv* — **sex·i·ness** \-sē-nəs\ *n*

Sey·fert galaxy \ˌsē-fərt-, ˌsī-\ *n* [Carl K. *Seyfert* †1960 Am astronomer] : any of a class of spiral galaxies that have small compact bright nuclei characterized by variability in light intensity, emission of radio waves, and spectra which indicate hot gases in rapid motion

sf *or* **sfz** *abbr* sforzando

SF *abbr, often not cap* **1** sacrifice fly **2** science fiction **3** sinking fund

SFC *abbr* sergeant first class

sfer·ics \'sfi(ə)r-iks, 'sfer-\ *n pl* [by shortening & alteration] **1** : ATMOSPHERICS **2** *sing in constr* : an electronic detector of storms

¹sforzando \sfȯrt-'sän-(ˌ)dō, -'san-\ *adj or adv* [It, verbal of *sforzare* to force] : played with prominent stress or accent — used as a direction in music

²sforzando *n, pl* **-dos** *or* **-di** \-(ˌ)dē\ : an accented tone or chord

sfu·ma·to \sfü-'mä-(ˌ)tō\ *n* [It, fr. pp. of *sfumare* to evaporate, fr. *s-* (fr. L *ex-*) + *fumare* to smoke, fr. L] : the definition of form without abrupt outline by the blending of one tone into another

SG *abbr* **1** senior grade **2** sergeant **3** solicitor general **4** *often not cap* specific gravity **5** surgeon general

sgd *abbr* signed

sgraf·fi·to \zgra-'fē-(ˌ)tō, skra-\ *n, pl* **-ti** \-(ˌ)tē\ [It, fr. pp. of *sgraffire* to scratch, produce sgraffito] **1** : decoration by cutting away parts of a surface layer (as of plaster or clay) to expose a different colored ground — compare GRAFFITO **2** : something (as traditional Pennsylvania Dutch pottery) decorated with sgraffito

Sgt *abbr* sergeant

Sgt Maj *abbr* sergeant major

¹sh \sh *often prolonged*\ *interj* — used often in prolonged or reduplicated form to urge or command silence or less noise

²sh *abbr* share

Sha'·ban \shə-'bän\ *n* [Ar *sha'bān*] : the 8th month of the Muhammadan year — see MONTH table

Shab·bat \shə-'bät, 'shäb-əs\ *n* [Heb *shabbāth*] : the Jewish Sabbath

shab·by \'shab-ē\ *adj* **shab·bi·er; -est** [obs. E *shab* (a low fellow)] **1 a** : threadbare and faded from wear ⟨a ~ sofa⟩ **b** : ill kept : DILAPIDATED ⟨a ~ neighborhood⟩ **2** : clothed with worn or seedy garments ⟨a ~ hobo⟩ **3 a** : MEAN, DESPICABLE ⟨must feel ~ . . . because of his compromises —Nat Hentoff⟩ **b** : UNGENEROUS, UNFAIR ⟨laments the ~ way in which this country often treated a poet —Paul Engle⟩ **c** : inferior in quality : SLOVENLY ⟨his reasoning is weak, even ~ —J. T. Farrell⟩ — **shab·bi·ly** \'shab-ə-lē\ *adv* — **shab·bi·ness** \'shab-ē-nəs\ *n*

Sha·bu·oth \shə-'vü-ˌōt(h), -ˌōs, -əs\ *n* [Heb *shābhū'ōth*, lit., weeks] : a Jewish holiday observed on the 6th and 7th of Sivan in commemoration of the revelation of the Ten Commandments at Mt. Sinai

shack \'shak\ *n* [prob. back-formation fr. E dial. *shackly* (rickety)] **1** : HUT, SHANTY **2** : a room or similar enclosed structure for a particular person or use ⟨a cook's ~⟩ ⟨a radio ~⟩

¹shack·le \'shak-əl\ *n* [ME *schakel*, fr. OE *sceacul*; akin to ON *skökull* pole of a cart] **1** : something (as a manacle or fetter) that confines the legs or arms **2** : something that checks or prevents free action as if by fetters — usu. used in pl. **3** : any of various devices for making something (as a clevis) fast **4** : a length of cable or anchor chain usu. 15 feet

²shackle *vt* **shack·led; shack·ling** \-(ə-)liŋ\ **1 a** : to bind with shackles : FETTER **b** : to make fast with a shackle **2** : to deprive of freedom esp. of action by means of restrictions or handicaps : IMPEDE ***syn*** see HAMPER — **shack·ler** \-(ə-)lər\ *n*

shack·le·bone \'shak-əl-ˌbōn, 'shāk-\ *n, Scot* : WRIST

shack up \(')shak-'əp\ *vi* : to become established in a dwelling or shelter esp. when involving cohabitation : spend the night

shad \'shad\ *n, pl* **shad** [(assumed) ME, fr. OE *sceadd*; akin to L *scatēre* to bubble] : any of several clupeid fishes (genus *Alosa*) that differ from the typical herrings in having a relatively deep body and in being anadromous and that are extremely important food fishes of Europe and No. America

shad·ber·ry \-ˌber-ē\ *n* **1** : the fruit of the serviceberry **2** : SERVICEBERRY 2

shad·blow \'shad-ˌblō\ *n* : SERVICEBERRY 2

shad·bush \-ˌbůsh\ *n* : SERVICEBERRY 2

shad·dock \'shad-ək\ *n* [Captain *Shaddock*, 17th cent. E ship commander] : a very large thick-rinded usu. pear-shaped citrus fruit differing from the closely related grapefruit esp. in its loose rind and often coarse dry pulp; *also* : the tree (*Citrus grandis*) that bears it

¹shade \'shād\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *sceadu*; akin to OHG *scato* shadow, Gk *skotos* darkness] **1 a** : comparative darkness or obscurity owing to interception of the rays of light **b** : relative obscurity or retirement **2 a** : shelter (as by foliage) from the heat and glare of sunlight **b** : a place sheltered from the sun **3** : an evanescent or unreal appearance **4** *pl* **a** : the shadows that gather as darkness comes on **b** : NETHERWORLD, HADES **5** : a disembodied spirit : GHOST **6** : something that intercepts or shelters from light, sun, or heat: as **a** : a device partially covering a lamp so as to reduce glare **b** : a flexible screen usu. mounted on a roller for regulating the light or the view through a window **c** *pl* : SUNGLASSES **7 a** : the reproduction of the effect of shade in painting or drawing **b** : a subdued or somber feature **8 a** : a color produced by a pigment or dye mixture having some black in it **b** : a color slightly different from the one under consideration **9 a** : a minute difference or variation **b** : a minute degree or quantity **10** : a facial expression of sadness or displeasure — **shade·less** \-ləs\ *adj*

²shade *vb* **shad·ed; shad·ing** *vt* **1 a** : to shelter or screen by intercepting radiated light or heat **b** : to cover with a shade **2** : to hide partly by or as if by a shadow **3** : to darken with or as if with a shadow **4** : to cast into the shade (as by some exhibition of superiority) : OBSCURE **5 a** : to represent the effect of shade or shadow on **b** : to add shading to **c** : to color so that the shades pass gradually from one to another **6** : to change by gradual transition or qualification **7** : to reduce slightly (as a price) ~ *vi* **1** : to pass by slight changes or imperceptible degrees into something else **2** : to undergo or exhibit minute difference or variation — **shad·er** *n*

shade–grown \'shād-ˌgrōn\ *adj* : grown in the shade; *specif* : grown under cloth ⟨~ tobacco⟩

shade tree *n* : a tree grown primarily to produce shade

shad·ing \'shād-iŋ\ *n* : the filling up within outlines to suggest three-dimensionality, shadow, or more or less darkness in a picture or drawing

sha·doof *also* **sha·duf** \shə-'düf, sha-\ *n* [Ar. *shādūf*] : a counterbalanced sweep used since ancient times esp. in Egypt for raising water (as for irrigation)

¹shad·ow \'shad-(ˌ)ō, -ə(-w)\ *n* [ME *shadwe*, fr. OE *sceaduw-, sceadu* shade, shadow] **1** : partial darkness or obscurity within a part of space from which rays from a source of light are cut off by an interposed opaque body **2** : a reflected image **3** : shelter from danger or observation **4 a** : an imperfect and faint representation **b** : an imitation of something : COPY **5** : the dark figure cast upon a surface by a body intercepting the rays from a source of light **6** : PHANTOM **7** *pl* : DARKNESS **8** : a shaded or darker portion of a picture **9** : an attenuated form or a vestigial remnant **10 a** : an inseparable companion or follower **b** : one (as a spy or detective) that shadows **11** : a small degree or portion : TRACE **12** : a source of gloom or unhappiness **13 a** : an area within the shadow cast by an object : an area near an object : VICINITY **b** : pervasive and dominant influence — **shad·ow·less** \'shad-ō-ləs, -ə-ləs\ *adj* — **shad·ow·like** \-ˌlīk\ *adj*

²shadow *vt* **1** *archaic* : SHELTER, PROTECT **2** : to cast a shadow upon : CLOUD **3** *obs* : to shelter from the sun **4** *obs* : CONCEAL **5** : to represent or indicate obscurely or faintly — often used with *forth* or *out* **6** : to follow esp. secretly : TRAIL **7** *archaic* : SHADE 5 ~ *vi* **1** : to pass gradually or by degrees **2** : to become overcast with or as if with shadows — **shad·ow·er** \-ə-wər\ *n*

³shadow *adj* **1** : not functioning in an official capacity ⟨a ~ government in exile⟩ **2 a** : having an indistinct pattern ⟨~ plaid⟩ **b** : having darker sections of design ⟨~ lace⟩

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shad·ow·box \'shad-ō-ˌbäks, -ə-ˌbäks\ *vi* : to box with an imaginary opponent esp. as a form of training
shadow box *n* : a shallow enclosing case usu. with a glass front in which something is set for protection and display
shadow cabinet *n* : a group of leaders of a parliamentary opposition who constitute the probable membership of the cabinet when their party is returned to power
shadow dance *n* : a dance shown by throwing the shadows of dancers on a screen
shad·ow·graph \'shad-ō-ˌgraf, -ə-ˌgraf\ *n* **1** : SHADOW PLAY **2** : a photographic image resembling a shadow
shadow play *n* : a drama exhibited by throwing shadows of puppets or actors on a screen — called also *shadow show*
shad·owy \'shad-ə-wē\ *adj* **1 a** : of the nature of or resembling a shadow : UNSUBSTANTIAL **b** : faintly perceptible : INDISTINCT **2** : being in or obscured by shadow ⟨deep ~ interiors⟩ **3** : SHADY 1 — **shad·ow·i·ly** \-wə-lē\ *adv* — **shad·ow·i·ness** \-wē-nəs\ *n*
shady \'shād-ē\ *adj* **shad·i·er; -est** **1** : producing or affording shade **2** : sheltered from the sun's rays **3 a** : of questionable merit : UNCERTAIN, UNRELIABLE **b** : DISREPUTABLE — **shad·i·ly** \'shād-ᵊl-ē\ *adv* — **shad·i·ness** \'shād-ē-nəs\ *n*
¹shaft \'shaft\ *n, pl* **shafts** \'shaf(t)s, *for 1b usu* 'shavz\ [ME, fr. OE *sceaft;* akin to OHG *scaft* shaft, L *scapus* shaft, stalk, Gk *skēptron* staff, L *capo* capon — more at CAPON] **1 a** (1) : the long handle of a spear or similar weapon (2) : SPEAR, LANCE **b** : POLE; *specif* : either of two long pieces of wood between which a horse is hitched to a vehicle **c** (1) : an arrow esp. for a longbow (2) : the body or stem of an arrow extending from the nock to the head **2** : a sharply delineated beam of light shining through an opening **3** : something suggestive of the shaft of a spear or arrow esp. in long slender cylindrical form: as **a** : the trunk of a tree **b** : the cylindrical pillar between the capital and the base **c** : the handle or helve of a tool or instrument (as a hammer or golf club) **d** : a commonly cylindrical bar used to support rotating pieces or to transmit power or motion by rotation **e** : the stem or midrib of a feather **f** : the upright member of a cross esp. below the arms **g** : a small architectural column (as at each side of a doorway) **h** : a column, obelisk, or other spire-shaped or columnar monument **i** : a vertical or inclined opening of uniform and limited cross section made for finding or mining ore, raising water, or ventilating underground workings (as in a cave) **j** : a vertical opening or passage through the floors of a building **4 a** : a projectile thrown like a spear or shot like an arrow **b** : a scornful, satirical, or pithily critical remark **c** : harsh or unfair treatment
²shaft *vt* **1** : to fit with a shaft **2** *slang* : to treat unfairly or harshly
shaft horsepower *n* : horsepower transmitted by an engine shaft
shaft·ing \'shaf-tiŋ\ *n* : shafts or material for shafts
¹shag \'shag\ *n* [(assumed) ME *shagge,* fr. OE *sceacga;* akin to ON *skegg* beard, OSlav *skokŭ* leap] **1 a** : a shaggy tangled mass or covering (as of hair) **b** : long coarse or matted fiber or nap **2** : a strong coarse tobacco cut into fine shreds **3** : CORMORANT
²shag *adj* : SHAGGY
³shag *vb* **shagged; shag·ging** *vi* : to fall or hang in shaggy masses ~ *vt* : to make rough or shaggy
⁴shag *vt* **shagged; shag·ging** [origin unknown] **1 a** : to chase after; *esp* : to chase after and return (a ball) hit usu. out of play **b** : to catch (a fly) in baseball practice **2** : to chase away
⁵shag *vi* **shagged; shag·ging** [perh. alter. of *shack* (to lumber along)] **1** : to move or lope along **2** : to dance the shag
⁶shag *n* : a dance step executed by hopping livelily on each foot in turn
shag·bark \'shag-ˌbärk\ *n* : SHAGBARK HICKORY
shagbark hickory *n* : a hickory (*Carya ovata*) with sweet edible nuts and a gray shaggy outer bark that peels off in long strips; *also* : its wood
shag·gy \'shag-ē\ *adj* **shag·gi·er; -est** **1 a** : covered with or consisting of long, coarse, or matted hair **b** : covered with or consisting of thick, tangled, or unkempt vegetation **c** : having a rough nap, texture, or surface **d** : having hairlike processes **2 a** : UNKEMPT **b** : confused or unclear in conception or thinking — **shag·gi·ly** \'shag-ə-lē\ *adv* — **shag·gi·ness** \'shag-ē-nəs\ *n*
shag·gy–dog story \ˌshag-ē-'dȯg-\ *n* : a long-drawn-out circumstantial story concerning an inconsequential happening that impresses the teller as humorous but the hearer as boring and pointless; *also* : a similar humorous story whose humor lies in the pointlessness or irrelevance of the punch line
shag·gy·mane \'shag-ē-ˌmān\ *n* : a common edible mushroom (*Coprinus comatus*) having an elongated shaggy white pileus and black spores — called also *shaggy cap*
sha·green \sha-'grēn, shə-\ *n* [by folk etymology fr. F *chagrin,* fr. Turk *sağrı*] **1** : an untanned leather covered with small round granulations and usu. dyed green **2** : the rough skin of various sharks and rays when covered with small close-set tubercles — **shagreen** *adj*
shah \'shä, 'shȯ\ *n, often cap* [Per *shāh* king — more at CHECK] : the sovereign of Iran — **shah·dom** \'shäd-əm, 'shȯd-\ *n*
Sha·hap·ti·an \shə-'hap-tē-ən\ *n, pl* **Shahaptian** *or* **Shahaptians** **1** : a member of an Indian people of a large territory along the Columbia river and its tributaries **2** : the language of the Shahaptian people including Nez Percé and Yakima
shai·tan \shā-'tän, shī-\ *n* [Ar *shaytān*] : an evil spirit; *specif* : an evil jinn
Shak *abbr* Shakespeare
shak·able *or* **shake·able** \'shā-kə-bəl\ *adj* : capable of being shaken
¹shake \'shāk\ *vb* **shook** \'shůk\; **shak·en** \'shā-kən\; **shak·ing** [ME *shaken,* fr. OE *sceacan;* akin to ON *skaka* to shake, Skt *khajati* he agitates] *vi* **1** : to move irregularly to and fro **2** : to vibrate esp. as the result of a blow or shock **3** : to tremble as a result of physical or emotional disturbance **4** : to experience a state of instability : TOTTER **5** : to briskly move something to and fro or up and down esp. in order to mix **6** : to clasp hands **7** : TRILL ~ *vt* **1** : to brandish, wave, or flourish often in a threatening manner **2** : to cause to move in a usu. quick jerky manner **3** : to cause to quake, quiver, or tremble **4 a** : to free oneself from ⟨~ a habit⟩ ⟨~ off a cold⟩ **b** : to get away from : get rid of ⟨can you ~ your friend? I want to talk to you alone —Elmer Davis⟩ **5** : to cause to waver : WEAKEN ⟨~ one's faith⟩ **6** : to bring to a specified condition by repeated quick jerky movements ⟨*shook* himself loose from the man's grasp⟩ **7** : to dislodge or eject by quick jerky movements of the support or container ⟨*shook* the dust from the cloth⟩ **8** : to clasp (hands) in greeting or farewell or as a sign of goodwill or agreement **9** : to stir the feelings of : UPSET ⟨*shook* her up⟩ **10** : TRILL
syn SHAKE, AGITATE, ROCK, CONVULSE *shared meaning element* : to cause to move up and down or to and fro with some degree of violence
— **shake a leg** **1** : DANCE **2** : to hurry up
²shake *n* **1** : an act of shaking: as **a** : an act of shaking hands **b** : an act of shaking oneself **2 a** : a blow or shock that upsets the equilibrium or disturbs the balance of something **b** : EARTHQUAKE **3** *pl* **a** : a condition of trembling (as from chill); *specif* : DELIRIUM TREMENS **b** : MALARIA 2a **4** : something produced by shaking: as **a** : a fissure separating annual rings of growth in timber **b** : a fissure in strata **c** : MILK SHAKE **5** : a wavering, quivering, or alternating motion caused by a blow or shock **6** : TRILL **7** : a very brief period of time **8** *pl* : one of importance or ability — usu. used in the phrase *no great shakes* **9** : a shingle split from a piece of log usu. three or four feet long **10** : ³DEAL 3 ⟨a fair ~⟩
shake·down \'shāk-ˌdaůn\ *n* **1** : an improvised bed (as one made up on the floor) **2** : a boisterous dance **3** : an act or instance of shaking someone down; *esp* : EXTORTION **4** : a thorough search **5** : a process or period of adjustment **6** : a testing under operating conditions of something new (as a ship) for possible faults and defects and for familiarizing the operators with it
shake down \(')shāk-'daůn\ *vi* **1 a** : to take up temporary quarters **b** : to occupy an improvised or makeshift bed **2 a** : to become accustomed esp. to new surroundings or duties **b** : to settle down ~ *vt* **1** : to obtain money from in a dishonest or illegal manner **2** : to make a thorough search of **3** : to bring about a reduction of **4** : to give a shakedown test to
shake·out \'shā-ˌkaůt\ *n* **1 a** : a minor economic recession **b** : a sharp break in a particular industry that usu. follows overproduction or excessive competition and tends to force out weaker producers **2** : a sharp lowering of prices; *esp* : a sharp usu. brief decline in a commodity or security market that drives weak or frightened speculators from the market
shak·er \'shā-kər\ *n* **1** : one that shakes: as **a** : a utensil or machine used in shaking ⟨pepper ~⟩ ⟨cocktail ~⟩ **b** : one who incites or promotes action **2** *cap* [fr. a dance with shaking movements performed as part of worship] : a member of a millenarian sect originating in England in 1747 and practicing celibacy and an ascetic communal life — **Shaker** *adj* — **Shak·er·ism** \-kə-ˌriz-əm\ *n*
¹Shake·spear·ean *or* **Shake·spear·ian** *also* **Shak·sper·ean** *or* **Shak·sper·ian** \shāk-'spir-ē-ən\ *adj* : of, relating to, or having the characteristics of Shakespeare or his writings
²Shakespearean *or* **Shakespearian** *also* **Shaksperean** *or* **Shaksperian** *n* : an authority on or devotee of Shakespeare
Shake·spear·eana *or* **Shake·spear·iana** \(ˌ)shāk-ˌspir-ē-'an-ə, -'än-ə, -'ā-nə\ *n pl* : collected items by, about, or relating to Shakespeare
Shakespearean sonnet *n* : ENGLISH SONNET
shake–up \'shā-ˌkəp\ *n* : an act or instance of shaking up; *specif* : an extensive and often drastic reorganization
shake up \(')shā-'kəp\ *vt* **1** *obs* : CHIDE, SCOLD **2** : to jar by or as if by a physical shock ⟨the collision *shook up* both drivers⟩ **3** : to effect an extensive and often drastic reorganization of
shaking palsy *n* : PARALYSIS AGITANS
sha·ko \'shak-(ˌ)ō, 'shāk-, 'shäk-\ *n, pl* **shakos** *or* **shakoes** [F, fr. Hung *csákó*] : a stiff military hat with a high crown and plume


shako

Shak·ta \'s(h)äk-tə\ *n or adj* [Skt *śākta,* fr. *Śaktí*] : an adherent of Shaktism
Shak·ti \-tē\ *n* [Skt *Śaktí*] : the dynamic energy of a Hindu god personified as his female consort; *broadly* : cosmic energy as conceived in Hindu thought
Shak·tism \-ˌtiz-əm\ *n* : a Hindu sect worshiping Shakti under various names (as Kali or Durga) in a cult of devotion to the female principle often with magical or orgiastic rites
shaky \'shā-kē\ *adj* **shak·i·er; -est** **1** : characterized by shakes ⟨~ timber⟩ **2 a** : lacking stability : PRECARIOUS **b** : lacking in firmness (as of beliefs or principles) **c** : lacking in authority or reliability : QUESTIONABLE **3 a** : somewhat unsound in health **b** : characterized by shaking **4** : likely to give way or break down — **shak·i·ly** \-kə-lē\ *adv* — **shak·i·ness** \-kē-nəs\ *n*
shale \'shā(ə)l\ *n* [ME, shell, scale, fr. OE *scealu* — more at SHELL] : a fissile rock that is formed by the consolidation of clay, mud, or silt, has a finely stratified or laminated structure, and is composed of minerals essentially unaltered since deposition
shale oil *n* : a crude dark oil obtained from oil shale by heating
shall \shəl, (')shal\ *vb, past* **should** \shəd, (')shůd\; *pres sing & pl* **shall** [ME *shal* (1st & 3d sing. pres. indic.), fr. OE *sceal;* akin to OHG *scal* (1st & 3d sing. pres. indic.) ought to, must, Lith *skola* debt] *verbal auxiliary* **1** *archaic* **a** : will have to : MUST **b** : will be able to : CAN **2 a** — used to express a command or exhortation ⟨you ~ go⟩ **b** — used in laws, regulations, or directives to express what is mandatory ⟨it ~ be unlawful to carry firearms⟩ **3 a** — used to express what is inevitable or seems likely to happen in the future ⟨we ~ have to be ready⟩ ⟨we ~ see⟩ **b** — used to express simple futurity ⟨when ~ we expect you⟩ **4** — used to express determination ⟨they ~ not pass⟩ ~ *vi* : will go ⟨he to England ~ along with you —Shak.⟩

shal·loon \shə-'lün, sha-\ *n* [*Châlons*-sur-Marne, France] : a lightweight twilled fabric of wool or worsted used chiefly for the linings of coats and uniforms
shal·lop \'shal-əp\ *n* [MF *chaloupe*] **1** : a usu. two-masted ship with lugsails **2** : a small open boat propelled by oars or sails and used chiefly in shallow waters
shal·lot \shə-'lät *also* 'shal-ət\ *n* [modif. of F *échalote*, deriv. of (assumed) VL *escalonia* — more at SCALLION] **1** : a bulbous perennial herb (*Allium ascalonicum*) that resembles an onion and produces small clustered bulbs used in seasoning **2** : GREEN ONION
[1]shal·low \'shal-(ˌ)ō, -ə(-w)\ *adj* [ME *schalowe*] **1** : having little depth ⟨~ water⟩ **2** : having little extension inwards or backwards ⟨office buildings have taken the form of ~ slabs —Lewis Mumford⟩ **3 a** : penetrating only the easily or quickly perceived ⟨~ generalizations⟩ **b** : lacking in depth of knowledge, thought, or feeling ⟨a ~ demagogue⟩ **4** : displacing comparatively little air : WEAK ⟨~ breathing⟩ ***syn*** see SUPERFICIAL ***ant*** deep — **shal·low·ly** \-ō-lē, -ə-lē\ *adv* — **shal·low·ness** *n*
[2]shallow *vt* : to make shallow ~ *vi* : to become shallow
[3]shallow *n* : a shallow place or area in a body of water — usu. used in pl. but sing. or pl. in constr.
sha·lom \shä-'lōm, shə-\ *interj* [Heb *shālōm* peace] — used as a Jewish greeting and farewell
sha·lom alei·chem \ˌshȯ-lə-mə-'lā-kəm, ˌshō-, -ˌkəm\ *interj* [Heb *shālōm ʿalēkhem* peace unto you] — used as a traditional Jewish greeting
shalt \shəlt, (')shalt\ *archaic pres 2d sing of* SHALL
[1]sham \'sham\ *n* [perh. fr. E dial. *sham* shame, alter. of E *shame*] **1** : a trick that deludes : HOAX **2** : cheap falseness : HYPOCRISY **3** : a decorative piece of cloth made to simulate an article of personal or household linen and used in place of or over it **4** : an imitation or counterfeit purporting to be genuine **5** : a person who shams ***syn*** see IMPOSTURE
[2]sham *vb* **shammed; sham·ming** *vt* : to go through the external motions necessary to counterfeit ~ *vi* : to act intentionally so as to give a false impression : FEIGN ***syn*** see ASSUME
[3]sham *adj* **1** : not genuine : FALSE ⟨~ pearls⟩ **2** : having such poor quality as to seem false : ADULTERATED
sha·man \'shäm-ən, 'shā-mən *also* shə-'män\ *n* [Russ or Tungus; Russ, fr. Tungus *šaman*] : a priest who uses magic for the purpose of curing the sick, divining the hidden, and controlling events
sha·man·ism \-ˌiz-əm\ *n* : a religion of the Ural-Altaic peoples of northern Asia and Europe characterized by belief in an unseen world of gods, demons, and ancestral spirits responsive only to the shamans; *also* : any similar religion — **sha·man·ist** \-əst\ *n* — **sha·man·is·tic** \ˌshäm-ən-'is-tik, ˌshā-mən-\ *adj*
sham·ble \'sham-bəl\ *vi* **sham·bled; sham·bling** \-b(ə-)liŋ\ [*shamble* (bowed, malformed)] : to walk awkwardly with dragging feet : SHUFFLE — **shamble** *n*
sham·bles \'sham-bəlz\ *n pl but sing or pl in constr* [*shamble* (meat market) & obs. E *shamble* (table for exhibition of meat for sale)] **1** *archaic* : a meat market **2** : SLAUGHTERHOUSE **3 a** : a place of mass slaughter or bloodshed **b** : a scene or a state of great destruction : WRECKAGE **c** : a state of great disorder or confusion
sham·bling *adj* : characterized by slow awkward movement
[1]shame \'shām\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *scamu*; akin to OHG *scama* shame] **1 a** : a painful emotion caused by consciousness of guilt, shortcoming, or impropriety **b** : the susceptibility to such emotion **2** : a condition of humiliating disgrace or disrepute : IGNOMINY **3 a** : something that brings strong regret, censure, or reproach **b** : a cause of feeling shame ***syn*** see DISGRACE ***ant*** glory, pride
[2]shame *vt* **shamed; sham·ing** **1** : to bring shame to : DISGRACE **2** : to put to shame by outdoing **3** : to cause to feel shame **4** : to force by causing to feel guilty ⟨*shamed* into confessing⟩
shame·faced \'shām-'fāst\ *adj* [alter. of *shamefast*] **1** : showing modesty : BASHFUL **2** : showing shame : ASHAMED — **shame·faced·ly** \-'fā-səd-lē, -'fāst-lē\ *adv* — **shame·faced·ness** \-'fā-səd-nəs, -'fās(t)-nəs\ *n*
shame·fast \'shām-ˌfast\ *adj* [ME, fr. OE *scamfæst*, fr. *scamu* + *fæst* fixed, fast] *archaic* : SHAMEFACED
shame·ful \'shām-fəl\ *adj* **1 a** : bringing shame : DISGRACEFUL **b** : arousing the feeling of shame : INDECENT **2** *archaic* : full of the feeling of shame : ASHAMED — **shame·ful·ly** \-fə-lē\ *adv* — **shame·ful·ness** *n*
shame·less \'shām-ləs\ *adj* **1** : having no shame : insensible to disgrace **2** : showing lack of shame : DISGRACEFUL — **shame·less·ly** *adv* — **shame·less·ness** *n*
sham·mer \'sham-ər\ *n* : one that shams
sham·mes \'shäm-əs\ *n, pl* **sham·mo·sim** \shä-'mȯ-səm\ [Yiddish *shames*, fr. LHeb *shāmmāsh*] **1** : the sexton of a synagogue **2** : the candle or taper used to light the other candles in a Hanukkah menorah
sham·my \'sham-ē\ *var of* CHAMOIS
[1]sham·poo \sham-'pü\ *vt* [Hindi *cāpo*, imper. of *cāpnā* to press, shampoo] **1** *archaic* : MASSAGE **2 a** : to wash (as the hair) with soap and water or with a special preparation **b** : to wash the hair of — **sham·poo·er** *n*
[2]shampoo *n, pl* **shampoos** **1** : an act or instance of shampooing **2** : a preparation used in shampooing
sham·rock \'sham-ˌräk\ *n* [IrGael *seamrōg*] : a trifoliolate plant used as a floral emblem by the Irish: as **a** : a yellow-flowered clover (*Trifolium dubium*) often regarded as the true shamrock **b** : WOOD SORREL 1 **c** : WHITE DUTCH CLOVER **d** : a yellow-flowered medic (*Medicago lupulina*) with black pods
sha·mus \'shäm-əs, 'shā-məs\ *n* [prob. fr. Yiddish *shames* shammes; prob. fr. a jocular comparison of the duties of a sexton and those of a store detective] **1** *slang* : POLICEMAN **2** *slang* : a private detective
Shan \'shän, 'shan\ *n, pl* **Shan** *or* **Shans** **1 a** : a group of Mongoloid peoples of southeastern Asia **b** : a member of any of these peoples **2** : the Thai languages of the Shan
shan·dry·dan \'shan-drē-ˌdan\ *n* [origin unknown] **1** : a chaise with a hood **2** : a rickety vehicle
shan·dy \'shan-dē\ *n, pl* **shandies** **1** : SHANDYGAFF **2** : a drink consisting of beer and lemonade
shan·dy·gaff \'shan-dē-ˌgaf\ *n* [origin unknown] : a drink consisting of beer and ginger beer or ginger ale
shang·hai \shaŋ-'hī\ *vt* **shang·haied; shang·hai·ing** [*Shanghai*, China; fr. the formerly widespread use of this method to secure sailors for voyages to the Orient] **1 a** : to put aboard a ship by force often with the help of liquor or a drug **b** : to put by force or threat of force into or as if into a place of detention **2** : to put by trickery into an undesirable position — **shang·hai·er** \-'hī(-ə)r\ *n*
Shan·gri–la \ˌshaŋ-gri-'lä\ *n* [*Shangri-La*, imaginary land depicted in the novel *Lost Horizon* (1933) by James Hilton] **1** : a remote beautiful imaginary place where life approaches perfection : UTOPIA **2** : a remote usu. idyllic hideaway
[1]shank \'shaŋk\ *n* [ME *shanke*, fr. OE *scanca*; akin to ON *skakkr* crooked, Gk *skazein* to limp] **1 a** : the part of the leg between the knee and the ankle in man or the corresponding part in various other vertebrates **b** : LEG **c** : a cut of beef, veal, mutton, or lamb from the upper or the lower part of the leg : SHIN — see BEEF illustration **2** : a straight narrow usu. essential part of an object: as **a** : the straight part of a nail or pin **b** : a straight part of a plant : STEM, STALK **c** : the part of an anchor between the ring and the crown **d** : the part of a fishhook between the eye and the bend **e** : the part of a key between the handle and the bit **f** : the stem of a tobacco pipe or the part between the stem and the bowl **g** : TANG 1 **h** (1) : the narrow part of the sole of a shoe beneath the instep (2) : SHANKPIECE **3** : a part of an object by which it can be attached: as **a** (1) : a projection on the back of a solid button (2) : a short stem of thread that holds a sewn button away from the cloth **b** : the projecting part of a knob handle that contains the spindle socket **c** : the end (as of a drill) that is gripped in a chuck **4** : BODY 7 **5 a** : the latter part of a period of time **b** : the early or main part of a period of time — **shanked** \'shaŋ(k)t\ *adj*
[2]shank *vt* : to hit (a golf ball) with the extreme heel of the club so that the ball goes sharply to the right
shank·piece \'shaŋk-ˌpēs\ *n* : a support for the arch of the foot inserted in the shank of a shoe
shan't \(')shant, (')shänt\ : shall not
shantey *or* **shanty** *var of* CHANTEY
shan·tung \(')shan-'təŋ\ *n* [*Shantung*, China] : a fabric in plain weave having a slightly irregular surface due to uneven slubbed filling yarns
shan·ty \'shant-ē\ *n, pl* **shanties** [CanF *chantier*, fr. F, gantry, fr. L *cantherius* trellis] : a small crudely built dwelling or shelter usu. of wood
shan·ty·man \-ē-mən, -ˌman\ *n* : one who lives in a shanty
shan·ty·town \-ˌtaůn\ *n* : a town or section of a town consisting mostly of shanties
shap·able *or* **shape·able** \'shā-pə-bəl\ *adj* **1** : capable of being shaped **2** : SHAPELY
[1]shape \'shāp\ *vb* **shaped; shap·ing** [ME *shapen*, alter. of OE *scieppan*; akin to OHG *skepfen* to shape] *vt* **1** : FORM, CREATE; *esp* : to give a particular form or shape to **2** *obs* : ORDAIN, DECREE **3** : to adapt in shape so as to fit neatly and closely ⟨a dress *shaped* to her figure⟩ **4 a** : DEVISE, PLAN **b** : to embody in definite form ⟨*shaping* a folktale into an epic⟩ **5 a** : to make fit for (as a particular use or purpose) : ADAPT **b** : to determine or direct the course of (as life) **c** : to modify (behavior) by rewarding changes that tend toward a desired response ~ *vi* **1** : HAPPEN, BEFALL ⟨if things ~ right⟩ **2** : to take on or approach a mature form (as in proficiency) — often used with *up* ***syn*** see MAKE — **shap·er** *n*
[2]shape *n* **1 a** : the visible makeup characteristic of a particular item or kind of item **b** (1) : spatial form (2) : a standard or universally recognized spatial form **2** : the appearance of the body as distinguished from that of the face : FIGURE **3 a** : PHANTOM, APPARITION **b** : assumed appearance : GUISE **4** : form of embodiment **5** : a mode of existence or form of being having identifying features **6** : something having a particular form **7** : the condition in which someone or something exists at a particular time ⟨in excellent ~ for his age⟩ ***syn*** see FORM — **shaped** \ˌshāpt\ *adj* — **in shape** : in an original, normal, or fit condition ⟨exercises to keep *in shape*⟩
shape·less \'shā-pləs\ *adj* **1** : having no definite shape **2 a** : deprived of usual or normal shape : MISSHAPEN ⟨a ~ old hat⟩ **b** : not shapely — **shape·less·ly** *adv* — **shape·less·ness** *n*
shape·ly \'shā-plē\ *adj* **shape·li·er; -est** : having a regular or pleasing shape — **shape·li·ness** *n*
shap·en \'shā-pən\ *adj* [archaic pp. of *shape*] : fashioned in or provided with a definite shape — usu. used in combination ⟨an ill-*shapen* body⟩
shape note *n* : one of a system of seven notes showing the musical scale degree by the shape of the note head
shape–up \'shā-ˌpəp\ *n* : a system of hiring workers and esp. longshoremen by the day or shift by having applicants gather usu. in a semicircle for selection by a union-appointed hiring boss; *also* : an instance of such hiring practice
shard \'shärd\ *also* **sherd** \'shərd\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *sceard*; akin to OE *scieran* to cut — more at SHEAR] **1 a** : a piece or fragment of a brittle substance; *broadly* : a small piece **b** : SHELL, SCALE; *esp* : ELYTRON **2** *usu sherd* : fragments of pottery vessels found on sites and in refuse deposits where pottery-making peoples have lived **3** : highly angular curved glass fragments of tuffaceous sediments
[1]share \'she(ə)r, 'sha(ə)r\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *scearu* cutting, tonsure; akin to OE *scieran* to cut — more at SHEAR] **1 a** : a portion be-

longing to, due to, or contributed by an individual **b** : one's full or fair portion **2 a** : the part allotted or belonging to one of a number owning together property or interest **b** : any of the equal portions into which property or invested capital is divided; *specif* : any of the equal interests or rights into which the entire capital stock of a corporation is divided and ownership of which is regularly evidenced by one or more certificates **c** *pl, chiefly Brit* : STOCK 7c(1)

²share *vb* **shared; shar·ing** *vt* **1** : to divide and distribute in shares : APPORTION — usu. used with *out* or *with* **2** : to partake of, use, experience, or enjoy with others **3** : to grant or give a share in ~ *vi* **1** : to have a share — used with *in* **2** : to apportion and take shares of something — **shar·er** *n*

syn SHARE, PARTICIPATE, PARTAKE *shared meaning element* : to have, get, or use in common with another or others

³share *n* [ME *schare*, fr. OE *scear*; akin to OHG *scaro* plowshare, OE *scieran* to cut] : PLOWSHARE

share·able *or* **shar·able** \'sher-ə-bəl, 'shar-\ *adj* : capable of being shared — **share·abil·i·ty** \ˌsher-ə-'bil-ət-ē, ˌshar-\ *n*

share·crop \'she(ə)r-ˌkräp, 'sha(ə)r-\ *vb* [back-formation fr. *sharecropper*] *vi* : to farm as a sharecropper ~ *vt* : to farm (land) or produce (a crop) as a sharecropper

share·crop·per \-ˌkräp-ər\ *n* : a tenant farmer esp. in the southern U.S. who is provided with credit for seed, tools, living quarters, and food, works the land, and receives an agreed share of the value of the crop minus charges

share·hold·er \-ˌhōl-dər\ *n* : one that holds or owns a share in property; *esp* : STOCKHOLDER

sha·rif \shə-'rēf\ *n* [Ar *sharīf*, lit., illustrious] : a descendant of the prophet Muhammad through his daughter Fatima; *broadly* : one of noble ancestry or political preeminence in predominantly Islamic countries — **sha·rif·ian** \-'rē-fē-ən\ *adj*

¹shark \'shärk\ *n* [origin unknown] : any of numerous mostly marine elasmobranch fishes of medium to large size that have a fusiform body, lateral branchial clefts, and a tough usu. dull gray skin roughened by minute tubercles, are typically active predators sometimes dangerous to man, and are of economic importance esp. for their large livers which are a source of oil and for their hides from which leather is made

²shark *n* [prob. modif. of G *schurke* scoundrel] **1** : a rapacious crafty person who preys upon others through usury, extortion, or trickery **2** : one who excels greatly esp. in a particular field

³shark *vt* **1** *archaic* : to gather hastily **2** *archaic* : to obtain by some irregular means ~ *vi* **1** *archaic* : to practice fraud or trickery **2** *archaic* : SNEAK

shark·skin \'shärk-ˌskin\ *n* **1** : the hide of a shark or leather made from it **2 a** : a smooth durable woolen or worsted suiting in twill or basket weave with small woven designs **b** : a smooth crisp fabric with a dull finish made usu. of rayon in basket weave

shark sucker *n* : REMORA 1

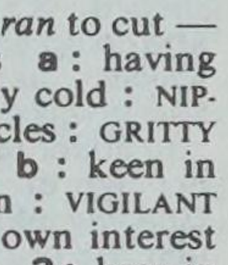
¹sharp \'shärp\ *adj* [ME, fr. OE *scearp*; akin to OE *scieran* to cut — more at SHEAR] **1** : adapted to cutting or piercing: as **a** : having a thin keen edge or fine point **b** : briskly or bitingly cold : NIPPING ⟨a ~ wind⟩ **c** : composed of hard angular particles : GRITTY ⟨~ sand⟩ **2 a** : keen in intellect : QUICK-WITTED **b** : keen in perception : ACUTE ⟨~ sight⟩ **c** : keen in attention : VIGILANT ⟨keep a ~ lookout⟩ **d** : keen in attention to one's own interest sometimes to the point of being unethical ⟨a ~ trader⟩ **3** : keen in spirit or action: as **a** : full of activity or energy : BRISK ⟨~ blows⟩ **b** : capable of acting or reacting strongly; *esp* : CAUSTIC **4** : SEVERE, HARSH: as **a** : inclined to or marked by irritability or anger ⟨a ~ temper⟩ **b** : causing intense mental or physical distress ⟨a ~ pain⟩ **c** : cutting in language or import ⟨a ~ rebuke⟩ **5** : affecting the senses or sense organs intensely: as **a** (1) : having a strong odor or flavor ⟨~ cheese⟩ (2) : ACRID **b** : having a strong piercing sound **c** : having the effect of or involving a sudden brilliant display of light ⟨a ~ flash⟩ **6 a** : terminating in a point or edge ⟨~ features⟩ **b** : involving an abrupt change in direction ⟨a ~ turn⟩ **c** : clear in outline or detail : DISTINCT ⟨a ~ image⟩ **d** : set forth with clarity and distinctness ⟨~ contrast⟩ **7 a** *of a tone* : raised a half step in pitch **b** : higher than the proper pitch **c** : MAJOR, AUGMENTED — used of an interval in music **8** : STYLISH, DRESSY — **sharp·ly** *adv* — **sharp·ness** *n*

syn SHARP, KEEN, ACUTE *shared meaning element* : possessing or indicative of alert competence and clear understanding ***ant*** dull, blunt

²sharp *vt* : to raise (as a musical tone) in pitch; *esp* : to raise in pitch by a half step ~ *vi* : to sing or play above the proper pitch

³sharp *adv* **1** : in a sharp manner : SHARPLY **2** : EXACTLY, PRECISELY ⟨4 o'clock ~⟩

⁴sharp *n* : one that is sharp: as **a** : a sharp edge or point **b** (1) : a musical note or tone one half step higher than a note or tone named **b** (2) : a character on a line or space of the musical staff indicating a pitch a half step higher than the degree would indicate without it **c** : a long sewing needle with sharp point **d** : a real or self-styled expert; *also* : SHARPER



sharp b(2)

sharp·en \'shär-pən\ *vb* **sharp·ened; sharp·en·ing** \'shärp-(ə-)niŋ\ *vt* : to make sharp or sharper ~ *vi* : to grow or become sharp or sharper — **sharp·en·er** \'shärp-(ə-)nər\ *n*

sharp·er \'shär-pər\ *n* : CHEAT, SWINDLER; *esp* : a cheating gambler

sharp–eyed \'shär-'pīd\ *adj* : having keen sight; *also* : keen in observing or penetrating

sharp–fanged \'shärp-'faŋd\ *adj* **1** : having sharp teeth **2** : SARCASTIC

sharp–freeze \-'frēz\ *vt* : QUICK-FREEZE

sharp·ie *or* **sharpy** \'shär-pē\ *n, pl* **sharp·ies** [¹*sharp*] **1** : a long narrow shallow-draft boat with flat or slightly V-shaped bottom and one or two masts that bear a triangular sail **2 a** : SHARPER **b** : an exceptionally keen or alert person

sharp–nosed \'shärp-'nōzd\ *adj* **1** : having a pointed nose or snout **2** : keen in smelling

sharp practice *n* : the act of dealing in which advantage is taken or sought unscrupulously

sharp–set \'shärp-'set\ *adj* **1** : set at a sharp angle or so as to present a sharp edge **2** : eager in appetite or desire — **sharp–set·ness** *n*

sharp–shinned hawk \ˌshärp-ˌshind-\ *n* : a common widely distributed No. American bird-eating hawk (*Accipiter striatus*) with a long square-tipped tail and short rounded wings

sharp·shoot·er \'shärp-ˌshüt-ər\ *n* : a good marksman

sharp·shoot·ing \-ˌshüt-iŋ\ *n* **1** : shooting with great precision **2** : accurate and usu. unexpected attack (as in words)

sharp–sight·ed \-'sīt-əd\ *adj* **1** : having acute sight **2** : mentally keen or alert — **sharp–sight·ed·ly** *adv* — **sharp–sight·ed·ness** *n*

sharp–tongued \-'təŋd\ *adj* : having a sharp tongue : harsh or bitter in speech ⟨a ~ shrew⟩

sharp–wit·ted \-'wit-əd\ *adj* : having or showing an acute mind

shash·lik *also* **shash·lick** *or* **shas·lik** \shäsh-'lik, 'shäsh-lik\ *n* [Russ *shashlyk*, of Turkic origin; akin to Kazan Tatar *šyšlyk* kabob] : KABOB

¹shat·ter \'shat-ər\ *vb* [ME *schateren*] *vt* **1** : to cause to drop or be dispersed **2 a** : to break at once into pieces **b** : to damage badly : RUIN **3** : to cause the disruption or annihilation of : DEMOLISH ~ *vi* **1** : to break apart : DISINTEGRATE **2** : to drop off parts (as leaves, petals, or fruit) ⟨the wheat ~*ed* in the fields⟩ — **shat·ter·ing·ly** \-ə-riŋ-lē\ *adv*

²shatter *n* **1** : FRAGMENT, SHRED ⟨the broken vase lay in ~*s*⟩ **2** : an act of shattering : the state of being shattered **3** : a result of shattering : SHOWER

shatter cone *n* : a conical fragment of rock that has striations radiating from the apex and that is formed by high pressure (as from volcanism or meteorite impact)

shat·ter·proof \ˌshat-ər-'prüf\ *adj* : proof against shattering

¹shave \'shāv\ *vb* **shaved; shaved** *or* **shav·en** \'shā-vən\; **shaving** [ME *shaven*, fr. OE *scafan*; akin to L *scabere* to shave, *capo* capon] *vt* **1 a** : to remove a thin layer from **b** : to cut off in thin layers or shreds : SLICE **c** : to cut off closely **2 a** : to sever the hair from (the head or another part of the body) close to the roots **b** : to cut off (hair or beard) close to the skin **3 a** : to discount (a note) at an exorbitant rate **b** : DEDUCT, REDUCE **4** : to come close to or touch lightly in passing ~ *vi* **1** : to cut off hair or beard close to the skin **2** : to proceed with difficulty : SCRAPE

²shave *n* **1** : SHAVER 3 **2** : a thin slice : SHAVING **3** : an act or process of shaving **4** : an act of passing very near to so as almost to graze

shave·ling \'shāv-liŋ\ *n* **1** : a tonsured clergyman : PRIEST — usu. used disparagingly **2** : STRIPLING

shav·er \'shā-vər\ *n* **1** : a person who shaves **2** *archaic* : SWINDLER **3** : a tool or machine for shaving; *specif* : an electric-powered razor **4** : BOY, YOUNGSTER

shaves *pl of* SHAFT

shave·tail \'shāv-ˌtāl\ *n* [fr. the practice of shaving the tails of newly broken mules to distinguish them from untrained ones] **1** : a pack mule esp. when newly broken in **2** : SECOND LIEUTENANT — usu. used disparagingly

Sha·vi·an \'shā-vē-ən\ *n* [NL *Shavius*, latinized form of George Bernard *Shaw*] : an admirer or devotee of G. B. Shaw, his writings, or his social and political theories — **Shavian** *adj*

shav·ie \'shā-vē\ *n* [*shave* (swindle) + *-ie*] *Scot* : PRANK

shav·ing \'shā-viŋ\ *n* **1** : the act of one that shaves **2** : something shaved off ⟨wood ~*s*⟩

¹shaw \'shȯ\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *sceaga*; akin to ON *skegg* beard — more at SHAG] *dial* : COPPICE, THICKET

²shaw *n* [prob. alter. of *show*] *chiefly Brit* : the tops and stalks of a cultivated crop (as potatoes or turnips)

¹shawl \'shȯl\ *n* [Per *shāl*] : a square or oblong usu. fabric garment or wrapper used esp. as a covering for the head or shoulders

²shawl *vt* : to wrap in or as if in a shawl

shawl collar *n* : an attached collar rolled back in a continuous tapering line that follows the surplice neckline of a garment

shawm \'shȯm\ *n* [ME *schalme*, fr. MF *chalemie*, modif. of LL *calamellus*, dim. of L *calamus* reed, fr. Gk *kalamos* — more at HAULM] : an early double-reed woodwind instrument

Shaw·nee \shȯ-'nē, shä-\ *n, pl* **Shawnee** *or* **Shawnees** [back-formation fr. obs. E *Shawnese*, fr. Shawnee *Shaawanwaaki*] **1** : a member of an Amerindian people orig. of the central Ohio valley **2** : the language of the Shawnee people

Shaw·wal \shə-'wäl\ *n* [Ar *shawwāl*] : the 10th month of the Muhammadan year — see MONTH table

shay \'shā\ *n* [back-formation fr. *chaise*, taken as pl.] *chiefly dial* : CHAISE 1

¹she \(')shē\ *pron* [ME, prob. alter. of *hye* alter. of OE *hēo* she — more at HE] **1** : that female one who is neither speaker nor hearer ⟨~ is my wife⟩ — compare HE, HER, HERS, IT, THEY **2** — used to refer to one regarded as feminine (as by personification) ⟨~ was a fine ship⟩

²she \'shē\ *n* : a female person or animal — often used in combination ⟨*she*-cat⟩ ⟨*she*-cousin⟩

shea butter \'shē-, 'shā-\ *n* : a pale solid fat from the seeds of the shea tree used in food, soap, and candles

sheaf \'shēf\ *n, pl* **sheaves** \'shēvz\ [ME *sheef*, fr. OE *scēaf*; akin to OHG *scoub* sheaf, Russ *chub* forelock] **1** : a quantity of the stalks and ears of a cereal grass or sometimes other plant material bound together **2** : something resembling a sheaf of grain ⟨a ~ of papers⟩ — **sheaf·like** \'shē-ˌflīk\ *adj*

shea nut *n* : the seed of the shea tree

¹shear \'shi(ə)r\ *vb* **sheared; sheared** *or* **shorn** \'shō(ə)rn, 'shȯ(ə)rn\; **shear·ing** [ME *sheren*, fr. OE *scieran*; akin to ON *skera* to cut, L *curtus* shortened, Gk *keirein* to cut, shear] *vt* **1 a** : to cut off the hair from ⟨with crown *shorn*⟩ **b** : to cut or clip (as hair or wool) from someone or something; *also* : to cut something from ⟨~ a lawn⟩ **c** *chiefly Scot* : to reap with a sickle **d** : to cut with shears or a similar instrument **2** : to cut with something sharp **3** : to deprive of something as if by cutting **4 a** : to subject to a

shear force **b** : to cause (as a rock mass) to move along the plane of contact ~ *vi* **1** : to cut through something with or as if with a sharp instrument **2** *chiefly Scot* : to reap crops with a sickle **3** : to become divided under the action of a shear ⟨the bolt may ~ off⟩ — **shear·er** *n*

²shear *n* **1 a** (1) : a cutting implement similar or identical to a pair of scissors but typically larger — usu. used in pl. (2) : one blade of a pair of shears **b** : any of various cutting tools or machines operating by the action of opposed cutting edges of metal — usu. used in pl. **c** (1) : something resembling a shear or a pair of shears (2) : a hoisting apparatus consisting of two or sometimes more upright spars fastened together at their upper ends and having tackle for masting or dismasting ships or lifting heavy loads (as guns) — usu. used in pl. but sing. or pl. in constr. **2** *chiefly Brit* : the action or process or an instance of shearing — used in combination to indicate the approximate age of sheep in terms of shearings undergone **3 a** : internal force tangential to the section on which it acts — called also *shearing force* **b** : an action or stress resulting from applied forces that causes or tends to cause two contiguous parts of a body to slide relatively to each other in a direction parallel to their plane of contact

sheared *adj* : formed or finished by shearing; *esp* : cut to uniform length ⟨a ~ raccoon coat⟩

shearing force *n* : SHEAR 3a

shear pin *n* : an easily replaceable pin inserted at a critical point in a machine and designed to break when subjected to excess stress

shear·wa·ter \'shi(ə)r-ˌwȯt-ər, -ˌwät-\ *n* : any of numerous oceanic birds (esp. genus *Puffinus*) that are related to the petrels and albatrosses and usu. skim close to the waves in flight

sheat·fish \'shēt-ˌfish\ *n* [alter. of *sheathfish*, fr. *sheath* + *fish*] : a large catfish (*Silurus glanis*) of central and eastern Europe

sheath \'shēth\ *n, pl* **sheaths** \'shēthz, 'shēths\ [ME *shethe*, fr. OE *scēath;* akin to OHG *sceida* sheath, L *scindere* to cut — more at SHED] **1** : a case for a blade (as of a knife) **2** : an investing cover or case of a plant or animal body or body part: as **a** : the tubular fold of skin into which the penis of many mammals is retracted **b** (1) : the lower part of a leaf (as of a grass) when surrounding the stem (2) : an ensheathing spathe **3** : any of various covering or supporting structures that are applied like or resemble the sheath of a blade: as **a** : SHEATHING 2 **b** : a woman's close-fitting dress usu. worn without a belt

sheath·bill \'shēth-ˌbil\ *n* : any of several white shore birds (family Chionididae) of colder parts of the southern hemisphere that have a horny sheath over the base of the upper mandible and suggest the pigeons in general appearance

sheathe \'shēth\ *also* **sheath** \'shēth\ *vt* **sheathed; sheath·ing** [ME *shethen*, fr. *shethe* sheath] **1** : to put into or furnish with a sheath **2** : to plunge or bury (as a sword) in flesh **3** : to withdraw (a claw) into a sheath **4** : to case or cover with something (as sheets of metal) that protects — **sheath·er** *n*

sheath·ing \'shē-thiŋ, -thiŋ\ *n* **1** : the action of one that sheathes something **2** : material used to sheathe something; *esp* : the first covering of boards or of waterproof material on the outside wall of a frame house or on a timber roof

sheath knife *n* : a knife having a fixed blade and designed to be carried in a sheath

shea tree \'shē-, 'shā-\ *n* [Bambara *sí*] : a tropical African tree (*Butyrospermum parkii*) of the sapodilla family with fatty nuts that yield shea butter

¹sheave \'shiv, 'shēv\ *n* [ME *sheve;* akin to OE *scēath* sheath] : a grooved wheel or pulley (as of a pulley block)

²sheave \'shēv\ *vt* **sheaved; sheav·ing** [*sheaf*] : to gather and bind into a sheaf

she·bang \shi-'baŋ\ *n* [perh. alter. of *shebeen*] : CONTRIVANCE, AFFAIR, CONCERN ⟨he's head of the whole ~⟩

She·bat \shə-'bät, -'vät\ *n* [Heb *shĕbhāṭ*] : the 5th month of the civil year or the 11th month of the ecclesiastical year in the Jewish calendar — see MONTH table

she·been \shə-'bēn\ *n* [IrGael *sībīn* bad ale] *chiefly Irish* : an unlicensed or illegally operated drinking establishment

She·chi·nah \shə-'kē-nə, -'kē-nə, -'kī-nə\ *n* [Heb *shĕkhīnāh*] : the presence of God in the world as conceived in Jewish theology

¹shed \'shed\ *vb* **shed; shed·ding** [ME *sheden* to divide, separate, fr. OE *scēadan;* akin to OHG *skeidan* to separate, L *scindere* to cut, split, Gk *schizein* to split] *vt* **1** *chiefly dial* : to set apart : SEGREGATE **2** : to cause to be dispersed without penetrating ⟨duck's plumage ~s water⟩ **3 a** : to cause (blood) to flow by cutting or wounding **b** : to pour forth in drops ⟨~ tears⟩ **c** : to give off in a stream ⟨fish *shedding* their eggs in spawning⟩ **d** : to give off or out ⟨his book ~s some light on this subject⟩ **4 a** (1) : to cast off (as a body covering) : MOLT (2) : to let fall (as leaves) (3) : to eject (as seed or spores) from a natural receptacle **b** : to rid oneself of temporarily or permanently as superfluous or unwanted ~ *vi* **1** : to pour out : SPILL **2** : to become dispersed : SCATTER **3** : to cast off some natural covering ⟨the cat is *shedding*⟩ ***syn*** see DISCARD — **shed blood** : to cause death by violence

²shed *n* **1** *obs* : DISTINCTION, DIFFERENCE **2** : something (as the skin of a snake) that is discarded in shedding **3** : a divide of land

³shed *n* [alter. of earlier *shadde*, prob. fr. ME *shade*] **1 a** : a slight structure built for shelter or storage; *esp* : a single-storied building with one or more sides unenclosed **b** : a building held to resemble a shed **2** *archaic* : HUT

⁴shed *vt* **shed·ded; shed·ding** : to put or house in a shed

she'd \(ˌ)shēd\ : she had : she would

shed·der \'shed-ər\ *n* : one that sheds something: as **a** : a crab or lobster about to molt **b** : a newly molted crab

shed dormer *n* : a dormer with a roof sloping in the same direction as the roof from which the dormer projects

¹sheen \'shēn\ *adj* [ME *shene*, fr. OE *scīene;* akin to OE *scēawian* to look — more at SHOW] **1** *archaic* : BEAUTIFUL **2** *archaic* : SHINING, RESPLENDENT

²sheen *vi* : to be bright : show a sheen

³sheen *n* **1 a** : a bright or shining condition : BRIGHTNESS **b** : a subdued glitter approaching but short of optical reflection **c** : a lustrous surface imparted to textiles through finishing processes or use of shiny yarns **2** : a textile exhibiting notable sheen — **sheeny** \'shē-nē\ *adj*

sheep \'shēp\ *n, pl* **sheep** *often attrib* [ME, fr. OE *scēap;* akin to OHG *scāf* sheep] **1** : any of numerous ruminant mammals (genus *Ovis*) related to the goats but stockier and lacking a beard in the male; *specif* : one (*O. aries*) long domesticated esp. for its flesh and wool **2 a** : a timid defenseless creature **b** : a stupid docile person; *esp* : one easily influenced or led **3** : leather prepared from the skins of sheep : SHEEPSKIN

sheep·ber·ry \-ˌber-ē\ *n* : an often shrubby No. American viburnum (*Viburnum lentago*) with white flowers in flat cymes; *also* : its black edible berry

sheep·cote \-ˌkōt, -ˌkät\ *n, chiefly Brit* : SHEEPFOLD

sheep–dip \-ˌdip\ *n* : a liquid preparation of toxic chemicals into which sheep are plunged esp. to destroy parasitic arthropods

sheep dog *n* : a dog used to tend, drive, or guard sheep

sheep fescue *n* : a hardy fine-foliaged European perennial grass (*Festuca ovina*) widely used as a lawn grass

sheep·fold \'shēp-ˌfōld\ *n* : a pen or shelter for sheep

sheep·herd·er \'shēp-ˌhərd-ər\ *n* : a worker in charge of sheep esp. on open range

sheep·herd·ing \-ˌhərd-iŋ\ *n* : the activities of a worker engaged in tending sheep

sheep·ish \'shē-pish\ *adj* **1** : resembling a sheep in meekness, stupidity, or timidity **2** : embarrassed by consciousness of a fault ⟨a ~ look⟩ — **sheep·ish·ly** *adv* — **sheep·ish·ness** *n*

sheep ked \'shēp-ˌked\ *n* [*sheep* + *ked* (sheep ked), of unknown origin] : a wingless bloodsucking dipterous fly (*Melophagus ovinus*) that feeds chiefly on sheep and is a vector of sheep trypanosomiasis — called also *sheep tick*

sheep laurel *n* : a No. American dwarf shrub (*Kalmia angustifolia*) that is poisonous to young stock and resembles mountain laurel but has narrower leaves and smaller bright red flowers — called also *lambkill*

sheep's eye *n* : a shy, longing, and usu. amorous glance — usu. used in pl.

sheep·shank \'shēp-ˌshaŋk\ *n* **1** : a knot for shortening a line — see KNOT illustration **2** *Scot* : something of no worth or importance

sheeps·head \'shēps-ˌhed\ *n* **1** : a marine percoid food fish (*Archosargus probatocephalus* of the family Sparidae) of the Atlantic and Gulf coasts of the U.S. with broad incisor teeth **2** : a large croaker (*Aplodinotus grunniens*) of the Great Lakes and Mississippi valley **3** : a common largely red or rose California wrasse (*Pimelometopon pulchrum*)

sheep·shear·er \'shēp-ˌshir-ər\ *n* : one that shears sheep

sheep·shear·ing \'shēp-ˌshi(ə)r-iŋ\ *n* **1** : the act of shearing sheep **2** : the time or season for shearing sheep; *also* : a festival held at this time

sheep·skin \-ˌskin\ *n* **1 a** : the skin of a sheep; *also* : leather prepared from it **b** : PARCHMENT **c** : a garment made of or lined with sheepskin **2** : DIPLOMA

sheep sorrel *n* : a small acid dock (*Rumex acetosella*)

sheep walk *n, chiefly Brit* : a pasture or range for sheep

¹sheer \'shi(ə)r\ *adj* [ME *schere* freed from guilt, prob. alter. of *skere*, fr. ON *skærr* pure; akin to OE *scīnan* to shine] **1** *obs* : BRIGHT, SHINING **2** : of very thin or transparent texture : DIAPHANOUS **3 a** : UNQUALIFIED, UTTER ⟨~ folly⟩ ⟨~ ignorance⟩ **b** : being free from an adulterant : PURE, UNMIXED **c** : viewed or acting in dissociation from all else ⟨won through by ~ determination⟩ **4** : marked by great and unrelieved steepness ***syn*** see STEEP — **sheer·ly** *adv* — **sheer·ness** *n*

²sheer *adv* **1** : in a complete manner : ALTOGETHER **2** : straight up or down without a break : PERPENDICULARLY

³sheer *vb* [perh. alter. of ¹*shear*] *vi* : to deviate from a course : SWERVE ~ *vt* : to cause to sheer

⁴sheer *n* **1** : a turn, deviation, or change in a course (as of a ship) **2** : the position of a ship riding to a single anchor and heading toward it

⁵sheer *n* [perh. alter. of ²*shear*] : the fore-and-aft curvature from bow to stern of a ship's deck as shown in side elevation

sheer·legs \'shi(ə)r-ˌlegz, -ˌlāgz\ *n pl but sing or pl in constr* : SHEAR 1c(2)

¹sheet \'shēt\ *n* [ME *shete*, fr. OE *scȳte;* akin to OE *scēotan* to shoot — more at SHOOT] **1 a** : a broad piece of cloth; *esp* : an oblong of usu. linen or cotton cloth used as an article of bedding **b** : SAIL 1a(1) **2 a** (1) : a usu. rectangular piece of paper; *esp* : one manufactured for printing (2) : a rectangular piece of heavy paper with a plant specimen mounted on it ⟨an herbarium of 100,000 ~s⟩ **b** : a printed signature for a book esp. before it has been folded, cut, or bound — usu. used in pl. **c** : a newspaper, periodical, or occasional publication ⟨a gossip ~⟩ **d** : the unseparated postage stamps printed by one impression of a plate on a single piece of paper; *also* : a pane of stamps **3** : a broad stretch or surface of something ⟨a ~ of ice⟩ **4** : a suspended or moving expanse (as of fire or rain) **5 a** : a portion of something that is thin in comparison to its length and breadth **b** : a flat baking utensil of tinned metal ⟨a cookie ~⟩ **6** : a surface or part of a surface in which it is possible to pass from any one point of it to any other without leaving the surface ⟨a hyperboloid of two ~s⟩ — **sheet·like** \-ˌlīk\ *adj*

²sheet *vt* **1** : to cover with a sheet : SHROUD **2** : to furnish with sheets **3** : to form into sheets ~ *vi* : to fall, spread, or flow in a sheet ⟨the rain ~*ed* against the windows⟩ — **sheet·er** *n* — **sheet home** **1** : to extend (a sail) and set as flat as possible by hauling

upon the sheets **2** : to fix the responsibility for : bring home to one

³sheet *adj* **1** : rolled or spread out in a sheet **2** : of, relating to, or concerned with the making of sheet metal

⁴sheet *n* [ME *shete*, fr. OE *scēata* lower corner of a sail; akin to OE *scȳte* sheet] **1** : a rope or chain that regulates the angle at which a sail is set in relation to the wind **2** *pl* : the spaces at either end of an open boat not occupied by thwarts : foresheets and stern sheets together — **three sheets in the wind** *or* **three sheets to the wind** : DRUNK

sheet anchor *n* **1** : a large strong anchor formerly carried in the waist of a ship and used as a spare in an emergency **2** : something that constitutes a main support or dependence esp. in danger

sheet bend *n* : a bend or hitch used for temporarily fastening a rope to the bight of another rope or to an eye — see KNOT illustration

sheet-fed \'shēt-ˌfed\ *adj* : of, relating to, or printed by a press that prints on paper in sheet form

sheet glass *n* : glass made in large sheets directly from the furnace or by making a cylinder and then flattening it

sheet-ing \'shēt-iŋ\ *n* **1** : material in the form of sheets or suitable for forming into sheets **2** : a lining (as wood or steel) used to support an embankment or the walls of an excavation

sheet lightning *n* : lightning in diffused or sheet form due to reflection and diffusion by the clouds and sky

sheet metal *n* : metal in the form of a sheet

sheet music *n* : music printed on large unbound sheets of paper

Sheet-rock \'shēt-ˌräk\ *trademark* — used for plasterboard

sheikh *or* **sheik** \'shēk, *also* 'shāk *for 1*\ *n* [Ar *shaykh*] **1** : an Arab chief **2** *usu sheik* : a man held to be irresistibly attractive to romantic young women

sheikh-dom *or* **sheik-dom** \-dəm, -təm\ *n* : a region under the rule of a sheikh

shek-el \'shek-əl\ *n* [Heb *sheqel*] **1 a** : any of various ancient units of weight; *esp* : a Hebrew unit equal to about 252 grains troy **b** : a unit of value based on a shekel weight of gold or silver **2** : a coin weighing one shekel **3** *pl* : MONEY

Shekinah *var of* SHECHINAH

shel-drake \'shel-ˌdrāk\ *n* [ME, fr. *sheld-* (akin to MD *schillede* parti-colored) + *drake*] **1** : any of various Old World ducks (genus *Tadorna*); *esp* : a common mostly black-and-white European duck (*T. tadorna*) slightly larger than the mallard **2** : MERGANSER

shel-duck \-ˌdək\ *n* [*shel-* (as in *sheldrake*) + *duck*] : SHELDRAKE

shelf \'shelf\ *n, pl* **shelves** \'shelvz\ [ME, prob. fr. OE *scylfe;* akin to L *scalpere, sculpere* to carve, OE *sciell* shell] **1 a** : a thin flat usu. long and narrow piece of material (as wood) fastened horizontally (as on a wall) at a distance from the floor to hold objects **b** : one of several similar pieces in a closet, bookcase, or similar structure **c** : the contents of a shelf **2** : something resembling a shelf in form or position: as **a** : a sandbank or ledge of rocks usu. partially submerged **b** : a stratum with a shelflike surface **c** : a flat projecting layer of rock **d** : the submerged border of a continent or island : CONTINENTAL SHELF — **shelf-ful** \'shelf-ˌfůl\ *n* — **shelf-like** \'shel-ˌflīk\ *adj* — **off the shelf** : available from stock : not made to order ⟨*off the shelf* equipment⟩ — **on the shelf** : in a state of inactivity or uselessness

shelf ice *n* : an extensive ice sheet originating on land but continuing out to sea beyond the depths at which it rests on the sea bottom

shelf life *n* : the period of time during which a material may be stored and remain suitable for use

¹shell \'shel\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *sciell;* akin to OE *scealu* shell, ON *skel,* L *silex* pebble, flint, Gk *skallein* to hoe] **1 a** : a hard rigid usu. largely calcareous covering of an animal **b** : the hard or tough outer covering of an egg esp. of a bird — see EGG illustration **2** : the covering or outside part of a fruit or seed esp. when hard or fibrous **3** : shell material (as of mollusks or turtles) or their substance **4** : something that resembles a shell: as **a** : a framework or exterior structure; *esp* : a building with an unfinished interior **b** : an external case or outside covering ⟨the ~ of a ship⟩ **c** : a casing without substance ⟨mere effigies and ~*s* of men —Thomas Carlyle⟩ **d** : an edible case for holding a filling ⟨a pastry ~⟩ **e** : a reinforced concrete arched or domed roof that is used primarily over large unpartitioned areas **f** : a small beer glass **5** : a thin hard layer of rock **6** : a shell-bearing mollusk **7** : an impersonal attitude or manner that conceals the presence or absence of feeling **8** : a narrow light racing boat propelled by one or more oarsmen **9** : any of the spaces occupied by the orbits of a group of electrons of approximately equal energy surrounding the nucleus of an atom **10 a** : a projectile for cannon containing an explosive bursting charge **b** : a metal or paper case which holds the charge of powder and shot or bullet used with breech-loading small arms **11** : a plain usu. sleeveless blouse or sweater — **shell** *adj* — **shelly** \'shel-ē\ *adj*

²shell *vt* **1 a** : to take out of a natural enclosing cover (as a shell, husk, pod, or capsule) ⟨~ peanuts⟩ **b** : to separate the kernels of (as an ear of Indian corn, wheat, or oats) from the cob, ear, or husk **2** : to throw shells at, upon, or into : BOMBARD **3** : to score heavily against (as an opposing pitcher in baseball) ~ *vi* **1** : to fall or scale off in thin pieces **2** : to cast the shell or exterior covering : fall out of the pod or husk ⟨nuts which ~ in falling⟩ **3** : to gather shells (as from a beach) : collect shells

she'll \(ˌ)shē(ə)l, shil\ : she will : she shall

¹shel-lac \shə-'lak\ *n* [*¹shell* + *lac*] **1** : purified lac usu. prepared in thin orange or yellow flakes by heating and filtering and often bleached white **2** : a preparation of lac dissolved usu. in alcohol and used chiefly as a wood filler and finish **3 a** : a composition containing shellac used for making phonograph records **b** : an old 78 rpm phonograph record

²shellac *vt* **shel-lacked; shel-lack-ing** **1** : to coat or otherwise treat with shellac or a shellac varnish **2** : to defeat decisively

shel-lack-ing *n* : a decisive defeat : DRUBBING

shell-back \'shel-ˌbak\ *n* : an old or veteran sailor

shell bean *n* **1** : a bean grown primarily for its edible seeds — compare SNAP BEAN **2** : the edible seed of a bean

shell-crack-er \'shel-ˌkrak-ər\ *n* : REDEAR

shelled \'sheld\ *adj* **1** : having a shell esp. of a specified kind — often used in combination ⟨pink-*shelled*⟩ ⟨thick-*shelled*⟩ **2 a** : having the shell removed ⟨~ oysters⟩ ⟨~ nuts⟩ **b** : removed from the cob ⟨~ corn⟩

shell-er \'shel-ər\ *n* **1** : one that shells ⟨a peanut ~⟩ **2** : one that collects seashells

shell-fire \'shel-ˌfī(ə)r\ *n* : firing or shooting of shells

shell-fish \-ˌfish\ *n* : an aquatic invertebrate animal with a shell; *esp* : an edible mollusk or crustacean

shell game *n* : thimblerig played esp. with three walnut shells

shell jacket *n* **1** : a short tight military jacket worn buttoned up the front **2** : MESS JACKET

shell out *vb* : PAY

shell pink *n* : a variable color averaging a light yellowish pink

shell-proof \'shel-'prüf\ *adj* : capable of resisting shells or bombs

shell shock *n* : any of numerous often hysterical psychoneurotic conditions appearing in soldiers under fire in modern warfare — **shell–shock** *vt*

shell-work \'shel-ˌwərk\ *n* : work adorned with shells or composed of a pattern of shells

¹shel-ter \'shel-tər\ *n* [origin unknown] **1** : something that covers or affords protection ⟨a bomb ~⟩ **2** : the state of being covered and protected ⟨took ~⟩ — **shel-ter-less** \-ləs\ *adj*

²shelter *vb* **shel-tered; shel-ter-ing** \-t(ə-)riŋ\ *vt* **1** : to constitute or provide a shelter for : PROTECT ⟨has led a ~*ed* life⟩ **2** : to place under shelter or protection ⟨~*ed* himself in a mountain cave⟩ ~ *vi* : to take shelter — **shel-ter-er** \-tər-ər\ *n*

shel-ter-belt \'shel-tər-ˌbelt\ *n* : a barrier of trees and shrubs that protects (as crops) from wind and storm and lessens erosion

shelter half *n* : one of the halves of a two-man shelter tent

shelter tent *n* : a small tent usu. consisting of two interchangeable pieces of waterproof cotton duck fixed for buttoning or tying

shel-ty *or* **shel-tie** \'shel-tē\ *n, pl* **shelties** [prob. of Scand origin; akin to ON *Hjalti* Shetlander] **1** : SHETLAND PONY **2** : SHETLAND SHEEPDOG

shelve \'shelv\ *vb* **shelved; shelv-ing** [*shelf*] *vt* **1** : to furnish with shelves **2** : to place on a shelf **3 a** : to remove from active service **b** : to put off or aside ⟨~ a project⟩ ~ *vi* : to slope in a formation like a shelf — **shelv-er** *n*

¹shelv-ing \'shel-viŋ\ *n* **1** : the state or degree of sloping **2** : a sloping surface or place

²shelving *n* **1** : material for shelves **2** : SHELVES

Shem \'shem\ *n* [Heb *Shēm*] : the eldest son of Noah and ancestor of the Semitic peoples

She-ma \shə-'mä\ *n* [Heb *shĕma'* hear, first word of Deut 6:4] : the Jewish confession of faith comprising Deut 6:4–9 and 11:13–21 and Num 15:37–41

She-mi-ni Atze-reth \shə-ˌmē-nē-ät-'ser-ət(h), -əs\ *n* [Heb *shĕmīnī 'ăṣereth,* fr. Heb *shĕmīnī* eighth + *'ăṣereth* assembly] : a Jewish festival following the seventh day of Sukkoth and marked by a special prayer for seasonal rain

Shem-ite \'shem-ˌīt\ *n* [*Shem*] : SEMITE — **She-mit-ic** \shə-'mit-ik\ *or* **Shem-it-ish** \'shem-ˌīt-ish\ *adj*

she-nan-i-gan \shə-'nan-i-gən\ *n* [origin unknown] **1** : a devious trick used esp. for an underhand purpose **2 a** : tricky or questionable practices or conduct **b** : high-spirited or mischievous activity — usu. used in pl.

shend \'shend\ *vt* **shent** \'shent\; **shend-ing** [ME *shenden,* fr. OE *scendan;* akin to OE *scamu* shame — more at SHAME] **1** *archaic* : to put to shame or confusion **2** *archaic* : REPROVE, REVILE **3** *chiefly dial* **a** : INJURE, MAR **b** : RUIN, DESTROY

she-oak \'shē-ˌōk\ *n* : any of several casuarinas

She-ol \shē-'ōl, 'shē-ˌ\ *n* [Heb *Shĕ'ōl*] : the abode of the dead in early Hebrew thought

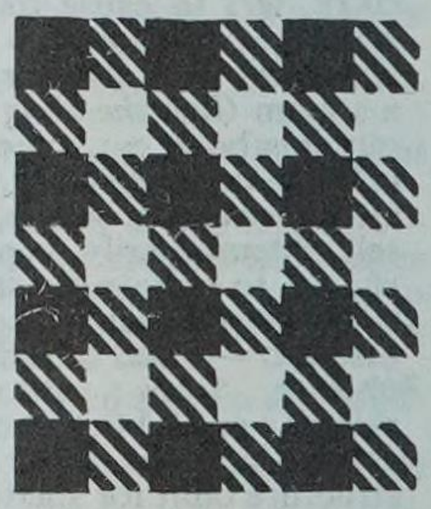
¹shep-herd \'shep-ərd\ *n* [ME *sheepherde,* fr. OE *scēaphyrde,* fr. *scēap* sheep + *hierde* herdsman; akin to OE *heord* herd] **1** : a man who tends sheep esp. in a flock that is grazing **2** : PASTOR 1

²shepherd *vt* **1** : to tend as a shepherd **2** : to guide or guard in the manner of a shepherd ⟨~*ed* the children onto the train⟩

shepherd dog *n* : SHEEP DOG

shep-herd-ess \'shep-ərd-əs\ *n* **1** : a woman or girl who tends sheep **2** : a rural lass

shepherd's check *n* : a pattern of small even black-and-white checks; *also* : a fabric woven in this pattern — called also *shepherd's plaid*



shepherd's check

shepherd's pie *n* : a meat pie with a mashed potato crust

shepherd's purse *n* : a white-flowered weedy annual herb (*Capsella bursa-pastoris*) of the mustard family with flat heart-shaped pods

Sher-a-ton \'sher-ət-ᵊn\ *adj* [Thomas *Sheraton*] : of, relating to, or being a style of furniture that originated in England around 1800 and is characterized by straight lines and graceful proportions

sher-bet \'shər-bət\ *or* **sher-bert** \-bərt\ *n* [Turk & Per; Turk *şerbet,* fr. Per *sharbat,* fr. Ar *sharbah* drink] **1** : a cold drink of sweetened and diluted fruit juice **2** : an ice with milk, egg white, or gelatin added

sherd *var of* SHARD

she-rif \shə-'rēf\ *var of* SHARIF

sher-iff \'sher-əf\ *n* [ME *shirreve,* fr. OE *scīrgerēfa,* fr. *scīr* shire + *gerēfa* reeve — more at REEVE] : an important official of a shire or county charged primarily with judicial duties (as executing the processes and orders of courts and judges) — **sher-iff-dom** \-əf-dəm, -əf-təm\ *n*

sher-lock \'shər-ˌläk, 'she(ə)r-\ *n, often cap* [*Sherlock* Holmes, detective in stories by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle] : DETECTIVE

Sher·pa \'she(ə)r-pə, 'shər-\ *n* : a member of a Tibetan people living on the high southern slopes of the Himalayas and skilled in mountain climbing
sher·ris \'sher-is\ *archaic var of* SHERRY
sher·ry \'sher-ē\ *n, pl* **sherries** [alter. of earlier *sherris* (taken as pl.), fr. *Xeres* (now *Jerez*), Spain] : a fortified wine of Spanish origin with a distinctive nutty flavor; *also* : a similar wine produced elsewhere
she's \(ˌ)shēz\ : she is : she has
Shet·land \'shet-lənd\ *n* **1 a** : SHETLAND PONY **b** : SHETLAND SHEEPDOG **2** *often not cap* **a** : a lightweight loosely twisted yarn of Shetland wool used for knitting and weaving **b** : a fabric or a garment made from Shetland wool
Shet·land pony \ˌshet-lən(d)-\ *n* : any of a breed of small stocky shaggy hardy ponies that originated in the Shetland islands



Shetland pony

Shetland sheepdog *n* : any of a breed of small dogs developed in the Shetland islands that resemble miniature collies and have a short dense undercoat and a profuse outer coat of long hair
Shetland wool *n* : fine wool from sheep raised in the Shetland islands; *also* : yarn spun from this
sheugh \'shük\ *n* [ME *sough*, fr. *swoughen* to sough — more at SOUGH] *chiefly Scot* : DITCH, TRENCH
shew \'shō\ *Brit var of* SHOW
shew·bread \'shō-ˌbred\ *n* [trans. of G *schaubrot*] : consecrated unleavened bread ritually placed by the Jewish priests of ancient Israel on a table in the sanctuary of the Tabernacle on the Sabbath
SHF *abbr* superhigh frequency
Shia \'shē-(ˌ)ä\ *n, pl* **Shi·as** [Ar *shīʿah* sect] : the Muslims of the branch of Islam comprising sects believing in Ali and the Imams as the only rightful successors of Muhammad and in the concealment and messianic return of the last recognized Imam — compare SUNNI — **Shi·ite** \'shē-ˌīt\ *n*
shib·bo·leth \'shib-ə-ləth *also* -ˌleth\ *n* [Heb *shibbōleth* stream; fr. the use of this word as a test to distinguish Gileadites from Ephraimites, who pronounced it *sibbōleth*] **1 a** : CATCHWORD, SLOGAN **b** : a use of language regarded as distinctive of a particular group **c** : a commonplace idea or saying **2** : a custom or usage regarded as a criterion for distinguishing members of one group
shiel \'shē(ə)l\ *n* [ME (northern dial.) *schele*] *chiefly Scot* : SHIELING
¹shield \'shē(ə)ld\ *n* [ME *sheld*, fr. OE *scield;* akin to OE *sciell* shell] **1** : a broad piece of defensive armor carried on the arm **2** : one that protects or defends : DEFENSE **3** : an adjunct of dress worn inside a part of the clothing (as the underarm) liable to be soiled by perspiration **4** : a fixture designed to protect persons from injury from moving parts of machinery or parts carrying electricity **5** : ESCUTCHEON; *esp* : one that is wide at the top and rounds to a point at the bottom **6** : an armored screen protecting an otherwise exposed gun **7** : an iron or steel framework moved forward in excavating to support the ground ahead of the lining **8** : a protective structure (as a carapace, scale, or plate) of some animals **9** : the Precambrian nuclear mass of a continent that is surrounded and sometimes covered by sedimentary rocks **10** : something resembling a shield: as **a** : APOTHECIUM **b** : a policeman's badge **c** : a decorative or identifying emblem
²shield *vt* **1 a** : to protect with or as if with a shield : provide with a protective cover or shelter **b** : to cut off from observation : HIDE **2** *obs* : FORBID ***syn*** see DEFEND — **shield·er** *n*
shield law *n* : a law that protects journalists from forced disclosure of confidential news sources
shiel·ing \'shē-lən\ *n* **1** *dial Brit* : a mountain hut used as a shelter by shepherds **2** *dial Brit* : a summer pasture in the mountains
shier *comparative of* SHY
shiest *superlative of* SHY
¹shift \'shift\ *vb* [ME *shiften*, fr. OE *sciftan* to divide, arrange; akin to OE *scēadan* to divide — more at SHED] *vt* **1** : to exchange for or replace by another : CHANGE **2 a** : to change the place, position, or direction of : MOVE **b** : to make a change in (place) **3** : to change phonetically ~ *vi* **1 a** : to change place or position ⟨~*ing* uneasily in his chair⟩ **b** : to change direction ⟨the wind~*ed*⟩ **c** : to change the gear rotating the transmission shaft of an automobile **d** : to depress the shift key (as on a typewriter) **2 a** : to assume responsibility ⟨had to ~ for herself⟩ **b** : to resort to expedients **3 a** : to go through a change **b** : to change one's clothes **c** : to become changed phonetically — **shift·able** \'shif-tə-bəl\ *adj* — **shift·er** *n* — **shift gears** : to make a change
²shift *n* **1 a** : a means or device for effecting an end **b** (1) : a deceitful or underhand scheme : DODGE (2) : an expedient tried in difficult circumstances : EXTREMITY **2 a** *chiefly dial* : a change of clothes **b** (1) *chiefly dial* : SHIRT (2) : a woman's slip or chemise (3) : a woman's usu. loose-fitting or semi-fitted dress **3 a** : a change in direction ⟨a ~ in the wind⟩ **b** : a change in emphasis, judgment, or attitude **4 a** : a group of people who work or occupy themselves in turn with other groups **b** (1) : a change of one group of people (as workers) for another in regular alternation (2) : a scheduled period of work or duty **5** : a change in place or position: as **a** : a change in the position of the hand on a fingerboard (as of a violin) **b** (1) : FAULT 5 (2) : the relative displacement of rock masses on opposite sides of a fault or fault zone **c** (1) : a simultaneous change of position in football by two or more players from one side of the line to the other (2) : a change of positions (as from one side of the infield to the other) made by one or more players in baseball to provide better defense against a particular hitter **d** : a change in frequency resulting in a change in position of a spectral line or band — compare DOPPLER EFFECT **e** : a movement of bits in a computer register to the right or left a specified number of places **6** : a removal from one person or thing to another : TRANSFER **7** : CONSONANT SHIFT **8** : a bid in bridge in a suit other than the suit one's partner has bid — compare JUMP **9** : GEARSHIFT ***syn*** see RESOURCE
shift key *n* : a key on a keyboard (as of a typewriter) that when pressed permits the characters on the upper part of the typefaces to print
shift·less \'shif(t)-ləs\ *adj* [*shift* (resourcefulness)] **1** : lacking in resourcefulness : INEFFICIENT **2** : lacking in ambition or incentive : LAZY — **shift·less·ly** *adv* — **shift·less·ness** *n*
shifty \'shif-tē\ *adj* **shift·i·er; -est** **1** : full of or ready with expedients : RESOURCEFUL **2 a** : given to deception, evasion, or fraud : TRICKY **b** : capable of evasive movement : ELUSIVE ⟨a ~ boxer⟩ **3** : indicative of a tricky nature ⟨~ eyes⟩ — **shift·i·ly** \-tə-lē\ *adv* — **shift·i·ness** \-tē-nəs\ *n*
shi·gel·la \shi-'gel-ə\ *n, pl* **-gel·lae** \-'gel-(ˌ)ē, -(ˌ)ī\ *also* **-gellas** [NL, genus name, fr. Kiyoshi *Shiga* †1957 Jap bacteriologist] : any of a genus (*Shigella*) of nonmotile aerobic bacteria that form acid but no gas on many carbohydrates and that cause dysenteries in animals and esp. man
Shih Tzu \'shēd-'zü\ *n* [Chin (Pek) *shi*¹ *tzŭ*³ *kou*³ Pekingese dog, fr. *shi*¹ lion + *tzŭ*³ son + *kou*³ dog] : a small alert active dog of an old Chinese breed that has a square short unwrinkled muzzle, short muscular legs, massive amounts of long dense hair, and a face that is sometimes compared to a chrysanthemum esp. because of hair that grows upward on the muzzle
Shi·ism \'shē-ˌiz-əm\ *n* : Islam as taught by the Shia
¹shi·kar \shi-'kär\ *n* [Hindi *shikār*, fr. Per] *India* : HUNTING
²shikar *vb* **shi·karred; shi·kar·ring** *India* : HUNT
shi·ka·ri \shi-'kär-ē, -'kar-\ *n* [Hindi *shikārī*, fr. Per, fr. *shikār*] *India* : a big game hunter; *esp* : a professional hunter or guide
shik·sa *or* **shik·se** \'shik-sə\ *n* [Yiddish *shikse*, fem. of *sheykets*, *sheygets* non-Jewish boy, fr. Heb *sheqeṣ* blemish, abomination] **1** : a non-Jewish girl — often used disparagingly **2** : a Jewish girl who does not observe Jewish precepts — used esp. by Orthodox Jews
shi·lingi \shil-'iŋ-ē\ *n, pl* **shilingi** [Swahili, fr. E *shilling*] — see MONEY table
shill \'shil\ *n* [prob. short for *shillaber*, of unknown origin] : one who acts as a decoy (as for a pitchman or gambler) — **shill** *vi*
shil·le·lagh *also* **shil·la·lah** \shə-'lā-lē\ *n* [*Shillelagh*, town in Ireland famed for its oak trees] : CUDGEL
shil·ling \'shil-iŋ\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *scilling;* akin to OHG *skilling*, a gold coin; both fr. a prehistoric Gmc compound represented by OE *scield* shield and by OE *-ling*] **1 a** : a former monetary unit of the United Kingdom equal to 12 pence or $\frac{1}{20}$ pound **b** : a monetary unit equal to $\frac{1}{20}$ pound of any of various other countries in or formerly in the British Commonwealth — see *pound* at MONEY table **2** : a coin representing one shilling **3** : any of several early American coins **4** — see MONEY table **5** : SHILINGI
Shil·luk \shil-'ük\ *n, pl* **Shilluk** *or* **Shilluks** **1** : a member of a Nilotic Negro people of the Sudan dwelling mainly on the west bank of the White Nile **2** : the language of the Shilluk people
¹shilly–shally \'shil-ē-ˌshal-ē\ *adv* [irreg. redupl. of *shall I*] : in an irresolute, undecided, or hesitating manner
²shilly–shally *adj* : IRRESOLUTE, VACILLATING
³shilly–shally *n* : INDECISION, IRRESOLUTION
⁴shilly–shally *vi* **shilly–shall·ied; shilly–shally·ing** **1** : to show hesitation or lack of decisiveness or resolution **2** : DAWDLE
shil·pit \'shil-pət\ *adj* [origin unknown] **1** *Scot* : pinched and starved in appearance **2** *Scot* : WEAK, INSIPID — used of drink
¹shim \'shim\ *n* [origin unknown] : a thin often tapered piece of material (as wood, metal, or stone) used to fill in space between things (as for support, leveling, or adjustment of fit)
²shim *vt* **shimmed; shim·ming** : to fill out or level up by the use of a shim
¹shim·mer \'shim-ər\ *vb* **shim·mered; shim·mer·ing** \-(ə-)riŋ\ [ME *schimeren*, fr. OE *scimerian;* akin to OE *scīnan* to shine — more at SHINE] *vi* **1** : to shine with a soft tremulous or fitful light : GLIMMER **2** : to reflect a wavering sometimes distorted visual image ~ *vt* : to cause to shimmer ***syn*** see FLASH
²shimmer *n* **1** : a light that shimmers : subdued sparkle or sheen : GLIMMER **2** : a wavering sometimes distorted visual image usu. resulting from heat induced changes in atmospheric refraction — **shim·mery** \'shim-(ə-)rē\ *adj*
¹shim·my \'shim-ē\ *n, pl* **shimmies** **1** [by alter.] : CHEMISE **2** [short for *shimmy-shake*] : a jazz dance characterized by a shaking of the body from the shoulders down **3** : an abnormal vibration esp. in the front wheels of a motor vehicle
²shimmy *vi* **shim·mied; shim·my·ing** **1** : to shake, quiver, or tremble in or as if in dancing a shimmy **2** : to vibrate abnormally — used esp. of automobiles
¹shin \'shin\ *n* [ME *shine*, fr. OE *scinu;* akin to OHG *scina* shin, OE *scēadan* to divide — more at SHED] : the front part of the vertebrate leg below the knee
²shin *vb* **shinned; shin·ning** *vi* **1** : to climb by moving oneself up or down by alternate use of the arms or hands and the legs **2** : to move forward rapidly on foot ~ *vt* **1** : to kick or strike on the shins **2** : to climb by shinning
³shin \'shēn, 'shin\ *n* [Heb *shīn*] : the 22d letter of the Hebrew alphabet — see ALPHABET table
Shin \'shin, 'shēn\ *n* [Jap, lit., belief, faith] : a major Japanese Buddhist sect that emphasizes salvation by faith in exclusive worship of Amida Buddha

Shi·na \'shē-nə\ *n* : the Dard language of Gilgit in northern Kashmir
shin·bone \'shin-ˈbōn, -ˌbōn\ *n* : TIBIA 1
shin·dig \'shin-ˌdig\ *n* [prob. alter. of *shindy*] **1 a** : a social gathering with dancing **b** : a usu. large or lavish party **2** : SHINDY 2
shin·dy \'shin-dē\ *n, pl* **shindys** *or* **shindies** [prob. alter. of *shinny*] **1** : SHINDIG 1 **2** : FRACAS, UPROAR
¹shine \'shīn\ *vb* **shone** \'shōn, *esp Canad & Brit* 'shän\ *or* **shined; shin·ing** [ME *shinen*, fr. OE *scīnan;* akin to OHG *skīnan* to shine, Gk *skia* shadow] *vi* **1** : to emit rays of light **2** : to be bright by reflection of light **3** : to be eminent, conspicuous, or distinguished ⟨she always ~*s* in math class⟩ **4** : to have a bright glowing appearance ⟨his face *shone* with enthusiasm⟩ **5** : to be conspicuously evident or clear ~ *vt* **1 a** : to cause to emit light **b** : to throw or flash the light of **2** *past & past part* **shined** : to make bright by polishing ⟨*shined* his shoes⟩
²shine *n* **1** : brightness caused by the emission of light **2** : brightness caused by the reflection of light : LUSTER **3** : BRILLIANCE, SPLENDOR **4** : fair weather : SUNSHINE ⟨rain or ~⟩ **5** : TRICK, CAPER — usu. used in pl. **6** : LIKING, FANCY ⟨took a ~ to him⟩ **7 a** : a polish or gloss given to shoes **b** : a single polishing of a pair of shoes
shin·er \'shī-nər\ *n* **1** : one that shines **2** : a silvery fish; *esp* : any of numerous small freshwater American cyprinid fishes (esp. genus *Notropis*) **3** : BLACK EYE 1
¹shin·gle \'shiŋ-gəl\ *n* [ME *schingel*] **1** : a small thin piece of building material often with one end thicker than the other for laying in overlapping rows as a covering for the roof or sides of a building **2** : a small signboard **3** : a woman's haircut with the hair trimmed short from the back of the head to the nape
²shingle *vt* **shin·gled; shin·gling** \-g(ə-)liŋ\ **1** : to cover with or as if with shingles **2** : to bob and shape (the hair) in a shingle **3** : to lay out or arrange so as to overlap
³shingle *n* [prob. of Scand origin; akin to Norw *singel* coarse gravel] **1** : coarse rounded detritus or alluvial material esp. on the seashore that differs from ordinary gravel only in the larger size of the stones **2** : a place strewn with shingle — **shin·gly** \-g(ə-)lē\ *adj*
⁴shingle *vt* **shin·gled; shin·gling** \-g(ə-)liŋ\ [F dial. *chingler*, lit., to whip, fr. MF dial., fr. *chingle* strap, fr. L *cingula*, fr. *cingere* to gird — more at CINCTURE] : to subject (as iron) to the process of expelling cinder and impurities by hammering and squeezing
shin·gler \-g(ə-)lər\ *n* : one that shingles
shin·gles \'shiŋ-gəlz\ *n pl but sing in constr* [ME *schingles*, by folk etymology fr. ML *cingulus*, fr. L *cingulum* girdle — more at CINGULUM] : HERPES ZOSTER
Shin·gon \'shin-ˌgän, 'shēn-\ *n* [Jap, lit., true word] : an esoteric Japanese Buddhist sect claiming the achievement of Buddhahood in this life through its prescribed rituals
shin·ing \'shī-niŋ\ *adj* **1** : emitting or reflecting light **2** : bright and often splendid in appearance : RESPLENDENT **3** : possessing a distinguished quality : ILLUSTRIOUS **4** : full of sunshine
shin·leaf \'shin-ˌlēf\ *n, pl* **shinleafs** : any of several pyrolas (esp. *Pyrola elliptica*) with lustrous evergreen basal leaves and racemose white or pinkish flowers
shin·nery \'shin-ə-rē\ *n, pl* **-ner·ies** [modif. of LaF *chênière*, fr. F *chêne* oak] : a dense growth of small trees or an area of such growth; *esp* : one of scrub oak in the West and Southwest
¹shin·ny *also* **shin·ney** \'shin-ē\ *n* [perh. fr. ¹*shin*] : a variation of hockey played by schoolboys with a curved stick and a ball or block of wood; *also* : the stick used
²shinny *vi* **shin·nied; shin·ny·ing** [alter. of ²*shin*] : SHIN 1
shin·plas·ter \'shin-ˌplas-tər\ *n* **1** : a piece of privately-issued paper currency; *esp* : one poorly secured and depreciated in value **2** : a piece of fractional currency
shin·splints \'shin-ˌsplin(t)s\ *n pl but sing in constr* : injury to and inflammation of the tibial and toe extensor muscles or their fasciae that is caused by repeated minimal traumas (as by running on a wood or cement floor)
Shin·to \'shin-(ˌ)tō\ *n* [Jap *shintō*] : the indigenous religion of Japan consisting chiefly in the cultic devotion to deities of natural forces and veneration of the Emperor as a descendant of the sun-goddess — **Shinto** *adj* — **Shin·to·ism** \-(ˌ)tō-ˌiz-əm\ *n* — **Shin·to·ist** \-ˌtō-əst\ *n or adj* — **Shin·to·is·tic** \ˌshin-tō-'is-tik\ *adj*
shiny \'shī-nē\ *adj* **shin·i·er; -est** **1 a** : bright with the rays of the sun : SUNSHINY **b** : filled with light **2** : bright in appearance : POLISHED ⟨~ new shoes⟩ **3** : rubbed or worn smooth **4** : lustrous with natural secretions ⟨a ~ nose⟩ — **shin·i·ness** *n*
¹ship \'ship\ *n, often attrib* [ME, fr. OE *scip;* akin to OHG *skif* ship, OE *scēadan* to divide — more at SHED] **1 a** : a large seagoing vessel **b** : a sailing vessel having a bowsprit and usu. three masts each composed of a lower mast, a topmast, and a topgallant mast **2** : BOAT; *esp* : one propelled by power or sail **3** : a ship's crew **4** : FORTUNE ⟨when his ~ comes in he'll be able to live in better style⟩ **5** : AIRSHIP, AIRPLANE, SPACECRAFT
²ship *vb* **shipped; ship·ping** *vt* **1 a** : to place or receive on board a ship for transportation by water **b** : to cause to be transported ⟨*shipped* him off to prep school⟩ **2** *obs* : to provide with a ship **3** : to put in place for use ⟨~ the tiller⟩ **4** : to take into a ship or boat ⟨~ the gangplank⟩ **5** : to engage for service on a ship **6** : to take (as water) over the side — used of a boat or a ship ~ *vi* **1** : to embark on a ship **2** : to go or travel by ship **3** : to engage to serve on shipboard — **ship·pa·ble** \'ship-ə-bəl\ *adj*
-ship \ˌship\ *n suffix* [ME, fr. OE *-scipe;* akin to OHG *-scaft* -ship, OE *scieppan* to shape — more at SHAPE] **1** : state : condition : quality ⟨friend*ship*⟩ **2** : office : dignity : profession ⟨clerk*ship*⟩ **3** : art : skill ⟨horseman*ship*⟩ **4** : something showing, exhibiting, or embodying a quality or state ⟨town*ship*⟩ **5** : one entitled to a (specified) rank, title, or appellation ⟨his Lord*ship*⟩
ship biscuit *n* : HARDTACK — called also *ship bread*
¹ship·board \'ship-ˌbō(ə)rd, -ˌbȯ(ə)rd\ *n* **1** : the side of a ship **2** : SHIP ⟨met on ~⟩
²shipboard *adj* : existing or taking place on board a ship
ship·borne \'ship-ˌbō(ə)rn, -ˌbȯ(ə)rn\ *adj* : transported or designed to be transported by ship ⟨~ aircraft⟩
ship·build·er \'ship-ˌbil-dər\ *n* : one who designs or constructs ships — **ship·build·ing** \-diŋ\ *n*
ship fever *n* : TYPHUS
ship·fit·ter \'ship-ˌfit-ər\ *n* **1** : one that fits together the structural members of ships and puts them into position for riveting or welding **2** : a naval enlisted man who works in sheet metal and performs the work of a plumber aboard ship
ship·lap \-ˌlap\ *n* : wooden sheathing in which the boards are rabbeted so that the edges of each board lap over the edges of adjacent boards to make a flush joint
ship·load \-ˈlōd, -ˌlōd\ *n* **1** : as much or as many as will fill or load a ship **2** : an indefinitely large amount or number
ship·man \-mən\ *n* **1** : SEAMAN, SAILOR **2** : SHIPMASTER
ship·mas·ter \-ˌmas-tər\ *n* : the master or commander of a ship other than a warship
ship·mate \-ˌmāt\ *n* : a fellow sailor
ship·ment \-mənt\ *n* **1** : the act or process of shipping **2** : the goods shipped
ship money *n* : an impost levied at various times in England to provide ships for the national defense
ship of the line : a ship of war large enough to have a place in the line of battle
ship·own·er \'ship-ˌō-nər\ *n* : the owner of a ship or of a share in a ship
ship·per \'ship-ər\ *n* : one that sends goods by any form of conveyance
ship·ping \'ship-iŋ\ *n* **1 a** : passage on a ship **b** : SHIPS **c** : the body of ships in one place or belonging to one port or country **2** : the act or business of one that ships
shipping articles *n pl* : the articles of agreement between the captain of a ship and the seamen in respect to wages, length of time for which they are shipped, and related matters
shipping clerk *n* : one who is employed in a shipping room to assemble, pack, and send out or receive goods
ship–rigged \'ship-ˈrigd\ *adj* : SQUARE-RIGGED
ship·shape \'ship-ˈshāp\ *adj* [short for earlier *shipshapen*, fr. *ship* + *shapen*, archaic pp. of *shape*] : TRIM, TIDY
ship·side \-ˌsīd\ *n* : the area adjacent to shipping that is used for storage and loading of freight and passengers : DOCK
ship's papers *n pl* : the papers with which a ship is legally required to be provided for due inspection to show the character of the ship and cargo
ship's service *n* : a ship or navy post exchange — called also *navy exchange*
ship's stores *n pl* : the supplies and equipment required for the operation and upkeep of a ship
shipt *abbr* shipment
ship·way \'ship-ˌwā\ *n* **1** : the ways on which a ship is built **2** : a ship canal
ship·worm \-ˌwərm\ *n* : any of various elongated marine clams (esp. family Teredinidae) that resemble worms, burrow in submerged wood, and damage wharf piles and wooden ships
¹ship·wreck \-ˌrek\ *n* [alter. of earlier *shipwrack*, fr. ME *schipwrak*, fr. OE *scipwræc*, fr. *scip* ship + *wræc* something driven by the sea — more at WRACK] **1** : a wrecked ship or its parts **2** : the destruction or loss of a ship **3** : an irretrievable loss or failure
²shipwreck *vt* **1 a** : to cause to experience shipwreck **b** : RUIN **2** : to destroy (a ship) by grounding or foundering
ship·wright \'ship-ˌrīt\ *n* : a carpenter skilled in ship construction and repair
ship·yard \-ˌyärd\ *n* : a yard, place, or enclosure where ships are built or repaired
shire \'shī(ə)r, *in place-name compounds* ˌshi(ə)r, shər\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *scīr* office, shire; akin to OHG *scīra* care] **1** : an administrative subdivision; *esp* : a county in England **2** : any of a British breed of large heavy draft horses with heavily feathered legs
shire town *n* **1** : a town that is the seat of the government of a county : COUNTY SEAT **2** : a town where a court of superior jurisdiction (as a circuit court or a court with a jury) sits
shirk \'shərk\ *vb* [origin unknown] *vi* **1** : to go stealthily : SNEAK **2** : to evade the performance of an obligation ~ *vt* : AVOID, EVADE ⟨~ one's duty⟩ — **shirk·er** *n*
Shir·ley poppy \ˌshər-lē-\ *n* [*Shirley* vicarage, Croydon, Eng.] : a variable annual garden poppy with bright solitary single or double flowers
shirr \'shər\ *vt* [origin unknown] **1** : to draw (as cloth) together in a shirring **2** : to bake (eggs removed from the shell) until set
shirr·ing \'shər-iŋ\ *n* : a decorative gathering (as of cloth) made by drawing up the material along two or more parallel lines of stitching
shirt \'shərt\ *n* [ME *shirte*, fr. OE *scyrte;* akin to ON *skyrta* shirt, OE *scort* short] **1** : a garment for the upper part of the body: as **a** : a cloth garment usu. having a collar, sleeves, a front opening, and a tail long enough to be tucked inside trousers or a skirt **b** : UNDERSHIRT **2** : all or a large part of one's possessions ⟨lost his ~ on that business deal⟩
shirt·front \-ˌfrənt\ *n* : the front of a shirt; *also* : the part of a man's shirt not covered by coat or vest
shirt·ing \-iŋ\ *n* : fabric suitable for shirts
shirt·mak·er \'shərt-ˌmā-kər\ *n* : one that makes shirts
shirt–sleeve \-ˌslēv\ *also* **shirt–sleeves** \-ˌslēvz\ *or* **shirt–sleeved** \-ˌslēvd\ *adj* **1 a** : being without a coat ⟨a ~ audience⟩ **b** : calling for the removal of coats for the sake of comfort or efficiency ⟨~ weather⟩ **2** : marked by informality and directness ⟨~ diplomacy⟩
¹shirt·tail \'shərt-ˌtāl\ *n* **1** : the part of a shirt that reaches below the waist esp. in the back **2 a** : a short addition at the end of a newspaper article **b** : something small or inadequate
²shirttail *adj* **1** : very young : IMMATURE ⟨~ boys fishing in the creek⟩ **2** : distantly and indefinitely related ⟨a ~ cousin on her father's side⟩ **3** : small, trivial, or short typically to the point of inadequacy ⟨has a gullied ~ ranch in the hills⟩

shirt·waist \'shərt-ˌwāst\ *n* : a woman's tailored garment (as a blouse or dress) with details copied from men's shirts



shirtwaist dress

shirty \'shərt-ē\ *adj* : ANGRY, IRRITATED

shish ke·bab \'shish-kə-ˌbäb\ *n* [Arm *shish kabab*] : kabob cooked on skewers

[1]shit \'shit\ *vb* **shit; shit·ting** [alter. (influenced by [2]*shit* and the past and pp. forms) of earlier *shite*, fr. ME *shiten*, fr. OE *-scītan;* akin to MLG & MD *schiten* to defecate, OHG *scīzan*, ON *skīta* to defecate, OE *scēadan* to divide, separate — more at SHED] *vi* : DEFECATE — usu. considered vulgar ~ *vt* : to defecate in — usu. considered vulgar

[2]shit *n* [fr. (assumed) ME, fr. OE *scite* (attested only in place names); akin to MD *schit, schitte* excrement, OE *scītan* to defecate] **1** : EXCREMENT — usu. considered vulgar **2** : an act of defecation — usu. considered vulgar **3** : NONSENSE, FOOLISHNESS — usu. considered vulgar

shit·tah \'shit-ə\ *n, pl* **shittahs** *or* **shit·tim** \'shit-əm\ [Heb *shiṭṭāh*] : a tree of uncertain identity but prob. an acacia (as *Acacia seyal*) from the wood of which the ark and fittings of the Hebrew tabernacle were made

shit·tim·wood \'shit-əm-ˌwůd\ *also* **shittim** *n* [Heb *shiṭṭīm* (pl. of *shiṭṭāh*) + E *wood*] **1** : the wood of the shittah tree **2** : any of several buckthorns; *also* : their hard heavy dense wood used for turning and for inlay

shiv \'shiv\ *n* [prob. fr. Romany *chiv* blade] *slang* : KNIFE

Shi·va \'shiv-ə, 'shē-və\ *var of* SIVA

shiv·a·ree \ˌshiv-ə-'rē, 'shiv-ə-ˌ\ *n* [F *charivari*] : a noisy mock serenade to a newly married couple — **shivaree** *vt*

[1]shiv·er \'shiv-ər\ *n* [ME; akin to OE *scēadan* to divide — more at SHED] : one of the small pieces into which a brittle thing is broken by sudden violence

[2]shiver *vb* **shiv·ered; shiv·er·ing** \-(ə-)riŋ\ : to break into many small pieces : SHATTER

[3]shiver *vb* **shiv·ered; shiv·er·ing** \-(ə-)riŋ\ [ME *shiveren*, alter. of *chiveren*] *vi* **1** : to undergo trembling : QUIVER **2** : to tremble in the wind as it strikes first one and then the other side (of a sail) ~ *vt* : to cause (a sail) to shiver by steering close to the wind

[4]shiver *n* : an instance of shivering : TREMBLE

[1]shiv·ery \'shiv-(ə-)rē\ *adj* : inclined to break into flakes : BRITTLE

[2]shivery *adj* **1** : characterized by shivers **2** : causing shivers

shlemiehl *var of* SCHLEMIEL

shlock *var of* SCHLOCK

[1]shoal \'shōl\ *adj* [alter. of ME *shold*, fr. OE *sceald* — more at SKELETON] : SHALLOW

[2]shoal *n* **1** : SHALLOW **2** : a sandbank or sandbar that makes the water shoal; *specif* : an elevation which is not rocky and on which there is a depth of water of six fathoms or less

[3]shoal *vi* : to become shallow ~ *vt* **1** : to come to a shallow or less deep part of **2** : to cause to become shallow or less deep

[4]shoal *n* [(assumed) ME *shole*, fr. OE *scolu* multitude — more at SCHOOL] : a large group (as of fish) : CROWD

[5]shoal *vi* : THRONG, SCHOOL

shoat \'shōt\ *n* [ME *shote;* akin to Flem *schote* shoat] : a young hog usu. less than one year old

[1]shock \'shäk\ *n* [ME; akin to MHG *schoc* heap, OE *hēah* high — more at HIGH] : a pile of sheaves of grain or stalks of Indian corn set up in a field with the butt ends down

[2]shock *vt* : to collect into shocks

[3]shock *n, often attrib* [MF *choc*, fr. *choquer* to strike against, fr. OF *choquier*, prob. of Gmc origin; akin to MD *schocken* to jolt] **1** : the impact or encounter of individuals or groups in combat **2 a** : a violent shake or jar : CONCUSSION **b** : an effect of such violence **3 a** (1) : a disturbance in the equilibrium or permanence of something (2) : a sudden or violent disturbance in the mental or emotional faculties **b** : something that causes such disturbance **4** : a state of profound depression of the vital processes associated with reduced blood volume and pressure and caused usu. by severe esp. crushing injuries, hemorrhage, or burns **5** : sudden stimulation of the nerves and convulsive contraction of the muscles caused by the discharge of electricity through the animal body **6 a** : APOPLEXY **b** : CORONARY THROMBOSIS

[4]shock *vt* **1 a** : to strike with surprise, terror, horror, or disgust **b** : to cause to undergo a physical or nervous shock **c** : to subject to the action of an electrical discharge **2** : to drive by or as if by a shock ~ *vi* : to meet with a shock : COLLIDE

[5]shock *n* [perh. fr. [1]*shock*] : a thick bushy mass (as of hair)

[6]shock *adj* : BUSHY, SHAGGY

[7]shock *n* : SHOCK ABSORBER

shock absorber *n* : any of several devices for absorbing the energy of sudden impulses or shocks in machinery or structures

shock·er \'shäk-ər\ *n* : one that shocks; *esp* : something horrifying or offensive (as a sensational work of fiction or drama)

shock front *n* : the advancing edge of a shock wave

shock·ing *adj* : extremely startling and offensive — **shock·ing·ly** \-iŋ-lē\ *adv*

shocking pink *n* : a striking, vivid, bright, or intense pink

shock·proof \'shäk-'prüf\ *adj* **1** : incapable of being shocked **2 a** : resistant to shock **b** : unlikely to cause shock : protectively insulated ⟨a ~ switch⟩

shock therapy *n* : the treatment of mental disorder by the artificial induction of coma or convulsions through use of drugs or electricity — called also *shock treatment*

shock troops *n pl* : troops esp. suited and chosen for offensive work because of their high morale, training, and discipline

shock tube *n* : a usu. enclosed tube in which experimental shock waves are produced as a result of the rupturing of a diaphragm separating two chambers containing a gas or gases at differential pressure

shock wave *n* **1** : BLAST 5c **2** : a compressional wave formed whenever the speed of a body or fluid relative to a medium exceeds that at which the medium can transmit sound **3** : a violent pulsating disturbance or reaction ⟨*shock waves* of rebellion⟩

shod \'shäd\ *adj* [ME, fr. pp. of *shoen* to shoe, fr. OE *scōgan*, fr. *scōh* shoe — more at SHOE] **1 a** : wearing footgear (as shoes) **b** : equipped with tires **2** : furnished or equipped with a shoe

[1]shod·dy \'shäd-ē\ *n* [origin unknown] **1 a** : a wool of better quality and longer staple than mungo reclaimed from materials that are not felted **b** : a fabric often of inferior quality manufactured wholly or partly from reclaimed wool **2 a** : inferior, imitation, or pretentious articles or matter **b** : pretentious vulgarity

[2]shoddy *adj* **shod·di·er; -est** **1** : made wholly or partly of shoddy **2 a** : cheaply imitative : vulgarly pretentious **b** : hastily or poorly done : INFERIOR **c** : SHABBY — **shod·di·ly** \'shäd-ᵊl-ē\ *adv* — **shod·di·ness** \'shäd-ē-nəs\ *n*

[1]shoe \'shü\ *n* [ME *shoo*, fr. OE *scōh;* akin to OHG *scuoh* shoe, OE *hȳd* hide] **1 a** : an outer covering for the human foot usu. made of leather with a thick or stiff sole and an attached heel **b** : a metal plate or rim for the hoof of an animal **2** : something resembling a shoe: as **a** : a metal band on the runner of a sled **b** : the casing of a pneumatic tire; *broadly* : TIRE **3** *pl* : STATUS, POSITION; *also* : PLIGHT **4** : a device that retards, stops, or controls the motion of an object; *esp* : the part of a brake that presses on the brake drum **5 a** : any of various devices that are inserted in or run along a track or groove to guide a movement, provide a contact or friction grip, or protect against wear, damage, or slipping **b** : a device (as a clip or track) on a camera that permits attachment of accessory items — called also *accessory shoe*

[2]shoe *vt* **shod** \'shäd\ *also* **shoed** \'shüd\; **shoe·ing** \'shü-iŋ\ **1** : to furnish with a shoe **2** : to cover for protection, strength, or ornament

shoe·bill \'shü-ˌbil\ *n* : a large broad-billed wading bird (*Balaeniceps rex*) of the valley of the White Nile that is related to the storks and herons

shoe·black \-ˌblak\ *n* : BOOTBLACK

[1]shoe·horn \-ˌhȯ(ə)rn\ *n* : a curved piece (as of horn, wood, or metal) used in putting on a shoe

[2]shoehorn *vt* : to force into a small, narrow, or insufficient space

shoe·lace \'shü-ˌlās\ *n* : a lace or string for fastening a shoe

shoe·mak·er \-ˌmā-kər\ *n* : one whose occupation is making or repairing shoes

shoe·pac *or* **shoe·pack** \'shü-ˌpak\ *n* [by folk etymology fr. Del *shipak*] : a waterproof laced boot worn esp. over heavy socks in cold weather

[1]shoe·string \'shü-ˌstriŋ\ *n* **1** : SHOELACE **2** [fr. shoestrings being a typical item sold by itinerant vendors] : a small sum of money : capital inadequate or barely adequate to the needs of a transaction ⟨start a business on a ~⟩

[2]shoestring *adj* **1** : narrow and long like a shoestring ⟨a ~ tie⟩ **2** : operating on, accomplished by, or consisting of a small amount of capital ⟨a ~ budget⟩

shoestring catch *n* : a catch (as in baseball) made very close to the ground

shoe tree *n* : a foot-shaped device for inserting in a shoe to preserve its shape

sho·far \'shō-ˌfär, -fər\ *n, pl* **sho·froth** \shō-'frōt(h), -'frōs\ [Heb *shōphār*] : a ram's-horn trumpet blown by the ancient Hebrews in battle and high religious observances and used in synagogues before and during Rosh Hashanah and at the conclusion of Yom Kippur

[1]shog \'shäg\ *vi* **shogged; shog·ging** [ME *shoggen*] *chiefly dial* : to move along

[2]shog *n, chiefly dial* : SHAKE, JOLT

sho·gun \'shō-gən\ *n* [Jap *shōgun* general] : one of a line of military governors ruling Japan until the revolution of 1867–68 — **sho·gun·ate** \'shō-gə-nət, -ˌnāt\ *n*

sho·ji \'shō-(ˌ)jē\ *n, pl* **shoji** *also* **shojis** [Jap *shōji*] : a paper screen serving as a wall, partition, or sliding door

sho·lom \shä-'lōm, shə-\ *var of* SHALOM

shone *past of* SHINE

[1]shoo \'shü\ *interj* [ME *schowe*] — used in frightening away an animal (as a hen)

[2]shoo *vt* : to scare, drive, or send away by or as if by crying *shoo*

shoo·fly \'shü-ˌflī\ *n* [[1]*shoo* + *fly*] **1** : a child's rocker having the seat built on or usu. between supports representing an animal figure **2** : any of several plants held to repel flies

shoofly pie *n* : a rich pie of Pennsylvania-Dutch origin made of molasses or brown sugar sprinkled with a crumbly mixture of flour, sugar, and butter

shoo–in \'shü-ˌin\ *n* : one that is a certain and easy winner

[1]shook *past or chiefly dial past part of* SHAKE

[2]shook \'shůk\ *n* [origin unknown] **1 a** : a set of staves and headings for one hogshead, cask, or barrel **b** : a bundle of parts (as of boxes) ready to be put together **2** : [1] SHOCK

shook–up \(')shůk-'əp\ *adj* [*shook*, substandard pp. of *shake*] : nervously upset : AGITATED

shoon \'shün, 'shōn\ *chiefly dial pl of* SHOE

[1]shoot \'shüt\ *vb* **shot** \'shät\; **shoot·ing** [ME *sheten, shuten*, fr. OE *scēotan;* akin to ON *skjōta* to shoot, Lith *skudrus* quick] *vt* **1 a** (1) : to eject or impel or cause to be ejected or impelled by a sudden release of tension (as of a bowstring or slingshot or by a flick of a finger) ⟨~ an arrow⟩ ⟨~ a spitball⟩ ⟨~ a marble⟩ (2) : to drive forth or cause to be driven forth by an explosion (as of a powder charge in a firearm or of ignited fuel in a rocket) (3) : to drive forth or cause to be driven forth by a sudden release of gas or

air ⟨~ darts from a blowgun⟩ ⟨a steam catapult ~*s* planes from a carrier⟩ (4) : to drive forth or away (as a ball or puck) by striking or pushing with the arm or hand or with an implement (5) : to throw or cast off or out often with force ⟨~ dice⟩ ⟨the horse *shot* his rider out of the saddle⟩ **b** (1) : to utter (as words or sounds) rapidly or suddenly or with force ⟨~ out a stream of invective⟩ (2) : to emit (as light, flame, or fumes) suddenly and rapidly (3) : to send forth with suddenness or intensity ⟨*shot* a look of anger at him⟩ **c** : to discharge, dump, or empty esp. by overturning, upending, or directing into a slide **2** : to affect by shooting: as **a** : to strike with a missile esp. from a bow or gun; *esp* : to wound or kill with a missile discharged from a bow or firearm **b** : to remove or destroy by use of firearms ⟨*shot* out the light⟩; *also* : WRECK, EXPLODE **3 a** : to push or slide (as the bolt of a door or lock) into or out of a fastening **b** : to pass (a shuttle) through the warp threads in weaving **c** : to push or thrust forward : stick out ⟨toads ~*ing* out their tongues⟩ **d** : to put forth in growing **e** : to place, send, or bring into position abruptly **4 a** : to engage in (a sport or game or a portion of a game that involves shooting) : PLAY ⟨~ pool⟩ ⟨~ a round of golf⟩ ⟨~ craps⟩ **b** : to score by shooting ⟨~ a basket⟩ ⟨*shot* a 73 on the first 18 holes⟩ **c** (1) : to place or offer (a bet) on the result of casting dice ⟨~ $5⟩ (2) : to use up by or as if by betting : EXHAUST ⟨*shot* his whole wad on a shady deal⟩ **5 a** : to practice the killing of (as game) with firearms esp. as a sport ⟨~ woodcock⟩ **b** : to hunt over ⟨~ a tract of woodland⟩ **6 a** : to cause to move suddenly or swiftly forward ⟨*shot* the car onto the highway⟩ **b** : to send or carry quickly : DISPATCH ⟨~ the letter on to me as soon as you receive it⟩ **7** : to variegate as if by sprinkling color in streaks, flecks, or patches **8** : to pass swiftly by, past, or along ⟨~*ing* rapids⟩ **9** : to plane (as the edge of a board) straight or true **10 a** : to set off : DETONATE, IGNITE ⟨~ a charge of dynamite⟩ **b** : to effect by blasting **11** : to determine the altitude of **12** : to take a picture or series of pictures or television images of : PHOTOGRAPH, FILM **13 a** : to give an injection to **b** : to take (a drug) by hypodermic needle ~ *vi* **a** : to go or pass rapidly and precipitately ⟨sparks ~*ing* up⟩ ⟨his feet *shot* out from under him⟩ **b** : to move ahead by force of momentum **c** : to stream out suddenly : SPURT **d** : to dart in or as if in rays from a source of light **e** : to dart with a piercing sensation ⟨pain *shot* up his arm⟩ **2 a** : to cause an engine or weapon to discharge a missile **b** : to use a firearm or bow esp. for sport (as in hunting) **3** : to propel a missile ⟨guns that ~ many miles⟩ **4** : PROTRUDE, PROJECT **5 a** : to grow or sprout by or as if by putting forth shoots **b** : DEVELOP, MATURE **6 a** : to propel an object (as a ball) in a particular way **b** : to drive the ball or puck toward a goal **7** : to cast dice **8** : to slide into or out of a fastening ⟨a bolt that ~*s* in either direction⟩ **9 a** : to record visually (as on movie film or videotape) a scene of a motion picture or television production **b** : to operate a camera or set cameras in operation : FILM — **shoot at** *or* **shoot for** : to aim at : strive for — **shoot one's bolt** : to exhaust one's capabilities and resources — **shoot the breeze** : to converse idly : GOSSIP — **shoot the works** **1** : to venture all one's capital on one play **2** : to put forth all one's efforts

²shoot *n* **1** : a sending out of new growth or the growth sent out: as **a** : a stem or branch with its leaves and appendages esp. when not yet mature **b** : OFFSHOOT **c** : a similar formation of crystal **2 a** : an act of shooting (as with a bow or a firearm): (1) : SHOT (2) : the firing of a missile esp. by artillery **b** (1) : a hunting trip or party (2) : the right to shoot game in a particular area or land over which it is held **c** (1) : a shooting match ⟨skeet ~⟩ (2) : a round of shots in a shooting match **d** (1) : the action of shooting with a camera (2) : a launching of a rocket device or a guided missile esp. experimentally **3 a** : a motion or movement of rapid thrusting: as (1) : a sudden or rapid advance (2) [perh. by folk etymology fr. F *chute* — more at CHUTE] : a rush of water down a steep or rapid (3) : a momentary darting sensation : TWINGE (4) : THRUST 2b (5) : a falling of a detached mass of earth or ice (6) : the pace between strokes in rowing **b** : a bar of rays : BEAM ⟨a ~ of sunlight⟩ **4** [prob. by folk etymology fr. F *chute* — more at CHUTE] **a** : a place where a stream runs or descends swiftly **b** : any of various inclined channels or troughs through which something (as water, logs, or grain) is moved **5** : an elongated usu. vertical body of ore in a vein

³shoot *interj* [euphemism for *shit*] — used to express annoyance or surprise

shoot-'em-up \'shüt-ə-ˌməp\ *n* : a movie or television show with much shooting and bloodshed

shoot·er \'shüt-ər\ *n* **1** : one that shoots: as **a** : a person who fires a missile-discharging device (as a rifle or bow) **b** : the person who is rolling the dice in craps **2** : something that is used in shooting: as **a** : a marble shot from the hand **b** : a repeating pistol — usu. used in combination ⟨six-*shooter*⟩

shooting gallery *n* : a usu. covered range equipped with targets for practice with firearms

shooting iron *n* : FIREARM

shooting script *n* **1** : the final completely detailed version of a motion-picture script in which scenes are grouped in the order most convenient for shooting **2** : the final version of a television script used in the production of a program

shooting star *n* **1** : a visual meteor appearing as a temporary streak of light in the night sky **2** : a No. American perennial herb (*Dodecatheon meadia*) of the primrose family that has entire oblong leaves and showy flowers with reflexed petals

shooting stick *n* : a spiked stick with a top that opens into a seat

shoot-out \'shüt-ˌau̇t\ *n* : a battle fought with handguns or rifles

shoot-the-chutes \ˌshüt-thə-'shüts\ *n pl but sing in constr* : an amusement ride consisting of a steep incline down which boats with flat bottoms slide usu. to continue across a body of water at the bottom

shoot up \(')shüt-'əp\ *vt* : to inject (a narcotic drug) into a vein ~ *vi* : to inject a narcotic into a vein — **shoot-up** \'shüt-ˌəp\ *n*

¹shop \'shäp\ *n, often attrib* [ME *shoppe*, fr. OE *sceoppa* booth; akin to OHG *scopf* shed] **1** : a handicraft establishment : ATELIER **2 a** : a building or room stocked with merchandise for sale : STORE **b** *or* **shoppe** \'shäp\ : a small retail establishment or a department in a large one offering a specified line of goods or services ⟨a millinery ~⟩ ⟨a sandwich ~⟩ **3** : FACTORY, MILL **4 a** : a school laboratory equipped for instruction in manual arts **b** : the art or science of working with tools and machinery **5 a** : a business establishment; *esp* : OFFICE **b** : SHOPTALK

²shop *vb* **shopped; shop·ping** *vi* **1 a** : to examine goods or services with intent to buy **b** : to probe a market in search of the best buy **2** : to make a search : HUNT ~ *vt* : to examine the stock or offerings of ⟨~ the stores for Christmas gift ideas⟩

shop·keep·er \'shäp-ˌkē-pər\ *n* : STOREKEEPER 2

shop·lift \-ˌlift\ *vb* [back-formation fr. *shoplifter*] *vt* : to steal (goods on display) from a store ~ *vi* : to steal displayed goods from a store

shop·lift·er \-ˌlif-tər\ *n* : one who shoplifts

shop·per \'shäp-ər\ *n* **1** : one that shops **2** : one whose occupation is shopping as an agent for customers or for an employer **3** : a usu. free paper carrying advertising and sometimes local news

shopping center *n* : a group of retail stores and service establishments usu. with ample parking facilities and usu. designed to serve a community or neighborhood — called also SHOPPING PLAZA

shopping mall *n* **1** : an area restricted to pedestrians in a city and lined by shops **2** : a shopping center with stores facing an enclosed area for pedestrians

shop steward *n* : a union member elected as the union representative of a shop or department in dealings with the management

shop·talk \'shäp-ˌtȯk\ *n* : the jargon or subject matter peculiar to an occupation or a special area of interest

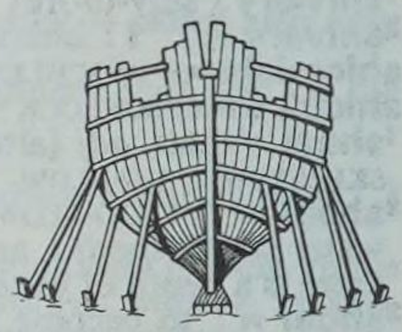
shop·worn \-ˌwō(ə)rn, -ˌwȯ(ə)rn\ *adj* **1** : faded, soiled, or otherwise impaired by remaining too long in a store **2** : stale from excessive use or familiarity ⟨~ clichés⟩

sho·ran \'shō(ə)r-ˌan, 'shȯ(ə)r-\ *n* [*sho*rt-*ra*nge *n*avigation] : a system of short-range navigation in which two radar signals transmitted by an airplane are intercepted and rebroadcast to the airplane by two ground stations of known position so as to determine the position of the airplane

¹shore \'shō(ə)r, 'shȯ(ə)r\ *n, often attrib* [ME, fr. (assumed) OE *scor;* akin to OE *scieran* to cut — more at SHEAR] **1** : the land bordering a usu. large body of water; *specif* : COAST **2** : land as distinguished from the sea ⟨shipboard and ~ duty⟩

²shore *vt* **shored; shor·ing** [ME *shoren;* akin to ON *skortha* to prop] **1** : to support by a shore : PROP **2** : to give support to : BRACE — usu. used with *up*

³shore *n* : a prop for preventing sinking or sagging



shores supporting a ship

shore·bird \'shō(ə)r-ˌbərd, 'shȯ(ə)r-\ *n* : any of a suborder (Charadrii) of birds (as a plover or snipe) that frequent the seashore

shore dinner *n* : a dinner consisting chiefly of seafoods

shore·front \-ˌfrənt\ *n* : land along a shore; *specif* : BEACHFRONT

shore leave *n* : a leave of absence to go on shore granted to a sailor or naval officer

shore·line \-ˌlīn\ *n* : the line where a body of water and the shore meet; *also* : the strip of land along this line

shore patrol *n* **1** : a branch of a navy that exercises guard and police functions — compare MILITARY POLICE **2** : petty officers detailed to perform police duty while a ship is in port

shore·side \-ˌsīd\ *adj* : situated at or near a shore

shore·ward \-wərd\ *or* **shore·wards** \-wərdz\ *adv* : toward the shore

shor·ing \'shōr-iŋ, 'shȯr-\ *n* **1** : the act of supporting with or as if with a prop **2** : a system or group of shores

shorn *past part of* SHEAR

¹short \'shȯ(ə)rt\ *adj* [ME, fr. OE *scort*] **1 a** : having little length **b** : not tall or high : LOW **2 a** : not extended in time : BRIEF ⟨a ~ vacation⟩ **b** : not retentive ⟨a ~ memory⟩ **c** : EXPEDITIOUS, QUICK ⟨made ~ work of the problem⟩ **d** : seeming to pass quickly ⟨made great progress in just a few ~ years⟩ **3 a** *of a speech sound* : having a relatively short duration **b** : being the member of a pair of similarly spelled vowel or vowel-containing sounds that is descended from a vowel that was short in duration but is no longer so and that does not necessarily have duration as its chief distinguishing feature ⟨~ *i* in *sin*⟩ **c** *of a syllable in prosody* (1) : of relatively brief duration (2) : UNSTRESSED **4** : limited in distance ⟨a ~ trip⟩ **5 a** : not coming up to a measure or requirement : INSUFFICIENT ⟨in ~ supply⟩ **b** : not reaching far enough ⟨the throw to first was ~⟩ **c** : enduring privation **d** : insufficiently supplied ⟨~ of cash⟩ ⟨~ on brains⟩ **6 a** : ABRUPT, CURT **b** : quickly provoked **7** : ³CHOPPY 1 **8** : payable at an early date **9 a** : containing or cooked with shortening : FLAKY ⟨~ pastry⟩ **b** *of metal* : brittle under certain conditions **10 a** : not lengthy or drawn out **b** : made briefer : ABBREVIATED **11 a** : not having goods or property that one has sold in anticipation of a fall in prices **b** : consisting of or relating to a sale of securities or commodities that the seller does not possess or has not contracted for at the time of the sale ⟨~ sale⟩ **12** : near the end of a tour of duty — **short·ish** \'shȯrt-ish\ *adj* — **in short order** : with dispatch : QUICKLY

²short *adv* **1** : in a curt manner **2** : for or during a brief time ⟨*short*-lasting⟩ **3** : at a disadvantage : UNAWARES ⟨caught ~⟩ **4** : so as to interrupt ⟨took him up ~⟩ **5** : in an abrupt manner : SUDDENLY ⟨the car stopped ~⟩ **6** : at some point or degree before a goal or limit aimed at or under consideration ⟨the shells fell ~⟩ ⟨quit a month ~ of graduation⟩ **7** : clean across ⟨the axle was snapped ~⟩ **8** : by or as if by a short sale

³short *n* **1** : the sum and substance : UPSHOT **2 a** : a short syllable **b** : a short sound or signal **3** *pl* **a** : a by-product of wheat milling that includes the germ, fine bran, and some flour **b** : refuse, clippings, or trimmings discarded in various manufacturing processes **4 a** *pl* : knee-length or less than knee-length trousers

b *pl* : short drawers **c** : a size in clothing for short men **5 a** : one who operates on the short side of the market **b** *pl* : short-term bonds **6** *pl* : DEFICIENCIES **7** : SHORT CIRCUIT **8** : SHORTSTOP 1 **9** : SHORT SUBJECT — **in short** : by way of summary : BRIEFLY

⁴short *vt* **1** : SHORTCHANGE, CHEAT **2** : SHORT-CIRCUIT

short account *n* **1** : the account of a short seller **2** : the total of open short sales in a given subject of trade or in the market as a whole

short·age \'shȯrt-ij\ *n* : LACK, DEFICIT

short ballot *n* : a ballot limiting the number of elective offices to the most important legislative and executive posts and leaving minor positions to be filled by appointment

short·bread \'shȯrt-ˌbred\ *n* : a thick cookie made of flour, sugar, and a large amount of shortening

short·cake \-ˌkāk\ *n* **1** : a crisp and often unsweetened biscuit or cookie **2 a** : a dessert made typically of very short baking-powder-biscuit dough spread with sweetened fruit **b** : a dish consisting of a rich biscuit split and covered with a meat mixture

short·change \-'chānj\ *vt* **1** : to give less than the correct amount of change to **2** : to deprive of something due : CHEAT — **short-chang·er** *n*

short–cir·cuit *vt* **1** : to apply a short circuit to or establish a short circuit in **2** : BYPASS **3** : FRUSTRATE, IMPEDE

short circuit *n* : a connection of comparatively low resistance accidentally or intentionally made between points on a circuit between which the resistance is normally much greater

short·com·ing \'shȯrt-ˌkəm-iŋ, (')shȯrt-'\ *n* : DEFICIENCY, DEFECT

short covering *n* : buying in property (as securities) to close out a short sale

short·cut \'shȯrt-ˌkət, -'kət\ *n* **1** : a route more direct than the one ordinarily taken **2** : a method of doing something more directly and quickly than by ordinary procedure

short–day \'shȯrt-ˌdā\ *adj* : responding to or relating to a short photoperiod — used of a plant; compare DAY-NEUTRAL, LONG-DAY

short division *n* : mathematical division in which the successive steps are performed without writing out the remainders

short·en \'shȯrt-ᵊn\ *vb* **short·ened; short·en·ing** \'shȯrt-niŋ, -ᵊn-iŋ\ *vt* **1 a** : to reduce the length or duration of **b** : to cause to seem short **2 a** : to reduce in power or efficiency ⟨is my hand ~*ed*, that it cannot redeem —Isa 50:2 (RSV)⟩ **b** *obs* : to deprive of effect **3** : to add fat to (pastry dough) in order to make tender and flaky ~ *vi* : to become short or shorter — **short·en·er** \-nər, -ᵊn-ər\ *n*

syn SHORTEN, CURTAIL, ABBREVIATE, ABRIDGE, RETRENCH *shared meaning element* : to reduce in extent. SHORTEN implies reduction in length or duration, real or apparent ⟨*shorten* a rope⟩ ⟨their pleasant chat *shortened* the time of waiting⟩ CURTAIL adds an implication of cutting that in some way deprives of completeness or adequacy ⟨*curtail* expenditures⟩ ⟨laws that *curtail* our freedom⟩ ABBREVIATE implies a shortening usually by cutting off or omitting some normally present part; thus, one *abbreviates* a word or phrase by cutting out or cutting off letters so that what remains stands for the whole ⟨a . . . man of great . . . energy, though of *abbreviated* intelligence —W. L. Shirer⟩ ABRIDGE may imply reduction in compass or scope ⟨the danger of *abridging* the liberties of the people —Abraham Lincoln⟩ or a shortening that retains all essential elements ⟨*abridge* a course of study for an accelerated program⟩ RETRENCH stresses reduction in scope of something (as expenses) felt to be excessive ⟨a long speech . . . I could be glad you would *retrench* it —Thomas Gray⟩ ***ant*** lengthen, elongate, extend

short·en·ing \'shȯrt-niŋ, -ᵊn-iŋ\ *n* **1** : the action or process of making or becoming short; *specif* : the dropping of the latter part of a word so as to produce a new and shorter word of the same meaning **2** : an edible fat used to shorten baked goods

short·fall \'shȯrt-ˌfȯl\ *n* : a failure to come up to a goal or need; *also* : the amount of such failure : DEFICIENCY

short·hand \-ˌhand\ *n* **1** : a method of writing rapidly by substituting characters, abbreviations, or symbols for letters, words, or phrases : STENOGRAPHY **2** : a system or instance of rapid or abbreviated communication — **shorthand** *adj*

short·hand·ed \-'han-dəd\ *adj* : short of the regular or necessary number of people

short·horn \-ˌhȯ(ə)rn\ *n, often cap* : any of a breed of red, roan, or white beef cattle originating in the north of England and including good milk-producing strains — called also *Durham*

short–horned grasshopper \ˌshȯrt-ˌhȯrn(d)-\ *n* : any of a family (Acrididae) of grasshoppers with short antennae

short hundredweight *n* : HUNDREDWEIGHT 1a

short·leaf pine \ˌshȯrt-ˌlēf-\ *n* : a pine (*Pinus echinata*) of the southern U.S. that has short flexible leaves and cinnamon-colored bark; *also* : its yellow wood

short line *n* : a transportation system (as a railroad) operating over a relatively short distance

short–lived \'shȯrt-'līvd, -ˌlivd\ *adj* : not living or lasting long ***syn*** see TRANSIENT ***ant*** agelong

short loin *n* : a portion of the hindquarter of beef immediately behind the ribs that is usu. cut into steaks

short·ly \'shȯrt-lē\ *adv* **1 a** : in a few words : BRIEFLY **b** : in an abrupt manner **2 a** : in a short time ⟨we will be there ~⟩ **b** : at a short interval ⟨~ after sunset⟩ ***syn*** see PRESENTLY

short·ness \-nəs\ *n* : the quality or state of being short

short–nosed cattle louse \ˌshȯrt-ˌnōz(d)-\ *n* : a large bluish broad-bodied and short-headed sucking louse (*Haematopinus eurysternus*) that attacks domestic cattle

short order *n* : an order for food that can be quickly cooked

short–range \'shȯrt-'rānj\ *adj* **1** : involving or taking into account a short period of time ⟨~ plans⟩ **2** : relating to or fit for short distances

short ribs *n pl* : a cut of beef consisting of rib ends between the rib roast and the plate — see BEEF illustration

short run *n* : a relatively brief period of time — often used in the phrase *in the short run*

short shrift *n* **1** : a brief respite for confession before execution **2** : summary treatment

short sight *n* : MYOPIA

short·sight·ed \'shȯrt-'sīt-əd\ *adj* **1** : NEARSIGHTED **2** : lacking foresight — **short·sight·ed·ly** *adv* — **short·sight·ed·ness** *n*

short–spo·ken \-'spō-kən\ *adj* : CURT

short·stop \-ˌstäp\ *n* **1** : the player position in baseball for defending the infield area on the third-base side of second base **2** : the player stationed in the shortstop position

short–stop \-ˌstäp\ *n* : STOP BATH

short story *n* : a brief invented prose narrative usu. dealing with a few characters and aiming at unity of effect and often concentrating on the creation of mood rather than plot

short subject *n* : a brief often documentary or educational film

short–tem·pered \'shȯrt-'tem-pərd\ *adj* : having a quick temper

short–term \-'tərm\ *adj* **1** : occurring over or involving a relatively short period of time **2 a** : of, relating to, or constituting a financial operation or obligation based on a brief term and esp. one of less than a year **b** : generated by assets held for less than six months

short ton *n* — see WEIGHT table

short·wave \'shȯrt-'wāv\ *n, often attrib* **1** : a radio wave having a wavelength between 10 and 100 meters **2** : a radio transmitter using shortwaves **3** : electromagnetic radiation having a wavelength equal to or less than that of visible light

short–wind·ed \-'win-dəd\ *adj* **1** : affected with or characterized by shortness of breath **2 a** : BRIEF **b** : broken up into short units

shorty *or* **short·ie** \'shȯrt-ē\ *n, pl* **short·ies** *often attrib* : one that is short

Sho·sho·ne *or* **Sho·sho·ni** \shə-'shō-nē\ *n, pl* **Shoshones** *or* **Shoshoni** *also* **Shoshone** *or* **Shoshonis** **1** : a group of Amerindian peoples orig. ranging through California, Colorado, Idaho, Nevada, Utah, and Wyoming **2** : a member of any of the Shoshone peoples

Sho·sho·ne·an \-nē-ən\ *n* : a language family of the Uto-Aztecan phylum comprising the languages of most of the Uto-Aztecan peoples in the U.S.

¹shot \'shät\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *scot;* akin to ON *skot* shot, OHG *scuz*, OE *scēotan* to shoot — more at SHOOT] **1 a** : an action of shooting **b** : a directed propelling of a missile; *specif* : a directed discharge of a firearm **c** : a stroke or throw in a game (as tennis, pool, or basketball); *also* : HOME RUN **d** : BLAST **e** : a medical or narcotics injection **2 a** *pl* **shot** : something propelled by shooting; *esp* : small lead or steel pellets esp. forming a charge for a shotgun **b** : a metal sphere of iron or brass that is put for distance in a field event **3 a** : the distance that a missile is or can be thrown **b** : RANGE, REACH **4** : a charge to be paid : SCOT **5** : one that shoots; *esp* : MARKSMAN **6 a** : ATTEMPT, TRY **b** : GUESS, CONJECTURE **c** : CHANCE **7** : an effective remark **8 a** : a single photographic exposure; *esp* : SNAPSHOT **b** : a single sequence of a motion picture or a television program shot by one camera without interruption **9** : a charge of explosives **10 a** : a single drink of liquor **b** : a small amount applied at one time : DOSE — **like a shot** : very rapidly — **shot in the arm** : STIMULUS, BOOST — **shot in the dark** **1** : a wild guess **2** : an attempt that has little chance of success

²shot *adj* **1 a** *of a fabric* : having contrasting and changeable color effects : IRIDESCENT **b** : suffused or streaked with a color ⟨hair ~ with gray⟩ **c** : infused or permeated with a quality or element ⟨~ through with wit⟩ **2** : having the form of pellets resembling shot **3** : reduced to a state of ruin, prostration, or uselessness ⟨his nerves are ~⟩

¹shot·gun \'shät-'gən\ *n* **1** : an often double-barreled smoothbore shoulder weapon for firing shot at short ranges **2** : an offensive football formation in which the quarterback plays a few yards behind the line of scrimmage and the other backs are scattered as flankers or slotbacks

²shotgun *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or using a shotgun **2** : involving coercion **3** : covering a wide field with hit-or-miss effectiveness

shotgun marriage *n* : a marriage forced or required because of pregnancy — called also *shotgun wedding*

shot hole *n* **1** : a drilled hole in which a charge of dynamite is exploded **2** : the dropping out of small rounded fragments of leaves that produces a shot-riddled appearance and is caused esp. by parasitic action

shot put *n* : a field event consisting in putting the shot for distance — **shot–put·ter** \'shät-ˌpůt-ər\ *n*

shot·ten \'shät-ᵊn\ *adj* [ME *shotyn*, fr. pp. of *shuten* to shoot] : having ejected the spawn and so of inferior food value ⟨~ herring⟩

should \shəd, (')shůd\ [ME *sholde*, fr. OE *sceolde* owed, was obliged to; akin to OHG *scolta* owed, was obliged to] *past of* SHALL **1** — used in auxiliary function to express condition ⟨if he ~ leave his father, his father would die —Gen 44:22 (RSV)⟩ **2** — used in auxiliary function to express obligation, propriety, or expediency ⟨'tis commanded I ~ do so —Shak.⟩ ⟨this is as it ~ be —H. L. Savage⟩ ⟨you ~ brush your teeth after each meal⟩ **3** — used in auxiliary function to express futurity from a point of view in the past ⟨realized that she ~ have to do most of her farm work before sunrise —Ellen Glasgow⟩ **4** — used in auxiliary function to express what is probable or expected ⟨with an early start, they ~ be here by noon⟩ **5** — used in auxiliary function to express a request in a polite manner or to soften direct statement ⟨I ~ suggest that a guide . . . is the first essential —L. D. Reddick⟩

[1]shoul·der \'shōl-dər\ *n* [ME *sholder*, fr. OE *sculdor*; akin to OHG *scultra* shoulder, OE *sciell* shell — more at SHELL] **1 a** : the laterally projecting part of the human body formed of the bones and joints by which the arm is connected with the trunk and the muscles covering them **b** : the region of the body of a lower vertebrate that corresponds to the shoulder but is less projecting **2 a** : the two shoulders and the upper part of the back — usu. used in pl. **b** *pl* : capacity for bearing a task or blame ⟨placed the guilt squarely on his ~*s*⟩ **3** : a cut of meat including the upper joint of the foreleg and adjacent parts — see LAMB illustration **4** : the part of a garment at the wearer's shoulder **5** : an area adjacent to or along the edge of a higher, more prominent, or more important part: as **a** (1) : the part of a hill or mountain near the top (2) : a lateral protrusion or extension of a hill or mountain **b** : the flat top of the body of a piece of printing type from which the bevel rises to join the face — see TYPE illustration **c** : either edge of a roadway; *specif* : the part of a roadway outside of the traveled way **6** : a rounded or sloping part (as of a stringed instrument or a bottle) where the neck joins the body — **shoul·dered** \-dərd\ *adj*

[2]shoulder *vb* **shoul·dered; shoul·der·ing** \-d(ə-)riŋ\ *vt* **1** : to push or thrust with the shoulder : JOSTLE ⟨~*ed* his way through the crowd⟩ **2 a** : to place or bear on the shoulder ⟨~*ed* his knapsack⟩ **b** : to assume the burden or responsibility of ⟨~ the blame⟩ ~ *vi* : to push with the shoulders aggressively

shoulder bag *n* : a woman's handbag looped over the shoulder by a strap

shoulder belt *n* : an anchored belt worn across the upper torso and over the shoulders to hold a person steady in a seat esp. in case of an automobile collision — called also *shoulder harness*

shoulder blade *n* : SCAPULA

shoulder board *n* : one of a pair of broad pieces of stiffened cloth worn on the shoulders of a military uniform and carrying insignia

shoulder girdle *n* : PECTORAL GIRDLE

shoulder knot *n* **1** : an ornamental knot of ribbon or lace worn on the shoulder in the 17th and 18th centuries **2** : a detachable ornament of braided wire cord worn on the shoulders of a uniform of ceremony by a commissioned officer

shoulder mark *n* : SHOULDER BOARD

shoulder patch *n* : a cloth patch bearing an identifying mark and worn on one sleeve of a uniform below the shoulder

shoulder strap *n* : a strap that passes across the shoulder and holds up an article or garment

should·est \'shud-əst\ *archaic past 2d sing of* SHALL

shouldn't \'shud-ᵊnt\ : should not

shouldst \shədst, (')shudst, shətst, (')shutst\ *archaic past 2d sing of* SHALL

[1]shout \'shaut\ *vb* [ME *shouten*] *vi* : to utter a sudden loud cry ~ *vt* : to utter in a loud voice — **shout·er** *n*

[2]shout *n* : a loud cry or call

shouting distance *n* : a short distance : easy reach — usu. used with *within* ⟨lived within *shouting distance* of his cousins⟩

shout song *n* : a rhythmic religious song used esp. by Negroes and characterized by responsive singing or shouting between leader and congregation

[1]shove \'shəv\ *vb* **shoved; shov·ing** [ME *shoven*, fr. OE *scūfan* to thrust away; akin to OHG *scioban* to push, OSlav *skubati* to tear] *vt* **1** : to push along **2** : to push or put in a rough, careless, or hasty manner : THRUST **3** : to force by other than physical means : COMPEL ⟨~ a bill through the legislature⟩ ~ *vi* **1** : to move by forcing a way ⟨bargain hunters *shoving* up to the counter⟩ **2 a** : to move something by exerting force **b** : LEAVE ⟨put on his hat and *shoved* off for home⟩ ***syn*** see PUSH — **shov·er** *n*

[2]shove *n* : an act or instance of shoving : a forcible push

[1]shov·el \'shəv-əl\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *scofl*; akin to OHG *scūfla* shovel, OE *scūfan* to thrust away] **1 a** : a hand implement consisting of a broad scoop or a more or less hollowed out blade with a handle used to lift and throw material **b** : something that resembles a shovel **2** : SHOVELFUL

[2]shovel *vb* **-eled** *or* **-elled; -el·ing** *or* **-el·ling** \-(ə-)liŋ\ *vt* **1** : to take up and throw with a shovel **2** : to dig or clean out with a shovel **3** : to throw or convey roughly or in the mass as if with a shovel ⟨~*ed* his food into his mouth⟩ ~ *vi* : to use a shovel

shov·el·er *or* **shov·el·ler** \'shəv-(ə-)lər\ *n* **1** : one that shovels **2** : any of several river ducks (genus *Anas*) having a large and very broad bill

shov·el·ful \'shəv-əl-ˌfu̇l\ *n, pl* **shovelfuls** \-ˌfu̇lz\ *also* **shov·els·ful** \-əlz-ˌfu̇l\ : as much as a shovel will hold

shovel hat *n* : a shallow-crowned hat with a wide brim curved up at the sides that is worn by some clergymen

shov·el·head \'shəv-əl-ˌhed\ *n* : any of several fishes with heads resembling a shovel; *esp* : a shark (*Sphyrna tiburo*) that is smaller than the related hammerhead and has a narrower head

shov·el·man \-ˌman, -mən\ *n* : one who works with a shovel or a power shovel

shov·el·nose \-ˌnōz\ *n* : a shovel-nosed animal and esp. a fish

shov·el–nosed \ˌshəv-əl-'nōzd\ *adj* : having a broad flat head, nose, or beak

[1]show \'shō\ *vb* **showed** \'shōd\; **shown** \'shōn\ *or* **showed; show·ing** [ME *shewen, showen*, fr. OE *scēawian* to look, look at, see; akin to OHG *scouwōn* to look, look at, L *cavēre* to be on one's guard] *vt* **1** : to cause or permit to be seen : EXHIBIT ⟨~*ed* every mark of extreme agitation⟩ **2** : to set out for sale : OFFER ⟨stores were ~*ing* new spring suits⟩ **3** : to present as a public spectacle : PERFORM **4** : to display for the notice of others **5** : to reveal by one's condition, nature, or behavior **6** : to give indication of by record **7 a** : to point out to someone ⟨~*ed* him the house⟩ **b** : CONDUCT, USHER ⟨~*ed* me to an aisle seat⟩ **8** : ACCORD, BESTOW **9 a** : to set forth : DECLARE **b** : ALLEGE, PLEAD — used esp. in law ⟨~ cause⟩ **10 a** : to demonstrate or establish by argument or reasoning ⟨~ a plan to be faulty⟩ **10 b** : INFORM, INSTRUCT ⟨~*ed* me how to solve the problem⟩ **11** : to present (an animal) for judging in a show ~ *vi* **1 a** : to be or come in view ⟨anger ~*ed* in his face⟩ **b** : to put in an appearance ⟨failed to ~⟩ **2 a** : to appear in a particular way ⟨his nature ~*ed* strong in adversity⟩ **b** : SEEM, APPEAR **3 a** : to give a theatrical performance **b** : to be staged or presented **4** : to finish third or at least third in a horse race

syn SHOW, MANIFEST, EVIDENCE, EVINCE, DEMONSTRATE *shared meaning element* : to reveal outwardly or make apparent

— **show one's hand** **1** : to display one's cards faceup **2** : to declare one's intentions or reveal one's resources — **show one the door** : to tell someone to get out

[2]show *n* **1** : a demonstrative display ⟨a ~ of strength⟩ **2 a** *archaic* : outward appearance **b** : a false semblance : PRETENSE ⟨he made a ~ of friendship⟩ **c** : a more or less true appearance of something : SIGN **d** : an impressive display **e** : OSTENTATION **3** : CHANCE ⟨gave him a ~ in spite of his background⟩ **4** : something exhibited esp. for wonder or ridicule : SPECTACLE **5 a** : a large display or exhibition arranged to arouse interest or stimulate sales ⟨the national auto ~⟩ **b** : a competitive exhibition of animals (as dogs) to demonstrate quality in breeding **6 a** : a theatrical presentation **b** : a radio or television program **c** : ENTERTAINMENT 3a **7** : ENTERPRISE, AFFAIR ⟨he ran the whole ~⟩ **8** : an indication of metal in a mine or of gas or oil in a well **9** : third place at the finish of a horse race

show bill *n* : an advertising poster

show biz \-ˌbiz\ *n* [by shortening & alter.] : SHOW BUSINESS

show·boat \'shō-ˌbōt\ *n* : a river steamship containing a theater and carrying a troupe of actors to give plays at river communities

showbread *var of* SHEWBREAD

show business *n* : the arts, occupations, and businesses (as theater, motion pictures, and television) that comprise the entertainment industry

[1]show·case \'shō-ˌkas\ *n* **1** : a glazed case, box, or cabinet for displaying and protecting wares in a store or articles in a museum **2 a** : a setting or framework for exhibiting something esp. at its best **b** : a medium or vehicle for exhibiting a tentative offering or tryout of something

[2]showcase *vt* **show·cased; show·cas·ing** : EXHIBIT

show·down \'shō-ˌdaun\ *n* **1** : the placing of poker hands faceup on the table to determine the winner of a pot **2** : the final settlement of a contested issue or the test of strength which settles it

[1]show·er \'shau̇(-ə)r\ *n* [ME *shour*, fr. OE *scūr*; akin to OHG *scūr* shower, L *caurus* northwest wind] **1 a** : a fall of rain of short duration **b** : a similar fall of sleet, hail, or snow **2** : something resembling a rain shower **3** : a party given by friends who bring gifts often of a particular kind **4** : a bath in which water is showered on the body; *also* : the apparatus that provides a shower — **show·ery** \-ē\ *adj* — **to the showers** : out of the ball game

[2]shower *vi* **1** : to rain or fall in or as if in a shower ⟨letters ~*ed* on him in praise and protest⟩ **2** : to bathe in a shower bath ~ *vt* **1 a** : to wet (as with water) in a spray, fine stream, or drops **b** (1) : to cause to fall in a shower ⟨factory chimneys ~*ed* soot on the district⟩ (2) : to cause a shower to fall on ⟨~*ed* the newlyweds with rice⟩ **2** : to give in abundance ⟨~*ed* him with honors⟩

[3]show·er \'shō(-ə)r\ *n* : one that shows : EXHIBITOR

shower bath *n* : SHOWER 4

show·ing \'shō-iŋ\ *n* **1** : an act of putting something on view : DISPLAY **2** : PERFORMANCE, RECORD ⟨made a good ~ in competition⟩ **3 a** : a statement or presentation of a case **b** : APPEARANCE, EVIDENCE

show·man \'shō-mən\ *n* **1** : the producer of a play or other theatrical show **2** : a person having a sense or knack for dramatically effective presentation — **show·man·ship** \-ˌship\ *n*

show–me \'shō-mē\ *adj* : insistent on proof or evidence

show–off \'shō-ˌȯf\ *n* **1** : the act of showing off **2** : one that shows off : EXHIBITIONIST

show off \(')shō-'ȯf\ *vt* : to display proudly ⟨wanted to *show* his new car *off*⟩ ~ *vi* : to seek to attract attention by conspicuous behavior ⟨boys *showing off* for the girls⟩

show·piece \'shō-ˌpēs\ *n* : a prime or outstanding example used for exhibition

show·place \-ˌplās\ *n* : a place (as an estate or building) that is regarded as an example of beauty or excellence

show·room \-ˌrüm, -ˌru̇m\ *n* : a room where merchandise is exposed for sale or where samples are displayed

show·stop·per \-ˌstäp-ər\ *n* : an act, song, or performer that wins applause so prolonged as to interrupt a performance

show up *vt* : to reveal the true nature of : EXPOSE ⟨*showed up* her ignorance⟩ ~ *vi* **1** : ARRIVE ⟨*showed up* late for his own wedding⟩ **2** : to be plainly evident

show window *n* **1** : an outside display window in which a store exhibits merchandise **2** : a sample or setting used to exhibit or illustrate something at its best

showy \'shō-ē\ *adj* **show·i·er; -est** **1** : making an attractive show : STRIKING **2** : given to or marked by a flashy often meretricious display : GAUDY — **show·i·ly** \'shō-ə-lē\ *adv* — **show·i·ness** \'shō-ē-nəs\ *n*

syn SHOWY, PRETENTIOUS, OSTENTATIOUS *shared meaning element* : given to or marked by excessive outward display

SHP *abbr* shaft horsepower

shpt *abbr* shipment

shrank *past of* SHRINK

shrap·nel \'shrap-nᵊl, *esp South* 'srap-\ *n, pl* **shrapnel** [Henry *Shrapnel* †1842 E artillery officer] **1** : a projectile that consists of a case provided with a powder charge and a large number of usu. lead balls and that is exploded in flight **2** : bomb, mine, or shell fragments

[1]shred \'shred, *esp South* 'sred\ *n* [ME *shrede*, fr. OE *scrēade*; akin to OHG *scrōt* piece cut off, L *scrupus* sharp stone, OE *scieran* to cut — more at SHEAR] : a long narrow strip cut or torn off; *also* : PARTICLE, SCRAP

[2]shred *vb* **shred·ded; shred·ding** *vt* **1** *archaic* : to cut off **2** : to cut or tear into shreds ~ *vi* : to come apart in or break up into shreds — **shred·der** *n*

shredded wheat *n* : a breakfast cereal made from cooked partially dried wheat that is shredded and molded into biscuits which are then oven-baked and toasted

[1]shrew \'shrü, *esp South* 'srü\ *n* [ME *shrewe* evil or scolding person, fr. OE *scrēawa* shrew-mouse] **1** : any of numerous small chiefly nocturnal mammals (family Soricidae) related to the moles and distinguished by a long pointed snout, very small eyes, and velvety fur **2** : an ill-tempered scolding woman



shrew 1

[2]shrew *vt, obs* : CURSE

shrewd \'shrüd, *esp South* 'srüd\ *adj* [ME *shrewe* + *-ed*] **1** *archaic* : MISCHIEVOUS **2** *obs* : SHREWISH, ABUSIVE **3** *obs* : OMINOUS, DANGEROUS **4 a** : SEVERE, HARD ⟨a ~ knock⟩ **b** : SHARP, PIERCING ⟨a ~ wind⟩ **5 a** : marked by clever discerning awareness and hard-headed acumen ⟨~ common sense⟩ **b** : given to wily and artful ways or dealing ⟨a ~ operator⟩ — **shrewd·ly** *adv* — **shrewd·ness** *n*

syn SHREWD, SAGACIOUS, PERSPICACIOUS, ASTUTE *shared meaning element* : acute in perception and sound in judgment

shrew·ish \'shrü-ish, *esp South* 'srü-\ *adj* : ill-tempered : INTRACTABLE — **shrew·ish·ly** *adv* — **shrew·ish·ness** *n*

shrew·mouse \-ˌmaůs\ *n* : SHREW 1

shri \'s(h)rē\ *var of* SRI

[1]shriek \'shrēk, *esp South* 'srēk\ *vb* [prob. irreg. fr. ME *shriken* to shriek; akin to ME *scremen* to scream] *vi* **1** : to utter a sharp shrill sound **2 a** : to cry out in a high-pitched voice : SCREECH **b** : to suggest such a cry (as by vividness of expression) ~ *vt* **1** : to utter with a shriek or sharply and shrilly ⟨~ an alarm⟩ **2** : to express in a manner suggestive of a shriek

[2]shriek *n* **1** : a shrill usu. wild or involuntary cry **2** : a sound resembling a shriek ⟨the ~ of chalk on the blackboard⟩

shrie·val \'shrē-vəl, *esp South* 'srē-\ *adj* [obs. *shrieve* sheriff, fr. ME *shirreve* — more at SHERIFF] : of or relating to a sheriff

shrie·val·ty \-vəl-tē\ *n, chiefly Brit* **1** : the office of a sheriff **2** : the term of office of a sheriff **3** : the jurisdiction of a sheriff

shrieve \'shrēv, *esp South* 'srēv\ *archaic var of* SHRIVE

shrift \'shrift, *esp South* 'srift\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *scrift*, fr. *scrīfan* to shrive — more at SHRIVE] **1** *archaic* **a** : the act of shriving : CONFESSION **b** : a remission of sins pronounced by a priest in the sacrament of penance **2** *obs* : CONFESSIONAL

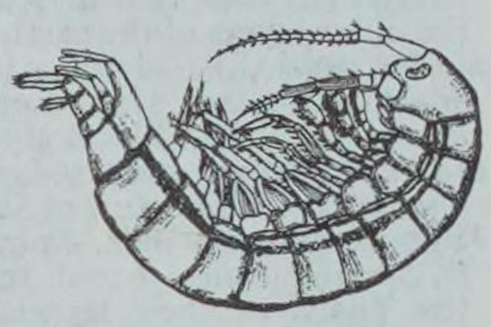
shrike \'shrīk, *esp South* 'srīk\ *n* [perh. fr. (assumed) ME *shrik*, fr. OE *scrīc* thrush; akin to ME *shriken* to shriek] : any of numerous usu. largely gray or brownish oscine birds (family Laniidae) that have a strong notched bill hooked at the tip, feed chiefly on insects, and often impale their prey on thorns

[1]shrill \'shril, *esp South* 'sril\ *vb* [ME *shrillen*] *vi* : to utter or emit an acute piercing sound ⟨alarm clocks ~ at five a.m. —Lucy Cook⟩ ~ *vt* : SCREAM

[2]shrill *adj* **1 a** : having or emitting a sharp high-pitched tone or sound : PIERCING **b** : accompanied by sharp high-pitched sounds or cries ⟨~ gaiety⟩ **2** : having a sharp or vivid effect on the senses ⟨~ light⟩ **3** : STRIDENT, INTEMPERATE ⟨~ anger⟩ — **shrill** *adv* — **shrill·ness** *n* — **shril·ly** \'s(h)ril-lē\ *adv*

[3]shrill *n* : a shrill sound ⟨the ~ of the ship's whistle⟩

[1]shrimp \'shrimp, *esp South* 'srimp\ *n, pl* **shrimps** *also* **shrimp** [ME *shrimpe*; akin to ON *skorpna* to shrivel up, L *curvus* curved — more at CROWN] **1** : any of numerous mostly small and marine decapod crustaceans (suborder Natantia) having a slender elongated body, compressed abdomen, long legs, and a long, spiny rostrum; *also* : a small crustacean (as an amphipod or a branchiopod) resembling the true shrimps **2** : a very small or puny person or thing — **shrimpy** \'s(h)rim-pē\ *adj*



shrimp 1

[2]shrimp *vi* : to fish for or catch shrimps

shrimp pink *n* co : a variable color averaging a deep pink

[1]shrine \'shrīn, *esp South* 'srīn\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *scrīn*, fr. L *scrinium* case, chest] **1 a** : a case, box, or receptacle; *esp* : one in which sacred relics (as the bones of a saint) are deposited **b** : a place in which devotion is paid to a saint or deity : SANCTUARY **c** : a niche containing a religious image **2** : a receptacle (as a tomb) for the dead **3** : a place or object hallowed by its associations

[2]shrine *vt* : ENSHRINE

Shrin·er \'shrī-nər, *esp South* 'srī-\ *n* [Ancient Arabic Order of Nobles of the Mystic *Shrine*] : a member of a secret fraternal society that is non-Masonic but admits only Knights Templars and 32d-degree Masons to membership

[1]shrink \'shriŋk, *esp South* 'sriŋk\ *vb* **shrank** \'s(h)raŋk\ *also* **shrunk** \'s(h)rəŋk\; **shrunk** *or* **shrunk·en** \'s(h)rəŋ-kən\ [ME *shrinken*, fr. OE *scrincan*; akin to MD *schrinken* to draw back, L *curvus* curved — more at CROWN] *vi* **1** : to contract or curl up the body or part of it : HUDDLE, COWER **2 a** : to contract to a less extent or compass **b** : to become smaller or more compacted **c** : to lose substance or weight **d** : to lessen in value : DWINDLE **3** : to recoil instinctively (as from something painful or horrible) ~ *vt* : to cause to contract or shrink; *specif* : to compact (cloth) by causing to contract when subjected to washing, boiling, steaming, or other processes ***syn*** see CONTRACT, RECOIL ***ant*** swell, stretch — **shrink·able** \'s(h)riŋ-kə-bəl\ *adj* — **shrink·er** *n*

[2]shrink *n* **1** : the act of shrinking **2** : SHRINKAGE **3** : HEADSHRINKER 2 ⟨regaling us with all the stories he never told his ~ — *Rolling Stone*⟩

shrink·age \'shriŋ-kij, *esp South* 'sriŋ-\ *n* **1** : the act or process of shrinking **2** : the loss in weight of livestock during shipment and in the process of preparing the meat for consumption **3** : the amount lost by shrinkage

shrinking violet *n* : a bashful or retiring person

shrink-wrap \'shriŋk-ˌrap, *esp South* 'sriŋk-\ *vt* : to wrap (as a book or meat) in tough clear plastic film that is then shrunk (as by heating) to form a tightly fitting package

shrive \'shrīv, *esp South* 'srīv\ *vb* **shrived** *or* **shrove** \'s(h)rōv\; **shriv·en** \'s(h)riv-ən\ *or* **shrived; shriv·ing** [ME *shriven*, fr. OE *scrīfan* to shrive, prescribe; akin to OHG *scrīban* to write; both fr. a prehistoric WGmc word borrowed fr. L *scribere* to write — more at SCRIBE] *vt* **1** : to administer the sacrament of penance to **2** : to free from guilt ~ *vi, archaic* : to confess one's sins esp. to a priest

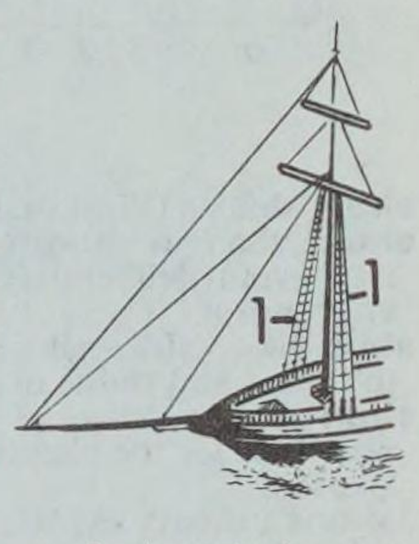
shriv·el \'shriv-əl, *esp South* 'sriv-\ *vb* **-eled** *or* **-elled; -el·ing** *or* **-elling** \-(ə-)liŋ\ [origin unknown] *vi* **1** : to draw into wrinkles esp. with a loss of moisture **2** : to become reduced to inanition, helplessness, or inefficiency ~ *vt* : to cause to shrivel

[1]shroff \'shräf, 'shrȯf, *esp South* 'sräf, 'srȯf\ *n* [Hindi *ṣarrāf*, fr. Ar] : a banker or money changer in the Far East; *esp* : one who tests and evaluates coin

[2]shroff *vt* : to sort (coins) into good and bad pieces

Shrop·shire \'shräp-ˌshi(ə)r, -shər, *esp US* -ˌshī(ə)r, *esp South* 'sräp-\ *n* [*Shropshire*, England] : any of an English breed of dark-faced hornless sheep that are raised primarily for mutton and secondarily for their fine dense wool

[1]shroud \'shraůd, *esp South* 'sraůd\ *n* [ME, garment, fr. OE *scrūd*; akin to OE *screade* shred — more at SHRED] **1** : burial garment : WINDING-SHEET, CEREMENT **2** *obs* : SHELTER, PROTECTION **3** : something that covers, screens, or guards: as **a** : one of two flanges that give peripheral support to turbine or fan bedding **b** : a usu. fiberglass guard that protects a spacecraft from the heat of launching **4 a** : one of the ropes leading usu. in pairs from a ship's mastheads to give lateral support to the masts **b** : one of the cords that suspend the harness of a parachute from the canopy



1, shrouds 4a

[2]shroud *vt* **1 a** *archaic* : to cover for protection **b** *obs* : CONCEAL **2 a** : to cut off from view : OBSCURE ⟨trees ~*ed* by a heavy fog⟩ **b** : to veil under another appearance (as by obscuring or disguising) ⟨~*ed* the decision in a series of formalities⟩ **3** : to dress for burial ~ *vi, archaic* : to seek shelter

shroud-laid \-ˌlād\ *adj, of a rope* : composed of four strands and laid right-handed with a core

Shrove·tide \'shrōv-ˌtīd, *esp South* 'srōv-\ *n* [ME *schroftide*, fr. *schrof-* (fr. *shriven* to shrive) + *tide*] : the period usu. of three days immediately preceding Ash Wednesday

Shrove Tuesday *n* [ME *schroftewesday*, fr. *schrof-* (as in *schroftide*) + *tewesday* Tuesday] : the Tuesday before Ash Wednesday

[1]shrub \'shrəb, *esp South* 'srəb\ *n* [ME *schrobbe*, fr. OE *scrybb* brushwood; akin to Norw *skrubbebær* a cornel of a dwarf species] : a low usu. several-stemmed woody plant

[2]shrub *n* [Ar *sharāb* beverage] **1** : a beverage that consists of an alcoholic liquor, fruit juice, fruit rind, and sugar **2** : a beverage made by adding acidulated fruit juice to iced water

shrub·bery \'shrəb-(ə-)rē, *esp South* 'srəb-\ *n, pl* **-ber·ies** : a planting or growth of shrubs

shrub·by \'shrəb-ē, *esp South* 'srəb-\ *adj* **shrub·bi·er; -est** **1** : consisting of or covered with shrubs **2** : resembling a shrub

[1]shrug \'shrəg, *esp South* 'srəg\ *vb* **shrugged; shrug·ging** [ME *schruggen*] *vi* : to raise or draw in the shoulders esp. to express aloofness, indifference, or aversion ~ *vt* : to lift or contract (the shoulders) esp. to express aloofness, indifference, or dislike

[2]shrug *n* **1** : an act of shrugging **2** : a woman's small waist-length or shorter jacket

shrug off *vt* **1** : to brush aside : MINIMIZE ⟨*shrugs off* the problem⟩ **2** : to shake off ⟨*shrugging off* sleep⟩ **3** : to remove (a garment) by wriggling out

sht *abbr* sheet

shtetl *also* **shte·tel** \'shtet-ᵊl, 'shtāt-\ *n, pl* **shtet·lach** \'shtet-ˌläk, 'shtāt-\ [Yiddish, fr. MHG *stetel*, dim. of *stat* place, town, city, fr. OHG, place — more at STEAD] : a small Jewish town or village formerly found in Eastern Europe

shtg *abbr* shortage

shtick \'shtik\ *n* [Yiddish *shtik*, lit., piece, fr. MHG *stücke*, fr. OHG *stucki*] : an entertainment routine : BIT

[1]shuck \'shək\ *n* [origin unknown] **1** : SHELL, HUSK: as **a** : the outer covering of a nut or of Indian corn **b** : the shell of an oyster or clam **2** : something of little value — usu. used in pl. often interjectionally ⟨not worth ~*s*⟩ ⟨~*s*, it was nothing⟩

[2]shuck *vt* **1** : to strip of shucks **2 a** : to peel off (as clothing) — often used with *off* **b** : to lay aside — usu. used with *off* ⟨bad habits are being ~*ed* off —A. W. Smith⟩ — **shuck·er** *n*

[1]shud·der \'shəd-ər\ *vi* **shud·dered; shud·der·ing** \-(ə-)riŋ\ [ME *shoddren*; akin to OHG *skutten* to shake, Lith *kutėti* to shake up] **1** : to tremble convulsively : SHIVER **2** : QUIVER

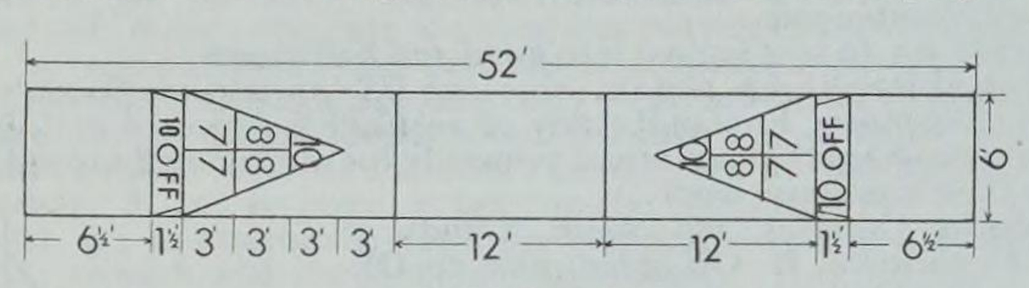
[2]shudder *n* : an act of shuddering — **shud·dery** \-(ə-)rē\ *adj*

[1]shuf·fle \'shəf-əl\ *vb* **shuf·fled; shuf·fling** \-(ə-)liŋ\ [perh. irreg. fr. [1]*shove*] *vt* **1** : to mix in a mass confusedly : JUMBLE **2** : to put or thrust aside or under cover ⟨*shuffled* the whole matter out of his mind⟩ **3 a** : to rearrange (as playing cards, dominoes, or tiles) to produce a random order **b** : to move about, back and forth, or from one place to another : SHIFT ⟨~ funds among various accounts⟩ **4 a** : to move (as the feet) by sliding along or back and forth without lifting **b** : to perform (as a dance) with a dragging,

sliding step ~ *vi* **1** : to work into or out of trickily : WORM ⟨*shuffled* out of the difficulty somehow⟩ **2** : to act or speak in a shifty or evasive manner **3 a** : to move or walk in a sliding dragging manner without lifting the feet **b** : to dance in a lazy nonchalant manner with sliding and tapping motions of the feet **c** : to execute in a perfunctory or clumsy manner **4** : to mix playing cards or counters by shuffling — **shuf·fler** \-(ə-)lər\ *n*

²shuffle *n* **1** : an evasion of the issue : EQUIVOCATION **2 a** : an act of shuffling (as of cards) **b** : a right or turn to shuffle ⟨was reminded that it was his ~⟩ **c** : JUMBLE ⟨lost in the ~ of papers⟩ **3 a** : a dragging sliding movement; *specif* : a sliding or scraping step in dancing **b** : a dance characterized by such a step

shuf·fle·board \'shəf-əl-ˌbō(ə)rd, -ˌbȯ(ə)rd\ *n* [alter. of obs. E *shove-board*] **1** : a game in which players use long-handled cues to shove wooden disks into scoring areas of a diagram marked on a smooth surface **2** : a diagram on which shuffleboard is played



shuffleboard 2

shul \'shu̇l\ *n* [Yiddish, fr. MHG *schuol*, lit., school] : SYNAGOGUE

shun \'shən\ *vt* **shunned; shun·ning** [ME *shunnen*, fr. OE *scunian*] : to avoid deliberately and esp. habitually ***syn*** see ESCAPE — **shun·ner** *n*

shun·pike \'shən-ˌpīk\ *n* : a side road used to avoid the toll on or the speed and traffic of a superhighway

shun·pik·ing \'shən-ˌpī-kiŋ\ *n* : the practice of avoiding superhighways esp. for the pleasure of driving on back roads — **shun·pik·er** \-kər\ *n*

¹shunt \'shənt\ *vb* [ME *shunten* to flinch] *vt* **1** : to turn off to one side : SHIFT; *esp* : to switch (as a train) from one track to another **2** : to provide with or divert by means of an electrical shunt **3** : to divert (blood) from one part to another by a surgical shunt ~ *vi* **1** : to move to the side **2** : to travel back and forth ⟨~*ed* between the two towns⟩ — **shunt·er** *n*

²shunt *n* **1** : a means or mechanism for turning or thrusting aside: as **a** *chiefly Brit* : a railroad switch **b** : a conductor joining two points in an electrical circuit so as to form a parallel or alternative path through which a portion of the current may pass (as for regulating the amount passing in the main circuit) **c** : a surgical passage created between two blood vessels to divert blood from one part to another **2** : an accident (as a collision between two cars) in auto racing

shunt winding *n* : a winding so arranged as to divide the armature current and lead a portion of it around the field-magnet coils — **shunt-wound** \'shənt-ˈwau̇nd\ *adj*

shush \'shəsh\ *n* [imit.] : a sibilant sound uttered to demand silence — **shush** *vt*

¹shut \'shət\ *vb* **shut; shut·ting** [ME *shutten*, fr. OE *scyttan*; akin to OE *scēotan* to shoot — more at SHOOT] *vt* **1 a** : to move into position to close an opening ⟨~ the lid⟩ **b** : to prevent entrance to or passage to or from **2** : to confine by or as if by enclosure ⟨~ him in the closet⟩ **3** : to fasten with a lock or bolt **4** : to close by bringing enclosing or covering parts together ⟨~ the eyes⟩ **5** : to cause to cease or suspend operation — often used with *down* ~ *vi* **1** : to close itself or become closed ⟨flowers that ~ at night⟩ **2** : to cease or suspend an operation — often used with *down* ⟨should an uneconomical plant ~ down —P. F. Drucker⟩

²shut *n* **1** : the act of shutting **2** : the line of union at a welded joint

shut·down \'shət-ˌdau̇n\ *n* : the cessation or suspension of an activity (as work in a mine or factory)

shut down \'shət-ˈdau̇n, ˌshət-\ *vi* : to settle so as to obscure vision : close in ⟨the night *shut down* early⟩

shute *var of* CHUTE

shut-eye \'shət-ˌī\ *n* : SLEEP

¹shut-in \ˌshət-ˌin\ *adj* **1** : confined to one's home or an institution by illness or incapacity **2 a** : SECRETIVE, BROODING ⟨a bitter, ~ face —Claudia Cassidy⟩ **b** : tending to avoid social contact : WITHDRAWN ⟨the ~ personality type —S. K. Weinberg⟩

²shut-in \'shət-ˌin\ *n* **1** : an invalid confined to his home, room, or bed **2** : a narrow gorge-shaped part of an otherwise wide valley

shut in \ˌshət-ˈin\ *vt* : CONFINE, ENCLOSE

shut·off \'shət-ˌȯf\ *n* **1** : something (as a valve) that shuts off **2** : STOPPAGE, INTERRUPTION

shut off \ˌshət-ˈȯf\ *vt* **1 a** : to cut off (as flow or passage) : STOP ⟨*shuts off* the oxygen supply⟩ **b** : to stop the operation of (as a machine) ⟨*shut* the motor *off*⟩ **2** : to close off : SEPARATE — usu. used with *from* ⟨*shut off* from the rest of the world⟩ ~ *vi* : to cease operating : STOP ⟨*shuts off* automatically⟩

shut·out \'shət-ˌau̇t\ *n* **1** : a game or contest in which one side fails to score **2** : a preemptive bid in bridge

shut out \ˌshət-ˈau̇t\ *vt* **1** : EXCLUDE **2** : to prevent (an opponent) from scoring in a game or contest **3** : to forestall the bidding of (bridge opponents) by making a high or preemptive bid

¹shut·ter \'shət-ər\ *n* **1** : one that shuts **2** : a usu. movable cover or screen for a window or door **3** : a mechanical device that limits the passage of light; *esp* : a camera attachment that exposes the film or plate by opening and closing an aperture **4** : the movable louvers in a pipe organ by which the swell box is opened — **shut·ter·less** \-ləs\ *adj*

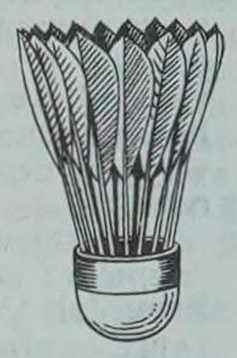
²shutter *vt* **1** : to close with or by shutters **2** : to furnish with shutters

shut·ter·bug \'shət-ər-ˌbəg\ *n* : a photography enthusiast

¹shut·tle \'shət-ᵊl\ *n* [ME *shittle*, prob. fr. OE *scytel* bar, bolt; akin to ON *skutill* bolt, OE *scēotan* to shoot — more at SHOOT] **1 a** : a device used in weaving for passing the thread of the woof between the threads of the warp **b** : a spindle-shaped device holding the thread in tatting, knotting, or netting **c** : a sliding thread holder for the lower thread of a sewing machine that carries the lower thread through a loop of the upper thread to make a stitch **2** : SHUTTLECOCK **3 a** : a going back and forth regularly over a specified and often short route by a vehicle (as an airplane) **b** : an established route used in a shuttle; *also* : a vehicle used in a shuttle

²shuttle *vb* **shut·tled; shut·tling** \'shət-liŋ, -ᵊl-iŋ\ *vt* **1** : to cause to move or travel back and forth frequently **2** : to transport in, by, or as if by a shuttle ~ *vi* **1** : to move or travel back and forth frequently **2** : to move by or as if by a shuttle

¹shut·tle·cock \'shət-ᵊl-ˌkäk\ *n* : a lightweight conical-shaped object with a rounded often rubber-covered nose that is used in badminton and that consists of a feathered cork or of molded plastic



shuttlecock

²shuttlecock *vt* : to send or toss to and fro : BANDY

shut up *vt* : to cause (a person) to stop talking ~ *vi* : to cease writing or speaking

¹shy \'shī\ *adj* **shi·er** *or* **shy·er** \'shī(-ə)r\; **shi·est** *or* **shy·est** \'shī-əst\ [ME *schey*, fr. OE *scēoh*; akin to OHG *sciuhen* to frighten off, OSlav *šču̇ti* to chase] **1** : easily frightened : TIMID **2** : disposed to avoid a person or thing : DISTRUSTFUL **3** : hesitant in committing oneself : CIRCUMSPECT **4** : sensitively diffident or retiring : RESERVED ⟨a ~ seclusive person⟩; *also* : expressive of such a state or nature ⟨spoke in a ~ voice⟩ **5** : SECLUDED, HIDDEN **6** : having less than the full or specified amount or number : SHORT ⟨looks about 10 years ~ of his 62 —E. P. Snow⟩ **7** : DISREPUTABLE ⟨gambling hells and ~ saloons — *Blackwood's*⟩ — **shy·ly** *adv* — **shy·ness** *n*

syn SHY, BASHFUL, DIFFIDENT, MODEST, COY *shared meaning element* : disinclined to obtrude oneself ***ant*** obtrusive

²shy *vi* **shied; shy·ing** **1** : to develop or show a dislike or distaste : RECOIL **2** : to start suddenly aside through fright or alarm

³shy *n, pl* **shies** : a sudden start aside (as from fright)

⁴shy *vb* **shied; shy·ing** [perh. fr. ¹*shy*] *vt* : to throw (an object) with a jerk : FLING ~ *vi* : to make a sudden throw

⁵shy *n, pl* **shies** **1** : the act of shying : TOSS, THROW **2** : a verbal fling ⟨took a few *shies* at the integrity of his opponent⟩ **3** : COCKSHY

¹shy·lock \'shī-ˌläk\ *n* **1** *cap* : the Jewish usurer and antagonist of Antonio in Shakespeare's *The Merchant of Venice* **2** : an extortionate creditor : LOAN SHARK

²shylock *vi* : to lend money at high rates of interest ⟨exposé of systematic thievery . . . ~*ing*, and murder —*Current Biog.*⟩

shy·ster \'shī-stər\ *n* [prob. fr. *Scheuster fl*1840 Am attorney frequently rebuked in a New York court for pettifoggery] : one who is professionally unscrupulous esp. in the practice of law or politics : PETTIFOGGER

si \'sē\ *n* [It] : the 7th tone of the diatonic scale in solmization : TI

Si *symbol* silicon

SI *abbr* [F *Système International d'Unités*] International System of Units

si·al·a·gogue \sī-'al-ə-ˌgäg\ *n* [NL *sialagogus* promoting the expulsion of saliva, fr. *sial-* saliva (fr. Gk *sialon*) + *-agogus* -agogue] : an agent that promotes the flow of saliva

si·al·ic \sī-'al-ik\ *adj* [ISV *Si* + *Al*] : of, relating to, or being relatively light rock that is rich in silica and alumina and is typical of the outer layers of the earth

si·al·ic acid \(ˌ)sī-ˌal-ik-\ *n* [*sial-* + *-ic*] : any of a group of reducing amido acids that are essentially carbohydrates and are found esp. as components of blood glycoproteins and mucoproteins

si·a·mang \'sē-ə-ˌmaŋ, sē-'am-əŋ\ *n* [Malay] : a black gibbon (*Symphalangus syndactylus*) of Sumatra that is the largest of the gibbons

¹Si·a·mese \ˌsī-ə-'mēz, -'mēs\ *adj* [*Siam* (Thailand); in senses 2 & 3, fr. *Siamese twin*] **1** : of, relating to, or characteristic of Thailand, the Thais, or their language **2** : exhibiting great resemblance : very like **3** *not cap* : connecting two or more pipes or hose so as to permit discharge in a single stream

²Siamese *n, pl* **Siamese** **1** : THAI 1 **2** : THAI 2 **3** : SIAMESE CAT

Siamese cat *n* : a slender blue-eyed short-haired domestic cat of a breed of oriental origin with pale fawn or gray body and darker ears, paws, tail, and face

Siamese fighting fish *n* : a brightly colored highly aggressive betta (*Betta splendens*) that is a popular aquarium fish

Siamese twin *n* [fr. Chang †1874 and Eng †1874 congenitally united twins born in Siam] : one of a pair of congenitally united twins in man or lower animals

¹sib \'sib\ *adj* [ME, fr. OE *sibb*, fr. *sibb* kinship; akin to OHG *sippa* kinship, family, L *suus* one's own — more at SUICIDE] : related by blood : AKIN

²sib *n* **1 a** : KINDRED, RELATIVES **b** : a blood relation : KINSMAN **2** : a brother or sister considered irrespective of sex; *broadly* : any plant or animal of a group sharing a degree of genetic relationship corresponding to that of human sibs **3** : a group of persons unilaterally descended from a real or supposed ancestor

Si·be·ri·an husky \sī-ˌbir-ē-ən-\ *n* : a medium-sized compact dog of a breed that was developed in northeastern Siberia for use as a sled dog and that resembles the larger Alaskan malamute

¹sib·i·lant \'sib-ə-lənt\ *adj* [L *sibilant-*, *sibilans*, prp. of *sibilare* to hiss, whistle, of imit. origin] : having, containing, or producing the sound of or a sound resembling that of the *s* or the *sh* in *sash* ⟨a ~ affricate⟩ ⟨a ~ snake⟩ — **sib·i·lant·ly** *adv*

²sibilant *n* : a sibilant speech sound (as English \s\, \z\, \sh\, \zh\, \ch(=tsh)\, or \j(=dzh)\)

sib·i·late \'sib-ə-ˌlāt\ *vb* **-lat·ed; -lat·ing** [L *sibilatus*, pp. of *sibilare*] *vi* **1** : HISS **2** : to utter an initial sibilant : prefix an \s\-sound ~ *vt* **1** : HISS **2** : to pronounce with an initial sibilant : prefix an \s\-sound to — **sib·i·la·tion** \ˌsib-ə-'lā-shən\ *n*

sib·ling \'sib-liŋ\ *n* : SIB 2; *also* : one of two or more individuals having one common parent

sibling species *n* : one of two or more species that are nearly indistinguishable morphologically

sib·yl \'sib-əl\ *n, often cap* [ME *sibile, sybylle,* fr. MF & L; MF *sibile,* fr. L *sibylla,* fr. Gk] **1** : any of several prophetesses usu. accepted as 10 in number and credited to widely separate parts of the ancient world (as Babylonia, Egypt, Greece, and Italy) **2 a** : a female prophet **b** : FORTUNE-TELLER — **si·byl·ic** *or* **si·byl·lic** \sə-'bil-ik\ *adj* — **sib·yl·line** \'sib-ə-ˌlīn, -ˌlēn\ *adj*

[1]sic \(')sik\ *chiefly Scot var of* SUCH

[2]sic *or* **sick** \'sik\ *vt* **sicced** *or* **sicked** \'sikt\; **sic·cing** *or* **sick·ing** [alter. of *seek*] **1** : CHASE, ATTACK — usu. used as an imperative esp. to a dog ⟨~ 'em⟩ **2** : to incite or urge to an attack, pursuit, or harassment : SET

[3]sic \'sik, 'sēk\ *adv* [L, so, thus — more at SO] : intentionally so written — used after a printed word or passage to indicate that it is intended exactly as printed or to indicate that it exactly reproduces an original ⟨said he seed [~] it all⟩

sic·ca·tive \'sik-ət-iv\ *n* [LL *siccativus* making dry, fr. L *siccatus,* pp. of *siccare* to dry, fr. *siccus* dry — more at SACK] : DRIER 2

sick \'sik\ *adj* [ME *sek, sik,* fr. OE *sēoc;* akin to OHG *sioh* sick, MIr *socht* depression] **1 a** (1) : affected with disease or ill health : AILING (2) : of, relating to, or intended for use in sickness ⟨~ pay⟩ ⟨a ~ ward⟩ **b** : QUEASY, NAUSEATED ⟨~ to one's stomach⟩ ⟨was ~ in the car⟩ **c** : undergoing menstruation **2** : spiritually or morally unsound or corrupt **3 a** : sickened by strong emotion (as shame or fear) ⟨~ with fear⟩ ⟨worried ~⟩ **b** : having a strong distaste from surfeit : SATIATED ⟨~ of flattery⟩ **c** : filled with disgust or chagrin ⟨gossip that makes one ~⟩ **d** : depressed and longing for something ⟨~ for one's home⟩ **4 a** : mentally or emotionally unsound or disordered : MORBID ⟨~ thoughts⟩ **b** : MACABRE, SADISTIC ⟨~ jokes⟩ **5** : lacking vigor : SICKLY: as **a** : badly outclassed ⟨looked ~ in the contest⟩ **b** : declining or inactive after a period of speculative activity ⟨grain futures were ~⟩ **c** : incapable of yielding a profitable crop esp. because of buildup of disease organisms ⟨clover-*sick* soils⟩

sick and tired *adj* : thoroughly fatigued or bored

sick bay *n* : a compartment in a ship used as a dispensary and hospital; *broadly* : a place for the care of the sick or injured

sick·bed \'sik-ˌbed\ *n* : the bed upon which one lies sick

sick call *n* **1** : a usu. daily formation at which individuals report as sick to the medical officer **2** : the period during which sick call is held

sick·en \'sik-ən\ *vb* **sick·ened; sick·en·ing** \-(ə-)niŋ\ *vt* **1** : to make sick **2** : to cause revulsion in as a result of weariness or satiety ~ *vi* **1** : to become sick **2** : to become weary or satiated

sick·en·er \'sik(-ə)-nər\ *n* : something that sickens, disgusts, or overwhelms

sick·en·ing \-niŋ\ *adj* : causing sickness : NAUSEATING ⟨a ~ odor⟩ — **sick·en·ing·ly** \-niŋ-lē\ *adv*

sick·er \'sik-ər\ *adj* [ME *siker,* fr. OE *sicor;* akin to OHG *sichor* secure; both fr. a prehistoric WGmc word borrowed fr. L *securus* secure] *chiefly Scot* : SECURE, SAFE; *also* : DEPENDABLE — **sicker** *adv*

sick·er·ly \-lē\ *adv, chiefly Scot* : in a secure manner : SAFELY

sick headache *n* : MIGRAINE

sick·ish \'sik-ish\ *adj* **1** *archaic* : somewhat ill : SICKLY **2** : somewhat nauseated : QUEASY **3** : somewhat sickening ⟨a ~ odor⟩ — **sick·ish·ly** *adv* — **sick·ish·ness** *n*

[1]sick·le \'sik-əl\ *n* [ME *sikel,* fr. OE *sicol;* akin to OHG *sichila* sickle; both fr. a prehistoric WGmc word borrowed fr. L *secula* sickle — more at SAW] **1 a** : an agricultural implement consisting of a curved metal blade with a short handle fitted on a tang **b** : the cutting mechanism (as of a reaper, combine, or mower) consisting of a bar with a series of cutting elements **2** *cap* : a group of six stars in the constellation Leo

[2]sickle *adj* : having the form of a sickle blade : having a curve similar to that of a sickle blade ⟨the ~ moon⟩

[3]sickle *vb* **sick·led; sick·ling** \'sik-(ə-)liŋ\ *vt* **1** : to mow or reap with a sickle **2** : to form (a red blood cell) into a crescent ~ *vi* : to form into a crescent ⟨the ability of red blood cells to ~⟩

sick leave *n* **1** : an absence from work permitted because of illness **2** : the number of days per year for which an employer agrees to pay employees who are sick

sick·le·bill \'sik-əl-ˌbil\ *n* : any of various birds (as a curlew or thrasher) with a strongly curved bill

sickle cell *n* : an abnormal red blood cell of crescent shape

sickle–cell anemia *n* : a chronic inherited anemia in which a large proportion or the majority of the red blood cells tend to sickle, which occurs primarily in individuals of Negro ancestry, and which is held to result from homozygosity for a semidominant gene

sickle–cell trait *n* : an inherited blood condition in which some red blood cells tend to sickle but usu. not enough to produce anemia, which occurs primarily in individuals of Negro ancestry, and which is held to result from heterozygosity for a semidominant gene — called also *sicklemia*

sickle feather *n* : one of the long curved tail feathers of a cock — see COCK illustration

sickl·emia \ˌsik-ə-'lē-mē-ə\ *n* [NL, fr. E *sickle* (cell) + NL *-emia*] : SICKLE-CELL TRAIT

[1]sick·ly \'sik-lē\ *adj* **1** : somewhat unwell; *also* : habitually ailing **2** : produced by or associated with sickness ⟨a ~ complexion⟩ ⟨a ~ appetite⟩ **3** : producing or tending to produce disease : UNWHOLESOME ⟨a ~ climate⟩ **4** : appearing as if sick: **a** : LANGUID, PALE ⟨a ~ flame⟩ **b** : WRETCHED, UNEASY ⟨a ~ smile⟩ **c** : lacking in vigor : WEAK ⟨a ~ plant⟩ ⟨~ beer⟩ **5 a** : tending to produce nausea ⟨a ~ odor⟩ **b** : MAWKISH — **sick·li·ness** *n* — **sick·ly** *or* **sick·li·ly** \'sik-lə-lē\ *adv*

[2]sickly *vt* **sick·lied; sick·ly·ing** : to make sick or sickly

sick·ness \'sik-nəs\ *n* **1 a** : ill health : ILLNESS **b** : a disordered, weakened, or unsound condition (as of society or a particular institution) **2** : a specific disease **3** : NAUSEA, QUEASINESS

sick pay *n* : salary or wages paid to an employee while on sick leave

sick·room \'sik-ˌrüm, -ˌrům\ *n* : a room in which a person is confined by sickness

sic pas·sim \'sik-'pas-əm, 'sēk-'päs-im\ *adv* [L] : so throughout — used of a word or idea to be found throughout a book or a writer's work

sid·dur \'sid-ər, -ˌů(ə)r\ *n, pl* **sid·du·rim** \sə-'důr-əm\ [LHeb *siddūr,* lit., order, arrangement] : a Jewish prayer book containing both Hebrew and Aramaic prayers used in the Ashkenazic daily liturgy

[1]side \'sīd\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *sīde;* akin to OHG *sīta* side, OE *sīd* ample, wide, *sāwan* to sow — more at SOW] **1 a** : the right or left part of the wall or trunk of the body ⟨a pain in the ~⟩ **b** (1) : one of the halves of the animal body on either side of the mesial plane (2) : a cut of meat including that about the ribs of one half of the body — used chiefly of smoked pork products **c** : one longitudinal half of a hide **2** : a place, space, or direction with respect to a center or to a line of division (as of an aisle, river, or street) **3** : a surface forming a border or face of an object **4** : an outer portion of something considered as facing in a particular direction ⟨the upper ~ of a sphere⟩ **5** : a slope or declivity of a hill or ridge **6 a** : a bounding line of a geometrical figure ⟨each ~ of a square⟩ **b** : one of the surfaces that delimit a solid; *esp* : one of the longer surfaces **c** : either surface of a thin object ⟨one ~ of a record⟩ ⟨right ~ of the cloth⟩ **7** : the space beside one ⟨he never left her ~⟩ **8** : the attitude or activity of one person or group with respect to another : PART **9** : a body of partisans or contestants ⟨victory for neither ~⟩ **10** : a line of descent traced through one's parent ⟨grandfather on his mother's ~⟩ **11** : an aspect or part of something viewed as contrasted with some other aspect or part ⟨the better ~ of his nature⟩ **12** : a position viewed as opposite to or contrasted with another ⟨two ~*s* to every question⟩ **13** *Brit* : sideways spin imparted to a billiard ball **14** : a sheet containing the lines and cues for a single theatrical role ***syn*** see PHASE — **on the side** **1** : in addition to the main portion **2** : in addition to a principal occupation

[2]side *adj* **1 a** : of or relating to the side **b** : situated on the side ⟨~ window⟩ **2 a** : directed toward or from the side ⟨~ thrust⟩ ⟨~ wind⟩ **b** : INCIDENTAL, INDIRECT ⟨~ issue⟩ ⟨~ remark⟩ **c** : made on the side ⟨~ payment⟩ **d** : additional to the main portion ⟨~ order of french fries⟩

[3]side *vb* **sid·ed; sid·ing** *vt* **1** : to agree with : SUPPORT **2** : to be side by side with **3** : to set or put aside : clear away ⟨~ dishes⟩ **4** : to furnish with sides or siding ⟨~ a house⟩ ~ *vi* : to take sides : join or form sides ⟨*sided* with the rebels⟩

[4]side *n* [obs. E *side* (proud, boastful)] : swaggering or arrogant manner : PRETENTIOUSNESS

side·arm \'sīd-ˌärm\ *adj* : of, relating to, or constituting a baseball pitching style in which the arm is not raised above the shoulder and the ball is thrown with a sideways sweep of the arm between shoulder and hip ⟨~ delivery⟩ — **sidearm** \'sī-\ *adv*

side arm *n* : a weapon (as a sword, revolver, or bayonet) worn at the side or in the belt

side·band \-ˌband\ *n* : the band of frequencies (as of radio waves) on either side of the carrier frequency produced by modulation

side bearing *n* : the space provided at each side of a typeset letter to prevent its touching adjoining letters

side·board \'sīd-ˌbō(ə)rd, -ˌbȯ(ə)rd\ *n* : a piece of dining-room furniture having compartments and shelves for holding articles of table service

side·burns \-ˌbərnz\ *n pl* [anagram of *burnsides*] **1** : SIDEWHISKERS; *esp* : short side-whiskers worn with a smooth chin **2** : continuations of the hairline in front of the ears — **side·burned** \-ˌbərnd\ *adj*

side by side *adv* **1** : beside one another ⟨walked *side by side* down the aisle⟩ **2** : in the same place, time, or circumstance ⟨lived peacefully *side by side* for many years⟩ — **side-by-side** *adj*

side·car \'sīd-ˌkär\ *n* **1** : a car attached to a motorcycle for a passenger seated abreast of the cyclist **2** : a cocktail consisting of a liqueur with lemon juice and brandy

sid·ed \'sīd-əd\ *adj* : having sides often of a specified number or kind ⟨one-*sided*⟩ ⟨glass-*sided*⟩ — **sid·ed·ness** *n*

side dish *n* : one of the foods subordinate to the main course

side·dress \'sīd-ˌdres\ *n* **1** : plant nutrients used to side-dress a crop **2** : the act or process of side-dressing a crop

side-dress *vt* : to place plant nutrients on or in the soil near the roots of (a growing crop) often by means of a cultivator having a fertilizer-distributing attachment

side-dressing *n* : SIDEDRESS

side drum *n* : SNARE DRUM

side effect *n* : a secondary and usu. adverse effect (as of a drug) ⟨toxic *side effects*⟩ — called also *side reaction*

side-glance \'sīd-ˌglan(t)s\ *n* **1** : a glance directed to the side **2** : a passing allusion : an indirect or slight reference

[1]side·hill \-ˌhil\ *n* : HILLSIDE

[2]sidehill \ˌsīd-\ *adj* : used or located on or designed for a sidehill

side horse **1** : a leather-covered rectangular or cylindrical form that has two pommels on the top, that is supported in a horizontal position by an adjustable frame, and that is used for swinging and balancing feats in gymnastics **2** : an event in gymnastics competition in which the side horse is used

side issue *n* : an issue apart from the main point

side·kick \'sīd-ˌkik\ *n* : a person closely associated with another as subordinate or partner

side·light \-ˌlīt\ *n* **1 a** : light coming or produced from the side **b** : incidental light or information **2** : the red light on the port bow or the green light on the starboard bow carried by ships under way at night

[1]side·line \-ˌlīn\ *n* **1** : a line at right angles to a goal line or end line and marking a side of a court or field of play for athletic games **2 a** : a line of goods sold in addition to one's principal line **b** : a business or activity pursued in addition to one's regular occupation **3 a** : the space immediately outside the lines along either side of an athletic field or court **b** : the standpoint of persons not immediately participating (as in an athletic contest) — usu. used in pl. ⟨his injury put him on the ~*s* for the rest of the season⟩

[2]sideline *vt* : to put out of action : put on the sidelines

side·lin·er \'sīd-ˌlī-nər\ *n* : one that remains on the sidelines during an activity : one that does not participate

[1]side·ling *or* **si·dling** \'sīd-liŋ\ *adv* [ME *sidling*, fr. [1]*side* + *-ling*] : in a sidelong direction : SIDEWAYS

[2]sideling *or* **sidling** *adj* **1** : directed toward one side : OBLIQUE **2** : having an inclination : SLOPING ⟨~ ground⟩

[1]side·long \'sīd-ˌlȯŋ\ *adv* [alter. of [1]*sideling*] **1** : SIDEWAYS, OBLIQUELY **2** : on the side

[2]sidelong \ˌsīd-\ *adj* **1** : lying or inclining to one side : SLANTING **2 a** : directed to one side ⟨~ looks⟩ **b** : indirect rather than straightforward

side·man \'sīd-ˌman\ *n* : a member of a band or orchestra and esp. of a jazz or swing orchestra

side·piece \-ˌpēs\ *n* : a piece forming or contained in the side of something ⟨the ~ of a carriage⟩

sider- *or* **sidero-** *comb form* [MF, fr. L, fr. Gk *sidēr-*, *sidēro-*, fr. *sidēros*] : iron ⟨*sider*olite⟩ ⟨*sider*osis⟩

-sid·er \'sīd-ər\ *comb form* : one placed or living in a usu. specified side (as a section of the city) ⟨an east-*sider*⟩

si·de·re·al \sī-'dir-ē-əl, sə-\ *adj* [L *sidereus*, fr. *sider-*, *sidus* star, constellation; akin to Lith *svidus* shining] : of, relating to, or expressed in relation to stars or constellations : ASTRAL

sidereal day *n* : the interval between two successive transits of the March equinox over the upper meridian of a place : 23 hours, 56 minutes, 4.09 seconds of mean time

sidereal hour *n* : the 24th part of a sidereal day

sidereal minute *n* : the 60th part of a sidereal hour

sidereal month *n* : the mean time of the moon's revolution in its orbit from a star back to the same star : 27 days, 7 hours, 43 minutes, 11.5 seconds of mean time

sidereal second *n* : the 60th part of a sidereal minute

sidereal time *n* **1** : time based on the sidereal day **2** : the hour angle of the March equinox at a place

sidereal year *n* : the time in which the earth completes one revolution in its orbit around the sun measured with respect to the fixed stars : 365 days, 6 hours, 9 minutes, and 9.54 seconds of solar time

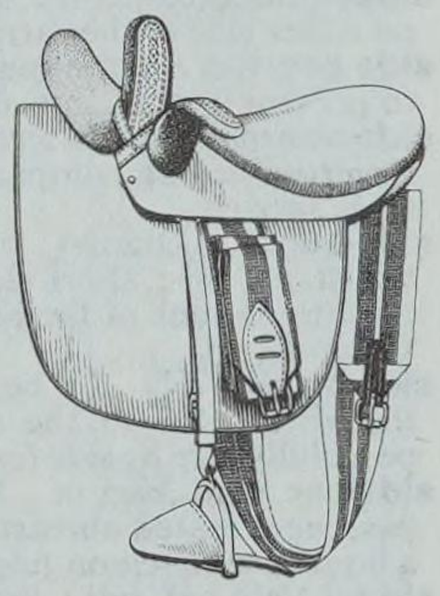
[1]sid·er·ite \'sid-ə-ˌrīt\ *n* [G *siderit*, fr. Gk *sidēros* iron] : a native ferrous carbonate $FeCO_3$ that is a valuable iron ore

[2]siderite *n* : a nickel-iron meteorite

sid·er·it·ic \ˌsid-ə-'rit-ik\ *adj* : of, relating to, or containing siderite

si·de·ro·lite \sī-'dir-ə-ˌlīt, 'sid-ə-rə-\ *n* : a stony iron meteorite

side·sad·dle \'sīd-ˌsad-ᵊl\ *n* : a saddle for women in which the rider sits with both legs on the same side of the horse — **sidesaddle** *adv*



sidesaddle

side·show \-ˌshō\ *n* **1** : a minor show offered in addition to a main exhibition (as of a circus) **2** : an incidental diversion

side·slip \-ˌslip\ *vi* **1** : to skid sideways — used esp. of an automobile **2** : to slide sideways through the air in a downward direction in an airplane along an inclined lateral axis **3** : to slide sideways in a downward direction in skiing

side·spin \-ˌspin\ *n* [[1]*side* + *spin*] : a rotary motion that causes a ball to revolve horizontally

side·split·ting \-ˌsplit-iŋ\ *adj* : extremely funny

side·step \'sīd-ˌstep\ *vi* **1** : to take a side step **2** : to avoid an issue or decision ⟨men who know how to dodge, trim, and ~ —C. M. Fassett⟩ ~ *vt* **1** : to move out of the way of : AVOID ⟨~ a blow⟩ **2** : BYPASS, EVADE ⟨adept at *sidestepping* awkward questions⟩ — **side·step·per** *n*

side step *n* **1** : a step aside (as in boxing to avoid a blow) **2** : a step taken sideways (as when climbing on skis)

side–strad·dle hop \ˌsīd-ˌstrad-ᵊl-\ *n* : JUMPING JACK 2

side·stroke \'sīd-ˌstrōk\ *n* : a swimming stroke which is executed on the side and in which the arms are swept backward and downward and the legs do a scissors kick

[1]side·swipe \-ˌswīp\ *vt* : to strike with a glancing blow along the side ⟨*sideswiped* a parked car⟩

[2]sideswipe *n* **1 a** : the action of sideswiping **b** : an instance of sideswiping : a glancing blow **2** : an incidental deprecatory remark, allusion, or reference

side table *n* : a table designed to be placed against a wall

[1]side·track \'sīd-ˌtrak\ *n* **1** : SIDING 2 **2** : a position or condition of secondary importance to which one may be diverted

[2]sidetrack *vt* **1** : to transfer to a railroad siding **2 a** : to turn aside from a purpose : DEFLECT **b** : to prevent action upon by diversionary tactics ⟨~ an issue⟩

side·walk \'sīd-ˌwȯk\ *n* : a usu. paved walk for pedestrians at the side of a street

sidewalk artist *n* : an artist who makes drawings usu. with chalk directly on the sidewalk to obtain money from passersby

sidewalk superintendent *n* : a spectator at a building or demolition job

side·wall \'sīd-ˌwȯl\ *n* **1** : a wall forming the side of something **2** : the side of an automotive tire between the tread shoulder and the rim bead

side·ward \'sīd-wərd\ *or* **side·wards** \-wərdz\ *adv* : toward a side

side·way \'sīd-ˌwā\ *adv or adj* : SIDEWAYS

side·ways \-ˌwāz\ *adv or adj* **1** : from one side **2** : with one side forward ⟨turn ~⟩ **3** : obliquely or downward to one side; *also* : ASKANCE ⟨look ~ at someone⟩

side–wheel \'sīd-ˌhwēl, 'sīd-ˌwēl\ *adj* : of or constituting a steamer having a paddle wheel on each side

side–wheel·er \-ər\ *n* : a side-wheel steamer

side–whiskers \'sīd-ˌhwis-kərz, 'sīd-ˌwis-\ *n pl* : whiskers on the side of the face usu. worn long — **side–whis·kered** \-kərd\ *adj*

side·wind·er \'sīd-ˌwīn-dər\ *n* **1** : a heavy swinging blow from the side **2** : a small pale-colored desert rattlesnake (*Crotalus cerastes*) of the southwestern U.S. that moves by thrusting its body diagonally forward in a series of flat S-shaped loops

side·wise \'sīd-ˌwīz\ *adv* : SIDEWAYS

sid·ing \'sīd-iŋ\ *n* **1** *archaic* : the taking of sides : PARTISANSHIP **2** : a short railroad track connected with the main track — called also *sidetrack* **3** : material (as boards or metal pieces) forming the exposed surface of outside walls of frame buildings

si·dle \'sīd-ᵊl\ *vb* **si·dled; si·dling** \'sīd-liŋ, -ᵊl-iŋ\ [prob. back-formation fr. [2]*sideling*] *vi* : to go or move with one side foremost esp. in a furtive advance ~ *vt* : to cause to move or turn sideways ⟨the pilot *sidled* the boat up to the dock⟩ — **sidle** *n*

[1]siege \'sēj\ *n* [ME *sege*, fr. OF, seat, blockade, fr. (assumed) VL *sedicum*, fr. *sedicare*, to settle, fr. L *sedēre* to sit — more at SIT] **1** *obs* : a seat of distinction : THRONE **2 a** : a military blockade of a city or fortified place to compel it to surrender **b** : a persistent attack (as of illness) — **lay siege to** **1** : to besiege militarily ⟨*laid siege to* the town⟩ **2** : to pursue diligently or persistently

[2]siege *vt* **sieged; sieg·ing** : BESIEGE

Siege Perilous *n* : a seat at King Arthur's Round Table reserved for the knight destined to achieve the quest of the Holy Grail and fatal to any other occupying it

Sieg·fried \'sig-ˌfrēd, 'sēg-\ *n* [G] : a hero of the *Nibelungenlied* who slays a dragon guarding a gold hoard and wakes Brunhild from her enchanted sleep

Siegfried line *n* [*Siegfried*, Germanic hero] : a line of German defensive fortifications facing the Maginot Line

si·en·na \sē-'en-ə\ *n* [It *terra di Siena*, lit., Siena earth, fr. *Siena*, Italy] : an earthy substance containing oxides of iron and usu. of manganese that is brownish yellow when raw and orange red or reddish brown when burnt and is used as a pigment

si·ero·zem \sē-ˌer-ə-'zhȯm\ *n* [Russ *serozem*, fr. *seryĭ* gray + *zemlya* earth] : any of a zonal group of soils brownish gray at the surface and lighter below, based in a carbonate or hardpan layer, and characteristic of temperate to cool arid regions

si·er·ra \sē-'er-ə\ *n* [Sp, lit., saw, fr. L *serra*] **1 a** : a range of mountains esp. with a serrated or irregular outline **b** : the country about a sierra **2** : any of various large fishes (genus *Scomberomorus*) that resemble mackerel

Sierra — a communication code word for the letter *s*

si·er·ran \sē-'er-ən\ *adj* **1** : of or relating to a sierra ⟨~ foothills⟩ **2** *cap* : of or relating to the Sierra Nevada mountains of the western U.S.

Sierran *n* : a native or inhabitant of the region around the Sierra Nevada mountains

si·es·ta \sē-'es-tə\ *n* [Sp, fr. L *sexta* (*hora*) noon, lit., sixth hour — more at SEXT] : an afternoon nap or rest

sie·va bean \'sē-və-, 'siv-ē-\ *n* [origin unknown] : any of several small-seeded beans closely related to and sometimes classed as lima beans; *also* : the seed of a sieva bean

[1]sieve \'siv\ *n* [ME *sive*, fr. OE *sife*; akin to OHG *sib* sieve, Serb *sípiti* to drizzle] : a device with meshes or perforations through which finer particles of a mixture (as of ashes, flour, or sand) of various sizes are passed to separate them from coarser ones, through which the liquid is drained from liquid-containing material, or through which soft materials are forced for reduction to fine particles

[2]sieve *vb* **sieved; siev·ing** : SIFT

sieve plate *n* : a perforated wall or part of a wall at the end of one of the individual cells making up a sieve tube

sieve tube *n* : a tube consisting of an end-to-end series of thin-walled living cells characteristic of the phloem and held to function chiefly in translocation of organic solutes

sift \'sift\ *vb* [ME *siften*, fr. OE *siftan*; akin to OE *sife* sieve] *vt* **1 a** : to put through a sieve ⟨~ flour⟩ **b** : to separate or separate out by or as if by putting through a sieve **2 a** : to screen out the valuable or good : SELECT **b** : to study or investigate thoroughly : PROBE **3** : to scatter by or as if by sifting ⟨~ sugar on a cake⟩ ~ *vi* **1** : to use a sieve **2** : SCREEN, SELECT — **sift·er** *n*

sift·ing *n* **1** : the act or process of sifting **2** *pl* : sifted material

sig *abbr* **1** signal **2** signature **3** signor

Sig *abbr* [L *signa*] label

SIG *abbr* special interest group

[1]sigh \'sī\ *vb* [ME *sihen*, alter. of *sichen*, fr. OE *sīcan*; akin to MD *versiken* to sigh] *vi* **1** : to take a deep audible breath (as in weariness or grief) **2** : to make a sound like sighing ⟨wind ~*ing* in the branches⟩ **3** : GRIEVE, YEARN ⟨~*ing* for the days of his youth⟩ ~ *vt* **1** : to express by sighs **2** *archaic* : to utter sighs over : MOURN — **sigh·er** \'sī(-ə)r\ *n*

[2]sigh *n* **1** : an act of sighing esp. when involuntary and expressing an emotion or feeling (as weariness or relief) **2** : the sound of gently moving or escaping air ⟨~*s* of the summer breeze⟩

[1]sight \'sīt\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *gesiht* faculty or act of sight, thing seen; akin to OHG *gisiht* sight, OE *sēon* to see] **1** : something that is seen : SPECTACLE **2 a** : a thing regarded as worth seeing — usu. used in pl. ⟨a tour of the ~*s* of the city⟩ **b** : something ludicrous or disorderly in appearance ⟨you must get some sleep, you look a ~⟩ **3** *chiefly dial* : a great number or quantity **4 a** : the process, power, or function of seeing; *specif* : the animal sense of which the end organ is the eye and by which the position, shape, and color of objects are perceived **b** : mental or spiritual perception **c** : mental view; *specif* : JUDGMENT **5 a** : the act of looking at or beholding **b** : INSPECTION, PERUSAL ⟨this letter is for your ~ only⟩ **c** : VIEW, GLIMPSE **d** : an observation to determine direction or position (as by a navigator) **6 a** : a perception of an object by

the eye **b** : the range of vision **7** : presentation of a note or draft to the maker or draftee : DEMAND **8 a** : a device for guiding the eye (as in aiming a firearm or bomb) **b** : a device with a small aperture through which objects are to be seen and by which their direction is ascertained — **out of sight** **1** : beyond comparison **2** : beyond all expectation or reason — **sight for sore eyes** : one whose appearance or arrival is an occasion for joy or relief

²sight *adj* **1** : based on recognition or comprehension without previous study ⟨a ~ translation⟩ **2** : payable on presentation

³sight *vt* **1** : to get or catch sight of ⟨several whales were ~*ed*⟩ **2** : to look at through or as if through a sight; *esp* : to test for straightness **3** : to aim by means of sights **4 a** : to equip with sights **b** : to adjust the sights of ~ *vi* **1** : to take aim **2** : to look carefully in a particular direction

sight draft *n* : a draft payable on presentation

sight·ed \'sīt-əd\ *adj* : having sight ⟨clear-*sighted*⟩

sight gag *n* : a comic bit or episode whose effect is produced by pantomime or camera shot rather than by words

sight·less \'sīt-ləs\ *adj* **1** : lacking sight : BLIND **2** : INVISIBLE — **sight·less·ness** *n*

sight·ly \-lē\ *adj* **1** : pleasing to the sight : ATTRACTIVE **2** : affording a fine view — **sight·li·ness** *n* — **sightly** *adv*

sight–read \-ˌrēd\ *vb* **-read** \-ˌred\; **-read·ing** \-ˌrēd-iŋ\ [back-formation fr. *sight reader*] *vt* : to read (as a foreign language) or perform (music) without previous preparation or study ~ *vi* : to read at sight; *esp* : to perform music at sight — **sight reader** *n*

sight rhyme *n* : EYE RHYME

sight·see \'sīt-ˌsē\ *vi* [back-formation fr. ²*sightseeing*] : to go about seeing sights of interest — **sight·se·er** \-ˌsē-ər, -ˌsi(ə)r\ *n*

¹sight–see·ing \'sīt-ˌsē-iŋ\ *adj* : devoted to or used for seeing sights

²sight–seeing *n* : the act or pastime of seeing sights

sight unseen *adv* : without inspection or appraisal

sig·il \'sij-əl, 'sig-ˌil\ *n* [L *sigillum* — more at SEAL] **1** : SEAL, SIGNET **2** : a sign, word, or device of supposed occult power in astrology or magic

sigill *abbr* [L *sigillum*] seal

sig·ma \'sig-mə\ *n* [Gk] **1** : the 18th letter of the Greek alphabet — see ALPHABET table **2** : an unstable elementary particle of the baryon family existing in positive, negative, and neutral charge states with masses respectively 2328, 2343, and 2333 times the mass of an electron — called also *sigma particle*

sig·moid \'sig-ˌmȯid\ *also* **sig·moi·dal** \sig-'mȯid-ᵊl\ *adj* [Gk *sigmoeidēs*, fr. *sigma;* fr. a common form of sigma shaped like the Roman letter C] **1 a** : curved like the letter C **b** : curved in two directions like the letter S **2** : of, relating to, or being the sigmoid flexure of the intestine — **sig·moi·dal·ly** \sig-'mȯid-ᵊl-ē\ *adv*

sigmoid flexure *n* : the contracted and crooked part of the colon immediately above the rectum — called also *sigmoid colon*

¹sign \'sīn\ *n* [ME *signe*, fr. OF, fr. L *signum* mark, token, sign, image, seal; prob. akin to L *secare* to cut — more at SAW] **1 a** : a motion or gesture by which a thought is expressed or a command or wish made known **b** : SIGNAL 2a **c** : a fundamental linguistic unit that designates an object or relation or has a purely syntactic function **d** : one of a set of gestures used to represent language **2** : a mark having a conventional meaning and used in place of words or to represent a complex notion **3** : one of the 12 divisions of the zodiac **4 a** (1) : a character (as a flat or sharp) used in musical notation (2) : SEGNO **b** : a character (as ÷) indicating a mathematical operation; *also* : one of two characters + and − that form part of the symbol of a number and characterize it as positive or negative **5 a** : a lettered board or other display used to identify or advertise a place of business **b** : a posted command, warning, or direction **c** : SIGNBOARD **6 a** : something material or external that stands for or signifies something spiritual **b** : something that serves to indicate the presence or existence of something : TOKEN ⟨removed their hats as a ~ of respect⟩ **c** : PRESAGE, PORTENT ⟨~*s* of an early spring⟩ **d** : an objective evidence of plant or animal disease **7** : a remarkable event supposed to indicate the will of a deity : PRODIGY

²sign *vb* [ME *signen*, fr. MF *signer*, fr. L *signare* to mark, sign, seal, fr. *signum*] *vt* **1 a** : to place a sign upon **b** : CROSS 2 **c** : to represent or indicate by a sign **2 a** : to affix a signature to : ratify or attest by hand or seal ⟨~ a bill into law⟩ ⟨the prisoner ~*ed* a confession⟩ **b** : to assign or convey formally ⟨~*ed* over his property to his brother⟩ **c** : to write down (one's name) **3** : to communicate by making a sign **4** : to engage or hire by securing the signature of on a contract of employment ~ *vi* **1** : to write one's name in token of assent, responsibility, or obligation **2** : to make a sign or signal — **sign·er** *n*

¹sig·nal \'sig-nᵊl\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. ML *signale*, fr. LL, neut. of *signalis* of a sign, fr. L *signum*] **1** *archaic* : TOKEN, INDICATION **2 a** : an act, event, or watchword that has been agreed upon as the occasion of concerted action ⟨waited for the ~ to begin the attack⟩ **b** : something that incites to action **3 a** : a sound or gesture made to give warning or command ⟨a ~ that warns of an air raid⟩ **b** : an object placed to convey notice or warning **4** : an object (as a flag on a pole) centered over a point so as to be observed from other positions in surveying **5 a** : an object used to transmit or convey information beyond the range of human voice **b** : the sound or image conveyed in telegraphy, telephony, radio, radar, or television **c** : a detectable physical quantity or impulse (as a voltage, current, or magnetic field strength) by which messages or information can be transmitted

²sig·nal *vb* **sig·naled** *or* **sig·nalled; sig·nal·ing** *or* **sig·nal·ling** \-nə-liŋ\ *vt* **1** : to notify by a signal ⟨~*ed* the fleet to turn back⟩ **2 a** : to communicate by signals **b** : to constitute a characteristic feature of (a meaningful linguistic form) ~ *vi* : to make or send a signal — **sig·nal·er** *or* **sig·nal·ler** *n*

³sig·nal *adj* [modif. of F *signalé*, pp. of *signaler* to distinguish, fr. OIt *segnalare* to signal, distinguish, fr. *segnale* signal, fr. ML *signale*] **1** : distinguished from the ordinary ⟨~ achievement⟩ **2** : used in signaling ⟨~ beacon⟩ ***syn*** see NOTICEABLE

sig·nal·ize \'sig-nə-ˌlīz\ *vt* **-ized; -iz·ing** [³*signal*] **1** : to make conspicuous : DISTINGUISH **2** : to point out carefully or distinctly **3** : to make signals to : SIGNAL; *also* : INDICATE **4** : to place traffic signals at or on — **sig·nal·i·za·tion** \ˌsig-nə-lə-'zā-shən\ *n*

sig·nal·ly \'sig-nə-lē\ *adv* : in a signal manner : NOTABLY

sig·nal·man \'sig-nᵊl-mən, -ˌman\ *n* : one who signals or works with signals

sig·nal·ment \-mənt\ *n* [F *signalement*, fr. *signaler*] : description by peculiar, appropriate, or characteristic marks; *specif* : the systematic description of a person for purposes of identification

sig·na·to·ry \'sig-nə-ˌtōr-ē, -ˌtȯr-\ *n, pl* **-ries** [L *signatorius* of sealing, fr. *signatus*, pp.] : a signer with another or others ⟨*signatories* to a petition⟩; *esp* : a government bound with others by a signed convention — **signatory** *adj*

sig·na·ture \'sig-nə-ˌchu̇(ə)r, -chər, -ˌt(y)u̇(ə)r\ *n* [MF or ML; MF, fr. ML *signatura*, fr. L *signatus*, pp. of *signare* to sign, seal] **1 a** : the name of a person written with his own hand **b** : the act of signing one's name **2** : a feature in the appearance or qualities of a natural object formerly held to indicate its utility in medicine **3 a** : a letter or figure placed usu. at the bottom of the first page on each sheet of printed pages (as of a book) as a direction to the binder in arranging and gathering the sheets **b** : the sheet itself which when folded becomes one unit of the book **4 a** : KEY SIGNATURE **b** : TIME SIGNATURE **5** : the part of a medical prescription which contains the directions to the patient **6** : a tune, musical number, or sound effect or in television a characteristic title or picture used to identify a program, entertainer, or orchestra

sign·board \'sīn-ˌbō(ə)rd, -ˌbȯ(ə)rd\ *n* : a board bearing a notice or sign

¹sig·net \'sig-nət\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, dim. of *signe* sign, seal] **1** : a seal used officially to give personal authority to a document in lieu of signature **2** : the impression made by or as if by a signet **3** : a small intaglio seal (as in a finger ring)

²signet *vt* : to stamp or authenticate with a signet

signet ring *n* : a finger ring engraved with a signet, seal, or monogram : SEAL RING

sig·ni·fi·able \'sig-nə-ˌfī-ə-bəl\ *adj* : capable of being represented by a sign or symbol

sig·nif·i·cance \sig-'nif-i-kən(t)s\ *n* **1 a** : something that is conveyed as a meaning often obscurely or indirectly **b** : the quality of conveying or implying **2 a** : the quality of being important : MOMENT **b** : the quality of being statistically significant ***syn*** **1** see MEANING **2** see IMPORTANCE ***ant*** insignificance

significance level *n* : LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE

sig·nif·i·can·cy \sig-'nif-i-kən-sē\ *n* : SIGNIFICANCE

sig·nif·i·cant \-kənt\ *adj* [L *significant-*, *significans*, prp. of *significare* to signify] **1** : having meaning; *esp* : SUGGESTIVE, EXPRESSIVE ⟨the painter's task to pick out the ~ details —Herbert Read⟩ **2** : suggesting or containing a disguised or special meaning ⟨perhaps her glance was ~⟩ **3 a** : having or likely to have influence or effect : IMPORTANT, WEIGHTY **b** : probably caused by something other than mere chance ⟨statistically ~ correlation between vitamin deficiency and disease⟩ — **sig·nif·i·cant·ly** *adv*

significant figures *n pl* : the figures of a number that begin with the first figure to the left that is not zero and end with the last figure to the right that is not zero or is a zero that is considered to be exact — called also *significant digits*

sig·ni·fi·ca·tion \ˌsig-nə-fə-'kā-shən\ *n* **1 a** : the act or process of signifying by signs or other symbolic means **b** : a formal notification **2** : IMPORT; *esp* : the meaning that a term, symbol, or character regularly conveys or is intended to convey **3** *chiefly dial* : IMPORTANCE, CONSEQUENCE ***syn*** see MEANING

sig·nif·i·ca·tive \sig-'nif-ə-ˌkāt-iv\ *adj* **1** : INDICATIVE ⟨symptoms ~ of malaria⟩ **2** : SIGNIFICANT, SUGGESTIVE — **sig·nif·i·ca·tive·ly** *adv* — **sig·nif·i·ca·tive·ness** *n*

sig·nif·ics \sig-'nif-iks\ *n pl but sing or pl in constr* [*signify*] : SEMIOTIC, SEMANTICS

sig·ni·fi·er \'sig-nə-ˌfī(-ə)r\ *n* : one that signifies : SIGN

sig·ni·fy \'sig-nə-ˌfī\ *vb* **-fied; -fy·ing** [ME *signifien*, fr. OF *signifier*, fr. L *significare* to indicate, signify, fr. *signum* sign] *vt* **1 a** : MEAN, DENOTE **b** : IMPLY **2** : to show esp. by a conventional token (as word, signal, or gesture) ~ *vi* : to have significance : MATTER

sign in *vi* : to make a record of arrival by signing a register or punching a time clock ~ *vt* : to record arrival of (a person) or receipt of (an article) by signing

si·gnior \sēn-'yȯ(ə)r, -'yō(ə)r\ *n* [It *signor*] : SIGNOR

sign language *n* **1** : a system of hand gestures used for communication (as by the deaf) **2** : an unsystematic method of communicating chiefly by manual gestures used by people speaking different languages

sign manual *n, pl* **signs manual** [¹*sign* + *manual*, adj.] : SIGNATURE; *specif* : the king's signature on a royal grant or charter placed at the top of the document

sign of aggregation : any of various conventional devices (as braces, brackets, parentheses, or vinculums) used in mathematics to indicate that two or more terms are to be treated as one quantity

sign off \(')sī-'nȯf\ *vi* : to announce the end of a message, program, or broadcast and discontinue transmitting — **sign–off** \'sī-ˌnȯf\ *n*

sign of the cross : a gesture of the hand forming a cross esp. on forehead, shoulders, and breast to profess Christian faith or invoke divine protection or blessing

sign on \(')sī-'nȯn, -'nän\ *vi* **1** : to engage oneself for duty by signature or agreement : ENLIST ⟨*signed on* as a member of the crew⟩ **2** : to announce the start of broadcasting for the day ~ *vt* : to secure the signature of — **sign–on** \'sī-ˌnȯn, -ˌnän\ *n*

si·gnor \sēn-'yȯ(ə)r, -'yō(ə)r\ *n, pl* **signors** *or* **si·gno·ri** \sēn-'yōr-(,)ē, -'yȯr-\ [It *signore, signor,* fr. ML *senior* superior, lord — more at SENOR] : a usu. Italian man of rank or gentility — used as a title equivalent to *Mister*
si·gno·ra \sēn-'yōr-ə, -'yȯr-\ *n, pl* **signoras** *or* **si·gno·re** \-'yōr-(,)ā, -'yȯr-\ [It, fem. of *signore, signor*] : an Italian married woman usu. of rank or gentility — used as a title equivalent to *Mrs.*
si·gno·re \sēn-'yōr-(,)ā, -'yȯr-\ *n, pl* **si·gno·ri** \-'yōr-(,)ē, -'yȯr-\ [It] : SIGNOR
si·gno·ri·na \,sē-nyə-'rē-nə\ *n, pl* **-nas** *or* **-ne** \-(,)nā\ [It, fr. dim. of *signora*] : an unmarried Italian woman — used as a title equivalent to *Miss*
si·gno·ri·no \-(,)nō\ *n, pl* **-ni** \-(,)nē\ [It, fr. dim. of *signore*] : a young Italian esp. of rank — used as a title equivalent to *Master*
si·gnory *or* **si·gniory** \'sē-nyə-rē\ *n, pl* **si·gnor·ies** *or* **si·gnior·ies** [ME *signorie,* fr. MF *seigneurie*] : SEIGNIORY
sign out *vi* : to indicate departure by signing a register ⟨*signed out* of the hospital⟩ ~ *vt* : to record or approve the release or departure of ⟨*sign* books *out* of a library⟩
¹sign·post \'sīn-,pōst\ *n* : a post bearing a sign; *specif* : a post (as at the fork of a road) with signs on it to direct travelers
²signpost *vt* : to provide with signposts or guides
sign up *vi* : to join an organization or accept an obligation by signing a contract ⟨*sign up* for a set of reference volumes⟩ ~ *vt* : to induce to sign a contract ⟨*sign* a customer *up*⟩
Sig·urd \'sig-ù(ə)rd, 'sig-ərd\ *n* [ON *Sigurthr*] : a hero in Norse mythology who slays the dragon Fafnir
sike \'sīk\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *sīc;* akin to ON *sīk* sike, OE *sicerian* to trickle] **1** *dial chiefly Brit* : a small stream; *esp* : one that dries up in summer **2** *dial chiefly Brit* : DITCH
¹Sikh \'sēk\ *n* [Hindi, lit., disciple] : an adherent of a monotheistic religion of India founded about 1500 by a Hindu under Islamic influence and marked by rejection of idolatry and caste — **Sikh·ism** \-,iz-əm\ *n*
²Sikh *adj* : of or relating to Sikhs or Sikhism
si·lage \'sī-lij\ *n* [short for *ensilage*] : fodder converted into succulent feed for livestock through processes of anaerobic acid fermentation (as in a silo)
si·lane \'sil-,ān, 'sī-,lān\ *n* [ISV *sil*icon + meth*ane*] : any of various silicon hydrides that have the general formula Si_nH_{2n+2} and are analogous to hydrocarbons of the methane series
sild \'sil(d)\ *n, pl* **sild** *or* **silds** [Norw] : a young herring other than a brisling that is canned as a sardine in Norway
¹si·lence \'sī-lən(t)s\ *n* [ME, fr. OF, fr. L *silentium,* fr. *silent-, silens*] **1** : forbearance from speech or noise : MUTENESS — often used interjectionally **2** : absence of sound or noise : STILLNESS **3** : absence of mention: **a** : OBLIVION, OBSCURITY **b** : SECRECY
²silence *vt* **si·lenced; si·lenc·ing** **1** : to compel or reduce to silence : STILL **2** : to restrain from expression : SUPPRESS **3** : to cause to cease hostile firing by return fire or bombing
si·lenc·er \'sī-lən-sər\ *n* : one that silences: as **a** *chiefly Brit* : the muffler of an internal-combustion engine **b** : a silencing device for small arms
si·lent \'sī-lənt\ *adj* [L *silent-, silens,* fr. prp. of *silēre* to be silent; akin to Goth ana*silan* to subside, L *sinere* to let go, lay — more at SITE] **1 a** : making no utterance : MUTE, SPEECHLESS **b** : indisposed to speak : not loquacious **2** : free from sound or noise : STILL **3** : performed or borne without utterance : UNSPOKEN ⟨~ prayer⟩ ⟨~ grief⟩ **4 a** : making no mention ⟨history is ~ about this man⟩ **b** : not widely or generally known or appreciated ⟨the ~ pressures on a man in public office⟩ **c** : taking no active part in the conduct of a business **5** : UNPRONOUNCED ⟨~ *b* in *doubt*⟩ **6** : not exhibiting the usual signs or symptoms of presence ⟨a ~ infection⟩ **7** : lacking spoken dialogue ⟨a ~ motion picture⟩ — **si·lent·ly** *adv* — **si·lent·ness** *n*

syn SILENT, TACITURN, RETICENT, RESERVED, SECRETIVE *shared meaning element* : showing restraint in speaking. SILENT implies a habit of saying no more than is needed ⟨a stern, *silent* man, long a widower —Willa Cather⟩ TACITURN implies a temperamental disinclination to speech and usually connotes unsociability ⟨the farmer was *taciturn* and drove them speechlessly to the house —Pearl Buck⟩ RETICENT implies a reluctance to speak out or at length, especially about one's own affairs ⟨had been . . . *reticent* regarding the details of his own financial affairs —J. P. Marquand⟩ RESERVED implies reticence and suggests the restraining influence of caution or formality in checking easy informal conversational exchange ⟨a certain vulgar gusto . . . divided him from the *reserved,* watchful rest of the family —D. H. Lawrence⟩ SECRETIVE, too, implies reticence but usually carries a disparaging suggestion of deviousness and lack of frankness or of an often ostentatious will to conceal ⟨the king was a *secretive* child, and showed little of his mind —Edith Sitwell⟩ ***ant*** talkative

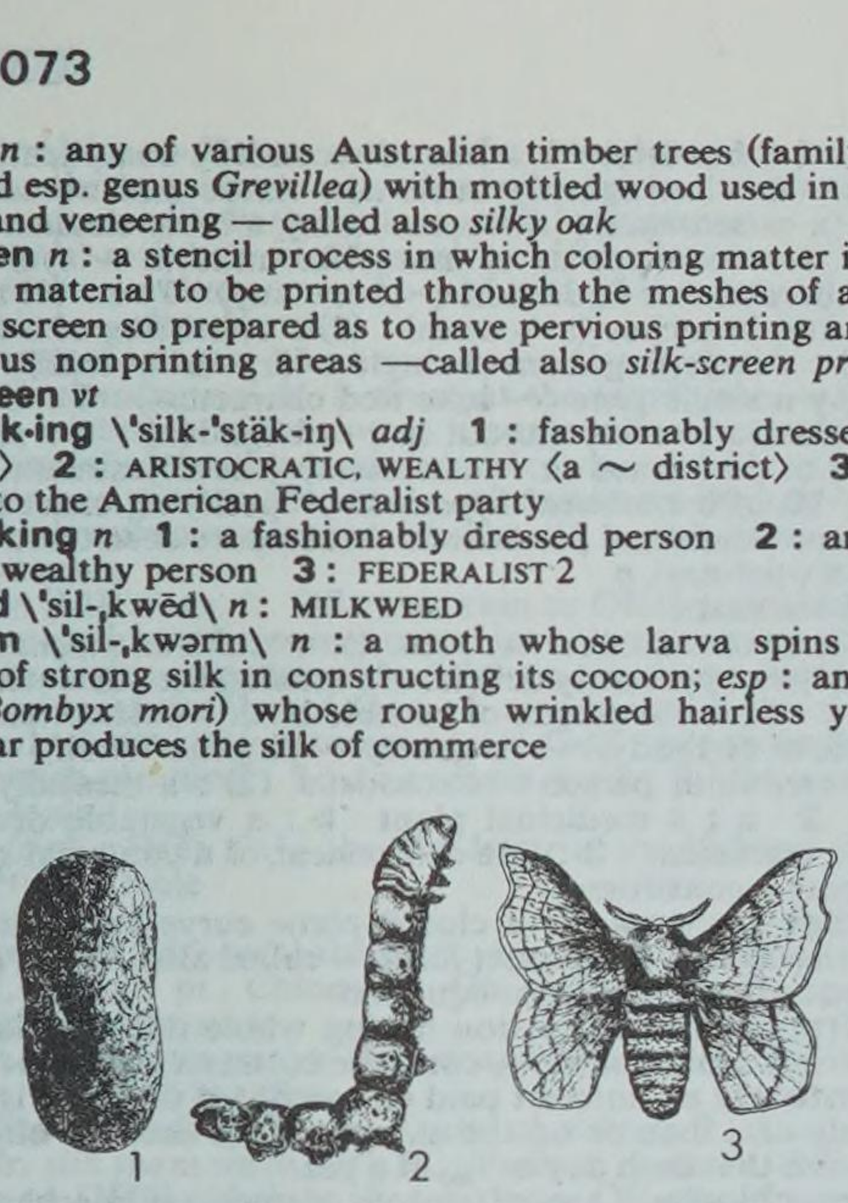
silent butler *n* : a receptacle with hinged lid for collecting table crumbs and the contents of ashtrays
silent partner *n* **1** : a partner who is known to the public but has no voice in the conduct of a firm's business **2** : SECRET PARTNER
si·lents \'sī-lən(t)s\ *n pl* : motion pictures without spoken dialogue
silent service *n* **1** : NAVY — used with *the* **2** : the submarine service — used with *the*
silent treatment *n* : an act of completely ignoring a person or thing by resort to silence esp. as a means of expressing contempt or disapproval
si·le·nus \sī-'lē-nəs\ *n, pl* **-ni** \-,nī\ [L, fr. Gk *silēnos,* fr. *Silēnos* foster father of Dionysus] : a minor woodland deity and companion of Dionysus in ancient Greek mythology with a horse's ears and tail
si·le·sia \sī-'lē-zh(ē-)ə, sə-, -sh(ē-)ə\ *n* [*Silesia,* former Prussian province] **1** *archaic* : a linen cloth of Silesian origin **2** : a soft sturdy lightweight cotton twill
si·lex \'sī-,leks\ *n* [L *silic-, silex* flint, quartz — more at SHELL] : silica or a siliceous material (as powdered tripoli) esp. for use as a filler in paints or wood or as a dental material
Silex *trademark* — used for a vacuum coffee maker

¹sil·hou·ette \,sil-ə-'wet\ *n* [F, fr. Étienne de *Silhouette* †1767 F controller general of finances; fr. his petty economies] **1** : a likeness cut from dark material and mounted on a light ground or one sketched in outline and solidly colored in **2** : the outline of a body viewed as circumscribing a mass ⟨the ~ of an airplane⟩


silhouette 1

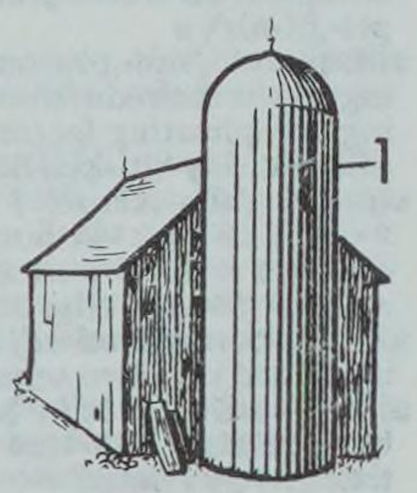
²silhouette *vt* **-ett·ed; -ett·ing** : to represent by a silhouette; *also* : to project upon a background like a silhouette
silic- *or* **silico-** *comb form* [*silicon*] : silicon ⟨*silic*one⟩
sil·i·ca \'sil-i-kə\ *n* [NL, fr. L *silic-, silex* flint, quartz] : silicon dioxide SiO_2 occurring in crystalline, amorphous, and impure forms (as in quartz, opal, and sand respectively)
silica gel *n* : colloidal silica resembling coarse white sand in appearance but possessing many fine pores and therefore extremely adsorbent
sil·i·cate \'sil-ə-,kāt, 'sil-i-kət\ *n* [*silicic* (*acid*)] : a salt or ester derived from a silicic acid; *esp* : any of numerous insoluble often complex metal salts that contain silicon and oxygen in the anion, constitute the largest class of minerals, and are used in building materials (as cement, bricks, and glass)
si·li·ceous *or* **si·li·cious** \sə-'lish-əs\ *adj* [L *siliceus* of flint, fr. *silic-, silex* flint, quartz] : of, relating to, or containing silica or a silicate ⟨~ limestone⟩
silici- *comb form* [NL *silica*] : silica ⟨*silici*ferous⟩
si·lic·ic \sə-'lis-ik\ *adj* [NL *silica* & NL *silicium* silicon (fr. *silica*)] : of, relating to, or derived from silica or silicon
silicic acid *n* : any of various weakly acid substances obtained as gelatinous masses by treating silicates with acids
sil·i·cic·o·lous \,sil-ə-'sik-ə-ləs\ *adj* : growing or thriving in siliceous soil ⟨~ plants⟩
sil·i·cide \'sil-ə-,sīd\ *n* [ISV *silic-* + *-ide*] : a binary compound of silicon usu. with a more electropositive element or radical
si·lic·i·fi·ca·tion \sə-,lis-ə-fə-'kā-shən\ *n* : the action or process of silicifying : the state of being silicified
silicified wood *n* : chalcedony in the form of petrified wood
si·lic·i·fy \sə-'lis-ə-,fī\ *vb* **-fied; -fy·ing** *vt* : to convert into or impregnate with silica ~ *vi* : to become silicified
sil·i·cle \'sil-i-kəl\ *n* [L *silicula,* dim. of *siliqua*] : a broad short silique
sil·i·con \'sil-i-kən, 'sil-ə-,kän\ *n* [NL *silica* + E *-on* (as in *carbon*)] : a tetravalent nonmetallic element that occurs combined as the most abundant element next to oxygen in the earth's crust and is used esp. in alloys — see ELEMENT table
silicon carbide *n* : a very hard dark crystalline compound SiC of silicon and carbon that is used as an abrasive and as a refractory and in electric resistors
sil·i·cone \'sil-ə-,kōn\ *n* [*silic-* + *-one*] : any of various polymeric organic silicon compounds obtained as oils, greases, or plastics and used esp. for water-resistant and heat-resistant lubricants, varnishes, binders, and electric insulators
silicone rubber *n* : rubber made from silicone elastomers and noted for its retention of flexibility, resilience, and tensile strength over a wide temperature range
sil·i·co·sis \,sil-ə-'kō-səs\ *n* [NL] : a condition of massive fibrosis of the lungs marked by shortness of breath and caused by prolonged inhalation of silica dusts — **sil·i·cot·ic** \-'kät-ik\ *adj or n*
sil·i·co·ther·mic \-kō-'thər-mik\ *adj* : of, relating to, or being a method of producing heat and chemical reduction (as of a metallic oxide) by oxidizing silicon or an alloy of silicon with oxygen taken from the oxide that it is desired to reduce
si·lique \sə-'lēk\ *n* [F, fr. NL *siliqua,* fr. L, pod, husk; akin to L *silic-, silex* flint — more at SHELL] : a narrow elongated two-valved usu. many-seeded capsule that is characteristic of the mustard family, opens by sutures at either margin, and has two parietal placentas
¹silk \'silk\ *n, often attrib* [ME, fr. OE *seolc;* prob. of Baltic or Slav origin; akin to OPruss *silkas* silk, OSlav *shelkŭ*] **1** : a fine continuous protein fiber produced by various insect larvae usu. for cocoons; *esp* : a lustrous tough elastic fiber produced by silkworms and used for textiles **2** : thread, yarn, or fabric made from silk filaments **3 a** : a garment of silk **b** (1) : a distinctive silk gown worn by a King's or Queen's Counsel (2) : a King's or Queen's Counsel **c** *pl* : the colored cap and blouse of a jockey or harness horse driver made in the registered racing color of his stable **4 a** : a filament resembling silk (as that produced by a spider) **b** : silky material ⟨milkweed ~⟩; *esp* : the styles of an ear of Indian corn **5** : PARACHUTE
²silk *vi, of corn* : to develop the silk
silk·aline *or* **silk·oline** \,sil-kə-'lēn\ *n* [¹*silk* + *-oline* (as in *crinoline*)] : a soft light cotton fabric with a smooth lustrous finish like that of silk
silk cotton *n* : the silky or cottony covering of seeds of various silk-cotton trees; *esp* : KAPOK
silk–cotton tree *n* : any of various tropical trees (family Bombacaceae, the silk-cotton family) with palmate leaves and large fruits with the seeds enveloped by silk cotton; *esp* : CEIBA 1
silk·en \'sil-kən\ *adj* **1** : made or consisting of silk **2** : resembling silk: as **a** : SOFT, LUSTROUS **b** (1) : agreeably smooth : HARMONIOUS (2) : INGRATIATING ⟨sheathed her dagger-sharp comments in ~ tones —Harriet Pike⟩ **3 a** : dressed in silk ⟨~ ankles⟩ **b** : LUXURIOUS
silk gland *n* : a gland that produces a viscid fluid, is extruded in filaments and hardens into silk on exposure to air: as **a** : either of a pair of greatly enlarged and modified salivary glands of an insect larva that produce a compound filament from which a larval or pupal cover (as a cocoon) is spun **b** : any of two or more abdominal glands of a spider that open through spinnerets and produce a filament used chiefly in the spinning of webs
silk grass *n* : any of several strong lustrous commercial fibers from bromeliads
silk hat *n* : a hat with a tall cylindrical crown and a silk-plush finish worn by men as a dress hat

silk oak *n* : any of various Australian timber trees (family Proteaceae and esp. genus *Grevillea*) with mottled wood used in cabinetmaking and veneering — called also *silky oak*
silk screen *n* : a stencil process in which coloring matter is forced onto the material to be printed through the meshes of a silk or organdy screen so prepared as to have pervious printing areas and impervious nonprinting areas —called also *silk-screen process* — **silk-screen** *vt*
silk-stock·ing \'silk-'stäk-iŋ\ *adj* **1** : fashionably dressed ⟨a ~ audience⟩ **2** : ARISTOCRATIC, WEALTHY ⟨a ~ district⟩ **3** : of or relating to the American Federalist party
silk stocking *n* **1** : a fashionably dressed person **2** : an aristocratic or wealthy person **3** : FEDERALIST 2
silk·weed \'sil-ˌkwēd\ *n* : MILKWEED
silk·worm \'sil-ˌkwərm\ *n* : a moth whose larva spins a large amount of strong silk in constructing its cocoon; *esp* : an Asiatic moth (*Bombyx mori*) whose rough wrinkled hairless yellowish caterpillar produces the silk of commerce



silkworm: *1* cocoon, *2* larva, *3* adult female

silky \'sil-kē\ *adj* **silk·i·er; -est** **1 a** : resembling or consisting of silk **b** : INGRATIATING ⟨~ insinuations⟩ **2** : having or covered with fine soft hairs, plumes, or scales — **silk·i·ly** \-kə-lē\ *adv* — **silk·i·ness** \-kē-nəs\ *n*
silky terrier *n* : a low-set toy terrier that weighs 8 to 10 pounds, has a flat silky glossy coat colored blue with tan on the head, chest, and legs, and is derived from crosses of the Australian terrier with the Yorkshire terrier — called also *silky*
sill \'sil\ *n* [ME *sille*, fr. OE *syll*; akin to OHG *swelli* beam, threshold, Gk *selis* crossbeam] **1** : a horizontal piece (as a timber) that forms the lowest member or one of the lowest members of a framework or supporting structure: as **a** : the horizontal member at the base of a window **b** : the threshold of a door **2** : a tabular body of igneous rock injected while molten between sedimentary or volcanic beds or along foliation planes of metamorphic rocks **3** : a submerged ridge at relatively shallow depth separating the basins of two bodies of water
sillabub *var of* SYLLABUB
sil·li·man·ite \'sil-ə-mə-ˌnīt\ *n* [Benjamin *Silliman* †1864 Am geologist] : a brown, grayish, or pale green mineral Al_2SiO_5 that consists of an aluminum silicate in orthorhombic crystals often occurring in fibrous or columnar forms
sil·ly \'sil-ē\ *adj* **sil·li·er; -est** [ME *sely, silly* happy, innocent, pitiable, feeble, fr. (assumed) OE *sǣlig*, fr. OE *sǣl* happiness; akin to OHG *sālig* happy, L *solari* to console, Gk *hilaros* cheerful] **1** *archaic* : HELPLESS, WEAK **2 a** : RUSTIC, PLAIN **b** *obs* : lowly in station : HUMBLE **3 a** : weak in intellect : FOOLISH **b** : exhibiting or indicative of a lack of common sense or sound judgment ⟨a very ~ mistake⟩ **c** : TRIFLING, FRIVOLOUS **4** : being stunned or dazed ⟨scared ~⟩ ⟨knocked me ~⟩ ***syn*** see SIMPLE — **sil·li·ly** \'sil-ə-lē\ *adv* — **sil·li·ness** \'sil-ē-nəs\ *n* — **silly** *n or adv*
silly season *n* : a period (as late summer) when newspapers must resort to minor or fantastic matters for lack of major news stories
si·lo \'sī-(ˌ)lō\ *n, pl* **silos** [Sp] **1** : a trench, pit, or esp. a tall cylinder (as of wood or concrete) usu. sealed to exclude air and used for making and storing silage **2 a** : a deep bin for storing material (as cement or coal) **b** : an underground structure for housing a guided missile


1, silo 1

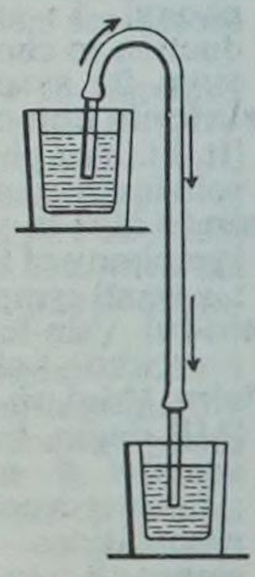
si·lox·ane \sə-'läk-ˌsān, sī-\ *n* [*sil*icon + *ox*ygen + meth*ane*] : any of various compounds containing alternate silicon and oxygen atoms in either a linear or cyclic arrangement usu. with one or two organic groups attached to each silicon atom
[1]silt \'silt\ *n* [ME *cylte*, prob. of Scand origin; akin to Dan *sylt* salt marsh; akin to OHG *sulza* salt marsh, OE *sealt* salt] **1** : loose sedimentary material with rock particles usu. $^1/_{20}$ millimeter or less in diameter; *also* : soil containing 80 percent or more of such silt and less than 12 percent of clay **2** : a deposit of sediment (as by a river) — **silty** \'sil-tē\ *adj*
[2]silt *vi* : to become choked or obstructed with silt — often used with *up* ⟨the channel ~*ed* up⟩ ~ *vt* : to choke, fill, cover, or obstruct with silt or mud ⟨the beaver had ~*ed* the creek —Hugh Fosburgh⟩ — **silt·ation** \sil-'tā-shən\ *n*
silt·stone \'silt-ˌstōn\ *n* : a rock composed chiefly of indurated silt
Sil·u·res \'sil-yə-ˌrēz\ *n* [L] : a people of ancient Britain described by Tacitus as occupying chiefly southern Wales
Si·lu·ri·an \sī-'lůr-ē-ən, sə-\ *adj* [L *Silures*] **1** : of or relating to the Silures or their place of habitation **2** : of, relating to, or being a period of the Paleozoic era between the Ordovician and Devonian or the corresponding system of rocks marked by the beginning of coral-reef building and the appearance of some great crustaceans — **Silurian** *n*
sil·u·roid \'sil-yə-ˌrȯid\ *n* [deriv. of Gk *silouros*, a large river fish] : any of a suborder (Siluroidea) of fishes comprising the catfishes — **siluroid** *adj*

sil·va \'sil-və\ *n* [NL, fr. L, wood, forest] : the forest trees of a region or country
silvan *var of* SYLVAN
[1]sil·ver \'sil-vər\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *seolfor*; akin to OHG *silbar* silver] **1** : a white metallic element that is sonorous, ductile, very malleable, capable of a high degree of polish, and chiefly univalent in compounds, and that has the highest thermal and electric conductivity of any substance — see ELEMENT table **2** : silver as a commodity ⟨the value of ~ has risen⟩ **3** : coin made of silver **4** : articles (as hollowware or table flatware) made of or plated with silver; *also* : similar articles and esp. flatware of other metals (as stainless steel) **5** : a nearly neutral slightly brownish medium gray
[2]silver *adj* **1** : made of silver **2** : resembling silver: as **a** : having a white lustrous sheen **b** : giving a soft resonant sound : dulcet in tone **c** : eloquently persuasive **3** : consisting of or yielding silver **4** : of, relating to, or characteristic of silver **5** : advocating the use of silver as a standard of currency
[3]silver *vt* **sil·vered; sil·ver·ing** \'silv-(ə-)riŋ\ **1 a** : to cover with silver (as by electroplating) **b** : to coat with a substance (as a metal) resembling silver **2 a** : to give a silvery luster to **b** : to make white like silver — **sil·ver·er** \'sil-vər-ər\ *n*
silver age *n* : an historical period of achievement secondary to that of a golden age
silver bell *n* : a medium-sized tree (*Halesia carolina*) of the storax family of the southeastern U.S. cultivated for its bell-shaped white flowers
sil·ver·ber·ry \'sil-vər-ˌber-ē\ *n* : a silvery No. American shrub (*Elaeagnus argentea*) related to the buffalo berry
silver bromide *n* : a compound AgBr that is extremely sensitive to light and is much used in the preparation of sensitive emulsion coatings for photographic materials
silver certificate *n* : a certificate formerly issued against the deposit of silver coin as legal tender in the U.S. and its possessions
silver chloride *n* : a compound AgCl sensitive to light and used esp. for photographic materials
silver cord *n* [*The Silver Cord* (1926), play by Sidney Howard] : the emotional tie between mother and child
silver fir *n* : any of various firs (genus *Abies*) with leaves that are white or silvery white beneath; *esp* : a valuable European timber tree (*A. alba*)
sil·ver·fish \'sil-vər-ˌfish\ *n* **1** : any of various silvery fishes (as a tarpon or silversides) **2** : any of various small wingless insects (order Thysanura); *esp* : one (*Lepisma saccharina*) found in houses and sometimes injurious to sized papers or starched clothes
silver fox *n* : a genetically determined color phase of the common red fox in which the pelt is black tipped with white
silver glance *n* : ARGENTITE
silver hake *n* : a common hake (*Merluccius bilinearis*) of the northern New England coast that is an important food fish
silver iodide *n* : a compound AgI that darkens on exposure to light and is used in photography, rainmaking, and medicine
silver–lace vine *n* : a twining Asiatic perennial (*Polygonum aubertii*) of the buckwheat family widely grown for its racemes of fragrant greenish flowers
silver lining *n* **1** : a white edge on a cloud **2** : a consoling or hopeful prospect
sil·ver·ly \'sil-vər-lē\ *adv* : with silvery appearance or sound
silver maple *n* **1** : a common No. American maple (*Acer saccharinum*) with deeply cut leaves that are light green above and silvery white below **2** : the hard close-grained but brittle light brown wood of the silver maple
sil·vern \'sil-vərn\ *adj* **1** : made of silver **2** : resembling or characteristic of silver : SILVERY
silver nitrate *n* : an irritant compound $AgNO_3$ that in contact with organic matter turns black and is used as a chemical reagent, in photography, and in medicine esp. as an antiseptic — called also *lunar caustic*
silver paper *n* : a metallic paper with a coating or lamination resembling silver — called also *tinfoil*
silver perch *n* : any of various somewhat silvery fishes that resemble perch: as **a** : a drum (*Bairdiella chrysura*) that occurs along the more southern Atlantic coast of the U.S. — called also *mademoiselle, yellowtail* **b** : WHITE PERCH 1
silver plate *n* **1** : a plating of silver **2** : domestic flatware and hollowware of silver or of a silver-plated base metal
silver protein *n* : any of several colloidal light-sensitive preparations of silver and protein used in aqueous solution on mucous membranes as antiseptics
silver screen *n* **1** : a motion-picture screen **2** : MOTION PICTURES
sil·ver·side \'sil-vər-ˌsīd\ *n* : SILVERSIDES
sil·ver·sides \'sil-vər-ˌsīdz\ *n pl but sing or pl in constr* : any of various small fishes (family Atherinidae) with a silvery stripe along each side of the body
sil·ver·smith \-ˌsmith\ *n* : an artisan who makes articles of silverware
silver spoon *n* : WEALTH; *esp* : inherited wealth
silver standard *n* : a monetary standard under which the currency unit is defined by a stated quantity of silver
Silver Star Medal *n* : a U.S. military decoration awarded for gallantry in action
sil·ver–tongued \ˌsil-vər-'təŋd\ *adj* : ELOQUENT
sil·ver·ware \'sil-vər-ˌwa(ə)r, -ˌwe(ə)r\ *n* : SILVER PLATE, FLATWARE
sil·ver·weed \-ˌwēd\ *n* : any of various somewhat silvery plants; *esp* : a cinquefoil (as the European *Potentilla anserina*) with leaves silvery or white-tomentose beneath

sil·very \'silv-(ə-)rē\ *adj* **1** : having a soft clear musical tone : RESONANT ⟨a ~ voice⟩ **2** : having the luster of silver **3** : containing or consisting of silver — **sil·ver·i·ness** *n*
sil·vi·cal \'sil-vi-kəl\ *adj* : of or relating to silvics
sil·vic·o·lous \sil-'vik-ə-ləs\ *adj* [L *silvicola* inhabitant of a wood, fr. *silva* wood + *colere* to inhabit — more at WHEEL] : living in woodlands
sil·vics \'sil-viks\ *n pl but sing in constr* [NL *silva*] : the study of the life history, characteristics, and ecology of forest trees esp. in stands
sil·vi·cul·ture \'sil-və-ˌkəl-chər\ *n* [F, fr. L *silva, sylva* forest + *cultura* culture] : a branch of forestry dealing with the development and care of forests — **sil·vi·cul·tur·al** \ˌsil-və-'kəlch(-ə)-rəl\ *adj* — **sil·vi·cul·tur·al·ly** \-rə-lē\ *adv* — **sil·vi·cul·tur·ist** \ˌsil-və-'kəlch-(ə-)rəst\ *n*
si·ma·zine \'sī-mə-ˌzēn\ *n* [*sim-* (prob. alter. of *sym-* symmetrical, prefix used in names of organic compounds) + *triazine*] : a selective herbicide used to control weeds among crop plants
Sim·chas To·rah \ˌsim-kə-'stōr-ə, -'stór-\ *n* [Heb *śimḥath tōrāh* rejoicing of the Torah] : a Jewish holiday observed on the 23d of Tishri in celebration of the completion of the annual reading of the Torah
Sim·e·on \'sim-ē-ən\ *n* [LL, fr. Gk *Symeōn*, fr. Heb *Shim'ōn*] **1** : a son of Jacob and the traditional eponymous ancestor of one of the tribes of Israel **2** : a devout man of Jerusalem held to have uttered the Nunc Dimittis on seeing the infant Jesus in the temple
¹sim·i·an \'sim-ē-ən\ *adj* [L *simia* ape, fr. *simus* snub-nosed, fr. Gk *simos*] : of, relating to, or resembling monkeys or apes
²simian *n* : MONKEY, APE
sim·i·lar \'sim-(ə-)lər\ *adj* [F *similaire*, fr. L *similis* like, similar — more at SAME] **1** : having characteristics in common : strictly comparable **2** : alike in substance or essentials : CORRESPONDING ⟨no two animal habitats are exactly ~ —W. H. Dowdeswell⟩ **3** : not differing in shape but only in size or position ⟨~ triangles⟩ ⟨~ polygons⟩ — **sim·i·lar·ly** *adv*
syn SIMILAR, ALIKE, AKIN, ANALOGOUS, PARALLEL, IDENTICAL, UNIFORM *shared meaning element* : closely resembling each other ***ant*** dissimilar
sim·i·lar·i·ty \ˌsim-ə-'lar-ət-ē\ *n, pl* **-ties** **1** : the quality or state of being similar : RESEMBLANCE **2** : a comparable aspect : CORRESPONDENCE ***syn*** see LIKENESS ***ant*** dissimilarity
sim·i·le \'sim-ə-(ˌ)lē\ *n* [L, comparison, fr. neut. of *similis*] : a figure of speech comparing two unlike things that is often introduced by *like* or *as* (as in *cheeks like roses*) — compare METAPHOR
si·mil·i·tude \sə-'mil-ə-ˌt(y)üd\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, resemblance, likeness, fr. L *similitudo*, fr. *similis*] **1 a** : COUNTERPART, DOUBLE **b** : a visible likeness : IMAGE **2** : an imaginative comparison : SIMILE **3 a** : correspondence in kind or quality **b** : a point of comparison ***syn*** see LIKENESS ***ant*** dissimilarity, dissimilitude
sim·mer \'sim-ər\ *vb* **sim·mered; sim·mer·ing** \-(ə-)riŋ\ [alter. of E dial. *simper*, fr. ME *simperen*, of imit. origin] *vi* **1** : to stew gently below or just at the boiling point **2 a** : to be in a state of incipient development : FERMENT ⟨ideas ~*ing* in the back of his mind⟩ **b** : to be in inward turmoil : SEETHE ~ *vt* : to cook slowly in a liquid just below the boiling point
simmer down *vi* **1** : to become reduced by or as if by simmering **2** : to become calm or peaceful
sim·nel \'sim-nᵊl\ *n* [ME *simenel*, fr. OF, fr. L *simila* fine wheat flour] **1** : a bun or bread of fine wheat flour **2** *Brit* : a rich fruitcake sometimes coated with almond paste and baked for mid-Lent, Easter, and Christmas
si·mo·le·on \sə-'mō-lē-ən\ *n* [origin unknown] *slang* : DOLLAR
Si·mon \'sī-mən\ *n* [Gk *Simōn*, fr. Heb *Shim'ōn*] **1** : PETER — called also *Simon Peter* **2** : one of the twelve disciples of Jesus — called also *Simon the Zealot* **3** : a kinsman of Jesus **4** : a Cyrenian constrained to help Jesus bear his cross to his place of crucifixion — called also *Simon the Cyrenian* **5** : a Samaritan sorcerer converted by the evangelist Philip
si·mo·ni·ac \sī-'mō-nē-ˌak, sə-\ *n* [ME, fr. MF or ML; MF *simoniaque*, fr. ML *simoniacus*, fr. LL *simonia* simony] : one who practices simony — **simoniac** *or* **si·mo·ni·a·cal** \ˌsī-mə-'nī-ə-kəl, ˌsim-ə-\ *adj* — **si·mo·ni·a·cal·ly** \-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
si·mo·nize \'sī-mə-ˌnīz\ *vt* **-nized; -niz·ing** [fr. *Simoniz*, a trademark] : to polish with or as if with wax
Si·mon Le·gree \ˌsī-mən-lə-'grē\ *n* : a slave owner who has Tom flogged to death in Harriet B. Stowe's novel *Uncle Tom's Cabin*
Simon Ma·gus \-'mā-gəs\ *n* : SIMON 5
si·mon–pure \ˌsī-mən-'pyù(ə)r\ *adj* [fr. *the real Simon Pure*, alluding to a character impersonated by another in the play *A Bold Stroke for a Wife* (1718) by Susanna Centlivre] : of untainted purity or integrity; *also* : pretentiously or hypocritically pure
si·mo·ny \'sī-mə-nē, 'sim-ə-\ *n* [LL *simonia*, fr. *Simon* Magus 1st cent. A.D. Samaritan sorcerer (Acts 8:9–24)] : the buying or selling of a church office or ecclesiastical preferment
si·moom \sə-'müm, sī-\ *or* **si·moon** \-'mün\ *n* [Ar *samūm*] : a hot dry violent dust-laden wind from Asian and African deserts
simp \'simp\ *n* : SIMPLETON
sim·pa·ti·co \sim-'pät-i-ˌkō, -'pat-\ *adj* [It *simpatico* & Sp *simpático*, deriv. of L *sympathia* sympathy] : CONGENIAL, LIKABLE
¹sim·per \'sim-pər\ *vb* **sim·pered; sim·per·ing** \-p(ə-)riŋ\ [perh. of Scand origin; akin to Dan dial. *simper* affected, coy] *vi* : to smile in a silly manner ~ *vt* : to say with a simper ⟨~*ed* her apologies⟩ — **sim·per·er** \-pər-ər\ *n*
²simper *n* : a silly smile : SMIRK
¹sim·ple \'sim-pəl\ *adj* **sim·pler** \-p(ə-)lər\; **sim·plest** \-p(ə-)ləst\ [ME, fr. OF, plain, uncomplicated, artless, fr. L *simplus, simplex*, lit., single; L *simplus* fr. *sem-, sim-* one + *-plus* multiplied by; L *simplic-, simplex* fr. *sem-, sim-* + *-plic-, -plex* -fold; akin to Gk *diplak-, diplax* double — more at SAME, DOUBLE] **1** : free from guile : INNOCENT **2 a** : free from vanity : MODEST **b** : free from ostentation or display **3** : of humble origin or modest position ⟨a ~ farmer⟩ **4 a** : lacking in knowledge or expertise ⟨a ~ amateur of the arts⟩ **b** : STUPID; *esp* : mentally retarded **c** : not socially or culturally sophisticated : NAIVE; *also* : CREDULOUS **5 a** : SHEER, UNMIXED ⟨~ honesty⟩ **b** : free of secondary complications ⟨a ~ fracture⟩ **c** : having only one main clause and no subordinate clauses ⟨a ~ sentence⟩ **d** : constituting a basic element : FUNDAMENTAL **e** : not made up of many like units ⟨a ~ eye⟩ **6** : free from elaboration or figuration ⟨~ harmony⟩ **7 a** (1) : not subdivided into branches ⟨a ~ stem⟩ (2) : consisting of a single carpel (3) : developing from a single ovary ⟨a ~ fruit⟩ **b** : controlled by a single gene ⟨~ inherited characters⟩ **8** : not limited or restricted : UNCONDITIONAL ⟨a ~ obligation⟩ **9** : readily understood or performed ⟨a ~ statement⟩ ⟨the adjustment was ~ to make⟩ **10** *of a statistical hypothesis* : specifying exact values for one or more statistical parameters — compare COMPOSITE 3 — **sim·ple·ness** \-pəl-nəs\ *n*
syn **1** see PLAIN
2 SIMPLE, FOOLISH, SILLY, FATUOUS, ASININE *shared meaning element* : actually or apparently deficient in intelligence ***ant*** wise
²simple *n* **1 a** : a person of humble birth : COMMONER ⟨thought very little of anybody, ~*s* or gentry —Virginia Woolf⟩ **b** (1) : a rude or credulous person : IGNORAMUS (2) : a mentally retarded person **2 a** : a medicinal plant **b** : a vegetable drug having only one ingredient **3** : one component of a complex; *specif* : an unanalyzable constituent
simple closed curve *n* : a closed plane curve (as a circle or an ellipse) that does not intersect itself — called also *Jordan curve*
simple equation *n* : a linear equation
simple fraction *n* : a fraction having whole numbers for the numerator and denominator — compare COMPLEX FRACTION
simple interest *n* : interest paid or computed on the original principal only of a loan or on the amount of an account often on the assumption that each day is $^1/_{360}$ of a year
simple machine *n* : any of various elementary mechanisms formerly considered as the elements of which all machines are composed and including the lever, the wheel and axle, the pulley, the inclined plane, the wedge, and the screw
sim·ple·mind·ed \ˌsim-pəl-'mīn-dəd\ *adj* : devoid of subtlety : UNSOPHISTICATED; *also* : FOOLISH — **sim·ple·mind·ed·ly** *adv* — **sim·ple·mind·ed·ness** *n*
simple motion *n* : a motion in a straight line, circle or circular arc, or helix
simple sugar *n* : MONOSACCHARIDE
sim·ple·ton \'sim-pəl-tən\ *n* [*¹simple* + *-ton* (as in surnames such as *Washington*)] : a person lacking in common sense ***syn*** see FOOL
simple vow *n* : a public vow taken by a religious in the Roman Catholic Church under which retention of property by the individual is permitted and marriage though illicit is valid under canon law
¹sim·plex \'sim-ˌpleks\ *adj* [L *simplic-, simplex* — more at SIMPLE] **1** : SIMPLE, SINGLE **2** : allowing telecommunication in only one direction at a time ⟨~ system⟩
²simplex *n, pl* **simplexes** **1** *or pl* **sim·pli·ces** \-plə-ˌsēz\ *or* **sim·pli·cia** \sim-'plish-(ē-)ə\ : a simple word **2** : a spatial configuration of n dimensions determined by $n + 1$ points in a space of dimension equal to or greater than n ⟨a triangle together with its interior determined by its three vertices is a two-dimensional ~ in the plane or any space of higher dimension⟩
sim·pli·cial \sim-'plish-əl\ *adj* : of or relating to simplexes — **sim·pli·cial·ly** \-ə-lē\ *adv*
sim·plic·i·ty \sim-'plis-ət-ē, -'plis-tē\ *n* [ME *simplicite*, fr. MF *simplicité*, fr. L *simplicitat-, simplicitas*, fr. *simplic-, simplex*] **1** : the state of being simple or uncompounded **2 a** : lack of subtlety or penetration : INNOCENCE, NAIVETÉ **b** : FOLLY, SILLINESS **3** : freedom from pretense or guile : CANDOR **4 a** : directness of expression : CLARITY **b** : restraint in ornamentation : AUSTERITY
sim·pli·fy \'sim-plə-ˌfī\ *vt* **-fied; -fy·ing** [F *simplifier*, fr. ML *simplificare*, fr. L *simplus* simple] : to make simple or simpler: as **a** : to reduce to basic essentials **b** : to diminish in scope or complexity : STREAMLINE **c** : to make more intelligible : CLARIFY — **sim·pli·fi·ca·tion** \ˌsim-plə-fə-'kā-shən\ *n* — **sim·pli·fi·er** \'sim-plə-ˌfī(-ə)r\ *n*
sim·plism \'sim-ˌpliz-əm\ *n* : the act or an instance of oversimplifying; *esp* : the reduction of a problem to a false simplicity by ignoring complicating factors — **sim·plis·tic** \sim-'plis-tik\ *adj* — **sim·plis·ti·cal·ly** \-ti-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
sim·ply \'sim-plē, *for 1 also* -pə-lē\ *adv* **1 a** : without ambiguity : CLEARLY **b** : without embellishment : PLAINLY **c** : DIRECTLY, CANDIDLY **2 a** : SOLELY, MERELY ⟨eats ~ to keep alive⟩ **b** : REALLY, LITERALLY ⟨the concert was ~ marvelous⟩
simply connected *adj* : being or characterized by a surface which is divided into two separate parts by every closed curve it contains
simply ordered *adj* : having any two elements equal or connected by a relationship that is not symmetric and any three elements transitively related
sim·u·la·cre \'sim-yə-ˌlāk-ər, -ˌlak-\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *simulacrum*] *archaic* : SIMULACRUM
sim·u·la·crum \ˌsim-yə-'lak-rəm, -'lāk-\ *n, pl* **-cra** \-rə\ *also* **-crums** [L, fr. *simulare*] **1** : IMAGE, REPRESENTATION ⟨a reasonable ~ of reality —Martin Mayer⟩ **2** : an insubstantial form or semblance of something : TRACE
¹sim·u·lar \'sim-yə-lər, -ˌlär\ *n* [irreg. fr. L *simulare* to simulate] *archaic* : one that simulates : DISSEMBLER
²simular *adj, archaic* : COUNTERFEIT, PRETENDED
sim·u·late \'sim-yə-ˌlāt\ *vt* **-lat·ed; -lat·ing** [L *simulatus*, pp. of *simulare* to copy, represent, feign, fr. *similis* like — more at SAME] **1** : to assume the outward qualities or appearance of usu. with the intent to deceive **2** : to make a simulation of (as a physical system) ***syn*** see ASSUME — **sim·u·la·tive** \-ˌlāt-iv\ *adj*
sim·u·lat·ed *adj* : made to look genuine : FAKE ⟨~ pearls⟩
simulated rank *n* : a civilian status equivalent to a military rank
sim·u·la·tion \ˌsim-yə-'lā-shən\ *n* **1** : the act or process of simulating : FEIGNING **2** : a sham object : COUNTERFEIT **3 a** : the imitative representation of the functioning of one system or process by means of the functioning of another ⟨a computer ~ of an industrial process⟩ **b** : examination of a problem often not subject to direct experimentation by means of a simulating device

sim·u·la·tor \'sim-yə-ˌlāt-ər\ *n* : one that simulates; *esp* : a device that enables the operator to reproduce or represent under test conditions phenomena likely to occur in actual performance
si·mul·cast \'sī-məl-ˌkast *also* 'sim-əl-\ *vi* [*simul*taneous broad*cast*] : to broadcast simultaneously by AM and FM radio or by radio and television — **simulcast** *n*
si·mul·ta·neous \ˌsī-məl-'tā-nē-əs, -nyəs *also* ˌsim-əl-\ *adj* [(assumed) ML *simultaneus*, fr. L *simul* at the same time — more at SAME] **1** : existing or occurring at the same time : exactly coincident **2** : satisfied by the same values of the variables ⟨~ equations⟩ ***syn*** see CONTEMPORARY — **si·mul·ta·ne·ity** \-tə-'nē-ət-ē, -'nā-\ *n* — **si·mul·ta·neous·ly** \-'tā-nē-ə-slē, -nyə-\ *adv* — **si·mul·ta·neous·ness** *n*
¹sin \'sin\ *n* [ME *sinne*, fr. OE *synn*; akin to OHG *sunta* sin] **1 a** : an offense against religious or moral law **b** : an action that is or is felt to be highly reprehensible ⟨it's a ~ to waste food⟩ **2 a** : transgression of the law of God **b** : a vitiated state of human nature in which the self is estranged from God ***syn*** see OFFENSE
²sin *vi* **sinned; sin·ning** **1** : to commit a sin **2** : to commit an offense or fault
³sin \'sēn, 'sin\ *n* [Heb *śin*] : the 21st letter of the Hebrew alphabet — see ALPHABET table
⁴sin *symbol* sine
Sin·an·thro·pus \sī-'nan(t)-thrə-pəs, sə-; ˌsīn-ˌan-'thrō-, ˌsin-\ *n* [NL, fr. LL *Sinae*, pl., Chinese + Gk *anthrōpos* man — more at SINOLOGUE] : PEKING MAN
sin·a·pism \'sin-ə-ˌpiz-əm\ *n* [LL *sinapismus*, deriv. of Gk *sinapi* mustard] : MUSTARD PLASTER
¹since \(')sin(t)s\ *adv* [ME *sins*, contr. of *sithens*, fr. *sithen*, fr. OE *siththan*, fr. *sith tham* since that, fr. *sith* since + *tham*, dat. of *thæt* that; akin to OHG *sīd* since, L *serus* late, OE *sāwan* to sow] **1** : from a definite past time until now ⟨has stayed there ever ~⟩ **2** : before the present time : AGO ⟨long ~ dead⟩ **3** : after a time in the past : SUBSEQUENTLY ⟨has ~ become rich⟩
²since *prep* : in the period after a specified time in the past : from a specified time in the past
³since *conj* **1** : at a time in the past after or later than ⟨has held two jobs ~ he graduated⟩ : from the time in the past when ⟨ever ~ he was a child⟩ **2** *obs* : WHEN **3** : in view of the fact that : BECAUSE ⟨~ it was raining he wore a hat⟩
sin·cere \sin-'si(ə)r, sən-\ *adj* [MF, fr. L *sincerus*] **1 a** : free of dissimulation : HONEST ⟨~ interest⟩ **b** : free from adulteration : PURE ⟨a ~ doctrine⟩ ⟨~ wine⟩ **2** : marked by genuineness : TRUE — **sin·cere·ly** *adv* — **sin·cere·ness** *n*
syn SINCERE, WHOLEHEARTED, HEARTFELT, HEARTY, UNFEIGNED *shared meaning element* : genuine in feeling ***ant*** insincere
sin·cer·i·ty \-'ser-ət-ē, -'sir-\ *n* : the quality or state of being sincere : honesty of mind : freedom from hypocrisy
sin·cip·i·tal \sin-'sip-ət-ᵊl\ *adj* : of or relating to the sinciput
sin·ci·put \'sin(t)-sə-(ˌ)pət\ *n, pl* **sinciputs** *or* **sin·cip·i·ta** \sin-'sip-ət-ə\ [L *sincipit-, sinciput*, fr. *semi-* + *caput* head — more at HEAD] **1** : FOREHEAD **2** : the upper half of the skull
Sind·bad \'sin-ˌbad\ *n* : a citizen of Baghdad whose adventures at sea are told in the *Arabian Nights' Entertainments*
Sind·hi \'sin-dē\ *n, pl* **Sindhi** *or* **Sindhis** [Ar *Sindī*] **1** : a member of a mostly Muslim people of Sind **2** : the Indic language of Sind
sine \'sīn\ *n* [ML *sinus*, fr. L, curve] : the trigonometric function that for an acute angle is the ratio between the side opposite the angle when it is considered part of a right triangle and the hypotenuse
si·ne·cure \'sī-ni-ˌkyu̇(ə)r, 'sin-i-\ *n* [ML *sine cura* without cure of souls] **1** *archaic* : an ecclesiastical benefice without cure of souls **2** : an office or position that requires little or no work and that usu. provides an income
sine curve *n* : the graph in rectangular coordinates of the equation $y = a \sin bx$ where a and b are constants
si·ne die \ˌsī-ni-'dī(-ˌē), ˌsin-ā-'dē-ˌā\ *adv* [L, without day] : without any future date being designated (as for resumption) : INDEFINITELY ⟨the meeting adjourned *sine die*⟩
si·ne qua non \ˌsin-i-ˌkwä-'nän, -'nōn *also* ˌsēn-; *also* ˌsī-ni-ˌkwā-'nän\ *n* [LL, without which not] : an absolutely indispensable or essential thing
¹sin·ew \'sin-(ˌ)yü, -yə(-w) *also* 'sin-(ˌ)ü\ *n* [ME *sinewe*, fr. OE *seono*; akin to OHG *senawa* sinew, L *saeta* bristle] **1** : TENDON; *esp* : one dressed for use as a cord or thread **2** *obs* : NERVE **3 a** : solid resilient strength : POWER ⟨intellectual and moral ~ —G. K. Chalmers⟩ **b** : the chief supporting force : MAINSTAY — usu. used in pl. ⟨providing the ~*s* of better living —Sam Pollock⟩
²sinew *vt* : to strengthen as if with sinews
sine wave *n* : a wave form that represents periodic oscillations in which the amplitude of displacement at each point is proportional to the sine of the phase angle of the displacement and that is visualized as a sine curve
sin·ewy \'sin-yə-wē *also* 'sin-ə-\ *adj* **1** : full of sinews : TOUGH, STRINGY ⟨~ meat⟩ **2** : STRONG ⟨~ arms⟩
sin·fo·nia \ˌsin-fə-'nē-ə\ *n, pl* **-nie** \-'nē-ˌā\ [It, fr. L *symphonia* symphony] **1** : an orchestral musical composition serving as an introduction to choral works (as opera) esp. in the 18th century : OVERTURE **2** : SYMPHONY 2a, 2c
sinfonia con·cer·tante \-ˌkän(t)-sər-'tänt(-ē), -ˌkän-cher-'tän-ˌtā\ *n* [It, lit., symphony in concerto style] : a concerto for more than one solo instrument
sin·fo·niet·ta \ˌsin-fən-'yet-ə, -fōn-\ *n* [It, dim. of *sinfonia*] **1** : a symphony of less than standard length or for fewer instruments **2** : a small symphony orchestra; *esp* : an orchestra of strings only
sin·ful \'sin-fəl\ *adj* : tainted with, marked by, or full of sin : WICKED — **sin·ful·ly** \-fə-lē\ *adv* — **sin·ful·ness** *n*
¹sing \'siŋ\ *vb* **sang** \'saŋ\ *or* **sung** \'səŋ\; **sung; sing·ing** \'siŋ-iŋ\ [ME *singen*, fr. OE *singan*; akin to OHG *singan* to sing, Gk *omphē* voice] *vi* **1 a** : to produce musical tones by means of the voice **b** : to utter words in musical tones and with musical inflections and modulations **c** : to deliver songs as a trained or professional singer **2** : to make a shrill whining or whistling sound **3 a** : to relate or celebrate something in verse **b** : to compose poetry **4** : to produce musical or harmonious sounds **5** : BUZZ, RING **6** : to make a cry : CALL **7** : to give information or evidence ~ *vt* **1** : to utter with musical inflections; *esp* : to interpret in musical tones produced by the voice **2** : to relate or celebrate in verse **3** : CHANT, INTONE **4** : to bring or accompany to a place or state by singing ⟨~*s* the child to sleep⟩ — **sing·able** \'siŋ-ə-bəl\ *adj*
²sing *n* : a session of group singing
³sing *abbr* singular
sing–along \'siŋ-ə-ˌlȯŋ\ *n* : SONGFEST
¹singe \'sinj\ *vt* **singed; singe·ing** \'sin-jiŋ\ [ME *sengen*, fr. OE *sengan*; akin to OHG *bisengan* to singe, OSlav *isǫčiti* to dry] : to burn superficially or lightly : SCORCH; *esp* : to remove the hair, down, or fuzz from usu. by passing rapidly over a flame
²singe *n* : a slight burn : SCORCH
¹sing·er \'siŋ-ər\ *n* : one that sings
²sing·er \'sin-jər\ *n* : one that singes
singing game *n* : a children's game in which the players accompany their actions with the singing of a narrative song
¹sin·gle \'siŋ-gəl\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *singulus* one only; akin to L *sem-* one — more at SAME] **1 a** : not married **b** : of or relating to celibacy **2** : unaccompanied by others : LONE, SOLE ⟨the ~ survivor of the disaster⟩ **3 a** (1) : consisting of or having only one part, feature, or portion ⟨~ consonants⟩ (2) : consisting of one as opposed to or in contrast with many : UNIFORM ⟨a ~ standard for men and women⟩ (3) : consisting of only one in number ⟨holds to a ~ ideal⟩ **b** : having but one whorl of petals or ray flowers ⟨a ~ rose⟩ **4 a** : consisting of a separate unique whole : INDIVIDUAL ⟨every ~ citizen⟩ **b** : of, relating to, or involving only one person **5 a** : FRANK, HONEST ⟨a ~ devotion⟩ **b** : exclusively attentive ⟨an eye ~ to the truth⟩ **6** : UNBROKEN, UNDIVIDED **7** : having no equal or like : SINGULAR **8** : designed for the use of one person or family only ⟨a ~ room⟩
syn SINGLE, SOLE, UNIQUE, SEPARATE, SOLITARY, PARTICULAR *shared meaning element* : one as distinguished from two or more or all others
²single *n* **1 a** : a separate individual person or thing **b** : a young unmarried adult **c** : a phonograph record (as a 45) having one short tune on each side **2** : a base hit that allows the batter to reach first base **3** *pl* **a** : a tennis match or similar game with one player on each side **b** : a golf match between two players
³single *vb* **sin·gled; sin·gling** \-g(ə-)liŋ\ *vt* **1** : to select or distinguish (a person or thing) from a number or group — usu. used with *out* **2 a** : to advance or score (a base runner) by a single **b** : to bring about the scoring of (a run) by a single ~ *vi* : to make a single in baseball
single–blind \ˌsiŋ-gəl-'blīnd\ *adj* : of, relating to, or being an experimental procedure in which the experimenters but not the subjects know the makeup of the test and control groups during the actual course of the experiments — compare DOUBLE-BLIND
sin·gle–breast·ed \-'bres-təd\ *adj* : having a center closing with one row of buttons and no lap ⟨a ~ coat⟩
single combat *n* : combat between two persons
single cross *n* : a first-generation hybrid between two selected and usu. inbred lines — compare DOUBLE CROSS
single entry *n* : a method of bookkeeping that recognizes only one side of a business transaction and usu. consists only of a record of cash and personal accounts with debtors and creditors
single file *n* : a line (as of persons) moving one behind another — **single file** *adv*
¹sin·gle–foot \'siŋ-gəl-ˌfu̇t\ *n, pl* **single–foots** : ⁷RACK b
²single–foot *vi, of a horse* : to go at a rack — **sin·gle–foot·er** *n*
¹sin·gle–hand·ed \ˌsiŋ-gəl-'han-dəd\ *adj* **1** : managed or done by one person or with one on a side **2** : working alone or unassisted by others — **sin·gle–hand·ed·ly** *adv* — **sin·gle–hand·ed·ness** *n*
²single–handed *adv* : in a single-handed manner
sin·gle–heart·ed \ˌsiŋ-gəl-'härt-əd\ *adj* : characterized by sincerity and unity of purpose or dedication — **sin·gle–heart·ed·ly** *adv* — **sin·gle–heart·ed·ness** *n*
single knot *n* : OVERHAND KNOT
sin·gle–mind·ed \ˌsiŋ-gəl-'mīn-dəd\ *adj* **1** : GUILELESS, SINCERE **2** : having one unifying and overriding purpose — **sin·gle–mind·ed·ly** *adv* — **sin·gle–mind·ed·ness** *n*
sin·gle·ness \'siŋ-gəl-nəs\ *n* : the quality or state of being single
sin·gle–phase \ˌsiŋ-gəl-'fāz\ *adj* : of or relating to a circuit energized by a single alternating electromotive force
sin·gle–space \-'spās\ *vt* : to type or print with no blank lines between lines of text
sin·gle·stick \'siŋ-gəl-ˌstik\ *n* : fighting or fencing with a wooden stick or sword held in one hand; *also* : the weapon used
sin·glet \'siŋ-glət\ *n* **1** [fr. its having only one thickness of cloth] *chiefly Brit* : an athletic jersey : UNDERSHIRT **2** : an elementary particle that is not part of a multiplet
single tax *n* : a tax to be levied on a single item (as real estate) as the sole source of public revenue
sin·gle·ton \'siŋ-gəl-tən\ *n* [F, fr. E *single*] **1** : a card that is the only one of its suit orig. held in a hand **2** : an individual member or thing distinct from others grouped with it; *specif* : an offspring born singly
sin·gle–track \ˌsiŋ-gəl-ˌtrak\ *adj* **1** : having only one track **2** : lacking intellectual range, receptiveness, or flexibility : ONE-TRACK
sin·gle·tree \'siŋ-gəl-(ˌ)trē\ *n* : WHIFFLETREE
sin·gle–val·ued \ˌsiŋ-gəl-'val-(ˌ)yüd, -yəd\ *adj* : having one and only one value of the range associated with each value of the domain ⟨a ~ function⟩ — compare MULTIPLE-VALUED

single wing *n* : an offensive football formation in which one back plays as a flanker and two backs line up four or five yards behind the line in position to receive a direct snap from center
sin·gly \'siŋ-g(ə-)lē\ *adv* **1** : without the company of others : INDIVIDUALLY **2** : SINGLE-HANDED
¹sing·song \'siŋ-ˌsȯŋ\ *n* **1** : verse with marked and regular rhythm and rhyme : a jingling song **2** : a voice delivery characterized by a narrow range or monotonous pattern of pitch — **sing-songy** \-ˌsȯŋ-ē\ *adj*
²singsong *adj* : having a monotonous cadence or rhythm
sing·spiel \'siŋ-ˌspēl, 'ziŋ-ˌshpēl\ *n* [G, fr. *singen* to sing + *spiel* play] : a usu. comic dramatic musical work popular in Germany esp. in the latter part of the 18th century characterized by spoken dialogue interspersed with popular or folk songs
¹sin·gu·lar \'siŋ-gyə-lər\ *adj* [ME *singuler*, fr. MF, fr. L *singularis*, fr. *singulus* only one — more at SINGLE] **1 a** : of or relating to a separate person or thing : INDIVIDUAL **b** : of, relating to, or being a word form denoting one person, thing, or instance **c** : of or relating to a single instance or to something considered by itself **2** : distinguished by superiority : EXCEPTIONAL ⟨a man of ~ attainments⟩ **3** : set apart or memorable as being out of the ordinary : UNUSUAL ⟨on the way home we had a ~ adventure⟩ **4** : departing from general usage or expectation : PECULIAR, ODD ⟨the air had a ~ chill⟩ **5 a** *of a matrix* : having a determinant equal to zero **b** *of a linear transformation* : having the property that the matrix of coefficients of the new variables has a determinant equal to zero
syn see STRANGE — **sin·gu·lar·ly** *adv*
²singular *n* **1** : the singular number, the inflectional form denoting it, or a word in that form **2** : a singular term
sin·gu·lar·i·ty \ˌsiŋ-gyə-'lar-ət-ē\ *n, pl* **-ties** **1** : something that is singular: as **a** : a separate unit **b** : unusual or distinctive manner or behavior : PECULIARITY **2** : the quality or state of being singular **3** : a point at which the derivative of a given function of a complex variable does not exist but every neighborhood of which contains points for which the derivative exists
sin·gu·lar·ize \'siŋ-gyə-lə-ˌrīz\ *vt* **-ized; -iz·ing** : to make singular
singular point *n* : SINGULARITY 3
Sin·ha·lese *or* **Sin·gha·lese** \ˌsiŋ-gə-'lēz, ˌsin-(h)ə-, -'lēs\ *n, pl* **Sinhalese** *or* **Singhalese** [Skt *Simhala* Ceylon] **1** : a member of a people that inhabit Ceylon and form a major part of its population **2** : the Indic language of the Sinhalese people — **Sinhalese** *or* **Singhalese** *adj*
si·ni·cize \'sī-nə-ˌsīz, 'sin-ə-\ *vt* **-cized; -ciz·ing** *often cap* [ML *sinicus* Chinese, fr. LL *Sinae*, pl., Chinese — more at SINOLOGUE] : to modify by Chinese influence
sin·is·ter \'sin-əs-tər, *archaic* sə-'nis-\ *adj* [ME *sinistre*, fr. L *sinistr-, sinister* on the left side, unlucky, inauspicious] **1** *archaic* : UNFAVORABLE, UNLUCKY **2** *archaic* : FRAUDULENT **3** : singularly evil or productive of evil **4 a** : of, relating to, or situated to the left or on the left side of something; *esp* : being or relating to the side of a heraldic shield at the left of the person bearing it **b** : of ill omen by reason of being on the left **5** : presaging ill fortune or trouble **6** : accompanied by or leading to disaster or unfavorable developments — **sin·is·ter·ly** *adv* — **sin·is·ter·ness** *n*
syn SINISTER, BALEFUL, MALIGN *shared meaning element* : seriously threatening disaster
si·nis·tral \'sin-əs-trəl, sə-'nis-\ *adj* : of, relating to, or inclined to the left: as **a** : LEFT-HANDED **b** : having whorls turning from the right toward the left as viewed with the apex toward the observer ⟨~ coiling of a gastropod shell⟩ — **si·nis·tral·ly** \-trə-lē\ *adv*
sin·is·trorse \'sin-ə-ˌstrȯ(ə)rs\ *adj* [NL *sinistrorsus*, fr. L, toward the left side, fr. *sinistr-, sinister* + *versus*, pp. of *vertere* to turn — more at WORTH] **1** *of a plant* : twining spirally upward around an axis from right to left — compare DEXTRORSE **2** : SINISTRAL b
si·nis·trous \'sin-əs-trəs, sə-'nis-\ *adj, archaic* : SINISTER
Si·nit·ic \sī-'nit-ik, sə-\ *adj* [LL *Sinae*, pl., Chinese + E *-itic* (as in *Semitic*) — more at SINOLOGUE] : of or relating to the Chinese, their language, or their culture
¹sink \'siŋk\ *vb* **sank** \'saŋk\ *or* **sunk** \'səŋk\; **sunk; sink·ing** [ME *sinken*, fr. OE *sincan;* akin to OHG *sinkan* to sink, Arm *ankanim* I fall] *vi* **1 a** : to go to the bottom : SUBMERGE **b** : to become partly buried (as in mud) **c** : to become engulfed **2 a** (1) : to fall or drop to a lower place or level (2) : to flow at a lower depth or level (3) : to burn with lower intensity (4) : to fall to a lower pitch or volume ⟨his voice *sank* to a whisper⟩ **b** : to subside gradually : SETTLE **c** : to disappear from view **d** : to slope gradually : DIP **3 a** : to soak or become absorbed : PENETRATE **b** : to become impressively known or felt ⟨the lesson had *sunk* in⟩ **4** : to become deeply absorbed ⟨*sank* into reverie⟩ **5 a** : to go downward in quality, state, or condition **b** : to grow less in amount or worth **6 a** : to fall or drop slowly for lack of strength **b** : to become depressed **c** : to fail in health or strength ~ *vt* **1 a** : to cause to sink ⟨~ a battleship⟩ **b** : to force down esp. below the earth's surface **c** : to cause (something) to penetrate **2** : to engage deeply the attention of : IMMERSE **3 a** : to dig or bore (a well or shaft) in the earth : EXCAVATE **b** : to form by cutting or excising ⟨~ words in stone⟩ **4** : to cast down or bring to a low condition or state : OVERWHELM, DEFEAT **5** : to lower in standing or reputation : ABASE **6 a** : to lessen in value or amount **b** : to lower or soften (the voice) in speaking **7** : RESTRAIN, SUPPRESS ⟨~*s* her pride and approaches the despised neighbor —Richard Harrison⟩ **8** : to pay off (as a debt) : LIQUIDATE **9** : INVEST — **sink·able** \'siŋ-kə-bəl\ *adj*
²sink *n* **1 a** : a pool or pit for the deposit of waste or sewage : CESSPOOL **b** : a ditch or tunnel for carrying off sewage : SEWER **c** : a stationary basin connected with a drain and usu. a water supply for washing and drainage **2** : a place where vice, corruption, or evil collects **3** : SUMP **4 a** : a depression in the land surface; *esp* : one having a saline lake with no outlet **b** : SINKHOLE **5** : a body or process that acts as a storage device or disposal mechanism: as **a** : HEAT SINK; *broadly* : a device that collects or dissipates energy (as radiation) **b** : a reactant with or absorber of a substance ⟨soil is a ~ for carbon dioxide⟩
sink·age \'siŋ-kij\ *n* **1** : the process or degree of sinking **2** : DEPRESSION, INDENTATION **3** : the distance from the top line of a full page to the first line of sunk matter
sink·er \'siŋ-kər\ *n* **1** : one that sinks; *specif* : a weight for sinking a fishing line, seine, or sounding line **2** : DOUGHNUT **3** : a fastball that sinks as it reaches the plate — called also *sinkerball*
sink·hole \'siŋk-ˌhōl\ *n* **1** : a hollow place or depression in which drainage collects **2** : a hollow in a limestone region that communicates with a cavern or passage
sinking fund *n* : a fund set up and accumulated by usu. regular deposits for paying off the principal of a debt when it falls due
sin·less \'sin-ləs\ *adj* : free from sin : IMPECCABLE — **sin·less·ly** *adv* — **sin·less·ness** *n*
sin·ner \'sin-ər\ *n* **1** : one that sins **2** : REPROBATE, SCAMP
Si·no- *comb form* [F, fr. LL *Sinae* — more at SINOLOGUE] **1** : Chinese ⟨*Sino*phile⟩ **2** \ˌsī-(ˌ)nō, 'sī-\ : Chinese and ⟨*Sino*-Tibetan⟩
si·no·atri·al \ˌsī-nō-'ā-trē-əl\ *also* **si·nu·atri·al** \ˌsī-n(y)ə-'wā-, ˌsin-yə-'wā-\ *adj* [NL *sinus* + *atrium*] : of, involving, or being the sinoatrial node ⟨~ block⟩
sinoatrial node *n* : a small mass of tissue that is embedded in the musculature of the right auricle of higher vertebrates and that originates the impulses stimulating the heartbeat
si·no·logue \'sīn-ᵊl-ˌȯg, 'sin-, -ˌäg\ *n* [F, fr. LL *Sinae*, pl., Chinese (fr. Gk *Sinai*, fr. Ar *Sīn* China) + F *-logue*] : a specialist in sinology
si·nol·o·gy \sī-'näl-ə-jē, sə-\ *n* [prob. fr. F *sinologie*, fr. *sino-* + *-logie* -logy] : the study of the Chinese and esp. their language, literature, history, and culture — **si·no·log·i·cal** \ˌsīn-ᵊl-'äj-i-kəl, ˌsin-\ *adj* — **si·nol·o·gist** \sī-'näl-ə-jəst, sə-\ *n*
si·no·pia \sə-'nō-pē-ə\ *n, pl* **-pi·as** *or* **-pie** \-pē-ˌā\ [It, fr. L *sinopis*, fr. Gk *sinōpis, fr. Sinōpē* Sinop, ancient seaport in Asia Minor] **1** : a red to reddish brown earth pigment used by the ancients that depends for its color on its content of red ferric oxide **2** : a preliminary drawing for a fresco done in sinopia
Si·no–Ti·bet·an \ˌsī-nō-tə-'bet-ᵊn, 'sī-\ *n* : a language group comprising Tibeto-Burman and Chinese
sin·syne \'sin-ˌsīn\ *adv* [ME (Sc) *sensyne*, fr. *sen* since (contr. of ME *sithen*) + *syne* since — more at SINCE, SYNE] *chiefly Scot* : since that time
¹sin·ter \'sint-ər\ *n* [G, fr. OHG *sintar* slag — more at CINDER] : a deposit formed by the evaporation of spring or lake water
²sinter *vt* : to cause to become a coherent mass by heating without melting ~ *vi* : to undergo sintering — **sin·ter·abil·i·ty** \ˌsint-ə-rə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n*
sin·u·ate \'sin-yə-wət, -ˌwāt\ *adj* [L *sinuatus*, pp. of *sinuare* to bend, fr. *sinus* curve] : having the margin wavy with strong indentations ⟨~ leaves⟩ — **sin·u·ate·ly** *adv*
sin·u·os·i·ty \ˌsin-yə-'wäs-ət-ē\ *n, pl* **-ties** **1** : the quality or state of being sinuous **2** : something that is sinuous
sin·u·ous \'sin-yə-wəs\ *adj* [L *sinuosus*, fr. *sinus*] **1 a** : of a serpentine or wavy form : WINDING **b** : marked by strong lithe movements **2** : INTRICATE, COMPLEX — **sin·u·ous·ly** *adv* — **sin·u·ous·ness** *n*
si·nus \'sī-nəs\ *n* [NL, fr. L, curve, fold, hollow] : CAVITY, HOLLOW: as **a** : a narrow elongated tract extending from a focus of suppuration and serving for the discharge of pus **b** (1) : a cavity in the substance of a bone of the skull that usu. communicates with the nostrils and contains air **b** (2) : a channel for venous blood **b** (3) : a dilatation in a bodily canal or vessel **c** : a cleft or indentation between adjoining lobes
si·nus·itis \ˌsī-n(y)ə-'sīt-əs\ *n* : inflammation of a sinus of the skull
si·nu·soid \'sī-n(y)ə-ˌsȯid\ *n* [ML *sinus* sine] **1** : SINE CURVE **2** [NL *sinus*] : a minute endothelium-lined space or passage for blood in the tissues of an organ (as the liver) — **si·nu·soi·dal** \ˌsī-n(y)ə-'sȯid-ᵊl \ *adj* — **si·nu·soi·dal·ly** \-ᵊl-ē\ *adv*
sinusoidal projection *n* : an equal-area map projection capable of showing the entire surface of the earth with all parallels as straight lines evenly spaced, the central meridian as one half the length of the equator, and all other meridians as curved lines
si·nus ve·no·sus \ˌsī-nəs-vi-'nō-səs\ *n* [NL, venous sinus] : an enlarged pouch that adjoins the heart, is formed by the union of the large systemic veins, and is the passage through which venous blood enters the heart in lower vertebrates and in embryos of higher forms
Si·on \'sī-ən\ *var of* ZION
Siou·an \'sü-ən\ *n* **1** : a language stock of central and eastern No. America **2** : a member of any of the peoples speaking Siouan languages
Sioux \'sü\ *n, pl* **Sioux** \'sü(z)\ [F, short for *Nadowessioux*, fr. Ojibwa *Nadoweisiw*] **1** : DAKOTA **2** : SIOUAN
¹sip \'sip\ *vb* **sipped; sip·ping** [ME *sippen;* akin to LG *sippen* to sip] *vi* : to take a sip of something esp. repeatedly ~ *vt* **1** : to drink in small quantities **2** : to take sips from — **sip·per** *n*
²sip *n* **1** : the act of sipping **2** : a small draft taken with the lips
¹si·phon \'sī-fən\ *n* [F *siphon*, fr. L *siphon-, sipho* tube, pipe, siphon, fr. Gk *siphōn*] **1 a** : a tube bent to form two legs of unequal length by which a liquid can be transferred to a lower level over an intermediate elevation by the pressure of the atmosphere in forcing the liquid up the shorter branch of the tube immersed in it while the excess of weight of the liquid in the longer branch when once filled causes a continuous flow **b** *usu* **syphon** : a bottle for holding aerated water that is driven out through a bent tube in its neck by the pressure of the gas when a valve in the tube is opened **2** : any of various tubular organs in animals and esp. mollusks or arthropods that are used for drawing in or ejecting fluids — see CLAM illustration



siphon 1a

²siphon *vb* **si·phoned; si·phon·ing** \'sīf-(ə)niŋ\ *vt* : to convey, draw off, or empty by or as if by a siphon ~ *vi* : to pass by or as if by a siphon

si·pho·no·phore \sī-'fän-ə-ˌfō(ə)r, 'sī-fə-nə-, -ˌfȯ(ə)r\ *n* [deriv. of Gk *siphōn* + *pherein* to carry — more at BEAR] : any of an order (Siphonophora) of compound free-swimming or floating pelagic hydrozoans that are mostly delicate, transparent, and colored and have specialized zooids

si·pho·no·stele \sī-'fän-ə-ˌstēl, ˌsī-fə-nə-'stē-lē\ *n* [Gk *siphōn* tube, siphon] : a stele consisting of vascular tissue surrounding a central core of pith parenchyma — **si·pho·no·ste·lic** \ˌsī-fə-nə-'stē-lik, (ˌ)sī-ˌfän-ə-\ *adj* — **si·pho·no·ste·ly** \'sī-fə-nə-ˌstē-lē, sī-'fän-ə-\ *n*

sip·pet \'sip-ət\ *n, chiefly Brit* [alter. of *sop*] : a small bit of toast or fried bread esp. for garnishing

sir \(')sər\ *n* [ME, fr. *sire*] **1 a** : a man of rank or position **b** : a man entitled to be addressed as *sir* — used as a title before the given name of a knight or baronet and formerly sometimes before the given name of a priest **2 a** — used as a usu. respectful form of address **b** *cap* — used as a conventional form of address in the salutation of a letter

sir·dar \'sər-ˌdär, sər-'\ *n* [Hindi *sardār*, fr. Per] **1 a** : a person of high rank (as an hereditary noble) esp. in India **b** : the commander of the Anglo-Egyptian army **2** : one holding a responsible position in India: as **a** : FOREMAN **b** : TENANT FARMER

¹sire \'sī(ə)r\ *n* [ME, fr. OF, fr. L *senior* older — more at SENIOR] **1 a** : FATHER **b** *archaic* : male ancestor : FOREFATHER **c** : ORIGINATOR, AUTHOR **2 a** *archaic* : a man of rank or authority; *esp* : LORD — used formerly as a form of address and as a title **b** *obs* : an elderly man : SENIOR **3** : the male parent of an animal and esp. of a domestic animal

²sire *vt* **sired; siring** **1** : BEGET — used esp. of male domestic animals **2** : to bring into being : ORIGINATE

¹si·ren \'sī-rən, *for 3 also* sī-'rēn\ *n* [ME, fr. MF & L; MF *sereine*, fr. LL *sirena*, fr. L *siren*, fr. Gk *seirēn*] **1** *often cap* : one of a group of female and partly human creatures in Greek mythology that lured mariners to destruction by their singing **2 a** : a woman who sings with bewitching sweetness **b** : a temptingly beautiful woman; *esp* : one who is insidiously seductive : TEMPTRESS **3 a** : an apparatus producing musical tones esp. in acoustical studies by the rapid interruption of a current of air, steam, or fluid by a perforated rotating disk **b** : a device often electrically operated for producing a penetrating warning sound ⟨ambulance ~⟩ ⟨air-raid ~⟩ **4** [NL, genus name, fr. L] : any of a genus (*Siren*) of eel-shaped amphibians with small forelimbs but neither hind legs nor pelvis and with permanent external gills as well as lungs

²si·ren \'sī-rən\ *adj* : resembling that of a siren : ENTICING

si·re·ni·an \sī-'rē-nē-ən\ *n* [NL *Sirenia* order name, fr. L *siren*] : any of an order (Sirenia) of aquatic herbivorous mammals including the manatee and dugong

siren song *n* : an alluring utterance or appeal; *esp* : one that is seductive or deceptive

Sir·i·us \'sir-ē-əs\ *n* [ME, fr. L, fr. Gk *Seirios*, lit., glowing] : a star of the constellation Canis Major constituting the brightest star in the heavens — called also *Dog Star*

sir·loin \'sər-ˌlȯin\ *n* [alter. of earlier *surloin*, modif. of MF *surlonge*, fr. *sur* over (fr. L *super*) + *loigne, longe* loin — more at OVER] : a cut of meat and esp. of beef from the part of the hindquarter just in front of the round — see BEEF illustration

si·roc·co \sə-'räk-(ˌ)ō\ *n, pl* **-cos** [It *scirocco, sirocco*, fr. Ar *sharq* east] **1 a** : a hot dust-laden wind from the Libyan deserts that blows on the northern Mediterranean coast chiefly in Italy, Malta, and Sicily **b** : a warm moist oppressive southeast wind in the same regions **2** : a hot or warm wind of cyclonic origin from an arid or heated region

sir·rah *also* **sir·ra** \'sir-ə\ *n* [alter. of *sir*] *obs* — used as a form of address implying inferiority in the person addressed

sir·ree *also* **sir·ee** \(ˌ)sər-'ē\ *n* [by alter.] : SIR — used as an emphatic form usu. after *yes* or *no*

sir-reverence *n* [prob. alter. of *save-reverence*, trans. of ML *salva reverentia* saving (your) reverence] **1** *obs* — used as an expression of apology before a statement that might be taken as offensive **2** *obs* : human feces; *also* : a lump of human feces

Sir Rog·er de Cov·er·ley \sə(r)-ˌräj-ərd-i-'kəv-ər-lē\ *n* [alter. (influenced by *Sir Roger de Coverley*, fictitious country gentleman appearing in many of the *Spectator* papers by Joseph Addison and Sir Richard Steele, fr. *roger of coverley*) of *roger of coverley*, prob. fr. *Roger*, the name + *of* + *Coverley*, a fictitious place name] : an English country-dance that resembles the Virginia reel

sirup, sirupy *var of* SYRUP, SYRUPY

sir·vente \si(ə)r-'vänt\ *or* **sir·ven·tes** \-'vent-əs\ *n, pl* **sir·ventes** \-'vänt, -'vän(t)s, -'vent-əs\ [F, fr. Prov *sirventes*, lit., servant's song, fr. *sirvent* servant, fr. L *servient-, serviens*, prp. of *servire* to serve] : a usu. moral or religious song of the Provençal troubadours satirizing social vices

sis \'sis\ *n* : SISTER — used in direct address

-sis \səs\ *n suffix, pl* **-ses** \ˌsēz\ [L, fr. Gk, fem. suffix of action] : process : action ⟨peristal*sis*⟩

si·sal \'sī-səl, -zəl\ *n* [MexSp, fr. *Sisal*, Yucatán, Mexico] **1 a** : a strong durable white fiber used esp. for hard fiber cordage and twine — called also *sisal hemp* **b** : a widely cultivated West Indian agave (*Agave sisalana*) whose leaves yield sisal **2** : any of several fibers similar to true sisal

sis·kin \'sis-kən\ *n* [G dial. *sisschen*, dim. of MHG *zīse* siskin, of Slav origin; akin to Czech *čížek* siskin] : a small sharp-billed chiefly greenish and yellowish finch (*Spinus spinus*) of temperate Europe and Asia related to the goldfinch — compare PINE SISKIN, RED SISKIN

sis·si·fied \'sis-i-ˌfīd\ *adj* : of, relating to, or having the characteristics of a sissy

sis·sy \'sis-ē\ *n, pl* **sissies** [*sis*] : an effeminate man or boy; *also* : a timid or cowardly person — **sissy** *adj*

sis·ter \'sis-tər\ *n* [ME *suster, sister*, partly fr. OE *sweostor* and partly of Scand origin; akin to ON *systir* sister; akin to L *soror* sister] **1 a** (1) : a female human being having the same parents as another person (2) : HALF SISTER (3) : SISTER-IN-LAW **b** : a female of a lower animal having a parent in common with another **2** *often cap* **a** : a member of a women's religious order (as of nuns or deaconesses); *specif* : one of a Roman Catholic congregation under simple vows **b** : a female member of a Christian church **3 a** : a woman related to another person by a common tie or interest **b** : one having similar characteristics to another ⟨~ ships⟩ **4** *chiefly Brit* : NURSE **5 a** : GIRL, WOMAN **b** : PERSON — usu. used in the phrase *weak sister*

sis·ter·hood \-ˌhüd\ *n* **1 a** : the state of being a sister **b** : sisterly relationship **2** : a community or society of sisters; *specif* : a society of women religious

sis·ter-in-law \'sis-t(ə-)rən-ˌlȯ, -tərn-ˌlȯ\ *n, pl* **sis·ters-in-law** \-tər-zən-\ **1** : the sister of one's spouse **2 a** : the wife of one's brother **b** : the wife of one's spouse's brother

sis·ter·ly \'sis-tər-lē\ *adj* : of, relating to, or having the characteristics of a sister — **sisterly** *adv*

Sis·tine \'sis-ˌtēn, sis-'\ *adj* [It *sistino*, fr. NL *sixtinus*, fr. *Sixtus*, name of some popes] **1** : of or relating to any of the popes named Sixtus **2** [fr. Pope *Sixtus* IV †1484] : of or relating to the Sistine chapel in the Vatican

sis·trum \'sis-trəm\ *n, pl* **sistrums** *or* **sis·tra** \-trə\ [ME, fr. L, fr. Gk *seistron*, fr. *seiein* to shake — more at SEISMIC] : an ancient percussion instrument used esp. in Egypt and consisting of a thin metal frame with numerous metal rods or loops that jingle when shaken

Sis·y·phe·an \ˌsis-ə-'fē-ən\ *or* **Si·syph·i·an** \sis-'if-ē-ən\ *adj* : of, relating to, or suggestive of the labors of Sisyphus

Sis·y·phus \'sis-ə-fəs\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *Sisyphos*] : a legendary king of Corinth condemned to roll a heavy rock up a hill in Hades only to have it roll down again as it nears the top

¹sit \'sit\ *vb* **sat** \'sat\; **sit·ting** [ME *sitten*, fr. OE *sittan*; akin to OHG *sizzen* to sit, L *sedēre*, Gk *hezesthai* to sit, *hedra* seat] *vi* **1 a** : to rest on the buttocks or haunches ⟨~ in a chair⟩ **b** : PERCH, ROOST **2** : to occupy a place as a member of an official body ⟨~ in Congress⟩ **3** : to hold a session : be in session for official business **4** : to cover eggs for hatching : BROOD **5 a** : to take a position for having one's portrait painted or for being photographed **b** : to serve as a model **6** *archaic* : to have one's dwelling place : DWELL **7 a** : to lie or hang relative to a wearer ⟨the collar ~*s* awkwardly⟩ **b** : to affect one with or as if with weight ⟨the food *sat* heavily on his stomach⟩ **8** : LIE, REST ⟨a kettle *sitting* on the stove⟩ **9 a** : to have a location ⟨the house ~*s* well back from the road⟩ **b** *of wind* : to blow from a certain direction **10** : to remain inactive or quiescent ⟨the car ~*s* in the garage⟩ **11** : to take an examination **12** : BABY-SIT ~ *vt* **1** : to cause to be seated : place on or in a seat **2** : to sit on (eggs) **3** : to keep one's seat on ⟨~ a horse⟩ **4** : to provide seats or seating room for ⟨the car will ~ six people⟩ — **sit on** **1** : to hold deliberations concerning **2** : REPRESS, SQUELCH **3** : to delay action or decision concerning — **sit on one's hands** **1** : to withhold applause **2** : to fail to take action — **sit pretty** : to be in a highly favorable situation — **sit tight** **1** : to maintain one's position without change **2** : to remain quiet in or as if in hiding — **sit under** : to attend religious service under the instruction or ministrations of; *also* : to attend the classes or lectures of

²sit *n* **1** : an act or period of sitting **2** : the manner in which a garment fits

si·tar \si-'tär\ *n* [Hindi *sitār*, fr. Per, a three-stringed guitar, fr. *sih* three + *tār* string, thread] : an Indian lute with a long neck and a varying number of strings — **si·tar·ist** \-əst\ *n*

sit-down \'sit-ˌdaůn, 'sid-ˌaůn\ *n* **1** : a cessation of work by employees while maintaining continuous occupation of their place of employment as a protest and means toward forcing compliance with demands **2** : a mass obstruction of an activity by sitting down to demonstrate a grievance or to get the activity modified or halted

¹site \'sīt\ *n* [ME, place, position, fr. MF or L; MF, fr. L *situs*, fr. *situs*, pp. of *sinere* to leave, place, lay; akin to L *serere* to sow — more at SOW] **1 a** : the spatial location of an actual or planned structure or set of structures (as a building, town, or monuments) **b** : a space of ground occupied or to be occupied by a building **2** : the place, scene, or point of something

²site *vt* **sit·ed; sit·ing** : to place on a site or in position : LOCATE

sith \(')sith\ *or* **sith·ence** \'sith-ən(t)s\ *or* **sith·ens** \'sith-ənz\ *archaic var of* SINCE

sit-in \'sit-ˌin\ *n* **1** : SIT-DOWN 1 **2 a** : an act of occupying seats in a racially segregated establishment in organized protest against discrimination **b** : an act of sitting in the seats or on the floor of an establishment as a means of organized protest

sit in \sit-'in\ *vi* **1** : to take part in or be present at a session of music or discussion as a visitor **2** : to participate in a sit-in

Sit·ka spruce \ˌsit-kə-\ *n* [*Sitka*, Alaska] : a tall spruce (*Picea sitchensis*) of the northern Pacific coast that has thin reddish brown bark and flat needles

si·tos·ter·ol \sī-'täs-tə-ˌrȯl, sə-, -ˌrōl\ *n* [Gk *sitos* grain + E *sterol*] : any of several sterols that are widespread esp. in plant products (as wheat germ or soy bean oil) and are used as starting materials for the synthesis of steroid hormones

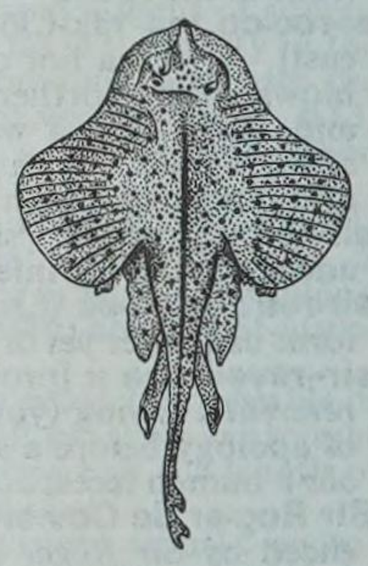
sit out *vt* : to refrain from participating in ⟨*sit out* the next dance⟩

sit·ter \'sit-ər\ *n* : one that sits; *specif* : BABY-SITTER

¹sit·ting \'sit-iŋ\ *n* **1 a** : the act of one that sits **b** : a single occasion of continuous sitting (as for a portrait or meal) **2 a** : a brooding over eggs for hatching **b** : SETTING 6 **3** : SESSION ⟨a ~ of the legislature⟩

²sitting *adj* **1** : that is setting ⟨a ~ hen⟩ **2** : occupying a judicial or legislative seat : being in office **3** : easily hit or played ⟨a ~ target⟩ **4 a** : used in or for sitting ⟨a ~ position⟩ **b** : performed while sitting ⟨a ~ shot⟩

sitting duck *n* : an easy or defenseless target for attack or criticism or unscrupulous dealings
sitting room *n* : LIVING ROOM 1
[1]sit·u·ate \'sich-(ə-)wət, -ə-ˌwāt\ *adj* [ML *situatus*, pp. of *situare* to place, fr. L *situs*] : having a site : LOCATED
[2]sit·u·ate \'sich-ə-ˌwāt\ *vt* **-at·ed; -at·ing** : to place in a site, situation, or category : LOCATE
sit·u·at·ed *adj* **1** : having a site, situation, or location : LOCATED **2** : provided with money or possessions ⟨comfortably ~⟩
sit·u·a·tion \ˌsich-ə-'wā-shən\ *n* **1 a** : the way in which something is placed in relation to its surroundings **b** : SITE **c** *archaic* : LOCALITY **2** *archaic* : state of health **3 a** : position or place of employment : POST, JOB **b** : position in life : STATUS **4 a** : position with respect to conditions and circumstances ⟨the military ~ remains obscure⟩ **b** : the sum total of internal and external stimuli that act upon an organism within a given time interval **5 a** : relative position or combination of circumstances at a certain moment **b** : a critical, trying, or unusual state of affairs : PROBLEM **c** : a particular or striking complex of affairs at a stage in the action of a narrative or drama ***syn*** see STATE
sit·u·a·tion·al \-shnəl, -shən-ᵊl\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or appropriate to a situation **2** : of or relating to situation ethics — **sit·u·a·tion·al·ly** \-ē\ *adv*
situation comedy *n* : a radio or television comedy series that involves a continuing cast of characters in a succession of unconnected episodes
situation ethics *n* : a system of ethics which is based on love and by which acts are judged within their contexts instead of by categorical principles
sit–up \'sit-ˌəp\ *n* : a conditioning exercise performed from a supine position by raising the trunk to a sitting position usu. while keeping the legs straight and returning to the original position
sit up \sit-'əp\ *vi* **1 a** : to rise from a lying to a sitting position **b** : to sit with the back erect **2** : to show interest, alertness, or surprise ⟨*sit up* and take notice⟩ **3** : to stay up after the usual time for going to bed ⟨*sat up* late to watch the movie⟩
si·tus \'sīt-əs\ *n* [L — more at SITE] : the place where something exists or originates; *specif* : the place where something (as a right) is held to be located in law
sitz bath \'sits-\ *n* [part trans. of G *sitzbad*, fr. *sitz* act of sitting + *bad* bath] : a tub in which one bathes in a sitting posture; *also* : a bath so taken esp. therapeutically
sitz·krieg \'sit-ˌskrēg, 'zit-\ *n* [G, fr. *sitz* + *krieg* war] : static or nonaggressive warfare
sitz·mark \'sit-ˌsmärk, 'zit-\ *n* [part trans. of G *sitzmarke*, fr. *sitz* + *marke* mark] : a depression left in the snow by a skier falling backward
Si·va \'s(h)iv-ə, 's(h)ē-və\ *n* [Skt *Śiva*] : the god of destruction and regeneration in the Hindu sacred triad — compare BRAHMA, VISHNU
Si·van \'siv-ən\ *n* [Heb *Sīwān*] : the 9th month of the civil year or the 3d month of the ecclesiastical year in the Jewish calendar — see MONTH table
Si·wash \'sī-ˌwȯsh, -ˌwäsh\ *n* [*Siwash*, fictional college in stories by George Fitch †1915 Am author] : a small usu. inland college that is notably provincial in outlook ⟨cheer for dear old *Siwash*⟩
six \'siks\ *n* [ME, fr. *six*, adj., fr. OE *siex*; akin to OHG *sehs* six, L *sex*, Gk *hex*] **1** — see NUMBER table **2** : the sixth in a set or series ⟨the ~ of spades⟩ **3** : something having six units or members: as **a** : an ice-hockey team **b** : a 6-cylinder engine or automobile — **six** *adj or pron* — **at sixes and sevens** : being in disorder
six·fold \'siks-ˌfōld, -'fōld\ *adj* **1** : having six units or members **2** : being six times as great or as many — **six·fold** \-'fōld\ *adv*
six–gun \'siks-ˌgən\ *n* : a 6-chambered revolver
six·mo \'sik-(ˌ)smō\ *n, pl* **sixmos** : the size of a piece of paper cut six from a sheet; *also* : a book, a page, or paper of this size
six–o–six *or* **606** \ˌsik-ˌsō-'siks\ *n* [fr. its having been the 606th compound tested and introduced by Paul Ehrlich] : ARSPHENAMINE
six–pack \'sik-ˌspak\ *n* **1** : a container for six bottles or cans purchased together **2** : the contents of a six-pack
six·pence \'sik-spən(t)s, *US also* -ˌspen(t)s\ *n* **1** : a former British monetary unit equal to six pennies **2** *pl* **sixpence** *or* **six·penc·es** : a coin worth sixpence
six·pen·ny \'sik-spə-nē, *US also* -ˌspen-ē\ *adj* : costing or worth sixpence
sixpenny bit *n* : SIXPENCE 2
six·pen·ny nail \ˌsik-ˌspen-ē-\ *n* : a nail about two inches long
six–shoot·er \'sik(s)-'shüt-ər\ *n* : SIX-GUN
six·teen \(')sik-'stēn\ *n* [ME *sixtene*, fr. OE *sixtȳne*, adj.; akin to OE *tīen* ten] — see NUMBER table — **sixteen** *adj or pron* — **six·teenth** \-'tēn(t)th\ *adj or n*
six·teen·mo \sik-'stēn-(ˌ)mō\ *n, pl* **-mos** : the size of a piece of paper cut 16 from a sheet; *also* : a book, a page, or paper of this size
sixteenth note *n* : a musical note with the time value of $^1/_{16}$ of a whole note — see NOTE illustration
sixteenth rest *n* : a musical rest corresponding in time value to a sixteenth note
sixth \'siks(t)th\ *n* **1** — see NUMBER table **2 a** : a musical interval embracing six diatonic degrees **b** : a tone at this interval; *specif* : SUBMEDIANT **c** : the harmonic combination of two tones a sixth apart — **sixth** *adj or adv* — **sixth·ly** \'sikst(h)-lē\ *adv*
sixth chord *n* : a musical chord consisting of a tone with its third and its sixth above and usu. being the first inversion of a triad
sixth sense *n* : a power of perception like but not one of the five senses : a keen intuitive power
Six·tine \'sik-ˌstīn, -ˌstēn\ *var of* SISTINE
six·ty \'sik-stē\ *n, pl* **sixties** [ME, fr. *sixty*, adj., fr. OE *siextig*, n., group of sixty, fr. *siex* six + *-tig* group of ten — more at EIGHTY] **1** —see NUMBER table **2** *pl* : the numbers 60-69; *specif* : the years 60 to 69 in a lifetime or century — **six·ti·eth** \'sik-stē-əth\ *adj or n* — **sixty** *adj or pron*
sixty–fourth note \ˌsik-stē-'fōrth-, -'fȯrth-\ *n* : a musical note with the time value of $^1/_{64}$ of a whole note — see NOTE illustration
sixty–fourth rest *n* : a musical rest corresponding in time value to a sixty-fourth note
six·ty–nine \ˌsik-stē-'nīn\ *n* **1** — see NUMBER table **2** : mutual cunnilingus and fellatio : mutual fellatio : mutual cunnilingus
siz·able *or* **size·able** \'sī-zə-bəl\ *adj* : fairly large : CONSIDERABLE — **siz·able·ness** *n* — **siz·ably** \-blē\ *adv*
siz·ar *also* **siz·er** \'sī-zər\ *n* [*sizar* alter. of *sizer*, fr. [1]*size*] : a student (as in the university of Cambridge) who receives an allowance toward his college expenses and who orig. acted as a servant to other students in return for this allowance
[1]size \'sīz\ *n* [ME *sise* assize, fr. MF, fr. OF, short for *assise* — more at ASSIZE] **1** *dial Brit* : ASSIZE 5a — usu. used in pl. **2** *obs* : a fixed portion of food or drink **3 a** : physical magnitude, extent, or bulk : relative or proportionate dimensions **b** : relative aggregate amount or number **c** : considerable proportions : BIGNESS **4** : one of a series of graduated measures esp. of manufactured articles (as of clothing) conventionally identified by numbers or letters ⟨a ~ 7 hat⟩ **5** : character, quality, or status of a person or thing esp. with reference to importance, relative merit, or correspondence to needs ⟨try this idea on for ~⟩ **6** : actual state of affairs ⟨that's about the ~ of it⟩
[2]size *vb* **sized; siz·ing** *vt* **1** : to make a particular size : bring to proper or suitable size **2** : to arrange, grade, or classify according to size or bulk **3** : to form a judgment of — usu. used with *up* ~ *vi* : to equal in size or other particular characteristic : COMPARE — usu. used with *up* and often with *to* or *with*
[3]size *n* [ME *sise*] : any of various glutinous materials (as preparations of glue, flour, varnish, or resins) used for filling the pores in surfaces (as of paper, textiles, leather, or plaster) or for applying color or metal leaf (as to book edges or covers)
[4]size *vt* **sized; siz·ing** : to cover, stiffen, or glaze with or as if with size
[5]size \'sīz, ˌsīz\ *adj* : SIZED — usu. used in combination ⟨bite-*size*⟩
sized \'sīzd, ˌsīzd\ *adj* **1** : having a specified size or bulk — usu. used in combination ⟨a small-*sized* house⟩ **2** : arranged or adjusted according to size
siz·ing \'sī-ziŋ\ *n* : [3]SIZE
[1]siz·zle \'siz-əl\ *vb* **siz·zled; siz·zling** \-(ə-)liŋ\ [perh. freq. of *siss* (to hiss)] *vt* : to burn up or sear with or as if with a hissing sound ~ *vi* **1** : to make a hissing sound in or as if in burning or frying **2** : to seethe with deep anger or resentment
[2]sizzle *n* : a hissing sound (as of something frying over a fire)
siz·zler \'siz-(ə-)lər\ *n* : one that sizzles; *esp* : SCORCHER
SJ *abbr* Society of Jesus
SJD *abbr* [NL *scientiae juridicae doctor*] doctor of juridical science
skag \'skag\ *n* [origin unknown] *slang* : HEROIN
skald \'skȯld, 'skäld\ *n* [ON *skāld* — more at SCOLD] : an ancient Scandinavian poet or historiographer; *broadly* : BARD — **skald·ic** \-ik\ *adj*
skat \'skät, 'skat\ *n* [G, modif. of It *scarto* discard, fr. *scartare* to discard, fr. *s-* (fr. L *ex-*) + *carta* card] **1** : a three-handed card game played with 32 cards in which players bid for the privilege of attempting any of several contracts **2** : a widow of two cards in skat that may be used by the winner of the bid
[1]skate \'skāt\ *n, pl* **skates** *also* **skate** [ME *scate*, fr. ON *skata*] : any of numerous rays (as of the genus *Raja*) with the pectoral fins greatly developed giving the animal a rhomboidal shape


skate

[2]skate *n* [modif. of D *schaats* stilt, skate, fr. (assumed) ONF *escache* stilt; akin to OF *eschace* stilt] **1 a** : a metal frame that can be fitted to the sole of a shoe and to which is attached a runner or a set of wheels for gliding over ice or a surface other than ice **b** : ROLLER SKATE **c** : ICE SKATE **2** : a period of skating
[3]skate *vb* **skat·ed; skat·ing** *vi* **1** : to glide along on skates propelled by the alternate action of the legs **2** : to slip or glide as if on skates **3** : to proceed in a superficial manner ~ *vt* : to go along or through by skating
[4]skate *n* [prob. alter. of E dial. *skite* (an offensive person)] **1** : a thin awkward-looking or decrepit horse : NAG **2** : FELLOW
skate·board \'skāt-ˌbō(ə)rd, -ˌbȯ(ə)rd\ *n* : a narrow board about two feet long mounted on roller-skate wheels — **skate·board·er** \-ˌbōrd-ər, -ˌbȯrd-\ *n* — **skate·board·ing** \-iŋ\ *n*
skat·er \'skāt-ər\ *n* **1** : one that skates **2** : WATER STRIDER
skat·ing \'skāt-iŋ\ *n* : the act, art, or sport of gliding on skates
ska·tole \'skat-ˌōl, 'skāt-\ *also* **ska·tol** \-ˌȯl, -ˌōl\ *n* [ISV, fr. Gk *skat-, skōr* excrement — more at SCAT-] : a foul-smelling compound C_9H_9N found in the intestines and feces, in civet, and in several plants or made synthetically and used in perfumes as a fixative
skean *or* **skene** \'skē(-ə)n\ *n* [IrGael *scian* & ScGael *sgian*] : DAGGER, DIRK
ske·dad·dle \ski-'dad-ᵊl\ *vi* **ske·dad·dled; ske·dad·dling** \-'dad-liŋ, -ᵊl-iŋ\ [origin unknown] : to run away; *specif* : to flee in a panic — **ske·dad·dler** \-'dad-lər, -ᵊl-ər\ *n*
skeet \'skēt\ *n* [modif. of ON *skjōta* to shoot — more at SHOOT] : trapshooting in which clay targets are thrown in such a way as to simulate the angles of flight of birds
[1]skee·ter \'skēt-ər\ *n* [by shortening & alter.] **1** : MOSQUITO **2** : an iceboat about 16 feet in length equipped with a single sail
[2]skeet·er \'skēt-ər\ *n* : a skeet shooter
skeg \'skeg\ *also* **skag** \'skag\ *n* [D *scheg*; akin to OSlav *skokŭ* leap — more at SHAG] **1** : the stern of the keel of a ship near the sternpost; *esp* : the part connecting the keel with the bottom of the rudderpost in a single-screw ship **2** : a fin situated on the rear bottom of a surfboard that is used for steering and stability
skeigh \'skēk\ *adj* [perh. of Scand origin; akin to Sw *skygg* shy; akin to OE *scēoh* shy — more at SHY] *chiefly Scot* : proudly spirited : SKITTISH

[1]skein \'skān\ *n* [ME *skeyne*, fr. MF *escaigne*] **1** *or* **skean** *or* **skeane** \'skān\ : a loosely coiled length of yarn or thread wound on a reel **2** : something suggesting the twists or coils of a skein : TANGLE **3** : a flock of wildfowl (as geese or ducks) in flight
[2]skein *vt* : to wind into skeins ⟨~ yarn⟩
skel·e·tal \'skel-ət-ᵊl\ *adj* : of, relating to, forming, attached to, or resembling a skeleton — **skel·e·tal·ly** \-ᵊl-ē\ *adv*
[1]skel·e·ton \'skel-ət-ᵊn\ *n* [NL, fr. Gk, neut. of *skeletos* dried up; akin to Gk *skellein* to dry up, *sklēros* hard, OE *sceald* shallow] **1** : a usu. rigid supportive or protective structure or framework of an organism; *esp* : the bony or more or less cartilaginous framework supporting the soft tissues and protecting the internal organs of a vertebrate (as a fish or man) **2** : something reduced to its minimum form or essential parts **3** : an emaciated person or animal **4 a** : something forming a structural framework **b** : the straight or branched chain or ring of atoms that forms the basic structure of an organic molecule **5** : something shameful and kept secret (as in a family) — often used in the phrase *skeleton in the closet*
[2]skeleton *adj* : of, consisting of, or resembling a skeleton
skel·e·ton·ize \-ˌīz\ *vt* **-ized; -iz·ing** : to produce in or reduce to skeleton form ⟨~ a leaf⟩ ⟨~ a news story⟩ ⟨~ a regiment⟩
skel·e·ton·iz·er \-ˌī-zər\ *n* : any of various lepidopterous larvae that eat the parenchyma of leaves reducing them to a skeleton of veins
skeleton key *n* : a key with a large part of the bit filed away to enable it to open low quality locks as a master key
skel·lum \'skel-əm\ *n* [D *schelm*, fr. LG; akin to OHG *skelmo* person deserving death] *chiefly Scot* : SCOUNDREL, RASCAL
[1]skelp \'skelp\ *vb* **skelped** \'skelpt\ *also* **skel·pit** \'skel-pət\; **skelp·ing** [ME *skelpen*] *vt, dial Brit* : STRIKE, SLAP, BEAT ~ *vi* : to step lively : HUSTLE
[2]skelp *n, dial Brit* : a smart blow : SLAP
skel·ter \'skel-tər\ *vi* **skel·tered; skel·ter·ing** \-t(ə-)riŋ\ [fr. *-skelter* (in *helter-skelter*)] : SCURRY
Skel·ton·ics \skel-'tän-iks\ *n pl* [John *Skelton*] : short verses of an irregular meter with two or three stresses sometimes in falling and sometimes in rising rhythm and usu. with rhymed couplets
skep \'skep\ *n* [ME *skeppe* basket, basketful, fr. OE *sceppe*, fr. ON *skeppa* bushel; akin to OE *scieppan* to form, create — more at SHAPE] : BEEHIVE; *esp* : a domed hive made of twisted straw
skep·sis \'skep-səs\ *n* [NL, fr. Gk *skepsis* examination, doubt, skeptical philosophy, fr. *skeptesthai*] : philosophic doubt as to the objective reality of phenomena; *broadly* : a skeptical outlook or attitude
skep·tic \'skep-tik\ *n* [L or Gk; L *scepticus*, fr. Gk *skeptikos*, fr. *skeptikos* thoughtful, fr. *skeptesthai* to look, consider — more at SPY] **1** : an adherent or advocate of skepticism **2** : a person disposed to skepticism esp. regarding religion or religious principles
skep·ti·cal \-ti-kəl\ *adj* : relating to, characteristic of, or marked by skepticism ⟨a ~ listener⟩ — **skep·ti·cal·ly** \-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
skep·ti·cism \'skep-tə-ˌsiz-əm\ *n* **1 a** : the doctrine that true knowledge or knowledge in a particular area is uncertain **b** : the method of suspended judgment, systematic doubt, or criticism characteristic of skeptics **2** : an attitude of doubt or a disposition to incredulity either in general or toward a particular object **3** : doubt concerning basic religious principles (as immortality, providence, and revelation) ***syn*** see UNCERTAINTY
sker·ry \'sker-ē\ *n, pl* **skerries** [of Scand origin; akin to ON *sker* skerry and to ON *ey* island; akin to L *aqua* water — more at SCAR, ISLAND] : a rocky isle : REEF
[1]sketch \'skech\ *n* [D *schets*, fr. It *schizzo*, fr. *schizzare* to splash] **1 a** : a rough drawing representing the chief features of an object or scene and often made as a preliminary study **b** : a tentative draft (as for a literary work) **2** : a brief description (as of a person) or outline **3 a** : a short literary composition somewhat resembling the short story and the essay but intentionally slight in treatment, discursive in style, and familiar in tone **b** : a short instrumental composition usu. for piano **c** : a slight theatrical piece having a single scene; *esp* : a comic variety act
[2]sketch *vt* : to make a sketch, rough draft, or outline of ~ *vi* : to draw or paint a sketch — **sketch·er** *n*
sketch·book \'skech-ˌbůk\ *n* : a book of or for sketches
sketchy \'skech-ē\ *adj* **sketch·i·er; -est** **1** : of the nature of a sketch : roughly outlined **2** : wanting in completeness, clearness, or substance : SLIGHT, SUPERFICIAL — **sketch·i·ly** \'skech-ə-lē\ *adv* — **sketch·i·ness** \'skech-ē-nəs\ *n*
[1]skew \'skyü\ *vb* [ME *skewen* to escape, skew, fr. ONF *escuer* to shun, of Gmc origin; akin to OHG *sciuhen* to frighten off — more at SHY] *vi* **1** : to take an oblique course **2** : to look askance ~ *vt* **1** : to make, set, or cut on the skew **2** : to distort from a true value or symmetrical form ⟨~*ed* statistical data⟩
[2]skew *adj* **1** : set, placed, or running obliquely : SLANTING **2** : more developed on one side or in one direction than another : not symmetrical
[3]skew *n* : a deviation from a straight line : SLANT
skew arch *n* : an arch whose jambs are not at right angles with the face
skew·back \'skyü-ˌbak\ *n* : a course of masonry, a stone, or an iron plate having an inclined face against which the voussoirs of a segmental arch abut
skew·bald \-ˌbȯld\ *adj* [*skewed* (skewbald) + *bald*] *of an animal* : marked with spots and patches of white and some other color
skew curve *n* : a curve in three-dimensional space that does not lie in a single plane
skew distribution *n* : an unsymmetrical frequency distribution having the mode at a different value from the mean
[1]skew·er \'skyü-ər, 'skyù(-ə)r\ *n* [prob. alter. of *skiver*] **1** : a pin of wood or metal for fastening meat to keep it in form while roasting or to hold small pieces of meat and vegetables for broiling **2** : any of various things shaped or used like a meat skewer
[2]skewer *vt* : to fasten or pierce with or as if with a skewer
skew field *n* : a mathematical field in which multiplication is not commutative
skew lines *n pl* : straight lines that do not intersect and are not in the same plane
skew·ness \'skyü-nəs\ *n* : lack of straightness or symmetry : DISTORTION; *esp* : lack of symmetry in a frequency distribution
[1]ski \'skē, *Brit also* 'shē\ *n, pl* **skis** [Norw, fr. ON *skīth* stick of wood, ski; akin to OHG *skīt* stick of wood, OE *scēadan* to divide — more at SHED] **1 a** : one of a pair of narrow strips of wood, metal, or plastic curving upward in front that are used esp. for gliding over snow **b** : WATER SKI **2** : a piece of material that resembles a ski and is used as a runner on a vehicle
[2]ski *vb* **skied** \'skēd, 'shēd\; **ski·ing** *vi* : to glide on skis in travel or as a sport ~ *vt* : to travel or pass over on skis — **ski·able** \'skē-ə-bəl\ *adj* — **ski·er** *n*
skia- *comb form* [NL, fr. Gk *skia* — more at SCENE] : shadow ⟨*skia*graph⟩
skia·gram \'skī-ə-ˌgram\ *n* [ISV] **1** : a figure formed by shading in the outline of a shadow **2** : RADIOGRAPH
skia·graph \-ˌgraf\ *n* : RADIOGRAPH
ski·ag·ra·phy \skī-'ag-rə-fē\ *n* [ISV] : the making of skiagrams
skia·scope \'skī-ə-ˌskōp\ *n* : a device for determining the refractive state of the eye from the movements of retinal lights and shadows — **ski·as·co·py** \skī-'as-kə-pē\ *n*
ski·bob \'skē-ˌbäb\ *n* [*[1]ski* + *[8]bob*] : a vehicle that has two short skis one behind the other, a steering handle attached to the forward ski, and a low upholstered seat over the rear ski and that is used for gliding downhill over snow by a rider wearing miniature skis for balance — **ski·bob·ber** \-ˌbäb-ər\ *n* — **ski·bob·bing** \-ˌbäb-iŋ\ *n*
ski boot *n* : a rigid padded shoe usu. of leather or plastic that extends just above the ankle, is securely fastened to the foot (as with laces, buckles, or hinges), and is locked into position in a ski binding
[1]skid \'skid\ *n* [perh. of Scand origin; akin to ON *skīth* stick of wood] **1** : one of a group of objects (as planks or logs) used to support or elevate a structure or object **2** : a wooden fender hung over a ship's side to protect it in handling cargo **3** : a usu. iron shoe or clog attached to a chain and placed under a wheel to prevent its turning when descending a steep hill : DRAG **4** : a timber, bar, rail, pole, or log used in pairs or sets to form a slideway (as for an incline from a truck to the sidewalk) **5** : the act of skidding : SLIP, SIDESLIP **6** : a runner used as a member of the landing gear of an airplane or helicopter **7** *pl* : a route to defeat or downfall ⟨on the ~s⟩ **8** : a low platform mounted (as on wheels) on which material is set for handling and moving
[2]skid *vb* **skid·ded; skid·ding** *vt* **1** : to apply a brake or skid to : slow or halt by a skid **2** : to haul along, slide, hoist, or store on skids ~ *vi* **1** : to slide without rotating (as a wheel held from turning while a vehicle moves onward) **2 a** : to fail to grip the roadway; *specif* : to slip sideways on the road **b** *of an airplane* : to slide sidewise away from the center of curvature when turning **c** : SLIDE, SLIP **3** : to fall rapidly, steeply, or far
skid·der \'skid-ər\ *n* : one that skids or uses a skid
skid·doo *or* **ski·doo** \skid-'ü\ *vi* [prob. alter. of *skedaddle*] : to go away : DEPART
skid·dy \'skid-ē\ *adj* **skid·di·er; -est** : likely to skid or cause skidding ⟨a wet ~ road⟩
skid fin *n* : a fore-and-aft vertical surface usu. placed above the upper wing of a biplane to provide lateral stability
skid road *n* **1** : a road along which logs are skidded **2 a** *West* : the part of a town frequented by loggers **b** : SKID ROW
skid row \-'rō\ *n* [alter. of *skid road*] : a district of cheap saloons and flophouses frequented by vagrants and alcoholics
ski·ey *var of* SKYEY
skiff \'skif\ *n* [MF or OIt; MF *esquif*, fr. OIt *schifo*, of Gmc origin; akin to OE *scip* ship] **1** : a small light sailing ship **2** : a light rowboat **3** : a boat with centerboard and spritsail light enough to be rowed — called also *St. Lawrence skiff* **4** : a small fast motorboat
skif·fle \'skif-əl\ *n* [perh. imit.] : jazz or folk music played by a group all or some of whose members play nonstandard instruments or noisemakers (as jugs, washboards, or Jew's harps)
ski·ing *n* : the art or sport of sliding and jumping on skis
ski·jor·ing \'skē-ˌjōr-iŋ, -ˌjȯr-, ('ˌ)skē-'\ *n* [modif. of Norw *skikjøring*, fr. *ski* + *kjøring* driving] : a winter sport in which a person wearing skis is drawn over snow or ice by a horse or vehicle
ski jump *n* : a jump made by a person wearing skis; *also* : a course or track esp. prepared for such jumping — **ski jump** *vi*
ski lift *n* : a motor-driven conveyor consisting usu. of a series of bars or seats suspended from an overhead moving cable and used for transporting skiers or sightseers up a long slope or mountainside
[1]skill \'skil\ *n* [ME *skil*, fr. ON, distinction, knowledge; akin to OE *scylian* to separate, *sciell* shell — more at SHELL] **1** *obs* : CAUSE, REASON **2 a** : the ability to use one's knowledge effectively and readily in execution or performance **b** : dexterity or coordination esp. in the execution of learned physical tasks **3** : a learned power of doing something competently : a developed aptitude or ability ⟨language ~s⟩ ***syn*** see ART
[2]skill *vi, archaic* : to make a difference : MATTER, AVAIL
skilled \'skild\ *adj* **1** : having acquired mastery of or skill in something (as a technique or a trade) **2** : of, relating to, or requiring workers or labor with skill and training in a particular occupation, craft, or trade ***syn*** see PROFICIENT ***ant*** unskilled
skil·let \'skil-ət\ *n* [ME *skelet*] **1** *chiefly Brit* : a small kettle or pot usu. having three or four often long feet and used for cooking on the hearth **2** : FRYING PAN

skill·ful *or* **skil·ful** \'skil-fəl\ *adj* **1** : possessed of or displaying skill : EXPERT **2** : accomplished with skill ***syn*** see PROFICIENT ***ant*** unskillful — **skill·ful·ly** \-fə-lē\ *adv* — **skill·ful·ness** *n*

skil·ling \'skil-iŋ, 'shil-\ *n* [Sw, Norw, & Dan, fr. ON *skillingr*, a gold coin; akin to OE *scilling* shilling] **1** : any of various old Scandinavian units of value **2** : any of the small coins representing one skilling

skill–less *or* **skil·less** \'skil-ləs\ *adj* : having no skill — **skill–less·ness** *n*

¹skim \'skim\ *vb* **skimmed; skim·ming** [ME *skimmen*] *vt* **1 a** : to clear (a liquid) of scum or floating substance ⟨~ boiling syrup⟩ **b** : to remove (as film or scum) from the surface of a liquid **c** : to remove cream from by skimming **d** : to remove the best or most easily obtainable contents from **2** : to read, study, or examine superficially and rapidly; *specif* : to glance through (as a book) for the chief ideas or the plot **3** : to throw in a gliding path; *specif* : to throw so as to ricochet along the surface of water **4** : to cover with or as if with a film, scum, or coat **5** : to pass swiftly or lightly over ~ *vi* **1 a** : to pass lightly or hastily : glide or skip along, above, or near a surface **b** : to give a cursory glance or consideration **2** : to become coated with a thin layer of film or scum **3** : to put on a finishing coat of plaster

²skim *n* **1** : a thin layer, coating, or film **2** : the act of skimming **3** : something skimmed; *specif* : SKIM MILK

³skim *adj* **1** : having the cream removed by skimming **2** : made of skim milk ⟨~ cheese⟩

ski mask *n* : a knit fabric mask that covers the head, has openings for the eyes, mouth, and sometimes the nose, and is worn esp. by skiers for protection from the cold

skim·ble–skam·ble \ˌskim-bəl-'skam-bəl\ *adj* [redupl. of E dial. *scamble* to stumble along] : DISCURSIVE, SENSELESS

skim·mer \'skim-ər\ *n* **1** : one that skims; *specif* : a flat perforated scoop or spoon used for skimming **2 a** : any of several long-winged marine birds (genus *Rhynchops*) related to the terns **b** : WATER STRIDER **3** : a usu. straw flat-crowned hat with a wide straight brim **4** : a fitted sleeveless usu. flaring sheathlike dress

skim milk *n* : milk from which the cream has been taken — called also *skimmed milk*

skim·ming *n* **1** : that which is skimmed from a liquid **2** : the practice of fraudulently reporting gambling income (as of a casino) so as to avoid full tax payments

ski·mo·bile \'skē-mō-ˌbēl\ *n* : SNOWMOBILE

¹skimp \'skimp\ *adj* [perh. alter. of *scrimp*] : SCANTY, MEAGER

²skimp *vt* : to give insufficient or barely sufficient attention or effort to or funds for ~ *vi* : to save by or as if by skimping

skimpy \'skim-pē\ *adj* **skimp·i·er; -est** : deficient in supply or execution esp. through skimping : SCANTY ***syn*** see MEAGER — **skimp·i·ly** \-pə-lē\ *adv* — **skimp·i·ness** \-pē-nəs\ *n*

¹skin \'skin\ *n, often attrib* [ME, fr. ON *skinn;* akin to OE *scinn* skin, MHG *schint* fruit peel, W *ysgythru* to cut] **1 a** (1) : the integument of an animal (as a fur-bearing mammal or a bird) separated from the body usu. with its hair or feathers (2) : a usu. unmounted specimen of a vertebrate (as in a museum) **b** : the hide or pelt of a game or domestic animal **c** (1) : the pelt of an animal prepared for use as a trimming or in a garment ⟨it took 40 ~*s* to make the coat⟩ — compare ³HIDE (2) : a sheet of parchment or vellum made from a hide (3) : BOTTLE 1b **2 a** : the external limiting layer of an animal body esp. when forming a tough but flexible cover relatively impermeable from without while intact **b** : any of various outer or surface layers (as a rind, husk, or pellicle) ⟨a sausage ~⟩ **3** : the life or physical well-being of a person ⟨made sure to save his ~⟩ **4** : a sheathing or casing forming the outside surface of a structure (as a ship or airplane) — **skin·less** \-ləs\ *adj* — **by the skin of one's teeth** : by a very narrow margin — **under one's skin** : so deeply penetrative as to irritate, stimulate, provoke thought, or otherwise excite — **under the skin** : beneath apparent or surface differences : at heart

²skin *vb* **skinned; skin·ning** *vt* **1 a** : to cover with or as if with skin **b** : to heal over with skin **2 a** : to strip, scrape, or rub off an outer covering (as the skin or rind) of **b** : to strip or peel off **c** : to cut, chip, or damage the surface of ⟨fell and *skinned* his knee⟩ **3 a** : to strip of money or property : FLEECE **b** : DEFEAT **c** : CENSURE, CASTIGATE **4** : to urge on and direct the course of (as a draft animal) ~ *vi* **1** : to become covered with or as if with skin **2 a** : SHIN **b** : to pass or get by with scant room to spare

skin–deep \'skin-'dēp\ *adj* **1** : as deep as the skin **2** : not thorough or lasting in impression : SUPERFICIAL

skin–dive \'skin-ˌdīv\ *vi* : to engage in skin diving — **skin diver** *n*

skin diving *n* : the sport of swimming under water with a face mask and flippers and esp. without a portable breathing device

skin effect *n* : an effect characteristic of current distribution in a conductor at high frequencies by virtue of which the current density is greater near the surface of the conductor than in its interior

skin flick *n* : a motion picture characterized by nudity and explicit sexual situations

skin·flint \'skin-ˌflint\ *n* : a person who would save, gain, or extort money by any means : MISER, NIGGARD

skin·ful \-ˌfůl\ *n* **1** : the contents of a skin bottle **2** : a large or satisfying quantity esp. of liquor

skin game *n* : a swindling game or trick

skin graft *n* : a piece of skin that is taken from a donor area to replace skin in a defective or denuded area (as one that has been burned)

skin grafting *n* : the action or process of making a skin graft

skin·head \'skin-ˌhed\ *n* **1** : one whose hair is cut very short **2** : a young short-haired working-class British hoodlum

¹skink \'skiŋk\ *vt* [ME *skinken*, fr. MD *schenken;* akin to OE *scencan* to pour out drink, *scanca* shank] *chiefly dial* : to draw, pour out, or serve (drink)

²skink *n* [L *scincus*, fr. Gk *skinkos*] : any of a family (Scincidae) of mostly small pleurodont lizards that have small scales

skink·er \'skiŋ-kər\ *n* : one that serves liquor : TAPSTER

skinned \'skind\ *adj* : having skin esp. of a specified kind — usu. used in combination ⟨dark-*skinned*⟩

skin·ner \'skin-ər\ *n* **1 a** : one that deals in skins, pelts, or hides **b** : one that removes, cures, or dresses skins **2** : SHARPER **3** : a driver of draft animals : TEAMSTER

Skin·ner box \ˌskin-ər-'bäks\ *n* [B. F. *Skinner b*1904 Am psychologist] : a laboratory apparatus in which an animal is caged for experiments in operant conditioning and which typically contains a lever that must be pressed by the animal to gain reward or avoid punishment

skin·ny \'skin-ē\ *adj* **skin·ni·er; -est** **1** : resembling skin : MEMBRANOUS **2 a** : lacking sufficient flesh : very thin : EMACIATED **b** : lacking usual or desirable bulk, quantity, qualities, or significance ***syn*** see LEAN ***ant*** fleshy — **skin·ni·ness** *n*

skin·ny–dip·ping \'skin-ē-ˌdip-iŋ\ *n* : swimming in the nude — **skin·ny–dip·per** \-ˌdip-ər\ *n*

skin–pop·ping \'skin-ˌpäp-iŋ\ *n* : injection of a drug subcutaneously rather than into a vein

skint \'skint\ *adj* [alter. of *skinned*, pp. of ²*skin*] *Brit* : PENNILESS

skin test *n* : a test (as a scratch test) performed on the skin and used in detecting allergic hypersensitivity

skin·tight \'skin-'tīt\ *adj* : closely fitted to the figure

ski·ör·ing \'skē-ˌər-iŋ, (')skē-'\ *var of* SKIJORING

¹skip \'skip\ *vb* **skipped; skip·ping** [ME *skippen*, perh. of Scand origin; akin to Sw dial. *skopa* to hop] *vi* **1 a** : to move or proceed with leaps and bounds : CAPER **b** : to bound off one point after another : RICOCHET **2** : to leave hurriedly or secretly ⟨*skipped* out without paying his bill⟩ **3 a** : to pass over or omit an interval, item, or step **b** : to omit a grade in school in advancing to the next **c** : MISFIRE 1 ~ *vt* **1 a** : to pass over without notice or mention : OMIT **b** : to pass by or leave out (a step in a progression or series) **2 a** : to cause to skip (a grade in school) **b** : to cause to bound or skim over a surface ⟨~ a stone across a pond⟩ **3** : to leap over lightly and nimbly **4 a** : to depart from quickly and secretly ⟨*skipped* town⟩ **b** : to fail to attend ⟨~ the meeting⟩ — **skip bail** : to jump bail — **skip rope** : to jump rope

²skip *n* **1 a** : a light bounding step **b** : a gait composed of alternating hops and steps **2** : an act of omission or the thing omitted

³skip *n* [short for ²*skipper*] **1** : the captain of a side in a game (as curling or lawn bowling) who advises his men as to the play and controls the action **2** : SKIPPER

⁴skip *vt* **skipped; skip·ping** : to act as skipper of

skip bomb *vt* : to attack by releasing delayed-action bombs from a low-flying airplane so that they skip along a land or water surface and strike a target

skip·jack \'skip-ˌjak\ *n, pl* **skipjacks** *or* **skipjack** : any of various fishes (as a bonito, tenpounder, or bluefish) that jump above or play at the surface of the water

ski pole *n* : one of a pair of lightweight usu. metal poles that have a handgrip and a wrist strap at one end and an encircling disk set a little above the point at the other end and that are used in skiing

¹skip·per \'skip-ər\ *n* **1** : any of various erratically active insects (as a click beetle or a water strider) **2** : one that skips **3** : the Atlantic saury (*Scombresox saurus*) or a related fish that jumps freely above the water **4** : any of numerous small stout-bodied lepidopterous insects (superfamily Hesperioidea) that differ from the typical butterflies in wing venation and the form of the antennae

²skipper *n* [ME, fr. MD *schipper*, fr. *schip* ship; akin to OE *scip* ship — more at SHIP] **1** : the master of a ship; *esp* : the master of a fishing, small trading, or pleasure boat **2** : the captain or first pilot of an airplane

³skip·per *vt* **skip·pered; skip·per·ing** \'skip-(ə-)riŋ\ **1** : to act as skipper of (as a boat) **2** : to act as coach of (as a team)

¹skirl \'skər(-ə)l, 'skir(ə)l\ *vb* [ME (Sc) *skrillen, skirlen*, of Scand origin; akin to OSw *skrælla* to rattle; akin to OE *scrallettan* to sound loudly] *vi, of a bagpipe* : to emit the high shrill tone of the chanter; *also* : to give forth music ~ *vt* : to play (music) on the bagpipe

²skirl *n* : a high shrill sound produced by the chanter of a bagpipe

¹skir·mish \'skər-mish\ *n* [ME *skyrmissh*, alter. of *skarmish*, fr. MF *escarmouche*, fr. OIt *scaramuccia*, of Gmc origin; akin to OHG *skirmen* to defend] **1** : a minor fight in war usu. incidental to larger movements **2 a** : a brisk preliminary verbal conflict **b** : a minor dispute or contest between opposing parties

²skirmish *vi* **1** : to engage in a skirmish **2** : to search about (as for supplies) : scout around — **skir·mish·er** *n*

¹skirr \'skər, 'ski(ə)r\ *vb* [perh. alter. of ¹*scour*] *vi* **1** : to leave hastily : FLEE ⟨birds ~*ed* off from the bushes —D. H. Lawrence⟩ **2** : to run, fly, sail, or otherwise move rapidly ~ *vt* **1** : to search about in ⟨~ the country round —Shak.⟩ **2 a** : to pass rapidly over : SKIM **b** *dial* : to cause to skim

²skirr *n* [prob. imit.] : WHIR, ROAR

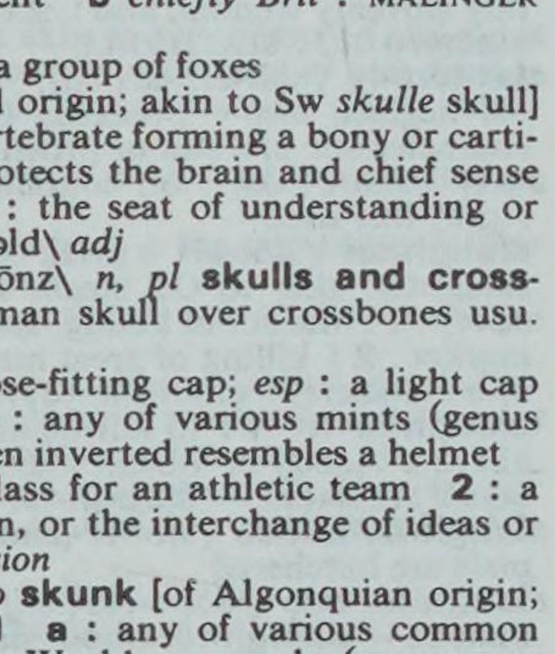
¹skirt \'skərt\ *n* [ME, fr. ON *skyrta* shirt, kirtle — more at SHIRT] **1 a** (1) : a free-hanging part of an outer garment or undergarment extending from the waist down (2) : a separate free-hanging outer garment or undergarment for women and girls covering the body from the waist down **b** : either of two usu. leather flaps on a saddle covering the bars on which the stirrups are hung **c** : a cloth facing that hangs loosely and usu. in folds or pleats from the bottom edge or across the front of a piece of furniture **d** : the lower branches of a tree when near the ground **2 a** : the rim, periphery, or environs of an area **b** *pl* : outlying parts (as of a town or city) **3** : a part or attachment serving as a rim, border, or edging **4** : GIRL, WOMAN

²skirt *vt* **1** : to form or run along the border or edge of : BORDER **2 a** : to provide a skirt for ⟨a full-*skirted* coat⟩ **b** : to furnish a border or shield for **3 a** : to go or pass around or about; *specif* : to go around or keep away from in order to avoid danger or discovery **b** : to avoid because of difficulty or fear of controversy ⟨~*ed* the important issues⟩ **c** : to evade or miss by a narrow margin ⟨having ~*ed* disaster —Edith Wharton⟩ ~ *vi* : to be, lie, or move along an edge, border, or margin — **skirt·er** *n*

skirt·ing \'skərt-iŋ\ *n* **1** : something that skirts: as **a** : BORDER, EDGING **b** *Brit* : BASEBOARD **2** : fabric suitable for skirts

ski run *n* : a slope or trail suitable for skiing

skit \'skit\ *n* [origin unknown] **1** : a jeering or satirical remark : TAUNT **2 a** : a satirical or humorous story or sketch **b** (1) : a brief burlesque or comic sketch included in a dramatic performance (as a revue) (2) : a short serious dramatic piece; *esp* : one done by amateurs
ski touring *n* : cross-country skiing for pleasure
ski tow *n* **1** : a motor-driven conveyor that is used for pulling skiers up a slope and that consists usu. of an endless moving rope which a skier grasps **2** : SKI LIFT
skit·ter \'skit-ər\ *vb* [prob. freq. of E dial. *skite* to move quickly] *vi* **1** : to glide or skip lightly or quickly along a surface **2** : to twitch the hook of a fishing line through or along the surface of water ~ *vt* : to cause to skitter
skit·tery \'skit-ə-rē\ *adj* : SKITTISH
skit·tish \'skit-ish\ *adj* [ME] **1 a** : lively or frisky in action : CAPRICIOUS **b** : VARIABLE, FLUCTUATING **2** : easily frightened : RESTIVE ⟨a ~ horse⟩ **3 a** : COY, BASHFUL **b** : marked by extreme caution : WARY — **skit·tish·ly** *adv* — **skit·tish·ness** *n*
skit·tle \'skit-ᵊl\ *n* [perh. of Scand origin; akin to ON *skutill* bolt — more at SHUTTLE] **1** *pl but sing in constr* : English ninepins played with a wooden disk or wooden ball **2** : one of the pins used in skittles
skive \'skīv\ *vt* **skived; skiv·ing** [of Scand origin; akin to ON *skīfa* to slice; akin to OE *scēadan* to divide — more at SHED] : to cut off (as leather or rubber) in thin layers or pieces : PARE
skiv·er \'skī-vər\ *n* **1** : a thin soft leather made of the grain side of a split sheepskin, usu. tanned in sumac and dyed **2** : one that skives something (as leather)
skiv·vy \'skiv-ē\ *n, pl* **skivvies** [origin unknown] *Brit* : a female domestic servant
ski·wear \'skē-ˌwa(ə)r, -ˌwe(ə)r\ *n* : clothing suitable for wear while skiing
sklent \'sklent\ *vb* [ME *sclenten* to strike obliquely, alter. of *slenten* — more at SLANT] *vi* **1** *chiefly Scot* : to look askance **2** *chiefly Scot* : to cast aspersions ~ *vt, Scot* : to direct sideways : SLANT
skoal \'skōl\ *n* [Dan *skaal*, lit., cup; akin to ON *skāl* bowl — more at SCALE] : TOAST, HEALTH — often used interjectionally
Skt *abbr* Sanskrit
skua \'skyü-ə\ *n* [NL, fr. Faeroese *skūgvur;* akin to ON *skūfr* tassel, skua, OE *scēaf* sheaf — more at SHEAF] : JAEGER 2; *esp* : GREAT SKUA
skul·dug·gery *or* **skull·dug·gery** \ˌskəl-'dəg-(ə-)rē, 'skəl-ˌ\ *n, pl* **-ger·ies** [origin unknown] : a devious device or trick; *also* : underhanded or unscrupulous behavior
¹skulk \'skəlk\ *vi* [ME *skulken*, of Scand origin; akin to Dan *skulke* to shirk, play truant] **1** : to move in a stealthy or furtive manner **2 a** : to hide or conceal something (as oneself) often out of cowardice or fear or with sinister intent **b** *chiefly Brit* : MALINGER *syn* see LURK — **skulk·er** *n*
²skulk *n* **1** : one that skulks **2** : a group of foxes
skull \'skəl\ *n* [ME *skulle*, of Scand origin; akin to Sw *skulle* skull] **1** : the skeleton of the head of a vertebrate forming a bony or cartilaginous case that encloses and protects the brain and chief sense organs and supports the jaws **2** : the seat of understanding or intelligence : MIND — **skulled** \'skəld\ *adj*
skull and cross·bones \-'krȯs-ˌbōnz\ *n, pl* **skulls and cross·bones** : a representation of a human skull over crossbones usu. used as a warning of danger to life
skull·cap \'skəl-ˌkap\ *n* **1** : a close-fitting cap; *esp* : a light cap without brim for indoor wear **2** : any of various mints (genus *Scutellaria*) having a calyx that when inverted resembles a helmet
skull practice *n* **1** : a strategy class for an athletic team **2** : a meeting for consultation, discussion, or the interchange of ideas or information — called also *skull session*
¹skunk \'skəŋk\ *n, pl* **skunks** *also* **skunk** [of Algonquian origin; akin to Abnaki *segākw* skunk] **1 a** : any of various common omnivorous black-and-white New World mammals (esp. genus *Mephitis*) related to the weasels and having a pair of perineal glands from which a secretion of pungent and offensive odor is ejected **b** : any of various offensive-smelling Old World animals **c** : the fur of a skunk **2** : an obnoxious person
²skunk *vt* **1 a** : DEFEAT **b** : to shut out in a game **2** : to fail to pay; *also* : CHEAT
skunk cabbage *n* : an eastern No. American perennial herb (*Symplocarpus foetidus*) of the arum family that sends up in early spring a cowl-shaped brownish purple spathe having an unpleasant odor; *also* : a related plant (*Lysichiton camstschatcense*) of the Pacific coast region

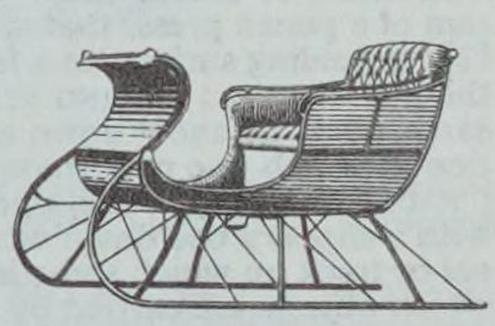


skunk cabbage
(Lysichiton camstschatcense)

¹sky \'skī\ *n, pl* **skies** [ME, cloud, sky, fr. ON *skȳ* cloud; akin to OE *scēo* cloud, L *cutis* skin — more at HIDE] **1** : the upper atmosphere that constitutes an apparent great vault or arch over the earth **2** : HEAVEN 2 **3 a** : weather in the upper atmosphere **b** : CLIMATE ⟨temperate English *skies* — G. G. Coulton⟩
²sky *vt* **skied** *or* **skyed; sky·ing** **1** *chiefly Brit* : to throw or toss up : FLIP **2** : to hang (as a painting) above the line of vision
sky blue *n* : a variable color averaging a pale to light blue
sky·borne \'skī-ˌbō(ə)rn, -ˌbȯ(ə)rn\ *adj* : AIRBORNE ⟨~ troops⟩
sky·cap \-ˌkap\ *n* [¹*sky* + *-cap* (as in *redcap*)] : one employed to carry hand luggage at an airport — compare REDCAP
sky·div·ing \-ˌdī-viŋ\ *n* : the sport of jumping from an airplane at a moderate altitude (as 6000 feet) and executing various body maneuvers before pulling the rip cord of a parachute — **sky diver** *n*
Skye terrier \'skī-\ *n* [*Skye*, Scotland] : any of a Scottish breed of terriers with a long head, a long low body, and short straight legs
sky·ey \'skī-ē\ *adj* : of or resembling the sky : ETHEREAL
sky–high \'skī-'hī\ *adv or adj* **1 a** : high into the air **b** : to a high level or degree **2** : in an enthusiastic manner **3** : to bits : APART ⟨blown ~⟩ **4** : in an exorbitant manner ⟨prices rose ~⟩
sky·hook \-ˌhůk\ *n* : a hook conceived as being suspended from the sky
sky·jack·er \-ˌjak-ər\ *n* [*sky* + *-jacker* (as in *hijacker*)] : one who commandeers a flying airplane (as by coercing the pilot at gunpoint) — **sky·jack·ing** \-ˌjak-iŋ\ *n*
¹sky·lark \'skī-ˌlärk\ *n* **1** : a common largely brown Old World lark (*Alauda arvensis*) noted for its song esp. as uttered in vertical flight **2** : any of various birds resembling the skylark
²skylark *vi* **1** : to run up and down the rigging of a ship in sport **2** : FROLIC, SPORT — **sky·lark·er** *n*
sky·light \'skī-ˌlīt\ *n* **1** : the diffused and reflected light of the sky **2** : an opening in a house roof or ship's deck that is covered with translucent or transparent material and that is designed to admit light
sky·line \-ˌlīn\ *n* **1** : the apparent juncture of earth and sky : HORIZON **2** : an outline (as of buildings or a mountain range) against the background of the sky
sky·lounge \-ˌlaůnj\ *n* : a vehicle that picks up passengers and is then carried by helicopter between a downtown terminal and an airport
sky marshal *n* : an armed federal plainclothesman assigned to prevent skyjackings
sky·phos \'skī-ˌfäs, 'skē-ˌfȯs\ *n, pl* **sky·phoi** \'skī-ˌfȯi, 'skē-ˌfē\ : a deep drinking vessel with two horizontal handles used esp. in ancient Greece
sky pilot *n* : CLERGYMAN; *specif* : CHAPLAIN
¹sky·rock·et \'skī-ˌräk-ət\ *n* : ²ROCKET 1a
²skyrocket *vi* : to shoot up abruptly ⟨prices are ~*ing*⟩ ~ *vt* **1** : to cause to rise or increase abruptly and rapidly **2** : CATAPULT
sky·sail \'skī-ˌsāl, -səl\ *n* : the sail above the royal
sky·scrap·er \-ˌskrā-pər\ *n* : a very tall building
sky·ward \-wərd\ *adv* **1** : toward the sky **2** : UPWARD
sky wave *n* : a radio wave that is propagated by means of the ionosphere
sky·way \'skī-ˌwā\ *n* **1** : a route used by airplanes : AIR LANE **2** : an elevated highway
sky·write \-ˌrīt\ *vb* **-wrote** \-ˌrōt\; **-writ·ten** \-ˌrit-ᵊn\; **-writ·ing** \-ˌrīt-iŋ\ [back-formation from *skywriting*] *vi* : to do skywriting ~ *vt* : to letter by skywriting — **sky·writ·er** *n*
sky·writ·ing \-ˌrīt-iŋ\ *n* : writing formed in the sky by means of a visible substance (as smoke) emitted from an airplane
sl *abbr* **1** slightly **2** slow
SL *abbr* **1** salvage loss **2** sea level **3** south latitude
¹slab \'slab\ *n* [ME *slabbe*] : a thick plate or slice (as of stone, wood, or bread): as **a** : the outside piece cut from a log in squaring it **b** : concrete pavement (as of a road); *specif* : a strip of concrete pavement laid as a single unjointed piece
²slab *vt* **slabbed; slab·bing** **1 a** : to divide or form into slabs **b** : to remove an outer slab from (as a log) **2** : to cover or support (as a roadbed or roof) with slabs **3** : to put on thickly
³slab *adj* [prob. of Scand origin; akin to obs. Dan *slab* slippery] *dial chiefly Eng* : THICK, VISCOUS
¹slab·ber \'slab-ər\ *vb* **slab·bered; slab·ber·ing** \-(ə-)riŋ\ [prob. fr. D *slabberen*, freq. of *slabben* to slaver — more at SLAVER] : SLOBBER, DROOL
²slabber *n* : SLOBBER, SLAVER
slab–sid·ed \'slab-'sīd-əd\ *adj* : having flat sides; *also* : being tall or long and lank
¹slack \'slak\ *adj* [ME *slak*, fr. OE *sleac;* akin to OHG *slah* slack, L *laxus* slack, loose, *languēre* to languish, Gk *lēgein* to stop] **1** : not using due diligence, care, or dispatch : NEGLIGENT **2 a** : characterized by slowness, sluggishness, or lack of energy ⟨a ~ pace⟩ **b** : moderate in some quality; *esp* : moderately warm ⟨a ~ oven⟩ **c** : blowing or flowing at low speed ⟨the tide was ~⟩ **3 a** : not tight or taut ⟨a ~ rope⟩ **b** : lacking in usual or normal firmness and steadiness : WEAK ⟨~ muscles⟩ ⟨~ supervision⟩ **4** : wanting in activity : DULL ⟨a ~ market⟩ **5** : lacking in completeness, finish, or perfection ⟨a very ~ piece of work⟩ **6** : not watertight ⟨~ cooperage⟩ *syn* see NEGLIGENT, LOOSE — **slack·ly** *adv* — **slack·ness** *n*
²slack *vt* **1 a** : to be slack or negligent in performing or doing **b** : LESSEN, MODERATE **2** : to release tension on : LOOSEN **3 a** : to cause to abate **b** : SLAKE 3 ~ *vi* **1** : to be or become slack **2** : to shirk or evade work or duty
³slack *n* **1** : cessation in movement or flow **2** : a part of something that hangs loose without strain ⟨take up the ~ of a rope⟩ **3** *pl* : trousers esp. for casual wear **4** : a dull season or period
⁴slack *n* [ME *slak*, fr. ON *slakki*] *dial Eng* : a pass between hills
⁵slack *n* [ME *sleck*] : the finest screenings of coal produced at a mine unusable as fuel unless cleaned
slack–baked \'slak-'bākt\ *adj* **1** : UNDERDONE **2** : physically or mentally inferior : HALF-BAKED
slack·en \'slak-ən\ *vb* **slack·ened; slack·en·ing** \-(ə-)niŋ\ *vt* **1** : to make less active : slow up ⟨~ speed at a crossing⟩ **2** : to make slack (as by lessening tension or firmness) ⟨~ sail⟩ ~ *vi* **1** : to become slack or slow or negligent : slow down **2** : to become less active : SLACK *syn* see DELAY *ant* quicken
slack·er \'slak-ər\ *n* : a person who shirks work or obligation; *esp* : one who evades military service in time of war

slack water *n* : the period at the turn of the tide when there is little or no horizontal motion of tidal water — called also *slack tide*
slag \'slag\ *n* [MLG *slagge*] **1** : the dross or scoria of a metal : CINDER **2** : the scoriaceous lava from a volcano
slain *past part of* SLAY
slake \'slāk, *vi 2 & vt 3 are also* 'slak\ *vb* **slaked; slak·ing** [ME *slaken*, fr. OE *slacian*, fr. *sleac* slack] *vi* **1** *archaic* : to die down : ABATE **2** : to become slaked : CRUMBLE ⟨lime may ~ spontaneously in moist air⟩ ~ *vt* **1** *archaic* : to lessen the force of : MODERATE **2** : SATISFY, QUENCH ⟨~ your thirst⟩ **3 a** : to cause (as lime) to heat and crumble by treatment with water : HYDRATE **b** : to alter (as lime) by exposure to air with conversion at least in part to a carbonate
sla·lom \'säl-əm\ *n* [Norw, lit., sloping track] **1** : skiing in a zigzag or wavy course between upright obstacles (as flags); *also* : a race against time over such a course **2** : a race against time (as for automobiles or motorcycles) over a zigzag course usu. marked with traffic cones
[1]slam \'slam\ *n* [origin unknown] **1** : GRAND SLAM **2** : LITTLE SLAM
[2]slam *n* [prob. of Scand origin; akin to Icel *slæma* to slam] **1** : a heavy blow or impact **2 a** : a noisy violent closing **b** : a banging noise; *esp* : one made by the slam of a door **3** : a cutting or violent criticism
[3]slam *vb* **slammed; slam·ming** *vt* **1** : to strike or beat hard : KNOCK **2** : to shut forcibly and noisily : BANG **3 a** : to set or slap down violently or noisily ⟨*slammed* his fist on the table⟩ **b** : to propel, thrust, or produce by striking hard ⟨~ on the brakes⟩ **4** : to criticize harshly ~ *vi* **1** : to make a banging noise **2** : to work or act noisily **3** : to utter verbal abuse
slam-bang \'slam-'baŋ\ *adj* **1** : unduly loud or violent ⟨a ~ clatter⟩ **2** : notably vigorous ⟨made a ~ effort to win⟩
SLAN *abbr* [L *sine loco, anno, (vel) nomine*] without place, year, or name
[1]slan·der \'slan-dər\ *n* [ME *sclaundre, slaundre*, fr. OF *esclandre*, fr. LL *scandalum* stumbling block, offense — more at SCANDAL] **1** : the utterance of false charges or misrepresentations which defame and damage another's reputation **2** : a false and defamatory oral statement about a person — compare LIBEL — **slan·der·ous** \-d(ə-)rəs\ *adj* — **slan·der·ous·ly** *adv* — **slan·der·ous·ness** *n*
[2]slander *vt* **slan·dered; slan·der·ing** \-d(ə-)riŋ\ : to utter slander against : DEFAME *syn* see MALIGN — **slan·der·er** \-dər-ər\ *n*
[1]slang \'slaŋ\ *n* [origin unknown] **1** : language peculiar to a particular group: as **a** : ARGOT **b** : JARGON 2 **2** : an informal nonstandard vocabulary composed typically of coinages, arbitrarily changed words, and extravagant, forced, or facetious figures of speech *syn* see DIALECT — **slang** *adj* — **slang·i·ly** \'slaŋ-ə-lē\ *adv* — **slang·i·ness** \'slaŋ-ē-nəs\ *n* — **slangy** \'slaŋ-ē\ *adj*
[2]slang *vt* : to abuse with harsh or coarse language ~ *vi* : to use slang or vulgar abuse
[1]slant \'slant\ *vb* [ME *slenten* to fall obliquely, of Scand origin; akin to Sw *slinta* to slide; akin to OE *slīdan* to slide] *vi* **1** : to turn or incline from a right line or a level : SLOPE **2** : to take a diagonal course, direction, or path ~ *vt* **1** : to give an oblique or sloping direction to **2** : to interpret or present in line with a special interest : ANGLE ⟨stories ~*ed* toward youth⟩; *specif* : to maliciously or dishonestly distort or falsify — **slant·ing·ly** \-iŋ-lē\ *adv*
syn SLANT, SLOPE, INCLINE, LEAN *shared meaning element* : to diverge from the vertical or horizontal
[2]slant *n* **1** : a slanting direction, line, or plane : SLOPE **2 a** : something that slants **b** : DIAGONAL 3 **c** : a football running play in which the ballcarrier runs obliquely toward the line of scrimmage **3 a** : a peculiar or personal point of view, attitude, or opinion **b** : a slanting view : GLANCE — **slant** *adj* — **slant·ways** \-ˌwāz\ *adv* — **slant·wise** \-ˌwīz\ *adv or adj*
slant height *n* **1** : the length of an element of a right circular cone **2** : the altitude of a side of a regular pyramid
[1]slap \'slap\ *n* [ME *slop*, fr. MD; akin to MD *slippen* to slip] *dial Brit* : OPENING, BREACH
[2]slap *n* [LG *slapp*, of imit. origin] **1 a** : a blow with the open hand **b** : a quick sharp blow **2** : a noise like that of a slap; *esp* : a noise resulting from play or slackness between parts of a machine **3** : REBUFF, INSULT
[3]slap *vt* **slapped; slap·ping** **1** : to strike sharply with or as if with the open hand **2** : to put, place, or throw with careless haste or force **3** : to assail verbally : INSULT *syn* see STRIKE
[4]slap *adv* [prob. fr. LG *slapp*, fr. *slapp*, n.] : DIRECTLY, SMACK
slap-dash \'slap-'dash, -ˌdash\ *adj* : HAPHAZARD, SLIPSHOD
slap down *vt* **1** : to prohibit or restrain usu. abruptly and with censure from acting in a specified way : SQUELCH **2** : to put an abrupt stop to : SUPPRESS
slap-hap·py \'slap-ˌhap-ē\ *adj* **1** : PUNCH-DRUNK **2** : buoyantly or recklessly carefree or foolish : HAPPY-GO-LUCKY
slap·jack \-ˌjak\ *n* [[3]*slap* + *-jack* (as in *flapjack*)] **1** : PANCAKE **2** : a card game in which each player tries to be the first to slap his hand on any jack that appears face up
slap shot *n* : a shot in ice hockey made with a swinging stroke
slap·stick \'slap-ˌstik\ *n* **1** : a device made of two flat pieces of wood fastened at one end so as to make a loud noise when used by an actor to strike a person **2** : comedy stressing farce and horseplay — **slapstick** *adj*
[1]slash \'slash\ *vb* [ME *slaschen*] *vt* **1** : to cut with rough sweeping strokes **2** : CANE, LASH **3** : to cut slits in (as a garment) so as to reveal a color beneath **4** : to criticize cuttingly **5** : to reduce sharply : CUT ~ *vi* : to cut, lash at, or hit recklessly or savagely with or as if with an edged blade — **slash·er** *n*
[2]slash *n* **1** : the act of slashing; *also* : a long cut or stroke made by or as if by slashing **2** : an ornamental slit in a garment **3** : an open tract in a forest strewn with debris (as from logging); *also* : the debris in such a tract
[3]slash *n* [prob. alter. of *plash* (marshy pool)] : a low swampy area often overgrown with brush
slash-and-burn *adj* : characterized or developed by girdling, felling, and burning trees to make land arable usu. for a temporary purpose
[1]slash·ing \'slash-iŋ\ *n* **1** : the act or process of slashing **2** : an insert or underlayer of contrasting color revealed by a slash (as in a garment) **3** : SLASH 3
[2]slashing *adj* **1** : incisively satiric or critical **2** : DRIVING, PELTING **3** : VIVID, BRILLIANT — **slash·ing·ly** \-iŋ-lē\ *adv*
slash pine *n* [[3]*slash*] : a southern pine (*Pinus elliottii*) that is an important source of turpentine and lumber
slash pocket *n* : a pocket suspended on the wrong side of a garment from a finished slit on the right side that serves as its opening
[1]slat \'slat\ *n* [ME, slate, fr. MF *esclat* splinter, fr. OF, fr. *esclater* to burst, splinter] **1** : a thin narrow flat strip esp. of wood or metal: as **a** : LATH **b** : LOUVER **c** : STAVE **d** : one of the thin flat members in the back of a ladder-back chair **2** *pl, slang* : RIBS — **slat** *adj*
[2]slat *vt* **slat·ted; slat·ting** : to make or equip with slats
[3]slat *vt* **slat·ted; slat·ting** [prob. of Scand origin; akin to ON *sletta* to slap, throw] **1** : to hurl or throw smartly **2** : STRIKE, PUMMEL
[1]slate \'slāt\ *n* [ME, fr. MF *esclat* splinter] **1** : a piece of construction material (as laminated rock) prepared as a shingle for roofing and siding **2** : a dense fine-grained metamorphic rock produced by the compression of various sediments (as clay or shale) so as to develop a characteristic cleavage **3** : a tablet of material (as slate) used for writing on **4** : a list of candidates for nomination or election **5 a** : a dark purplish gray **b** : any of various grays similar in color to common roofing slates — **slate** *adj* — **slate·like** \-ˌlīk\ *adj*
[2]slate *vt* **slat·ed; slat·ing** **1** : to cover with slate or a slatelike substance ⟨~ a roof⟩ **2** : to register, schedule, or designate for action or appointment
[3]slate *vt* **slat·ed; slat·ing** [prob. alter. of [3]*slat*] **1** : to thrash or pummel severely **2** *chiefly Brit* : to criticize or censure severely
slate black *n* : a nearly neutral slightly purplish black
slate blue *n* : a variable color averaging a grayish blue
slat·er \'slāt-ər\ *n* **1** : one that slates **2** [[1]*slate*; fr. its color] **a** : WOOD LOUSE 1 **b** : any of various marine isopods — called also *sea slater*
[1]slath·er \'slaᵗʰ-ər\ *n* [origin unknown] : a great quantity — often used in pl.
[2]slather *vt* **slath·ered; slath·er·ing** \-(ə-)riŋ\ **1 a** : to spread thickly or lavishly **b** : to spread something thickly or lavishly on **2** : to use or spend in a wasteful or lavish manner : SQUANDER
slat·ing \'slāt-iŋ\ *n* **1** : the work of a slater **2** : material used for slating : SLATES
[1]slat·tern \'slat-ərn\ *n* [prob. fr. G *schlottern* to hang loosely, slouch; akin to D *slodderen* to hang loosely, *slodder* slut] : an untidy slovenly woman; *also* : SLUT, PROSTITUTE
[2]slattern *adj* : SLATTERNLY
slat·tern·ly \'slat-ərn-lē\ *adj* **1** : untidy and dirty through habitual neglect; *also* : CARELESS, DISORDERLY **2** : of, relating to, or characteristic of a slut or prostitute — **slat·tern·li·ness** *n*
slaty \'slāt-ē\ *adj* : of, containing, or characteristic of slate; *also* : gray like slate
[1]slaugh·ter \'slȯt-ər\ *n* [ME, of Scand origin; akin to ON *slātra* to slaughter; akin to OE *sleaht* slaughter, *slēan* to slay — more at SLAY] **1** : the act of killing; *specif* : the butchering of livestock for market **2** : killing of great numbers of human beings (as in battle or a massacre) : CARNAGE *syn* see MASSACRE
[2]slaughter *vt* **1** : to kill (animals) for food : BUTCHER **2 a** : to kill in a bloody or violent manner : SLAY **b** : to kill in large numbers : MASSACRE — **slaugh·ter·er** \-ər-ər\ *n*
slaugh·ter·house \'slȯt-ər-ˌhaüs\ *n* : an establishment where animals are butchered
slaugh·ter·ous \'slȯt-ə-rəs\ *adj* : of or relating to slaughter : MURDEROUS — **slaugh·ter·ous·ly** *adv*
[1]Slav \'släv, 'slav\ *n* [ME *Sclav*, fr. ML *Sclavus*, fr. LGk *Sklabos*, fr. *Sklabēnoi* Slavs, of Slav origin; akin to OSlav *Slověne*, a Slavic people in the area of Salonika] : a person who speaks a Slavic language as his native tongue
[2]Slav *abbr* Slavic
[1]slave \'slāv\ *n* [ME *sclave*, fr. OF or ML; OF *esclave*, fr. ML *sclavus*, fr. *Sclavus* Slav; fr. the reduction to slavery of many Slavic peoples of central Europe] **1** : a person held in servitude as the chattel of another : BONDMAN **2** : a person who has lost control of himself and is dominated by something or someone ⟨a ~ to drink⟩ **3** : a mechanical device (as the typewriter unit of a computer) that is directly responsive to another **4** : DRUDGE, TOILER — **slave** *adj*
[2]slave *vb* **slaved; slav·ing** *vt* **1** *archaic* : ENSLAVE **2** : to make directly responsive to another mechanism ~ *vi* **1** : to work like a slave : DRUDGE **2** : to traffic in slaves
slave ant *n* : an ant enslaved by a slave-making ant
slave driver *n* **1** : a supervisor of slaves at work **2** : a harsh taskmaster
slave·hold·er \'slāv-ˌhōl-dər\ *n* : an owner of slaves — **slave·holding** \-diŋ\ *adj or n*
slave-mak·ing ant \'slāv-ˌmā-kiŋ-\ *n* : an ant that attacks the colonies of ants of other species and carries off the larvae and pupae to be reared in its own nest as slaves
[1]sla·ver \'slav-ər, 'slāv-, 'släv-\ *vb* **sla·vered; sla·ver·ing** \-(ə-)riŋ\ [ME *slaveren*, of Scand origin; akin to ON *slafra* to slaver; akin to MD *slabben* to slaver, L *labi* to slip — more at SLEEP] *vi* : DROOL, SLOBBER ~ *vt, archaic* : to smear with or as if with saliva
[2]slaver *n* : saliva dribbling from the mouth
[3]slav·er \'slā-vər\ *n* **1 a** : a person engaged in the slave trade **b** : a ship used in the slave trade **2** : WHITE SLAVER
slav·ery \'slāv-(ə-)rē\ *n* **1** : DRUDGERY, TOIL **2** : submission to a dominating influence **3 a** : the state of a person who is a chattel of another **b** : the practice of slaveholding *syn* see SERVITUDE
slave state *n* **1** : a state of the U.S. in which Negro slavery was legal until the Civil War **2** : a nation subjected to totalitarian rule
slave trade *n* : traffic in slaves; *esp* : the buying and selling of Negroes for profit prior to the American Civil War

slav·ey \'slā-vē\ *n, pl* **slaveys** : DRUDGE; *esp* : a household servant who does general housework
[1]Slav·ic \'slav-ik, 'släv-\ *adj* : of, relating to, or characteristic of the Slavs or their languages
[2]Slavic *n* : a branch of the Indo-European language family containing Belorussian, Bulgarian, Czech, Polish, Serbo-Croatian, Slovene, Russian, and Ukrainian — see INDO-EUROPEAN LANGUAGES table
Slav·i·cist \'slav-ə-səst, 'släv-\ *n* : a specialist in the Slavic languages or literatures
slav·ish \'slā-vish\ *adj* **1 a** : of or characteristic of a slave; *esp* : basely or abjectly servile **b** *archaic* : DESPICABLE, LOW **2** *archaic* : OPPRESSIVE, TYRANNICAL **3** : copying obsequiously or without originality : IMITATIVE ***syn*** see SUBSERVIENT — **slav·ish·ly** *adv* — **slav·ish·ness** *n*
Slav·ist \'släv-əst, 'slav-\ *n* : SLAVICIST
slav·oc·ra·cy \slā-'väk-rə-sē\ *n* : a powerful faction of slaveholders and advocates of slavery in the South before the Civil War
[1]Sla·vo·ni·an \slə-'vō-nē-ən\ *n* [*Slavonia*, region of southeast Europe, fr. ML *Sclavonia, Slavonia* land of the Slavs, fr. *Sclavus* Slav] : SLOVENE 1b
[2]Slavonian *adj* **1** : SLOVENE **2** *archaic* : SLAVIC
[1]Sla·von·ic \slə-'vän-ik\ *adj* [NL *slavonicus*, fr. ML *Sclavonia, Slavonia* land of the Slavs] : SLAVIC
[2]Slavonic *n* **1** : SLAVIC **2** : OLD CHURCH SLAVONIC
Slav·o·phile \'slav-ə-ˌfīl, 'släv-\ *or* **Slav·o·phil** \-ˌfil\ *n* : an admirer of the Slavs : an advocate of Slavophilism
Slav·oph·i·lism \sla-'väf-ə-ˌliz-əm, 'slav-ə-ˌfī-ˌliz-\ *n* : advocacy of Slavic and specif. Russian culture over western European culture esp. as practiced among some members of the Russian intelligentsia in the middle 19th century
slaw \'slȯ\ *n* : COLESLAW
slay \'slā\ *vb* **slew** \'slü\; **slain** \'slān\; **slay·ing** [ME *slen*, fr. OE *slēan* to strike, slay; akin to OHG *slahan* to strike, MIr *slacain* I beat] *vt* **1** : to kill violently, wantonly, or in great numbers **2** *slang* : to affect overpoweringly : OVERWHELM ~ *vi* : KILL, MURDER ***syn*** see KILL — **slay·er** *n*
sld *abbr* **1** sailed **2** sealed **3** sold
[1]sleave \'slēv\ *vt* [(assumed) ME *sleven*, fr. OE *-slǣfan* to cut — more at SLIVER] *obs* : to separate (silk thread) into filaments
[2]sleave *n* : SKEIN ⟨sleep that knits up the raveled ~ of care — Shak.⟩
sleave silk *n, obs* : floss silk that is easily separated into filaments for embroidery
slea·zy \'slē-zē *also* 'slā-\ *adj* **slea·zi·er; -est** [origin unknown] **1 a** : lacking firmness of texture : FLIMSY **b** : carelessly made of inferior materials : SHODDY **2** : marked by cheapness of character or quality ***syn*** see LIMP — **slea·zi·ly** \-zə-lē\ *adv* — **slea·zi·ness** \-zē-nəs\ *n*
[1]sled \'sled\ *n* [ME *sledde*, fr. MD; akin to OE *slīdan* to slide] : a vehicle on runners for transportation esp. on snow or ice; *esp* : a small steerable one used esp. by children for coasting down snow-covered hills
[2]sled *vb* **sled·ded; sled·ding** *vt* : SLEDGE ~ *vi* : to ride on a sled or sleigh — **sled·der** *n*
sled·ding *n* **1 a** : the use of a sled **b** : the conditions under which one may use a sled **2** : GOING 4
sled dog *n* : a dog trained to draw a sledge esp. in the Arctic regions — called also *sledge dog*
[1]sledge \'slej\ *n* [ME *slegge*, fr. OE *slecg*; akin to ON *sleggja* sledgehammer, OE *slēan* to strike — more at SLAY] : SLEDGEHAMMER
[2]sledge *vb* **sledged; sledg·ing** : SLEDGEHAMMER
[3]sledge *n* [D dial. *sleedse*; akin to MD *sledde* sled] **1** *Brit* : SLEIGH **2** : a vehicle with low runners that is used for transporting loads esp. over snow or ice
[4]sledge *vb* **sledged; sledg·ing** *vi* **1** *Brit* : to ride in a sleigh **2** : to travel with a sledge ~ *vt* : to transport on a sledge
[1]sledge·ham·mer \'slej-ˌham-ər\ *n* [[1]*sledge*] : a large heavy hammer that is wielded with both hands — **sledgehammer** *adj*
[2]sledgehammer *vt* : to strike with or as if with a sledgehammer ~ *vi* : to strike blows with or as if with a sledgehammer
[1]sleek \'slēk\ *vb* [ME *sleken*, alter. of *sliken*] *vt* **1** : SLICK **2** : to cover up : gloss over ~ *vi* : SLICK
[2]sleek *adj* [alter. of [2]*slick*] **1 a** : smooth and glossy as if polished ⟨~ dark hair⟩ **b** : having a smooth well-groomed look ⟨~ cattle grazing⟩ **c** : healthy-looking **2** : SLICK 3 **3 a** : having a prosperous air : THRIVING **b** : ELEGANT, STYLISH — **sleek·ly** *adv* — **sleek·ness** *n*
sleek·en \'slē-kən\ *vt* **sleek·ened; sleek·en·ing** \'slēk-(ə-)niŋ\ : to make sleek
sleek·it \'slē-kət\ *adj* [Sc, fr. pp. of [1]*sleek*] **1** *chiefly Scot* : SLEEK, SMOOTH **2** *chiefly Scot* : CRAFTY, DECEITFUL
[1]sleep \'slēp\ *n* [ME *slepe*, fr. OE *slǣp*; akin to OHG *slāf* sleep, L *labi* to slip, slide and perh. to Gk *lobos* pod, lobe] **1** : the natural periodic suspension of consciousness during which the powers of the body are restored **2** : a state resembling sleep: as **a** : a state of torpid inactivity **b** : DEATH ⟨put a pet cat to ~⟩; *also* : TRANCE, COMA **c** : the closing of leaves or petals esp. at night **d** : a state marked by a diminution of feeling followed by tingling ⟨his foot went to ~⟩ **e** : the state of an animal during hibernation ⟨the groundhog's winter ~⟩ **3 a** : a period spent sleeping **b** : NIGHT **c** : a day's journey — **sleep·like** \'slē-ˌplīk\ *adj*
[2]sleep *vb* **slept** \'slept\; **sleep·ing** *vi* **1** : to rest in a state of sleep **2** : to be in a state (as of quiescence or death) resembling sleep **3** : to have sexual relations ~ *vt* **1** : to be slumbering in ⟨*slept* the sleep of the dead⟩ **2** : to get rid of or spend in or by sleep ⟨~ away the hours⟩ ⟨~ off a drunk⟩ **3** : to provide sleeping accommodations for ⟨the boat ~*s* six⟩
sleep·er \'slē-pər\ *n* **1** : one that sleeps **2** : a piece of timber, stone, or steel on or near the ground to support a superstructure, keep railroad rails in place, or receive floor joists : STRINGPIECE **3** : SLEEPING CAR **4** : someone or something unpromising or unnoticed that suddenly attains prominence or value **5** : a calf earmarked but not branded **6** *pl* : children's pajamas usu. with feet
sleep–in \ˌslē-ˌpin\ *adj* : that lives at the place of employment ⟨a ~ maid⟩
sleep in \'slē-'pin\ *vi* **1** : to sleep where one is employed **2 a** : OVERSLEEP **b** : to sleep late intentionally
sleeping bag *n* : a bag that is warmly lined or padded for sleeping outdoors or in a camp or tent
Sleeping Beauty *n* : a princess of a fairy tale who is wakened from an enchanted sleep by the kiss of a prince
sleeping car *n* : a railroad passenger car having berths for sleeping
sleeping partner *n* : a silent partner whose connection with the business is not publicly known
sleeping pill *n* : a drug and esp. a barbiturate that is taken as a tablet or capsule to induce sleep — called also *sleeping tablet*
sleeping porch *n* : a porch or room having open sides or many windows arranged to permit sleeping in the open air
sleeping sickness *n* **1** : a serious disease that is prevalent in much of tropical Africa, is marked by fever, protracted lethargy, tremors, and loss of weight, is caused by either of two trypanosomes (*Trypanosoma gambiense* and *T. rhodesiense*), and is transmitted by tsetse flies **2** : any of various viral encephalitides or encephalomyelitides of which lethargy or somnolence is a prominent feature
sleep·less \'slē-pləs\ *adj* **1** : not able to sleep : INSOMNIAC **2** : affording no sleep **3** : unceasingly active — **sleep·less·ly** *adv* — **sleep·less·ness** *n*
sleep out *vi* **1** : to sleep outdoors **2** : to go home at night from one's place of employment **3** : to sleep away from home
sleep·walk·er \'slēp-ˌwȯ-kər\ *n* : one that walks in his sleep : SOMNAMBULIST — **sleep·walk** \-ˌwȯk\ *vi*
sleepy \'slē-pē\ *adj* **sleep·i·er; -est** **1 a** : ready to fall asleep **b** : of, relating to, or characteristic of sleep **2** : sluggish as if from sleep : LETHARGIC; *also* : INACTIVE **3** : sleep-inducing — **sleep·i·ly** \-pə-lē\ *adv* — **sleep·i·ness** \-pē-nəs\ *n*
syn SLEEPY, DROWSY, SOMNOLENT, SLUMBEROUS *shared meaning element* : affected by or inducing a desire to sleep
sleepy·head \'slē-pē-ˌhed\ *n* : a sleepy person
[1]sleet \'slēt\ *n* [ME *slete*; akin to MHG *slōz* hailstone, ME *sloor* mud — more at SLUR] **1** : frozen or partly frozen rain **2** : GLAZE 1 — **sleety** \-ē\ *adj*
[2]sleet *vi* : to shower sleet
sleeve \'slēv\ *n* [ME *sleve*, fr. OE *slīefe*; akin to OE *slēfan* to slip (clothes) on, *slūpan* to slip, OHG *sliofan*, L *lubricus* slippery] **1 a** : a part of a garment covering an arm **b** : SLEEVELET **2** : a tubular machine part (as a hollow axle or a bushing) designed to fit over another part **3** : JACKET 3c(4) — **sleeved** \'slēvd\ *adj* — **sleeve·less** \'slēv-ləs\ *adj* — **up one's sleeve** : held secretly in reserve
sleeve·let \'slēv-lət\ *n* : a covering for the forearm to protect clothing from wear or dirt
[1]sleigh \'slā\ *n* [D *slee*, alter. of *slede*; akin to MD *sledde* sled] : a vehicle on runners used for transporting persons or goods on snow or ice


sleigh

[2]sleigh *vi* : to drive or travel in a sleigh
sleigh bed *n* : a bed common esp. in the first half of the 19th century having a solid headboard and footboard that roll outward at the top
sleigh bell *n* : any of various bells commonly attached to a sleigh or to the harness of a horse drawing a sleigh: as **a** : CASCABEL 2 **b** : a hemispherical bell with an attached clapper
sleight \'slīt\ *n* [ME, fr. ON *slœgth*, fr. *slœgr* sly — more at SLY] **1** : deceitful craftiness; *also* : STRATAGEM **2** : DEXTERITY, SKILL
sleight of hand **1 a** : skill and dexterity in juggling or conjuring tricks **b** : adroitness in deception **2** : a conjuring or juggling trick requiring sleight of hand
slen·der \'slen-dər\ *adj* [ME *sclendre, slendre*] **1 a** : spare in frame or flesh; *esp* : gracefully slight **b** : small or narrow in circumference or width in proportion to length or height **2** : limited or inadequate in amount : MEAGER ***syn*** see THIN — **slen·der·ly** *adv* — **slen·der·ness** *n*
slen·der·ize \-də-ˌrīz\ *vt* **-ized; -iz·ing** : to make slender
[1]sleuth \'slüth\ *n* [short for *sleuthhound*] : DETECTIVE
[2]sleuth *vi* : to act as a detective
sleuth·hound \'slüth-ˌhau̇nd\ *n* [ME, fr. *sleuth* track of an animal or person (fr. ON *slōth*) + *hound*] **1** : a hound that tracks by scent; *specif* : BLOODHOUND **2** : DETECTIVE
[1]slew \'slü\ *past of* SLAY
[2]slew *var of* SLOUGH
[3]slew *var of* SLUE
[4]slew *n* [IrGael *sluagh*] : a large number
[1]slice \'slīs\ *n* [ME, fr. MF *esclice* splinter, fr. OF, fr. *esclicier* to splinter, of Gmc origin; akin to OHG *slīzan* to tear apart — more at SLIT] **1 a** : a thin flat piece cut from something **b** : a wedge-shaped piece (as of pie or cake) **2** : a spatula for spreading paint or ink **3** : a serving knife with wedge-shaped blade ⟨a fish ~⟩ **4** : a flight of a ball that deviates from a straight course in the direction of the dominant hand of the player propelling it; *also* : a ball following such a course — compare HOOK **5** : PORTION, SHARE ⟨a ~ of the profits⟩
[2]slice *vb* **sliced; slic·ing** *vt* **1** : to cut with or as if with a knife **2** : to stir or spread with a slice **3** : to hit (a ball) so that a slice results ~ *vi* : to slice something — **slic·er** *n*

slice bar *n* : a steel bar with a broad flat blade for chipping or scraping (as in breaking up clinkers)
slice-of-life *adj* [fr. the n. phrase *slice of life*, trans. of F *tranche de vie*] : of, relating to, or marked by the accurate transcription (as into drama) of a segment of actual life experience
1slick \'slik\ *vb* [ME *sliken;* akin to OHG *slīhhan* to glide, Gk *leios* smooth] *vt* : to make sleek or smooth ~ *vi* : SPRUCE — usu. used with *up*
2slick *adj* **1 a** : having a smooth surface : SLIPPERY **b** : having surface plausibility : GLIB **c** : based on stereotype : TRITE **2** *archaic* : SLEEK 1 **3 a** : characterized by subtlety or nimble wit : CLEVER; *esp* : WILY **b** : DEFT, SKILLFUL **4** : extremely good : FIRST-RATE — **slick** *adv* — **slick·ly** *adv* — **slick·ness** *n*
3slick *n* **1 a** : something that is smooth or slippery; *esp* : a smooth patch of water covered with a film of oil **b** : a film of oil **2** : an implement for producing a slick surface: as **a** : a flat paddle usu. of steel for smoothing a sample of flour **b** : a foundry tool for smoothing the surface of a sand mold or unbaked core **3** : a popular magazine printed on coated stock **4** : an automobile tire made without a tread for maximum traction (as in drag racing)
slick-ear \'slik-ˌi(ə)r\ *n* : a range animal lacking an earmark
slick·en·side \'slik-ən-ˌsīd\ *n* [E dial. *slicken* smooth (alter. of E 2*slick*) + E *side*] : a smooth often striated surface produced on rock by movement along a fault or a subsidiary fracture — usu. used in pl.
slick·er \'slik-ər\ *n* **1** [2*slick*] : OILSKIN; *broadly* : RAINCOAT **2** [*slick* (to defraud cleverly)] **a** : a clever crook : SWINDLER **b** : a city dweller esp. of natty appearance or sophisticated mannerisms
1slide \'slīd\ *vb* **slid** \'slid\; **slid·ing** \'slīd-iŋ\ [ME *sliden*, fr. OE *slīdan;* akin to MHG *slīten* to slide, Gk *leios* smooth — more at LIME] *vi* **1 a** : to move smoothly along a surface : SLIP **b** : to coast over snow or ice **c** : to approach a base in baseball by gliding along the ground usu. feet first with the weight of the body supported esp. on one hip **2 a** : to slip or fall by loss of footing **b** : to change position or become dislocated : SHIFT **3 a** : to slither along the ground : CRAWL **b** : to stream along : FLOW **4** : to take a natural course : DRIFT ⟨let his affairs ~⟩ **5 a** : to pass unobtrusively : STEAL **b** : to pass by gradations ⟨the economy *slid* from recession to depression⟩ ~ *vt* **1 a** : to cause to glide or slip **b** : to traverse in a sliding manner **2** : to put unobtrusively or stealthily ⟨*slid* the bill into his hand⟩
2slide *n* **1 a** : an act or instance of sliding **b** (1) : a musical grace of two or more small notes (2) : PORTAMENTO **2** : a sliding part or mechanism: as **a** (1) : a U-shaped section of tube in the trombone that is pushed out and in to produce the tones between the fundamental and its harmonics (2) : a short U-shaped section of tube in brass instruments that is used to adjust the pitch of the instrument or of individual valves **b** (1) : a moving piece (as the ram of a punch press) that is guided by a part along which it slides (2) : a guiding surface (as a feeding mechanism) along which something slides **c** : SLIDING SEAT **3 a** : the descent of a mass of earth, rock, or snow down a hill or mountainside **b** : a dislocation in which one rock mass in a mining lode has slid on another : FAULT **4 a** (1) : a slippery surface for coasting (2) : a chute with a slippery bed down which children slide in play **b** : a channel or track on which something is slid **c** : a sloping trough down which objects are carried by gravity ⟨a log ~⟩ **5 a** : a flat piece of glass on which an object is mounted for microscopic examination **b** : a photographic transparency on a small plate or film arranged for projection
slide fastener *n* : ZIPPER
slid·er \'slīd-ər\ *n* **1** : one that slides **2** : a fastball that breaks slightly in the same direction as a curve
slide rule *n* : an instrument consisting in its simple form of a ruler and a medial slide that are graduated with similar logarithmic scales, labeled with the corresponding antilogarithms, and used for rapid calculation
slide valve *n* : a valve that opens and closes a passageway by sliding over a port; *specif* : such a valve often used in steam engines for admitting steam to the piston and releasing it
slide·way \'slīd-ˌwā\ *n* : a way along which something slides
sliding scale *n* **1** : a wage scale geared to the selling price of the product or to the cost-of-living index but usu. guaranteeing a minimum below which the wage will not fall **2 a** : a system for raising or lowering tariffs in accord with price changes **b** : a flexible scale (as of fees or subsidies) adjusted to the needs or income of individuals ⟨the *sliding scale* of medical fees⟩
sliding seat *n* : a rower's seat (as in a racing shell) that slides fore and aft — called also *slide*
slier *comparative of* SLY
sliest *superlative of* SLY
1slight \'slīt\ *adj* [ME, smooth, slight, prob. fr. MD *slicht;* akin to OHG *slīhhan* to glide — more at SLICK] **1 a** : having a slim or delicate build : not stout or massive in body **b** : lacking in strength or substance : FLIMSY, FRAIL **c** : deficient in weight, solidity, or importance : TRIVIAL **2** : small of its kind or in amount : SCANTY, MEAGER ***syn*** see THIN — **slight·ly** *adv* — **slight·ness** *n*
2slight *vt* **1** : to treat as slight or unimportant : make light of **2** : to treat with disdain or indifference **3** : to perform or attend to carelessly and inadequately **4** : 1SLUR 3 ***syn*** see NEGLECT
3slight *n* **1** : an act or an instance of slighting **2** : an instance of being slighted : a humiliating discourtesy
slight·ing *adj* : characterized by disregard or disrespect : DISPARAGING ⟨a ~ remark⟩ — **slight·ing·ly** \-iŋ-lē\ *adv*
sli·ly *var of* SLYLY
1slim \'slim\ *adj* **slim·mer; slim·mest** [D, bad, inferior, fr. MD *slimp* crooked, bad; akin to MHG *slimp* awry] **1** : of small diameter or thickness in proportion to the height or length : SLENDER **2 a** : MEAN, WORTHLESS **b** : ADROIT, CRAFTY **3 a** : inferior in quality or amount : SLIGHT **b** : SCANTY, SMALL ⟨a ~ chance⟩ ***syn*** see THIN ***ant*** chubby (*of persons*) — **slim·ly** *adv* — **slim·ness** *n*
2slim *vb* **slimmed; slim·ming** *vt* : to make slender ~ *vi* : to become slender
1slime \'slīm\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *slīm;* akin to OHG *slīmen* to smooth, L *lima* file — more at LIME] **1** : soft moist earth or clay; *esp* : viscous mud **2** : a viscous or glutinous substance: as **a** : a mucous or mucoid secretion of various animals (as slugs and catfishes) **b** : a product of wet crushing consisting of ore ground so fine as to pass a 200-mesh screen
2slime *vb* **slimed; slim·ing** *vt* **1** : to smear or cover with slime **2** : to remove slime from (as fish for canning) **3** : to crush or grind (ore) to a slime ~ *vi* : to become slimy
slime mold *n* : any of a group (Myxomycetes or Mycetozoa) of organisms usu. held to be lower fungi but sometimes considered protozoan that exist vegetatively as mobile plasmodia and reproduce by spores
slim-jim \'slim-'jim, -ˌjim\ *n* [1*slim* + *Jim*, nickname for *James*] : one that is notably slender — **slim-jim** *adj*
slim·ming *adj* : giving an effect of slenderness
slim·sy *or* **slimp·sy** \'slim-zē, 'slim(p)-sē\ *adj* [blend of *slim* and *flimsy*] : FLIMSY, FRAIL
slimy \'slī-mē\ *adj* **slim·i·er; -est** **1** : of, relating to, or resembling slime : VISCOUS; *also* : covered with or yielding slime **2** : VILE, OFFENSIVE — **slim·i·ly** \-mə-lē\ *adv* — **slim·i·ness** \-mē-nəs\ *n*
1sling \'sliŋ\ *vt* **slung** \'sləŋ\; **sling·ing** \'sliŋ-iŋ\ [ME *slingen*, prob. fr. ON *slyngva* to hurl; akin to OE & OHG *slingan* to worm, twist, Lith *slinkti*] **1** : to cast with a sudden and usu. sweeping or swirling motion ⟨*slung* the sweater over her shoulder⟩ **2** : to throw with a sling ***syn*** see THROW — **sling·er** \'sliŋ-ər\ *n*
2sling *n* : a slinging or hurling of or as if of a missile
3sling *n* **1 a** : an instrument for throwing stones that usu. consists of a short strap with strings fastened to its ends and is whirled round to discharge its missile by centrifugal force **b** : SLINGSHOT 1 **2 a** : a usu. looped line (as of strap, chain, or rope) used to hoist, lower, or carry something; *esp* : a hanging bandage suspended from the neck to support an arm or hand **b** : a chain or rope attached to a lower yard at the middle and passing around a mast near the masthead to support a yard **c** : a chain hooked at the bow and stern of a boat for lowering or hoisting **d** : a device (as a rope net) for enclosing material to be hoisted by a tackle or crane
4sling *vt* **slung** \'sləŋ\; **sling·ing** \'sliŋ-iŋ\ : to place in a sling for hoisting or lowering
5sling *n* [origin unknown] : an alcoholic drink usu. made of whiskey, brandy, or esp. gin with plain or carbonated water, sugar, and sometimes bitters and often garnished with lemon or lime peel if cold or dusted with nutmeg if hot ⟨gin ~⟩ ⟨rum ~⟩
slinger ring *n* : a tubular ring fitted round the propeller hub of an airplane through which a spray of antifreeze solution is spread by centrifugal force over the propeller blades to prevent icing
sling·shot \'sliŋ-ˌshät\ *n* **1** : a forked stick with an elastic band attached for shooting small stones **2 a** : a maneuver in auto racing in which a drafting car accelerates past the car in front by taking advantage of reserve power **b** : a dragster in which the driver sits behind the rear wheels
1slink \'sliŋk\ *vb* **slunk** \'sləŋk\ *also* **slinked** \'sliŋ(k)t\; **slink·ing** [ME *slinken*, fr. OE *slincan* to creep; akin to OE *slingan* to worm, twist] *vi* **1** : to go or move stealthily or furtively (as in fear or shame) : STEAL **2** : to move in a sinuous provocative manner ~ *vt* : to give premature birth to — used esp. of a domestic animal ⟨a cow that ~*s* her calf⟩ ***syn*** see LURK
2slink *n* : the young of an animal (as a calf) brought forth prematurely; *also* : the flesh or skin of such an animal
3slink *adj* : born prematurely or abortively ⟨a ~ calf⟩
slinky \'sliŋ-kē\ *adj* **slink·i·er; -est** **1** : characterized by slinking : stealthily quiet ⟨~ movements⟩ **2** : sleek and sinuous in movement or outline; *esp* : following the lines of the figure in a gracefully flowing manner ⟨a ~ evening gown⟩ — **slink·i·ly** \-kə-lē\ *adv* — **slink·i·ness** \-kē-nəs\ *n*
1slip \'slip\ *vb* **slipped; slip·ping** [ME *slippen*, fr. MD or MLG; akin to Gk *olibros* slippery, *leios* smooth — more at LIME] *vi* **1 a** : to move with a smooth sliding motion **b** : to move quietly and cautiously : STEAL **c** : ELAPSE, PASS **2 a** (1) : to escape from memory or consciousness (2) : to become uttered through inadvertence **b** : to pass quickly or easily away : become lost ⟨let an opportunity ~⟩ **3** : to fall into error or fault : LAPSE **4 a** : to slide out of place or away from a support or one's grasp **b** : to slide on or down a slippery surface ⟨~ on the stairs⟩ **c** : to flow smoothly **5** : to get speedily into or out of clothing ⟨*slipped* into his coat⟩ **6** : to fall off from a standard or accustomed level by degrees : DECLINE **7** : SIDESLIP ~ *vt* **1** : to cause to move easily and smoothly : SLIDE **2 a** : to get away from : ELUDE, EVADE ⟨*slipped* his pursuers⟩ **b** : to free oneself from ⟨the dog *slipped* his collar⟩ **c** : to escape from (one's memory or notice) **3** : CAST, SHED ⟨the snake *slipped* its skin⟩ **4** : to put on (a garment) hurriedly **5 a** : to let loose from a restraining leash or grasp **b** : to cause to slip open : RELEASE, UNDO ⟨~ a lock⟩ **c** : to let go of **d** : to disengage from (an anchor) instead of hauling **6 a** : to insert, place, or pass quietly or secretly **b** : to give or pay on the sly **7** : SLINK, ABORT **8** : DISLOCATE ⟨*slipped* his shoulder⟩ **9** : to transfer (a stitch) from one needle to another without working a stitch **10** : to avoid (a punch) by moving the body or head quickly to one side — **slip something over** : to foist something on another : get the better of another by trickery
2slip *n* **1 a** : a sloping ramp extending out into the water to serve as a place for landing or repairing ships **b** : a ship's or boat's berth between two piers **2** : the act or an instance of departing secretly or hurriedly ⟨gave his pursuer the ~⟩ **3 a** : a mistake in judgment, policy, or procedure **b** : an unintentional and trivial mistake or fault : LAPSE **4** : a leash so made that it can be quickly slipped **5 a** : the act or an instance of slipping down or out of a place ⟨a ~ on the ice⟩; *also* : a sudden mishap ⟨many a ~ between the cup and the lip⟩ **b** : a movement dislocating parts (as of a rock or soil mass); *also* : the result of such movement **c** : a fall from some level or standard : DECLINE ⟨a ~ in stock prices⟩ **6 a** : an undergarment made in dress length with shoulder straps **b** : a case into which something is slipped; *specif* : PILLOWCASE **7 a** : the motion of the center of resistance of the float of a paddle

wheel or the blade of an oar through the water horizontally **b** : retrograde movement of a belt on a pulley **c** : the amount of leakage past the piston of a pump or the impellers of a blower **8** : a disposition or tendency to slip easily **9** : the action of sideslipping : an instance of sideslipping ***syn*** see ERROR

³slip *adj* **1 a** : operating by slipping ⟨~ bar⟩ **b** : capable of being detached ⟨~ compartment⟩ **2** : having a slipknot ⟨~ cord⟩ **3** : capable of being released quickly ⟨~ bolt⟩

⁴slip *n* [ME *slippe*, prob. fr. MD or MLG, split, slit, flap] **1 a** : a small shoot or twig cut for planting or grafting : SCION **b** : DESCENDANT, OFFSPRING **2 a** : a long narrow strip of material **b** : a small piece of paper **3** : a young and slender person ⟨a ~ of a girl⟩ **4** : a long seat or narrow pew

⁵slip *vt* **slipped; slip·ping** : to take cuttings from (a plant) : divide into slips ⟨~ a geranium⟩

⁶slip *n* [ME *slyp* slime, fr. OE *slypa* slime paste; akin to OE *slūpan* to slip — more at SLEEVE] : a mixture of finely divided clay and water used by potters (as for casting or decorating wares or in cementing separately formed parts)

slip·case \'slip-ˌkās\ *n* : a protective container with one open end for books

slip·cov·er \'slip-ˌkəv-ər\ *n* **1** : a cover that may be slipped off and on; *specif* : a removable protective covering for an article of furniture **2** : a protective cover readily slipped on or off a book

slip·form \'slip-ˌfȯrm\ *vt* : to construct with the use of a slip form

slip form *n* : a form that is moved slowly as concrete is placed during construction (as of a building or pavement)

slip·knot \'slip-ˌnät\ *n* : a knot that slips along the rope or line around which it is made; *esp* : one made by tying an overhand knot around the standing part of a rope — see KNOT illustration

slip noose *n* : a noose with a slipknot

slip–on \'slip-ˌȯn, -ˌän\ *n* : an article of clothing that is easily slipped on or off: as **a** : a glove or shoe without fastenings **b** : a garment (as a girdle) that one steps into and pulls up **c** : PULLOVER

slip·over \-ˌō-vər\ *n* : a garment or cover that slips on and off easily; *specif* : a pullover sweater

slip·page \'slip-ij\ *n* **1** : an act, instance, or process of slipping **2** : a loss in transmission of power; *also* : the difference between theoretical and actual output (as of power)

slipped disk *n* : a protrusion of one of the cartilage disks between vertebrae with pressure on spinal nerves resulting in low back pain or sciatic pain

¹slip·per \'slip-ər\ *adj* [ME] *chiefly dial* : SLIPPERY

²slipper *n* [ME, fr. *slippen* to slip] : a light low-cut shoe that is easily slipped on the foot and is worn esp. while resting at home

slip·pery \'slip-(ə-)rē\ *adj* **slip·peri·er; -est** [alter. of ME *slipper*, fr. OE *slipor;* akin to MLG *slipper* slippery, *slippen* to slip] **1 a** : causing or tending to cause something to slide or fall ⟨~ roads⟩ **b** : tending to slip from the grasp **2** : not firmly fixed : UNSTABLE **3** : not to be trusted : TRICKY — **slip·peri·ness** *n*

slip·py \'slip-ē\ *adj* **slip·pi·er; -est** : SLIPPERY

slip ring *n* [²*slip*] : one of two or more continuous conducting rings from which the brushes take or to which they deliver current in a dynamo or motor

slip–sheet \'slip-ˌshēt\ *vt* : to insert slip sheets between (newly printed sheets)

slip sheet *n* [¹*slip*] : a sheet of paper placed between newly printed sheets to prevent offsetting

slip·shod \'slip-'shäd\ *adj* [¹*slip*] **1 a** : wearing loose shoes or slippers **b** : down at the heel : SHABBY **2** : CARELESS, SLOVENLY

slip·slop \-ˌsläp\ *n* [redupl. of ²*slop*] **1** *archaic* : watery food : SLOPS **2** *archaic* : shallow talk or writing : TWADDLE — **slip–slop** *adj*

slip·sole \-ˌsōl\ *n* **1** : a thin insole **2** : a half sole inserted between the insole or welt and the outsole of a shoe to give additional height — called also *slip tap*

slip·stick \-ˌstik\ *n* : SLIDE RULE

slip stitch *n* **1** : a concealed stitch for sewing folded edges (as hems) made by alternately running the needle inside the fold and picking up a thread or two from the body of the article **2** : an unworked stitch; *esp* : a knitting stitch that is shifted from one needle to another without knitting it

¹slip·stream \'slip-ˌstrēm\ *n* **1** : a stream of fluid (as air or water) driven aft by a propeller **2** : an area of reduced air pressure and forward suction immediately behind a rapidly moving racing car

²slipstream *vi* : to drive in the slipstream of a racing car

slip·up \'slip-ˌəp\ *n* **1** : MISTAKE **2** : MISCHANCE

slip up \slip-'əp\ *vi* : to make a mistake : BLUNDER

¹slit \'slit\ *vt* **slit; slit·ting** [ME *slitten;* akin to MHG *slitzen* to slit, OHG *slīzan* to tear apart, OE *sciell* shell — more at SHELL] **1 a** : to make a slit in **b** : to cut off or away : SEVER **c** : to form into a slit **2** : to cut into long narrow strips — **slit·ter** *n*

²slit *n* : a long narrow cut or opening — **slit** *adj* — **slit·less** \'slit-ləs\ *adj*

slith·er \'sli*th*-ər\ *vb* [ME *slideren*, fr. OE *slidrian*, freq. of *slīdan* to slide] *vi* **1** : to slide on or as if on a loose gravelly surface **2** : to slip or slide like a snake ~ *vt* : to cause to slide

slith·ery \'sli*th*-ə-rē\ *adj* : having a slippery surface, texture, or quality

slit trench *n* : a narrow trench esp. for shelter in battle from bomb and shell fragments

¹sliv·er \'sliv-ər, *2 is usu* 'slīv-\ *n* [ME *slivere*, fr. *sliven* to slice off, fr. OE *-slīfan;* akin to OE *-slǣfan* to cut] **1** : a long slender piece cut or torn off : SPLINTER **2** : an untwisted strand or rope of textile fiber produced by a carding or combing machine and ready for drawing, roving, or spinning

²sliv·er \'sliv-ər\ *vb* **sliv·ered; sliv·er·ing** \-(ə-)riŋ\ *vt* : to cut into slivers : SPLINTER ~ *vi* : to become split into slivers

sliv·o·vitz \'sliv-ə-ˌvits, 'slēv-, -ˌwits\ *n* [Serbo-Croatian *šljivovica*, fr. *šljiva, sliva* plum; akin to Russ *sliva* plum — more at LIVID] : a dry usu. colorless plum brandy made esp. in Hungary and the Balkan countries

Slo *abbr* Sligo

slob \'släb\ *n* [Ir *slab* mud] **1** : a heavy sludge of sea ice **2** : a slovenly or boorish person — **slob·bish** \'släb-ish\ *adj*

¹slob·ber \'släb-ər\ *vb* **slob·bered; slob·ber·ing** \-(ə-)riŋ\ [ME *sloberen;* akin to LG *slubberen* to sip, Lith *lūpa* lip] *vi* **1** : to let saliva dribble from the mouth : DROOL **2** : to indulge the feelings effusively and without restraint ~ *vt* : to smear with or as if with dribbling saliva or food — **slob·ber·er** \-ər-ər\ *n*

²slobber *n* **1** : saliva drooled from the mouth **2** : driveling, sloppy, or incoherent utterance — **slob·bery** \'släb-(ə-)rē\ *adj*

sloe \'slō\ *n* [ME *slo*, fr. OE *slāh* — more at LIVID] : the small dark globose astringent fruit of the blackthorn; *also* : BLACKTHORN 1

sloe–eyed \'slō-ˌīd\ *adj* **1** : having soft dark bluish or purplish black eyes **2** : having slanted eyes

sloe gin *n* : a sweet reddish liqueur consisting of grain spirits flavored chiefly with sloes

¹slog \'släg\ *vb* **slogged; slog·ging** [origin unknown] *vt* **1** : to hit hard : BEAT **2** : to plod (one's way) perseveringly esp. against difficulty ~ *vi* **1** : to plod heavily : TRAMP ⟨*slogged* through the snow⟩ **2** : to work hard and steadily : PLUG — **slog·ger** *n*

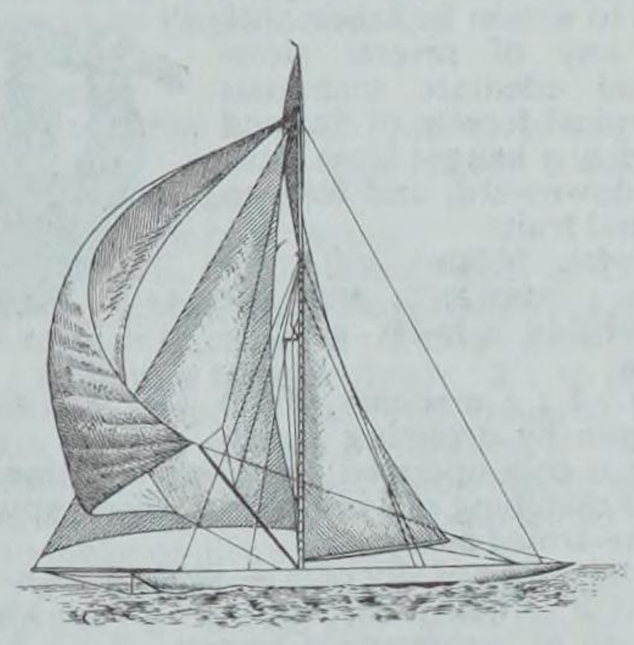
²slog *n* **1** : hard persistent work **2** : a hard dogged march or tramp

slo·gan \'slō-gən\ *n* [alter. of earlier *slogorn*, fr. ScGael *sluagh-ghairm* army cry] **1 a** : a war cry or rallying cry esp. of a Scottish clan **b** : a word or phrase used to express a characteristic position or stand or a goal to be achieved **2** : a brief attention-getting phrase used in advertising or promotion

slo·gan·eer \ˌslō-gə-'ni(ə)r\ *n* : a maker or user of slogans — **sloganeer** *vi*

slo·gan·ize \'slō-gə-ˌnīz\ *vt* **-ized; -iz·ing** : to express as a slogan

sloop \'slüp\ *n* [D *sloep*] : a fore-and-aft rigged boat with one mast and a single headsail jib



sloop

sloop of war **1** : a warship rigged as a ship, brig, or schooner mounting from 10 to 32 guns **2** : a warship larger than a gunboat with guns on one deck only

¹slop \'släp\ *n* [ME *sloppe*, prob. fr. MD *slop;* akin to OE *oferslop* slop] **1** : a loose smock or overall **2** *pl* : short full breeches worn by men in the 16th century **3** *pl* : articles (as clothing) sold to sailors

²slop *n* [ME *sloppe*] **1** : soft mud : SLUSH **2** : thin tasteless drink or liquid food — usu. used in pl. **3** : liquid spilled or splashed **4 a** : food waste (as garbage) or a thin gruel fed to animals **b** : excreted body waste — usu. used in pl. **5** : sentimental effusiveness in speech or writing : GUSH

³slop *vb* **slopped; slop·ping** *vt* **1 a** : to spill from a container **b** : to splash or spill liquid on **c** : to cause (a liquid) to splash **2** : to dish out messily **3** : to eat or drink greedily or noisily **4** : to feed slop to ⟨~ the hogs⟩ ~ *vi* **1** : to tramp in mud or slush **2** : to become spilled or splashed **3** : to be effusive : GUSH **4** : to pass beyond or exceed a boundary or limit

slop basin *n, Brit* : a bowl for receiving the leavings of tea or coffee cups at table — called also *slop bowl*

slop chest *n* [¹*slop*] : a store of clothing and personal requisites (as tobacco) carried on merchant ships for issue to the crew usu. as a charge against their wages

¹slope \'slōp\ *adj* [ME *slope*, adv., obliquely] : that slants : SLOPING — often used in combination ⟨*slope*-sided⟩

²slope *vb* **sloped; slop·ing** *vi* **1** : to take an oblique course **2** : to lie or fall in a slant : INCLINE **3** : GO, TRAVEL ⟨~*s* off into the night —Wolcott Gibbs⟩ ~ *vt* : to cause to incline or slant ***syn*** see SLANT — **slop·er** *n*

³slope *n* **1** : ground that forms a natural or artificial incline **2** : upward or downward slant or inclination or degree of slant **3** : the part of a continent draining to a particular ocean **4 a** : the tangent of the angle made by a straight line with the x-axis **b** : the slope of the line tangent to a plane curve at a point

slo–pitch \'slō-'pich, -ˌpich\ *n* [alter. of *slow pitch*] : a form of softball which is played with 10 men on each side and in which each pitch must travel in an arc 3 to 10 feet high and base stealing is not permitted

slop jar *n* : a large pail used as a chamber pot or to receive waste water from a washbowl or the contents of chamber pots

slop pail *n* : a pail for toilet or household slops

slop·py \'släp-ē\ *adj* **slop·pi·er; -est** **1 a** : wet so as to spatter easily : SLUSHY ⟨a ~ racetrack⟩ **b** : wet or smeared with or as if

with something slopped over **2** : SLOVENLY, CARELESS ⟨she's a ~ dresser⟩ ⟨did ~ work⟩ **3** : disagreeably effusive ⟨~ sentimentalism⟩ — **slop·pi·ly** \'släp-ə-lē\ *adv* — **slop·pi·ness** *n*

slop·work \'släp-ˌwərk\ *n* **1** : the manufacture of cheap ready-made clothing **2** : hasty slovenly work — **slop·work·er** \-ˌwər-kər\ *n*

¹slosh \'släsh, 'slȯsh\ *n* [prob. blend of *slop* and *slush*] **1** : SLUSH **2** : the slap or splash of liquid

²slosh *vi* **1** : to flounder or splash through water, mud, or slush **2** : to move with a splashing motion ⟨the water ~*ed* around him —Bill Alcine⟩ ~ *vt* **1** : to splash about in liquid **2** : to splash (a liquid) about or on something **3** : to splash with liquid

¹slot \'slät\ *n* [ME, the hollow running down the middle of the breast, fr. MF *esclot*] **1 a** : a narrow opening or groove : SLIT, NOTCH ⟨a mail ~ in a door⟩ **b** : a narrow passage or enclosure **c** : a passage through the wing of an airplane or of a missile that is located usu. near the leading edge and formed between a main and an auxiliary airfoil for improving flow conditions over the wing so as to increase lift and delay stalling of the wing **2** : a place or position in an organization or sequence : NICHE **3** : a gap between an end and a tackle in an offensive football line

²slot *vt* **slot·ted; slot·ting** **1** : to cut a slot in **2** : to place in or assign to a slot

³slot *n, pl* **slot** [MF *esclot* track] : the track of an animal (as a deer)

slot·back \'slät-ˌbak\ *n* : an offensive football halfback who lines up just behind the slot between an offensive end and tackle

slot car *n* : an electric toy racing automobile that has an arm underneath to fit into a groove of a track having parallel metal strips to supply electricity and that is remotely controlled by the operator's hand-held rheostat

sloth \'slȯth, 'slōth\ *n, pl* **sloths** *with* ths *or* th̲z\ [ME *slouthe*, fr. *slow*] **1** : disinclination to action or labor : INDOLENCE **2** : any of several slow-moving arboreal edentate mammals that inhabit tropical forests of So. and Central America, hang from the branches back downward, and feed on leaves, shoots, and fruits



sloth 2

sloth·ful \'slȯth-fəl, 'slōth-\ *adj* : inclined to sloth : INDOLENT *syn* see LAZY — **sloth·ful·ly** \-fə-lē\ *adv* — **sloth·ful·ness** *n*

slot machine *n* **1** : a machine whose operation is begun by dropping a coin into a slot **2** : a coin-operated gambling machine that pays off according to the matching of symbols on wheels spun by a handle — called also *one-armed bandit*

slot racing *n* : the racing of slot cars — **slot racer** *n*

¹slouch \'slau̇ch\ *n* [origin unknown] **1 a** : an awkward fellow : LOUT **b** : a lazy or incompetent person **2** : a gait or posture characterized by ungainly stooping of head and shoulders or excessive relaxation of body muscles

²slouch *vi* **1** : to walk with or assume a slouch **2** : DROOP ~ *vt* : to cause to droop ⟨~*ed* his shoulders⟩ — **slouch·er** *n*

slouch hat *n* : a soft usu. felt hat with a wide flexible brim

slouchy \'slau̇-chē\ *adj* **slouch·i·er; -est** : lacking erectness esp. in gait or posture — **slouch·i·ly** \-chə-lē\ *adv* — **slouch·i·ness** \-chē-nəs\ *n*

¹slough \'slü, 'slau̇; *in the US (exc New Eng)* 'slü *is usual for sense 1 with those to whom the sense is familiar; for sense 2,* 'slau̇ *is more frequent than* 'slü\ *n* [ME *slogh*, fr. OE *slōh*; akin to MHG *slouche* ditch] **1 a** : a place of deep mud or mire **b** (1) : SWAMP (2) : an inlet from a river; *also* : BACKWATER (3) : a creek in a marsh or tide flat **2** : a state of moral degradation or spiritual dejection

²slough *vt* : to engulf in a slough ~ *vi* : to plod through or as if through mud : SLOG

³slough \'sləf\ *or* **sluff** *n* [ME *slughe*; akin to MHG *slūch* snakeskin, Lith *šliaužti* to crawl] **1** : the cast-off skin of a snake **2** : a mass of dead tissue separating from an ulcer **3** : something that may be shed or cast off

⁴slough \'sləf\ *or* **sluff** *vi* **1 a** : to become shed or cast off **b** : to cast off one's skin **c** : to separate in the form of dead tissue from living tissue **2** : to crumble slowly and fall away ~ *vt* **1** : to cast off **2 a** : to get rid of or discard as irksome, objectionable, or disadvantageous — usu. used with *off* **b** : to dispose of (a losing card in bridge) by discarding *syn* see DISCARD

slough of de·spond \ˌslau̇-əv-di-'spänd, ˌslü-\ [fr. the *Slough of Despond*, deep bog into which Christian falls on the way from the City of Destruction and from which Help saves him in the allegory *Pilgrim's Progress* (1678) by John Bunyan] : a state of extreme depression

slough over \ˌsləf-\ *vt* : to treat as slight or unimportant

sloughy \'slü-ē, 'slau̇- — *see* ¹SLOUGH\ *adj* : full of sloughs : MIRY

Slo·vak \'slō-ˌväk, -ˌvak\ *n* [Slovak *Slovák*] **1** : a member of a Slavic people of eastern Czechoslovakia **2** : the Slavic language of the Slovak people — **Slovak** *adj* — **Slo·va·ki·an** \slō-'väk-ē-ən, -'vak-\ *adj or n*

¹slov·en \'sləv-ən\ *n* [ME *sloveyn* rascal, perh. fr. Flem *sloovin* woman of low character] : one habitually negligent of neatness or cleanliness esp. in personal appearance

²sloven *adj* : SLOVENLY

Slo·vene \'slō-ˌvēn\ *n* [G, fr. Slovene *Sloven*] **1 a** : a member of a southern Slavic group of people usu. classed with the Serbs and Croats and living in Yugoslavia **b** : a native or inhabitant of Slovenia **2** : the language of the Slovenes — **Slovene** *adj* — **Slo·ve·nian** \slō-'vē-nē-ən, -nyən\ *adj or n*

slov·en·ly \'sləv-ən-lē\ *adj* **1 a** : untidy esp. in personal appearance **b** : lazily slipshod ⟨~ in thought⟩ **2** : characteristic of a sloven ⟨~ workmanship⟩ — **slo·ven·li·ness** *n* — **slovenly** *adv*

¹slow \'slō\ *adj* [ME, fr. OE *slāw*; akin to OHG *slēo* dull, Skt *srēvayati* he causes to fail] **1 a** : mentally dull : STUPID ⟨a ~ student⟩ **b** : naturally inert or sluggish **2 a** : lacking in readiness, promptness, or willingness **b** : not hasty or precipitate ⟨was ~ to anger⟩ **3 a** : moving, flowing, or proceeding without speed or at less than usual speed ⟨traffic was ~⟩ **b** : exhibiting or marked by retarded speed ⟨he moved with ~ deliberation⟩ **c** : not acute **d** : LOW, GENTLE ⟨~ fire⟩ **4** : requiring a long time : GRADUAL ⟨a ~ convalescence⟩ **5** : having qualities that hinder or stop rapid progress or action **6 a** : registering behind or below what is correct ⟨his clock is ~⟩ **b** : less than the time indicated by another method of reckoning **c** : that is behind the time at a specified time or place **7 a** : lacking in life, animation, or gaiety : BORING **b** : marked by reduced sales or patronage ⟨business was ~⟩ — **slow·ish** \'slō-ish\ *adj* — **slow·ness** *n*

²slow *adv* : SLOWLY

³slow *vt* : to make slow or slower : slacken the speed of ⟨~ a car⟩ — often used with *down* or *up* ~ *vi* : to go or become slower ⟨production of new cars ~*ed* sharply⟩ *syn* see DELAY *ant* speed

slow·down \'slō-ˌdau̇n\ *n* : a slowing down ⟨a business ~⟩

slow-foot·ed \-'fu̇t-əd\ *adj* : moving at a very slow pace : PLODDING ⟨a ~ novel⟩ ⟨a ~ ship⟩ — **slow-footed·ness** *n*

slow·ly \-lē\ *adv* : in a slow manner : not quickly, fast, early, rashly, or readily

slow match *n* : a match or fuse made so as to burn slowly and evenly and used for firing (as of blasting charges)

slow motion *n* : the action in a projected motion picture apparently taking place at a speed much slower than that of the photographed action

slow-pitch \'slō-'pich, -ˌpich\ *n* : SLO-PITCH

slow·poke \'slō-ˌpōk\ *n* : a very slow person

slow-wit·ted \-'wit-əd\ *adj* : mentally slow : DULL

slow·worm \-ˌwərm\ *n* [ME *sloworm*, fr. OE *slāwyrm*, fr. *slā-* (akin to Sw *slå* earthworm) + *wyrm* worm] : BLINDWORM

¹slub \'sləb\ *vt* **slubbed; slub·bing** [back-formation fr. *slubbing*] : to draw out and twist (as slivers of wool) slightly

²slub *n* : SLUBBING

slub·ber \'sləb-ər\ *vt* **slub·bered; slub·ber·ing** \-(ə-)riŋ\ [prob. fr. obs. D *slubberen*] **1** *dial chiefly Eng* : STAIN, SULLY **2** : to perform in a slipshod fashion

slub·bing \'sləb-iŋ\ *n* [origin unknown] : slightly twisted roving

sludge \'sləj\ *n* [prob. alter. of *slush*] **1** : MUD, MIRE; *esp* : a muddy deposit (as on a riverbed) : OOZE **2** : a muddy or slushy mass, deposit, or sediment: as **a** : precipitated solid matter produced by water and sewage treatment processes **b** : muddy sediment in a steam boiler **c** : a precipitate or settling (as a mixture of impurities and acid) from a mineral oil **3** : new sea ice forming in thin detached crystals

sludgy \'sləj-ē\ *adj* **sludg·i·er; -est** : containing or full of sludge

¹slue \'slü\ *var of* SLOUGH

²slue *also* **slew** \'slü\ *vb* **slued; slu·ing** [origin unknown] *vt* **1** *usu slew* : to turn (as a telescope or a ship's spar) about a fixed point that is usu. the axis **2** : to cause to skid : VEER ⟨~ a car around a turn⟩ ~ *vi* **1** : to turn, twist, or swing about : PIVOT ⟨*slued* around in the saddle —A. B. Guthrie⟩ **2** : SKID

³slue *n* **1** : position or inclination after sluing **2** : SKID 5

⁴slue *var of* SLEW

¹slug \'sləg\ *n* [ME *slugge*, of Scand origin; akin to Norw dial. *slugga* to walk sluggishly; akin to ME *sloor* mud — more at SLUR] **1** : SLUGGARD **2** : any of numerous chiefly terrestrial pulmonate gastropods (family Limacidae) that are found in most parts of the world where there is a reasonable supply of moisture and are closely related to the land snails but are long and wormlike and have only a rudimentary shell often buried in the mantle or entirely absent **3** : a smooth soft larva of a sawfly or moth that creeps like a mollusk

²slug *n* [prob. fr. ¹*slug*] **1** : a lump, disk, or cylinder of material (as plastic or metal): as **a** (1) : a musket ball (2) : BULLET **b** : a piece of metal roughly shaped for subsequent processing **c** : a $50 gold piece **d** : a disk for insertion in a slot machine; *esp* : one used illegally instead of a coin **2 a** : a strip of metal thicker than a printer's lead **b** : a line of type cast as one piece **c** : a usu. temporary type line serving to instruct or identify **3 a** : a single drink of liquor : SHOT **b** : a detached mass of fluid (as water vapor or oil) that causes impact (as in a circulating system) **4** : the gravitational unit of mass in the fps system to which a pound force can impart an acceleration of one foot per second per second

³slug *vt* **slugged; slug·ging** : to add a printer's slug to

⁴slug *n* [perh. fr. *slug* (to load with slugs)] : a heavy blow esp. with the fist

⁵slug *vt* **slugged; slug·ging** : to strike heavily with or as if with the fist or a bat

slug·abed \'sləg-ə-ˌbed\ *n* : one who stays in bed after his usual or proper time of getting up; *broadly* : SLUGGARD

slug·fest \'sləg-ˌfest\ *n* : a fight marked by the exchange of heavy blows

¹slug·gard \'sləg-ərd\ *n* [ME *sluggart*] : an habitually lazy person

²sluggard *adj* : SLUGGARDLY — **slug·gard·ness** *n*

slug·gard·ly \'sləg-ərd-lē\ *adj* : lazily inactive

slug·ger \'sləg-ər\ *n* : one that strikes hard or with heavy blows: as **a** : a prizefighter who punches hard but has usu. little defensive skill **b** : a hard-hitting batter in baseball

slugging average *n* : the ratio (as a rate per thousand) of the total number of bases reached on base hits to official times at bat for a baseball player

slug·gish \'sləg-ish\ *adj* **1** : averse to activity or exertion : INDOLENT; *also* : TORPID **2** : slow to respond (as to stimulation or treatment) **3 a** : markedly slow in movement, flow, or growth **b** : economically inactive or slow *syn* see LETHARGIC *ant* brisk, quick (*of mind*) — **slug·gish·ly** *adv* — **slug·gish·ness** *n*

¹sluice \'slüs\ *n* [alter. of ME *scluse*, fr. MF *escluse*, fr. LL *exclusa*, fr. L, fem. of *exclusus*, pp. of *excludere* to exclude] **1 a** : an artificial passage for water (as in a millstream) fitted with a valve or gate for stopping or regulating flow **b** : a body of water pent up behind a floodgate **2** : a dock gate : FLOODGATE **3 a** : a stream flowing through a floodgate **b** : a channel to drain or carry off surplus water **4** : a long inclined trough usu. on the ground (as

for floating logs); *esp* : such a contrivance paved usu. with riffles to hold quicksilver for catching gold

²sluice *vb* **sluiced; sluic·ing** *vt* **1** : to draw off by or through a sluice **2 a** : to wash with or in water running through or from a sluice **b** : to drench with a sudden flow : FLUSH **3** : to transport (as logs) in a sluice ~ *vi* : to pour as if from a sluice ***syn*** see POUR

sluice·way \'slü-ˌswā\ *n* : an artificial channel into which water is let by a sluice

sluicy \'slü-sē\ *adj* : falling copiously or in streams : STREAMING

¹slum \'sləm\ *n, often attrib* [origin unknown] : a densely populated usu. urban area marked by crowding, dirty run-down housing, poverty, and social disorganization

²slum *vi* **slummed; slum·ming** : to visit slums or places considered slums esp. out of curiosity — **slum·mer** *n*

¹slum·ber \'sləm-bər\ *vi* **slum·bered; slum·ber·ing** \-b(ə-)riŋ\ [ME *slumberen*, freq. of *slumen* to doze, prob. fr. *slume* slumber, fr. OE *slūma;* akin to Lith *slugti* to diminish — more at SLUR] **1 a** : to sleep lightly : DOZE **b** : SLEEP **2 a** : to be in a torpid, slothful, or negligent state **b** : to lie dormant or latent — **slum·ber·er** \-bər-ər\ *n*

²slumber *n* **1 a** : SLEEP **b** : a light sleep **2** : LETHARGY, TORPOR

slum·ber·ous *or* **slum·brous** \'sləm-b(ə-)rəs\ *adj* **1** : heavy with sleep : SLEEPY **2** : inducing slumber : SOPORIFIC **3** : marked by or suggestive of a state of sleep or lethargy ⟨a ~ peace pervaded every province —Pearl Buck⟩ ***syn*** see SLEEPY

slumber party *n* : an overnight gathering of teenage girls usu. at one of their homes at which they dress in nightclothes but pass the night more in talking than sleeping

slum·bery \'sləm-b(ə-)rē\ *adj, archaic* : SLUMBEROUS

slum·gul·lion \'sləm-ˌgəl-yən, ˌsləm-'\ *n* [perh. fr. *slum* (slime) + E dial. *gullion* (mud, cesspool)] : a meat stew

slum·lord \'sləm-ˌlȯ(ə)rd\ *n* [¹*slum* + land*lord*] : a landlord who receives unusually large profits from substandard properties

slum·my \'sləm-ē\ *adj* **slum·mi·er; -est** : of, relating to, or suggestive of a slum ⟨~ streets⟩

¹slump \'sləmp\ *vi* [prob. of Scand origin; akin to Norw *slumpa* to fall; akin to L *labi* to slide — more at SLEEP] **1 a** : to fall or sink suddenly **b** : to drop or slide down suddenly : COLLAPSE ⟨~*ed* to the floor⟩ **2** : to assume a drooping posture or carriage : SLOUCH **3** : to go into a slump ⟨sales ~*ed*⟩

²slump *n* **1 a** : a marked or sustained decline esp. in economic activity or prices **b** : a period of poor or losing play by a team or individual ⟨one spring I was in a batting ~ —Ted Williams⟩ **2** : a downward slide of land that usu. exhibits a backward rotating motion

slung *past of* SLING

slung·shot \'sləŋ-ˌshät\ *n* : a striking weapon consisting of a small mass of metal or stone fixed on a flexible handle or strap

slunk *past of* SLINK

¹slur \'slər\ *vb* **slurred; slur·ring** [prob. fr. LG *slurrn* to shuffle; akin to ME *sloor* mud] *vt* **1 a** : to slide or slip over without due mention, consideration, or emphasis ⟨*slurred* over certain facts⟩ **b** : to perform hurriedly : SKIMP ⟨let him not ~ his lesson —R. W. Emerson⟩ **2** : to perform (successive tones of different pitch) in a smooth or connected manner **3 a** : to reduce, make a substitution for, or omit (sounds that would normally occur in an utterance) **b** : to utter with such reduction, substitution, or omission of sounds ⟨his speech was *slurred* to an indistinct murmur⟩ ~ *vi* **1** *dial chiefly Eng* : SLIP, SLIDE **2** : DRAG, SHUFFLE

²slur *n* **1 a** : a curved line connecting notes to be sung to the same syllable or performed without a break **b** : the combination of two or more slurred tones **2** : a slurring manner of speech



slur 1a

³slur *vb* **slurred; slur·ring** [obs. E dial. *slur* thin mud, fr. ME *sloor;* akin to MHG *slier* mud, Lith *slugti* to diminish] *vt* **1** : to cast aspersions on : DISPARAGE **2** : to make indistinct : OBSCURE ~ *vi* : to slip so as to cause a slur — used of a sheet being printed

⁴slur *n* **1 a** : an insulting or disparaging remark or innuendo : ASPERSION **b** : a shaming or degrading effect : STAIN, STIGMA **2** : a blurred spot in printed matter : SMUDGE

slurp \'slərp\ *vb* [D *slurpen;* akin to MLG *slorpen* to slurp] *vi* : to make a sucking noise while eating or drinking ~ *vt* : to eat or drink noisily or with a sucking sound — **slurp** *n*

¹slur·ry \'slər-ē, 'slə-rē\ *n, pl* **slur·ries** [ME *slory*] : a watery mixture of insoluble matter (as mud, lime, or plaster of paris)

²slurry *vt* **slur·ried; slur·ry·ing** : to convert into a slurry

¹slush \'sləsh\ *n* [perh. of Scand origin; akin to Norw *slusk* slush] **1 a** : partly melted or watery snow **b** : loose ice crystals formed during the early stages of freezing of salt water **2 a** : soft mud : MIRE **b** : grout made of portland cement, sand, and water **3** : refuse grease and fat from cooking esp. on shipboard **4** : a soft mixture of grease or oil and other materials for protecting the surface of metal parts against corrosion; *esp* : a mixture of white lead and lime for painting the bright parts of machines to preserve them from oxidation **5** : paper pulp in water suspension **6** : trashy and usu. cheaply sentimental material

²slush *vt* **1** : to wet, splash, or paint with slush **2** : to fill in (as joints) with slush or grout ~ *vi* **1** : to make one's way through slush **2** : to make a splashing sound

slush fund *n* **1** : a fund raised from the sale of refuse to obtain small luxuries or pleasures for a warship's crew **2** : a fund for bribing public officials or carrying on corruptive propaganda

slushy \'sləsh-ē\ *adj* **slush·i·er; -est** : being, involving, or resembling slush: as **a** : full of or covered with slush ⟨~ streets⟩ **b** : made up of or having the consistency of slush ⟨~ snow⟩ ⟨a ~ mixture⟩ **c** : having a cheaply sentimental quality : TRASHY ⟨a ~ novel⟩ — **slush·i·ness** *n*

slut \'slət\ *n* [ME *slutte*] **1** : a slovenly woman : SLATTERN **2 a** : a lewd woman; *esp* : PROSTITUTE **b** : a saucy girl : MINX **3** : a female dog : BITCH — **slut·tish** \'slət-ish\ *adj* — **slut·tish·ly** *adv* — **slut·tish·ness** *n*

SLV *abbr* satellite launch vehicle

sly \'slī\ *adj* **sli·er** *also* **sly·er** \'slī(-ə)r\; **sli·est** *also* **sly·est** \'slī-əst\ [ME *sli,* fr. ON *slœgr;* akin to OE *slēan* to strike — more at SLAY] **1** *chiefly dial* **a** : wise in practical affairs **b** : displaying cleverness : INGENIOUS **2 a** : clever in concealing one's aims or ends : FURTIVE ⟨the ~ fox⟩ **b** : lacking in straightforwardness and candor : DISSEMBLING ⟨a ~ scheme⟩ **3** : lightly mischievous : ROGUISH ⟨a ~ jest⟩ — **sly·ly** *adv* — **sly·ness** *n*

syn SLY, CUNNING, CRAFTY, TRICKY, FOXY, ARTFUL *shared meaning element* : attaining or seeking to attain one's ends by devious means. SLY implies furtiveness, lack of candor, and skill in concealing one's aims and methods ⟨with knowing leer and words of *sly* import —Washington Irving⟩ CUNNING suggests the effective use of sometimes limited intelligence in overreaching or circumventing ⟨all gods are cruel . . . but women-gods are mean and *cunning* as well —Gordon Bottomley⟩ CRAFTY implies clever cunning and subtlety of method ⟨as a *crafty* envoy does his country's business by dint of flirting and conviviality —C. E. Montague⟩ TRICKY is more likely to suggest shiftiness and unreliability than skill in deception and maneuvering ⟨he avoided the mean and *tricky:* he was always an honorable foe —W. C. Ford⟩ FOXY implies a shrewd and wary craftiness usually involving devious dealing ⟨this *foxy* publicity man turned fumbling poet —Sherwood Anderson⟩ ARTFUL can imply insinuating alluring indirectness in dealing and often connotes sophistication or coquetry or cleverness ⟨they stayed sober. The *artful* Henry had told them all the wine . . . was poisoned —D. B. Chidsey⟩ ⟨an *artful* approach to a problem⟩

— **on the sly** : in a manner intended to avoid notice

sly·boots \'slī-ˌbüts\ *n pl but sing in constr* : a sly tricky person; *esp* : one who is cunning or mischievous in an engaging way

slype \'slīp\ *n* [prob. fr. Flem *slijpe* place for slipping in and out] : a narrow passage; *specif* : one between the transept and chapter house or deanery in an English cathedral

sm *abbr* small

Sm *symbol* samarium

SM *abbr* **1** [NL *scientiae magister*] master of science **2** sergeant major **3** short meter **4** Society of Mary **5** soldier's medal **6** stage manager **7** station master

SMA *abbr* sergeant major of the army

¹smack \'smak\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *smæc;* akin to OHG *smac* taste, Lith *smaguriauti* to nibble] **1** : characteristic taste or flavor; *also* : a perceptible taste or tincture **2** : a small quantity

²smack *vi* **1** : to have a taste or flavor **2** : to have a trace, vestige, or suggestion ⟨a proposal that ~*s* of treason⟩

³smack *vb* [akin to MD *smacken* to strike] *vt* **1** : to close and open (lips) noisily and in rapid succession esp. in eating **2 a** : to kiss with or as if with a smack **b** : to strike so as to produce a smack ~ *vi* : to make or give a smack

⁴smack *n* **1** : a quick sharp noise made by rapidly compressing and opening the lips **2** : a loud kiss **3** : a sharp slap or blow

⁵smack *adv* : squarely and sharply : DIRECTLY

⁶smack *n* [D *smak* or LG *smack*] : a sailing ship (as a sloop or cutter) used chiefly in coasting and fishing

⁷smack *n* [perh. fr. Yiddish *shmek* sniff, whiff, pinch (of snuff)] *slang* : HEROIN

smack–dab \'smak-'dab\ *adv* : EXACTLY, SQUARELY

smack·er \'smak-ər\ *n* **1** : one that smacks **2** *slang* : DOLLAR

smack·ing \'smak-iŋ\ *adj* : BRISK, LIVELY ⟨a ~ breeze⟩

SMaj *abbr* sergeant major

¹small \'smȯl\ *adj* [ME *smal,* fr. OE *smæl;* akin to OHG *smal* small, L *malus* bad] **1 a** : having comparatively little size or slight dimensions **b** : LOWERCASE **2 a** : minor in influence, power, or rank **b** : operating on a limited scale **3** : lacking in strength ⟨a ~ voice⟩ **4 a** : little in an objectively measurable aspect (as quantity, amount, or value) **b** : made up of few or little units **5 a** : of little consequence : TRIVIAL, INSIGNIFICANT **b** : HUMBLE, MODEST ⟨a ~ beginning⟩ **6** : limited in degree **7 a** : MEAN, PETTY **b** : reduced to a humiliating position — **small·ish** \'smȯ-lish\ *adj* — **small·ness** \'smȯl-nəs\ *n*

syn SMALL, DIMINUTIVE, MINUTE, PETITE, TINY, MINIATURE, WEE *shared meaning element* : noticeably below average in magnitude ***ant*** large

²small *adv* **1** : in or into small pieces **2** : without force or loudness ⟨speak as ~ as you will —Shak.⟩ **3** : in a small manner

³small *n* **1** : a part smaller and esp. narrower than the remainder ⟨the ~ of the back⟩ **2 a** *pl* : small-sized products **b** *pl, Brit* : SMALLCLOTHES, *esp* : UNDERWEAR

small ale *n* : a weak ale brewed with little malt and little or no hops as a mild and cheap drink

small arm *n* : a firearm fired while held in the hands

small beer *n* **1** : weak or inferior beer **2** : something of small importance : TRIVIA

small calorie *n* : CALORIE 1a

small capital *n* : a letter having the form of but smaller than a capital letter (as in THESE WORDS)

small change *n* **1** : coins of low denomination **2** : something trifling or petty

small–claims court *n* : a special court intended to simplify and expedite the handling of small claims on debts — called also *small-debts court*

small·clothes \'smȯl-ˌklō(th)z\ *n pl* **1** : close-fitting knee breeches worn in the 18th century **2** : small articles of clothing (as underclothing or handkerchiefs)

smaller *comparative of* SMALL ***syn*** see LESS ***ant*** larger

smaller European elm bark beetle *n* : ELM BARK BEETLE b

small–fry \'smȯl-ˌfrī\ *adj* **1** : MINOR, UNIMPORTANT ⟨a ~ politician⟩ **2** : of, relating to, or intended for children : CHILDISH
small game *n* : game birds and mammals not classed as big game
small hours *n pl* : the early morning hours
small intestine *n* : the part of the intestine that lies between the stomach and colon, consists of duodenum, jejunum, and ileum, secretes digestive enzymes, and is the chief site of the absorption of digested nutrients
small–mind·ed \'smȯl-'mīn-dəd\ *adj* **1** : having narrow interests, sympathies, or outlook ⟨a ~ man⟩ **2** : typical of a small-minded person : marked by pettiness, narrowness, or meanness ⟨~ conduct⟩ — **small–mind·ed·ly** *adv* — **small–mind·ed·ness** *n*
small·mouth bass \ˌsmȯl-ˌmauth-\ *n* : a black bass (*Micropterus dolomieu*) of clear rivers and lakes that is bronzy green above and lighter below and has the angle of the jaw falling below the eye — called also *smallmouth, smallmouth black bass*
small octave *n* : the musical octave that begins on the first C below middle C — see PITCH illustration
small potato *n* : one that is of trivial importance or worth — usu. used in pl. but sing. or pl. in constr.
small·pox \'smȯl-ˌpäks\ *n* : an acute contagious febrile virus disease characterized by skin eruption with pustules, sloughing, and scar formation
small–scale \-'skā(ə)l\ *adj* **1** : small in scope; *esp* : small in output or operation **2** *of a map* : having a scale (as one inch to 25 miles) that permits plotting of comparatively little detail
small screen *n* : TELEVISION
small stores *n pl* : articles of clothing sold by a naval supply officer to naval personnel
small stuff *n* : small rope (as spun yarn or marline) usu. identified by the number of threads or yarns which it contains
small·sword \'smȯl-ˌsō(ə)rd, -ˌsȯ(ə)rd\ *n* : a light tapering sword for thrusting used chiefly in dueling and fencing
small talk *n* : light or casual conversation : CHITCHAT
small–time \'smȯl-'tīm\ *adj* : insignificant in performance and standing : PETTY ⟨~ hoodlums⟩ — **small–tim·er** \-'tī-mər\ *n*
smalt \'smȯlt\ *n* [MF, fr. OIt *smalto*, of Gmc origin; akin to OHG *smelzan* to melt — more at SMELT] : a deep blue pigment used esp. as a ceramic color and prepared by fusing together silica, potash, and oxide of cobalt and grinding to powder the resultant glass
smalt·ite \'smȯl-ˌtīt\ *n* [alter. of *smaltine*, fr. F, fr. *smalt*] : a bluish white or gray isometric mineral of metallic luster that is essentially an arsenide of cobalt and nickel
smal·to \'smäl-(ˌ)tō, 'smȯl-\ *n, pl* **smal·ti** \-(ˌ)tē\ [It, smalt, smalto] : colored glass or enamel or a piece of either used in mosaic work
sma·ragd \smə-'ragd, 'smar-ˌagd\ *n* [ME *smaragde*, fr. L *smaragdus*] : EMERALD — **sma·rag·dine** \smə-'rag-dən, 'smar-əg-ˌdīn\ *adj*
sma·rag·dite \smə-'rag-ˌdīt, 'smar-əg-ˌdīt\ *n* [F, fr. L *smaragdus* emerald — more at EMERALD] : a green foliated amphibole
smarmy \'smär-mē\ *adj* [*smarm* (to gush, slobber)] : revealing or marked by a smug, ingratiating, or false earnestness : UNCTUOUS ⟨a tone of ~ self-satisfaction — *New Yorker*⟩
[1]smart \'smärt\ *vi* [ME *smerten*, fr. OE *smeortan;* akin to OHG *smerzan* to pain, L *mordēre* to bite, Gk *marainein* to waste away] **1** : to cause or be the cause or seat of a sharp poignant pain; *also* : to feel or have such a pain **2** : to feel or endure distress, remorse, or embarrassment ⟨~*ing* from wounded vanity —W. L. Shirer⟩ **3 a** : to endure sharp distress **b** : to pay a heavy or stinging penalty ⟨would have to ~ for this foolishness⟩
[2]smart *adj* **1** : making one smart : causing a sharp stinging **2** : marked by often sharp forceful activity or vigorous strength ⟨a ~ pull of the starter cord⟩ **3** : BRISK, SPIRITED **4 a** : mentally alert : BRIGHT **b** : KNOWLEDGEABLE **c** : SHREWD ⟨a ~ investment⟩ **5 a** : WITTY, CLEVER **b** : PERT, SAUCY ⟨was fired for being ~ with his boss⟩ **6 a** : NEAT, TRIM **b** : stylish or elegant in dress or appearance ⟨she's a ~ dresser⟩ **c** (1) : SOPHISTICATED (2) : characteristic of or patronized by fashionable society — **smart·ly** *adv* — **smart·ness** *n*
[3]smart *adv* : in a smart manner : SMARTLY
[4]smart *n* **1** : a smarting pain; *esp* : a stinging local pain **2** : poignant grief or remorse ⟨was not the sort to get over ~*s* —Sir Winston Churchill⟩ **3** : an affectedly witty or fashionable person
smart al·eck \'smärt-ˌal-ik, -ˌel-\ *n* [*Aleck*, nickname for *Alexander*] : an obnoxiously conceited and self-assertive person with pretensions to smartness or cleverness — **smart–al·ecky** \-ˌal-ə-kē, -ˌel-\ *or* **smart–a·leck** \-ik\ *adj*
smart·en \'smärt-ᵊn\ *vb* **smart·ened; smart·en·ing** \'smärt-niŋ, -ᵊn-iŋ\ *vt* : to make smart or smarter; *esp* : SPRUCE — usu. used with *up* ~ *vi* : to smarten oneself — used with *up*
[1]smart money \'smärt-ˌmən-ē\ *n* [*[4]smart*] : PUNITIVE DAMAGES
[2]smart money \-'mən-ē, -ˌmən-\ *n* [*[2]smart*] : money ventured by one having inside information or much experience
smart set *n* : ultrafashionable society
smart·weed \'smärt-ˌwēd\ *n* **1** : any of various polygonums with strong acid juice **2** : a plant (as a nettle) that causes a burning sensation on contact with the skin
smarty *or* **smart·ie** \'smärt-ē\ *n, pl* **smart·ies** : SMART ALECK
smarty–pants \-ˌpan(t)s\ *n pl but sing in constr* : SMART ALECK
[1]smash \'smash\ *vb* [perh. blend of *smack* and *mash*] *vt* **1** : to break in pieces by violence : SHATTER **2 a** : to drive or throw violently esp. with a shattering or battering effect; *also* : to effect in this way **b** (1) : to hit (as a tennis ball) with a hard overhand stroke (2) : to drive (a ball) with a forceful stroke **3** : to destroy utterly : WRECK ~ *vi* **1** : to move or become propelled with violence or crashing effect ⟨~*ed* into a tree⟩ **2** : to become wrecked **3** : to go to pieces suddenly under collision or pressure **4** : to execute a smash (as in tennis) — **smash·er** *n*
[2]smash *n* **1 a** : a smashing blow or attack **b** : a hard overhand stroke (as in tennis or badminton) **2** : the condition of being smashed **3 a** : the action or sound of smashing; *esp* : a wreck due to collision : CRASH **b** : utter collapse : RUIN; *esp* : BANKRUPTCY **4** : a fruit beverage made with crushed or squeezed fruit **5** : a striking success : HIT
[3]smash *adv* : with a resounding crash
[4]smash *adj* : being a smash : OUTSTANDING ⟨a ~ hit⟩
smashed \'smasht\ *adj, slang* : DRUNK, INTOXICATED
smash·ing \'smash-iŋ\ *adj* **1** : that smashes : CRUSHING ⟨a ~ defeat⟩ **2** : extraordinarily impressive or effective ⟨a ~ performance⟩ — **smash·ing·ly** \-iŋ-lē\ *adv*
smash·up \'smash-ˌəp\ *n* **1** : a complete collapse **2** : a collision of motor vehicles
[1]smat·ter \'smat-ər\ *vb* [ME *smateren*] *vt* **1** : to speak with spotty or superficial knowledge ⟨~ French⟩ **2** : to dabble in ~ *vi* : to talk superficially : BABBLE — **smat·ter·er** \-ər-ər\ *n*
[2]smatter *n* : SMATTERING
smat·ter·ing \'smat-ə-riŋ\ *n* **1** : superficial piecemeal knowledge ⟨a ~ of carpentry, house painting, bricklaying —Alva Johnston⟩ **2** : a small scattered number or amount ⟨a ~ of spectators⟩
smaze \'smāz\ *n* [*sm*oke + h*aze*] : a combination of haze and smoke similar to smog in appearance but less damp in consistency
[1]smear \'smi(ə)r\ *n* [ME *smere*, fr. OE *smeoru;* akin to OHG *smero* grease, Gk *smyris* emery, *myron* unguent] **1 a** : a viscous or sticky substance **b** : a spot made by or as if by an unctuous or adhesive substance **2** : material smeared on a surface (as of a microscopic slide); *also* : a preparation made by smearing material on a surface ⟨a vaginal ~⟩ **3** : a usu. unsubstantiated charge or accusation against a person or organization
[2]smear *vt* **1 a** : to overspread with something unctuous, viscous, or adhesive : DAUB **b** : to spread over a surface **2 a** : to stain, smudge, or dirty by or as if by smearing **b** : SULLY, BESMIRCH; *specif* : to vilify by applying an odious epithet or by secretly and maliciously spreading grave charges and imputations **3** : to obliterate, obscure, blur, blend, wipe out, or defeat by or as if by smearing — **smear·er** *n*
smear·case *or* **smier·case** \'smi(ə)r-ˌkās\ *n* [modif. of G *schmierkäse*, fr. *schmieren* to smear + *käse* cheese] *chiefly Midland* : COTTAGE CHEESE
smear word *n* : an epithet intended to smear a person or group
smeary \'smi(ə)r-ē\ *adj* **1** : marked by or covered with smears **2** : liable to cause smears ⟨~ lipstick⟩
smec·tic \'smek-tik\ *adj* [L *smecticus* cleansing, having the properties of soap, fr. Gk *smēktikos*, fr. *smēchein* to clean] : of, relating to, or being the phase of a liquid crystal characterized by the arrangement of the molecules in layers with the long axes of the molecules perpendicular to the plane of the layers — compare NEMATIC
smeg·ma \'smeg-mə\ *n* [NL, fr. L, detergent, soap, fr. Gk *smēgma*, fr. *smēchein* to wash off, clean — more at SMITE] : the secretion of a sebaceous gland; *specif* : the cheesy sebaceous matter that collects between the glans penis and the foreskin or around the clitoris and labia minora
[1]smell \'smel\ *vb* **smelled** \'smeld\ *or* **smelt** \'smelt\; **smell·ing** [ME *smellen;* akin to MD *smölen* to scorch, Russ *smalit'*] *vt* **1** : to perceive the odor or scent of through stimuli affecting the olfactory nerves : get the odor or scent of with the nose **2** : to detect or become aware of as if by the sense of smell **3** : to emit the odor of ~ *vi* **1** : to exercise the sense of smell **2 a** (1) : to have an odor or scent (2) : to have a characteristic aura or atmosphere : SUGGEST ⟨the accounts . . . seemed to me to ~ of truth —R. S. Bourne⟩ **b** (1) : to have an offensive odor : STINK (2) : to appear evil, dishonest, or ugly — **smell·er** *n* — **smell a rat** : to have a suspicion of something wrong
[2]smell *n* **1 a** : the process, function, or power of smelling **b** : the special sense concerned with the perception of odor **2** : the property of a thing that affects the olfactory organs : ODOR **3 a** : a very small amount : TRACE ⟨add only a ~ of garlic⟩ **b** : a pervading quality : AURA ⟨the ~ of affluence, of power —Harry Hervey⟩ **4** : an act or instance of smelling
syn SMELL, SCENT, ODOR, AROMA *shared meaning element* : a quality that makes a thing perceptible to the olfactory sense
smelling salts *n pl but sing or pl in constr* : a usu. scented aromatic preparation of ammonium carbonate and ammonia water used as a stimulant and restorative
smelly \'smel-ē\ *adj* **smell·i·er; -est** : having a smell; *esp* : MALODOROUS
[1]smelt \'smelt\ *n, pl* **smelts** *or* **smelt** [ME, fr. OE; akin to Norw *smelte* whiting] : any of various small salmonoid fishes (family Osmeridae and esp. genus *Osmerus*) that closely resemble the trouts in general structure, live along coasts and ascend rivers to spawn or are landlocked, and have delicate oily flesh with a distinctive odor and taste
[2]smelt *vt* [D or LG *smelten;* akin to OHG *smelzan* to melt, OE *meltan*] **1** : to melt or fuse (as ore) often with an accompanying chemical change usu. to separate the metal **2** : REFINE, REDUCE
smelt·er \'smel-tər\ *n* : one that smelts: **a** : a worker who smelts ore **b** : an owner or operator of a smeltery **c** *or* **smelt·ery** \-t(ə-)rē\ : an establishment for smelting
smew \'smyü\ *n* [akin to MHG *smiehe* smew] : a merganser (*Mergus albellus*) of northern Europe and Asia the male of which is white-crested
smid·gen *or* **smid·geon** *or* **smid·gin** \'smij-ən\ *n* [prob. alter. of E dial. *smitch* (soiling mark)] : a small amount : BIT
smi·lax \'smī-ˌlaks\ *n* [L, bindweed, yew, fr. Gk] **1** : GREENBRIER **2** : a tender twining plant (*Asparagus asparagoides*) that has ovate bright green cladophylls and is often grown in greenhouses
[1]smile \'smī(ə)l\ *vb* **smiled; smil·ing** [ME *smilen;* akin to OE *smerian* to laugh, L *mirari* to wonder, Skt *smayate* he smiles] *vi* **1** : to have, produce, or exhibit a smile **2 a** : to look or regard with amusement or ridicule ⟨*smiled* at his own folly —Martin Gardner⟩ **b** : to bestow approval ⟨feeling that Heaven *smiled* on his labors —Sheila Rowlands⟩ **c** : to appear pleasant or agreeable ~ *vt* **1** : to affect with or by smiling **2** : to express by a smile — **smil·er** *n* — **smil·ing·ly** \'smī-liŋ-lē\ *adv*
[2]smile *n* **1** : a change of facial expression in which the eyes brighten and the corners of the mouth curve slightly upward and which expresses esp. amusement, pleasure, approval, or sometimes scorn **2** : a pleasant or encouraging appearance
smile·less \'smī(ə)l-ləs\ *adj* : exhibiting no smile : SOLEMN — **smile·less·ly** *adv*

smirch \'sməːrch\ *vt* [ME *smorchen*] **1 a :** to make dirty, stained, or discolored : SULLY **b :** to smear with something that stains or dirties **2 :** to bring discredit or disgrace on — **smirch** *n*
smirk \'sməːrk\ *vi* [ME *smirken*, fr. OE *smearcian* to smile; akin to OE *smerian* to laugh] : to smile in an affected or smug manner : SIMPER — **smirk** *n*
smirky \'smər-kē\ *adj* : that smirks : SMIRKING
smite \'smīt\ *vb* **smote** \'smōt\; **smit·ten** \'smit-ᵊn\ *or* **smote; smit·ing** \'smīt-iŋ\ [ME *smiten*, fr. OE *smītan;* akin to OHG *bismīzan* to defile and perh. to L *mittere* to let go, send] *vt* **1 :** to strike sharply or heavily esp. with the hand or an implement held in the hand **2 a :** to kill or severely injure by smiting **b :** to attack or afflict suddenly and injuriously ⟨*smitten* by disease⟩ **3 :** to cause to strike **4 :** to affect as if by striking ⟨children *smitten* with the fear of hell —V. L. Parrington⟩ ~ *vi* : to deliver or deal a blow with or as if with the hand or something held ***syn*** see STRIKE — **smit·er** \'smīt-ər\ *n*
smith \'smith\ *n* [ME, fr. OE; akin to OHG *smid* smith, Gk *smilē* wood-carving knife] **1 :** a worker in metals : BLACKSMITH **2 :** MAKER — often used in combination ⟨gun*smith*⟩ ⟨tune*smith*⟩
smith·er·eens \ˌsmiṯh-ə-'rēnz\ *n pl* [IrGael *smidirīn*] : FRAGMENTS, BITS ⟨the house was blown to ~ by the explosion⟩
smith·ery \'smith-ə-rē\ *n, pl* **-er·ies 1 :** the work, art, or trade of a smith **2 :** SMITHY 1
smith·son·ite \'smith-sə-ˌnīt\ *n* [James *Smithson* †1829 Brit chemist] **1 :** a usu. white or nearly white native zinc carbonate $ZnCO_3$ **2 :** a mineral $Zn_4Si_2O_7OH.H_2O$ that is a silicate of zinc and constitutes an ore of zinc
smithy \'smith-ē *also* 'smiṯh-\ *n, pl* **smith·ies 1 :** the workshop of a smith **2 :** BLACKSMITH
[1]smock \'smäk\ *n* [ME *smok*, fr. OE *smoc;* akin to OHG *smocco* adornment] **1** *archaic* : a woman's undergarment; *esp* : CHEMISE **2 :** a light loose garment worn esp. for protection of clothing while working
[2]smock *vt* : to embroider or shirr with smocking
smock frock *n* : a loose outer garment worn by workmen esp. in Europe
smock·ing \'smäk-iŋ\ *n* : a decorative embroidery or shirring made by gathering cloth in regularly spaced round tucks
smog \'smäg *also* 'smȯg\ *n* [blend of *smoke* and *fog*] : a fog made heavier and darker by smoke and chemical fumes ***syn*** see HAZE — **smog·less** \-ləs\ *adj*
smog·gy \-ē\ *adj* **smog·gi·er; -est :** characterized by or abounding in smog
smok·able *or* **smoke·able** \'smō-kə-bəl\ *adj* : fit for smoking
[1]smoke \'smōk\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *smoca;* akin to MHG *smouch* smoke, Gk *smychein* to smolder] **1 a :** the gaseous products of burning carbonaceous materials made visible by the presence of small particles of carbon **b :** a suspension of particles in a gas **2 a :** a mass or column of smoke **b :** SMUDGE **3 :** fume or vapor often resulting from the action of heat on moisture **4 :** something of little substance, permanence, or value **5 :** something that obscures **6 a :** something (as a cigarette) to smoke : TOBACCO **b :** an act or spell of smoking tobacco **7 a :** a pale blue **b :** any of the colors of smoke **8 :** pitches consisting exclusively of fastballs ⟨if a guy's going to hit you . . . he certainly isn't going to throw a spitter — he gives you ~ —Tony Conigliaro⟩ — **smoke·less** \'smō-kləs\ *adj* — **smoke·like** \-ˌklīk\ *adj*
[2]smoke *vb* **smoked; smok·ing** *vi* **1 a :** to emit or exhale smoke **b :** to emit excessive smoke **2** *archaic* : to undergo punishment : SUFFER **3 :** to spread or rise like smoke **4 :** to inhale and exhale the fumes of burning plant material and esp. tobacco; *esp* : to smoke tobacco habitually ~ *vt* **1 a :** FUMIGATE **b :** to drive (as mosquitoes) away by smoke **c :** to blacken or discolor with smoke ⟨*smoked* glasses⟩ **d :** to cure by exposure to smoke **e :** to stupefy (as bees) by smoke **2** *archaic* : SUSPECT **3 :** to inhale and exhale the smoke of **4** *archaic* : RIDICULE
smoke·chas·er \'smōk-ˌchā-sər\ *n* : a forest fire fighter; *esp* : one with light equipment that enables him to get to fires quickly
smoke–filled room \ˌsmōk-ˌfil-'drüm\ *n* : a room (as in a hotel) in which a small group of politicians carry on negotiations
smoke·house \'smōk-ˌhaùs\ *n* : a building where meat or fish is cured by means of dense smoke
smoke·jack \-ˌjak\ *n* : a device for turning a spit by a fly or wheel moved by rising gases in a chimney
smoke jumper *n* : a forest fire fighter who parachutes to locations otherwise difficult to reach
smokeless powder *n* : any of a class of explosive propellants that produce comparatively little smoke on explosion and consist mostly of gelatinized cellulose nitrates
smoke out *vt* **1 :** to drive out by or as if by smoke **2 :** to bring to public view or knowledge
smoke pipe *n* : a usu. thin metal pipe that connects a source of smoke to a chimney
smoke·proof \'smōk-'prüf\ *adj* : impermeable to smoke; *specif* : designed to restrict the spread of smoke through a building
smok·er \'smō-kər\ *n* **1 :** one that smokes **2 :** a railroad car or compartment in which smoking is allowed **3 :** an informal social gathering for men
smoke screen *n* **1 :** a screen of smoke to hinder enemy observation of a military force, area, or activity **2 :** something designed to obscure, confuse, or mislead
smoke·stack \'smōk-ˌstak\ *n* : a chimney or funnel through which smoke and gases are discharged
smoke tree *n* : either of two small shrubby trees (genus *Cotinus*) of the sumac family often grown for their large panicles of minute flowers that suggest a cloud of smoke
smoking jacket *n* : a man's loose-fitting jacket for wear at home
smoking lamp *n* : a lamp on a ship kept lighted during the hours when smoking is allowed
smoking–room *adj* : marked by indecency or obscenity : SMUTTY
smoking room *n* : a room (as in a hotel or club) set apart for smokers
smoky *also* **smok·ey** \'smō-kē\ *adj* **smok·i·er; -est 1 :** emitting smoke esp. in large quantities **2 a :** having the characteristics of or resembling smoke **b :** suggestive of smoke esp. in flavor or odor **3 a :** filled with smoke **b :** made dark or black by smoke — **smok·i·ly** \-kə-lē\ *adv* — **smok·i·ness** \-kē-nəs\ *n*
smoky quartz *n* : CAIRNGORM
smoky topaz *n* : CAIRNGORM
[1]smol·der *or* **smoul·der** \'smōl-dər\ *n* [ME *smolder;* akin to ME *smellen* to smell] **1 :** SMOKE, SMUDGE **2 :** a smoldering fire
[2]smolder *or* **smoulder** *vi* **smol·dered** *or* **smoul·dered; smol·der·ing** *or* **smoul·der·ing** \-d(ə-)riŋ\ **1 a :** to burn sluggishly, without flame, and often with much smoke **b :** to be consumed by smoldering — often used with *out* **2 :** to exist in a state of suppressed activity ⟨resentment ~*ed* in her⟩ **3 :** to show suppressed anger, hate, or jealousy ⟨eyes ~*ing* with hate⟩
smolt \'smōlt\ *n* [ME (Sc)] : a young salmon or sea trout that is about two years old and that is at the stage of development when it assumes the silvery color of the adult
[1]smooch \'smüch\ *vt* [prob. alter. of *smutch*, vb.] : SMUDGE, SMEAR
[2]smooch *n* : SMUDGE, SMEAR — **smoochy** \'smü-chē\ *adj*
[3]smooch *vi* [alter. of *smouch* (to kiss loudly)] : KISS, PET
[4]smooch *n* : KISS
[1]smooth \'smüṯh\ *adj* [ME *smothe*, fr. OE *smōth;* akin to OS *smōthi* smooth] **1 a :** having a continuous even surface **b :** being without hair **c :** GLABROUS ⟨a ~ leaf⟩ **d :** causing no resistance to sliding **2 :** free from obstructions or impediments ⟨the ~ course of his life⟩ **3 :** even and uninterrupted in flow or flight **4 :** excessively and often artfully suave : INGRATIATING **5 a :** SERENE, EQUABLE ⟨a ~ disposition⟩ **b :** AMIABLE, COURTEOUS **6 :** not sharp or acid : BLAND ⟨a ~ sherry⟩ ***syn*** **1** see LEVEL **2** see SUAVE ***ant*** bluff — **smooth** *adv* — **smooth·ly** *adv* — **smooth·ness** *n*
[2]smooth *vt* **1 :** to make smooth **2 a :** to free from what is harsh or disagreeable : POLISH ⟨~*ed* out his style⟩ **b :** SOOTHE **3 :** to minimize (as a fault) in order to allay anger or ill will : PALLIATE ⟨his main job is to ~ over the friction that so often arises — Brian Crozier⟩ **4 :** to free from obstruction or difficulty **5 a :** to press flat **b :** to remove expression from (one's face) : COMPOSE **6 :** to cause to lie evenly and in order : PREEN **7 :** to free (as a graph or data) from irregularities by ignoring random variations ~ *vi* : to become smooth — **smooth·er** *n*
[3]smooth *n* **1 :** a smooth part **2 :** the act of smoothing **3 :** a smoothing implement
smooth·bore \'smüṯh-'bō(ə)r, -'bȯ(ə)r\ *adj, of a firearm* : having a smooth-surfaced bore — **smoothbore** \-ˌbō(ə)r, -ˌbȯ(ə)r\ *n*
smooth breathing *n* **1 :** a mark ' placed over some initial vowels in Greek to show that they are not aspirated (as in ἑκεῖ pronounced \e-'kā\) **2 :** the absence of aspiration indicated by a mark '
smooth·en \'smü-thən\ *vb* **smooth·ened; smooth·en·ing** \'smüṯh-(ə-)niŋ\ *vt* : to make smooth ~ *vi* : to become smooth
smooth hound *n* [fr. the absence of a spine in front of the dorsal fin] : any of various dogfishes (genus *Mustelus*)
smooth muscle *n* : muscle tissue that lacks cross striations, that is made up of elongated spindle-shaped cells having a central nucleus, and that is found in vertebrate visceral structures (as the stomach and bladder) as thin sheets performing functions not under direct voluntary control and in all or most of the musculature of invertebrates other than arthropods — compare STRIATED MUSCLE
smooth–tongued \'smüṯh-'təŋd\ *adj* : ingratiating in speech
smoothy *or* **smooth·ie** \'smü-thē\ *n, pl* **smooth·ies 1 a :** a person with polished manners **b :** one who behaves or performs with deftness, assurance, and easy competence; *esp* : a man with an ingratiating manner toward women **2 :** a smooth-tongued person
smor·gas·bord \'smȯr-gəs-ˌbō(ə)rd, -ˌbȯ(ə)rd\ *n* [Sw *smörgåsbord*, fr. *smörgås* open sandwich + *bord* table] **1 :** a luncheon or supper buffet offering a variety of foods and dishes (as hors d'oeuvres, hot and cold meats, smoked and pickled fish, cheeses, salads, and relishes) **2 :** a heterogeneous mixture : MÉLANGE
smote *past of* SMITE
[1]smoth·er \'səṯh-ər\ *n* [ME, alter. of *smorther*, fr. *smoren* to smother, fr. OE *smorian* to suffocate; akin to MD *smoren* to suffocate] **1 a :** thick stifling smoke or smudge **b :** a state of being stifled or suppressed **2 :** a dense cloud of fog, foam, spray, snow, or dust **3 :** a confused multitude of things : WELTER — **smothery** \-(ə-)rē\ *adj*
[2]smother *vb* **smoth·ered; smoth·er·ing** \-(ə-)riŋ\ *vt* **1 :** to overcome or kill with smoke or fumes **2 a :** to destroy the life of by depriving of air **b :** to overcome or discomfit through or as if through lack of air **c :** to suppress (a fire) by excluding oxygen **3 a :** to cause to smolder **b :** to suppress expression or knowledge of ⟨~ a yawn⟩ ⟨~*ed* his rage⟩ **c :** to stop or prevent the growth or activity of ⟨~ a child with too much care⟩ **d :** to cover thickly : BLANKET ⟨snow ~*ed* the trails⟩ **e :** OVERCOME, VANQUISH **4 :** to cook in a covered pan or pot with little liquid over low heat ~ *vi* : to become smothered
SMSgt *abbr* senior master sergeant
[1]smudge \'səj\ *vb* **smudged; smudg·ing** [ME *smogen*] *vt* **1 a :** to make a smudge on **b :** to soil as if by smudging **2 a :** to rub, daub, or wipe in a smeary manner **b :** to make indistinct : BLUR **3 :** to smoke or protect by means of a smudge ~ *vi* **1 :** to make a smudge **2 :** to become smudged
[2]smudge *n* **1 a :** a blurry spot or streak **b :** an immaterial stain ⟨cleanse him of every last ~ of impropriety —Richard Hanser⟩ **c :** an indistinct mass : BLUR **2 :** a smoldering mass placed on the

windward side (as to protect from frost) **3** : a bid of 4 in pitch that if made wins the game — **smudg·i·ly** \'smәj-ə-lē\ *adv* — **smudg·i·ness** \'smәj-ē-nәs\ *n* — **smudgy** \-ē\ *adj*

smug \'smәg\ *adj* **smug·ger; smug·gest** [prob. modif. of LG *smuck* neat, fr. MLG, fr. *smucken* to dress; akin to OE *smoc* smock] **1** : trim or smart in dress : SPRUCE **2** : scrupulously clean, neat, or correct : TIDY **3** : highly self-satisfied ⟨~, self-righteous moralists —Edison Marshall⟩ — **smug·ness** *n*

smug·gle \'smәg-әl\ *vb* **smug·gled; smug·gling** \-(ə-)liŋ\ [LG *smuggeln* & D *smokkelen;* akin to OE *smoc* smock] *vt* **1** : to import or export secretly contrary to the law and esp. without paying duties imposed by law **2** : to convey or introduce surreptitiously ~ *vi* : to import or export something in violation of the customs laws — **smug·gler** \'smәg-lәr\ *n*

smug·ly \'smәg-lē\ *adv* : in a smug manner

[1]smut \'smәt\ *vb* **smut·ted; smut·ting** [prob. alter. of earlier *smot* to stain, fr. ME *smotten;* akin to MHG *smutzen* to stain] *vt* **1** : to stain or taint with smut **2** : to affect (a crop or plant) with smut ~ *vi* : to become affected by smut

[2]smut *n* **1** : matter that soils or blackens; *specif* : a particle of soot **2** : any of various destructive diseases esp. of cereal grasses caused by parasitic fungi (order Ustilaginales) and marked by transformation of plant organs into dark masses of spores; *also* : a fungus causing a smut **3** : obscene language or matter

smutch \'smәch\ *n* [prob. irreg. fr. [1]*smudge*] : a dark stain : SMUDGE — **smutch** *vt* — **smutchy** \-ē\ *adj*

smut·ty \'smәt-ē\ *adj* **smut·ti·er; -est** **1** : soiled or tainted with smut; *esp* : affected with smut fungus **2** : OBSCENE, INDECENT **3** : resembling smut in appearance : SOOTY — **smut·ti·ly** \'smәt-[ə]l-ē\ *adv* — **smut·ti·ness** \'smәt-ē-nәs\ *n*

SMV *abbr* slow-moving vehicle

Sn *symbol* [LL *stannum*] tin

[1]snack \'snak\ *vi* [ME *snaken* to bite] : to eat a snack : LUNCH

[2]snack *n* : a light meal : food eaten between regular meals

snack bar *n* : a public eating place where snacks are served usu. at a counter

[1]snaf·fle \'snaf-әl\ *n* [origin unknown] : a simple usu. jointed bit for a bridle — see BIT illustration

[2]snaffle *vt* **snaf·fled; snaf·fling** \'snaf-(ə-)liŋ\ [origin unknown] : to obtain esp. by devious or irregular means

[1]sna·fu \sna-'fü\ *adj* [situation *n*ormal *a*ll *f*ucked *u*p (fouled up)] : snarled or stalled in confusion : AWRY

[2]snafu *n* : CONFUSION, MUDDLE

[3]snafu *vt* : to bring into a state of confusion

[1]snag \'snag\ *n* [of Scand origin; akin to ON *snagi* clothes peg] **1 a** : a stub or stump remaining after a branch has been lopped or torn off **b** : a tree or branch embedded in a lake or stream bed and constituting a hazard to navigation **2** : a rough sharp or jagged projecting part : PROTUBERANCE: as **a** : a projecting tooth; *also* : a stump of a tooth **b** : one of the secondary branches of an antler **3** : a concealed or unexpected difficulty or obstacle **4** : a jagged tear made by or as if by catching on a snag ⟨a ~ in her stocking⟩ — **snag·gy** \'snag-ē\ *adj*

[2]snag *vt* **snagged; snag·ging** **1** : to hew, trim, or cut roughly or jaggedly **2 a** : to catch and usu. damage on or as if on a snag **b** : to halt or impede as if by catching on a snag **3** : to clear (as a river) of snags **4** : to catch or obtain by quick action

snag·gle-tooth \'snag-әl-ˌtüth\ *n* [E dial. *snaggle* (irregularly shaped tooth) + E *tooth*] : an irregular, broken, or projecting tooth — **snag·gle-toothed** \ˌsnag-әl-'tütht\ *adj*

[1]snail \'snā(ə)l\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *snægl;* akin to OHG *snecko* snail, *snahhan* to creep, Lith *snāke* snail] **1** : a gastropod mollusk esp. when having an external enclosing spiral shell **2** : a slow-moving or sluggish person or thing — **snail·like** \'snā(ə)l-ˌlīk\ *adj*



snail 1

[2]snail *vi* : to move, act, or go slowly or lazily

snail fever *n* [fr. the snails which serve as intermediate hosts to the schistosomes causing the disease] : SCHISTOSOMIASIS

snail–paced \'snā(ə)l-ˌpāst\ *adj* : moving very slowly

[1]snake \'snāk\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *snaca;* akin to OE *snægl* snail] **1** : any of numerous limbless scaled reptiles (suborder Serpentes or Ophidia) with a long tapering body and with salivary glands often modified to produce venom which is injected through grooved or tubular fangs **2** : a worthless or treacherous fellow — **snake·like** \'snā-ˌklīk\ *adj*

[2]snake *vb* **snaked; snak·ing** *vt* **1** : to wind (as one's way) in the manner of a snake **2** : to move (as logs) by dragging ~ *vi* : to crawl, move, or extend silently, secretly, or sinuously

snake·bird \'snāk-ˌbәrd\ *n* : any of several fish-eating birds (genus *Anhinga*) related to the cormorants but distinguished by a long slender neck and sharp-pointed bill

snake·bite \-ˌbīt\ *n* : the bite of a snake and esp. a venomous snake

snake charmer *n* : an entertainer who exhibits his professed power to charm or fascinate venomous snakes

snake–dance *vi* : to engage in a snake dance

snake dance *n* **1** : a ceremonial dance in which snakes or their images are handled, invoked, or symbolically imitated by individual sinuous actions **2** : a group progression in a single-file serpentine path (as in celebration of an athletic victory)

snake doctor *n* **1** : HELLGRAMMITE **2** : DRAGONFLY

snake fence *n* : WORM FENCE

snake in the grass : a secretly faithless friend

snake·mouth \'snāk-ˌmaůth\ *n* : a bog orchid (*Pogonia ophioglossoides*) of eastern No. America and Japan with showy pink flowers

snake oil *n* : any of various substances or mixtures sold (as by a traveling medicine show) as medicine usu. without regard to their medical worth or properties

snake pit *n* : a place of chaotic disorder and distress; *esp* : a hospital for mental diseases

snake·root \'snā-ˌkrüt, -ˌkrůt\ *n* : any of numerous plants most of which have roots sometimes believed to cure snakebites; *also* : the root of such a plant

snake·skin \'snāk-ˌskin\ *n* : leather prepared from the skin of a snake

snake·weed \'snā-ˌkwēd\ *n* : any of several plants associated with snakes (as in appearance, habitat, or use in treatment of snakebite)

snaky \'snā-kē\ *adj* **1** : of, formed of, or entwined with snakes ⟨the Gorgon with ~ hair —Joseph Addison⟩ **2** : SERPENTINE, SNAKELIKE ⟨the ~ arms of an octopus⟩ **3** : suggestive of a snake ⟨the oiliness and ~ insinuation of his demeanor — Thomas De-Quincy⟩ **4** : abounding in snakes — **snak·i·ly** \-kə-lē\ *adv*

[1]snap \'snap\ *vb* **snapped; snap·ping** [D or LG *snappen;* akin to MHG *snappen* to snap] *vi* **1 a** : to make a sudden closing of the jaws : seize something sharply with the mouth ⟨fish *snapping* at the bait⟩ **b** : to grasp at something eagerly : make a pounce or snatch ⟨~ at any chance⟩ **2** : to utter sharp biting words : bark out irritable or peevish retorts **3 a** : to break suddenly with a sharp sound ⟨the twig *snapped*⟩ **b** : to give way suddenly under strain **4** : to make a sharp or crackling sound **5** : to close or fit in place with an abrupt movement or sharp sound ⟨the lock *snapped* shut⟩ **6** : to move briskly or sharply ⟨~*s* to attention⟩ **7** : to open and close rapidly ⟨eyes *snapping* with fury⟩ ~ *vt* **1** : to seize with or as if with a snap of the jaws ⟨*snapped* the food right out of his hand⟩ **2** : to take possession or advantage of suddenly or eagerly — usu. used with *up* ⟨shoppers *snapping* up bargains⟩ **3 a** : to retort to or interrupt curtly and irritably **b** : to utter curtly or abruptly **4** : to break suddenly : break short or in two **5 a** : to cause to make a snapping sound ⟨~ a whip⟩ **b** : to put into or remove from a particular position by a sudden movement or with a sharp sound ⟨~ the lock shut⟩ **6 a** : to project with a snap **b** : to put (a football) in play with a snap **c** (1) : to take photographically ⟨*snapping* exclusive news pictures — *Current Biog.*⟩ (2) : to take a snapshot of ***syn*** see JERK — **snap out of it** : to free oneself from something (as a mood or habit) by an effort of will

[2]snap *n* **1** : an abrupt closing (as of the mouth in biting or of scissors in cutting) **2 a** *archaic* : a share of profits or booty **b** : something that brings quick and easy profit or advantage **c** : something that is easy and presents no problems : CINCH **3** : a small amount : BIT **4 a** : an act or instance of seizing abruptly : a sudden snatching at something **b** : a quick short movement ⟨lithe ~*s* of its body —Barbara Taylor⟩ **c** : a sudden sharp breaking ⟨the ~ of a twig⟩ **5 a** : a sound made by snapping something ⟨shut the book with a ~⟩ **b** : a brief sharp and usu. irritable speech or retort **6** : a sudden spell of weather ⟨a cold ~⟩ **7** : a catch or fastening that closes or locks with a click ⟨the ~ of a bracelet⟩ **8** : a flat brittle cookie — compare GINGERSNAP **9** : SNAPSHOT **10 a** : the condition of being vigorous in body, mind, or spirit : ALERTNESS, ENERGY **b** : a pleasing vigorous quality **11** : the act of a center's putting the football in play from its position on the ground by quickly passing it between his legs to a teammate (as a quarterback) standing behind him

[3]snap *adv* : with a snap ⟨the sail went ~ in the wind⟩

[4]snap *adj* **1** : done or carried through suddenly or without deliberation ⟨a ~ judgment⟩ **2** : called or taken without prior warning ⟨a ~ test⟩ **3** : shutting or fastening with a click or by means of a device that snaps ⟨a ~ lock⟩ **4** : unusually easy or simple ⟨a ~ course⟩

snap·back \'snap-ˌbak\ *n* **1** : a football snap **2** : a sudden rebound or recovery ⟨a ~ of prices on the stock exchange⟩

snap back \(')snap-'bak\ *vi* : to make a quick or vigorous recovery

snap bean *n* : a bean grown primarily for its pods that are usu. broken in pieces and cooked as a vegetable while young and tender and before the seeds have become enlarged — compare SHELL BEAN

snap–brim \ˌsnap-ˌbrim\ *n* : a usu. felt hat with brim turned up in back and down in front and with a dented crown

snap·drag·on \'snap-ˌdrag-ən\ *n* [fr. the fancied resemblance of the flowers to the face of a dragon] : any of several garden plants (genus *Antirrhinum* and esp. *A. majus*) of the figwort family having showy white, crimson, or yellow bilabiate flowers



snapdragon

snap fastener *n* : a metal fastener consisting essentially of a ball and a socket attached to opposed parts of an article and used to hold meeting edges together

snap–on \'snap-ˌȯn, -ˌän\ *adj* : designed to snap into position and fit tightly ⟨~ cuffs⟩

snap·per \'snap-әr\ *n, pl* **snappers** **1 a** : one that snaps **b** (1) : SNAPPING TURTLE (2) : CLICK BEETLE **2** *pl also* **snapper** **a** : any of numerous active carnivorous fishes (family Lutjanidae) of warm seas important as food and often as sport fishes **b** : any of several immature fishes (as the young of the bluefish) that resemble a snapper

snap·per–back \-әr-ˌbak\ *n* : a football center

snapping turtle *n* : either of two large edible American aquatic turtles (family Chelydridae) with powerful jaws and a strong musky odor: **a** : a turtle (*Chelydra serpentina*) that has the head covered with smooth skin, has large plates in a double row on the underside of the tail, and is distributed from eastern Canada to Central America and Ecuador **b** : ALLIGATOR SNAPPER

snap·pish \'snap-ish\ *adj* **1 a** : given to curt irritable speech **b** : arising from annoyance or irascibility **2** : inclined to bite ⟨a ~ dog⟩ — **snap·pish·ly** *adv* — **snap·pish·ness** *n*

snap·py \'snap-ē\ *adj* **snap·pi·er; -est** **1** : SNAPPISH 1 **2 a** : quickly made or done **b** : marked by vigor and movement **c** : briskly cold ⟨a ~ day⟩ **d** : STYLISH, SMART ⟨a ~ dresser⟩ — **snap·pi·ly** \'snap-ə-lē\ *adv* — **snap·pi·ness** \'snap-ē-nәs\ *n*

snap roll *n* : a maneuver in which an airplane is made by quick movement of the controls to complete a full revolution about its longitudinal axis while maintaining an approximately level line of flight

snap·shoot \'snap-ˌshüt\ *vt* [back-formation fr. *snapshot*] : to take a snapshot of — **snap·shoot·er** *n*

snap·shot \'snap-ˌshät\ *n* **1** : a casual photograph made typically by an amateur with a small hand-held camera and without regard to technique **2** : a brief or transitory impression or view
snap shot *n* : a quick shot (as with a rifle) made without deliberately taking aim
[1]snare \'sna(ə)r, 'sne(ə)r\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *sneare*, fr. ON *snara;* akin to Gk *narkē* numbness, OHG *snuor* cord — more at NARROW] **1 a** (1) : a contrivance often consisting of a noose for entangling birds or mammals (2) : TRAP, GIN **b** (1) : something by which one is entangled, involved in difficulties, or impeded (2) : something deceptively attractive **2** [prob. fr. D *snaar*, lit., cord; akin to OHG *snuor*] : one of the catgut strings or metal spirals of a snare drum **3** : a surgical instrument consisting usu. of a wire loop constricted by a mechanism in the handle and used for removing tissue masses (as tonsils)
[2]snare *vt* **snared; snar·ing** **1 a** : to capture by or as if by use of a snare **b** : to win or attain by artful or skillful maneuvers **2** : to entangle or hold as if in a snare ⟨any object that *snared* his eye — *Current Biog.*⟩ ***syn*** see CATCH — **snar·er** *n*
snare drum *n* : a small double-headed drum with one or more snares stretched across its lower head — see DRUM illustration
[1]snarl \'snär(ə)l\ *n* [ME *snarle*, prob. dim. of *snare*] **1** : a tangle esp. of hairs or thread : KNOT **2** : a tangled situation ⟨traffic ~*s*⟩ — **snarly** \'snär-lē\ *adj*
[2]snarl *vt* **1** : to cause to become knotted and intertwined : TANGLE **2** : to make excessively complicated ~ *vi* : to become snarled — **snarl·er** *n*
[3]snarl *vb* [freq. of obs. E *snar* (to growl)] *vi* **1** : to growl with a snapping or gnashing of teeth **2** : to give vent to anger in surly language ~ *vt* : to utter or express with a snarl or by snarling — **snarl·er** *n*
[4]snarl *n* : a surly angry growl — **snarly** \'snär-lē\ *adj*
snash \'snash\ *n* [origin unknown] *chiefly Scot* : INSOLENCE, ABUSE
[1]snatch \'snach\ *vb* [ME *snacchen* to give a sudden snap, seize; akin to MD *snacken* to snap at] *vi* : to attempt to seize something suddenly ~ *vt* **1** : to grasp abruptly or hastily **2** : to seize or grab suddenly without permission, ceremony, or right ***syn*** see TAKE — **snatch·er** *n*
[2]snatch *n* **1 a** : a snatching at or of something **b** *slang* : an act or instance of kidnapping **2 a** : a brief period ⟨caught ~*es* of sleep⟩ **b** : something brief, fragmentary, or hurried ⟨caught ~*es* of the conversation⟩ **3** : a lift in weight lifting in which the weight is raised from the floor directly to an overhead position usu. with a lunge or squat under the weight — compare CLEAN AND JERK, PRESS
snatch block *n* : a block that can be opened on one side to receive the bight of a rope
snatchy \'snach-ē\ *adj* : marked by breaks in continuity
snath \'snath, 'sneth\ *or* **snathe** \'snāth, 'snāth\ *n* [ME *snede*, fr. OE *snǣd;* akin to OHG *snīdan* to cut, Czech *sněť* branch] : the handle of a scythe
snaz·zy \'snaz-ē\ *adj* **snaz·zi·er; -est** [origin unknown] : conspicuously or flashily attractive
SNCC \'snik\ *abbr* Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee
[1]sneak \'snēk\ *vb* **sneaked** \'snēkt\ *also* **snuck** \'snək\; **sneaking** [akin to OE *snīcan* to sneak along, OHG *snahhan* to creep — more at SNAIL] *vi* **1** : to go stealthily or furtively : SLINK **2** : to behave in a furtive or servile manner **3** : to carry the football on a quarterback sneak ~ *vt* : to put, bring, or take in a furtive or artful manner ⟨~ a smoke⟩ ***syn*** see LURK — **sneak up on** : to approach or act on stealthily
[2]sneak *n* **1** : a person who acts in a stealthy, furtive, or shifty manner **2 a** : a stealthy or furtive move **b** : an unobserved departure or escape **3** : SNEAKER 2 — usu. used in pl. **4** : QUARTERBACK SNEAK
[3]sneak *adj* **1** : carried on secretly : CLANDESTINE **2** : occurring without warning : SURPRISE ⟨a ~ attack⟩
sneak·er \'snē-kər\ *n* **1** : one that sneaks **2** : a usu. canvas sports shoe with a pliable rubber sole — **sneak·ered** \-kərd\ *adj*
sneak·ing \'snē-kiŋ\ *adj* **1** : characteristic of a sneak : FURTIVE, UNDERHAND **2** : MEAN, CONTEMPTIBLE **3 a** : not openly expressed or acknowledged ⟨he has a ~ respect for culture —H. A. Burton⟩ **b** : that is a persistent conjecture ⟨a ~ suspicion⟩ — **sneak·ing·ly** \-kiŋ-lē\ *adv*
sneak preview *n* : a special advance showing of a motion picture usu. announced but not named
sneak thief *n* : a thief who steals whatever he can without using violence or forcibly breaking into buildings
sneaky \'snē-kē\ *adj* **sneak·i·er; -est** : marked by stealth, furtiveness, or shiftiness — **sneak·i·ly** \-kə-lē\ *adv* — **sneak·i·ness** \-kē-nəs\ *n*
[1]sneap \'snēp\ *vt* [ME *snaipen*, prob. of Scand origin; akin to Icel *sneypa* to scold — more at SNUB] **1** *dial Eng* : CHIDE **2** *archaic* : to blast or blight with cold : NIP
[2]sneap *n, archaic* : REBUKE, SNUB
sneck \'snek\ *n* [ME *snekke*] *chiefly dial* : LATCH
[1]sneer \'sni(ə)r\ *vb* [prob. akin to MHG *snerren* to chatter, gossip — more at SNORE] *vi* **1** : to smile or laugh with facial contortions that express scorn or contempt **2** : to speak or write in a scornfully jeering manner ~ *vt* : to utter with a sneer ***syn*** see SCOFF — **sneer·er** *n*
[2]sneer *n* : the act of sneering : a sneering expression or remark
sneesh \'snēsh\ *n* [short for E dial. *sneeshing*, alter. of obs. E *sneezing*, fr. E, gerund of *sneeze*] *dial Brit* : [5]SNUFF 1
[1]sneeze \'snēz\ *vi* **sneezed; sneez·ing** [ME *snesen*, alter. of *fnesen*, fr. OE *fnēosan;* akin to MHG *pfnūsen* to snort, sneeze, Gk *pnein* to breathe] : to make a sudden violent spasmodic audible expiration of breath — **sneez·er** *n* — **sneeze at** : to make light of
[2]sneeze *n* : an act or fact of sneezing
sneeze·weed \'snēz-ˌwēd\ *n* **1** : any of several composite plants; *esp* : a No. American yellow-flowered perennial herb (*Helenium autumnale*) whose odor is held to cause sneezing **2** : SNEEZEWORT
sneeze·wort \-ˌwərt, -ˌwȯ(ə)rt\ *n* : a strong-scented Eurasian composite perennial herb (*Achillea ptarmica*) resembling yarrow
sneezy \'snē-zē\ *adj* : given to or causing sneezing
[1]snell \'snel\ *adj* [ME, fr. OE; akin to OHG *snel* bold, agile] **1** *chiefly Scot* : QUICK, ACUTE **2** *chiefly Scot* : KEEN, PIERCING ⟨a ~ wind smote us —*Scotsman*⟩ **3** *chiefly Scot* : GRIEVOUS, SEVERE
[2]snell *n* [origin unknown] : a short line (as of gut) by which a fishhook is attached to a longer line
SNG *abbr* substitute natural gas; synthetic natural gas
[1]snick \'snik\ *vb* [prob. fr. obs. *snick or snee* to engage in cut-and-thrust fighting — more at SNICKERSNEE] *vt* **1** *archaic* : to cut through **2** : to cut slightly : NICK ~ *vi* : to perform a light cutting action
[2]snick *n* : a small cut : NICK
[3]snick *vb* [imit.] : CLICK
[4]snick *n* : a slight often metallic sound : CLICK
[1]snick·er \'snik-ər\ *vi* **snick·ered; snick·er·ing** \-(ə-)riŋ\ [imit.] : to laugh in a covert or partly suppressed manner : TITTER — **snick·er·er** \-ər-ər\ *n* — **snick·ery** \-(ə-)rē\ *adj*
[2]snicker *n* : an act or sound of snickering
snick·er·snee \'snik-ə(r)-ˌsnē\ *n* [obs. *snick or snee* to engage in cut-and-thrust fighting, alter. of earlier *steake or snye*, fr. D *steken of snijden* to thrust or cut] : a large knife
snide \'snīd\ *adj* [origin unknown] **1 a** : FALSE, COUNTERFEIT **b** : practicing deception : DISHONEST ⟨a ~ merchant⟩ **2** : unworthy of esteem : LOW ⟨a ~ trick⟩ **3** : slyly disparaging : INSINUATING ⟨~ remarks⟩ — **snide·ly** *adv* — **snide·ness** *n*
[1]sniff \'snif\ *vb* [ME *sniffen*] *vi* **1** : to draw air audibly up the nose esp. for smelling ⟨~*ed* at the flowers⟩ **2** : to show or express disdain or scorn ~ *vt* **1** : to smell or take by inhalation through the nose **2** : to utter contemptuously **3** : to recognize or detect by or as if by smelling ⟨~ out trouble⟩
[2]sniff *n* **1** : an act or sound of sniffing **2** : a quantity that is sniffed
sniff·er *n* : one that sniffs; *esp* : one who takes drugs illicitly by sniffing
sniff·ish \'snif-ish\ *adj* : having or expressing a haughty attitude : DISDAINFUL, SUPERCILIOUS — **sniff·ish·ly** *adv* — **sniff·ish·ness** *n*
[1]snif·fle \'snif-əl\ *vi* **snif·fled; snif·fling** \-(ə-)liŋ\ [freq. of *sniff*] **1** : to sniff repeatedly : SNUFFLE **2** : to speak with or as if with sniffling — **snif·fler** \-(ə-)lər\ *n*
[2]sniffle *n* **1** : an act or sound of sniffling **2** *pl* : a head cold marked by nasal discharge
sniffy \'snif-ē\ *adj* : SNIFFISH, SUPERCILIOUS ⟨there is no ~ snobbishness about the food of the south —Mimi Sheraton⟩ — **sniff·i·ly** \'snif-ə-lē\ *adv* — **sniff·i·ness** \'snif-ē-nəs\ *n*
snif·ter \'snif-tər\ *n* [E dial., sniff, snort, fr. ME *snifteren* to sniff, snort] **1** : a small drink of distilled liquor **2** : a large short-stemmed goblet with a bowl narrowing toward the top
[1]snig·ger \'snig-ər\ *vi* **snig·gered; snig·ger·ing** \-(ə-)riŋ\ [by alter.] : SNICKER — **snig·ger·er** \-ər-ər\ *n*
[2]snigger *n* : SNICKER
snig·gle \'snig-əl\ *vb* **snig·gled; snig·gling** \-(ə-)liŋ\ [E dial. *snig* small eel, fr. ME *snygge*] *vi* : to fish for eels by thrusting a baited hook or needle into their hiding places ~ *vt* : to catch (an eel) by sniggling
[1]snip \'snip\ *n* [fr. or akin to D&LG *snip*] **1 a** : a small piece that is snipped off; *also* : FRAGMENT, BIT **b** : a cut or notch made by snipping **c** : an act or sound of snipping **2** : a white or light mark (as on a horse) **3** : a presumptuous or impertinent person; *esp* : an impertinent or saucy girl **4** *Brit* : BARGAIN, BUY
[2]snip *vb* **snipped; snip·ping** *vt* : to cut or cut off with or as if with shears or scissors; *specif* : to clip suddenly or by bits ~ *vi* : to make a short quick cut with or as if with shears or scissors — **snipper** *n*
[1]snipe \'snīp\ *n, pl* **snipes** [ME, of Scand origin; akin to ON *snīpa* snipe; akin to OHG *snepfa* snipe] **1** *or pl* **snipe** : any of various usu. slender-billed birds (suborder Charadrii); *esp* : any of several game birds (genus *Capella*) that occur esp. in marshy areas and resemble the related woodcocks **2** : a contemptible person
[2]snipe *vi* **sniped; snip·ing** **1** : to shoot or hunt snipe **2 a** : to shoot at exposed individuals of an enemy's forces esp. when not in action from a usu. concealed point of vantage **b** : to aim a carping or snide attack — **snip·er** *n*
snip·er·scope \'snī-pər-ˌskōp\ *n* : a snooperscope for use on a rifle or carbine
snip·per·snap·per \'snip-ər-ˌsnap-ər\ *n* [origin unknown] : WHIPPERSNAPPER
snip·pet \'snip-ət\ *n* [[1]*snip*] : a small part, piece, or thing; *esp* : a brief quotable passage
snip·pety \-ət-ē\ *adj* **1** : made up of snippets **2** [prob. fr. [2]*snip* + *-ety* (as in *pernickety*)] : SNIPPY
snip·py \'snip-ē\ *adj* **snip·pi·er; -est** [[2]*snip*] **1** : SHORT-TEMPERED, SNAPPISH **2** : unduly brief or curt **3** : putting on airs : SNIFFY
snips \'snips\ *n pl but sing or pl in constr* : hand shears used esp. for cutting sheet metal
snip–snap \'snip-ˌsnap\ *n, archaic* : clever quick repartee
snit \'snit\ *n* [origin unknown] : a state of agitation
snitch \'snich\ *vi* [origin unknown] : INFORM, TATTLE ~ *vt* [prob. alter. of *snatch*] : to take by stealth; : PILFER — **snitch·er** *n*
[1]sniv·el \'sniv-əl\ *vi* **sniv·eled** *or* **sniv·elled; sniv·el·ing** *or* **sniv·elling** \-(ə-)liŋ\ [ME *snivelen*, fr. (assumed) OE *snyflan;* akin to D *snuffelen* to snuffle, *snuffen* to sniff, Gk *nan* to flow — more at NOURISH] **1** : to run at the nose **2** : to snuff mucus up the nose audibly : SNUFFLE **3** : to cry or whine with snuffling **4** : to speak or act in a whining, sniffling, tearful, or weakly emotional manner — **sniv·el·er** \-(ə-)lər\ *n*
[2]snivel *n* **1** *pl, dial* : HEAD COLD **2** : an act or instance of sniveling

snob \'snäb\ *n* [obs. *snob* member of the lower classes, fr. E dial., shoemaker] **1** *archaic* : COBBLER **2** : one who blatantly imitates, fawningly admires, or vulgarly seeks association with those he regards as his superiors **3 a** : one who tends to rebuff, avoid, or ignore those he regards as inferior **b** : one who has an offensive air of superiority in matters of knowledge or taste ⟨a cultural ~⟩
snob appeal *n* : qualities in a product (as high price, rarity, or foreign origin) that appeal to the snobbery in a purchaser
snob·bery \'snäb-(ə-)rē\ *n, pl* **-ber·ies** **1** : snobbish conduct or character : SNOBBISHNESS **2** : an instance of snobbery
snob·bish \'snäb-ish\ *adj* : being, characteristic of, or befitting a snob — **snob·bish·ly** *adv* — **snob·bish·ness** *n*
snob·bism \'snäb-ˌiz-əm\ *n* : SNOBBERY
snob·by \'snäb-ē\ *adj* : characterized by snobbery
SNO·BOL \'snō-ˌbȯl\ *n* [*Strin*g *O*riented *Symbo*lic *L*anguage] : a computer programming language for manipulating strings of symbols
Sno–Cat \'snō-ˌkat\ *trademark* — used for a tracklaying vehicle designed for travel on snow
snol·ly·gos·ter \'snäl-ē-ˌgäs-tər\ *n* [prob. alter. of *snallygaster* (a mythical creature that preys on poultry and children)] : an unprincipled but shrewd person
¹snood \'snüd\ *n* [(assumed) ME, fr. OE *snōd;* akin to OIr *snāth* thread, OE *nǣdl* needle] **1 a** *Scot* : a fillet or band for a woman's hair **b** : a net or fabric bag pinned or tied on at the back of a woman's head for holding the hair **2** : SNELL
²snood *vt* : to secure with a snood
¹snook \'snük, 'snük\ *n, pl* **snook** *or* **snooks** [D *snoek* pike, snook] **1** : a large vigorous percoid sport and food fish (*Centropomus undecimalis*) of warm seas resembling a pike **2** : any of various marine fishes similar to the snook
²snook *n* [origin unknown] : a gesture of derision made by thumbing the nose
snook·er \'snük-ər\ *n* [origin unknown] : a variation of pool played with 15 red balls and 6 variously colored balls
¹snoop \'snüp\ *vi* [D *snoepen* to buy or eat on the sly; akin to D *snappen* to snap] : to look or pry in a sneaking or meddlesome manner — **snoop·er** *n*
²snoop *n* : one that snoops
snoop·er·scope \'snü-pər-ˌskōp\ *n* : a device utilizing infrared radiation for enabling a person to see an object obscured (as by darkness)
snoopy \'snü-pē\ *adj* : given to snooping esp. for personal information about others — **snoop·i·ly** \-pə-lē\ *adv*
¹snoot \'snüt\ *n* [ME *snute*] **1 a** : SNOUT **b** : NOSE **2** : a grimace expressive of contempt **3** : a snooty person : SNOB
²snoot *vt* : to treat with disdain : look down one's nose at
snooty \'snüt-ē\ *adj* **snoot·i·er; -est** **1** : looking down the nose : showing disdain ⟨~ people who won't speak to their neighbors⟩ **2** : characterized by snobbery ⟨a ~ store⟩ — **snoot·i·ly** \'snüt-ᵊl-ē\ *adv* — **snoot·i·ness** \'snüt-ē-nəs\ *n*
¹snooze \'snüz\ *vi* **snoozed; snooz·ing** [origin unknown] : to take a nap : DOZE — **snooz·er** *n*
²snooze *n* : NAP
snoo·zle \'snü-zəl\ *vb* **snoo·zled; snoo·zling** \'snüz-(ə-)liŋ\ [perh. blend of *snooze* and *nuzzle*] *chiefly dial* : NUZZLE
¹snore \'snō(ə)r, 'snȯ(ə)r\ *vb* **snored; snor·ing** [ME *snoren;* akin to MLG *snorren* to drone, MHG *snerren* to chatter] *vi* : to breathe during sleep with a rough hoarse noise due to vibration of the soft palate ~ *vt* : to spend in sleeping — **snor·er** *n*
²snore *n* **1** : an act of snoring **2** : a noise of or as if of snoring
¹snor·kel \'snȯr-kəl\ *n* [G *schnorchel*] **1** : a tube housing air intake and exhaust pipes protrusible above the surface of the water for operating submerged submarines **2** : any of various devices (as for an underwater swimmer) resembling a snorkel in function
²snorkel *vi* **snor·keled; snor·kel·ing** \-k(ə-)liŋ\ : to operate or swim submerged with only a snorkel above water — **snor·kel·er** \-k(ə-)lər\ *n*
¹snort \'snȯ(ə)rt\ *vb* [ME *snorten*] *vi* **1 a** : to force air violently through the nose with a rough harsh sound **b** : to express scorn, anger, indignation, or surprise by a snort **2** : to emit explosive sounds resembling snorts **3** : to take in a drug by inhalation ~ *vt* **1** : to utter with or express by a snort **2** : to expel or emit with or as if with snorts **3** : to take in (a drug) by inhalation
²snort *n* **1** : an act or sound of snorting **2** : a drink of usu. straight liquor taken in one draft
snort·er \'snȯrt-ər\ *n* **1** : one that snorts **2** : something that is extraordinary or prominent : HUMDINGER **3** : SNORT 2
snot \'snät\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *gesnot;* akin to OHG *snuzza* nasal mucus, Gk *nan* to flow — more at NOURISH] **1** : nasal mucus **2** : a snotty person
snot·ty \'snät-ē\ *adj* **1** : foul with nasal mucus **2** : annoyingly or spitefully unpleasant
snout \'snau̇t\ *n* [ME *snute;* akin to G *schnauze* snout] **1 a** (1) : a long projecting nose (as of a swine) (2) : an anterior prolongation of the head of various animals (as a weevil) : ROSTRUM **b** : the human nose esp. when large or grotesque **2** : something resembling an animal's snout in position, function, or shape: as **a** : PROW **b** : NOZZLE — **snout·ed** \-əd\ *adj* — **snout·ish** \-ish\ *adj* — **snouty** \-ē\ *adj*
snout beetle *n* : any of a group (Rhynchophora) of beetles comprising the true weevils and usu. having the head produced into a snout or beak
¹snow \'snō\ *n, often attrib* [ME, fr. OE *snāw;* akin to OHG *snēo* snow, L *niv-, nix,* Gk *nipha* (acc.)] **1 a** : precipitation in the form of small tabular and columnar white ice crystals formed directly from the water vapor of the air at a temperature of less than 32°F **b** (1) : a descent or shower of snow crystals (2) : a mass of fallen snow crystals **2** : something resembling snow: as **a** : a dessert made of stiffly beaten whites of eggs, sugar, and fruit pulp ⟨apple ~⟩ **b** : any of various congealed or crystallized substances resembling snow in appearance **c** (1) : COCAINE (2) : HEROIN **d** : small transient light or dark spots on a television or radar screen — **snow·less** \-ləs\ *adj*
²snow *vi* : to fall in or as snow ~ *vt* **1** : to cause to fall like or as snow **2 a** : to cover, shut in, or imprison with or as if with snow ⟨found themselves ~*ed* in after the blizzard⟩ **b** : to deceive, persuade, or charm glibly **3** : to whiten like snow
¹snow·ball \'snō-ˌbȯl\ *n* **1 a** : a round mass of snow pressed or rolled together **b** : shaved ice molded into a ball and flavored with a syrup **2** : any of several cultivated shrubs (genus *Viburnum*) with clusters of white sterile flowers
²snowball *vt* **1** : to throw snowballs at **2** : to cause to increase or multiply at a rapidly accelerating rate ~ *vi* **1** : to engage in throwing snowballs **2** : to increase, accumulate, expand, or multiply at a rapidly accelerating rate
snow·bank \'snō-ˌbaŋk\ *n* : a mound or slope of snow
snow·ber·ry \-ˌber-ē\ *n* : any of several white-berried shrubs (esp. genus *Symphoricarpos* of the honeysuckle family); *esp* : a low-growing No. American shrub (*S. albus*) with pink flowers in small axillary clusters
snow·bird \-ˌbərd\ *n* : any of several small birds (as a junco or fieldfare) seen chiefly in winter
snow–blind \-ˌblīnd\ *or* **snow–blind·ed** \-ˌblīn-dəd\ *adj* : affected with snow blindness
snow blindness *n* : inflammation and photophobia caused by exposure of the eyes to ultraviolet rays reflected from snow or ice
snow·blink \'snō-ˌbliŋk\ *n* : a white glare in the sky over a snowfield
snow·bound \-'baund\ *adj* : shut in or blockaded by snow
snow–broth \-ˌbrȯth\ *n* : newly melted snow esp. when mixed with stream water
snow·brush \'snō-ˌbrəsh\ *n* : any of several white-flowered shrubs (genus *Ceanothus*) of the buckthorn family; *esp* : a spreading western No. American shrub (*C. velutina*) with scented leaves and panicles of small flowers
snow·cap \-ˌkap\ *n* : a covering cap of snow (as on a mountain peak) — **snow·capped** \-'kapt\ *adj*
snow·drift \-ˌdrift\ *n* : a bank of drifted snow
snow·drop \-ˌdräp\ *n* : a bulbous European herb (*Galanthus nivalis*) of the amaryllis family bearing nodding white flowers that often appear while the snow is on the ground
snow·fall \-ˌfȯl\ *n* : a fall of snow; *specif* : the amount of snow that falls in a single storm or in a given period
snow fence *n* : a usu. slatted fence placed across the path of prevailing winds to protect (as a building, road, or railroad track) from drifting snow by disrupting the flow of wind and causing the snow to be deposited on the lee side of the fence
snow·field \'snō-ˌfēld\ *n* : a broad level expanse of snow; *esp* : a mass of perennial snow at the head of a glacier
snow·flake \-ˌflāk\ *n* **1** : a flake or crystal of snow **2** : any of a genus (*Leucojum*) of bulbous plants of the amaryllis family; *esp* : one (*L. vernum*) resembling the snowdrop
snow job *n* : an intensive effort at persuasion or deception
snow leopard *n* : a showily marked large cat (*Felis uncia*) of upland central Asia with a long heavy pelt that is grayish white irregularly blotched with brownish black in summer and almost pure white in winter
snow lily *n* : a Rocky Mountain dogtooth violet (*Erythronium grandiflorum*) with showy yellow or white flowers
snow line *n* : the lower margin of a perennial snowfield
snow·mak·er \-ˌmā-kər\ *n* : a device for making snow artificially
snow·mak·ing \'snō-ˌmā-kiŋ\ *adj* : used for the production of artificial snow usu. for ski slopes ⟨~ machines⟩
snow·man \-ˌman, -'man\ *n* : snow shaped to resemble a human figure
snow·melt \-ˌmelt\ *n* : runoff produced by the melting of snow
snow·mo·bile \'snō-mō-ˌbēl\ *n* [¹*snow* + auto*mobile*] : any of various automotive vehicles for travel on snow
snow·mo·bil·er \-ˌbē-lər\ *n* : one that operates a snowmobile — **snow·mo·bil·ing** \-liŋ\ *n*
snow–on–the–mountain *n* : a spurge (*Euphorbia marginata*) of the western U.S. that has showy white-bracted flower clusters and is grown as an ornamental
snow·pack \'snō-ˌpak\ *n* : a seasonal accumulation of slow-melting packed snow
snow plant *n* : a fleshy bright-red saprophytic California herb (*Sarcodes sanguinea*) of the wintergreen family that grows in coniferous woods at high altitudes and often appears before the snow melts
¹snow·plow \'snō-ˌplau̇\ *n* **1** : any of various devices used for clearing away snow **2** : a stemming with both skis used for coming to a stop, slowing down, or descending slowly
²snowplow *vi* : to execute a snowplow ⟨~*ed* to a stop⟩
snow pudding *n* : a pudding made very fluffy and light by the addition of whipped egg whites and gelatin
snow·scape \'snō-ˌskāp\ *n* : a landscape covered with snow
snow·shed \-ˌshed\ *n* **1** : a shelter against snowslides **2** : a watershed supplied largely by snowfalls
¹snow·shoe \-ˌshü\ *n* : a light oval wooden frame that is strengthened by two crosspieces, strung with thongs, and attached to the foot and that is used to enable a person to walk on soft snow without sinking
²snowshoe *vi* **snow·shoed; snow·shoe·ing** : to travel on snowshoes — **snow·sho·er** \-ˌshü-ər\ *n*
snow·slide \'snō-ˌslīd\ *n* : an avalanche of snow
snow·storm \-ˌstȯrm\ *n* **1** : a storm of or with snow **2** : something that resembles a snowstorm
snow·suit \-ˌsüt\ *n* : a one-piece or two-piece lined garment for winter wear by children
snow tire *n* : an automotive tire with a tread designed to give added traction on snow or ice
snow under *vt* **1** : to overwhelm esp. in excess of capacity to absorb or deal with something **2** : to defeat by a large margin
snow–white \'snō-'hwīt, -'wīt\ *adj* : white as snow
snowy \'snō-ē\ *adj* **snow·i·er; -est** **1 a** : composed of snow or melted snow **b** : marked by or covered with snow **2 a** : whit-

ened by snow **b** : SNOW-WHITE — **snow·i·ly** \'snō-ə-lē\ *adv* — **snow·i·ness** \'snō-ē-nəs\ *n*

¹snub \'snəb\ *vt* **snubbed; snub·bing** [ME *snubben*, of Scand origin; akin to ON *snubba* to scold; akin to Icel *sneypa* to scold] **1** : to check or stop with a cutting retort : REBUKE **2 a** : to check (as a line) suddenly while running out esp. by turning around a fixed object (as a post); *also* : to check the motion of by snubbing a line **b** : to restrain the action of : SUPPRESS ⟨~ a vibration⟩ **3** : to treat with contempt or neglect **4** : to extinguish by stubbing ⟨~ out a cigarette⟩

²snub *n* : an act or an instance of snubbing; *esp* : SLIGHT

³snub *adj* **1** : used in snubbing ⟨~ line⟩ **2** *or* **snubbed** \'snəbd\ : BLUNT, STUBBY ⟨a ~ nose⟩ — **snub·ness** *n*

snub·ber \'snəb-ər\ *n* **1** : one that snubs **2** : SHOCK ABSORBER

snub·by \'snəb-ē\ *adj* **1** : SNUB **2** : SNUB-NOSED — **snub·bi·ness** *n*

snub–nosed \'snəb-'nōzd\ *adj* **1** : having a stubby and usu. slightly turned-up nose **2** : having a very short barrel ⟨a ~ revolver⟩

¹snuff \'snəf\ *n* [ME *snoffe*] **1** : the charred part of a candlewick **2 a** *obs* : UMBRAGE, OFFENSE **b** *chiefly Scot* : HUFF

²snuff *vt* **1** : to crop the snuff of (a candle) by pinching or by the use of snuffers so as to brighten the light **2 a** : to extinguish by the use of snuffers **b** : to make extinct : put an end to — usu. used with *out* ⟨an accident that ~*ed* out a life⟩

³snuff *vb* [akin to D *snuffen* to sniff, snuff — more at SNIVEL] *vt* **1** : to draw forcibly through or into the nostrils **2** : SCENT, SMELL **3** : to sniff at in order to examine — used of an animal ~ *vi* **1** : to inhale through the nose noisily and forcibly; *also* : to sniff or smell inquiringly **2** *obs* : to sniff loudly in or as if in disgust **3** : to take snuff

⁴snuff *n* : the act of snuffing : SNIFF

⁵snuff *n* [D *snuf*, short for *snuftabak*, fr. *snuffen* to snuff + *tabak* tobacco] **1** : a preparation of pulverized tobacco to be inhaled through the nostrils, chewed, or placed against the gums **2** : the amount of snuff taken at one time — **up to snuff** : of sufficient quality : meeting an applicable standard

snuff·box \'snəf-ˌbäks\ *n* : a small box for holding snuff usu. carried about the person

¹snuff·er \'snəf-ər\ *n* **1** : a device somewhat like a pair of scissors for cropping and holding the snuff of a candle — usu. used in pl. but sing. or pl. in constr. **2** : a device for extinguishing candles

²snuffer *n* : one that snuffs or sniffs

¹snuf·fle \'snəf-əl\ *vb* **snuf·fled; snuf·fling** \-(ə-)liŋ\ [akin to D *snuffelen* to snuffle — more at SNIVEL] *vi* **1** : to snuff or sniff usu. audibly and repeatedly **2** : to breathe through an obstructed nose with a sniffing sound **3** : to speak through or as if through the nose : WHINE ~ *vt* : to seek or test by or as if by repeated sniffs — **snuf·fler** \-(ə-)lər\ *n*

²snuffle *n* **1** : the act or sound of snuffling **2** : a nasal twang **3** *pl* : SNIFFLES

¹snuffy \'snəf-ē\ *adj* [³*snuff*] **1** : quick to become annoyed or take offense **2** : marked by snobbery

²snuffy *adj* [⁵*snuff*] **1** : resembling snuff **2 a** : addicted to the use of snuff **b** : having unpleasant habits **3** : soiled with snuff

¹snug \'snəg\ *adj* **snug·ger; snug·gest** [perh. of Scand origin; akin to Sw *snygg* tidy; akin to ON *snöggr* shorn, bald, L *novacula* razor] **1 a** *of a ship* : manifesting seaworthiness : TAUT **b** : TRIM, NEAT **c** : fitting closely and comfortably ⟨a ~ coat⟩ **2 a** : enjoying or affording warm secure shelter or cover and opportunity for ease and contentment **b** : marked by cordiality and secure privacy **3** : affording a degree of comfort and ease **4** : offering safe concealment ⟨a ~ hideout⟩ ***syn*** see COMFORTABLE — **snug** *adv* — **snug·ly** *adv* — **snug·ness** *n*

²snug *vb* **snugged; snug·ging** *vi* : SNUGGLE ~ *vt* **1** : to cause to fit closely **2** : to make snug ⟨~ the place for winter —Hal Borland⟩ **3** : HIDE **4** : to secure by fastening or lashing down

³snug *n, Brit* [short for *snuggery*] : a small private room in a pub

snug·gery \'snəg-(ə-)rē\ *n, pl* **-ger·ies** *chiefly Brit* : a snug cozy place; *esp* : a small room

snug·gle \'snəg-əl\ *vb* **snug·gled; snug·gling** \-(ə-)liŋ\ [freq. of ²*snug*] *vi* : to curl up comfortably or cozily : CUDDLE ~ *vt* **1** : to draw close esp. for comfort or in affection **2** : to make snug

¹so \(')sō, *esp before adj or adv followed by "that"* sə\ *adv* [ME, fr. OE *swā*; akin to OHG *sō* so, L *sic* so, thus, *si* if, Gk *hōs* so, thus, L *suus* one's own — more at SUICIDE] **1 a** : in a manner or way that is indicated or suggested ⟨do you really think~⟩ — often used as a substitute for an entire preceding clause ⟨are you ready? if ~, let's go⟩ **b** : in the same manner or way : ALSO ⟨worked hard and ~ did she⟩ **c** : THUS ⟨for ~ the Lord said —Isa 18:4 (AV)⟩ **d** : THEN, SUBSEQUENTLY ⟨and ~ home and to bed⟩ **2 a** : to an indicated or suggested extent or degree ⟨had never been ~ happy⟩ **b** : to a great extent or degree : VERY, EXTREMELY ⟨left her because he loved her ~⟩ **c** : to a definite but unspecified extent or degree ⟨can only do ~ much in a day⟩ **d** : most certainly : INDEED ⟨you did ~ do it⟩ **3** : THEREFORE, CONSEQUENTLY ⟨the witness is biased and ~ unreliable⟩

²so \(')sō\ *conj* **1 a** : with the result that ⟨her diction is good, ~ every word is clear⟩ **b** : in order that ⟨be quiet ~ he can sleep⟩ **2** *archaic* : provided that **3 a** : for that reason : THEREFORE ⟨don't want to go, ~ I won't⟩ **b** (1) — used as an introductory particle ⟨~ here we are⟩ often to belittle a point under discussion ⟨~ what?⟩ (2) — used interjectionally to indicate awareness of a discovery ⟨~, that's who did it⟩ or surprised dissent

³so \'sō\ *adj* **1** : conforming with actual facts : TRUE ⟨said things that were not ~⟩ **2** : marked by a definite order ⟨his books are always just ~⟩

⁴so \ˌsō, 'sō\ *pron* **1** : such as has been specified or suggested : the same ⟨became chairman and remained ~⟩ **2** — used in the phrase *or so* to indicate an estimate, approximation, or conjecture ⟨I've known him 20 years or ~⟩

⁵so \'sō\ *var of* SOL

⁶so *abbr* south; southern

SO *abbr* **1** seller's option **2** strikeout

¹soak \'sōk\ *vb* [ME *soken*, fr. OE *socian*; akin to OE *sūcan* to suck] *vi* **1** : to lie immersed in liquid (as water) **2 a** : to enter or pass through something by or as if by pores or interstices : PERMEATE **b** : to penetrate or affect the mind or feelings — usu. used with *in* or *into* **3** : to drink alcoholic beverages intemperately ~ *vt* **1** : to permeate so as to wet, soften, or fill thoroughly **2 a** : to place in a surrounding element (as liquid) to wet or permeate thoroughly **b** : to engross the full attention of : IMMERSE **3** : to extract by or as if by steeping ⟨~ the dirt out⟩ **4 a** : to draw in by or as if by suction or absorption ⟨~*ed* up the sunshine⟩ **b** : to intoxicate (oneself) by drinking alcoholic beverages **5 a** : to levy an exorbitant charge against ⟨~*ed* the taxpayers⟩ **b** : to punish severely — **soak·er** *n*

syn SOAK, SATURATE, DRENCH, STEEP, IMPREGNATE *shared meaning element* : to permeate or be permeated with or as if with water. SOAK implies a usually prolonged exposure or immersion that results in thorough wetting, softening, or dissolving ⟨*soak* a sponge⟩ ⟨they were caught in the storm and got *soaked*⟩ and in extended use stresses completeness of permeation ⟨old ladies *soaked* in religion —J. T. Farrell⟩ SATURATE stresses absorption to the point where no more can be held ⟨the air was *saturated* with moisture⟩ ⟨the city . . . was *saturated* with fear —*Kerner Report*⟩ DRENCH basically implies thorough wetting (as with rainwater) and in extended use suggests a soaking or saturation with something that pours down ⟨woodland glades *drenched* with sunlight⟩ ⟨*drenched* the rebel towns with bombs —*Atlanta (Ga.) Jour.*⟩ STEEP implies immersion and soaking usually to extract an essence ⟨*steep* tea in boiling water⟩ or, in extended use, thorough saturation ⟨a man *steeped* in classic lore⟩ IMPREGNATE implies thorough interpenetration of one thing by another ⟨*impregnate* posts with creosote to prevent decay⟩ ⟨this poem, everywhere *impregnated* with original excellence —William Wordsworth⟩

²soak *n* **1 a** : the act or process of soaking : the state of being soaked **b** : that (as liquid) in which something is soaked **2** : DRUNKARD **3** *slang* : ¹PAWN 2

soak·age \'sō-kij\ *n* **1** : liquid gained by absorption or lost by seepage **2** : the act or process of soaking : the state of being soaked

¹so–and–so \'sō-ən-ˌsō\ *n, pl* **so–and–sos** *or* **so–and–so's** \-ˌsōz\ **1** : an unnamed or unspecified person, thing, or action **2** : BASTARD 3

²so–and–so *adv* **1** : in an unspecified manner or fashion **2** : to an unspecified amount or degree

¹soap \'sōp\ *n* [ME *sope*, fr. OE *sāpe*; akin to OHG *seifa* soap, L *sebum* tallow] **1 a** : a cleansing and emulsifying agent made usu. by action of alkali on fat or fatty acids and consisting essentially of sodium or potassium salts of such acids **b** : a salt of a fatty acid and a metal **2** : SOAP OPERA

²soap *vt* **1** : to rub soap over or into **2** : FLATTER

soap·bark \'sōp-ˌbärk\ *n* **1** : a Chilean tree (*Quillaja saponaria*) of the rose family with shining leaves and terminal white flowers; *also* : its saponin-rich bark used in cleaning and in emulsifying oils **2** : any of several tropical American trees or leguminous shrubs (genus *Pithecolobium*) with saponaceous bark

soap·ber·ry \-ˌber-ē\ *n* : any of a genus (*Sapindus* of the family Sapindaceae, the soapberry family) of chiefly tropical woody plants; *also* : the fruit of a soapberry and esp. of a tree (*S. saponaria*) that is saponin-rich and used as a soap substitute

soap·box \-ˌbäks\ *n* : an improvised platform used by a self-appointed, spontaneous, or informal orator — **soapbox** *adj*

Soap Box Derby *service mark* — used for a downhill race for children's homemade racing cars without pedals or motors

soap bubble *n* : a hollow iridescent globe formed by blowing a film of soapsuds (as from a pipe)

soap·less \'sō-pləs\ *adj* **1** : having or containing no soap ⟨~ detergents⟩ **2** : UNWASHED, DIRTY

soap·mak·ing \'sōp-ˌmā-kiŋ\ *n* : the act, process, or occupation of making soap

soap opera *n* [fr. its frequently being sponsored by soap manufacturers] : a radio or television serial drama performed usu. on a daytime commercial program and chiefly characterized by stock domestic situations and melodramatic or sentimental treatment

soap plant *n* : a plant having a part (as a root or fruit) that may be used in place of soap; *esp* : a California plant (*Chlorogalum pomeridianum*) of the lily family

soap·stone \'sōp-ˌstōn\ *n* : a soft stone having a soapy feel and composed essentially of talc, chlorite, and often some magnetite

soap·suds \-ˌsədz\ *n pl* : SUDS 1

soap·wort \-ˌwərt, -ˌwȯ(ə)rt\ *n* : BOUNCING BET

soapy \'sō-pē\ *adj* **soap·i·er; -est** **1** : smeared with soap : LATHERED **2** : containing or combined with soap or saponin **3 a** : resembling or having the qualities of soap; *esp* : being smooth and slippery **b** : UNCTUOUS, SUAVE **4** : of, relating to, or having the characteristics of soap opera ⟨~ drama⟩ — **soap·i·ly** \-pə-lē\ *adv* — **soap·i·ness** \-pē-nəs\ *n*

¹soar \'sō(ə)r, 'sȯ(ə)r\ *vi* [ME *soren*, fr. MF *essorer* to air, soar, fr. (assumed) VL *exaurare* to air, fr. L *ex-* + *aura* air — more at AURA] **1 a** : to fly aloft or about **b** (1) : to sail or hover in the air often at a great height : GLIDE (2) *of a glider* : to fly without engine power and without loss of altitude **2** : to go or move upward in position or status : RISE **3** : to ascend to a higher or more exalted level **4** : to rise to majestic stature : TOWER — **soar·er** *n*

²soar *n* **1** : the range, distance, or height attained in soaring **2** : the act of soaring : upward flight

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ə abut ᵊ kitten ər further a back ā bake ä cot, cart
aù out ch chin e less ē easy g gift i trip ī life
j joke ŋ sing ō flow ȯ flaw ȯi coin th thin t͟h this
ü loot u̇ foot y yet yü few yu̇ furious zh vision

soar·ing *n* : the act or process of soaring; *specif* : the act or sport of flying a heavier-than-air craft without power by utilizing ascending air currents

[1]sob \'säb\ *vb* **sobbed; sob·bing** [ME *sobben*] *vi* **1 a** : to catch the breath audibly in a spasmodic contraction of the throat **b** : to cry or weep with convulsive catching of the breath **2** : to make a sound like that of a sob or sobbing ~ *vt* **1** : to bring (as oneself) to a specified state by sobbing ⟨*sobbed* himself to sleep⟩ **2** : to utter with sobs ⟨*sobbed* out her grief⟩

[2]sob *n* **1** : an act of sobbing **2** : a sound like that of a sob

[3]SOB \ˌes-ˌō-'bē\ *n* [son *of a bitch*] : SON OF A BITCH, BASTARD 3

[1]so·ber \'sō-bər\ *adj* **so·ber·er** \-bər-ər\; **so·ber·est** \-b(ə-)rəst\ [ME *sobre*, fr. MF, fr. L *sobrius*; akin to L *ebrius* drunk] **1 a** : sparing in the use of food and drink : ABSTEMIOUS **b** : not addicted to intoxicating drink **c** : not drunk **2** : marked by sedate or gravely or earnestly thoughtful character or demeanor **3** *archaic* : UNHURRIED, CALM **4** : marked by temperance, moderation, or seriousness **5** : subdued in tone or color **6** : showing no excessive or extreme qualities of fancy, emotion, or prejudice: as **a** : REALISTIC **b** : well balanced : RESTRAINED **c** : RATIONAL — **so·ber·ly** \-bər-lē\ *adv* — **so·ber·ness** *n*

syn **1** SOBER, TEMPERATE, CONTINENT, UNIMPASSIONED *shared meaning element* : having or manifesting mastery of oneself and one's appetites ***ant*** excited, drunk
2 see SERIOUS ***ant*** gay

[2]sober *vb* **so·bered; so·ber·ing** \-b(ə-)riŋ\ *vt* : to make sober ~ *vi* : to become sober — usu. used with *up*

so·ber·ize \'sō-bə-ˌrīz\ *vt* **-ized; -iz·ing** *archaic* : to make sober

so·ber·sid·ed \ˌsō-bər-'sīd-əd\ *adj* : solemn or serious in nature or appearance

so·ber·sides \'sō-bər-ˌsīdz\ *n pl but sing or pl in constr* : one who is sobersided

so·bri·ety \sə-'brī-ət-ē, sō-\ *n* [ME *sobrietie*, fr. MF *sobrieté*, fr. L *sobrietat-*, *sobrietas*, fr. *sobrius*] : the quality or state of being sober

so·bri·quet \'sō-bri-ˌkā, -ˌket, ˌsō-bri-'\ *n* [F] : a fanciful name or epithet : NICKNAME

sob sister *n* **1** : a journalist who specializes in writing or editing sob stories or other material of a sentimental type **2** : a sentimental and often impractical person usu. engaged in good works

sob story *n* : a sentimental story or account designed chiefly to evoke sympathy or sadness

soc *abbr* **1** social **2** society

so·cage \'säk-ij, 'sōk-\ *or* **soc·cage** \'säk-\ *n* [ME, fr. *soc* soke] : a tenure of land by agricultural service fixed in amount and kind or by payment of money rent only and not burdened with any military service — **so·cag·er** \-ij-ər\ *n*

so–called \'sō-'kȯld\ *adj* **1** : commonly named : popularly so termed ⟨the ~ pocket veto⟩ **2** : falsely or improperly so named ⟨deceived by his ~ friend⟩

soc·cer \'säk-ər\ *n* [by shortening & alter. fr. *association football*] : a game played on a field between two teams of 11 players each with the object to propel a round ball into the opponent's goal by kicking or by hitting it with any part of the body except the hands and arms — called also *association football*

so·cia·bil·i·ty \ˌsō-shə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n, pl* **-ties** : the quality or state of being sociable; *also* : the act or an instance of being sociable

[1]so·cia·ble \'sō-shə-bəl\ *adj* [MF or L; MF, fr. L *sociabilis*, fr. *sociare* to join, associate, fr. *socius*] **1** : inclined by nature to companionship with others of the same species : SOCIAL **2 a** : inclined to seek or enjoy companionship **b** : conducive to friendliness or pleasant social relations ***syn*** see GRACIOUS ***ant*** unsociable — **so·cia·ble·ness** *n* — **so·cia·bly** \-blē\ *adv*

[2]sociable *n* : an informal social gathering frequently involving a special activity or interest

[1]so·cial \'sō-shəl\ *adj* [L *socialis*, fr. *socius* companion, ally, associate; akin to L *sequi* to follow — more at SUE] **1** : involving allies or confederates ⟨the *Social* War between the Athenians and their allies⟩ **2 a** : marked by or passed in pleasant companionship with one's friends or associates ⟨leads a very full ~ life⟩ **b** : SOCIABLE **c** : of, relating to, or designed for sociability ⟨a ~ club⟩ **3 a** : tending to form cooperative and interdependent relationships with one's fellows : GREGARIOUS ⟨man is a ~ being⟩ **b** : living and breeding in more or less organized communities ⟨~ insects⟩ **c** *of a plant* : tending to grow in groups or masses so as to form a pure stand **4** : of or relating to human society, the interaction of the individual and the group, or the welfare of human beings as members of society ⟨~ institutions⟩ **5 a** : of, relating to, or based on rank or status in a particular society ⟨a member of his ~ set⟩ **b** : of, relating to, or characteristic of the upper classes **c** : FORMAL

[2]social *n* : SOCIABLE

social climber *n* : one who attempts to gain a higher social position or acceptance in fashionable society — **social climbing** *n*

social contract *n* [trans. of F *contrat social*] : an actual or hypothetical agreement among individuals forming an organized society or between the community and the ruler that defines and limits the rights and duties of each

social Darwinism *n* : an extension of Darwinism to social phenomena; *specif* : a theory in sociology: sociocultural advance is the product of intergroup conflict and competition and the socially elite classes (as those possessing wealth and power) possess biological superiority in the struggle for existence

social democracy *n* : a political movement advocating a gradual and peaceful transition from capitalism to socialism by democratic means — **social democrat** *n* — **social democratic** *adj*

social disease *n* **1** : VENEREAL DISEASE **2** : a disease (as tuberculosis) whose incidence is directly related to social and economic factors

social engineering *n* : management of human beings in accordance with their place and function in society : applied social science — **social engineer** *n*

social gospel *n* **1** : the application of Christian principles to social problems **2** *cap S&G* : a movement in American Protestant Christianity esp. in the first part of the 20th century to bring the social order into conformity with Christian principles

social insurance *n* : protection of the individual against economic hazards (as unemployment, old age, or disability) in which the government participates or enforces the participation of employers and affected individuals

so·cial·ism \'sō-shə-ˌliz-əm\ *n* **1** : any of various economic and political theories advocating collective or governmental ownership and administration of the means of production and distribution of goods **2 a** : a system of society or group living in which there is no private property **b** : a system or condition of society in which the means of production are owned and controlled by the state **3** : a stage of society in Marxist theory transitional between capitalism and communism and distinguished by unequal distribution of goods and pay according to work done

[1]so·cial·ist \'sōsh-(ə-)ləst\ *n* **1** : one who advocates or practices socialism **2** *cap* : a member of a socialist party or political group

[2]socialist *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or promoting socialism ⟨~ theory⟩ ⟨a ~ state⟩ ⟨~ tendencies⟩ **2** *cap* : of, relating to, or constituting a political party advocating socialism

so·cial·is·tic \ˌsō-shə-'lis-tik\ *adj* : of, relating to, or tending toward socialism — **so·cial·is·ti·cal·ly** \-ti-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

socialist realism *n* : a Marxist aesthetic theory calling for the didactic use of literature, art, and music to develop social consciousness in an evolving socialist state — **social realist** *n*

so·cial·ite \'sō-shə-ˌlīt\ *n* : a socially prominent person

so·ci·al·i·ty \ˌsō-shē-'al-ət-ē\ *n* **1 a** : SOCIABILITY **b** : an instance of social intercourse or sociability **2** : the tendency to associate in or form social groups

so·cial·ize \'sō-shə-ˌlīz\ *vb* **-ized; -iz·ing** *vt* **1** : to make social; *esp* : to fit or train for a social environment **2 a** : to constitute on a socialistic basis ⟨~ industry⟩ **b** : to adapt to social needs or uses ⟨~ science⟩ **3** : to organize group participation in ⟨~ a recitation⟩ ~ *vi* : to participate actively in a social group — **so·cial·ization** \ˌsōsh-(ə-)lə-'zā-shən\ *n* — **so·cial·iz·er** \'sō-shə-ˌlī-zər\ *n*

socialized medicine *n* : medical and hospital services for the members of a class or population administered by an organized group (as a state agency) and paid for from funds obtained usu. by assessments, philanthropy, or taxation

so·cial·ly \'sōsh-(ə-)lē\ *adv* **1** : in a social manner **2** : with respect to society **3** : by or through society

so·cial–mind·ed \ˌsō-shəl-'mīn-dəd\ *adj* : having an interest in society; *specif* : actively interested in social welfare or the well-being of society as a whole

social psychology *n* : the study of the manner in which the personality, attitudes, motivations, and behavior of the individual influence and are influenced by social groups — **social psychologist** *n*

social science *n* **1** : a branch of science that deals with the institutions and functioning of human society and with the interpersonal relationships of individuals as members of society **2** : a science (as economics or political science) dealing with a particular phase or aspect of human society — **social scientist** *n*

social secretary *n* : a personal secretary employed to handle social correspondence and appointments

social security *n* : the principle or practice or a program of public provision (as through social insurance or assistance) for the economic security and social welfare of the individual and his family; *specif, often cap* : a U.S. government program established in 1935 to include old-age and survivors insurance, contributions to state unemployment insurance, and old-age assistance

social service *n* : an activity designed to promote social welfare; *specif* : organized philanthropic assistance of the sick, destitute, or unfortunate : WELFARE WORK

social studies *n pl* : a part of a school or college curriculum concerned with the study of social relationships and the functioning of society and usu. made up of courses in history, government, economics, civics, sociology, geography, and anthropology

social welfare *n* : organized public or private social services for the assistance of disadvantaged groups; *specif* : SOCIAL WORK

social work *n* : any of various professional services, activities, or methods concretely concerned with the investigation, treatment, and material aid of the economically underprivileged and socially maladjusted — **social worker** *n*

so·ci·etal \sə-'sī-ət-ᵊl\ *adj* : of or relating to society : SOCIAL ⟨~ forces⟩ — **so·ci·etal·ly** \-ᵊl-ē\ *adv*

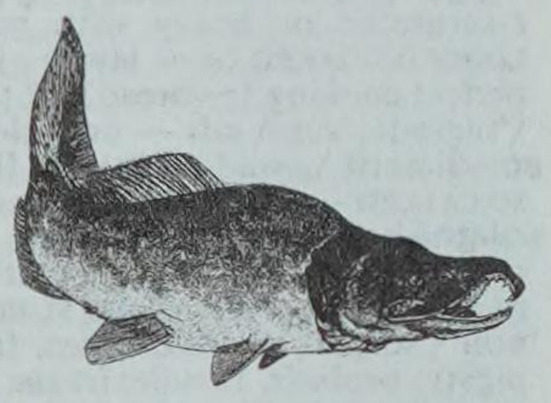
[1]so·ci·ety \sə-'sī-ət-ē\ *n, pl* **-et·ies** [MF *societé*, fr. L *societat-*, *societas*, fr. *socius* companion — more at SOCIAL] **1** : companionship or association with one's fellows : friendly or intimate intercourse : COMPANY **2** : a voluntary association of individuals for common ends; *esp* : an organized group working together or periodically meeting because of common interests, beliefs, or profession **3 a** : an enduring and cooperating social group whose members have developed organized patterns of relationships through interaction with one another **b** : a community, nation, or broad grouping of people having common traditions, institutions, and collective activities and interests **4 a** : a part of a community that is a unit distinguishable by particular aims or standards of living or conduct : a social circle or a group of social circles having a clearly marked identity ⟨move in polite ~⟩ ⟨literary ~⟩ **b** : a part of the community that sets itself apart as a leisure class and that regards itself as the arbiter of fashion and manners **5 a** (1) : a natural group of plants usu. of a single species or habit within an association (2) : ASSOCIATION 6 **b** : the progeny of a pair of insects when constituting a social unit (as a hive of bees); *broadly* : an interdependent system of organisms or biological units

[2]society *adj* : of, relating to, or characteristic of fashionable society

society verse *n* : VERS DE SOCIÉTÉ

So·cin·i·an \sə-'sin-ē-ən, sō-\ *n* [NL *socinianus*, fr. Faustus *Socinus* (Fausto Sozzini) †1604 It theologian] : an adherent of a 16th and 17th century theological movement professing belief in God and adherence to the Christian Scriptures but denying the divinity of Christ and consequently denying the Trinity — **Socinian** *adj* — **So·cin·i·an·ism** \-ē-ə-ˌniz-əm\ *n*

socio- *comb form* [F, fr. L *socius* companion] **1** : society ⟨*socio*graphy⟩ : social ⟨*socio*gram⟩ **2** : social and ⟨*socio*political⟩ **3** : sociological and ⟨*socio*psychiatric⟩
so·cio·cul·tur·al \ˌsō-sē-ō-ˈkəlch(-ə)-rəl, ˌsō-shē-\ *adj* : of, relating to, or involving a combination of social and cultural factors — **so·cio·cul·tur·al·ly** \-rə-lē\ *adv*
so·cio·eco·nom·ic \-ˌek-ə-ˈnäm-ik, -ˌē-kə-\ *adj* : of, relating to, or involving a combination of social and economic factors
sociol *abbr* sociologist; sociology
so·cio·lin·guis·tic \ˌsō-sē-ō-liŋ-ˈgwis-tik, ˌsō-shē-\ *adj* **1** : of or relating to the social aspects of language **2** : of or relating to sociolinguistics
so·cio·lin·guis·tics \-tiks\ *n pl but sing in constr* : the study of linguistic behavior as determined by sociocultural factors
so·cio·log·i·cal \ˌsō-sē-ə-ˈläj-i-kəl, ˌsō-sh(ē-)ə-\ *also* **so·cio·log·ic** \-ik\ *adj* **1** : of or relating to sociology or to the methodological approach of sociology **2** : oriented or directed toward social needs and problems — **so·cio·log·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
so·ci·ol·o·gy \ˌsō-sē-ˈäl-ə-jē, ˌsō-shē-\ *n* [F *sociologie*, fr. *socio-* + *-logie* -logy] **1** : the science of society, social institutions, and social relationships; *specif* : the systematic study of the development, structure, interaction, and collective behavior of organized groups of human beings **2** : the scientific analysis of a social institution as a functioning whole and as it relates to the rest of society **3** : SYNECOLOGY — **so·ci·ol·o·gist** \-jəst\ *n*
so·ci·om·e·try \-ˈäm-ə-trē\ *n* [ISV] : the study and measurement of interpersonal relationships in a group of people — **so·cio·met·ric** \ˌsō-sē-ə-ˈme-trik, ˌsō-shē-\ *adj*
so·cio·path \ˈsō-sē-ə-ˌpath, ˈsō-sh(ē-)ə-\ *n* : a sociopathic person
so·cio·path·ic \ˌsō-sē-ə-ˈpath-ik, ˌsō-sh(ē-)ə-\ *adj* : of, relating to, or characterized by asocial or antisocial behavior
so·cio·po·lit·i·cal \ˌsō-sē-ō-pə-ˈlit-i-kəl, ˌsō-shē-\ *adj* : of, relating to, or involving a combination of social and political factors
so·cio·re·li·gious \-ri-ˈlij-əs\ *adj* : involving a combination of social and religious factors
so·cio·sex·u·al \-ˈseksh-(ə-)wəl, -ˈsek-shəl\ *adj* : of or relating to the interpersonal aspects of sexuality — **so·cio·sex·u·al·i·ty** \-ˌsek-shə-ˈwal-ət-ē\ *n*
¹sock \ˈsäk\ *n, pl* **socks** [ME *socke*, fr. OE *socc*, fr. L *soccus*] **1** *archaic* : a low shoe or slipper **2** *or pl* **sox** \ˈsäks\ : a knitted or woven covering for the foot usu. extending above the ankle and sometimes to the knee **3 a** : a shoe worn by actors in Greek and Roman comedy **b** : comic drama
²sock *vb* [prob. of Scand origin; akin to ON *sökkva* to cause to sink; akin to OE *sincan* to sink] *vt* : to hit, strike, or apply forcefully ~ *vi* : to deliver a blow : HIT — **sock it to** *slang* : to subject to vigorous assault ⟨they may let you off the first time . . . but the second time they'll *sock it to* you —James Jones⟩
³sock *n* : a vigorous or violent blow : PUNCH
sock away *vt* [fr. the practice of concealing savings in the toe of a sock] : to put away (money) as savings or investment
sock·dol·a·ger *or* **sock·dol·o·ger** \säk-ˈdäl-i-jər\ *n* [perh. alter. of *doxology*] **1** : something that settles a matter : a decisive blow or answer : FINISHER **2** : something outstanding or exceptional
¹sock·et \ˈsäk-ət\ *n* [ME *soket*, fr. AF, dim. of OF *soc* plowshare, of Celt origin; akin to MIr *soc* plowshare, lit., snout of a hog; akin to OE *sugu* sow — more at SOW] : an opening or hollow that forms a holder for something ⟨an electric bulb ~⟩ ⟨the eye ~⟩
²socket *vt* : to provide with or support in or by a socket
sock·eye \ˈsäk-ˌī\ *n* [by folk etymology fr. Salish dial. *suk-kegh*] : a small but commercially important Pacific salmon (*Oncorhynchus nerka*) that ascends rivers chiefly from the Columbia northward to spawn in late summer or fall — called also *red salmon*


sockeye

sock in *vt* [(*wind*) *sock*] **1** : to close to takeoffs or landings by aircraft **2** : to restrict from flying
so·cle \ˈsō-kəl, ˈsäk-əl\ *n* [F, fr. It *zoccolo* sock, socle, fr. L *socculus*, dim. of *soccus* sock] : a projecting usu. molded member at the foot of a wall or pier or beneath the base of a column, pedestal, or superstructure
¹So·crat·ic \sə-ˈkrat-ik, sō-\ *adj* : of or relating to Socrates, his followers, or his philosophical method of systematic doubt and questioning of another to reveal his hidden ignorance or to elicit a clear expression of a truth supposed to be implicitly known by all rational beings — **So·crat·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
²Socratic *n* : a follower of Socrates
Socratic irony *n* : IRONY 1
¹sod \ˈsäd\ *n* [ME, fr. MD or MLG *sode*; akin to OFris *sātha* sod] **1** : TURF 1; *also* : the grass- and forb-covered surface of the ground **2** : one's native land
²sod *vt* **sod·ded; sod·ding** : to cover with sod or turfs
³sod *n* [short for *sodomite*] *chiefly Brit* : BUGGER ⟨he's not a bad little ~ taken by and large —Noel Coward⟩
SOD *abbr* seller's option to double
so·da \ˈsōd-ə\ *n* [It, barilla plant, soda, fr. (assumed) ML, barilla plant] **1 a** : SODIUM CARBONATE **b** : SODIUM BICARBONATE **c** : SODIUM HYDROXIDE **d** : sodium oxide Na_2O **e** : SODIUM — used in combination ⟨~ alum⟩ **2 a** : SODA WATER 2a **b** : SODA POP **c** : a sweet drink consisting of soda water, flavoring, and often ice cream **3** : the faro card that shows face up in the dealing box before play begins
soda ash *n* : commercial anhydrous sodium carbonate
soda biscuit *n* **1** : a biscuit leavened with baking soda and sour milk or buttermilk **2** : SODA CRACKER
soda cracker *n* : a cracker leavened with bicarbonate of soda and cream of tartar
soda fountain *n* **1** : an apparatus with delivery tube and faucets for drawing soda water **2** : the equipment and counter for the preparation and serving of sodas, sundaes, and ice cream
soda jerk \-ˌjərk\ *n* : a counterman who dispenses carbonated drinks and ice cream at a soda fountain — called also *soda jerker*
soda lime *n* : a mixture of sodium hydroxide and slaked lime used esp. to absorb moisture and gases
so·da·list \ˈsōd-ᵊl-əst, sō-ˈdal-\ *n* : a member of a sodality
so·da·lite \ˈsōd-ᵊl-ˌīt\ *n* [*soda*] : a transparent to translucent mineral $Na_4Al_3Si_3O_{12}Cl$ that consists of a sodium aluminum silicate with some chlorine, has a vitreous or greasy luster, and is found in various igneous rocks
so·dal·i·ty \sō-ˈdal-ət-ē\ *n, pl* **-ties** [L *sodalitat-, sodalitas* comradeship, club, fr. *sodalis* comrade — more at ETHICAL] **1** : BROTHERHOOD, COMMUNITY **2** : an organized society or fellowship; *specif* : a devotional or charitable association of Roman Catholic laity
soda pop *n* : a beverage consisting of soda water, flavoring, and a sweet syrup
soda water *n* **1** : a weak solution of sodium bicarbonate with some acid added to cause effervescence **2 a** : a beverage consisting of water highly charged with carbonic acid gas **b** : SODA POP
sod·bust·er \ˈsäd-ˌbəs-tər\ *n* : one that breaks the sod
¹sod·den \ˈsäd-ᵊn\ *adj* [ME *soden*, fr. pp. of *sethen* to seethe] **1 a** : dull or expressionless esp. from continued indulgence in alcoholic beverages ⟨his ~ features⟩ **b** : TORPID, UNIMAGINATIVE ⟨~ minds⟩ **2 a** : heavy with moisture or water ⟨the ~ ground⟩ **b** : heavy or doughy because of imperfect cooking ⟨~ biscuits⟩ — **sod·den·ly** *adv* — **sod·den·ness** \-ᵊn-(n)əs\ *n*
²sodden *vb* **sod·dened; sod·den·ing** \ˈsäd-niŋ, -ᵊn-iŋ\ *vt* : to make sodden ~ *vi* : to become soaked or saturated
so·dic \ˈsōd-ik\ *adj* : of, relating to, or containing sodium
so·di·um \ˈsōd-ē-əm\ *n* [NL, fr. E *soda*] : a silver white soft waxy ductile element of the alkali metal group that occurs abundantly in nature in combined form and is very active chemically — see ELEMENT table
sodium benzoate *n* : a crystalline or granular salt $C_7H_5O_2Na$ used chiefly as a food preservative
sodium bicarbonate *n* : a white crystalline weakly alkaline salt $NaHCO_3$ used esp. in baking powders, fire extinguishers, and medicine — called also *baking soda, saleratus*
sodium carbonate *n* : a sodium salt of carbonic acid used esp. in making soaps and chemicals, in water softening, in cleaning and bleaching, and in photography: as **a** : a hygroscopic crystalline anhydrous strongly alkaline salt Na_2CO_3 **b** : SAL SODA
sodium chlorate *n* : a colorless crystalline salt $NaClO_3$ used esp. as an oxidizing agent and weed killer
sodium chloride *n* : SALT 1a
sodium cyanide *n* : a white deliquescent poisonous salt NaCN used esp. in electroplating, in fumigating, and in treating steel
sodium dichromate *n* : a red crystalline salt $Na_2Cr_2O_7$ used esp. in tanning leather, in cleaning metals, and as an oxidizing agent
sodium fluoride *n* : a poisonous crystalline salt NaF that is used in trace amounts in the fluoridation of water, in metallurgy, as a flux, as an antiseptic, and as a pesticide
sodium fluoroacetate *n* : a poisonous powdery compound $C_2H_2FO_2Na$ used as a rodent poison
sodium hydroxide *n* : a white brittle solid NaOH that is a strong caustic base used esp. in making soap, rayon, and paper
sodium hypochlorite *n* : an unstable salt NaOCl produced usu. in aqueous solution and used as a bleaching and disinfecting agent
sodium hyposulfite *n* **1** : SODIUM THIOSULFATE **2** : a crystalline water-soluble salt $Na_2S_2O_4$ used esp. in dyeing and bleaching
sodium meta·sil·i·cate \-ˌmet-ə-ˈsil-ə-ˌkāt, -ˈsil-i-kət\ *n* : a toxic corrosive crystalline salt Na_2SiO_3 used esp. as a detergent or as a substitute for phosphates in detergent formulations
sodium nitrate *n* : a deliquescent crystalline salt $NaNO_3$ found in crude form in Chile and used as a fertilizer and an oxidizing agent and in curing meat
sodium nitrite *n* : a salt $NaNO_2$ used esp. in dye manufacture and as a meat preservative
sodium pump *n* : the process by which sodium ions are actively transported across a cell membrane; *esp* : the process by which the appropriate internal and external concentrations of sodium and potassium ions are maintained in a nerve fiber and which involves the active transport of sodium ions outward with movement of potassium ions to the interior
sodium salicylate *n* : a crystalline salt $NaC_7H_5O_3$ that has a sweetish saline taste and is used chiefly as an analgesic, antipyretic, and antirheumatic
sodium sulfate *n* : a bitter salt Na_2SO_4 used esp. in detergents, in the manufacture of wood pulp and rayon, in dyeing and finishing textiles, and in its hydrated form as a cathartic — compare GLAUBER'S SALT
sodium thiosulfate *n* : a hygroscopic crystalline salt $Na_2S_2O_3$ used esp. as a photographic fixing agent and a reducing or bleaching agent — called also *hypo, sodium hyposulfite*
sodium tri·poly·phos·phate \-ˌtrī-ˌpäl-i-ˈfäs-ˌfāt\ *n* : a crystalline salt $Na_5P_3O_{10}$ that is a major component of many detergents and a major contributor to water pollution
sodium–vapor lamp *n* : an electric lamp that contains sodium vapor and electrodes between which a luminous discharge takes place and that is used esp. for lighting highways
Sod·om \ˈsäd-əm\ *n* [*Sodom*, city of ancient Palestine destroyed by God for its wickedness (Gen 18:20, 21; 19:24–28)] : a place notorious for vice or corruption
sod·om·ite \ˈsäd-ə-ˌmīt\ *n* : one who practices sodomy

sod·omy \'säd-ə-mē\ *n* [ME, fr. OF *sodomie*, fr. LL *Sodoma* Sodom; fr. the homosexual proclivities of the men of the city (Gen 19:1–11)] **1** : copulation with a member of the same sex or with an animal **2** : noncoital and esp. anal or oral copulation with a member of the opposite sex
so·ev·er \sō-'ev-ər\ *adv* [*-soever* (as in *howsoever*)] **1** : to any possible or known extent — used after an adjective preceded by *how* or a superlative preceded by *the* ⟨how fair ~ she may be⟩ ⟨the most selfish ~ in this world⟩ **2** : of any or every kind that may be specified — used after a noun modified esp. by *any*, *no*, or *what* ⟨he gives no information ~⟩
SOF *abbr* sound on film
so·fa \'sō-fə\ *n* [Ar *ṣuffah* long bench] : a long upholstered seat usu. with arms and a back and often convertible into a bed
sofa bed *n* : an upholstered sofa that can be made to serve as a bed by lowering its hinged upholstered back to horizontal position
so·far \'sō-ˌfär\ *n* [*so*und *f*ixing *a*nd *r*anging] : a system for locating an underwater explosion at sea by triangulation based on the reception of the sound by three widely separated shore stations
so far as *conj* : insofar as
sof·fit \'säf-ət\ *n* [F *soffite*, fr. It *soffitto*, fr. (assumed) VL *suffictus*, pp. of L *suffigere* to fasten underneath — more at SUFFIX] : the underside of a part or member of a building (as of an overhang or staircase); *esp* : the intrados of an arch
¹soft \'sȯft\ *adj* [ME, fr. OE *sōfte*, alter. of *sēfte;* akin to OHG *semfti* soft] **1 a** : pleasing or agreeable to the senses : bringing ease, comfort, or quiet ⟨the ~ influences of home⟩ **b** : having a bland or mellow rather than a sharp or acid taste or flavor **c** (1) : not bright or glaring : SUBDUED (2) : having or producing little contrast or a relatively short range of tones ⟨a ~ photographic print⟩ **d** : quiet in pitch or volume **e** *of the eyes* : having a liquid or gentle appearance **f** : smooth or delicate in texture, grain, or fiber ⟨~ cashmere⟩ ⟨~ fur⟩ **g** (1) : balmy, mild, or clement in weather or temperature (2) : moving or falling with slight force or impact : not violent ⟨~ breezes⟩ **2** : demanding little work or effort : EASY, IDLE ⟨a ~ job⟩ **3 a** : sounding as in *ace* and *gem* respectively — used of *c* and *g* or their sound **b** *of a consonant* : VOICED **c** : constituting a vowel before which there is a \y\ sound or a \y\-like modification of a consonant or constituting a consonant in whose articulation there is a \y\-like modification or which is followed by a \y\ sound (as in Russian) **4** *archaic* : moving in a leisurely manner **5** : rising gradually ⟨a ~ slope⟩ **6** : having curved or rounded outline : not harsh or jagged ⟨~ hills against the horizon⟩ **7** : marked by a gentleness, kindness, or tenderness: as **a** (1) : not being or involving harsh or onerous terms : EASY ⟨a policy of ~ competition⟩ (2) : based on negotiation and conciliation rather than on a show of power or on threats ⟨took a ~ line towards the enemy⟩ **b** : tending to ingratiate or disarm : ENGAGING, KIND ⟨a ~ answer turns away wrath —Prov 15:1 (RSV)⟩ **c** : marked by mildness : UNASSUMING, LOW-KEYED **8 a** : emotionally suggestible or responsive : IMPRESSIONABLE **b** : unduly susceptible to influence : COMPLIANT **c** (1) : lacking firmness or strength of character : FEEBLE, UNMANLY (2) : marked by a gradually declining trend : not firm ⟨wool prices are increasingly ~⟩ **d** : amorously attracted or emotionally involved — used with *on* ⟨has been ~ on her for years⟩ **9 a** : lacking robust strength, stamina, or endurance esp. because of living in ease or luxury **b** : weak or deficient mentally **10 a** : yielding to physical pressure **b** : permitting someone or something to sink in — used of wet ground **c** (1) : of a consistency that may be shaped or molded (2) *of cheese* : capable of being spread **d** : easily magnetized and demagnetized **e** : lacking relatively or comparatively in hardness ⟨~ iron⟩ **11** : deficient in or free from substances (as calcium and magnesium salts) that prevent lathering of soap ⟨~ water⟩ **12** : having relatively low energy ⟨~ X rays⟩ **13** : occurring at such a speed and under such circumstances as to avoid destructive impact ⟨~ landing of a spacecraft on the moon⟩ **14** : not protected against enemy attack ⟨a ~ aboveground launching site⟩ **15** *of a detergent* : BIODEGRADABLE **16** *of a drug* : considered less detrimental than a hard narcotic ⟨marijuana is usually regarded as a ~ drug⟩ **17** : easily polarized — used of acids and bases — **soft·ish** \'sȯf-tish\ *adj* — **soft·ly** \'sȯft-lē\ *adv* — **soft·ness** \'sȯf(t)-nəs\ *n*
syn SOFT, BLAND, MILD, GENTLE, LENIENT *shared meaning element* : devoid of harshness, roughness, or intensity ***ant*** hard, stern
²soft *n* : a soft object, material, or part ⟨the ~ of the thumb⟩
³soft *adv* : in a soft or gentle manner : SOFTLY
soft·back \'sȯf(t)-ˌbak\ *adj* : SOFT-COVER — **softback** *n*
soft·ball \-ˌbȯl\ *n* : baseball played on a small diamond with a ball that is larger than a baseball and that is pitched underhand; *also* : the ball used in this game
soft–bill \-ˌbil\ *n* : a bird with a weak bill adapted to feeding esp. on insects — compare HARD-BILL
soft–boiled \-'bȯi(ə)ld\ *adj* **1** *of an egg* : boiled to a soft consistency **2** : SENTIMENTAL
soft·bound \-ˌbau̇nd\ *adj* : SOFT-COVER
soft chancre *n* : CHANCROID
soft coal *n* : BITUMINOUS COAL
soft–cov·er \'sȯft-'kəv-ər\ *adj* : bound in flexible covers : not bound in hard covers; *specif* : PAPERBACK ⟨~ books⟩
soft drink *n* : SODA POP
soft·en \'sȯ-fən\ *vb* **soft·ened; soft·en·ing** \'sȯf-(ə-)niŋ\ *vt* **1** : to make soft or softer **2 a** : to weaken the military resistance or the morale of esp. by harassment (as preliminary bombardment) — often used with *up* **b** : to impair the strength or resistance of — often used with *up* ⟨~ up a sales prospect⟩ ~ *vi* : to become soft or softer — **soft·en·er** \'sȯf-(ə-)nər\ *n*
soft–finned \'sof(t)-'find\ *adj* : having fins in which the membrane is supported entirely or mostly by soft or articulated rays — used of higher teleost fishes; compare SPINY-FINNED
soft goods *n pl* : goods that are not durable — used esp. of textile products
soft hail *n* : GRAUPEL
soft·head \'sȯft-ˌhed\ *n* : a silly or feebleminded person
soft·head·ed \-'hed-əd\ *adj* : having a weak, unrealistic, or uncritical mind — **soft·head·ed·ly** *adv* — **soft·head·ed·ness** *n*
soft·heart·ed \-'härt-əd\ *adj* : emotionally responsive : SYMPATHETIC — **soft·heart·ed·ly** *adv* — **soft·heart·ed·ness** *n*
soft–land \-'land\ *vb* [back-formation fr. *soft landing*] *vi* : to make a soft landing on a celestial body (as the moon) ~ *vt* : to cause to soft-land — **soft-land·er** *n*
soft palate *n* : the fold at the back of the hard palate that partially separates the mouth and pharynx
soft–ped·al \'sȯf(t)-'ped-ᵊl\ *vt* **1** : to use the soft pedal in playing **2** : to play down : OBSCURE, MUFFLE ⟨~ the issue⟩
soft pedal *n* **1** : a foot pedal on a piano that reduces the volume of sound **2** : something that muffles, deadens, or reduces effect
soft rot *n* : a mushy, watery, or slimy decay of plants or their parts caused by bacteria or fungi
soft scale *n* : a scale insect more or less active in all stages
soft sell *n* : the use of suggestion or gentle persuasion in selling rather than aggressive pressure — compare HARD SELL
soft–shell \'sȯf(t)-ˌshel\ *or* **soft–shelled** \-'sheld\ *adj* : having a soft or fragile shell esp. as a result of recent shedding
soft–shell clam *n* : an elongated clam (*Mya arenaria*) of the east coast of No. America that has a thin friable shell and long siphons and is used esp. for steaming — called also *soft-shelled clam, steamer*
soft–shelled turtle *n* : any of numerous aquatic turtles (family Trionychidae) that have sharp claws and mandibles and a flat shell covered with soft leathery skin instead of with horny plates
soft–shoe \'sȯf(t)-'shü\ *adj* : of or relating to tap dancing done in soft-soled shoes without metal taps
soft–soap \'sȯf(t)-'sōp\ *vt* : to soothe or persuade with flattery or blarney — **soft–soap·er** \-'sō-pər\ *n*
soft soap *n* **1** : a semifluid soap **2** : FLATTERY
soft–spo·ken \-'spō-kən\ *adj* : having a mild or gentle voice; *also* : SUAVE
soft spot *n* **1** : a sentimental weakness ⟨has a *soft spot* for him⟩ **2** : a vulnerable point ⟨a *soft spot* in the defense system⟩
soft touch *n* : one who is easily imposed on or taken advantage of
soft·ware \'sȯf-ˌtwa(ə)r, -ˌtwe(ə)r\ *n* **1** : the entire set of programs, procedures, and related documentation associated with a system and esp. a computer system; *specif* : computer programs **2** : something used or associated with and usu. contrasted with hardware; *esp* : materials for use with audiovisual equipment
soft wheat *n* : a wheat with soft starchy kernels high in starch but usu. low in gluten
¹soft·wood \'sȯf-ˌtwu̇d\ *n* **1** : the wood of a coniferous tree (as a fir or pine) whether hard or soft as distinguished from that of an angiospermous tree **2** : a tree that yields softwood
²softwood *adj* **1** : having or made of softwood **2** : consisting of immature still pliable tissue ⟨~ cuttings for propagating plants⟩
soft–wood·ed \'sȯf-'twu̇d-əd\ *adj* **1** : having soft wood that is easy to work or finish **2** : SOFTWOOD 1
softy *or* **soft·ie** \'sȯf-tē\ *n, pl* **soft·ies** [¹*soft*] **1** : an excessively sentimental or susceptible person **2** : a weak, effeminate, or foolish person
Sog·di·an \'säg-dē-ən\ *n* [L *Sogdiani*, pl., fr. pl. of *sogdianus* adj., Sogdian, fr. OPers *Sughuda* Sogdiana] **1** : a native or inhabitant of Sogdiana **2** : an Iranian language of the Sogdians — see INDO-EUROPEAN LANGUAGES table — **Sogdian** *adj*
sog·gy \'säg-ē, 'sȯg-\ *adj* **sog·gier; -est** [E dial. *sog* (to soak)] **1** : saturated or heavy with water or moisture: as **a** : WATERLOGGED, SOAKED ⟨a ~ lawn⟩ **b** : heavy or doughy because of imperfect cooking ⟨~ bread⟩ **2** : heavily dull ⟨~ prose⟩ — **sog·gi·ly** \'säg-ə-lē, 'sȯg-\ *adv* — **sog·gi·ness** \'säg-ē-nəs, 'sȯg-\ *n*
soi–di·sant \ˌswäd-ē-'zäⁿ\ *adj* [F, lit., saying oneself] : SELF-STYLED, SO-CALLED — usu. used disparagingly ⟨a ~ artist⟩
soi·gné *or* **soi·gnée** \swän-'yā\ *adj* [F, fr. pp. of *soigner* to take care of, fr. ML *soniare*] **1** : elegantly maintained : MODISH ⟨a ~ restaurant⟩ **2** : WELL-GROOMED, SLEEK
¹soil \'sȯi(ə)l\ *vb* [ME *soilen*, fr. OF *soiller* to wallow, soil, fr. *soil* pigsty, prob. fr. L *suile*, fr. *sus* pig — more at SOW] *vt* **1** : to stain or defile morally : CORRUPT, POLLUTE **2** : to make unclean esp. superficially : DIRTY **3** : to blacken or besmirch (as a person's reputation) by word or deed ~ *vi* : to become soiled or dirty
²soil *n* **1 a** : SOILAGE 1, STAIN ⟨protect a dress from ~⟩ **b** : moral defilement : CORRUPTION **2** : something that spoils or pollutes: as **a** : REFUSE **b** : SEWAGE **c** : DUNG, EXCREMENT
³soil *n* [ME, fr. AF, fr. L *solium* seat; prob. akin to L *sedēre* to sit — more at SIT] **1** : firm land : EARTH **2 a** : the upper layer of earth that may be dug or plowed and in which plants grow **b** : the superficial unconsolidated and usu. weathered part of the mantle of a planet and esp. of the earth **3** : COUNTRY, LAND ⟨his native ~⟩ **4** : the agricultural life or calling **5** : a medium in which something takes hold and develops
⁴soil *vt* [origin unknown] : to feed (livestock) in the barn or an enclosure with fresh grass or green food; *also* : to purge (livestock) by feeding on green food
soil·age \'sȯi-lij\ *n* **1** [¹*soil*] : the act of soiling : the condition of being soiled **2** [⁴*soil*] : green crops for feeding confined animals
soil bank *n* : acreage retired from crop cultivation and planted with soil-building plants under a plan sponsored by the U.S. government that provides subsidies to farmers for the retired land
soil·borne \'sȯil-ˌbō(ə)rn, -ˌbȯ(ə)rn\ *adj* : transmitted by or in soil
soil conservation *n* : management of soil so as to obtain optimum yields while improving and protecting the soil
soil·less \'sȯi(ə)l-ləs\ *adj* : carried on without soil ⟨~ agriculture⟩
soil pipe *n* : a pipe for carrying off wastes from toilets
soil science *n* : ²PEDOLOGY
soil series *n* : a collection of soils with similar profiles developed from similar parent materials under comparable climatic and vegetational conditions
soil·ure \'sȯil-yər\ *n* **1** : the act of soiling : the condition of being soiled **2** : STAIN, SMUDGE

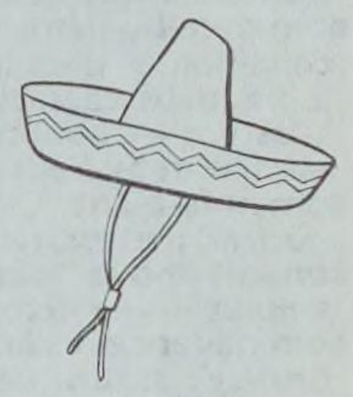
soi·ree *or* **soi·rée** \swä-'rā\ *n* [F *soirée* evening period, evening party, fr. MF, fr *soir* evening, fr. L *sero* at a late hour, fr. *serus* late — more at SINCE] : a party or reception held in the evening
soi·xante–neuf \swä-sänt-nœf\ *n* [F] : SIXTY-NINE 2
¹so·journ \'sō-ˌjərn, sō-'\ *n* [ME *sojorn*, fr. OF, fr. *sojorner*] : a temporary stay ⟨a ~ in the country⟩
²sojourn *vi* [ME *sojornen*, fr. OF *sojorner*, fr. (assumed) VL *subdiurnare*, fr. L *sub* under, during + LL *diurnum* day — more at SUB-, JOURNEY] : to stay as a temporary resident : STOP ⟨~*ed* for a month at a resort⟩ ***syn*** see RESIDE — **so·journ·er** *n*
soke \'sōk\ *n* [ME *soc, soke*, fr. ML *soca*, fr. OE *sōcn* inquiry, jurisdiction; akin to OE *sēcan* to seek] **1** : the right in Anglo-Saxon and early English law to hold court and administer justice with the franchise to receive certain fees or fines arising from it : jurisdiction over a territory or over people **2** : the district included in a soke jurisdiction or franchise
soke·man \'sōk-mən\ *n* : a man who is under the soke of another : a tenant by socage
¹sol \'sōl\ *also* **so** \'sō\ *n* [ML, *sol*, fr. the syllable sung to this note in a medieval hymn to St. John the Baptist] : the 5th tone of the diatonic scale in solmization
²sol \'säl, 'sȯl\ *n* [ME, fr. MF — more at SOU] : an old French coin equal to 12 deniers; *also* : a corresponding unit of value
³sol \'säl, 'sȯl\ *n, pl* **so·les** \'sō-(ˌ)lās\ [AmerSp, fr. Sp, sun, fr. L] — see MONEY table
⁴sol \'säl, 'sȯl\ *n* [*-sol* (as in *hydrosol*), fr. *solution*] : a fluid colloidal system; *esp* : one in which the continuous phase is a liquid
⁵sol *abbr* **1** solicitor **2** soluble **3** solution
Sol \'säl\ *n* [ME, fr. L] : SUN
sola *pl of* SOLUM
¹so·lace \'säl-əs *also* 'sōl-\ *n* [ME *solas*, fr. OF, fr. L *solacium*, fr. *solari* to console — more at SILLY] **1** : alleviation of grief or anxiety **2** : a source of relief or consolation
²solace *vt* **so·laced; so·lac·ing** **1** : to give solace to : CONSOLE **2 a** : to make cheerful **b** : AMUSE **3** : ALLAY, SOOTHE ⟨~ grief⟩ ***syn*** see COMFORT — **so·lace·ment** \-ə-smənt\ *n* — **so·lac·er** *n*
so·la·na·ceous \ˌsō-lə-'nā-shəs\ *adj* [NL *Solanaceae*, group name, fr. *Solanum*] : of or relating to the nightshade family of plants
so·lan goose \ˌsō-lən-\ *n* [ME *soland*, fr. ON *sūla* pillar, gannet + *önd* duck; akin to OE *sȳl* pillar and to OHG *anut* duck, L *anas*] : a very large white gannet (*Sula bassana* or *Moris bassana*) with black wing tips
so·la·nine *or* **so·la·nin** \'sō-lə-ˌnēn, -nən\ *n* [F *solanine*, fr. L *solanum* nightshade] : a bitter poisonous crystalline alkaloid $C_{45}H_{72}NO_{15}$ from several plants (as some potatoes or tomatoes) of the nightshade family
so·la·num \sə-'lān-əm, -'län-, -'lan-\ *n* [NL, genus name, fr. L, nightshade] : any of a genus (*Solanum*) of herbs, shrubs, or trees of the nightshade family that have often prickly-veined leaves, cymose white, purple, or yellow flowers, and a fruit that is a berry
so·lar \'sō-lər, -ˌlär\ *adj* [ME, fr. L *solaris*, fr. *sol* sun; akin to OE & ON *sōl* sun, Gk *hēlios*] **1** : of, derived from, or relating to the sun esp. as affecting the earth **2** : measured by the earth's course in relation to the sun ⟨~ time⟩ ⟨~ year⟩; *also* : relating to or reckoned by solar time **3** : produced or operated by the action of the sun's light or heat; *also* : utilizing the sun's rays
solar battery *n* : a device of one or more units for converting the energy of sunlight into electrical energy
solar cell *n* : a photovoltaic cell (as one including a junction between two types of silicon semiconductors) that is able to convert sunlight into electrical energy and is used as a power source
solar constant *n* : the quantity of radiant solar heat received normally at the outer layer of the earth's atmosphere and having an average value of about 1.94 gram calories per square centimeter per minute
solar day *n* : the interval between transits of the apparent or mean sun across the meridian at any place
solar flare *n* : a sudden temporary outburst of energy from a small area of the sun's surface
solar house *n* : a house equipped with glass areas and so planned as to utilize the sun's rays extensively in heating
so·lar·i·um \sō-'lar-ē-əm, sə-, -'ler-\ *n, pl* **-ia** \-ē-ə\ *also* **-ums** [L, fr. *sol*] : a room (as in a hospital) exposed to the sun and used esp. for treatment of illness by administration of sunbaths or therapeutic light
so·lar·iza·tion \ˌsō-lə-rə-'zā-shən\ *n* **1** : an act or process of solarizing **2** : a reversal of gradation in a photographic image obtained by intense or continued exposure
so·lar·ize \'sō-lə-ˌrīz\ *vt* **-ized; -iz·ing** **1 a** : to expose to sunlight **b** : to affect by the action of the sun's rays **2** : to subject (photographic materials) to solarization
solar panel *n* : a battery of solar cells (as in a spacecraft)
solar plexus \'sō-lər-\ *n* [fr. the radiating nerve fibers] **1** : a nerve plexus in the abdomen that is situated behind the stomach and in front of the aorta and the crura of the diaphragm and contains several ganglia distributing nerve fibers to the viscera **2** : the pit of the stomach
solar system *n* : the sun with the group of celestial bodies that are held by its attraction and revolve around it
solar wind *n* : the continuous ejection of plasma from the sun's surface into and through interplanetary space
sol·ate \'säl-ˌāt, 'sȯl-\ *vi* **sol·at·ed; sol·a·ting** [⁴*sol*] : to change to a sol — **sol·ation** \sä-lā-shən, sȯ-\ *n*
so·la·ti·um \sō-'lā-shē-əm\ *n, pl* **-tia** \-shē-ə\ [LL *solacium, solatium*, fr. L, solace] : a compensation (as money) given as solace for suffering, loss, or injured feelings
sold *past of* SELL
sol·dan \'säl-dən, 'sōl-\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. Ar *sulṭān*] *archaic* : SULTAN; *esp* : the sultan of Egypt
¹sol·der \'säd-ər, 'sȯd-, *Brit also* 'säl-dər, 'sōl-\ *n* [ME *soudure*, fr. MF, fr. *souder* to solder, fr. L *solidare* to make solid, fr. *solidus* solid] **1** : a metal or metallic alloy used when melted to join metallic surfaces; *esp* : an alloy of lead and tin so used **2** : something that unites or cements
²solder *vb* **soldered; sol·der·ing** \-(ə-)riŋ\ *vt* **1** : to unite or make whole by solder **2** : to bring into or restore to firm union ⟨a friendship ~*ed* by common interests⟩ ~ *vi* **1** : to use solder **2** : to become united or repaired by or as if by solder — **sol·der·abil·i·ty** \ˌsäd-ə-rə-'bil-ət-ē, ˌsȯd-\ *n* — **sol·der·er** \'säd-ər-ər, 'sȯd-\ *n*
soldering iron *n* : a pointed or wedge-shaped device that is usu. electrically heated and that is used for soldering
¹sol·dier \'sōl-jər\ *n* [ME *soudier*, fr. OF, fr. *soulde* pay, fr. LL *solidus* solidus] **1 a** : one engaged in military service and esp. in the army **b** : an enlisted man or woman **c** : a skilled warrior **2** : a militant leader, follower, or worker **3 a** : one of a caste of wingless sterile termites usu. differing from workers in larger size and head and long jaws **b** : one of a type of worker ants distinguished by exceptionally large head and jaws **4** : one who shirks his work — **sol·dier·ly** \-lē\ *adj or adv* — **sol·dier·ship** \-ˌship\ *n*
²soldier *vi* **sol·diered; sol·dier·ing** \ˌsōlj-(ə-)riŋ\ **1 a** : to serve as a soldier **b** : to behave in a soldierly manner **c** : to push doggedly forward — usu. used with *on* ⟨didn't know whether to quit or ~ on⟩ **2** : to make a pretense of working while really loafing
sol·dier·ing *n* : the life, service, or practice of one who soldiers
soldier of fortune : one who follows a military career wherever there is promise of profit, adventure, or pleasure
soldiers' home *n* : an institution maintained (as by the federal or a state government) for the care and relief of military veterans
soldier's medal *n* : a U.S. military decoration awarded for heroism not involving combat
sol·diery \'sōlj-(ə-)rē\ *n* **1 a** : a body of soldiers **b** : SOLDIERS, MILITARY **2** : the profession or technique of soldiering
sol·do \'sȯl-(ˌ)dō\ *n, pl* **sol·di** \-(ˌ)dē\ [It, fr. LL *solidus*] : an old Italian coin worth five centesimi
sold–out \'sōl-'daůt\ *adj* : having all available tickets or accommodations sold completely and esp. in advance
¹sole \'sōl\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *solea* sandal; akin to L *solum* base, ground, soil] **1 a** : the undersurface of a foot **b** : the part of an item of footwear on which the sole rests **2** : the usu. flat or flattened bottom or lower part of something or the base on which something rests — **soled** \'sōld\ *adj*
²sole *vt* **soled; sol·ing** **1** : to furnish with a sole ⟨~ a shoe⟩ **2** : to place the sole of (a golf club) on the ground
³sole *n* [ME, fr. MF, L *solea* sandal, a flatfish] : a flatfish (family Soleidae) having a small mouth, small or rudimentary fins, and small eyes placed close together and including superior food fishes (as *Solea solea* of Europe); *also* : any of various mostly market flatfishes of other families
⁴sole *adj* [ME, alone, fr. MF *seul*, fr. L *solus*] **1** : not married — used chiefly of women **2** : having no companion : SOLITARY **3 a** : having no sharer **b** : being the only one ⟨she was her mother's ~ confidant⟩ **4** : functioning independently and without assistance or interference ⟨let conscience be the ~ judge⟩ **5** : belonging exclusively or otherwise limited to one usu. specified individual, unit, or group ***syn*** see SINGLE — **sole·ness** \'sōl-nəs\ *n*
so·le·cism \'säl-ə-ˌsiz-əm, 'sō-lə-\ *n* [L *soloecismus*, fr. Gk *soloikismos*, fr. *soloikos* speaking incorrectly, lit., inhabitant of Soloi, fr. *Soloi*, city in ancient Cilicia where a substandard form of Attic was spoken] **1** : an ungrammatical combination of words in a sentence; *also* : a minor blunder in speech **2** : something deviating from the proper, normal, or accepted order **3** : a breach of etiquette or decorum — **so·le·cis·tic** \ˌsäl-ə-'sis-tik, ˌsō-lə-\ *adj*
sole·ly \'sō(l)-lē\ *adv* **1** : without another : SINGLY ⟨went ~ on her way⟩ **2** : to the exclusion of all else ⟨done ~ for money⟩
sol·emn \'säl-əm\ *adj* [ME *solemne*, fr. MF, fr. L *sollemnis* regularly appointed, solemn] **1** : marked by the invocation of a religious sanction ⟨a ~ oath⟩ **2** : marked by the observance of established form or ceremony; *specif* : celebrated with full liturgical ceremony **3 a** : awe-inspiring : SUBLIME **b** : marked by grave sedateness and earnest serious sobriety **c** : SOMBER, GLOOMY ***syn*** see SERIOUS — **sol·emn·ly** *adv* — **sol·emn·ness** *n*
solemn high mass *n* : a high mass following the ceremonial prescriptions of a solemn mass
so·lem·ni·fy \sə-'lem-nə-ˌfī\ *vt* **-fied; -fy·ing** : to make solemn
so·lem·ni·ty \sə-'lem-nət-ē\ *n, pl* **-ties** **1** : formal or ceremonious observance of an occasion or event **2** : a solemn event or occasion **3** : a solemn condition or quality ⟨the ~ of his words⟩
sol·em·nize \'säl-əm-ˌnīz\ *vb* **-nized; -niz·ing** *vt* **1** : to observe or honor with solemnity **2** : to perform with pomp or ceremony; *esp* : to celebrate (a marriage) with religious rites **3** : to make solemn : DIGNIFY ~ *vi* : to speak or act with solemnity — **sol·em·ni·za·tion** \'säl-əm-nə-'zā-shən\ *n*
solemn mass *n* : a mass marked by the use of incense and by the presence of a deacon and a subdeacon in attendance on the celebrant
solemn vow *n* : an absolute and irrevocable public vow taken by a religious in the Roman Catholic Church under which ownership of property by the individual is prohibited and marriage is invalid under canon law
so·le·noid \'sō-lə-ˌnȯid\ *n* [F *solénoïde*, fr. Gk *sōlēnoeidēs* pipe-shaped, fr. Gk, *sōlēn* pipe — more at SYRINGE] : a coil of wire commonly in the form of a long cylinder that when carrying a current resembles a bar magnet so that a movable core is drawn into the coil when a current flows — **so·le·noi·dal** \ˌsō-lə-'nȯid-ᵊl\ *adj*
sole·plate \'sōl-ˌplāt\ *n* **1** : the lower plate of a studded partition on which the bases of the studs butt **2** : the undersurface of a flatiron
sole·print \-ˌprint\ *n* : a print of the sole of the foot; *esp* : one made in the manner of a fingerprint and used for the identification of an infant

soles *pl of* SOL
[1]sol–fa \(')sōl-'fä\ *n* **1** : SOL-FA SYLLABLES **2** : SOLMIZATION; *also* : an exercise thus sung **3** : TONIC SOL-FA — **sol-fa·ist** \-'fä(-ə)st, -'fä-ˌist\ *n*
[2]sol–fa *vi* : to sing the sol-fa syllables ~ *vt* : to sing (as a melody) to sol-fa syllables
sol–fa syllables *n pl* : the syllables *do, re, mi, fa, sol, la, ti,* used in singing the tones of the scale
sol·fa·ta·ra \ˌsōl-fə-'tär-ə\ *n* [It, sulfur mine, fr. *solfo* sulfur, fr. L *sulfur*] : a volcanic area or vent that yields only hot vapors and gases in part sulfurous
sol·fège \säl-'fezh\ *n* [F, fr. It *solfeggio*] **1** : the application of the sol-fa syllables to a musical scale or to a melody **2** : a singing exercise esp. using sol-fa syllables; *also* : practice in sight-reading vocal music using the sol-fa syllables
sol·feg·gio \säl-'fej-(ē-ˌ)ō\ *n* [It, fr. *sol-fa*] : SOLFÈGE
sol·gel \'säl-ˌjel, 'sȯl-\ *adj* : involving alternation between sol and gel states
soli *pl of* SOLO
so·lic·it \sə-'lis-ət\ *vb* [ME *soliciten* to disturb, take charge of, fr. MF *solliciter*, fr. L *sollicitare* to disturb, fr. *sollicitus* anxious, fr. *sollus* whole (fr. Oscan; akin to Gk *holos* whole) + *citus*, pp. of *ciēre* to move — more at SAFE, HIGHT] *vt* **1 a** : to make petition to : ENTREAT **b** : to approach with a request or plea **2** : to strongly urge (as one's cause) **3 a** : to entice or lure esp. into evil **b** *obs* : to attempt to seduce **c** : to proposition (a man) esp. as or in the character of a prostitute **4** : to try to obtain by usu. urgent requests or pleas ~ *vi* **1** : to make solicitation : IMPORTUNE **2** *of a prostitute* : to offer intercourse to a man ***syn*** see ASK, INVITE
so·lic·i·tant \sə-'lis-ət-ənt\ *n* : one who solicits
so·lic·i·ta·tion \sə-ˌlis-ə-'tā-shən\ *n* **1** : the practice or act or an instance of soliciting; *esp* : ENTREATY, IMPORTUNITY **2** : a moving or drawing force : INCITEMENT, ALLUREMENT
so·lic·i·tor \sə-'lis-ət-ər, -'lis-tər\ *n* **1** : one that solicits; *esp* : an agent that solicits (as contributions to charity) **2** : a counsel who advises clients, represents them in the lower courts, and prepares cases for barristers to try in higher courts **3** : the chief law officer of a municipality, county, or government department
solicitor general *n, pl* **solicitors general** : a law officer appointed primarily to assist an attorney general
so·lic·i·tor·ship \sə-'lis-ət-ər-ˌship, -'lis-tər-\ *n* : the position or status of a solicitor
so·lic·i·tous \sə-'lis-ət-əs, -'lis-təs\ *adj* [L *sollicitus*] **1** : full of concern or fears : APPREHENSIVE ⟨~ about the future⟩ **2** : full of desire : EAGER **3** : meticulously careful ⟨~ in matters of dress⟩ **4** : manifesting or expressing solicitude ⟨a ~ inquiry about his health⟩ — **so·lic·i·tous·ly** *adv* — **so·lic·i·tous·ness** *n*
so·lic·i·tude \sə-'lis-ə-ˌt(y)üd\ *n* **1 a** : the state of being solicitous : ANXIETY **b** : attentive care and protectiveness; *also* : an attitude of solicitous concern or attention **2** : a cause of care or concern — usu. used in pl. ***syn*** see CARE ***ant*** negligence
[1]sol·id \'säl-əd\ *adj* [ME *solide*, fr. MF, fr. L *solidus;* akin to Gk *holos* whole — more at SAFE] **1 a** : being without an internal cavity ⟨a ~ ball of rubber⟩ **b** (1) : printed with minimum space between lines (2) : joined without a hyphen ⟨a ~ compound⟩ **c** : not interrupted by a break or opening ⟨a ~ wall⟩ **2** : having, involving, or dealing with three dimensions or with solids ⟨~ configuration⟩ **3 a** : of uniformly close and coherent texture : not loose or spongy : COMPACT **b** : neither gaseous nor liquid **4** : of good substantial quality or kind ⟨~ comfort⟩: as **a** : SOUND ⟨~ reasons⟩ **b** : made firmly and well ⟨~ furniture⟩ **5 a** : having no break or interruption ⟨waited three ~ hours⟩ **b** : UNANIMOUS ⟨had the ~ support of his party⟩ **c** : intimately friendly or associated ⟨~ with his boss⟩ **6 a** : PRUDENT; *also* : well-established financially **b** : serious in purpose or character **7** : of one substance or character: as **a** : entirely of one metal or containing the minimum of alloy necessary to impart hardness ⟨~ gold⟩ **b** : of a single color or tone ***syn*** see FIRM ***ant*** fluid, liquid — **sol·id·ly** *adv* — **sol·id·ness** *n*
[2]solid *adv* : in a solid manner; *also* : UNANIMOUSLY
[3]solid *n* **1** : a geometrical figure or element (as a cube or sphere) having three dimensions **2 a** : a substance that does not flow perceptibly under moderate stress **b** : the part of a solution or suspension that when freed from solvent or suspending medium has the qualities of a solid — usu. used in pl. ⟨milk ~s⟩ **3** : something that is solid: as **a** : a solid color **b** : a compound word whose members are joined together without a hyphen
sol·i·da·go \ˌsäl-ə-'dā-(ˌ)gō, -'däg-(ˌ)ō\ *n, pl* **-gos** [NL, genus name, fr. ML *soldago*, an herb reputed to heal wounds, fr. *soldare* to make whole, fr. L *solidare*, fr. *solidus* solid] : any of a genus (*Solidago*) of chiefly No. American composite herbs including the typical goldenrods
solid angle *n* : the three-dimensional angular spread at the vertex of a cone measured by the area intercepted by the cone on a unit sphere whose center is the vertex of the cone
sol·i·da·rism \'säl-əd-ə-ˌriz-əm\ *n* [*solidarity* + *-ism*] **1** : SOLIDARITY **2** : a sociological theory maintaining that the mutual interdependence of members of society offers a basis for a social organization based upon solidarity of interests — **sol·i·da·rist** \-rəst\ *n* — **sol·i·da·ris·tic** \ˌsäl-əd-ə-'ris-tik\ *adj*
sol·i·dar·i·ty \ˌsäl-ə-'dar-ət-ē\ *n* [F *solidarité*, fr. *solidaire* characterized by solidarity, fr. L *solidum* whole sum, fr. neut. of *solidus* solid] : unity (as of a group or class) that produces or is based on community of interests, objectives, and standards ***syn*** see UNITY
solid geometry *n* : a branch of geometry that deals with figures of three-dimensional space
so·lid·i·fy \sə-'lid-ə-ˌfī\ *vb* **-fied; -fy·ing** *vt* **1** : to make solid, compact, or hard **2** : to make secure, substantial, or firmly fixed ⟨factors that ~ public opinion⟩ ~ *vi* : to become solid, compact, or hard — **so·lid·i·fi·ca·tion** \-ˌlid-ə-fə-'kā-shən\ *n*
so·lid·i·ty \sə-'lid-ət-ē\ *n, pl* **-ties** **1** : the quality or state of being solid **2** : moral, mental, or financial soundness **3** : something solid
sol·id-look·ing \ˌsäl-əd-'lůk-iŋ\ *adj* : giving an impression of solid worth or substance ⟨~ well-fed citizens⟩
solid of revolution : a mathematical solid conceived as formed by the revolution of a plane figure about an axis in its plane
solid-state *adj* **1** : relating to the properties, structure, or reactivity of solid material; *esp* : relating to the arrangement or behavior of ions, molecules, nucleons, electrons, and holes in the crystals of a substance (as a semiconductor) or to the effect of crystal imperfections on the properties of a solid substance ⟨~ physics⟩ **2** : utilizing the electric, magnetic, or photic properties of solid materials : not utilizing electron tubes ⟨a ~ stereo system⟩
sol·i·dus \'säl-əd-əs\ *n, pl* **-i·di** \-ə-ˌdī, -ˌdē\ [ME, fr. LL, fr. L, solid] **1** : an ancient Roman gold coin introduced by Constantine and used to the fall of the Byzantine Empire **2** [ML, shilling, fr. LL; fr. its use as a symbol for shillings] : DIAGONAL 3
so·li·fluc·tion \'sō-lə-ˌfläk-shən\ *n* [L *solum* soil + *-i-* + *fluction-*, *fluctio* act of flowing, fr. *fluctus*, pp. of *fluere* to flow — more at FLUID] : the slow creeping of saturated fragmental material (as soil) down a slope that usu. occurs in regions of perennial frost
so·lil·o·quist \sə-'lil-ə-kwəst\ *n* : one who soliloquizes
so·lil·o·quize \-ˌkwīz\ *vi* **-quized; -quiz·ing** : to utter a soliloquy : talk to oneself — **so·lil·o·quiz·er** *n*
so·lil·o·quy \sə-'lil-ə-kwē\ *n, pl* **-quies** [LL *soliloquium*, fr. L *solus* alone + *loqui* to speak] **1** : the act of talking to oneself **2** : a dramatic monologue that gives the illusion of being a series of unspoken reflections
so·lip·sism \'sō-ləp-ˌsiz-əm, 'säl-əp-\ *n* [L *solus* alone + *ipse* self] : a theory holding that the self can know nothing but its own modifications and that the self is the only existent thing — **so·lip·sist** \'sō-ləp-səst, 'säl-əp-, sə-'lip-\ *n* — **so·lip·sis·tic** \ˌsō-ləp-'sis-tik, ˌsäl-əp-\ *adj*
sol·i·taire \'säl-ə-ˌta(ə)r, -ˌte(ə)r\ *n* [F, fr. *solitaire*, adj., solitary, fr. L *solitarius*] **1** : a single gem (as a diamond) set alone **2** : any of various card games that can be played by one person
[1]sol·i·tary \'säl-ə-ˌter-ē\ *adj* [ME, fr. L *solitarius*, fr. *solitas* aloneness, fr. *solus* alone] **1 a** : being, living, or going alone or without companions **b** : saddened by isolation **2** : UNFREQUENTED, DESOLATE **3** : taken, passed, or performed without companions ⟨a ~ ramble⟩ **4** : being at once single and isolated ⟨a ~ example⟩ **5 a** : occurring singly and not as part of a group or cluster ⟨flowers terminal and ~⟩ **b** : not gregarious, colonial, social, or compound ⟨~ bees⟩ ***syn*** see ALONE, SINGLE — **sol·i·tar·i·ly** \ˌsäl-ə-'ter-ə-lē\ *adv* — **sol·i·tar·i·ness** \'säl-ə-ˌter-ē-nəs\ *n*
[2]solitary *n, pl* **-tar·ies** **1** : one who lives or seeks to live a solitary life : RECLUSE **2** : solitary confinement in prison
sol·i·tude \'säl-ə-ˌt(y)üd\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *solitudin-, solitudo*, fr. *solus*] **1** : the quality or state of being alone or remote from society : SECLUSION **2** : a lonely place (as a desert)
syn SOLITUDE, ISOLATION, SECLUSION *shared meaning element* : the state of one who is alone
sol·i·tu·di·nar·i·an \ˌsäl-ə-ˌt(y)üd-ᵊn-'er-ē-ən\ *n* [L *solitudin-, solitudo* + E *-arian*] : RECLUSE
sol·ler·et \ˌsäl-ə-'ret\ *n* [F] : a flexible steel shoe forming part of a medieval suit of armor — see ARMOR illustration
sol·mi·za·tion \ˌsäl-mə-'zā-shən\ *n* [F *solmisation*, fr. *solmiser* to sol-fa, fr. *sol* (fr. ML) + *mi* (fr. ML) + *-iser* -ize] : the act, practice, or system of using syllables to denote the tones of a musical scale
soln *abbr* solution
[1]so·lo \'sō-(ˌ)lō\ *n, pl* **solos** [It, fr. *solo* alone, fr. L *solus*] **1** *or pl* **so·li** \'sō-(ˌ)lē\ **a** : a musical composition for a single voice or instrument with or without accompaniment **b** : the featured part of a concerto or similar work **2** : a performance in which the performer has no partner or associate **3** : any of several card games in which a player elects to play without a partner against the other players
[2]solo *adv* : without a companion : ALONE ⟨fly ~⟩
[3]solo *adj* : of, relating to, or being a solo ⟨a ~ performance⟩
[4]solo *vi* **so·loed; so·lo·ing** \-(ˌ)lō-iŋ, -lə-wiŋ\ : to perform by oneself; *esp* : to fly an airplane without one's instructor
so·lo·ist \'sō-lə-wəst, -(ˌ)lō-əst\ *n* : one who performs a solo
Sol·o·mon \'säl-ə-mən\ *n* [LL, fr. Heb *Shĕlōmōh*] : a son of David and 10th-century B.C. king of Israel proverbial for his wisdom
Sol·o·mon·ic \ˌsäl-ə-'män-ik\ *adj* : marked by notable wisdom, reasonableness, or discretion esp. under trying circumstances
Solomon's seal *n* **1** : an emblem consisting of two interlaced triangles forming a 6-pointed star and formerly used as an amulet esp. against fever **2** : any of a genus (*Polygonatum*) of perennial herbs of the lily family with gnarled rhizomes


Solomon's seal 1

so·lon \'sō-lən, -ˌlän\ *n* [*Solon*, Athenian lawgiver] **1** : a wise and skillful lawgiver **2** : a member of a legislative body
so·lon·chak \ˌsäl-ən-'chak\ *n* [Russ, salt marsh] : any of an intrazonal group of strongly saline usu. pale soils found esp. in poorly drained arid or semiarid areas
sol·o·netz *also* **sol·o·nets** \ˌsäl-ə-'nets\ *n* [Russ *solonets* salt not extracted by decoction] : any of an intrazonal group of dark hard alkaline soils evolved by leaching and alkalizing from solonchak — **sol·o·netz·ic** \-'net-sik\ *adj*
so long \sō-'lȯŋ, sə-\ *interj* [prob. by folk etymology fr. Gael *slán* lit., health, security, fr. OIr *slān;* prob. akin to L *salvus* safe — more at SAFE] — used to express farewell
so long as *conj* **1** : during and up to the end of the time that : WHILE **2** : provided that
sol·stice \'säl-stəs, 'sōl-, 'sȯl-\ *n* [ME, fr. OF, fr. L *solstitium*, fr. *sol* sun + *status*, pp. of *sistere* to come to a stop, cause to stand; akin to L *stare* to stand — more at SOLAR, STAND] **1** : one of the two points on the ecliptic at which its distance from the celestial equator is greatest and which is reached by the sun each year about June 22d and December 22d **2** : the time of the sun's passing a solstice which occurs on June 22d to begin summer in the northern

hemisphere and on December 22d to begin winter in the northern hemisphere
sol·sti·tial \säl-'stish-əl, sōl-, sȯl-\ *adj* [L *solstitialis*, fr. *solstitium*] **1** : of, relating to, or characteristic of a solstice and esp. the summer solstice **2** : happening or appearing at or associated with a solstice
sol·u·bil·i·ty \ˌsäl-yə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* **1** : the quality or state of being soluble **2** : the amount of a substance that will dissolve in a given amount of another substance
sol·u·bi·lize \'säl-yə-bə-ˌlīz\ *vt* **-lized; -liz·ing** : to make soluble or increase the solubility of — **sol·u·bi·li·za·tion** \ˌsäl-yə-bə-lə-'zā-shən\ *n*
sol·u·ble \'säl-yə-bəl\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF, capable of being loosened or dissolved, fr. LL *solubilis*, fr. L *solvere* to loosen, dissolve — more at SOLVE] **1 a** : susceptible of being dissolved in or as if in a fluid **b** : capable of being emulsified : EMULSIFIABLE ⟨a ~ oil⟩ **2** : subject to being solved or explained ⟨~ questions⟩ — **sol·u·ble·ness** *n* — **sol·u·bly** \-blē\ *adv*
soluble glass *n* : WATER GLASS 4
soluble RNA *n* : TRANSFER RNA
so·lum \'sō-ləm\ *n, pl* **so·la** \-lə\ *or* **solums** [NL, fr. L, ground, soil] : the altered layer of soil above the parent material that includes the A- and B-horizons
so·lus \'sō-ləs\ *adv or adj* [L] : ALONE — often used in stage directions
sol·ute \'säl-ˌyüt\ *n* [L *solutus*, pp.] : a dissolved substance
so·lu·tion \sə-'lü-shən\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *solution-, solutio*, fr. *solutus*, pp. of *solvere* to loosen, solve] **1 a** : an action or process of solving a problem **b** : an answer to a problem : EXPLANATION; *specif* : a set of values of the variables that satisfies an equation **2 a** : an act or the process by which a solid, liquid, or gaseous substance is homogeneously mixed with a liquid or sometimes a gas or solid **b** : a typically liquid homogeneous mixture formed by this process **c** : the condition of being dissolved **d** : a liquid containing a dissolved substance **3** : a bringing or coming to an end or into a state of discontinuity
solution set *n* : the set of values that satisfy an equation; *also* : TRUTH SET
So·lu·tre·an *or* **So·lu·tri·an** \sə-'lü-trē-ən\ *adj* [*Solutré*, village in France] : of or relating to an upper Paleolithic culture characterized by leaf-shaped finely flaked stone implements
solv·able \'säl-və-bəl, 'sȯl-\ *adj* : susceptible of solution or of being solved, resolved, or explained — **solv·abil·i·ty** \ˌsäl-və-'bil-ət-ē, ˌsȯl-\ *n*
[1]sol·vate \'säl-ˌvāt, 'sȯl-\ *n* [*solv*ent + *-ate*] : a complex ion formed by the chemical or physical combination of a solute ion or molecule with a solvent molecule; *also* : a substance (as a hydrate) containing such ions
[2]solvate *vb* **sol·vat·ed; sol·vat·ing** *vt* : to convert into a solvate ~ *vi* : to become or behave as a solvate — **sol·va·tion** \säl-'vā-shən, sȯl-\ *n*
Sol·vay process \'säl-ˌvā-\ *n* [Ernest *Solvay* †1922 Belg chemist] : a process for making soda from common salt by passing carbon dioxide into ammoniacal brine resulting in precipitation of sodium bicarbonate which is then calcined to carbonate
solve \'sälv, 'sȯlv\ *vb* **solved; solv·ing** [ME *solven* to loosen, fr. L *solvere* to loosen, solve, dissolve, fr. *sed-, se-* apart + *luere* to release — more at SECEDE, LOSE] *vt* **1** : to find a solution for ⟨~ a problem⟩ **2** : to pay (as a debt) in full ~ *vi* : to solve something ⟨substitute the known values of the constants and ~ for *x*⟩ — **solv·er** *n*
sol·ven·cy \'säl-vən-sē, 'sȯl-\ *n* : the quality or state of being solvent
[1]sol·vent \-vənt\ *adj* [L *solvent-, solvens*, prp. of *solvere* to dissolve, pay] **1** : able to pay all legal debts **2** : that dissolves or can dissolve ⟨~ fluids⟩ ⟨~ action of water⟩ — **sol·vent·ly** *adv*
[2]solvent *n* **1** : a usu. liquid substance capable of dissolving or dispersing one or more other substances **2** : something that provides a solution **3** : something that eliminates or attenuates something esp. unwanted — **sol·vent·less** \-ləs\ *adj*
sol·vol·y·sis \säl-'väl-ə-səs, sȯl-\ *n* [NL, fr. E *solvent* + *-o-* + NL *-lysis*] : a chemical reaction (as hydrolysis) of a solvent and solute that results in the formation of new compounds — **sol·vo·lyt·ic** \ˌsäl-və-'lit-ik, ˌsȯl-\ *adj*
[1]so·ma \'sō-mə\ *n* [Skt; akin to Av *haoma*, a Zoroastrian ritual drink, Gk *hyein* to rain — more at SUCK] **1** : an East Indian leafless vine (*Sarcostemma acidum*) of the milkweed family with a milky acid juice **2** : an intoxicating plant juice of ancient India used as an offering to the gods and as a drink of immortality by worshipers in Vedic ritual and worshiped as a Vedic god
[2]soma *n* [NL *somat-, soma*, fr. Gk *sōmat-, sōma* body] **1** : all of an organism except the germ cells **2** : the body of an organism
So·ma·li \sō-'mäl-ē, sə-\ *n, pl* **Somali** *or* **Somalis** **1** : a member of a people of Somaliland apparently of mixed Mediterranean and Negroid stock **2** : the Cushitic language of the Somali people
Somali shilling *n* : the shilling of Somalia
so many *adj* **1** : constituting an unspecified number ⟨read *so many* chapters each night⟩ **2** : constituting a group or pack ⟨behaved like *so many* animals⟩
somat- *or* **somato-** *comb form* [NL, fr. Gk *sōmat-, sōmato-*, fr. *sōmat-, sōma* body; akin to L *tumēre* to swell — more at THUMB] **1** : body ⟨*somato*logy⟩ **2** : soma ⟨*somato*plasm⟩
so·mat·ic \sō-'mat-ik, sə-\ *adj* [Gk *sōmatikos*, fr. *sōmat-, sōma*] **1** : of, relating to, or affecting the body esp. as distinguished from the germ plasm or the psyche **2** : of or relating to the wall of the body : PARIETAL **3** : MESOMORPHIC ***syn*** see BODILY — **so·mat·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
somatic cell *n* : one of the cells of the body that compose the tissues, organs, and parts of that individual other than the germ cells
so·mato·gen·ic \sō-ˌmat-ə-'jen-ik\ *adj* : originating in, affecting, or acting through the body — compare PSYCHOGENIC
so·ma·tol·o·gy \ˌsō-mə-'täl-ə-jē\ *n* [NL *somatologia*, fr. *somat-* + *-logia* -logy] : a branch of anthropology primarily concerned with the comparative study of human evolution, variation, and classification esp. through measurement and observation — **so·ma·to·log·i·cal** \ˌsō-mət-ᵊl-'äj-i-kəl, sō-ˌmat-\ *adj*
so·mato·plasm \sō-'mat-ə-ˌplaz-əm\ *n* **1** : protoplasm of somatic cells **2** : somatic cells as distinguished from germ cells — **so·mato·plas·tic** \-ˌmat-ə-'plas-tik\ *adj*
so·mato·pleure \sō-'mat-ə-ˌplù(ə)r\ *n* [NL *somatopleura*, fr. *somat-* + Gk *pleura* side] : a complex layer in the embryo of a craniate vertebrate consisting of the outer of the two layers into which the lateral plate of the mesoderm splits together with the ectoderm that sheathes it externally and giving rise to the body wall — **so·mato·pleu·ric** \-ˌmat-ə-'plůr-ik\ *adj*
so·mato·sen·so·ry \sō-ˌmat-ə-'sen(t)s-(ə-)rē\ *adj* : of, relating to, or being sensory activity having its origin elsewhere than in the special sense organs (as eyes and ears) and conveying information about the state of the body proper and its immediate environment
so·mato·tro·phic hormone \-ˌtrō-fik-\ *n* [*somat-* + *-trophic*] : GROWTH HORMONE 1
so·mato·tro·pin \-'trō-pən\ *or* **so·mato·tro·phin** \-fən\ *n* [*somatotropic, somatotrophic* + *-in*] : GROWTH HORMONE 1
so·mato·type \sō-'mat-ə-ˌtīp\ *n* : body type : PHYSIQUE — **so·mato·typ·ic** \sō-ˌmat-ə-'tip-ik\ *adj* — **so·mato·typ·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
som·ber *or* **som·bre** \'säm-bər\ *adj* [F *sombre*] **1** : so shaded as to be dark and gloomy **2 a** : of a serious mien : GRAVE **b** : of a dismal or depressing character : MELANCHOLY **c** : conveying gloomy suggestions or ideas **3** : of a dull or heavy cast or shade : dark colored — **som·ber·ly** *adv* — **som·ber·ness** *n*
som·bre·ro \səm-'bre(ə)r-(ˌ)ō, säm-\ *n, pl* **-ros** [Sp, fr. *sombra* shade] : a high-crowned hat of felt or straw with a very wide brim worn esp. in the Southwest and Mexico


sombrero

som·brous \'säm-brəs\ *adj* [F *sombre*] : SOMBER
[1]some \'səm, *for 2 without stress*\ *adj* [ME *som*, adj. & pron., fr. OE *sum;* akin to OHG *sum* some, Gk *hamē* somehow, *homos* same — more at SAME] **1** : being an unknown, undetermined, or unspecified unit or thing ⟨~ person knocked⟩ **2 a** : being one, a part, or an unspecified number of something (as a class or group) named or implied ⟨~ gems are hard⟩ **b** : being of an unspecified amount or number ⟨give me ~ water⟩ ⟨have ~ apples⟩ **3** : IMPORTANT, STRIKING ⟨that was ~ party⟩ **4** : being at least one — used to indicate that a logical proposition is asserted only of a subclass or certain members of the class denoted by the term which it modifies
[2]some \'səm\ *pron, sing or pl in constr* **1** : one indeterminate quantity, portion, or number as distinguished from the rest **2** : an indefinite additional amount ⟨ran a mile and then ~⟩
[3]some \'səm, ˌsəm\ *adv* **1** : ABOUT ⟨~ eighty houses⟩ **2** : SOMEWHAT ⟨felt ~ better⟩
[1]-some \səm\ *adj suffix* [ME *-som*, fr. OE *-sum;* akin to OHG *-sam* -some, OE *sum* some] : characterized by a (specified) thing, quality, state, or action ⟨awe*some*⟩ ⟨burden*some*⟩ ⟨cuddle*some*⟩
[2]-some *n suffix* [ME (northern dial.) *-sum*, fr. ME *sum*, pron., one, some] : group of (so many) members and esp. persons ⟨four*some*⟩
[3]-some \ˌsōm\ *n comb form* [NL *-somat-, -soma*, fr. Gk *sōmat-, sōma* — more at SOMAT-] **1** : body ⟨chromo*some*⟩ **2** : chromosome ⟨mono*some*⟩
[1]some·body \'səm-ˌbäd-ē, -bəd-\ *pron* : one or some person of unspecified or indefinite identity ⟨~ will come in⟩
[2]somebody *n* : a person of position or importance
some·day \'səm-ˌdā\ *adv* : at some future time
some·deal \'səm-ˌdēl\ *adv, archaic* : SOMEWHAT
some·how \'səm-ˌhaù\ *adv* : in one way or another not known or designated : by some means
some·one \-(ˌ)wən\ *pron* : some person : SOMEBODY
some·place \-ˌplās\ *adv* : SOMEWHERE
som·er·sault \'səm-ər-ˌsȯlt\ *n* [MF *sombresaut* leap, deriv. of L *super* over + *saltus* leap, fr. *saltus*, pp. of *salire* to jump — more at OVER, SALLY] : a leap or roll in which a person turns forward or backward in a complete revolution bringing the feet over the head and finally landing on the feet — **somersault** *vi*
som·er·set \-ˌset\ *n or vi* [by alter.] : SOMERSAULT
[1]some·thing \'səm(p)-thiŋ, *esp rapid or for 2* 'səmp-ᵊm\ *pron* **1** : some indeterminate or unspecified thing **2** : a person or thing of consequence
[2]something *adv* **1** : in some degree : SOMEWHAT **2** : to an extreme degree ⟨swears ~ awful⟩
[1]some·time \'səm-ˌtīm\ *adv* **1** *archaic* : in the past : FORMERLY **2** *archaic* : once in a while : OCCASIONALLY **3** : at some time in the future ⟨I'll do it ~⟩ **4** : at some not specified or definitely known point of time ⟨~ last night⟩
[2]sometime *adj* : having been formerly : FORMER, LATE
[1]some·times \'səm-ˌtīmz *also* (ˌ)səm-'\ *adv* : at times : now and then : OCCASIONALLY
[2]sometimes *adj, archaic* : FORMER
some·way \'səm-ˌwā\ *also* **some·ways** \-ˌwāz\ *adv* : SOMEHOW
[1]some·what \-ˌ(h)wät, -ˌ(h)wət, (ˌ)səm-'\ *pron* : SOMETHING
[2]somewhat *adv* : in some degree or measure : SLIGHTLY
some·when \'səm-ˌ(h)wen\ *adv* : SOMETIME
[1]some·where \-ˌ(h)we(ə)r, -ˌ(h)wa(ə)r, -(ˌ)(h)wər\ *adv* **1** : in, at, from, or to a place unknown or unspecified ⟨makes reference to it ~⟩ **2** : to a place symbolizing positive accomplishment or progress ⟨at last we're getting ~⟩ **3** : in the vicinity of : APPROXIMATELY ⟨~ about nine o'clock⟩

²somewhere *n* : an undetermined or unnamed place
some·wheres \-ˌ(h)we(ə)rz, -ˌ(h)wa(ə)rz, -(ˌ)(h)wərz\ *adv* : SOMEWHERE
some·whith·er \-ˌ(h)wiṯh-ər\ *adv* : to some place : SOMEWHERE
-so·mic \ˈsō-mik\ *adj comb form* [ISV ³*-some* + *-ic*] : having or being a body of chromosomes of which one or more but not all members exhibit (such) a degree of reduplication of chromosomes or genomes ⟨mono*somic*⟩
so·mite \ˈsō-ˌmīt\ *n* [ISV, fr. Gk *sōma* body — more at SOMAT-] : one of the longitudinal series of segments into which the body of many animals (as articulate animals and vertebrates) is divided : METAMERE — **so·mit·ic** \sō-ˈmit-ik\ *adj*
som·me·lier \ˌsəm-əl-ˈyā\ *n, pl* **sommeliers** \-ˈyā(z)\ [F, fr. MF, court official charged with transportation of supplies, pack animal driver, fr. OProv *saumalier* pack animal driver, fr. *sauma* pack animal, load of a pack animal, fr. LL *sagma* packsaddle — more at SUMPTER] : a waiter in a restaurant who has charge of wines and their service : a wine steward
somnambul- *comb form* [NL, fr. *somnambulus* somnambulist, fr. L *somnus* sleep + *-ambulus* (as in *funambulus* funambulist) — more at SOMNOLENT] : somnambulism : somnambulist ⟨somnambul*ant*⟩
som·nam·bu·lant \säm-ˈnam-byə-lənt\ *adj* : walking or addicted to walking while asleep
som·nam·bu·lar \-lər\ *adj* : of, relating to, or characterized by somnambulism
som·nam·bu·late \-ˌlāt\ *vi* **-lat·ed; -lat·ing** : to walk when asleep — **som·nam·bu·la·tion** \(ˌ)säm-ˌnam-byə-ˈlā-shən\ *n* — **som·nam·bu·la·tor** \säm-ˈnam-byə-ˌlāt-ər\ *n*
som·nam·bu·lism \säm-ˈnam-byə-ˌliz-əm\ *n* **1** : an abnormal condition of sleep in which motor acts (as walking) are performed **2** : actions characteristic of somnambulism — **som·nam·bu·list** \-ləst\ *n* — **som·nam·bu·lis·tic** \(ˌ)säm-ˌnam-byə-ˈlis-tik\ *adj* — **som·nam·bu·lis·ti·cal·ly** \-ti-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
som·ni·fa·cient \ˌsäm-nə-ˈfā-shənt\ *adj* [L *somnus* sleep + E *-facient*] : HYPNOTIC 1 — **somnifacient** *n*
som·nif·er·ous \säm-ˈnif-(ə-)rəs\ *adj* [L *somnifer* somniferous, fr. *somnus* + *-fer* -ferous] : SOPORIFIC — **som·nif·er·ous·ly** *adv*
som·no·lence \ˈsäm-nə-lən(t)s\ *n* : the quality or state of being drowsy : SLEEPINESS
som·no·len·cy \-lən-sē\ *n* : SOMNOLENCE
som·no·lent \-lənt\ *adj* [ME *sompnolent*, fr. MF, fr. L *somnolentus*, fr. *somnus* sleep; akin to OE *swefn* sleep, Gk *hypnos*] **1** : of a kind likely to induce sleep ⟨a ~ sermon⟩ **2** : inclined to or heavy with sleep : DROWSY ***syn*** see SLEEPY — **som·no·lent·ly** *adv*
Soms *abbr* Somersetshire
¹so much *adv* : by the amount indicated or suggested ⟨if they lose their way, *so much* the better for us⟩
²so much *adj* — used as an intensive ⟨the house burned like *so much* paper⟩ ⟨sounded like *so much* nonsense⟩
³so much *pron* **1** : something (as an amount or price) unspecified or undetermined ⟨charge *so much* a mile⟩ **2** : all that can be or is to be said or done ⟨*so much* for the history of the case⟩
so much as *adv* : EVEN
son \ˈsən\ *n* [ME *sone*, fr. OE *sunu;* akin to OHG *sun* son, Gk *hyios*] **1 a** : a male offspring esp. of human beings **b** : a male adopted child **c** : a male descendant — usu. used in pl. **2** *cap* : the second person of the Trinity **3** : a person closely associated with or deriving from a formative agent (as a nation, school, or race)
so·nance \ˈsō-nən(t)s\ *n* [L *sonare* to sound + E *-ance*] : SOUND
so·nant \-nənt\ *adj* [L *sonant-, sonans*, prp. of *sonare* to sound — more at SOUND] **1** *of a speech sound* : VOICED **2** *of a consonant* : SYLLABIC — **sonant** *n*
so·nar \ˈsō-ˌnär\ *n* [*so*und *na*vigation *r*anging] : an apparatus that detects the presence and location of a submerged object (as a submarine) by means of sonic and supersonic waves reflected back to it from the object
so·nar·man \-mən, -ˌman\ *n* : an enlisted man in the navy who operates sonar equipment
so·na·ta \sə-ˈnät-ə\ *n* [It, fr. *sonare* to sound, fr. L] : an instrumental musical composition typically of three or four movements in contrasting forms and keys
sonata form *n* : a musical form that consists basically of an exposition, a development, and a recapitulation and that is used esp. for the first movement of a sonata
son·a·ti·na \ˌsän-ə-ˈtē-nə\ *n* [It, dim. of *sonata*] : a short usu. simplified sonata
sonde \ˈsänd\ *n* [F, lit., sounding line — more at SOUND] : any of various devices for testing physical conditions (as at high altitudes or inside the body)
sone \ˈsōn\ *n* [ISV, fr. L *sonus* sound — more at SOUND] : a subjective unit of loudness for an average listener equal to the loudness of a 1000-cycle sound that has an intensity 40 decibels above the listener's own threshold of hearing
song \ˈsȯŋ\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *sang;* akin to OE *singan* to sing] **1** : the act or art of singing **2** : poetical composition **3 a** : a short musical composition of words and music **b** : a collection of such compositions **4 a** : a melody for a lyric poem or ballad **b** : a poem easily set to music **5 a** : a habitual or characteristic manner **b** : a violent, abusive, or noisy reaction ⟨put up quite a ~⟩ **6** : a small amount ⟨sold for a ~⟩
song and dance *n* **1** : a theatrical performance (as a vaudeville performance) combining singing and dancing **2** : a long and often familiar statement or explanation that is not necessarily true or pertinent
song·bird \ˈsȯŋ-ˌbərd\ *n* **1 a** : a bird that utters a succession of musical tones **b** : a passerine bird **2** : a female singer
song·book \-ˈbu̇k\ *n* : a collection of songs; *specif* : a book containing vocal music (as hymns)
song cycle *n* : a group of related songs designed to form a musical entity
song·fest \ˈsȯŋ-fest\ *n* : an informal session of group singing of popular or folk songs
song·ful \-fəl\ *adj* : given to or suggestive of singing : MELODIOUS — **song·ful·ly** \-fə-lē\ *adv* — **song·ful·ness** *n*
song·less \-ləs\ *adj* : lacking in, incapable of, or not given to song — **song·less·ly** *adv*
Song of Sol·o·mon \-ˈsäl-ə-mən\ [fr. the opening verse: "The song of songs, which is Solomon's"] : a collection of love poems forming a book in the Protestant canon of the Old Testament
Song of Songs [trans of Heb *shīr hashshīrīm*] : a collection of love poems forming a book in the canonical Jewish Scriptures and corresponding to the Song of Solomon in the Protestant canon of the Old Testament — see BIBLE table
song·smith \ˈsȯŋ-ˌsmith\ *n* : a composer of songs
song sparrow *n* : a common No. American sparrow (*Melospiza melodia*) that is brownish above and white below and that is noted for its melodious song
song·ster \ˈsȯŋ(k)-stər\ *n* **1** : one skilled in song **2** : SONGBOOK — **song·stress** \-strəs\ *n*
song thrush *n* : an Old World thrush (*Turdus ericetorum*) largely brown above and white below — called also *mavis, throstle*
song·writ·er \ˈsȯŋ-ˌrīt-ər\ *n* : a person who composes words or music or both esp. for popular songs — **song·writ·ing** \-ˌrīt-iŋ\ *n*
son·ic \ˈsän-ik\ *adj* [L *sonus* sound — more at SOUND] **1** : having a frequency within the audibility range of the human ear — used of waves and vibrations **2** : utilizing, produced by, or relating to sound waves ⟨~ altimeter⟩ **3** : of, relating to, or being the speed of sound in air or about 741 miles per hour at sea level **4** : capable of uttering sounds — **son·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
son·i·cate \ˈsän-ə-ˌkāt\ *vt* **-cat·ed; -cat·ing** [*sonic* + *-ate*] : to disrupt (as bacteria) by treatment with high-frequency sound waves — **son·i·ca·tion** \ˌsän-ə-ˈkā-shən\ *n* — **son·i·ca·tor** \ˈsän-ə-ˌkāt-ər\ *n*
sonic barrier *n* : a sudden large increase in aerodynamic drag that occurs as the speed of an aircraft approaches the speed of sound
sonic boom *n* : a sound resembling an explosion produced when a shock wave formed at the nose of an aircraft traveling at supersonic speed reaches the ground — called also *sonic bang*
son–in–law \ˈsən-ən-ˌlȯ\ *n, pl* **sons–in–law** : the husband of one's daughter
son·less \ˈsən-ləs\ *adj* : not possessing or never having had a son
son·ly \-lē\ *adj* : FILIAL
son·net \ˈsän-ət\ *n* [It *sonetto*, fr. OProv *sonet* little song, fr. *son* sound, song, fr. L *sonus* sound] : a fixed verse form of Italian origin consisting of fourteen lines that are typically five-foot iambics rhyming according to a prescribed scheme; *also* : a poem in this pattern
son·ne·teer \ˌsän-ə-ˈti(ə)r\ *n* **1** : a composer of sonnets **2** : a minor or insignificant poet
son·net·ize \ˈsän-ə-ˌtīz\ *vb* **-ized; -iz·ing** *vi* : to compose a sonnet ~ *vt* : to compose a sonnet on or to
sonnet sequence *n* : a series of sonnets often having a unifying theme
son·ny \ˈsən-ē\ *n* : a young boy — usu. used in address
so·no·buoy \ˈsō-nō-ˌbü-ē, ˈsän-ō-, -ˌbȯi\ *n* [L *sonus* sound + E *-o-* + *buoy* — more at SOUND] : a buoy equipped for detecting underwater sounds and transmitting them by radio
son of a bitch \ˈsən-ə-və-ˌbich; *as an interj* ˌsən-ə-və-ˈbich\ *n, pl* **sons of bitch·es** \ˌsən-zə-ˈbich-əz\ : BASTARD 3 — sometimes considered vulgar; sometimes used interjectionally to express surprise or disappointment
son of God **1** *often cap S* : a superhuman or divine being (as an angel) **2** *cap S* : MESSIAH 1 **3** : a person established in the love of God by divine promise
son of man **1** : a human being **2** *often cap S* : God's messiah destined to preside over the final judgment of mankind
so·nor·i·ty \sə-ˈnȯr-ət-ē, -ˈnär-\ *n, pl* **-ties** **1** : the quality or state of being sonorous : RESONANCE **2** : a sonorous tone or speech
so·no·rous \sə-ˈnōr-əs, -ˈnȯr-; ˈsän-ə-rəs\ *adj* [L *sonorus;* akin to L *sonus* sound] **1** : producing sound (as when struck) **2** : full or loud in sound **3** : imposing or impressive in effect or style **4** : having a high or an indicated degree of sonority ⟨~ sounds like \ä\ and \ȯ\⟩ — **so·no·rous·ly** *adv* — **so·no·rous·ness** *n*
so·no·vox \ˈsō-nə-ˌväks, ˈsän-ə-\ *n* [L *sonus* + *vox* voice — more at VOICE] : an electronic sound effects device held against the throat to give the effect of speech to recorded nonhuman sounds (as of a waterfall or train whistle) that are transmitted through the larynx and formed into words by the mouth
son·ship \ˈsən-ˌship\ *n* : the relationship of son to father
sonsy *or* **sons·ie** \ˈsän(t)-sē\ *adj* [Sc *sons* health] *chiefly dial* : BUXOM, COMELY
soon \ˈsün, *esp New Eng* ˈsu̇n\ *adv* [ME *soone*, fr. OE *sōna;* akin to OHG *sān* immediately] **1 a** *obs* : at once : IMMEDIATELY **b** : before long : without undue time lapse ⟨~ after sunrise⟩ **2** : in a prompt manner : SPEEDILY ⟨as ~ as possible⟩ ⟨the ~*er* the better⟩ **3** *archaic* : before the usual time **4** : in agreement with one's choice or preference : WILLINGLY ⟨I'd ~*er* walk than drive⟩ ***syn*** see PRESENTLY
soon·er \ˈsü-nər\ *n* [*sooner*, compar. of *soon*] **1** : a person settling on land in the early West before its official opening to settlement in order to gain the prior claim allowed by law to the first settler after official opening **2** *cap* : a native or resident of Oklahoma — used as a nickname
sooner or later *adv* : at some uncertain future time : SOMETIME
¹soot \ˈsu̇t, ˈsət, ˈsüt\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *sōt;* akin to OIr *sūide* soot, OE *sittan* to sit] : a black substance formed by combustion or separated from fuel during combustion, rising in fine particles, and adhering to the sides of the chimney or pipe conveying the smoke; *esp* : the fine powder consisting chiefly of carbon that colors smoke
²soot *vt* : to coat or cover with soot
¹sooth \ˈsüth\ *adj* [ME, fr. OE *sōth;* akin to OHG *sand* true, Gk *eteos*, L *esse* to be] **1** *archaic* : TRUE **2** *archaic* : SOFT, SWEET
²sooth *n* **1** *archaic* : TRUTH, REALITY **2** *obs* : BLANDISHMENT
soothe \ˈsüṯh\ *vb* **soothed; sooth·ing** [ME *sothen* to prove the truth, fr. OE *sōthian*, fr. *sōth*] *vt* **1** : to please by or as if by attention or concern : PLACATE **2** : RELIEVE, ALLEVIATE **3** : to bring comfort, solace, or reassurance to ~ *vi* : to bring peace, composure, or quietude — **sooth·er** *n*

sooth·fast \'süth-ˌfast\ *adj* **1** *archaic* : TRUE **2** *archaic* : TRUTHFUL
sooth·ing \'sü-thiŋ\ *adj* : tending to soothe; *also* : having a sedative effect ⟨~ syrup⟩ — **sooth·ing·ly** \-thiŋ-lē\ *adv* — **sooth·ing·ness** *n*
sooth·ly \'süth-lē\ *adv, archaic* : in truth : TRULY
sooth·say \-ˌsā\ *vi* : to practice soothsaying — **sooth·say·er** *n*
sooth·say·ing \-ˌsā-iŋ\ *n* **1** : the act of foretelling events **2** : PREDICTION, PROPHECY
sooty \'sůt-ē, 'sət-, 'süt-\ *adj* **soot·i·er; -est** **1 a** : of, relating to, or producing soot **b** : soiled with soot **2** : of the color of soot — **soot·i·ly** \-ᵊl-ē\ *adv* — **soot·i·ness** \-ē-nəs\ *n*
sooty mold *n* : a dark growth of fungus mycelium growing in insect honeydew on plants; *also* : a fungus producing such growth
¹sop \'säp\ *n* [ME *soppe*, fr. OE *sopp*; akin to OE *sūpan* to swallow — more at SUP] **1** *chiefly dial* : a piece of food dipped or steeped in a liquid **2** : a conciliatory or propitiatory bribe, gift, or advance
²sop *vt* **sopped; sop·ping** **1 a** : to steep or dip in or as if in liquid **b** : to wet thoroughly : SOAK **2** : to mop up (as water) **3** : to give a bribe or conciliatory gift to
SOP *abbr* standard operating procedure; standing operating procedure
soph *abbr* sophomore
soph·ism \'säf-ˌiz-əm\ *n* **1** : an argument apparently correct in form but actually invalid; *esp* : such an argument used to deceive **2** : SOPHISTRY 1
soph·ist \'säf-əst\ *n* [L *sophista*, fr. Gk *sophistēs*, lit., expert, wise man, fr. *sophizesthai* to become wise, deceive, fr. *sophos* clever, wise] **1** *cap* : one of a class of ancient Greek teachers of rhetoric, philosophy, and the art of successful living prominent about the middle of the 5th century B.C. for their adroit subtle and allegedly often specious reasoning **2** : PHILOSOPHER, THINKER **3** : a captious or fallacious reasoner
so·phis·tic \sä-'fis-tik, sə-\ *or* **so·phis·ti·cal** \-ti-kəl\ *adj* **1** : of or relating to sophists, sophistry, or the ancient Sophists ⟨~ rhetoric⟩ ⟨~ subtleties⟩ **2** : plausible but fallacious ⟨~ reasoning⟩ — **so·phis·ti·cal·ly** \-ti-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
¹so·phis·ti·cate \sə-'fis-tə-ˌkāt\ *vt* **-cat·ed; -cat·ing** [ME *sophisticaten*, fr. ML *sophisticatus*, pp. of *sophisticare*, fr. L *sophisticus* sophistic, fr. Gk *sophistikos*, fr. *sophistēs* sophist] **1** : to alter deceptively; *esp* : ADULTERATE **2** : to deprive of genuineness, naturalness, or simplicity; *esp* : to deprive of naiveté and make worldly-wise : DISILLUSION **3** : to make complicated or complex
²so·phis·ti·cate \-ti-kət, -tə-ˌkāt\ *n* : a sophisticated person
so·phis·ti·cat·ed \-tə-ˌkāt-əd\ *adj* [ML *sophisticatus*] **1** : not in a natural, pure, or original state : ADULTERATED ⟨a ~ oil⟩ **2** : deprived of native or original simplicity: as **a** : highly complicated or developed : COMPLEX ⟨~ electronic devices⟩ **b** : WORLDLY-WISE, KNOWING ⟨a ~ adolescent⟩ **3** : devoid of grossness: as **a** : finely experienced and aware ⟨a ~ columnist⟩ **b** : intellectually appealing ⟨a ~ novel⟩ — **so·phis·ti·cat·ed·ly** *adv*
so·phis·ti·ca·tion \sə-ˌfis-tə-'kā-shən\ *n* **1 a** : the use of sophistry : sophistic reasoning **b** : SOPHISM, QUIBBLE **2** : the process of making impure or weak : ADULTERATION **3** : the process or result of becoming cultured, knowledgeable, or disillusioned; *esp* : CULTIVATION, URBANITY **4** : the process or result of becoming more complex, developed, or subtle
soph·ist·ry \'säf-ə-strē\ *n* **1** : deceptively subtle reasoning or argumentation **2** : SOPHISM 1
soph·o·more \'säf-ᵊm-ˌō(ə)r, -ˌȯ(ə)r; 'säf-ˌmō(ə)r, -ˌmȯ(ə)r\ *n* [prob. fr. Gk *sophos* wise + *mōros* foolish — more at MORON] : a student in his second year at college or secondary school
soph·o·mor·ic \ˌsäf-ə-'mōr-ik, -'mȯr-, -'mär-\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or characteristic of a sophomore **2** : conceited and overconfident of knowledge but poorly informed and immature
So·pho·ni·as \ˌsäf-ə-'nī-əs, ˌsō-fə-\ *n* [LL, fr. Gk, fr. Heb *Sĕphanyāh*] : ZEPHANIAH
so·phy \'sō-fē\ *n* [Per *Safī*] *archaic* : a sovereign of Persia
-so·phy \sə-fē\ *n comb form* [ME *-sophie*, fr. OF, fr. L *-sophia*, fr. Gk, fr. *sophia* wisdom, fr. *sophos*] : knowledge : wisdom : science ⟨anthroposophy⟩
so·pite \sō-'pīt\ *vt* **so·pit·ed; so·pit·ing** [L *sopitus*, pp. of *sopire* to put to sleep, fr. *sopor*] **1** *archaic* : to put to sleep : LULL **2** *archaic* : to put an end to (as a claim) : SETTLE
so·por \'sō-pər, -ˌpȯ(ə)r\ *n* [L] : profound or lethargic sleep
so·po·rif·er·ous \ˌsäp-ə-'rif-(ə-)rəs, ˌsō-pə-\ *adj* [L *soporifer* soporiferous, fr. *sopor* + *-fer* -ferous] : SOPORIFIC — **so·po·rif·er·ous·ness** *n*
¹so·po·rif·ic \-'rif-ik\ *adj* [prob. fr. F *soporifique*, fr. L *sopor* deep sleep; akin to L *somnus* sleep — more at SOMNOLENT] **1 a** : causing or tending to cause sleep **b** : tending to dull awareness or alertness **2** : of, relating to, or marked by sleepiness or lethargy
²soporific *n* : a soporific agent; *specif* : HYPNOTIC 1
¹sop·ping \'säp-iŋ\ *adj* : wet through : SOAKING
²sopping *adv* : VERY, EXTREMELY ⟨~ wet⟩
sop·py \'säp-ē\ *adj* **sop·pi·er; -est** **1 a** : soaked through : SATURATED **b** : very wet **2** : SENTIMENTAL, MAWKISH
so·pra·ni·no \ˌsō-prə-'nē-(ˌ)nō, ˌsäp-rə-\ *n, pl* **-nos** [It, dim. of *soprano*] : a musical instrument (as a recorder or saxophone) higher in pitch than the soprano
¹so·pra·no \sə-'pran-(ˌ)ō, -'prän-\ *n, pl* **-nos** [It, adj. & n., fr. *sopra* above, fr. L *supra* — more at SUPRA-] **1** : the highest part in 4-part harmony **2** : the highest singing voice of women, boys, or castrati; *also* : a person having this voice **3** : a member of a family of instruments having the highest range
²soprano *adj* : relating to or having the range or part of a soprano
so·ra \'sōr-ə, 'sȯr-\ *n* [origin unknown] : a small short-billed No. American rail (*Porzana carolina*) common in marshes
¹sorb \'sȯ(ə)rb\ *n* [F *sorbe* fruit of the service tree, fr. L *sorbum*] **1** : any of several Old World trees related to the apples and pears (as a service or rowan tree) **2** : the fruit of a sorb
²sorb *vt* [back-formation fr. *absorb & adsorb*] : to take up and hold by either adsorption or absorption — **sorb·abil·i·ty** \ˌsȯrb-ə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* — **sorb·able** \'sȯrb-ə-bəl\ *adj*
Sorb \'sȯ(ə)rb\ *n* [G *Sorbe*, fr. Sorbian *Serb*] **1** : a member of a Slavic people whose present representatives are the Wends living in Saxony and Brandenburg **2** : WENDISH — **Sor·bi·an** \'sȯr-bē-ən\ *adj or n*
sor·bate \'sȯ(ə)r-ˌbāt, 'sȯr-bət\ *n* : a sorbed substance
sor·bent \'sȯr-bənt\ *n* [L *sorbent-, sorbens*, prp. of *sorbēre* to suck up — more at ABSORB] : a substance that sorbs
sor·bic acid \ˌsȯr-bik-\ *n* [¹*sorb*] : a crystalline acid $C_6H_8O_2$ obtained from the unripe fruits of the mountain ash or synthesized and used as a fungicide and food preservative
Sor·bon·ist \sȯr-'bän-əst *also* -'bən-\ *n* [F *sorboniste*, fr. *Sorbonne*] : a doctor of or student at the Sorbonne
sor·cer·er \'sȯrs-(ə-)rər\ *n* : a person who practices sorcery : WIZARD — **sor·cer·ess** \-(ə-)rəs\ *n*
sor·cer·ous \'sȯrs-(ə-)rəs\ *adj* : of or relating to sorcery : MAGICAL
sor·cery \'sȯrs-(ə-)rē\ *n* [ME *sorcerie*, fr. OF, fr. *sorcier* sorcerer, fr. (assumed) VL *sortiarius*, fr. L *sort-, sors* chance, lot] : the use of power gained from the assistance or control of evil spirits esp. for divining : NECROMANCY
sor·did \'sȯrd-əd\ *adj* [L *sordidus*, fr. *sordes* dirt — more at SWART] **1 a** : DIRTY, FILTHY **b** : WRETCHED, SQUALID **2** : marked by baseness or grossness : VILE ⟨~ motives⟩ **3** : meanly avaricious : COVETOUS **4** : of a dull or muddy color ***syn*** see MEAN — **sor·did·ly** *adv* — **sor·did·ness** *n*
sor·di·no \sȯr-'dē-(ˌ)nō\ *n, pl* **-di·ni** \-(ˌ)nē\ [It, fr. *sordo* silent, fr. L *surdus* — more at SURD] : ²MUTE 3
¹sore \'sō(ə)r, 'sȯ(ə)r\ *adj* **sor·er; sor·est** [ME *sor*, fr. OE *sār*; akin to OHG *sēr* sore, L *saevus* fierce] **1 a** : causing pain or distress **b** : painfully sensitive : TENDER ⟨~ muscles⟩ **c** : hurt or inflamed so as to be or seem painful ⟨~ runny eyes⟩ ⟨a dog limping on a ~ leg⟩ **2** : attended by difficulties, hardship, or exertion **3** : ANGRY, VEXED — **sore·ness** *n*
²sore *n* **1** : a localized sore spot on the body; *esp* : one (as an ulcer) with the tissues ruptured or abraded and usu. with infection **2** : a source of pain or vexation : AFFLICTION
³sore *adv* : SORELY
sore·head \'sō(ə)r-ˌhed, 'sȯ(ə)r-\ *n* : a person easily angered or disgruntled — **sorehead** *or* **sore·head·ed** \-'hed-əd\ *adj*
sore·ly \'sō(ə)r-lē, 'sȯ(ə)r-\ *adv* **1** : in a sore manner : PAINFULLY **2** : VERY, EXTREMELY ⟨~ needed changes⟩
sore throat *n* : painful throat due to inflammation of the fauces and pharynx
sor·ghum \'sȯr-gəm\ *n* [NL, genus name, fr. It *sorgo*] **1** : any of an economically important genus (*Sorghum*) of Old World tropical grasses similar to Indian corn in habit but with the spikelets in pairs on a hairy rachis; *esp* : a cultivated plant (as a grain sorghum or sorgo) derived from a common species (*S. vulgare*) **2** : syrup from the juice of a sorgo that resembles cane syrup **3** : something cloyingly sentimental
sor·go \'sȯ(ə)r-(ˌ)gō\ *n* [It] : a sorghum cultivated primarily for the sweet juice in its stems from which sugar and syrup are made but also used for fodder and silage — called also *sweet sorghum*
sor·i·cine \'sȯr-ə-ˌsīn, 'sär-, 'sōr-\ *adj* [L *soricinus*, fr. *soric-, sorex* shrew; akin to L *susurrus* hum — more at SWARM] : resembling a shrew ⟨~ bats⟩
so·ri·tes \sə-'rīt-(ˌ)ēz\ *n, pl* **sorites** [L, fr. Gk *sōritēs*, fr. *sōros* heap — more at SORUS] : an argument consisting of propositions so arranged that the predicate of any one forms the subject of the next and the conclusion unites the subject of the first proposition with the predicate of the last
So·rop·ti·mist \sə-'räp-tə-məst, sȯ-\ *n* [*Soroptomist* (club)] : a member of a service club composed of professional women and women business executives
so·ro·ral \sə-'rōr-əl, -'rȯr-\ *adj* [L *soror* sister — more at SISTER] : of, relating to, or characteristic of a sister : SISTERLY
so·ro·rate \sə-'rōr-ət, -'rȯr-\ *n* [L *soror* sister] : the marriage of one man with two or more sisters usu. successively and after the first wife has been found to be barren or after her death
so·ror·i·ty \sə-'rȯr-ət-ē, -'rär-\ *n, pl* **-ties** [ML *sororitas* sisterhood, fr. L *soror* sister] : a club of girls or women esp. at a college
sorp·tion \'sȯrp-shən\ *n* [back-formation fr. *absorption & adsorption*] : the process of sorbing : the state of being sorbed — **sorptive** \'sȯrp-tiv\ *adj*
¹sor·rel \'sȯr-əl, 'sär-\ *n* [ME *sorelle*, fr. MF *sorel*, n. & adj., fr. *sor* reddish brown] **1** : a sorrel-colored animal: as **a** : a light bright chestnut horse often with white mane and tail — compare ¹CHESTNUT 4, ²BAY 1 **b** : a dark red roan horse **2** : a brownish orange to light brown
²sorrel *n* [ME *sorel*, fr. MF *surele*, fr. OF, fr. *sur* sour, of Gmc origin; akin to OHG *sūr* sour — more at SOUR] : any of various plants with sour juice: as **a** : ¹DOCK 1 **b** : WOOD SORREL
sorrel tree *n* : SOURWOOD
¹sor·row \'sär-(ˌ)ō, 'sȯr-, -ə(-w)\ *n* [ME *sorow*, fr. OE *sorg*; akin to OHG *sorga* sorrow, OSlav *sraga* sickness] **1** : deep distress and regret (as over the loss of something loved) **2** : a cause of grief or sadness **3** : a display of grief or sadness
syn SORROW, GRIEF, ANGUISH, WOE, REGRET *shared meaning element* : distress of mind ***ant*** joy
²sorrow *vi* : to feel or express sorrow ***syn*** see GRIEVE — **sor·row·er** \-ə-wər\ *n*
sor·row·ful \-ō-fəl, -ə-fəl\ *adj* **1** : full of or marked by sorrow **2** : expressive of or inducing sorrow — **sor·row·ful·ly** \-f(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **sor·row·ful·ness** \-fəl-nəs\ *n*

sor·ry \'sär-ē, 'sȯr-\ *adj* **sor·ri·er; -est** [ME *sory*, fr. OE *sārig*, fr. *sār* sore] **1** : feeling sorrow, regret, or penitence **2** : MOURNFUL, SAD **3** : inspiring sorrow, pity, scorn, or ridicule ***syn*** see CONTEMPTIBLE — **sor·ri·ly** \-ə-lē\ *adv* — **sor·ri·ness** \-ē-nəs\ *n*

¹sort \'sȯ(ə)rt\ *n* [ME, fr. MF *sorte*, prob. fr. ML *sort-*, *sors*, fr. L, chance, lot] **1 a** : a group set up on the basis of any characteristic in common : CLASS, KIND **b** : an instance of a kind ⟨a ~ of black Paul Bunyan, towering 6'10" —Jack Olsen⟩ **c** : PERSON, INDIVIDUAL ⟨he's not a bad ~⟩ **2** *archaic* : GROUP, COMPANY **3 a** : method or manner of acting : WAY, MANNER **b** : CHARACTER, NATURE ⟨people of an evil ~⟩ **4 a** : a letter or character that is one element of a font **b** : a character or piece of type that is not part of a regular font ***syn*** see TYPE — **after a sort** : in a rough or haphazard way — **of sorts** *or* **of a sort** : of an inconsequential or mediocre quality ⟨a poet *of sorts*⟩ — **out of sorts** **1** : somewhat ill **2** : GROUCHY, IRRITABLE

²sort *vt* **1 a** : to put in a certain place or rank according to kind, class, or nature ⟨~ the good apples from the bad⟩ **b** : to arrange according to characteristics : CLASSIFY ⟨~ out colors⟩ **2** *chiefly Scot* : to put to rights : put in order **3** : to go over mentally in order to clarify ⟨~*ing* out his problems⟩ ~ *vi* **1** : to join or associate with others esp. of the same kind ⟨~ with thieves⟩ **2** *archaic* : SUIT, AGREE — **sort·able** \'sȯrt-ə-bəl\ *adj* — **sort·er** *n*

sor·tie \'sȯrt-ē, sȯr-'tē\ *n* [F, fr. MF, fr. *sortir* to escape] **1** : a sudden issuing of troops from a defensive position against the enemy **2** : one mission or attack by a single plane — **sortie** *vi*

sor·ti·lege \'sȯrt-ᵊl-ij, -ˌej\ *n* [ME, fr. ML *sortilegium*, fr. L *sortilegus* foretelling, fr. *sort-*, *sors* lot + *-i-* + *legere* to gather — more at LEGEND] **1** : divination by lots **2** : SORCERY

sor·ti·tion \sȯr-'tish-ən\ *n* [L *sortition-*, *sortitio*, fr. *sortitus*, pp. of *sortiri* to cast or draw lots, fr. *sort-*, *sors* lot] : the act or an instance of casting lots

sort of \ˌsȯrt-ə(v), -ər\ *adv* : to a moderate degree : RATHER

so·rus \'sōr-əs, 'sȯr-\ *n, pl* **so·ri** \'sō(ə)r-ˌī, 'sȯ(ə)r-, -ˌē\ [NL, fr. Gk *sōros* heap; akin to L *tumēre* to swell — more at THUMB] : a cluster of plant reproductive bodies: as **a** : one of the dots on the underside of a fertile fern frond consisting of a cluster of spores **b** : a mass of spores bursting through the epidermis of the host plant of a parasitic fungus **c** : a cluster of gemmae on the thallus of a lichen

SOS \ˌes-(ˌ)ō-'es, ˌes-ə-'wes\ *n* **1** : an internationally recognized signal of distress in radio code · · · — — — · · · used esp. by ships calling for help **2** : a call or request for help or rescue

¹so–so \'sō-'sō\ *adv* : moderately well : TOLERABLY, PASSABLY

²so–so *adj* : neither very good nor very bad : MIDDLING

¹so·ste·nu·to \ˌsō-stə-'nüt-(ˌ)ō, ˌsȯ-\ *adj or adv* [It, fr. pp. of *sostenere* to sustain, fr. L *sustinēre*] : sustained to or beyond the note's full value — used as a direction in music

²sostenuto *n* : a movement or passage whose notes are markedly prolonged

sot \'sät\ *n* [ME, fool, fr. OE *sott*] : an habitual drunkard

so·te·ri·ol·o·gy \sō-ˌtir-ē-'äl-ə-jē\ *n* [Gk *sōtērion* salvation (fr. *sōtēr* savior, fr. *sōzein* to save) + E *-logy*; akin to Gk *sōma* body — more at SOMAT-] : theology dealing with salvation esp. as effected by Jesus Christ — **so·te·ri·o·log·i·cal** \-ē-ə-'läj-i-kəl\ *adj*

so that *conj* : THAT 2a(1)

So·thic cycle \ˌsō-thik-, ˌsäth-ik-\ *n* : a cycle of 1460 Sothic years

Sothic year *n* [Gk *Sōthis* the star Sirius] : an ancient Egyptian year of 365¼ days

So·tho \'sō-(ˌ)tō\ *n* **1** : a group of closely related Bantu languages of Lesotho, Botswana, and northern So. Africa **2** : any one of the Sotho languages and esp. the language of Lesotho

so·tol \'sō-ˌtōl\ *n* [AmerSp, fr. Nahuatl *tzotolli*] : a plant (genus *Dasylirion*) of the lily family of the southwestern U.S. and Mexico that resembles a yucca

sot·tish \'sät-ish\ *adj* : resembling a sot : DRUNKEN; *also* : DULL, STUPID — **sot·tish·ly** *adv* — **sot·tish·ness** *n*

sot·to vo·ce \ˌsät-ō-'vō-chē\ *adv or adj* [It *sottovoce*, lit., under the voice] **1** : under the breath : in an undertone; *also* : in a private manner **2** : very softly — used as a direction in music

sou \'sü\ *n, pl* **sous** \'süz\ [F, fr. OF *sol*, fr. LL *solidus* solidus] **1** : ²SOL **2** : a 5-centime piece

sou·a·ri nut \sü-'är-ē-\ *n* [F *saouari* tree producing souari nuts, fr. Galibi *sawarra*] : the large edible oil-yielding seed of a So. American tree (genus *Caryocar* of the family Caryocaraceae, esp. *C. nuciferum*)

sou·bise \sü-'bēz\ *n* [F, fr. Charles de Rohan, Prince de *Soubise* †1787 F nobleman] : a white or brown sauce containing onions or onion purée

sou·brette \sü-'bret\ *n* [F, fr. Prov *soubreto*, fem. of *soubret* coy, fr. *soubra* to surmount, exceed, fr. L *superare* — more at SUPERABLE] **1 a** : a coquettish maid or frivolous young woman in comedies **b** : an actress who plays such a part **2** : a soprano who sings supporting roles in comic opera

sou·bri·quet \'sō-, ˌsō-, 'sü-, ˌsü-\ *var of* SOBRIQUET

sou·chong \'sü-ˌchȯŋ, -ˌshȯŋ\ *n* [Chin (Pek) *hsiao*³ *chung*³, lit., small sort] : a large-leaved black tea esp. from China

¹souf·flé \sü-'flā, 'sü-ˌ\ *n* [F, fr. *soufflé*, pp. of *souffler* to blow, puff up, fr. L *sufflare*, fr. *sub-* + *flare* to blow — more at BLOW] : an entrée or dessert made with a sauce, egg yolks and stiffly whipped egg whites, and seasonings

²soufflé *or* **souf·fléed** \-'flād, -ˌflād\ *adj* : puffed by or in cooking

sough \'saù, 'səf\ *vi* [ME *swoughen*, fr. OE *swōgan*; akin to Goth *gaswogjan* to groan, Lith *svagėti* to sound] : to make a moaning or sighing sound — **sough** *n*

sought *past of* SEEK

¹soul \'sōl\ *n* [ME *soule*, fr. OE *sāwol*; akin to OHG *sēula* soul] **1** : the immaterial essence, animating principle, or actuating cause of an individual life **2 a** : the spiritual principle embodied in human beings, all rational and spiritual beings, or the universe **b** *cap, Christian Science* : GOD 1b **3** : a person's total self **4 a** : an active or essential part **b** : a moving spirit : LEADER **5 a** : man's moral and emotional nature **b** : the quality that arouses emotion and sentiment **c** : spiritual or moral force : FERVOR **6** : PERSON **7** : EXEMPLIFICATION, PERSONIFICATION ⟨he is the ~ of integrity⟩ **8 a** : a strong positive feeling (as of intense sensitivity and emotional fervor) conveyed esp. by American Negro performers **b** : NEGRITUDE **c** : SOUL MUSIC **d** : SOUL FOOD **e** : SOUL BROTHER

²soul *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or characteristic of American Negroes or their culture **2** : designed for or controlled by Negroes ⟨~ radio stations⟩

soul brother *n* : a male Negro — used esp. by other Negroes

souled \'sōld\ *adj* : having a soul : possessing soul and feeling — usu. used in combination ⟨whole-*souled* repentance⟩

soul food *n* : food (as chitterlings, ham hocks, and collard greens) traditionally eaten by southern American Negroes

soul·ful \'sōl-fəl\ *adj* : full of or expressing feeling or emotion — **soul·ful·ly** \-fə-lē\ *adv* — **soul·ful·ness** *n*

soul kiss *n* : FRENCH KISS

soul·less \'sōl-ləs\ *adj* : having no soul or no greatness or warmth of mind or feeling — **soul·less·ly** *adv* — **soul·less·ness** *n*

soul mate *n* : one of two persons esp. of opposite sex temperamentally suited to each other; *esp* : LOVER, MISTRESS

soul music *n* : music that originated in American Negro gospel singing, is closely related to rhythm and blues, and is characterized by intensity of feeling and earthiness

soul–search·ing \'sōl-ˌsər-chiŋ\ *n* : examination of one's conscience esp. with regard to motives and values

¹sound \'saùnd\ *adj* [ME, fr. OE *gesund*; akin to OHG *gisunt* healthy] **1 a** : free from injury or disease : exhibiting normal health **b** : free from flaw, defect, or decay ⟨~ timber⟩ **2** : SOLID, FIRM; *also* : STABLE **3 a** : free from error, fallacy, or misapprehension ⟨~ reasoning⟩ **b** : exhibiting or based on thorough knowledge and experience ⟨~ scholarship⟩ **c** : legally valid ⟨a ~ title⟩ **d** : logically valid and having true premises **e** : agreeing with accepted views : ORTHODOX **4 a** : THOROUGH **b** : deep and undisturbed ⟨a ~ sleep⟩ **c** : HARD, SEVERE ⟨a ~ whipping⟩ **5** : showing good judgment or sense ***syn*** **1** see HEALTHY ***ant*** unsound **2** see VALID ***ant*** unsound, fallacious — **sound·ly** \'saùn-(d)lē\ *adv* — **sound·ness** \'saùn(d)-nəs\ *n*

²sound *adv* : to the full extent : THOROUGHLY ⟨~ asleep⟩

³sound *n* [ME *soun*, fr. OF *son*, fr. L *sonus*; akin to OE *swinn* melody, L *sonare* to sound, Skt *svanati* it sounds] **1 a** : the sensation perceived by the sense of hearing **b** : a particular auditory impression : TONE **c** : mechanical radiant energy that is transmitted by longitudinal pressure waves in a material medium (as air) and is the objective cause of hearing **2 a** : a speech sound ⟨a peculiar *r-sound*⟩ **b** : value in terms of speech sounds ⟨*-cher* of *teacher* and *-ture* of *creature* have the same ~⟩ **3** *archaic* : RUMOR, FAME **4 a** : meaningless noise **b** *obs* : MEANING **c** : the impression conveyed : IMPORT **5** : hearing distance : EARSHOT **6** : recorded auditory material **7** : a particular musical style characteristic of an individual, a group, or an area ⟨the Nashville ~⟩

syn SOUND, NOISE *shared meaning element* : a sensation or effect resulting from stimulation of the auditory receptors

⁴sound *vi* **1 a** : to make a sound **b** : RESOUND **c** : to give a summons by sound ⟨the bugle ~*s* to battle⟩ **2** : to make or convey an impression : SEEM ⟨his story ~*s* incredible⟩ ~ *vt* **1** : to cause to sound ⟨~ a trumpet⟩ **2** : to put into words : VOICE **3 a** : to make known : PROCLAIM **b** : to order, signal, or indicate by a sound ⟨~ the alarm⟩ **4** : to examine by causing to emit sounds ⟨~ the lungs⟩ — **sound·able** \'saùn-də-bəl\ *adj*

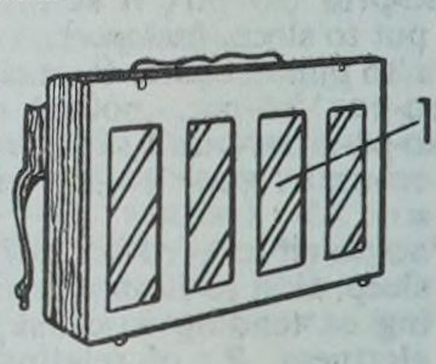
⁵sound *n* [ME, fr. OE *sund* swimming, sea & ON *sund* swimming, strait; akin to OE *swimman* to swim] **1 a** : a long broad inlet of the ocean generally parallel to the coast **b** : a long passage of water connecting two larger bodies (as a sea with the ocean) or separating a mainland and an island **2** : the air bladder of a fish

⁶sound *vb* [ME *sounden*, fr. MF *sonder*, fr. *sonde* sounding line, prob. of Gmc origin; akin to OE *sundlīne* sounding line, *sund* sea] *vt* **1** : to measure the depth of : FATHOM **2** : to try to find out the views or intentions of : PROBE **3** : to explore or examine (a body cavity) with a sound ~ *vi* **1 a** : to ascertain the depth of water esp. with a sounding line **b** : to look into or investigate the possibility ⟨sent commissioners . . . to ~ for peace —Thomas Jefferson⟩ **2** : to dive down suddenly — used of a fish or whale

⁷sound *n* [F *sonde*, fr. MF, lit., sounding line] : an elongated instrument for exploring or sounding body cavities

sound barrier *n* : SONIC BARRIER

sound·board \'saùn(d)-ˌbō(ə)rd, -ˌbȯ(ə)rd\ *n* **1** : a thin resonant board (as the belly of a violin) so placed in an instrument as to reinforce its tones by sympathetic vibration — see VIOLIN illustration **2** : SOUNDING BOARD 1a



1, soundboard 1 (of a piano)

sound bow *n* : the thick part of a bell against which the clapper strikes — see BELL illustration

sound box *n* **1** : a device in a phonograph using vibrating needle and thin diaphragm to convert phonograph record groove undulations into sound **2** : a hollow chamber in a musical instrument for increasing its sonority

sound camera *n* : a motion-picture camera equipped to record sound simultaneously with the picture on a single film

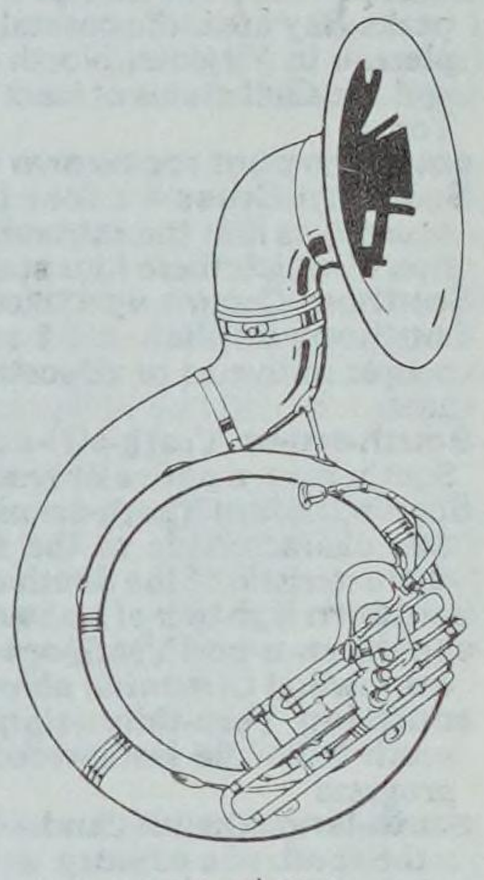
sound effects *n pl* : effects that are imitative of sounds called for in the script of a play, radio or television program, or motion picture and are produced by various means

sound·er \'saùn-dər\ *n* : one that sounds; *specif* : a device for making soundings

¹sound·ing \'saùn-diŋ\ *n* **1 a** : measurement by sounding **b** : the depth so ascertained **c** *pl* : a place or part of a body of water where a hand sounding line will reach bottom **2** : measurement of atmospheric conditions at various heights **3** : a probe, test, or sampling of opinion or intention

²sounding *adj* **1** : RESONANT, SONOROUS **2 a** : POMPOUS **b** : IMPOSING — **sound·ing·ly** \-diŋ-lē\ *adv*

sounding board *n* **1 a** : a structure behind or over a pulpit, rostrum, or platform to give distinctness and sonority to sound **b** : a device or agency that helps propagate opinions or utterances **2** : SOUNDBOARD 1
sounding line *n* : a line or wire weighted at one end for sounding
sounding rocket *n* : a rocket used to obtain information concerning atmospheric conditions at various altitudes
[1]sound·less \'saůn-(d)ləs\ *adj* [[6]*sound*] : incapable of being sounded : UNFATHOMABLE
[2]soundless *adj* [[3]*sound*] : making no sound : SILENT — **sound·less·ly** *adv*
sound motion picture *n* : a motion picture accompanied by synchronized recorded sound
sound off *vi* **1** : to play three chords before and after marching up and down a line of troops during a ceremonial parade or formal guard mount **2** : to count cadence while marching **3 a** : to speak up in a loud voice **b** : to voice one's opinions freely and vigorously
sound pollution *n* : NOISE POLLUTION
sound pressure *n* : the difference between the actual pressure at any point in the field of a sound wave at any instant and the average pressure at that point
[1]sound·proof \'saůn(d)-'prüf\ *adj* : impervious to sound
[2]soundproof *vt* : to insulate so as to obstruct the passage of sound
sound track *n* : the area on a motion-picture film that carries the sound record
sound truck *n* : a truck equipped with a loudspeaker
sound wave *n* **1** : [3]SOUND 1b **2** *pl* : longitudinal pressure waves in any material medium regardless of whether they constitute audible sound ⟨earthquake waves and ultrasonic waves are sometimes called *sound waves*⟩
[1]soup \'süp\ *n* [F *soupe* sop, soup, of Gmc origin; akin to ON *soppa* soup, OE *sopp* sop] **1** : a liquid food esp. with a meat, fish, or vegetable stock as a base and often containing pieces of solid food **2** : something having or suggesting the consistency of soup (as a heavy fog or nitroglycerine) **3** : an unfortunate predicament
[2]soup *vt* [E slang *soup* (dope injected into a racehorse to improve its performance)] : to increase the power or efficiency of ⟨~ up an engine⟩
soup·çon \süp-'sō[n], 'süp-ˌsän\ *n* [F, lit., suspicion, fr. (assumed) VL *suspection-*, *suspectio*, fr. L *suspectus*, pp. of *suspicere* to suspect — more at SUSPECT] : a little bit : TRACE
soup du jour \ˌsüp-də-'zhů(ə)r\ *n* [part trans. of F *soupe du jour* soup of the day] : a soup that is offered by a restaurant on a particular day
soup kitchen *n* : an establishment dispensing minimum dietary essentials (as soup and bread) to the needy
soup·spoon \'süp-ˌspün\ *n* : a spoon with a large or rounded bowl for eating soup
soupy \'sü-pē\ *adj* **soup·i·er; -est** **1** : having the consistency of soup **2** : densely foggy or cloudy
[1]sour \'saů(ə)r\ *adj* [ME, fr. OE *sūr*; akin to OHG *sūr* sour, Lith *suras* salty] **1** : causing or characterized by the one of the four basic taste sensations that is produced chiefly by acids ⟨~ pickles⟩ — compare BITTER, SALT, SWEET **2 a** (1) : having the acid taste or smell of or as if of fermentation : TURNED ⟨~ milk⟩ (2) : of or relating to fermentation **b** : smelling or tasting of decay : RANCID, ROTTEN ⟨~ breath⟩ **c** (1) : BAD, WRONG ⟨a project gone ~⟩ (2) : HOSTILE, DISENCHANTED ⟨went ~ on Marxism⟩ **3 a** : UNPLEASANT, DISTASTEFUL **b** : CROSS, SULLEN **c** : not up to the usual, expected, or standard quality or pitch **4** : acid in reaction — used esp. of soil **5** : containing malodorous sulfur compounds — used esp. of petroleum products — **sour·ish** \'saů(ə)r-ish\ *adj* — **sour·ly** *adv* — **sour·ness** *n*
syn SOUR, ACID, ACIDULOUS, TART *shared meaning element* : having a taste devoid of sweetness
[2]sour *n* **1 a** : something sour **b** : the primary taste sensation produced by acid stimuli **2** : a cocktail made with a liquor (as whiskey), lemon or lime juice, sugar, and sometimes soda water
[3]sour *vi* : to become sour ~ *vt* : to make sour
sour ball *n* : a spherical piece of hard candy having a tart flavor
source \'sō(ə)rs, 'sȯ(ə)rs\ *n* [ME *sours*, fr. MF *sors*, *sourse*, fr. OF, fr. pp. of *sourdre* to rise, spring forth, fr. L *surgere* — more at SURGE] **1 a** : the point of origin of a stream of water : FOUNTAINHEAD **b** *archaic* : SPRING, FOUNT **2 a** : a generative force : CAUSE **b** (1) : a point of origin : BEGINNING (2) : one that initiates : AUTHOR; *also* : PROTOTYPE, MODEL (3) : one that supplies information **3** : a firsthand document or primary reference work ***syn*** see ORIGIN — **source·less** \-ləs\ *adj*
source book *n* : a fundamental document or record (as of history, literature, art, or religion) upon which subsequent writings, compositions, opinions, beliefs, or practices are based; *also* : a collection of such documents
source language *n* : a language which is to be translated into another language — compare TARGET LANGUAGE
sour cherry *n* : a round-headed Eurasian tree (*Prunus cerasus*) widely grown for its bright red to almost black soft-fleshed acid fruits; *also* : its fruit
sour cream *n* : a commercial cream product produced by the use of lactobacilli
sour·dough \'saů(ə)r-ˌdō, *1 is also* -'dō\ *n* **1** : a leaven consisting of dough in which fermentation is active **2** [fr. the use of sourdough for making bread in prospectors' camps] : a veteran inhabitant and esp. an old-time prospector of Alaska or northwestern Canada
sour grapes *n pl* [fr. the fable ascribed to Aesop of the fox who after finding himself unable to reach some grapes he had desired disparaged them as sour] : disparagement of something that has proven unattainable
sour gum *n* : BLACK GUM
sour mash *n* : grain mash for brewing or distilling whose initial acidity has been adjusted to optimum condition for yeast fermentation by mash from a previous run
sour orange *n* : a citrus tree (*Citrus aurantium*) that is used esp. as a stock in grafting citrus; *also* : its bitter fruit
sour·puss \'saů(ə)r-ˌpůs\ *n* [[2]*puss*] : GROUCH, KILLJOY
sour salt *n* : CITRIC ACID
sour·sop \'saů(ə)r-ˌsäp\ *n* **1** : a small tropical American tree (*Annona muricata*) of the custard-apple family that has spicy odoriferous leaves **2** : the large edible fruit of the soursop that has fleshy spines and a slightly acid fibrous pulp
sour·wood \-ˌwůd\ *n* : a small tree (*Oxydendrum arboreum*) of the heath family with white flowers and sour-tasting leaves
sou·sa·phone \'sü-zə-ˌfōn, -sə-\ *n* [John Philip *Sousa*] : a large circular tuba that has a flared adjustable bell, that is designed to rest on the player's left shoulder, and that is used primarily in marching bands


sousaphone

[1]souse \'saůs\ *vb* **soused; sous·ing** [ME *sousen*, fr. MF *souz*, *souce* pickling solution, of Gmc origin; akin to OHG *sulza* brine, OE *sealt* salt] *vt* **1** : PICKLE **2 a** : to plunge in liquid : IMMERSE **b** : DRENCH, SATURATE **3** : to make drunk : INEBRIATE ~ *vi* : to become immersed or drenched
[2]souse *n* **1** : something pickled; *esp* : seasoned and chopped pork trimmings, fish, or shellfish **2** : an act of sousing : WETTING **3 a** : an habitual drunkard **b** : a drinking spree : BINGE
[3]souse *n* [ME *souce* start of a bird's flight, alter. of *sours*, fr. MF *sourse*, fr. *sourdre* to rise] *obs* : the stoop of a hawk intercepting a bird
[4]souse *vb* **soused; sous·ing** *vi*, *archaic* : to swoop down : PLUNGE ~ *vt*, *archaic* : to swoop down upon
sou·tache \sü-'tash\ *n* [F, fr. Hung *sujtás*] : a narrow braid with herringbone pattern used as trimming
sou·tane \sü-'tän, -'tan\ *n* [F, fr. It *sottana*, lit., undergarment, fr. fem. of *sottano* being underneath, fr. ML *subtanus*, fr. L *subtus* underneath; akin to L *sub* under — more at UP] : CASSOCK
sou·ter \'süt-ər\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *sūtere*, fr. L *sutor*, fr. *sutus*, pp. of *suere* to sew — more at SEW] *chiefly Scot* : SHOEMAKER
[1]south \'saůth\ *adv* [ME, fr. OE *sūth*; akin to OHG *sund-* south, OE *sunne* sun] : to, toward, or in the south : SOUTHWARD
[2]south *adj* **1** : situated toward or at the south ⟨the ~ entrance⟩ **2** : coming from the south ⟨a ~ wind⟩
[3]south *n* **1 a** : the direction of the south terrestrial pole : the direction to the right of one facing east **b** : the compass point directly opposite to north **2** *cap* : regions or countries lying to the south of a specified or implied point of orientation; *esp* : the southeastern part of the U.S. **3** : the right side of a church looking toward the altar from the nave **4** *often cap* **a** : the one of four positions at 90-degree intervals that lies to the south or at the bottom of a diagram **b** : a person (as a bridge player) occupying this position in the course of a specified activity; *specif* : the declarer in bridge
South African *n* : a native or inhabitant of the Republic of South Africa; *esp* : AFRIKANER — **South African** *adj*
south·bound \'saůth-ˌbaůnd\ *adj* : traveling or headed south
south by east : a compass point that is one point east of due south : S11°15'E
south by west : a compass point that is one point west of due south : S11°15'W
South·down \'saůth-ˌdaůn\ *n* [*South Downs*, England] : any of an English breed of small medium-wooled hornless mutton-type sheep
[1]south·east \saů-'thēst, *naut* saů-'ēst\ *adv* : to, toward, or in the southeast
[2]southeast *n* **1 a** : the general direction between south and east **b** : the point midway between the south and east compass points **2** *cap* : regions or countries lying to the southeast of a specified or implied point of orientation
[3]southeast *adj* **1** : coming from the southeast ⟨a ~ wind⟩ **2** : situated toward or at the southeast ⟨~ corner⟩
southeast by east : a compass point that is one point east of due southeast : S56°15'E
southeast by south : a compass point that is one point south of due southeast : S33°45'E
south·east·er \saů-'thē-stər, saů-'ē-\ *n* **1** : a strong southeast wind **2** : a storm with southeast winds
south·east·er·ly \-stər-lē\ *adv or adj* [[2]*southeast* + *-erly* (as in *easterly*)] **1** : from the southeast **2** : toward the southeast
south·east·ern \-stərn\ *adj* [[2]*southeast* + *-ern* (as in *eastern*)] **1** *often cap* : of, relating to, or characteristic of a region conventionally designated southeast **2** : lying toward or coming from the southeast — **south·east·ern·most** \-ˌmōst\ *adj*
South·east·ern·er \-stə(r)-nər\ *n* : a native or inhabitant of the Southeast; *esp* : a native or resident of the southeastern part of the U.S.
[1]south·east·ward \saů-'thēs-twərd, saů-'ēs-\ *adv or adj* : toward the southeast — **south·east·wards** \-twərdz\ *adv*
[2]southeastward *n* : SOUTHEAST
south·er \'saů-thər\ *n* : a southerly wind

[1]south·er·ly \'səth-ər-lē\ *adj or adv* [*[3]south* + *-erly* (as in *easterly*)] **1** : situated toward or belonging to the south ⟨the ~ shore of the lake⟩ **2** : coming from the south ⟨a ~ wind⟩

[2]southerly *n, pl* **-lies** : a wind from the south

south·ern \'səth-ərn\ *adj* [ME *southern, southren,* fr. OE *sūtherne;* akin to OHG *sundrōni* southern, OE *sūth* south] **1** *cap* : of, relating to, or characteristic of a region conventionally designated South **2 a** : lying toward the south **b** : coming from the south ⟨a ~ breeze⟩ — **south·ern·ly** *adj* — **south·ern·most** \-ˌmōst\ *adj* — **south·ern·ness** \-ərn-nəs\ *n*

Southern *n* : the dialect of English spoken in most of the Chesapeake Bay area, the coastal plain and the greater part of the upland plateau in Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia, and the Gulf states at least as far west as the valley of the Brazos in Texas

southern corn rootworm *n* : SPOTTED CUCUMBER BEETLE

Southern Cross *n* : four bright stars in the southern hemisphere, situated as if at the extremities of a Latin cross; *also* : the constellation of which these four stars are the brightest

Southern Crown *n* : CORONA AUSTRALIS

Southern English *n* **1** : the English spoken esp. by cultivated people native to or educated in the South of England **2** : SOUTHERN

South·ern·er \'səth-ə(r)-nər\ *n* : a native or inhabitant of the South; *esp* : a native or resident of the southern part of the U.S.

South·ern·ism \'səth-ər-ˌniz-əm\ *n* **1** : a locution or pronunciation characteristic of the southern U.S. **2** : an attitude or trait characteristic of the South or Southerners esp. in the U.S.

southern lights *n pl* : AURORA AUSTRALIS

south·ern·wood \'səth-ərn-ˌwůd\ *n* : a shrubby fragrant European wormwood (*Artemisia abrotanum*) with bitter foliage

south·ing \'saů-thiŋ, -thiŋ\ *n* **1** : difference in latitude to the south from the last preceding point of reckoning **2** : southerly progress

south·land \'saůth-ˌland, -lənd\ *n, often cap* : land in the south : the south of a country

south·paw \-ˌpȯ\ *n* : LEFT-HANDER; *specif* : a left-handed baseball pitcher — **southpaw** *adj*

south pole *n* **1 a** *often cap S & P* : the southernmost point of the earth **b** : the zenith of the heavens as viewed from the south terrestrial pole **2** *of a magnet* : the pole that points toward the south

[1]South·ron \'səth-rən\ *adj* [ME (Sc), fr. ME *southren*] *chiefly Scot* : SOUTHERN; *specif* : ENGLISH

[2]Southron *n* : SOUTHERNER: as **a** *chiefly Scot* : ENGLISHMAN **b** *chiefly South* : a native or inhabitant of the southern U.S.

south–southeast *n* : a compass point two points east of due south : S22°30′E

south–southwest *n* : a compass point two points west of due south : S22°30′W

[1]south·ward \'saůth-wərd\ *adv or adj* : toward the south — **south·wards** \-wərdz\ *adv*

[2]southward *n* : southward direction or part ⟨sail to the ~⟩

[1]south·west \saůth-'west, *naut* saů-'west\ *adv* : to, toward, or in the southwest

[2]southwest *n* **1 a** : the general direction between south and west **b** : the point midway between the south and west compass points **2** *cap* : regions or countries lying to the southwest of a specified or implied point of orientation

[3]southwest *adj* **1** : coming from the southwest ⟨a ~ wind⟩ **2** : situated toward or at the southwest

southwest by south : a compass point that is one point south of due southwest : S33°45′W

southwest by west : a compass point that is one point west of due southwest : S56°15′W

south·west·er \saů(th)-'wes-tər\ *n* **1** : a strong southwest wind **2** : a storm with southwest winds

south·west·er·ly \-tər-lē\ *adv or adj* [*[2]southwest* + *-erly* (as in *westerly*)] **1** : from the southwest **2** : toward the southwest

south·west·ern \-tərn\ *adj* [*[2]southwest* + *-ern* (as in *western*)] **1** *often cap* : of, relating to, or characteristic of a region conventionally designated Southwest **2** : lying toward or coming from the southwest — **south·west·ern·most** \-ˌmōst\ *adj*

southwestern corn borer *n* : a pyralid moth (*Diatraea grandiosella*) whose larva causes serious damage esp. to corn crops by boring in the stalks

South·west·ern·er \saů(th)-'wes-tə(r)-nər\ *n* : a native or inhabitant of the Southwest; *esp* : a native or resident of the southwestern U.S.

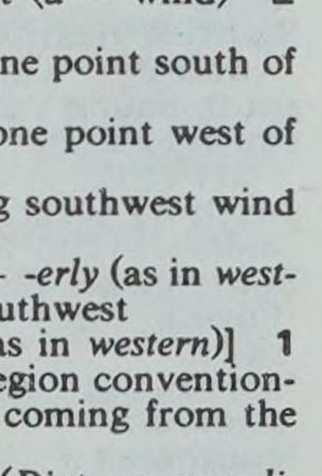
[1]south·west·ward \saů(th)-'wes-twərd\ *adv or adj* : toward the southwest — **south·west·wards** \-wərdz\ *adv*

[2]southwestward *n* : SOUTHWEST

sou·ve·nir \'sü-və-ˌni(ə)r, ˌsü-və-'\ *n* [F, lit., act of remembering, fr. MF, fr. (*se*) *souvenir* to remember, fr. L *subvenire* to come up, come to mind] : something that serves as a reminder : MEMENTO

souvenir sheet *n* : a block or set of postage stamps or a single stamp printed on a single sheet of paper often without gum or perforations and with margins containing lettering or design that identifies some notable event being commemorated

sou'·west·er \saů-'wes-tər\ *n* **1** : SOUTHWESTER **2 a** : a long oilskin coat worn esp. at sea during stormy weather **b** : a waterproof hat with wide slanting brim longer in back than in front



sou'wester 2b

[1]sov·er·eign *also* **sov·ran** \'säv-(ə-)rən, 'säv-ərn, 'səv-\ *n* [ME *soverain,* fr. OF, fr. *soverain,* adj.] **1 a** : one possessing or held to possess sovereignty **b** : one that exercises supreme authority within a limited sphere **c** : an acknowledged leader : ARBITER **2** : a gold coin of Great Britain containing 113 grains of fine gold

[2]sovereign *also* **sovran** *adj* [ME *soverain,* fr. MF, fr. OF, fr. (assumed) VL *superanus,* fr. L *super* over, above — more at OVER] **1 a** : possessed of supreme power ⟨~ ruler⟩ **b** : unlimited in extent : ABSOLUTE **c** : enjoying autonomy : INDEPENDENT ⟨a ~ state⟩ **2 a** : of the most exalted kind : SUPREME ⟨~ virtue⟩ **b** : superlative in quality : EXCELLENT **c** : having generalized curative powers : POTENT ⟨a ~ remedy⟩ **d** : of an unqualified nature : UNMITIGATED ⟨~ contempt⟩ **e** : having undisputed ascendancy : PARAMOUNT **3** : relating to, characteristic of, or befitting a sovereign ***syn*** see DOMINANT, FREE — **sov·er·eign·ly** *adv*

sov·er·eign·ty *also* **sov·ran·ty** \-tē\ *n, pl* **-ties** [ME *soverainte,* fr. MF *souveraineté,* fr. OF, fr. *soverain*] **1** *obs* : supreme excellence or an example of it **2 a** : supreme power esp. over a body politic **b** : freedom from external control : AUTONOMY **c** : controlling influence **3** : one that is sovereign; *esp* : an autonomous state

so·vi·et \'sōv-ē-ˌet, 'säv-, -ē-ət\ *n* [Russ *sovet*] **1** : an elected governmental council in a Communist country **2** *pl, cap* **a** : BOLSHEVIKS **b** : the people and esp. the political and military leaders of the U.S.S.R. — **soviet** *adj, often cap* — **so·vi·et·ism** \-ˌiz-əm\ *n, often cap*

so·vi·et·ize \'sōv-ē-ˌet-ˌīz, 'säv-, -ē-ət-\ *vt* **-ized; -iz·ing** *often cap* **1** : to bring under Soviet control **2** : to force into conformity with Soviet cultural patterns or governmental policies — **so·vi·et·iza·tion** \ˌsōv-ē-ˌet-ə-'zā-shən, -ē-ət-\ *n, often cap*

sov·khoz \säf-'kȯz, -'kȯs\ *n, pl* **sov·kho·zy** \-'kȯ-zē\ *or* **sov·khoz·es** [Russ, short for *sovetskoe khozyaĭstvo* soviet farm] : a state-owned farm of the U.S.S.R. paying wages to the workers

[1]sow \'saů\ *n* [ME *sowe,* fr. OE *sugu;* akin to OE & OHG *sū* sow, L *sus* pig, swine, hog, Gk *hys*] **1** : an adult female swine; *also* : the adult female of various other animals (as the grizzly bear) **2 a** : a channel that conducts molten metal to molds in a pig bed **b** : a mass of metal solidified in such a mold : INGOT

[2]sow \'sō\ *vb* **sowed; sown** \'sōn\ *or* **sowed; sow·ing** [ME *sowen,* fr. OE *sāwan;* akin to OHG *sāwen* to sow, L *serere*] *vi* **1** : to plant seed for growth esp. by scattering **2** : to set something in motion : begin an enterprise ~ *vt* **1 a** : to scatter (as seed) upon the earth for growth; *broadly* : PLANT 1a **b** : to strew with or as if with seed **c** : to introduce into a selected environment : IMPLANT **2** : to set in motion : FOMENT ⟨~ suspicion⟩ **3** : to spread abroad : DISPERSE — **sow·er** \'sō(-ə)r\ *n*

sow·bel·ly \'saů-ˌbel-ē\ *n* : fat salt pork or bacon

sow bug *n* : WOOD LOUSE 1

sow·ens \'sü-ənz, 'sō-\ *n pl but sing or pl in constr* [ScGael *sūghan*] : porridge from oat husks and siftings

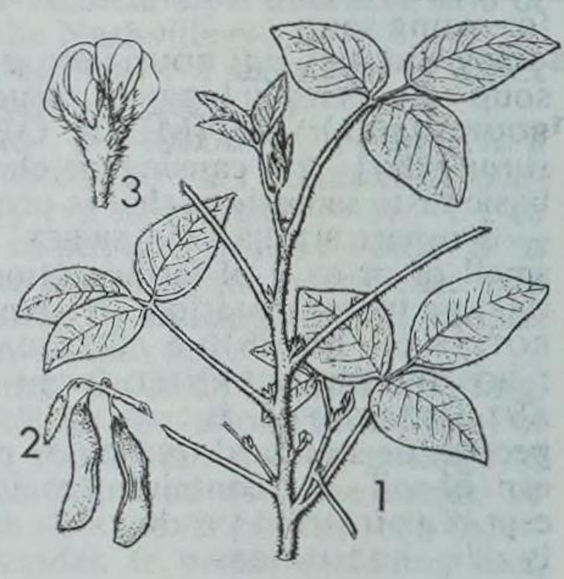
sow thistle \'saů-\ *n* : any of a genus (*Sonchus*) of spiny weedy European composite herbs widely naturalized

sox *pl of* SOCK

soy \'sȯi\ *n* [Jap *shōyu,* fr. Chin (Cant) *shî-yaū,* lit., soybean oil] **1** : an oriental brown liquid sauce made by subjecting beans (as soybeans) to long fermentation and to digestion in brine **2** : SOYBEAN

soya \'sȯi-(y)ə\ *n* [D *soja,* fr. Jap *shōyu* soy] : SOYBEAN

soy·bean \'sȯi-'bēn, -ˌbēn\ *n* : a hairy annual Asiatic legume (*Glycine max*) widely grown for its oil-rich proteinaceous seeds and for forage and soil improvement; *also* : its seed



soybean: *1* stems and leaves, *2* seedpods, *3* flower

soybean oil *or* **soya–bean oil** *n* : a pale yellow drying or semidrying oil that is obtained from soybeans and is used chiefly as a food, in paints, varnishes, linoleum, printing ink, and soap, and as a source of phospholipids, fatty acids, and sterols

sp *abbr* **1** special **2** species **3** specific **4** specimen **5** spelling **6** spirit

Sp *abbr* Spain; Spanish

SP *abbr* **1** self-propelled **2** shore patrol; shore patrolman **3** shore police **4** [L *sine prole*] without issue **5** single pole **6** specialist

spa \'spä, 'spȯ\ *n* [*Spa,* watering place in Belgium] **1 a** : a mineral spring **b** : a resort with mineral springs **2** : a fashionable resort or hotel **3** *NewEng* : SODA FOUNTAIN

[1]space \'spās\ *n, often attrib* [ME, fr. OF *espace,* fr. L *spatium* area, room, interval of space or time — more at SPEED] **1** : a period of time; *also* : its duration **2 a** : a limited extent in one, two, or three dimensions : DISTANCE, AREA, VOLUME **b** : an extent set apart or available ⟨parking ~⟩ ⟨floor ~⟩ **3** : one of the degrees between or above or below the lines of a musical staff **4 a** : a boundless three-dimensional extent in which objects and events occur and have relative position and direction **b** : physical space independent of what occupies it — called also *absolute space* **5** : the region beyond the earth's atmosphere or beyond the solar system **6 a** : a blank area separating words or lines **b** : material used to produce such blank area; *specif* : a piece of type less than one en in width **7** : a set of mathematical elements and esp. of abstractions of all the points on a line, in a plane, or in physical space; *esp* : a set of mathematical entities with a set of axioms of geometric character — compare METRIC SPACE, TOPOLOGICAL SPACE, VECTOR SPACE **8** : an interval in operation during which a telegraph key is not in contact **9 a** : LINAGE 1 **b** : broadcast time available esp. to advertisers **10** : accommodations on a public vehicle

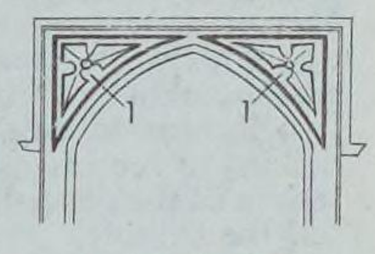
[2]space *vb* **spaced; spac·ing** *vt* : to place at intervals or arrange with space between — often used with *out* ~ *vi* : to leave one or more blank spaces (as in a line of typing) — **spac·er** *n*

space·band \'spās-ˌband\ *n* : a device on a linecaster that provides variable but even spacing between words in a justified line

space charge *n* : an electric charge (as the electrons in the region near the filament of a vacuum tube) distributed throughout a three-dimensional region

space·craft \'spā-ˌskraft\ *n* : a manned or unmanned device that is designed to orbit the earth or to travel beyond the earth's atmosphere

space-flight \'spās-ˌflīt\ *n* : flight beyond the earth's atmosphere
space heater *n* : a device for heating an enclosed space; *esp* : an often portable device that heats the space in which it is located and has no external heating ducts or connection to a chimney
space heating *n* : heating of spaces esp. for human comfort by any means (as fuel, electricity, or solar radiation) with the heater either within the space or external to it
space lattice *n* : the geometrical arrangement of the atoms in a crystal
space-less \'spā-slәs\ *adj* **1** : having no limits : BOUNDLESS **2** : occupying no space
space-man \'spā-ˌsman, -smәn\ *n* **1 a** : one who travels outside the earth's atmosphere **b** : one engaged in any of various fields bearing on flight through outer space **2** : a visitor to earth from outer space
space mark *n* : the symbol
space medicine *n* : a branch of medicine that deals with the physiological and biological effects on the human body of rocket or jet flight beyond the earth's atmosphere
space-port \'spā-ˌspō(ə)rt, -ˌspȯ(ə)rt\ *n* : an installation for testing and launching spacecraft
space-ship \'spās(h)-ˌship\ *n* : a vehicle designed to operate in free space outside the earth's atmosphere
space shuttle *n* : a usu. two-stage vehicle that is designed to serve as transportation between the earth and an orbiting space station
space station *n* : a usu. manned artificial satellite designed for a fixed orbit about the earth and to serve as a base (as for scientific observation) — called also *space platform*
space suit *n* **1** : a suit equipped with life supporting provisions to make life in space possible for its wearer **2** : G SUIT
space–time \'spā-'stīm, 'spā-ˌ\ *n* **1** : a system of one temporal and three spatial coordinates by which any physical object or event can be located — called also *space-time continuum* **2** : the whole or a portion of physical reality determinable by a four-dimensional coordinate system; *also* : the properties characteristic of such an order
space walk *n* : an extravehicular venture made by an astronaut in space — **space walk** *vi* — **space-walk-er** \'spā-ˌswȯ-kәr\ *n* — **space-walk-ing** \-kiŋ\ *n*
space-ward \'spā-swәrd\ *adv* : toward space
space writer *n* : a writer paid according to the space his matter fills in print
spa-cial *var of* SPATIAL
spac-ing \'spā-siŋ\ *n* **1 a** : the act of providing with spaces or placing at intervals **b** : an arrangement in space **2 a** : a limited extent : SPACE **b** : the distance between any two objects in a usu. regularly arranged series
spa-cious \'spā-shәs\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF *spacieux*, fr. L *spatiosus*, fr. *spatium* space, room] **1** : vast or ample in extent : ROOMY ⟨a ~ residence⟩ **2** : large or magnificent in scale : EXPANSIVE ⟨a more ~ and stimulating existence than the farm could offer —H. L. Mencken⟩ — **spa-cious-ly** *adv* — **spa-cious-ness** *n*
syn SPACIOUS, COMMODIOUS, CAPACIOUS, AMPLE *shared meaning element* : larger in extent or capacity than the average
spack-le \'spak-әl\ *vt* **spack-led; spack-ling** \-(ә-)liŋ\ [*Spackle*] : to apply Spackle paste to
Spackle *trademark* — used for a powder mixed with water to form a paste and used as a filler for cracks in a surface before painting
¹spade \'spād\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *spadu;* akin to Gk *spathē* blade of a sword or oar, OHG *spān* chip of wood — more at SPOON] **1** : a digging implement adapted for being pushed into the ground with the foot **2** : a spade-shaped instrument — **spade-ful** \-ˌfu̇l\ *n* — **call a spade a spade** **1** : to call a thing by its right name however coarse **2** : to speak frankly
²spade *vb* **spad-ed; spad-ing** *vt* : to dig up or out or shape with or as if with a spade ~ *vi* : to use a spade — **spad-er** *n*
³spade *n* [It *spada* or Sp *espada* broad sword; both fr. L *spatha*, fr. Gk *spathē* blade] **1 a** : a black figure that resembles a stylized spearhead on each playing card of one of the four suits; *also* : a card marked with this figure **b** *pl but sing or pl in constr* : the suit comprising cards marked with a spade **2** : NEGRO — usu. taken to be offensive — **in spades** : to an unusually great degree : in the extreme
spade beard *n* **1** : an oblong beard with square ends **2** : a beard rounded off at the top and pointed at the bottom — **spade-bearded** \'spād-'bird-әd\ *adj*
spade-fish \'spād-ˌfish\ *n* : a deep-bodied spiny-finned food fish (*Chaetodipterus faber*) found in the warmer parts of the western Atlantic
spade-work \-ˌwәrk\ *n* **1** : work done with the spade **2** : the hard plain preliminary drudgery in an undertaking
spa-dille \spә-'dil, -'dē\ *n* [F, fr. Sp *espadilla*, dim. of *espada* broad sword, spade (in cards) — more at SPADE] : the highest trump in various card games (as ombre)
spa-dix \'spād-iks\ *n, pl* **spa-di-ces** \'spād-ә-ˌsēz\ [NL *spadic-, spadix*, fr. L, frond torn from a palm tree, fr. Gk *spadik-, spadix*, fr. *span* to draw, pull — more at SPAN] : a floral spike with a fleshy or succulent axis usu. enclosed in a spathe
spae \'spā\ *vt* **spaed; spae-ing** [ME *span*, fr. ON *spā;* akin to OHG *spehōn* to watch, spy — more at SPY] *chiefly Scot* : FORETELL, PROPHESY
spa-ghet-ti \spә-'get-ē\ *n* [It, fr. pl. of *spaghetto*, dim. of *spago* cord, string] **1** : pasta made in thin solid strings **2** : electrically insulating tubing typically of varnished cloth or of plastic for covering bare wire or holding insulated wires together
spa-hi \'spä-ˌhē\ *n* [MF, fr. Turk *sipahi*, fr. Per *sipāhī* cavalryman] **1** : one of a former corps of irregular Turkish cavalry **2** : one of a former corps of Algerian native cavalry in the French Army
spake \'spāk\ *archaic past of* SPEAK
¹spall \'spȯl\ *n* [ME *spalle*] : a small fragment or chip esp. of stone
²spall *vt* : to break up or reduce by chipping with a hammer ~ *vi* **1** : to break off chips, scales, or slabs : EXFOLIATE **2** : to undergo spallation — **spall-able** \'spȯ-lә-bәl\ *adj*
spall-ation \spȯ-'lā-shәn\ *n* [²*spall*] : a nuclear reaction in which light particles are ejected as the result of bombardment (as by high-energy protons)
spal-peen \spal-'pēn, spȯl-\ *n* [IrGael *spailpīn* migratory laborer, rascal] *chiefly Irish* : RASCAL
¹span \'span\ *archaic past of* SPIN
²span *n* [ME, fr. OE *spann;* akin to OHG *spanna* span, MD *spannen* to stretch, hitch up, L *pendere* to weigh, Gk *span* to draw, pull] **1** : the distance from the end of the thumb to the end of the little finger of a spread hand; *also* : an English unit of length equal to 9 inches **2** : an extent, stretch, reach, or spread between two limits: as **a** : a limited space (as of time); *esp* : an individual's lifetime **b** : spread or extent between abutments or supports (as of a bridge); *also* : a portion thus supported **c** : the maximum distance laterally from tip to tip of an airplane
³span *vt* **spanned; span-ning** **1 a** : to measure by or as if by the hand with fingers and thumb extended **b** : MEASURE **2 a** : to extend across ⟨his career *spanned* four decades⟩ **b** : to form an arch over ⟨a small bridge *spanned* the pond⟩ **c** : to place or construct a span over **3** : to be capable of forming any element of under given operations ⟨a set of vectors that ~*s* a vector space⟩
⁴span *n* [D, fr. MD, fr. *spannen* to hitch up] : a pair of animals (as mules) usu. matched in appearance and action and driven together
Span *abbr* Spanish
span-drel *or* **span-dril** \'span-drәl\ *n* [ME *spandrell*, fr. AF *spaundre*, fr. OF *espandre* to spread out — more at SPAWN] **1** : the sometimes ornamented space between the right or left exterior curve of an arch and an enclosing right angle **2** : the triangular space beneath the string of a stair


1, spandrels 1

spang \'spaŋ\ *adv* [Sc *spang* to leap, cast, bang] **1** : to a complete degree **2** : in an exact or direct manner : SQUARELY
¹span-gle \'spaŋ-gәl\ *n* [ME *spangel*, dim. of *spang* shiny ornament, prob. of Scand origin; akin to ON *spöng* spangle; akin to OE *spang* buckle, MD *spannen* to stretch] **1** : a small plate of shining metal or plastic used for ornamentation esp. on clothing **2** : a small glittering object or particle
²spangle *vb* **span-gled; span-gling** \'spaŋ-g(ә-)liŋ\ *vt* : to set or sprinkle with or as if with spangles ~ *vi* : to glitter as if covered with spangles : SPARKLE
Span-iard \'span-yәrd\ *n* [ME *Spaignard*, fr. MF *Espaignart*, fr. *Espaigne* Spain, fr. L *Hispania*] : a native or inhabitant of Spain
span-iel \'span-yәl *also* 'span-ᵊl\ *n* [ME *spaniell*, fr. MF *espaignol*, lit., Spaniard, fr. (assumed) VL *Hispaniolus*, fr. L *Hispania* Spain] **1** : any of numerous small or medium-sized mostly short-legged dogs usu. having long wavy hair, feathered legs and tail, and large drooping ears **2** : a fawning servile person
Span-ish \'span-ish\ *n* [*Spanish*, adj., fr. ME *Spainish*, fr. *Spain*] **1** : the Romance language of the largest part of Spain and of the countries colonized by Spaniards **2** *pl in constr* : the people of Spain — **Spanish** *adj*
Spanish American *n* **1** : a native or inhabitant of one of the countries of America in which Spanish is the national language **2** : a resident of the U.S. whose native language is Spanish and whose culture is of Spanish origin — **Spanish-American** *adj*
Spanish bayonet *n* : any of several yuccas; *esp* : one (*Yucca aloifolia*) with a short trunk and rigid spine-tipped leaves
Spanish chestnut *n* : MARRON
Spanish fly *n* **1** : a green blister beetle (*Lytta vesicatoria*) of southern Europe **2** : CANTHARIS 2
Spanish guitar *n* : GUITAR
Spanish heel *n* : a high covered wooden heel having a straight forepart
Spanish influenza *n* : pandemic influenza
Spanish mackerel *n* : any of various usu. large fishes (esp. genus *Scomberomorus*) chiefly of warm seas that resemble or are related to the common mackerel; *esp* : one (*S. maculatus*) that is bluish above with oval brown spots on the sides and is found off the American Atlantic coast from Cape Ann to Brazil
Spanish moss *n* : an epiphytic plant (*Tillandsia usneoides*) of the pineapple family forming pendent tufts of grayish green filaments on trees in the southern U.S. and the West Indies


Spanish moss on a tree

Spanish needles *n pl but sing or pl in constr* : a bur marigold (esp. *Bidens bipinnata*) of the eastern U.S.
Spanish omelet *n* : an omelet served with a sauce containing chopped green pepper, onion, and tomato
Spanish paprika *n* **1** : PIMIENTO 1 **2** : a paprika produced from pimientos usu. grown in Spain
Spanish rice *n* : rice cooked with onions, green pepper, and tomatoes
¹spank \'spaŋk\ *vt* [imit.] : to strike esp. on the buttocks with the open hand — **spank** *n*
²spank *vi* [back-formation fr. *spanking*] : to move quickly, dashingly, or spiritedly ⟨~*ing* along in his new car⟩
span-ker \'spaŋ-kәr\ *n* [origin unknown] **1** : the fore-and-aft sail on the mast nearest the stern of a square-rigged ship **2** : the sail on the sternmost mast in a schooner of four or more masts
¹spank-ing \'spaŋ-kiŋ\ *adj* [origin unknown] **1** : remarkable of its kind **2** : being fresh and strong : BRISK

²spanking *adv* : VERY ⟨a ~ clean floor⟩ ⟨a ~ new car⟩
span·ner \'span-ər\ *n* [G, instrument for winding springs, fr. *spannen* to stretch; akin to MD *spannen* to stretch — more at SPAN] **1** *chiefly Brit* : WRENCH **2** : a wrench that has a hole, projection, or hook at one or both ends of the head for engaging with a corresponding device on the object that is to be turned
span–new \'span-'n(y)ü\ *adj* [ME, part trans. of ON *spānnýr*, fr. *spānn* chip of wood + *nýr* new] : BRAND-NEW
span·worm \'span-ˌwərm\ *n* [³*span*] : LOOPER 1
¹spar \'spär\ *n* [ME *sparre*; akin to OE *spere* spear] **1** : a stout pole **2 a** : a stout rounded wood or metal piece (as a mast, boom, gaff, or yard) used to support rigging **b** (1) : one of the main longitudinal members of the wing of an airplane that carry the ribs (2) : LONGERON
²spar *vi* **sparred; spar·ring** [prob. alter. of ²*spur*] **1** : to strike or fight with feet or spurs in the manner of a gamecock **2 a** : BOX; *esp* : to gesture without landing a blow to draw one's opponent or create an opening **b** : to engage in a practice or exhibition bout of boxing **3** : SKIRMISH, WRANGLE
³spar *n* **1** : a movement of offense or defense in boxing **2** : a sparring match or session
⁴spar *n* [LG; akin to OE *spærstān* gypsum, *spæren* of plaster] : any of various nonmetallic usu. cleavable and lustrous minerals
Spar \'spär\ *n* [*Semper Para*tus, motto of the U.S. Coast Guard, fr. NL, always ready] : a member of the women's reserve of the U.S. Coast Guard
¹spare \'spa(ə)r, 'spe(ə)r\ *vb* **spared; spar·ing** [ME *sparen*, fr. OE *sparian*; akin to OHG *sparōn* to spare, OE *spær*, adj., spare] *vt* **1** : to forbear to destroy, punish, or harm **2** : to refrain from attacking or reprimanding with necessary or salutary severity **3** : to relieve of the necessity of doing or undergoing something ⟨~ yourself the trouble⟩ **4** : to refrain from : AVOID ⟨*spared* no expense⟩ **5** : to use or dispense frugally — used chiefly in the negative ⟨don't ~ the syrup⟩ **6 a** : to give up as not strictly needed ⟨do you have any cash to ~⟩ **b** : to have left over or as margin ⟨time to ~⟩ ~ *vi* **1** : to be frugal **2** : to refrain from doing harm : be lenient — **spare·able** \-ə-bəl\ *adj* — **spar·er** *n*
²spare *adj* **spar·er; spar·est** [ME, fr. OE *spær*; akin to OSlav *sporŭ* abundant, OE *spēd* prosperity — more at SPEED] **1** : not being used; *esp* : held for emergency use ⟨a ~ tire⟩ **2** : being over and above what is needed : SUPERFLUOUS ⟨~ time⟩ **3** : not liberal or profuse : SPARING ⟨a ~ prose style⟩ **4** : healthily lean **5** : not abundant or plentiful ***syn*** **1** see LEAN ***ant*** corpulent **2** see MEAGER ***ant*** profuse — **spare·ly** *adv* — **spare·ness** *n*
³spare *n* **1 a** : a spare tire **b** : a duplicate (as a key or shirt) kept in reserve **2** : the knocking down of all 10 pins with the first 2 balls in a frame in bowling
spare·ribs \'spa(ə)r-ˌ(r)ibz, 'spe(ə)r-, -əbz\ *n pl* [by folk etymology fr. LG *ribbesper* pickled pork ribs roasted on a spit, fr. MLG, fr. *ribbe* rib + *sper* spear, spit] : a cut of pork ribs separated from the bacon strip
sparge \'spärj\ *vt* **sparged; sparg·ing** [prob. fr. MF *espargier*, fr. L *spargere* to scatter] **1** : SPRINKLE, BESPATTER; *esp* : SPRAY **2** : to agitate (a liquid) by means of compressed air or gas entering through a pipe — **sparge** *n* — **sparg·er** *n*
spar·ing \'spa(ə)r-iŋ, 'spe(ə)r-\ *adj* **1** : marked by or practicing careful restraint (as in the use of resources) **2** : MEAGER, BARE ⟨the map is ~ of information⟩ — **spar·ing·ly** \-iŋ-lē\ *adv*
syn SPARING, FRUGAL, THRIFTY, ECONOMICAL *shared meaning element* : careful in the use of money or resources ***ant*** lavish
¹spark \'spärk\ *n* [ME *sparke*, fr. OE *spearca*; akin to MD *sparke* spark, L *spargere* to scatter, Gk *spargan* to swell] **1 a** : a small particle of a burning substance thrown out by a body in combustion or remaining when combustion is nearly completed **b** : a hot glowing particle struck from a larger mass; *esp* : one heated by friction ⟨produce a ~ by striking flint with steel⟩ **2 a** : a luminous disruptive electrical discharge of very short duration between two conductors separated by a gas (as air) **b** : the discharge in a spark plug **c** : the mechanism controlling the discharge in a spark plug **3** : SPARKLE, FLASH **4** : something that sets off a sudden force ⟨provided the ~ that helped the team to rally⟩ **5** : a latent particle capable of growth or developing : GERM ⟨still retains a ~ of decency⟩ **6** *pl but sing in constr* : a radio operator on a ship
²spark *vb* [ME *sparken*, fr. *sparke*] *vi* **1 a** : to throw out sparks **b** : to flash or fall like sparks **2** : to produce sparks; *specif* : to have the electric ignition working **3** : to respond with enthusiasm ~ *vt* **1** : to set off in a burst of activity : ACTIVATE ⟨the question ~*ed* a lively discussion⟩ **2** : to stir to activity : INCITE ⟨a player can ~ his team to victory⟩ — **spark·er** *n*
³spark *n* [perh. of Scand origin; akin to ON *sparkr* sprightly] **1** : a foppish young man : GALLANT **2** : LOVER, BEAU — **spark·ish** \'spär-kish\ *adj*
⁴spark *vb* : WOO, COURT — **spark·er** *n*
spark chamber *n* : a device usu. used to detect the path of a high-energy particle that consists of a series of charged metal plates or wires separated by a gas (as neon) in which observable electric discharges follow the path of the particle
spark coil *n* : an induction coil for producing the spark for an internal-combustion engine
spark gap *n* : a space between two high-potential terminals (as of an induction coil) through which pass discharges of electricity; *also* : a device having a spark gap
sparking plug *n, Brit* : SPARK PLUG
¹spar·kle \'spär-kəl\ *vb* **spar·kled; spar·kling** \-k(ə-)liŋ\ [ME *sparklen*, freq. of *sparken* to spark] *vi* **1 a** : to throw out sparks **b** : to give off or reflect bright moving points of light **c** : to perform brilliantly **2** : EFFERVESCE ⟨wine that ~*s*⟩ **3** : to become lively or animated ⟨the dialogue ~*s* with wit⟩ ⟨eyes *sparkling* with anger⟩ ~ *vt* : to cause to glitter or shine ***syn*** see FLASH
²sparkle *n* [ME, dim. of *sparke*] **1** : a little spark : SCINTILLATION **2** : the quality of sparkling **3 a** : ANIMATION, LIVELINESS **b** : the quality or state of being effervescent
spar·kler \'spär-klər\ *n* : one that sparkles: as **a** : DIAMOND **b** : a firework that throws off brilliant sparks on burning
sparkling wine *n* : an effervescent red or white table wine containing on the average 12 percent alcohol by volume
spark plug *n* **1** : a part that fits into the cylinder head of an internal-combustion engine and carries two electrodes separated by an air gap across which the current from the ignition system discharges to form the spark for combustion **2** : one that initiates or gives impetus to an undertaking — **spark·plug** \'spärk-ˌpləg\ *vt*
spark transmitter *n* : a radio transmitter that utilizes the discharge of a condenser through a spark gap as a source of its alternating-current power
sparky \'spär-kē\ *adj* **spark·i·er; -est** : marked by animation : LIVELY — **spark·i·ly** \-kə-lē\ *adv*
spar·ling \'spär-liŋ, -lən\ *n, pl* **sparling** *or* **sparlings** [ME *sperling*, fr. MF *esperling*, fr. MD *spierlinc*, fr. *spier* shoot, blade of grass] : a European smelt (*Osmerus eperlanus*)
sparring partner *n* : a boxer's companion for practice in sparring during training
spar·row \'spar-(ˌ)ō, -ə(-w)\ *n* [ME *sparow*, fr. OE *spearwa*; akin to OHG *sparo* sparrow, Gk *psar* starling] **1** : any of several small dull singing birds (genus *Passer* of the family Ploceidae) related to the finches; *esp* : ENGLISH SPARROW **2** : any of various finches (as of the genera *Spezilla* or *Melospiza*) resembling the true sparrows
spar·row·grass \'spar-ə-ˌgras, -grəs\ *n* [by folk etymology fr. *asparagus*] *chiefly dial* : ASPARAGUS
sparrow hawk *n* : any of various small hawks or falcons (as the Old World *Accipiter nisus* or the No. American *Falco sparverius*)
sparse \'spärs\ *adj* **spars·er; spars·est** [L *sparsus* spread out, fr. pp. of *spargere* to scatter — more at SPARK] : of few and scattered elements; *esp* : not thickly grown or settled ***syn*** see MEAGER ***ant*** dense — **sparse·ly** *adv* — **sparse·ness** *n* — **spar·si·ty** \'spär-sət-ē, -stē\ *n*
Spar·ta·cist \'spärt-ə-səst\ *n* [G *Spartakist*, fr. *Spartakusbund*, lit., league of Spartakus, a revolutionary organization, fr. *Spartakus*, pen name of Karl Liebknecht, its cofounder] : a member of a revolutionary political group organized in Germany in 1918 and advocating extreme socialistic doctrines
¹Spar·tan \'spärt-ᵊn\ *n* **1** : a native or inhabitant of ancient Sparta **2** : a person of great courage and fortitude — **Spar·tan·ism** \-ˌiz-əm\ *n*
²Spartan *adj* **1** : of or relating to Sparta in ancient Greece **2 a** : marked by strict self-discipline or self-denial ⟨a ~ athlete⟩ **b** : marked by simplicity, frugality, or avoidance of luxury and comfort **c** : LACONIC **d** : undaunted by pain or danger
spar·te·ine \'spärt-ē-ən, 'spär-ˌtēn\ *n* [L *spartum* esparto, broom + ISV *-eine* — more at ESPARTO] : a liquid alkaloid $C_{15}H_{26}N_2$ extracted from the common broom and used in medicine in the form of its sulfate
spar varnish *n* [¹*spar*] : an exterior waterproof varnish
spasm \'spaz-əm\ *n* [ME *spasme*, fr. MF, fr. L *spasmus*, fr. Gk *spasmos*, fr. *span* to draw, pull — more at SPAN] **1** : an involuntary and abnormal muscular contraction **2** : a sudden violent and temporary effort or emotion ⟨a ~ of creativity⟩
spas·mod·ic \spaz-'mäd-ik\ *adj* [NL *spasmodicus*, fr. Gk *spasmōdēs*, fr. *spasmos*] **1 a** : relating to or affected or characterized by spasm **b** : resembling a spasm esp. in sudden violence ⟨a ~ jerk⟩ **2** : acting or proceeding fitfully : INTERMITTENT **3** : subject to outbursts of emotional excitement : EXCITABLE ***syn*** see FITFUL — **spas·mod·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj* — **spas·mod·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
¹spas·mo·lyt·ic \ˌspaz-mə-'lit-ik\ *adj* [ISV *spasmo-* (fr. Gk *spasmos* spasm) + *-lytic* (fr. Gk *lytikos* able to loose) — more at LYTIC] : tending or having the power to relieve spasms or convulsions — **spas·mo·lyt·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
²spasmolytic *n* : a spasmolytic agent
¹spas·tic \'spas-tik\ *adj* [L *spasticus*, fr. Gk *spastikos* drawing in, fr. *span*] **1** : of, relating to, or characterized by spasm ⟨a ~ colon⟩ **2** : suffering from spastic paralysis ⟨a ~ child⟩ **3** : SPASMODIC ⟨a ~ influx of data⟩ — **spas·ti·cal·ly** \-ti-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **spas·tic·i·ty** \spa-'stis-ət-ē\ *n*
²spastic *n* : one suffering from spastic paralysis
spastic paralysis *n* : paralysis with tonic spasm of the affected muscles and with increased tendon reflexes — compare CEREBRAL PALSY
¹spat \'spat\ *past of* SPIT
²spat *n, pl* **spat** *or* **spats** [origin unknown] : a young oyster or other bivalve
³spat *n* [short for *spatterdash* (legging)] : a cloth or leather gaiter covering the instep and ankle
⁴spat *n* [prob. imit.] **1** : a brief petty quarrel or angry outburst **2** *chiefly dial* : SLAP **3** : a sound like that of rain falling in large drops ⟨the ~ of bullets⟩ ***syn*** see QUARREL
⁵spat *vb* **spat·ted; spat·ting** *vt, chiefly dial* : SLAP ~ *vi* **1** : to quarrel pettily or briefly **2** : to strike with a sound like that of rain falling in large drops
spate \'spāt\ *n* [ME] **1** : FRESHET, FLOOD **2 a** : a large number or amount ⟨a ~ of books on gardening⟩ **b** : a sudden or strong outburst : RUSH ⟨a ~ of anger⟩
spathe \'spāth\ *n* [NL *spatha*, fr. L, broad sword — more at SPADE] : a sheathing bract or pair of bracts enclosing an inflorescence and esp. a spadix on the same axis ⟨the ~ of the calla⟩
spath·ic \'spath-ik\ *adj* [G *spath, spat* spar; akin to OHG *spān* chip — more at SPOON] : resembling spar : FOLIATED
spath·u·late \'spath-yə-lət\ *adj* [LL *spathula, spatula* spatula] : SPATULATE ⟨~ petals of a flower⟩
spa·tial \'spā-shəl\ *adj* [L *spatium* space — more at SPEED] : relating to, occupying, or having the character of space — **spa·ti·al·i·ty** \ˌspā-shē-'al-ət-ē\ *n* — **spa·tial·ly** \'spāsh-(ə-)lē\ *adv*
spatial summation *n* : sensory summation that involves stimulation of several spatially separated neurons at the same time
spa·tio·tem·po·ral \ˌspā-shē-ō-'tem-p(ə-)rəl\ *adj* [L *spatium* + *tempor-, tempus* time — more at TEMPORAL] **1** : having both spatial and temporal qualities **2** : of or relating to space-time — **spa·tio·tem·po·ral·ly** \-ē\ *adv*

[1]spat·ter \'spat-ər\ *vb* [akin to Flem *spetteren* to spatter] *vt* **1** : to splash with or as if with a liquid; *also* : to soil in this way ⟨his coat was ~*ed* with mud⟩ **2** : to scatter by splashing ⟨~ water⟩ **3** : to injure by aspersion : DEFAME ⟨~ his good reputation⟩ ~ *vi* : to spurt forth in scattered drops ⟨blood ~*ing* everywhere⟩

[2]spatter *n* **1 a** : the act or process of spattering : the state of being spattered **b** : the noise of spattering **2 a** : a drop or splash spattered on something or a spot or stain due to spattering **b** : a small amount or number : SPRINKLE ⟨a ~ of applause⟩

spat·ter·dock \'spat-ər-ˌdäk\ *n* : a common yellow No. American water lily (*Nuphar advenum*); *also* : a congeneric plant

spat·u·la \'spach-(ə-)lə\ *n* [LL, spoon, spatula — more at EPAULET] : a flat thin usu. metal implement used esp. for spreading or mixing soft substances, scooping, or lifting

spat·u·late \'spach-ə-lət\ *adj* : shaped like a spatula ⟨a ~ leaf⟩ ⟨~ spines of a caterpillar⟩

spav·in \'spav-ən\ *n* [ME *spavayne*, fr. MF *espavain*] : SWELLING; *esp* : a bony enlargement of the hock of a horse associated with strain — **spav·ined** \-ənd\ *adj*

[1]spawn \'spȯn, 'spän\ *vb* [ME *spawnen*, fr. AF *espaundre*, fr. OF *espandre* to spread out, expand; fr. L *expandere*] *vt* **1 a** : to produce or deposit (eggs) — used of an aquatic animal **b** : to induce (fish) to spawn **c** : to plant with mushroom spawn **2** : to bring forth : GENERATE ~ *vi* **1** : to deposit spawn **2** : to produce young esp. in large numbers — **spawn·er** *n*

[2]spawn *n* **1** : the eggs of aquatic animals (as fishes or oysters) that lay many small eggs **2** : PRODUCT, OFFSPRING; *also* : numerous issue **3** : the seed, germ, or source of something **4** : mycelium esp. prepared (as in bricks) for propagating mushrooms

spay \'spā, *substand* 'spād\ *vt* **spayed** \'spād, *substand* 'spād-əd\; **spay·ing** \'spā-iŋ, *substand* 'spād-iŋ\ [ME *spayen*, fr. MF *espeer* to cut with a sword, fr. OF, fr. *espee* sword, fr. L *spatha* sword — more at SPADE] : to remove the ovaries of (a female animal)

SPCA *abbr* Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals

SPCC *abbr* Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children

speak \'spēk\ *vb* **spoke** \'spōk\; **spo·ken** \'spō-kən\; **speak·ing** [ME *speken*, fr. OE *sprecan, specan;* akin to OHG *sprehhan* to speak, Gk *sphārageisthai* to crackle] *vi* **1 a** : to utter words or articulate sounds with the ordinary voice : TALK **b** (1) : to express thoughts, opinions, or feelings orally (2) : to extend a greeting (3) : to be on speaking terms ⟨still were not ~*ing* after the dispute⟩ **c** (1) : to express oneself before a group (2) : to address one's remarks ⟨~ to the issue⟩ **2 a** : to make a written statement ⟨his diaries . . . *spoke* . . . of his entrancement with death —Sy Kahn⟩ **b** : to express oneself — often used in the phrase *so to speak* **c** : to serve as spokesman ⟨*spoke* for the whole group⟩ **3 a** : to express feelings by other than verbal means ⟨actions ~ louder than words⟩ **b** : SIGNAL **c** : to be interesting or attractive : APPEAL ⟨great music . . . ~*s* directly to the emotions —A. N. Whitehead⟩ **4** : to make a request : ASK ⟨*spoke* for the remaining piece of pie⟩ **5** : to make a characteristic or natural sound ⟨all at once the thunder *spoke* —George Meredith⟩ **6 a** : TESTIFY **b** : to be indicative or suggestive ⟨his gold . . . *spoke* of riches in the land —Julian Dana⟩ ~ *vt* **1 a** (1) : to utter with the speaking voice : PRONOUNCE (2) : to give a recitation of : DECLAIM **b** : to express orally : DECLARE ⟨free to ~ their minds⟩ **c** : ADDRESS, ACCOST; *esp* : HAIL **2** : to make known in writing : STATE **3** : to use or be able to use in speaking ⟨~*s* Spanish⟩ **4** : to indicate by other than verbal means **5** *archaic* : DESCRIBE, DEPICT — **speak·able** \spē-kə-bəl\ *adj*

syn SPEAK, TALK, CONVERSE *shared meaning element* : to articulate words so as to express one's thoughts

— **to speak of** : worthy of mention or notice — usu. used in negative constructions

speak·easy \'spē-ˌkē-zē\ *n, pl* **-eas·ies** : a place where alcoholic beverages are illegally sold

speak·er \'spē-kər\ *n* **1 a** : one that speaks **b** : one who makes a public speech **c** : one who acts as a spokesman **2** : the presiding officer of a deliberative assembly ⟨*Speaker* of the House of Representatives⟩ **3** : LOUDSPEAKER

speak·er·phone \'spē-kər-ˌfōn\ *n* : a combination microphone and loudspeaker device for two-way communication by telephone lines

speak·er·ship \-ˌship\ *n* : the position of speaker esp. of a legislative body

speak·ing \'spē-kiŋ\ *adj* **1 a** : that speaks : capable of speech **b** : containing chiefly native speakers of a (specified) language — usu. used in combination ⟨English-*speaking* countries⟩ **2** : highly significant or expressive : ELOQUENT **3** : resembling a living being or a real object

speaking tube *n* : a pipe through which conversation may be conducted (as between different parts of a building)

speak out *vi* **1** : to speak loud enough to be heard **2** : to speak boldly : express an opinion frankly ⟨*spoke out* on the issues⟩

speak up *vi* **1** : to speak loudly and distinctly **2** : to express an opinion freely ⟨*speak up* for truth and justice —Clive Bell⟩

spean \'spēn\ *vt* [MD *spenen*] *chiefly Scot* : WEAN

[1]spear \'spi(ə)r\ *n* [ME *spere*, fr. OE; akin to OHG *sper* spear, L *sparus*, Gk *sparos* gilthead] **1** : a thrusting or throwing weapon with long shaft and sharp head or blade **2** : a sharp-pointed instrument with barbs used in spearing fish **3** : SPEARMAN

[2]spear *adj* [*[1]spear*] : PATERNAL, MALE ⟨the ~ side of the family⟩ — compare DISTAFF

[3]spear *vt* **1** : to pierce, strike, or take with or as if with a spear ⟨~ salmon⟩ ⟨~*ed* a chop from the platter⟩ **2** : to catch (as a baseball) with a sudden thrust of the arm ~ *vi* : to thrust at or wound something with or as if with a spear — **spear·er** *n*

[4]spear *n* [alter. of *[1]spire*] : a usu. young blade, shoot, or sprout (as of grass)

[5]spear *vi, of a plant* : to thrust a spear upward

[1]spear·fish \'spi(ə)r-ˌfish\ *n* : any of several large powerful pelagic fishes (genus *Tetrapturus*) related to the marlins and sailfishes

[2]spearfish *vi* : to fish with a spear

[1]spear·head \'spi(ə)r-ˌhed\ *n* **1** : the sharp-pointed head of a spear **2** : a leading element, force, or influence in an undertaking or development

[2]spearhead *vt* : to serve as leader or leading element of

spear·man \'spi(ə)r-mən\ *n* : one armed with a spear

spear·mint \-ˌmint, -mənt\ *n* : a common mint (*Mentha spicata*) grown for flavoring and esp. for its aromatic oil

spear·wort \-ˌwərt, -ˌwȯ(ə)rt\ *n* : any of several crowfoots (esp. *Ranunculus flammula*) with spear-shaped leaves

spec *abbr* **1** special **2** specifically

[1]spe·cial \'spesh-əl\ *adj* [ME, fr. OF or L; OF *especial*, fr. L *specialis* individual, particular, fr. *species* species] **1** : distinguished by some unusual quality; *esp* : being in some way superior **2** : held in particular esteem ⟨a ~ friend⟩ **3 a** : readily distinguishable from others of the same category : UNIQUE ⟨they set it apart as a ~ day of thanksgiving⟩ **b** : of, relating to, or constituting a species : SPECIFIC **4** : being other than the usual : ADDITIONAL, EXTRA **5** : designed for a particular purpose or occasion — **spe·cial·ly** \-(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **spe·cial·ness** *n*

syn SPECIAL, ESPECIAL, SPECIFIC, PARTICULAR, INDIVIDUAL *shared meaning element* : of or relating to one thing or class. SPECIAL implies differences that give the thing modified its distinctive quality, character, identity, or use ⟨a *special* soap for dry skins⟩ and may add a notion of superiority and then come close to *uncommon* or *exceptional* in meaning ⟨a hereditary aristocracy with *special* privileges⟩ ESPECIAL may add implications of preeminence or preference ⟨his *especial* friend in that group⟩ ⟨a matter of *especial* importance⟩ SPECIFIC basically implies unique and peculiar relationship to a kind or category or individual ⟨*specific* nutritional needs of the aged⟩ but in much of its use so stresses the notion of uniqueness as to obscure that of relationship ⟨whether the *specific* freedoms we know and cherish . . . can be maintained —Sidney Hook⟩ or even mean little more than explicitly mentioned or brought to attention ⟨the policy covers only the *specific* losses mentioned above⟩ PARTICULAR can replace *specific* in the last use and then stresses the distinctness of the thing as an individual; thus, one gives a *specific* illustration of a word's use but describes the *particular* applications of the word. In much of its use *particular* stands in opposition to *general* or *universal* in its stress on individuality ⟨one is apt to amplify a *particular* judgment into a general opinion —Compton Mackenzie⟩ INDIVIDUAL unequivocally refers to one of a class or group as distinct ⟨it was not the magnitude or multiplicity of burdens that created martyrs and saints; it was the *individual* capacity to bear suffering —Harry Hervey⟩

[2]special *n* **1** : something (as a television program) that is not part of a regular series **2** : one that is used for a special service or occasion ⟨caught the commuter ~ to work⟩

special act *n* : a legislative act applying only to particular persons or to a particular area

special assessment *n* : a specific tax levied on private property to meet the cost of public improvements that enhance the value of the property

special delivery *n* : expedited messenger delivery of mail matter for an extra fee

special district *n* : a political subdivision of a state established to provide a single public service (as water supply or sanitation) within a specific geographical area

special effects *n pl* : visual or acoustic effects introduced into a motion picture or a taped television production during laboratory processing

Special Forces *n pl* : a branch of the army composed of men specially trained in guerrilla warfare

special handling *n* : the handling of parcel-post or fourth-class mail as first-class but not as special-delivery matter for an extra postal fee

special interest *n* : a person or group having an interest in a particular part of the economy and receiving or seeking special advantages therein often to the detriment of the general public

spe·cial·ism \'spesh-ə-ˌliz-əm\ *n* **1** : specialization in an occupation or branch of learning **2** : a field of specialization : SPECIALTY

spe·cial·ist \'spesh-(ə-)ləst\ *n* **1** : one who devotes himself to a special occupation or branch of learning **2** : any of four enlisted ranks in the army corresponding to the grades of corporal through sergeant first class — **specialist** *or* **spe·cial·is·tic** \ˌspesh-ə-'lis-tik\ *adj*

spe·ci·al·i·ty \ˌspesh-ē-'al-ət-ē\ *n, pl* **-ties** **1** : a special mark or quality **2** : a special object or class of objects **3 a** : a special aptitude or skill **b** : a particular occupation or branch of learning

spe·cial·iza·tion \ˌspesh-(ə-)lə-'zā-shən\ *n* **1** : a making or becoming specialized **2 a** : structural adaptation of a body part to a particular function or of an organism for life in a particular environment **b** : a body part or an organism adapted by specialization

spe·cial·ize \'spesh-ə-ˌlīz\ *vb* **-ized; -iz·ing** *vt* **1** : to make particular mention of : PARTICULARIZE **2** : to apply or direct to a specific end or use ⟨*specialized* his study⟩ ~ *vi* **1** : to concentrate one's efforts in a special activity or field **2** : to undergo specialization; *esp* : to change adaptively ⟨the sloth became highly *specialized* in the course of evolution⟩

specialized *adj* **1** : designed or fitted for one particular purpose or occupation ⟨~ personnel⟩ **2** : characterized by or exhibiting biological specialization; *esp* : highly differentiated esp. in a particular direction or for a particular end

special jury *n* : a jury chosen by the court upon request from a list of better educated or presumably more intelligent prospective ju-

rors for a case involving complicated issues of fact or serious felonies — called also *blue-ribbon jury*
special pleading *n* **1** : the allegation of special or new matter to offset the effect of matter pleaded by the opposite side and admitted, as distinguished from a direct denial of the matter pleaded **2** : misleading argument that presents one point or phase as if it covered the entire question at issue
special privilege *n* : a privilege granted esp. by a law or constitution to an individual or group to the exclusion of others and in derogation of common right
special session *n* : an extraordinary session of a legislative body or a court
special theory of relativity : RELATIVITY 3a
spe·cial·ty \'spesh-əl-tē\ *n, pl* **-ties** [ME *specialte*, fr. MF *especialté*, fr. LL *specialitat-, specialitas*, fr. L *specialis* special] **1** : a distinctive mark or quality **2 a** : a special object or class of objects: as (1) : a legal agreement embodied in a sealed instrument (2) : a product of a special kind or of special excellence ⟨fried chicken was mother's ~⟩ **b** : the state of being special, distinctive, or peculiar **3** : something in which one specializes
spe·ci·ate \'spē-s(h)ē-ˌāt\ *vi* **-at·ed; -at·ing** [back-formation fr. *speciation*, fr. *species*] : to differentiate into new biological species — **spe·ci·a·tion** \ˌspē-s(h)ē-'ā-shən\ *n* — **spe·ci·a·tion·al** \-shnəl, -shən-ᵊl\ *adj*
¹spe·cie \'spē-shē, -sē\ *n* [fr. *in specie*, fr. L, in kind] : money in coin — **in specie** : in the same or like form or kind ⟨ready to return insult *in specie*⟩; *also* : in coin
²specie *n* [back-formation fr. *species* (taken as a pl.)] *substand* : SPECIES
¹spe·cies \'spē-(ˌ)shēz, -(ˌ)sēz\ *n, pl* **species** [L, appearance, kind, species — more at SPY] **1 a** : a class of individuals having common attributes and designated by a common name; *specif* : a logical division of a genus or more comprehensive class **b** : KIND, SORT **c** (1) : a category of biological classification ranking immediately below the genus or subgenus, comprising related organisms or populations potentially capable of interbreeding, and being designated by a binomial that consists of the name of a genus followed by a Latin or latinized uncapitalized noun or adjective agreeing grammatically with the genus name (2) : an individual or kind belonging to a biological species **d** : a particular kind of atomic nucleus, atom, molecule, or ion **2** : the consecrated eucharistic elements of the Roman Catholic or Eastern Orthodox eucharist **3 a** : a mental image; *also* : a sensible object **b** : an object of thought correlative with a natural object
²species *adj* : belonging to a biological species as distinguished from a horticultural variety ⟨a ~ rose⟩
specif *abbr* specific; specifically
¹spe·cif·ic \spi-'sif-ik\ *adj* [LL *specificus*, fr. L *species*] **1 a** : constituting or falling into a specifiable category **b** : sharing or being those properties of something that allow it to be referred to a particular category **2 a** : restricted by nature to a particular individual, situation, relation, or effect ⟨a disease ~ to horses⟩ **b** : exerting a distinctive influence (as on a body part or a disease) ⟨~ antibodies⟩ **3** : free from ambiguity : ACCURATE ⟨a ~ statement of faith⟩ **4** : of, relating to, or constituting a species and esp. a biologic species **5 a** : being any of various arbitrary physical constants and esp. one relating a quantitative attribute to unit mass, volume, or area **b** : imposed at a fixed rate per unit (as of weight or count) ⟨~ import duties⟩ — compare AD VALOREM ***syn*** **1** see SPECIAL ***ant*** generic **2** see EXPLICIT ***ant*** vague — **spe·cif·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
²specific *n* **1 a** : something peculiarly adapted to a purpose or use **b** : a drug or remedy having a specific mitigating effect on a disease **2 a** : a characteristic quality or trait **b** : DETAILS, PARTICULARS — usu. used in pl. ⟨haggling over the legal and financial ~*s* of independence —*Time*⟩ **c** *pl* : SPECIFICATION 2a
spec·i·fi·ca·tion \ˌspes-(ə-)fə-'kā-shən\ *n* **1** : the act or process of specifying **2 a** : a detailed precise presentation of something or of a plan or proposal for something — usu. used in pl. **b** : a statement of legal particulars (as of charges or of contract terms); *also* : a single item of such statement **c** : a written description of an invention for which a patent is sought
specific character *n* : a character distinguishing one species from another or from every other species of the same genus
specific epithet *n* : the Latin or latinized noun or adjective that follows the genus name in a taxonomic binomial
specific gravity *n* : the ratio of the density of a substance to the density of a substance (as pure water or hydrogen) taken as a standard when both densities are obtained by weighing in air
specific heat *n* **1** : the ratio of the quantity of heat required to raise the temperature of a body one degree to that required to raise the temperature of an equal mass of water one degree **2** : the heat in calories required to raise the temperature of one gram of a substance one degree centigrade
specific impulse *n* : the thrust produced per unit rate of consumption of the propellant that is usu. expressed in pounds of thrust per pound of propellant used per second and that is a measure of the efficiency of a rocket engine
spec·i·fic·i·ty \ˌspes-ə-'fis-ət-ē\ *n* : the quality or condition of being specific: as **a** : the condition of being peculiar to a particular individual or group of organisms ⟨host ~ of a parasite⟩ **b** : the condition of participating in or catalyzing only one or a few chemical reactions ⟨the ~ of an enzyme⟩
specific performance *n* **1** : the performance of a legal contract strictly or substantially according to its terms **2** : an equitable remedy enjoining specific performance
spec·i·fy \'spes-ə-ˌfī\ *vt* **-fied; -fy·ing** [ME *specifien*, fr. OF *specifier*, fr. LL *specificare*, fr. *specificus*] **1** : to name or state explicitly or in detail **2** : to include as an item in a specification ***syn*** see MENTION — **spec·i·fi·able** \-ˌfī-ə-bəl\ *adj* — **spec·i·fi·er** \-ˌfī(-ə)r\ *n*
spec·i·men \'spes-(ə-)mən\ *n* [L, fr. *specere* to look at, look] **1** : an item or part typical of a group or whole **2 a** : something that obviously belongs to a particular category but is noticed by reason of an individual distinguishing characteristic ⟨a snub-nosed scraggly yellowish ~ of canine —*Boys' Life*⟩ **b** : PERSON, INDIVIDUAL ⟨he's a tough ~⟩ ***syn*** see INSTANCE
spe·ci·os·i·ty \ˌspē-shē-'äs-ət-ē\ *n* : the quality or state of being specious : SPECIOUSNESS
spe·cious \'spē-shəs\ *adj* [ME, fr. L *speciosus* beautiful, plausible, fr. *species*] **1** *obs* : SHOWY **2** : having deceptive attraction or allure **3** : having a false look of truth or genuineness : SOPHISTICAL ***syn*** see PLAUSIBLE — **spe·cious·ly** *adv* — **spe·cious·ness** *n*
¹speck \'spek\ *n* [ME *specke*, fr. OE *specca*] **1** : a small discoloration or spot esp. from stain or decay **2** : a very small amount : BIT **3** : something marked or marred with specks
²speck *vt* : to produce specks on or in
¹speck·le \'spek-əl\ *n* [ME; akin to OE *specca*] : a little speck (as of color)
²speckle *vt* **speck·led; speck·ling** \-(ə-)liŋ\ **1** : to mark with speckles **2** : to be distributed in or on like speckles
speckled perch *n* : BLACK CRAPPIE
specs \'speks\ *n pl* **1** [contr. of *spectacles*] : EYEGLASSES **2** [by contr.] : SPECIFICATIONS
spec·ta·cle \'spek-ti-kəl; *oftenest for 2, 3* -ˌtik-əl\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *spectaculum*, fr. *spectare* to watch, fr. *spectus*, pp. of *specere* to look, look at — more at SPY] **1 a** : something exhibited to view as unusual, notable, or entertaining; *esp* : an eye-catching or dramatic public display **b** : an object of curiosity or contempt ⟨made a ~ of herself⟩ **2** *pl* : EYEGLASSES **3** : something (as natural markings on an animal) suggesting a pair of glasses
spec·ta·cled \-ti-kəld, -ˌtik-əld\ *adj* **1** : having or wearing spectacles **2** : having markings suggesting a pair of spectacles ⟨a ~ alligator⟩
¹spec·tac·u·lar \spek-'tak-yə-lər, spək-\ *adj* [L *spectaculum*] : of, relating to, or constituting a spectacle : STRIKING, SENSATIONAL ⟨a ~ display of fireworks⟩ — **spec·tac·u·lar·ly** *adv*
²spectacular *n* : something that is spectacular
spec·tate \'spek-ˌtāt\ *vi* **spec·tat·ed; spec·tat·ing** [back-formation fr. *spectator*] : to be present as a spectator (as at a sports event)
spec·ta·tor \'spek-ˌtāt-ər, spek-'\ *n* [L, fr. *spectatus*, pp. of *spectare* to watch] : one who looks on or watches : ONLOOKER — **spectator** *adj* — **spec·ta·tress** \spek-'tā-trəs, 'spek-ˌ\ *n*
spec·ter *or* **spec·tre** \'spek-tər\ *n* [F *spectre*, fr. L *spectrum* appearance, specter, fr. *specere* to look, look at — more at SPY] **1** : a visible disembodied spirit : GHOST **2** : something that haunts or perturbs the mind : PHANTASM ⟨the ~ of hunger⟩
spec·tral \'spek-trəl\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or suggesting a specter : GHOSTLY **2** : of, relating to, or made by a spectrum — **spectral·i·ty** \spek-'tral-ət-ē\ *n* — **spec·tral·ly** \'spek-trə-lē\ *adv* — **spec·tral·ness** *n*
spectral line *n* : one of a series of linear images of the narrow slit of a spectrograph or similar instrument corresponding to a component of the spectrum of the radiation emitted by a particular source
spectro- *comb form* [NL *spectrum*] : spectrum ⟨*spectro*scope⟩
spec·tro·flu·o·rom·e·ter \'spek-(ˌ)trō-ˌflù(-ə)r-'äm-ət-ər\ *or* **spec·tro·flu·o·rim·e·ter** \-'im-\ *n* [*spectr-* + *fluorometer*] : a device for measuring and recording fluorescence spectra — **spec·tro·flu·o·ro·met·ric** \-ˌflù(-ə)r-ə-'me-trik\ *adj* — **spec·tro·flu·o·rom·e·try** \-ˌflù(-ə)r-'äm-ə-trē\ *n*
spec·tro·gram \'spek-t(r)ə-ˌgram\ *n* [ISV] : a photograph or diagram of a spectrum
spec·tro·graph \-ˌgraf\ *n* [ISV] : an instrument for dispersing radiation (as electromagnetic radiation or sound waves) into a spectrum and photographing or mapping the spectrum — **spec·tro·graph·ic** \ˌspek-t(r)ə-'graf-ik\ *adj* — **spec·tro·graph·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **spec·trog·ra·phy** \spek-'träg-rə-fē\ *n*
spec·tro·he·lio·gram \ˌspek-trō-'hē-lē-ə-ˌgram\ *n* : a photograph of the sun that is made by monochromatic light and shows the sun's faculae and prominences
spec·tro·he·lio·graph \-ˌgraf\ *n* [ISV] : an apparatus for making spectroheliograms — **spec·tro·he·li·og·ra·phy** \-ˌhē-lē-'äg-rə-fē\ *n*
spec·tro·he·lio·scope \-'hē-lē-ə-ˌskōp\ *n* [ISV] **1** : SPECTROHELIOGRAPH **2** : an instrument similar to a spectroheliograph used for visual as distinguished from photographic observations
spec·trom·e·ter \spek-'träm-ət-ər\ *n* [ISV] **1** : an instrument used in determining the index of refraction **2** : a spectroscope fitted for measurements of the spectra observed with it — **spec·tro·met·ric** \ˌspek-trə-'me-trik\ *adj* — **spec·trom·e·try** \spek-'träm-ə-trē\ *n*
spec·tro·pho·tom·e·ter \ˌspek-trō-fə-'täm-ət-ər\ *n* [ISV] : a photometer for measuring the relative intensities of the light in different parts of a spectrum — **spec·tro·pho·to·met·ric** \-trə-ˌfōt-ə-'me-trik\ *or* **spec·tro·pho·to·met·ri·cal** \-tri-kəl\ *adj* — **spec·tro·pho·to·met·ri·cal·ly** \-tri-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **spec·tro·pho·tom·e·try** \ˌspek-(ˌ)trō-fə-'täm-ə-trē\ *n*
spec·tro·scope \'spek-trə-ˌskōp\ *n* [ISV] : an instrument for forming and examining optical spectra — **spec·tro·scop·ic** \ˌspek-trə-'skäp-ik\ *or* **spec·tro·scop·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj* — **spec·tro·scop·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **spec·tros·co·pist** \spek-'träs-kə-pəst\ *n*
spec·tros·co·py \spek-'träs-kə-pē\ *n* **1** : physics that deals with the theory and interpretation of interactions between matter and radiation (as electromagnetic radiation) **2** : the action of using a spectroscope
spec·trum \'spek-trəm\ *n, pl* **spec·tra** \-trə\ *or* **spectrums** [NL, fr. L, appearance — more at SPECTER] **1** : an array of the components of an emission or wave separated and arranged in the order of some varying characteristic (as wavelength, mass, or energy): as **a** : a series of images formed when a beam of radiant energy is subjected to dispersion and brought to focus so that the component waves are arranged in the order of their wavelengths (as when a beam of sunlight that is refracted and dispersed by a prism forms a display of colors) **b** : ELECTROMAGNETIC SPECTRUM **c** : RADIO SPECTRUM **d** : the range of frequencies of sound waves **2** : a continuous sequence or range ⟨a wide ~ of interests⟩
spec·u·lar \'spek-yə-lər\ *adj* [L *specularis* of a mirror, fr. *speculum*] **1** : of, relating to, or having the qualities of a mirror **2** : conducted with the aid of a medical speculum — **spec·u·lar·i·ty** \ˌspek-yə-'lar-ət-ē\ *n* — **spec·u·lar·ly** \'spek-yə-lər-lē\ *adv*

spec·u·late \'spek-yə-ˌlāt\ *vi* **-lat·ed; -lat·ing** [L *speculatus*, pp. of *speculari* to spy out, examine, fr. *specula* watchtower, fr. *specere* to look, look at] **1 a** : to meditate on or ponder a subject : REFLECT **b** : to review something idly or casually and often inconclusively **2** : to assume a business risk in hope of gain; *esp* : to buy or sell in expectation of profiting from market fluctuations ***syn*** see THINK — **spec·u·la·tor** \-ˌlāt-ər\ *n*

spec·u·la·tion \ˌspek-yə-ˈlā-shən\ *n* : an act or instance of speculating: as **a** : assumption of unusual business risk in hopes of obtaining commensurate gain **b** : a transaction involving such speculation

spec·u·la·tive \'spek-yə-lət-iv, -ˌlāt-\ *adj* **1** : involving, based on, or constituting intellectual speculation; *also* : theoretical rather than demonstrable ⟨~ knowledge⟩ **2** : marked by questioning curiosity ⟨gave him a ~ glance⟩ ***syn*** see THEORETICAL

spec·u·lum \'spek-yə-ləm\ *n, pl* **-la** \-lə\ *also* **-lums** [L, mirror, fr. *specere*] **1** : an instrument inserted into a body passage for inspection or medication **2 a** : an ancient mirror usu. of bronze or silver **b** : a reflector in an optical instrument **3** : a medieval compendium of all knowledge **4** : a drawing or table showing the relative positions of all the planets (as in an astrological nativity) **5** : a patch of color on the secondaries of most ducks and some other birds

speech \'spēch\ *n* [ME *speche*, fr. OE *sprǣc, spǣc*; akin to OE *sprecan* to speak — more at SPEAK] **1 a** : the communication or expression of thoughts in spoken words **b** : exchange of spoken words : CONVERSATION **2 a** : something that is spoken : UTTERANCE **b** : a public discourse : ADDRESS **3 a** : LANGUAGE, DIALECT **b** : an individual manner or style of speaking **4** : the power of expressing or communicating thoughts by speaking

speech community *n* : a group of people sharing characteristic patterns of vocabulary, grammar, and pronunciation

speech form *n* : LINGUISTIC FORM

speech·ify \'spē-chə-ˌfī\ *vi* **-ified; -ify·ing** : to make a speech

speech·less \'spēch-ləs\ *adj* **1** : unable to speak : DUMB **2** : not speaking : SILENT **3** : not capable of being expressed in words — **speech·less·ly** *adv* — **speech·less·ness** *n*

¹speed \'spēd\ *n* [ME *spede*, fr. OE *spēd*; akin to OHG *spuot* prosperity, speed, L *spes* hope, *spatium* space] **1** *archaic* : prosperity in an undertaking : SUCCESS **2 a** : the act or state of moving swiftly : SWIFTNESS **b** : rate of motion: as (1) : VELOCITY (2) : the magnitude of a velocity irrespective of direction **c** : IMPETUS **3** : swiftness or rate of performance or action **4 a** : the sensitivity of a photographic film, plate, or paper expressed numerically **b** : the light-gathering power of a lens or optical system **c** : the time during which a camera shutter is open **5** : a transmission gear in automotive vehicles **6** : someone or something that appeals to one's taste **7** : METHAMPHETAMINE; *also* : a related drug ***syn*** see HASTE

²speed *vb* **sped** \'sped\ *or* **speed·ed; speed·ing** *vi* **1 a** : to prosper in an undertaking **b** : to get along : FARE **2 a** : to make haste ⟨*sped* to her bedside⟩ **b** : to go or drive at excessive or illegal speed **3** : to move, work, or take place faster : ACCELERATE ⟨the heart ~*s* up⟩ ~ *vt* **1 a** *archaic* : to cause or help to prosper : AID **b** : to further the success of **2 a** : to cause to move quickly : HASTEN **b** : to wish Godspeed to **c** : to increase the speed of : ACCELERATE ⟨~*ed* up the engine⟩ **3** : to send out ⟨~ an arrow⟩ — **speed·er** *n* — **speed·ster** \'spēd-stər\ *n*

¹speed·ball \'spēd-ˌbȯl\ *n* : a game which resembles soccer but in which a ball that is caught in the air may be passed with the hands and in which scoring is accomplished by kicking or heading the ball between the goalposts or by a successful forward pass over the goal line

²speedball *n, slang* : cocaine mixed with heroin or morphine or an amphetamine and usu. taken by injection

speed·boat \-ˌbōt\ *n* : a fast launch or motorboat

speed·boat·ing \-iŋ\ *n* : the act, art, or sport of managing a speedboat — **speed·boat·er** \-ər\ *n*

speed freak *n* : one who habitually misuses amphetamines and esp. methamphetamine

speed·light \'spēd-ˌlīt\ *n* : STROBOTRON

speed limit *n* : the maximum speed permitted by law in a given area under specified circumstances

speed·om·e·ter \spi-'däm-ət-ər\ *n* **1** : an instrument for indicating speed : TACHOMETER **2** : an instrument for indicating distance traversed as well as speed of travel; *also* : ODOMETER

speed–read·ing \'spēd-ˌrēd-iŋ\ *n* : a method of reading rapidly by skimming — **speed–read** *vt*

speed shop *n* : a shop that sells custom automotive equipment esp. to hot-rodders

speed trap *n* : a stretch of road policed by often concealed officers or devices (as radar) so as to catch speeders

speed·up \'spēd-ˌəp\ *n* **1** : ACCELERATION **2** : an employer's demand for accelerated output without increased pay

speed·way \'spēd-ˌwā\ *n* **1** : a public road on which fast driving is allowed; *specif* : EXPRESSWAY **2** : a racecourse for automobiles or motorcycles **3** : a sprint race for motorcycles limited to a few contestants at one time

speed·well \'spēd-ˌwel\ *n* **1** : a perennial European herb (*Veronica officinalis*) of the figwort family with small bluish flowers in axillary racemes **2** : a plant congeneric with the speedwell

speedy \'spēd-ē\ *adj* **speed·i·er; -est** : marked by swiftness of motion or action ***syn*** see FAST ***ant*** dilatory — **speed·i·ly** \'spēd-ᵊl-ē\ *adv* — **speed·i·ness** \'spēd-ē-nəs\ *n*

speel \'spē(ə)l\ *vb, chiefly Scot* [origin unknown] : CLIMB

speer *or* **speir** \'spi(ə)r\ *vb* [ME (Sc) *speren*, fr. OE *spyrian* to seek after; akin to OE *spor* spoor] *chiefly Scot* : ASK, INQUIRE

speiss \'spīs\ *n* [G *speise*, lit., food, fr. (assumed) VL *spesa*, fr. LL *expensa* expense] : a mixture of impure metallic arsenides produced as a regulus in smelting certain ores

spe·le·ol·o·gy \ˌspē-lē-'äl-ə-jē, ˌspel-ē-\ *n* [L *speleum* cave (fr. Gk *spēlaion*) + ISV *-o-* + *-logy*] : the scientific study or exploration of caves — **spe·le·o·log·i·cal** \ˌspē-lē-ə-'läj-i-kəl, ˌspel-ē-\ *adj* — **spe·le·ol·o·gist** \ˌspē-lē-'äl-ə-jəst, ˌspel-ē-\ *n*

¹spell \'spel\ *n* [ME, talk, tale, fr. OE; akin to OHG *spel* talk, tale, Gk *apeilē* boast] **1 a** : a spoken word or form of words held to have magic power : INCANTATION **b** : a state of enchantment **2** : a strong compelling influence or attraction

²spell *vt* : to put under a spell : BEWITCH

³spell *vb* **spelled** \'speld, 'spelt\; **spell·ing** [ME *spellen*, fr. OF *espeller*, of Gmc origin; akin to OE *spell* talk] *vt* **1** : to read slowly and with difficulty — often used with *out* **2 a** : to find out by study : come to understand ⟨it requires some pains to ~ out those decorations —F. J. Mather⟩ **b** : to present in detail : make comprehensible by careful elaboration ⟨no one ~*ed* out the answer for all to read —Irving Kolodin⟩ **3 a** : to name the letters of in order; *also* : to write or print the letters of in order **b** : to make up (a word) ⟨what word do these letters ~⟩ **4** : to add up to : MEAN ⟨crop failure was likely to ~ stark famine —Stringfellow Barr⟩ ~ *vi* : to form words with letters

⁴spell *vb* **spelled** \'speld\; **spell·ing** [ME *spelen*, fr. OE *spelian*; akin to OE *spala* substitute] *vt* **1** : to take the place of for a time : RELIEVE ⟨he and the other assistant . . . ~*ed* each other —Mary McCarthy⟩ **2** : REST ~ *vi* **1** : to work in turns **2** *chiefly Austral* : to rest from work or activity for a time

⁵spell *n* **1 a** *archaic* : a shift of workers **b** : one's turn at work **2 a** : a period spent in a job or occupation **b** *chiefly Austral* : a period of rest from work, activity, or use **3 a** : an indeterminate period of time ⟨waited a ~ before advancing⟩ **b** : a stretch of a specified type of weather **4** : a period of bodily or mental distress or disorder ⟨a ~ of coughing⟩ ⟨fainting ~*s*⟩

spell·bind \'spel-ˌbīnd\ *vt* **-bound** \-ˌbau̇nd\; **-bind·ing** [back-formation fr. *spellbound*] : to bind or hold by or as if by a spell or charm : FASCINATE

spell·bind·er \-ˌbīn-dər\ *n* : a speaker of compelling eloquence

spell·bound \-'bau̇nd\ *adj* : held by or as if by a spell

spell·down \'spel-ˌdau̇n\ *n* : a spelling contest in which each contestant is eliminated as soon as he misspells a word

spell down \(ˈ)spel-'dau̇n\ *vt* : to defeat in a spelldown

spell·er \'spel-ər\ *n* **1** : one who spells words **2** : a book with exercises for teaching spelling

spell·ing \'spel-iŋ\ *n* **1** : the forming of words from letters according to accepted usage : ORTHOGRAPHY **2** : a sequence of letters composing a word

spelling bee *n* : SPELLDOWN

spell out *vt* : to make plain ⟨*spelled out* his orders in detail⟩

¹spelt \'spelt\ *n* [ME, fr. OE, fr. LL *spelta*, of Gmc origin; akin to MHG *spelte* split piece of wood, OHG *spaltan* to split — more at SPILL] : a wheat (*Triticum spelta*) with lax spikes and spikelets containing two light red kernels — called also *speltz*

²spelt \'spelt\ *chiefly Brit past of* SPELL

spel·ter \'spel-tər\ *n* [prob. alter. of MD *speauter*] : ZINC; *esp* : zinc cast in slabs for commercial use

speltz \'spelts\ *n* [G *spelz*, fr. OHG *spelza*, fr. LL *spelta*] : SPELT

spe·lunk·er \spi-'ləŋ-kər, 'spē-ˌ\ *n* [L *spelunca* cave, fr. Gk *spēlynx*; akin to Gk *spēlaion* cave] : one who makes a hobby of exploring and studying caves

spe·lunk·ing \-kiŋ\ *n* : the hobby or practice of exploring caves

spence \'spen(t)s\ *n* [ME, fr. MF *despense*, fr. ML *dispensa*, fr. L, fem. of *dispensus*, pp. of *dispendere* to weigh out — more at DISPENSE] *dial Brit* : PANTRY

¹spen·cer \'spen(t)-sər\ *n* [George John, 2d earl *Spencer* †1834 E politician] : a short waist-length jacket

²spencer *n* [prob. fr. the name *Spencer*] : a trysail abaft the foremast or mainmast

¹Spen·ce·ri·an \spen-'sir-ē-ən\ *adj* : of or relating to Herbert Spencer or Spencerianism

²Spencerian *adj* [Platt R. *Spencer* †1864 Am calligrapher] : of or relating to a form of slanting handwriting

Spen·ce·ri·an·ism \spen-'sir-ē-ə-ˌniz-əm\ *n* : the synthetic philosophy of Herbert Spencer that has as its central idea the mechanistic evolution of the cosmos from relative simplicity to relative complexity

spend \'spend\ *vb* **spent** \'spent\; **spend·ing** [ME *spenden*, fr. OE & OF; OE *spendan*, fr. L *expendere* to expend; OF *despendre*, fr. L *dispendere* to weigh out — more at DISPENSE] *vt* **1** : to use up or pay out : EXPEND **2 a** : to wear out : EXHAUST ⟨the hurricane gradually *spent* itself⟩ **b** : to consume wastefully : SQUANDER ⟨the waters are not ours to ~ —J. R. Ellis⟩ **3** : to cause or permit to elapse : PASS ⟨*spent* the summer at the beach⟩ **4** : to give up : SACRIFICE ~ *vi* **1** : to expend or waste wealth or strength **2** : to become expended or consumed — **spend·er** *n*

spend·able \'spen-də-bəl\ *adj* : available for spending

spending money *n* : POCKET MONEY

spend·thrift \'spen(d)-ˌthrift\ *n* : one who spends improvidently or wastefully — **spendthrift** *adj*

syn SPENDTHRIFT, PRODIGAL, PROFLIGATE, WASTER, WASTREL *shared meaning element* : a person who dissipates his resources foolishly and wastefully

Spen·gle·ri·an \s(h)peŋ-'(g)lir-ē-ən\ *adj* : of or relating to the theory of world history developed by Oswald Spengler which holds that all major cultures undergo similar cyclical developments from birth to maturity to decay — **Spenglerian** *n*

Spen·se·ri·an sonnet \spen-ˌsir-ē-ən-\ *n* [Edmund *Spenser*] : a sonnet consisting of three interlocked quatrains and a couplet with a rhyme scheme *abab bcbc cdcd ee*

Spenserian stanza *n* : a stanza consisting of eight verses of iambic pentameter and an alexandrine with a rhyme scheme *ababbcbcc*

spent \'spent\ *adj* [ME, fr. pp. of *spenden* to spend] **1 a** : used up : CONSUMED **b** : exhausted of active or required components or

qualities often for a particular purpose ⟨~ grain that remains from wort production is a useful livestock feed⟩ **2** : drained of energy or effectiveness : EXHAUSTED **3** : exhausted of spawn or sperm ⟨a ~ salmon⟩

sperm \'spərm\ *n, pl* **sperm** *or* **sperms** [ME, fr. MF *esperme,* fr. LL *spermat-, sperma,* fr. Gk, lit., seed; akin to Gk *speirein* to sow — more at SPROUT] **1 a** : the male fecundating fluid : SEMEN **b** : a male gamete **2** : a product (as spermaceti or oil) of the sperm whale

sperm- *or* **spermo-** *or* **sperma-** *or* **spermi-** *comb form* [Gk *sperm-, spermo-,* fr. *sperma*] : seed : germ : sperm ⟨*sperma*theca⟩ ⟨*sperm*ary⟩ ⟨*sperm*icidal⟩

sper·ma·ce·ti \ˌspər-mə-'sēt-ē, -'set-\ *n* [ME *sperma cete,* fr. ML *sperma ceti* whale sperm] : a waxy solid obtained from the oil of cetaceans and esp. sperm whales and used in ointments, cosmetics, and candles

sper·ma·go·ni·um \ˌspər-mə-'gō-nē-əm\ *n, pl* **-nia** \-nē-ə\ [NL] : a flask-shaped or depressed receptacle in which spermatia are produced in some fungi and lichens

sper·ma·ry \'spərm-(ə-)rē\ *n, pl* **-ries** [NL *spermarium,* fr. Gk *sperma*] : an organ in which male gametes are developed

spermat- *or* **spermato-** *comb form* [MF, fr. LL, fr. Gk, fr. *spermat-, sperma*] : seed : spermatozoon ⟨*spermat*id⟩ ⟨*spermato*cyte⟩

sper·ma·the·ca \ˌspər-mə-'thē-kə\ *n* [NL] : a sac for sperm storage in the female reproductive tract of many lower animals — **sper·ma·the·cal** \-kəl\ *adj*

sper·mat·ic \(ˌ)spər-'mat-ik\ *adj* **1** : relating to sperm or a spermary **2** : resembling, carrying, or full of sperm

spermatic cord *n* : a cord that suspends the testis within the scrotum and contains the vas deferens and vessels and nerves of the testis

sper·ma·tid \'spər-mət-əd\ *n* : one of the cells that are formed by division of the secondary spermatocytes and that differentiate into spermatozoa

sper·ma·ti·um \(ˌ)spər-'mā-sh(e-ə)m\ *n, pl* **-tia** \-sh(ē-)ə\ [NL, fr. Gk *spermation,* dim. of *sperma*t-, *sperma*] : a nonmotile cell functioning or held to function as a male gamete in some lower plants — **sper·ma·tial** \-sh(ē-)əl\ *adj*

sper·mato·cide \(ˌ)spər-'mat-ə-ˌsīd\ *n* : an agent that kills sperm — **sper·mato·cid·al** \(ˌ)spər-ˌmat-ə-'sīd-ᵊl\ *adj*

sper·mato·cyte \(ˌ)spər-'mat-ə-ˌsīt\ *n* : a cell giving rise to sperm cells; *esp* : a cell of the last generation or next to the last generation preceding the spermatozoon

sper·mato·gen·e·sis \(ˌ)spər-ˌmat-ə-'jen-ə-səs\ *n* [NL] : the process of male gamete formation including meiosis and transformation of the four resulting spermatids into spermatozoa — **sper·mato·ge·net·ic** \-jə-'net-ik\ *adj*

sper·mato·gen·ic \-'jen-ik\ *adj* : of, relating to, or constituting spermatogenesis

sper·mato·go·ni·um \-'gō-nē-əm\ *n, pl* **-nia** \-nē-ə\ [NL] : a primitive male germ cell — **sper·mato·go·ni·al** \-nē-əl\ *adj*

sper·mato·phore \(ˌ)spər-'mat-ə-ˌfō(ə)r, -ˌfȯ(ə)r\ *n* [ISV] : a capsule, packet, or mass enclosing spermatozoa extruded by the male and conveyed to the female in the insemination of various lower animals

sper·mato·phyte \-ˌfīt\ *n* [deriv. of NL *spermat-* + Gk *phyton* plant — more at PHYT-] : any of a group (Spermatophyta) of higher plants comprising those that produce seeds and including the gymnosperms and angiosperms — **sper·mato·phyt·ic** \-ˌmat-ə-'fit-ik\ *adj*

sper·ma·to·zo·an \(ˌ)spər-ˌmat-ə-'zō-ən, ˌspər-mət-\ *n* : SPERMATOZOON — **spermatozoan** *adj*

sper·ma·to·zo·id \-'zō-əd\ *n* [ISV, fr. NL *spermatozoa*] : a male gamete of a plant motile by anterior cilia and usu. produced in an antheridium

sper·ma·to·zo·on \-'zō-ˌän, -'zō-ən\ *n, pl* **-zoa** \-'zō-ə\ [NL] **1** : a motile male gamete of an animal usu. with rounded or elongate head and a long posterior flagellum **2** : SPERMATOZOID — **sper·ma·to·zo·al** \-'zō-əl\ *adj*

sperm cell *n* : a male gamete : a male germ cell

sper·mi·cide \'spər-mə-ˌsīd\ *n* : SPERMATOCIDE — **sper·mi·cid·al** \ˌspər-mə-'sīd-ᵊl\ *adj*

sper·mi·dine \'spər-mə-ˌdēn\ *n* : a crystalline aliphatic amine $C_7H_{19}N_3$ which is found esp. in semen

sper·mio·gen·e·sis \ˌspər-mē-ō-'jen-ə-səs\ *n* [NL, fr. *spermium* spermatozoon + *-o-* + L *genesis*] **1** : transformation of a spermatid into a spermatozoon **2** : SPERMATOGENESIS

sperm nucleus *n* : either of two nuclei that derive from the generative nucleus of a pollen grain and function in the fertilization of a seed plant

sperm oil *n* : a pale yellow oil from the sperm whale

sper·mo·phile \'spər-mə-ˌfīl\ *n* [deriv. of Gk *sperma* seed + *philos* loving] : any of various burrowing rodents (as of the genus *Citellus*) that are related to the squirrels and live in colonies esp. in open areas, often damage crops, and include vectors of plague

sperm whale \'spərm-\ *n* [short for *spermaceti whale*] : a large toothed whale (*Physeter catodon*) with a large closed cavity in the head containing a fluid mixture of spermaceti and oil



sperm whale

-sper·my \ˌspər-mē\ *n comb form* [Gk *sperma* seed, sperm] : state of exhibiting or resulting from (such) a fertilization ⟨agamo*spermy*⟩

sper·ry·lite \'sper-i-ˌlīt\ *n* [Francis L. *Sperry,* 19th cent. Can chemist + E *-lite*] : a mineral $PtAs_2$ consisting of a platinum arsenide occurring near Sudbury, Ontario, in grains and minute isometric crystals of a bluish white color

spes·sar·tite \'spes-ər-ˌtīt\ *also* **spec·sar·tine** \-ˌtēn\ *n* [F, fr. *Spessart* mountain range, Germany] : a manganese aluminum garnet usu. containing other elements (as iron and magnesium) in minor amounts

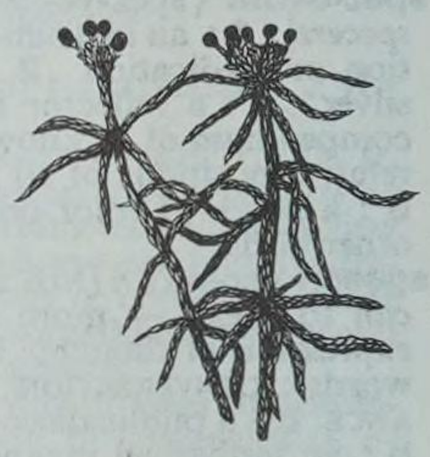
¹spew \'spyü\ *vb* [ME *spewen,* fr. OE *spīwan;* akin to OHG *spīwan* to spit, L *spuere,* Gk *ptyein*] *vi* **1** : VOMIT **2** : to come forth in a flood or gush ⟨pornography ~*ing* from the presses⟩ **3** : to ooze out as if under pressure : EXUDE ~ *vt* **1** : VOMIT **2** : to send or cast forth with vigor or violence or in great quantity ⟨glaciers that ~*ed* crashing bergs into the ocean —Jean Potter⟩ — **spew·er** *n*

²spew *n* **1** : matter that is vomited : VOMIT **2** : material that exudes or is extruded

sp gr *abbr* specific gravity

sphag·nous \'sfag-nəs\ *adj* : of, relating to, or abounding in sphagnum

sphag·num \'sfag-nəm\ *n* [NL, genus name, fr. L *sphagnos,* a moss, fr. Gk] **1** : any of a large genus (*Sphagnum,* coextensive with the order Sphagnales) of atypical mosses that grow only in wet acid areas where their remains become compacted with other plant debris to form peat **2** : a mass of sphagnum plants



sphagnum 1

sphal·er·ite \'sfal-ə-ˌrīt\ *n* [G *sphalerit,* fr. Gk *sphaleros* deceitful, fr. *sphallein* to cause to fall; fr. its often being mistaken for galena — more at SPILL] : a widely distributed ore of zinc composed essentially of zinc sulfide ZnS

sphene \'sfēn\ *n* [F *sphène,* fr. Gk *sphēn* wedge — more at SPOON] : a mineral $CaTiSiO_5$ that is a silicate of calcium and titanium and often contains other elements

sphen·odon \'sfē-nə-ˌdän, 'sfen-ə-\ *n* [NL, deriv. of Gk *sphēn* wedge + *odōn* tooth — more at TOOTH] : TUATARA — **sphen·odont** \-ˌdänt\ *adj*

¹sphe·noid \'sfē-ˌnȯid\ *or* **sphe·noi·dal** \sfi-'nȯid-ᵊl\ *adj* [NL *sphenoides,* fr. Gk *sphēnoeidēs* wedge-shaped, fr. *sphēn* wedge] **1** : of, relating to, or being a winged compound bone of the base of the cranium **2** *usu* **sphenoidal** : wedge-shaped

²sphenoid *n* : a sphenoid bone

sphe·nop·sid \sfi-'näp-səd\ *n* [deriv. of Gk *sphēn* wedge + NL *-opsis*] : any of a subdivision (Sphenopsida) of the tracheophytes characterized by jointed stems, small leaves usu. in whorls at distinct stem nodes, and sporangia in sporangiophores and made up of the equisetums and extinct related forms

spher- *or* **sphero-** *also* **sphaer-** *or* **sphaero-** *comb form* [L *sphaer-,* fr. Gk *sphair-, sphairo-,* fr. *sphaira* sphere] : sphere ⟨*spher*ule⟩ ⟨*sphero*meter⟩

spher·al \'sfir-əl\ *adj* **1** : SPHERICAL **2** : SYMMETRICAL, HARMONIOUS

¹sphere \'sfi(ə)r\ *n* [ME *spere* globe, celestial sphere, fr. MF *espere,* fr. L *sphaera,* fr. Gk *sphaira,* lit., ball] **1 a** (1) : the apparent surface of the heavens of which half forms the dome of the visible sky (2) : one of the concentric and eccentric revolving spherical transparent shells in which according to ancient astronomy stars, sun, planets, and moon are set **b** : a globe depicting such a sphere; *broadly* : GLOBE **a 2 a** : a globular body : BALL **b** : PLANET, STAR **c** (1) : a solid that is bounded by a surface consisting of all points at a given distance from a point constituting its center — see VOLUME table (2) : the bounding surface of a sphere **3** : natural, normal, or proper place; *esp* : social order or rank **4 a** *obs* : ORBIT **b** : a field or range of influence or significance — **spher·ic** \'sfi(ə)r-ik, 'sfer-\ *adj* — **sphe·ric·i·ty** \sfir-'is-ət-ē\ *n*

²sphere *vt* **sphered; spher·ing** **1** : to place in a sphere or among the spheres : ENSPHERE **2** : to form into a sphere

sphere of influence : a territorial area within which the political influence or the interests of one nation are held to be more or less paramount

spher·i·cal \'sfir-i-kəl, 'sfer-\ *adj* **1** : having the form of a sphere or of one of its segments **2** : relating to or dealing with a sphere or its properties — **spher·i·cal·ly** \-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

spherical aberration *n* : aberration that is caused by the spherical form of a lens or mirror and that gives different foci for central and marginal rays

spherical angle *n* : the angle between two intersecting arcs of great circles of a sphere measured by the plane angle formed by the tangents to the arcs at the point of intersection

spherical coordinate *n* : one of three coordinates that are used to locate a point in space and that comprise the radius of the sphere on which the point lies in a system of concentric spheres, the angle formed by the point, the center, and a given axis of the sphere, and the angle between the plane of the first angle and a given reference plane through the axis of the sphere

spherical geometry : the geometry of figures on a sphere

spherical polygon *n* : a figure analogous to a plane polygon that is formed on a sphere by arcs of great circles

spherical triangle *n* : a spherical polygon of three sides

spherical trigonometry *n* : trigonometry applied to spherical triangles and polygons

spherics *var of* SFERICS

spher·oid \'sfi(ə)r-ˌȯid, 'sfe(ə)r-\ *n* : a figure resembling a sphere — **sphe·roi·dal** \sfir-'ȯid-ᵊl\ *adj* — **sphe·roi·dal·ly** \-ᵊl-ē\ *adv*

sphe·rom·e·ter \sfir-'äm-ət-ər\ *n* [ISV] : an instrument for measuring the curvature of a surface

sphe·ro·plast \'sfir-ə-ˌplast, 'sfer-\ *n* : a modified gram-negative bacterium that is characterized by major alteration and partial loss of the cell wall and by increased osmotic sensitivity and that can result from various nutritional or environmental factors or be induced artificially by use of a lysozyme

spher·ule \'sfi(ə)r-(ˌ)(y)ü(ə)l, 'sfe(ə)r-\ *n* : a little sphere or spherical body

spher·u·lite \'sfir-(y)ə-ˌlīt, 'sfer-\ *n* : a usu. spherical crystalline body of radiating crystal fibers often found in vitreous volcanic rocks — **spher·u·lit·ic** \ˌsfir-(y)ə-'lit-ik, ˌsfer-\ *adj*
sphery \'sfi(ə)r-ē\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or suggestive of the celestial bodies **2** : ROUND, SPHERICAL
sphinc·ter \'sfiŋ(k)-tər\ *n* [LL, fr. Gk *sphinktēr*, lit., band, fr. *sphingein* to bind tight] : an annular muscle surrounding and able to contract or close a bodily opening — **sphinc·ter·al** \-t(ə-)rəl\ *adj*
sphin·gid \'sfin-jəd\ *n* [deriv. of Gk *sphing-*, *sphinx* sphinx] : HAWK-MOTH
sphin·go·sine \'sfiŋ-gə-ˌsēn\ *n* [Gk *sphingos* (gen. of *sphinx*) + E *-ine;* fr. riddles it posed to its first investigators] : a long chain unsaturated amino alcohol $C_{18}H_{37}O_2N$ found esp. in nervous tissue and cell membranes
sphinx \'sfiŋ(k)s\ *n, pl* **sphinx·es** *or* **sphin·ges** \'sfin-ˌjēz\ [L, fr. Gk; akin to Gk *sphinktēr* sphincter] **1 a** *cap* : a female monster having according to Greek mythology a lion's body and a human head and having the habit of asking a riddle and killing anyone who failed to answer it **b** : an enigmatic or mysterious person **2** : an ancient Egyptian image in the form of a recumbent lion having a man's head, a ram's head, or a hawk's head **3** : HAWK-MOTH


sphinx 2

sp ht *abbr* specific heat
sphyg·mo·graph \'sfig-mə-ˌgraf\ *n* [Gk *sphygmos* pulse + ISV *-graph*] : an instrument that records graphically the movements or character of the pulse — **sphyg·mo·graph·ic** \ˌsfig-mə-'graf-ik\ *adj* — **sphyg·mog·ra·phy** \sfig-'mäg-rə-fē\ *n*
sphyg·mo·ma·nom·e·ter \ˌsfig-mō-mə-'näm-ət-ər\ *n* [Gk *sphygmos* pulse + ISV *manometer;* akin to Gk *asphyxia* stopping of the pulse — more at ASPHYXIA] : an instrument for measuring blood pressure and esp. arterial blood pressure — **sphyg·mo·mano·met·ric** \-ˌman-ə-'me-trik\ *adj* — **sphyg·mo·mano·met·ri·cal·ly** \-tri-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **sphyg·mo·ma·nom·e·try** \-mə-'näm-ə-trē\ *n*
spi·ca \'spī-kə\ *n, pl* **spi·cae** \-ˌkē\ *or* **spicas** [L, spike of grain — more at SPIKE] : a spiral reverse plain or plaster bandage used to immobilize a limb esp. at a joint
Spi·ca \'spī-kə\ *n* [L, lit., spike of grain] : a star of the first magnitude in the constellation Virgo
spi·cate \'spī-ˌkāt\ *adj* [L *spicatus*, pp. of *spicare* to arrange in the shape of heads of grain, fr. *spica*] : POINTED, SPIKED; *specif* : arranged in the form of a spike ⟨a ~ inflorescence⟩
[1]spic·ca·to \spi-'kät-(ˌ)ō\ *adj* [It, pp. of *spicare* to detach, pick off] : performed with springing bow — used as a direction in music
[2]spiccato *n, pl* **-tos** : a spiccato technique, performance, or passage
[1]spice \'spīs\ *n* [ME, fr. OF *espice*, fr. LL *species* spices, fr. L, species] **1** : any of various aromatic vegetable products (as pepper or nutmeg) used to season or flavor foods **2 a** *archaic* : a small portion, quantity, or admixture : DASH **b** : something that gives zest or relish ⟨variety's the very ~ of life —William Cowper⟩ **3** : a pungent or fragrant odor : PERFUME
[2]spice *vt* **spiced; spic·ing** **1** : to season with spices **2** : to add zest or relish to ⟨cynicism *spiced* with humor —J. W. Dawson⟩
spice·ber·ry \'spīs-ˌber-ē\ *n* : any of several spicy plants; *esp* : WINTERGREEN 2
spice box *n* : a box holding or designed to hold spices; *esp* : a box fitted with smaller boxes for holding spices
spice·bush \'spīs-ˌbůsh\ *n* **1** : an aromatic shrub (*Lindera benzoin*) of the laurel family that bears dense clusters of small yellow flowers followed by scarlet or yellow berries **2** : a tall upright strawberry shrub (*Calycanthus occidentalis*) with slightly fragrant brown flowers
spicebush swallowtail *n* : a large American black butterfly (*Papilio troilus*) that has yellow submarginal spots on the fore wings and the outer half of the upper side of the hind wings greenish or greenish blue
spic·ery \'spīs-(ə-)rē\ *n, pl* **-er·ies** **1** : SPICES **2** *archaic* : a repository of spices **3** : a spicy quality
spick *also* **spic** *or* **spik** \'spik\ *n* : SPANISH AMERICAN; *esp* : MEXICAN — usu. taken to be offensive
spick–and–span *or* **spic–and–span** \ˌspik-ən-'span, ˌspik-ᵊn-\ *adj* [short for *spick-and-span-new*, fr. obs. E *spick* (spike) + E *and* + *span-new* (brand-new)] **1** : FRESH, BRAND-NEW **2** : spotlessly clean : SPRUCE
spic·u·la \'spik-yə-lə\ *n, pl* **-lae** \-ˌlē, -'lī\ [NL, fr. ML, arrowhead, alter. of L *spiculum*, dim. of *spica*] : SPICULE, PRICKLE — **spic·u·lar** \-lər\ *adj*
spic·u·late \'spik-yə-lət, -ˌlāt\ *adj* : covered with or having spicules — **spic·u·la·tion** \ˌspik-yə-'lā-shən\ *n*
spic·ule \'spik-(ˌ)yü(ə)l\ *n* [NL *spicula* & L *spiculum*] **1** : a minute slender pointed usu. hard body; *esp* : one of the minute calcareous or siliceous bodies that support the tissue of various invertebrates (as a sponge) **2** : a small spikelike short-lived prominence appearing close to the chromosphere of the solar atmosphere — **spic·u·lif·er·ous** \ˌspik-yù-'lif-(ə-)rəs\ *adj*
spic·u·lum \ˌspik-yə-ləm\ *n, pl* **-la** \-lə\ [L, small sharp organ, arrowhead] : an organ having the form of a spicule; *broadly* : SPICULE 1
spicy \'spī-sē\ *adj* **spic·i·er; -est** **1** : having the quality, flavor, or fragrance of spice **2** : producing or abounding in spices **3** : LIVELY, SPIRITED ⟨a ~ temper⟩ **4** : PIQUANT, RACY; *esp* : somewhat scandalous or salacious ⟨~ gossip⟩ — **spic·i·ly** \-sə-lē\ *adv* — **spic·i·ness** \-sē-nəs\ *n*
spi·der \'spīd-ər\ *n* [ME, alter. of *spithre;* akin to OE *spinnan* to spin] **1** : any of an order (Araneida) of arachnids having a body with two main divisions, four pairs of walking legs, and two or more pairs of abdominal spinnerets for spinning threads of silk used in making cocoons for their eggs, nests for themselves, or webs to catch prey **2** : a cast-iron frying pan orig. made with short feet to stand among coals on the hearth **3** : any of various devices consisting of a frame or skeleton with radiating arms or members
spider crab *n* : any of numerous crabs (esp. family Majidae) with extremely long legs and nearly triangular bodies which they often cover with kelp
spider mite *n* : RED SPIDER
spider monkey *n* : any of a genus (*Ateles*) of New World monkeys with long slender limbs, the thumb absent or rudimentary, and a very long prehensile tail
spi·der·web \'spīd-ər-ˌweb\ *n* : the silken web spun by most spiders and used as a resting place and a trap for small prey
spi·der·wort \-ˌwərt, -ˌwȯ(ə)rt\ *n* : any of a genus (*Tradescantia* of the family Commelinaceae, the spiderwort family) of monocotyledonous plants with ephemeral usu. blue or violet flowers
spi·dery \'spīd-ə-rē\ *adj* **1 a** : resembling a spider in form or manner **b** : resembling a spider web; *esp* : composed of fine threads or lines in a weblike arrangement ⟨~ lace⟩ **2** : infested with spiders
spie·gel·ei·sen \'spē-gə-ˌlīz-ᵊn\ *also* **spie·gel** \'spē-gəl\ *n* [G *spiegeleisen*, fr. *spiegel* mirror + *eisen* iron] : a composition of iron that contains 15 to 30 percent manganese and 4.5 to 6.5 percent carbon
[1]spiel \'spē(ə)l\ *vb* [G *spielen* to play, fr. OHG *spilōn;* akin to OE *spilian* to revel] *vi* **1** : to play music **2** : to talk volubly or extravagantly ~ *vt* : to utter, express, or describe volubly or extravagantly — **spiel·er** \'spē-lər\ *n*
[2]spiel *n* : a voluble line of often extravagant talk : PITCH
[1]spi·er \ˌspī(-ə)r\ *n* : SPY
[2]spier \'spi(ə)r\ *chiefly Scot var of* SPEER
spiffy \'spif-ē\ *adj* **spiff·i·er; -est** [E dial. *spiff* dandified] : fine looking : SMART ⟨a ~ sports jacket⟩
spig·ot \'spig-ət, 'spik-ət\ *n* [ME] **1** : SPILE 2 **2** : the plug of a faucet or cock **3** : FAUCET
[1]spike \'spīk\ *n* [ME, prob. fr. MD; akin to L *spina* thorn — more at SPINE] **1** : a very large nail **2 a** : one of a row of pointed irons placed (as on the top of a wall) to prevent passage **b** (1) : one of several metal projections set in the sole and heel of a shoe to improve traction (2) *pl* : a pair of shoes having spikes attached to the soles or soles and heels **3** : something resembling a spike: as **a** : a young mackerel not over six inches long **b** : an unbranched antler of a young deer **4** *pl* : shoes with spike heels **5** : the act or an instance of spiking in volleyball **6 a** : a pointed element in a graph or tracing **b** : an unusually high and sharply defined maximum (as of amplitude in a wave train) **7** *slang* : HYPODERMIC NEEDLE **8** : ACTION POTENTIAL
[2]spike *vt* **spiked; spik·ing** **1** : to fasten or furnish with spikes **2 a** : to disable (a muzzle-loading cannon) temporarily by driving a spike into the vent **b** : to suppress or block completely ⟨*spiked* the rumor⟩ **3** : to pierce or impale with or on a spike **4 a** : to add alcohol or liquor to (a drink) **b** : to add something highly reactive (as a radioactive tracer) to **5** : to drive (a volleyball) into an opponent's court at a sharp angle with a hard downward blow delivered from a front-line position — **spik·er** *n*
[3]spike *n* [ME *spik* head of grain, fr. L *spica;* akin to L *spina* thorn] **1** : an ear of grain **2** : an elongated inflorescence similar to a raceme but having the flowers sessile on the main axis — see INFLORESCENCE illustration
spiked \'spīkt, 'spī-kəd\ *adj* **1** : having an inflorescence that is a spike **2** : having a sharp projecting point
spike heel *n* : a very high tapering heel used on women's shoes
spike lavender \'spīk-\ *n* [alter. of E dial. *spick* (lavender)] : a European mint (*Lavandula latifolia*) related to true lavender
spike·let \'spī-klət\ *n* : a small or secondary spike; *specif* : one of the small few-flowered bracted spikes that make up the compound inflorescence of a grass or sedge
spike·like \'spī-ˌklīk\ *adj* : resembling a spike
spike·nard \'spīk-ˌnärd\ *n* [ME, fr. MF or ML; MF *spicanarde*, fr. ML *spica nardi*, lit., spike of nard] **1 a** : a fragrant ointment of the ancients **b** : an East Indian aromatic plant (*Nardostachys jatamansi*) of the valerian family from which spikenard is believed to have been derived **2** : an American herb (*Aralia racemosa*) of the ginseng family with aromatic root and panicled umbels
spike–tooth harrow \ˌspīk-ˌtüth-\ *n* : a harrow with straight steel teeth set in horizontal bars
spiky \'spī-kē\ *adj* **spik·i·er; -est** **1** : having a sharp projecting point **2** [fr. the alleged harshness of such views] *Brit* : strongly favoring Anglo-Catholic teaching or practice
[1]spile \'spī(ə)l\ *n* [prob. fr. D *spijl* stake; akin to L *spina* thorn — more at SPINE] **1** : [1]PILE **2** : a small plug used to stop the vent of a cask : BUNG **3** : a spout inserted in a tree to draw off sap
[2]spile *vt* **spiled; spil·ing** **1** : to plug with a spile **2** : to supply with a spile
spil·ing \'spī-liŋ\ *n* : a set of piles : PILING
[1]spill \'spil\ *vb* **spilled** \'spild, 'spilt\ *also* **spilt** \'spilt\; **spill·ing** [ME *spillen*, fr. OE *spillan;* akin to OHG *spaltan* to split, L *spolia* spoils, Gk *sphallein* to cause to fall] *vt* **1 a** *archaic* : KILL, DESTROY **b** : to cause (blood) to flow **2** : to cause or allow accidentally or unintentionally to fall, flow, or run out so as to be lost or wasted **3 a** : to relieve (a sail) from the pressure of the wind so as to reef or furl it **b** : to relieve the pressure of (wind) on a sail by coming about or by adjusting the sail with lines **4** : to throw off or out ⟨a horse ~*ed* him⟩ **5** : to let out : DIVULGE ⟨~ a secret⟩ ~ *vi* **1 a** : to flow, run, or fall out, over, or off and become wasted, scattered, or lost **b** : to cause or allow something to spill **2** : to

spread profusely or beyond bounds ⟨crowds ~*ed* into the streets⟩ **3** : to fall from one's place (as on a horse) — **spill·able** \'spil-ə-bəl\ *adj* — **spill·er** *n* — **spill the beans** : to divulge information indiscreetly

²spill *n* **1** : the act or an instance of spilling; *esp* : a fall from a horse or vehicle or an erect position **2** : something spilled **3** : SPILLWAY

³spill *n* [ME *spille*] **1** : a wooden splinter **2** : a slender piece: as **a** : a metallic rod or pin **b** (1) : a small roll or twist of paper or slip of wood for lighting a fire (2) : a roll or cone of paper serving as a container **c** : a peg or pin for plugging a hole : SPILE

spill·age \'spil-ij\ *n* **1** : the act or process of spilling **2** : the quantity that spills : material lost or scattered by spilling

spil·li·kin \'spil-i-kən\ *n* [prob. alter. of obs. D *spelleken* small peg] **1** : JACKSTRAW 1 **2** *pl* : JACKSTRAW 2

spill·over \'spil-ˌō-vər\ *n* **1** : the act or an instance of spilling over **2** : a quantity that spills over

spill·way \-ˌwā\ *n* : a passage for surplus water to run over or around an obstruction (as a dam)

spi·lo·site \'spī-lə-ˌsīt\ *n* [G *spilosit*, fr. Gk *spilos* spot] : a spotted schistose rock produced by the metamorphism of clay slate by magma

spilth \'spilth\ *n* **1** : the act or an instance of spilling **2 a** : something spilled **b** : REFUSE, RUBBISH

¹spin \'spin\ *vb* **spun** \'spən\; **spin·ning** [ME *spinnen*, fr. OE *spinnan*; akin to OHG *spinnan* to spin, L *sponte* voluntarily, Gk *span* to draw — more at SPAN] *vi* **1** : to draw out and twist fiber into yarn or thread **2** : to form a thread by extruding a viscous rapidly hardening fluid — used esp. of a spider or insect **3 a** : to revolve rapidly : GYRATE **b** : to feel as if in a whirl : REEL ⟨my head is *spinning*⟩ **4** : to move swiftly esp. on wheels or in a vehicle **5** : to fish with spinning bait : TROLL **6 a** *of an airplane* : to fall in a spin **b** : to plunge helplessly and out of control ~ *vt* **1 a** : to draw out and twist into yarns or threads **b** : to produce by drawing out and twisting a fibrous material **2** : to form (as a web or cocoon) by spinning **3 a** : to stretch out or extend (as a story) lengthily : PROTRACT — usu. used with *out* **b** : to evolve, express, or fabricate by processes of mind or imagination ⟨~ a yarn⟩ **4** : to cause to whirl : TWIRL ⟨~ a top⟩ **5** : to shape into threadlike form in manufacture; *also* : to manufacture by a whirling process

²spin *n* **1 a** : the act of spinning or twirling something **b** : the whirling motion imparted (as to a ball or top) by spinning **c** : an excursion in a vehicle esp. on wheels **2 a** : an aerial maneuver or flight condition consisting of a combination of roll and yaw with the longitudinal axis of the airplane inclined steeply downward **b** : a plunging descent or downward spiral **c** : a state of mental confusion ⟨in a ~⟩ **3 a** : the rotation of an elementary particle on its axis or of a system of such particles in orbital motion that is responsible for measurable angular momentum and magnetic moment **b** : the angular momentum associated with such rotation — **spin·less** \'spin-ləs\ *adj*

spin·ach \'spin-ich\ *n* [MF *espinache, espinage*, fr. OSp *espinaca*, fr. Ar *isfānākh*, fr. Per] **1** : a potherb (*Spinacia oleracea*) of the goosefoot family cultivated for its edible leaves **2 a** : something unwanted, insubstantial, or spurious **b** : an untidy overgrowth

¹spi·nal \'spīn-ᵊl\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or situated near the backbone **2 a** : of, relating to, or affecting the spinal cord ⟨~ reflexes⟩ **b** : having the spinal cord functionally isolated (as by surgical section) from the brain ⟨experiments on ~ animals⟩ **3** : of, relating to, or resembling a spine

²spinal *n* : a spinal anesthetic

spinal canal *n* : a canal that lodges the spinal cord and is delimited by the arches on the dorsal side of the vertebrae

spinal column *n* : the axial skeleton of the trunk and tail of a vertebrate consisting of an articulated series of vertebrae and protecting the spinal cord — called also *backbone*

spinal cord *n* : the longitudinal cord of nervous tissue extending from the brain along the back in the spinal canal — see BRAIN illustration

spinal ganglion *n* : a ganglion on the dorsal root of each spinal nerve that is one of a series of ganglia lodging cell bodies of sensory neurons

spi·nal·ly \'spīn-ᵊl-ē\ *adv* : with respect to or along the spine

spinal nerve *n* : any of the paired nerves which leave the spinal cord of a craniate vertebrate, supply muscles of the trunk and limbs, and connect with the nerves of the sympathetic nervous system, which arise by a short motor ventral root and a short sensory dorsal root, and of which there are 31 pairs in man classified according to the part of the spinal cord from which they arise into 8 cervical pairs, 12 thoracic pairs, 5 lumbar pairs, 5 sacral pairs, and one coccygeal pair

¹spin·dle \'spin-dᵊl\ *n* [ME *spindel*, fr. OE *spinel*; akin to OE *spinnan* to spin] **1 a** : a round stick with tapered ends used to form and twist the yarn in hand spinning **b** : the long slender pin by which the thread is twisted in a spinning wheel **c** : any of various rods or pins holding a bobbin in a textile machine (as a spinning frame) **d** : the pin in a loom shuttle **2** : something shaped like a spindle: as **a** : a spindle-shaped achromatic figure along which the chromosomes are distributed during mitosis and meiosis **b** : MUSCLE SPINDLE **3 a** : the bar or shaft usu. of square section that carries the knobs and actuates the latch or bolt of a lock **b** (1) : a turned often decorative piece (as in a baluster) (2) : NEWEL **c** (1) : a revolving piece esp. if less in size than a shaft (2) : a horizontal or vertical axle revolving on pin or pivot ends (3) : a rod attached to a valve to move or guide it **d** : the part of an axle on which a vehicle wheel turns

²spindle *vb* **spin·dled; spin·dling** \-(d)liŋ, -dᵊl-iŋ\ *vi* **1** : to shoot or grow into a long slender stalk **2** : to grow to stalk or stem rather than to flower or fruit ~ *vt* **1** : to impale, thrust, or perforate on the spike of a spindle file **2** : to make or equip (as a piece of furniture) with spindles — **spin·dler** \-(d)lər, -dᵊl-ər\ *n*

spindle cell *n* : a fusiform cell; *esp* : a slender nucleated element that is the thrombocyte of a lower vertebrate and is equivalent in function to the blood platelet of higher forms

spindle file *n* : a device with a projecting spike, nail, or hook on which to stick papers

spin·dle–legged \ˌspin-dᵊl-'(l)eg(-ə)d, -'(l)āg(-ə)d\ *adj* : having long slender legs

spin·dle–shanked \-'shaŋ(k)t\ *adj* : SPINDLE-LEGGED

spindle tree *n* : EUONYMUS

spin·dling \'spin-(d)liŋ, -(d)lən, -dᵊl-iŋ, -dᵊl-ən\ *adj* : SPINDLY

spin·dly \'spin-(d)lē, -dᵊl-ē\ *adj* **1** : of a disproportionately tall or long and thin appearance that often suggests physical weakness ⟨~ legs⟩ **2** : frail or flimsy in appearance or structure

spin·drift \'spin-ˌdrift\ *n* [alter. of Sc *speendrift*, fr. *speen* to drive before a strong wind + E *drift*] : sea spray : SPOONDRIFT

spine \'spīn\ *n* [ME, thorn, spinal column, fr. L *spina*; akin to Latvian *spina* twig] **1 a** : SPINAL COLUMN **b** : something resembling a spinal column or constituting a central axis or chief support **c** : the backbone of a book **2** : a stiff pointed plant process; *esp* : one that is a modified leaf or leaf part **3** : a sharp rigid process on an animal: as **a** : SPICULE **b** : a stiff unsegmented fin ray of a fish **c** : a pointed prominence on a bone — **spined** \'spīnd\ *adj*

spi·nel *or* **spi·nelle** \spə-'nel\ *n* [It *spinella*, dim. of *spina* thorn, fr. L] **1** : a hard crystalline mineral $MgAl_2O_4$ consisting of an oxide of magnesium and aluminum that varies from colorless to ruby-red to black and is used as a gem **2** : any of a group of minerals that are essentially oxides of magnesium, ferrous iron, zinc, or manganese

spine·less \'spīn-ləs\ *adj* **1** : free from spines, thorns, or prickles **2 a** : having no spinal column : INVERTEBRATE **b** : lacking strength of character — **spine·less·ly** *adv* — **spine·less·ness** *n*

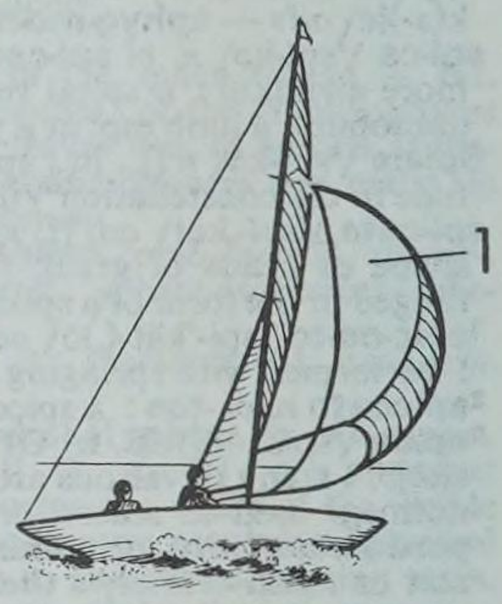
spi·nes·cent \spī-'nes-ᵊnt\ *adj* [NL *spinescent-, spinescens*, fr. LL, prp. of *spinescere* to become thorny, fr. L *spina*] : SPINY; *also* : tending toward spininess

spin·et \'spin-ət *also* spin-'et\ *n* [It *spinetta*] **1** : an early harpsichord having a single keyboard and only one string for each note **2 a** : a compactly built small upright piano **b** : a small electronic organ

spin fishing *n* : SPINNING

spi·ni·fex \'spī-nə-ˌfeks\ *n* [NL, genus name, fr. L *spina* + *facere* to make — more at DO] : any of several Australian grasses (genera *Spinifex* or *Triodia*) with spiny seeds or stiff sharp leaves

spin·na·ker \'spin-i-kər\ *n* [origin unknown] : a large triangular sail set on a long light pole and used when running before the wind



1 spinnaker

spin·ner \'spin-ər\ *n* **1** : one that spins **2** : a fisherman's lure consisting of a spoon, blade, or set of wings that revolves when drawn through the water **3** : a conical sheet metal fairing which is attached to an airplane propeller boss and revolves with it **4** : a movable arrow that is spun on its dial to indicate the number or kind of moves a player may make in a board game

spin·ner·et \ˌspin-ə-'ret\ *n* **1** : an organ (as of a spider or caterpillar) for producing threads of silk from the secretion of silk glands **2** *or* **spin·ner·ette** : a small metal plate, thimble, or cap with fine holes through which a chemical solution (as of cellulose) is forced in the spinning of man-made filaments (as of rayon or nylon)

spin·ney \'spin-ē\ *n, pl* **spinneys** [MF *espinaye* thorny thicket, fr. *espine* thorn, fr. L *spina*] *Brit* : a small wood with undergrowth

spin·ning \'spin-iŋ\ *n* : a method of fishing in which a lure is cast by use of a light flexible rod, a spinning reel, and a light line

spinning frame *n* : a machine that draws, twists, and winds yarn

spinning jen·ny \-ˌjen-ē\ *n* [*Jenny*, nickname for *Jane*] : an early multiple-spindle machine for spinning wool or cotton

spinning reel *n* : a fishing reel with a nonmoving spool on which the line is wound by means of a revolving arm which can be disengaged to allow the line to spiral freely off the spool during casting

spinning rod *n* : a light flexible fishing rod used with a spinning reel

spinning wheel *n* : a small domestic hand-driven or foot-driven machine for spinning yarn or thread

spin–off \'spin-ˌȯf\ *n* **1** : the distribution by a business to its stockholders of particular assets and esp. of stock of another company **2** : a collateral or derived product or effect : BY-PRODUCT ⟨household products that are ~*s* of missile research⟩

spin·or \'spin-ər, -ˌȯ(ə)r\ *n* [ISV *spin* + *-or* (as in *vector*)] : a vector whose components are complex numbers in a two-dimensional or four-dimensional space and which is used esp. in the mathematics of the theory of relativity

spi·nose \'spī-ˌnōs\ *adj* : SPINY 1 ⟨a fly with black ~ legs⟩ — **spi·nose·ly** *adv*

spi·nos·i·ty \spī-'näs-ət-ē\ *n, pl* **-ties** **1** : the quality or state of being spinose **2** : something that is nettlesome or difficult

spi·nous \'spī-nəs\ *adj* **1** : difficult or unpleasant to handle or meet : THORNY **2** : SPINY 1, 3 ⟨~ appendages⟩ ⟨a ~ larva⟩

spin·out \'spin-ˌau̇t\ *n* : a rotational skid by an automobile that usu. causes it to leave the roadway

spin out \spin-'au̇t\ *vi* : to make a rotational skid in an automobile

Spi·no·zism \spin-'ō-ˌziz-əm\ *n* : the philosophy of Spinoza who taught that reality is one substance with an infinite number of attributes of which only thought and extension are capable of being apprehended by the human mind — **Spi·no·zist** \-zest\ *n* — **Spi·no·zis·tic** \ˌspin-ō-'zis-tik, spin-ˌō-\ *adj*

spin·ster \'spin(t)-stər\ *n* **1** : a woman whose occupation is to spin **2 a** *archaic* : an unmarried woman of gentle family **b** : an unmarried woman **3** : a woman past the common age for marrying or one who seems unlikely to marry — **spin·ster·hood** \-ˌhu̇d\ *n* — **spin·ster·ish** \-st(ə-)rish\ *adj*

spin·thari·scope \spin-'thar-ə-ˌskōp\ *n* [Gk *spintharis* spark + E *-scope*] : an instrument for visual detection of alpha rays that consists of a fluorescent screen and a magnifying lens system
spin the bottle *n* **1** : the game spin the plate when played with a bottle **2** : a method of choosing a performer (as a partner in a kissing game) according to whom the mouth of a bottle points to when it stops spinning; *also* : a kissing game
spin the plate *n* : a game in which something round (as a plate) is spun on edge and the name of a player is called upon which the named player must catch the spinning object before it falls or pay a forfeit — called also *spin the platter*
spi·nule \'spī-(ˌ)nyü(ə)l\ *n* [L *spinula*, dim. of *spina* thorn — more at SPINE] : a minute spine — **spi·nu·lose** \'spī-nyə-ˌlōs\ *adj*
spiny \'spī-nē\ *adj* **spin·i·er; -est** **1** : covered or armed with spines; *broadly* : bearing spines, prickles, or thorns **2** : abounding with difficulties, obstacles, or annoyances : THORNY ⟨~ problems⟩ **3** : slender and pointed like a spine — **spin·i·ness** *n*
spiny anteater *n* : ECHIDNA
spiny-finned \ˌspī-nē-'find\ *adj* : having fins with one or more stiff unbranched rays without transverse segmentation — used of acanthopterygian fishes; compare SOFT-FINNED
spiny-head·ed worm \ˌspī-nē-ˌhed-əd-\ *n* : any of a small phylum (Acanthocephala) of unsegmented parasitic worms that have a proboscis bearing hooks by which attachment is made to the intestinal wall of the host
spiny lobster *n* : an edible crustacean (family Palinuridae) distinguished from the true lobster by the simple unenlarged first pair of legs and the spiny carapace
spi·ra·cle \'spir-i-kəl, 'spī-ri-\ *n* [L *spiraculum*, fr. *spirare* to breathe — more at SPIRIT] **1** : a breathing hole : VENT **2** : a breathing orifice: as **a** : BLOWHOLE 2 **b** : an external tracheal aperture of a terrestrial arthropod that in an insect is usu. one of a series of small apertures located along each side of the thorax and abdomen — see INSECT illustration — **spi·rac·u·lar** \spə-'rak-yə-lər, spī-\ *adj*
¹spi·ral \'spī-rəl\ *adj* [ML *spiralis*, fr. L *spira* coil] **1 a** : winding around a center or pole and gradually receding from or approaching it ⟨the ~ curve of a watch spring⟩ **b** : HELICAL **2** : of or relating to the advancement to higher levels through a series of cyclical movements — **spi·ral·ly** \-rə-lē\ *adv*
²spiral *n* **1 a** : the path of a point in a plane moving around a central point while continuously receding from or approaching it **b** : a three-dimensional curve (as a helix) with one or more turns about an axis **2** : a single turn or coil in a spiral object **3 a** : something having a spiral form **b** (1) : a spiral flight (2) : a kick or pass in which a football rotates on its long axis while moving through the air **4** : a continuously spreading and accelerating increase or decrease ⟨wage ~*s*⟩
³spiral *vb* **-raled** *or* **-ralled; -ral·ing** *or* **-ral·ling** *vi* : to go and esp. to rise or fall in a spiral course ⟨costs ~*ed* upward⟩ ~ *vt* **1** : to form into a spiral **2** : to cause to spiral
spiral binding *n* : a book or notebook binding in which a continuous spiral wire or plastic strip is passed through holes along one edge
spi·ral-bound \ˌspī-rəl-'baůnd\ *adj* : having a spiral binding
spiral galaxy *n* : a galaxy exhibiting a central nucleus or barred structure from which extend concentrations of matter forming curved arms — called also *spiral nebula*
spiral of Ar·chi·me·des \-ˌär-kə-'mēd-ēz\ [*Archimedes*, Gk mathematician] : a plane curve that is generated by a point moving away from or toward a fixed point at a constant rate while the radius vector from the fixed point rotates at a constant rate and that has the equation $\rho = a\theta$ in polar coordinates
spiral spring *n* : a spring consisting of a wire coiled usu. in a flat spiral or in a helix
spi·rant \'spī-rənt\ *n* [ISV, fr. L *spirant-*, *spirans*, prp. of *spirare* to breathe — more at SPIRIT] : a consonant (as \f\, \s\, \sh\) uttered with friction of the breath against some part of the oral passage : FRICATIVE — **spirant** *adj*
¹spire \'spī(ə)r\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *spīr*; akin to MD *spier* blade of grass, L *spina* thorn — more at SPINE] **1** : a slender tapering blade or stalk (as of grass) **2** : the upper tapering part of something (as a tree or antler) : PINNACLE **3 a** : a tapering roof or analogous pyramidal construction surmounting a tower **b** : STEEPLE
²spire *vi* **spired; spir·ing** : to rise taperingly like a spire
³spire *n* [L *spira* coil, fr. Gk *speira*; akin to Gk *sparton* rope, esparto, Lith *spriñgti* to choke in swallowing] **1 a** : SPIRAL **b** : COIL **2** : the inner or upper part of a spiral gastropod shell consisting of all the whorls except the whorl in contact with the body
⁴spire *vi* **spired; spir·ing** : to rise in or as if in a spiral
spi·rea *or* **spi·raea** \spī-'rē-ə\ *n* [NL *Spiraea*, genus name, fr. L, a plant, fr. Gk *speiraia*] **1** : any of a genus (*Spiraea*) of shrubs of the rose family with small perfect white or pink flowers in dense racemes, corymbs, cymes, or panicles **2** : any of several garden plants resembling spireas; *esp* : a shrub (*Astilbe japonica*) of the saxifrage family
spired \'spī(ə)rd\ *adj* **1** : having a spire ⟨a ~ church⟩ **2** : tapering usu. to a sharp point ⟨~ cedars⟩
spi·reme \'spī-ˌrēm\ *n* [G *spirem*, fr. Gk *speirama*, *speirēma* convolution, fr. *speirasthai* to be coiled, fr. *speira*] : a continuous thread observed in fixed preparations of the prophase of mitosis that appears to be a strand of chromatin but is generally held to be an artifact
spi·ril·lum \spī-'ril-əm\ *n*, *pl* **-ril·la** \-'ril-ə\ [NL, genus name, fr. dim. of L *spira* coil] : any of a genus (*Spirillum*) of long curved flagellate bacteria; *broadly* : a spiral filamentous bacterium (as a spirochete)
¹spir·it \'spir-ət\ *n* [ME, fr. OF or L; OF, fr. L *spiritus*, lit., breath; akin to L *spirare* to blow, breathe, ON *fīsa* to break wind] **1** : an animating or vital principle held to give life to physical organisms **2** : a supernatural being or essence: as **a** *cap* : HOLY SPIRIT **b** : SOUL 2a **c** : an often malevolent being that is bodiless but can become visible; *specif* : GHOST 2 **d** : a malevolent being that enters and possesses a human being **3** : temper or disposition of mind esp. when vigorous or animated ⟨in high ~*s*⟩ **4** : the immaterial intelligent or sentient part of a person **5 a** : the activating or essential principle influencing a person ⟨acted in a ~ of helpfulness⟩ **b** : an inclination, impulse, or tendency of a specified kind : MOOD **6 a** : a special attitude or frame of mind ⟨the money-making ~ was for a time driven back —J. A. Froude⟩ **b** : the feeling, quality, or disposition characterizing something ⟨undertaken in a ~ of fun⟩ **7** : a lively or brisk quality in a person or his actions **8** : a person having a character or disposition of a specified nature **9** : a mental disposition characterized by firmness or assertiveness ⟨denied the charge with ~⟩ **10 a** : DISTILLATE 1: as (1) : the liquid containing ethyl alcohol and water that is distilled from an alcoholic liquid or mash — often used in pl. (2) : any of various volatile liquids obtained by distillation or cracking (as of petroleum, shale, or wood) — often used in pl. (3) : ALCOHOL 1 **b** : a usu. volatile organic solvent (as an alcohol, ester, or hydrocarbon) **11 a** : prevailing tone or tendency ⟨~ of the age⟩ **b** : general intent or real meaning ⟨~ of the law⟩ **12** : an alcoholic solution of a volatile substance ⟨~ of camphor⟩ **13** : enthusiastic loyalty ⟨school ~⟩ **14** *cap, Christian Science* : GOD 1b ***syn*** see COURAGE — **in spirits** : in a cheerful or lively frame of mind — **out of spirits** : in a gloomy or depressed frame of mind
²spirit *vt* **1** : to infuse with spirit; *esp* : ANIMATE ⟨hope and apprehension of feasibleness ~*s* all industry —John Goodman⟩ **2** : to carry off usu. secretly or mysteriously ⟨was hustled into a . . . motorcar and ~*ed* off to the country —W.L. Shirer⟩
spir·it·ed \'spir-ət-əd\ *adj* : full of energy, animation, or courage ⟨a ~ discussion⟩ — **spir·it·ed·ly** *adv* — **spir·it·ed·ness** *n*
spirit gum *n* : a solution (as of gum arabic in ether) used esp. for attaching false hair to the skin
spir·it·ism \'spir-ət-ˌiz-əm\ *n* : SPIRITUALISM 2a — **spir·it·ist** \-ət-əst\ *n* — **spir·it·is·tic** \ˌspir-ət-'is-tik\ *adj*
spir·it·less \'spir-ət-ləs\ *adj* : lacking animation, cheerfulness, or courage — **spir·it·less·ly** *adv* — **spir·it·less·ness** *n*
spirit level *n* : LEVEL 1
spirit of hartshorn *or* **spirits of hartshorn** : AMMONIA WATER
spir·i·to·so \ˌspir-ə-'tō-(ˌ)sō, -(ˌ)zō\ *adj* [It, fr. *spirito* spirit, fr. L *spiritus*] : ANIMATED — used as a direction in music
spir·it·ous \'spir-ət-əs\ *adj* **1** *archaic* : PURE, REFINED **2** : SPIRITUOUS
spirit rapping *n* : communication by raps held to be from the spirits of the dead
spirits of turpentine : TURPENTINE 2a — called also *spirit of turpentine*
spirits of wine : rectified spirit : ALCOHOL 1 — called also *spirit of wine*
¹spir·i·tu·al \'spir-ich-(ə-)wəl, -ich-əl\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF & LL; MF *spirituel*, fr. LL *spiritualis*, fr. L, of breathing, of wind, fr. *spiritus*] **1** : of, relating to, or consisting of spirit : INCORPOREAL ⟨man's ~ needs⟩ **2 a** : of or relating to sacred matters ⟨~ songs⟩ **b** : ecclesiastical rather than lay or temporal ⟨lords ~⟩ ⟨~ authority⟩ **3** : concerned with religious values **4** : spiritually akin or related ⟨our ~ home⟩ ⟨his ~ heir⟩ **5 a** : of or relating to supernatural beings or phenomena **b** : of, relating to, or involving spiritualism : SPIRITUALISTIC — **spir·i·tu·al·ly** \-ē\ *adv* — **spir·i·tu·al·ness** *n*
²spiritual *n* **1** *pl* : things of a spiritual, ecclesiastical, or religious nature **2** : a religious song usu. of a deeply emotional character that was developed esp. among Negroes in the southern U.S. **3** *cap* : any of a party of 13th and 14th century Franciscans advocating strict observance of a rule of poverty for their order
spiritual bouquet *n* : a card notifying the recipient of a number of devotional acts undertaken by a Roman Catholic on behalf of a person on special occasions (as name days or anniversaries) or of someone recently deceased esp. as an expression of sympathy
spir·i·tu·al·ism \'spir-ich-(ə-)wə-ˌliz-əm, -ich-ə-ˌliz-\ *n* **1** : the view that spirit is a prime element of reality **2 a** : a belief that spirits of the dead communicate with the living usu. through a medium **b** *cap* : a movement comprising religious organizations emphasizing spiritualism — **spir·i·tu·al·ist** \-ləst\ *n, often cap* — **spir·i·tu·al·is·tic** \ˌspir-ich-(ə-)wə-'lis-tik, -ich-ə-'lis-\ *adj*
spir·i·tu·al·i·ty \ˌspir-ich-ə-'wal-ət-ē\ *n*, *pl* **-ties** **1** : something that in ecclesiastical law belongs to the church or to a cleric as such **2** : CLERGY **3** : sensitivity or attachment to religious values **4** : the quality or state of being spiritual
spir·i·tu·al·ize \'spir-ich-(ə-)wə-ˌlīz, -ich-ə-ˌlīz\ *vt* **-ized; -iz·ing** **1** : to make spiritual; *esp* : to purify from the corrupting influences of the world **2** : to give a spiritual meaning to or understand in a spiritual sense — **spir·i·tu·al·iza·tion** \ˌspir-ich-(ə-)wə-lə-'zā-shən, -ich-ə-lə-\ *n*
spir·i·tu·al·ty \'spir-ich-(ə-)wəl-tē, -ich-əl-\ *n* [ME *spiritualte*, fr. MF *spiritualté*, fr. ML *spiritualitat-*, *spiritualitas*, fr. LL *spiritualis* spiritual] : SPIRITUALITY 1, 2
spi·ri·tu·el *or* **spi·ri·tu·elle** \ˌspir-i-chə-'wel, spē-rē-tw(ʸ)el\ *adj* [*spirituel* fr. F, lit., spiritual; *spirituelle* fr. F, fem. of *spirituel*] : having or marked by a refined and esp. sprightly or witty nature
spir·i·tu·ous \'spir-ich-(ə-)wəs, -ich-əs, 'spir-ət-əs\ *adj* [prob. fr. F *spiritueux*, fr. L *spiritus* spirit] : containing or impregnated with alcohol obtained by distillation ⟨~ liquors⟩
spirit varnish *n* : a varnish in which a volatile liquid (as alcohol) is the solvent
spirit writing *n* : automatic writing held to be produced under the influence of spirits
spiro- *comb form* [ISV, fr. L *spirare* to breathe — more at SPIRIT] : respiration ⟨*spiro*graph⟩
spi·ro·chet·al \ˌspī-rə-'kēt-ᵊl\ *adj* : caused by spirochetes
spi·ro·chete *or* **spi·ro·chaete** \'spī-rə-ˌkēt\ *n* [NL *Spirochaeta*, genus of bacteria, fr. L *spira* coil + Gk *chaitē* long hair — more at

SPIRE, CHAETA] : any of an order (Spirochaetales) of slender spirally undulating bacteria including those causing syphilis and relapsing fever
spi·ro·chet·osis \ˌspī-rə-ˌkēt-'ō-səs\ *n, pl* **-oses** \-ˌsēz\ : infection with or a disease caused by spirochetes
spi·ro·graph \'spī-rə-ˌgraf\ *n* [ISV] : an instrument recording respiratory movements — **spi·ro·graph·ic** \ˌspī-rə-'graf-ik\ *adj* — **spi·rog·ra·phy** \spī-'räg-rə-fē\ *n*
spi·ro·gy·ra \ˌspī-rə-'jī-rə\ *n* [NL, genus name, fr. Gk *speira* coil + *gyros* ring, circle — more at SPIRE, COWER] : any of a genus (*Spirogyra*) of freshwater green algae with spiral chlorophyll bands
spi·rom·e·ter \spī-'räm-ət-ər\ *n* [ISV] : an instrument for measuring the air entering and leaving the lungs — **spi·ro·met·ric** \ˌspī-rə-'me-trik\ *adj* — **spi·rom·e·try** \spī-'räm-ə-trē\ *n*
spirt *var of* SPURT
spi·ru·la \'spir-(y)ə-lə, 'spīr-\ *n* [NL, genus name, fr. dim. of L *spira* coil] : any of a genus (*Spirula*) of small dibranchiate cephalopods having a many-chambered shell in a flat spiral
spiry \'spī(ə)r-ē\ *adj* : resembling a spire; *esp* : being tall, slender, and tapering ⟨~ trees⟩
¹spit \'spit\ n [ME, fr. OE *spitu;* akin to L *spina* thorn, spine] **1** : a slender pointed rod for holding meat over a fire **2** : a small point of land esp. of sand or gravel running into a body of water
²spit *vt* **spit·ted; spit·ting** : to fix on or as if on a spit : IMPALE
³spit *vb* **spit** *or* **spat** \'spat\; **spit·ting** [ME *spitten, fr. OE spittan,* of imit. origin] *vt* **1 a** : to eject (as saliva) from the mouth : EXPECTORATE **b** (1) : to express (unpleasant or malicious feelings) by or as if by spitting (2) : to utter with a spitting sound or scornful expression ⟨*spat* out his words⟩ **c** : to emit as if by spitting; *esp* : to emit (precipitation) in driving particles or in flurries ⟨~ rain⟩ **2** : to set to burning ⟨~ a fuse⟩ ~ *vi* **1 a** (1) : to eject saliva as an expression of aversion or contempt (2) : to exhibit contempt **b** : to eject saliva from the mouth : EXPECTORATE **2** : to rain or snow slightly or in flurries **3** : to make a noise suggesting expectoration : SPUTTER — **spit it out** : to say what is in the mind without further delay
⁴spit *n* **1 a** (1) : SPITTLE, SALIVA (2) : the act or an instance of spitting **b** (1) : a frothy secretion exuded by spittlebugs (2) : SPITTLEBUG **2** : perfect likeness **3** : a sprinkle of rain or flurry of snow
spit·al \'spit-ᵊl\ *n* [ME *spitel,* modif. of ML *hospitale* — more at HOSPITAL] : LAZARETTO, HOSPITAL
spit and polish *n* [fr. the practice of polishing objects such as shoes by spitting on them and then rubbing them with a cloth] : extreme attention to cleanliness, orderliness, smartness of appearance, and ceremonial esp. at the expense of operational efficiency
spit·ball \'spit-ˌbȯl\ *n* **1** : paper chewed and rolled into a ball to be thrown or shot as a missile **2** : a baseball pitch delivered after the ball has been moistened with saliva or sweat
spit curl *n* [prob. fr. its being sometimes plastered down with saliva] : a spiral curl that is usu. plastered on the forehead, temple, or cheek
¹spite \'spīt\ *n* [ME, short for *despite*] **1** : petty ill will or hatred with the disposition to irritate, annoy, or thwart **2** : an instance of spite *syn* see MALICE — **in spite of** : in defiance or contempt of
²spite *vt* **spit·ed; spit·ing** **1** : to treat maliciously (as by shaming or thwarting) **2 a** : to fill with spite **b** : ANNOY, OFFEND
spite·ful \'spīt-fəl\ *adj* : filled with or showing spite : MALICIOUS — **spite·ful·ly** \-fə-lē\ *adv* — **spite·ful·ness** *n*
spit·fire \'spit-ˌfī(ə)r\ *n* : a quick-tempered or highly emotional person
¹spit·ter \'spit-ər\ *n* : one that spits
²spitter *n* : SPITBALL 2
spitting cobra *n* : either of two venomous African elapid snakes (*Naja nigricollis* and *Haemachates haemachatus*) that eject their venom toward the victim without striking
spitting image *n* [by alter.] : spit and image : ⁴SPIT 2
spit·tle \'spit-ᵊl\ *n* [ME *spetil,* fr. OE *spǣtl;* akin to OE *spittan*] **1** : SALIVA **2** : ⁴SPIT 1b(1)
spit·tle·bug \-ˌbəg\ *n* : any of numerous leaping homopterous insects (family Cercopidae) whose larvae secrete froth
spittle insect *n* : SPITTLEBUG
spit·toon \spi-'tün, spə-\ *n* [⁴*spit* + *-oon* (as in *balloon*)] : a receptacle for spit — called also *cuspidor*
spit up *vb* : REGURGITATE, VOMIT
spitz \'spits\ *n* [G, fr. *spitz* pointed; akin to OE *spitu* spit; fr. the shape of its ears and muzzle] : any of several stocky heavy-coated dogs of northern origin with erect ears and a heavily furred tail tightly recurved over the back; *esp* : a medium-sized white dog descended from Pomeranian ancestors and often considered a separate breed



spitz

spiv \'spiv\ *n* [alter. of E dial. *spiff* flashy dresser, fr. *spiff* dandified] **1** *Brit* : one who lives by his wits without regular employment **2** *Brit* : SLACKER
splanch·nic \ˌsplaŋk-nik\ *adj* [NL *splanchnicus,* fr. Gk *splanchnikos,* fr. *splanchna,* pl., viscera; akin to Gk *splēn* spleen] : of or relating to the viscera : VISCERAL
¹splash \'splash\ *vb* [alter. of *plash*] *vi* **1 a** : to strike and dash about a liquid or semiliquid substance **b** : to move in or into a liquid or semiliquid substance and cause it to spatter **2 a** (1) : to become spattered about (2) : to spread or scatter in the manner of splashed liquid **b** : to fall, strike, or move with a splashing sound ⟨a brook ~*ing* over rocks⟩ ~ *vt* **1 a** (1) : to dash a liquid or thinly viscous substance upon or against (2) : to soil or stain with splashed liquid **b** : to mark or overlay with patches of contrasting color or texture **c** : to display prominently **2 a** : to cause (a liquid or thinly viscous substance) to spatter about esp. with force **b** : to scatter in the manner of a splashed liquid — **splash·er** *n*
²splash *n* **1 a** (1) : splashed liquid or semiliquid substance; *also* : impounded water released suddenly (2) : a spot or daub from or as if from splashed liquid ⟨a mud ~ on the fender⟩ **b** : a colored patch **2 a** : the action of splashing **b** : a short plunge **3** : a sound produced by or as if by a liquid falling, moving, being hurled, or oscillating **4 a** : a vivid impression created esp. by ostentatious activity or appearance **b** : ostentatious display
splash·board \'splash-ˌbō(ə)rd, -ˌbȯ(ə)rd\ *n* **1 a** : DASHBOARD 1 **b** : a panel to protect against splashes **2** : a plank used to close a sluice or spillway of a dam
splash·down \'splash-ˌdaůn\ *n* : the landing of a manned spacecraft in the ocean — **splash down** \(')splash-'daůn\ *vi*
splash guard *n* : a flap suspended behind a rear wheel to prevent tire splash from muddying windshields of following vehicles
splashy \'splash-ē\ *adj* **splash·i·er; -est** **1** : that can be easily splashed about **2** : moving or being moved with a splash or splashing sounds **3** : tending to or exhibiting ostentatious display **4** : consisting of, being, or covered with colored splashes — **splash·i·ly** \'splash-ə-lē\ *adv* — **splash·i·ness** \'splash-ē-nəs\ *n*
¹splat \'splat\ *n* [obs. *splat* (to spread flat)] : a single flat thin often ornamental member of a back of a chair
²splat *n* [imit.] : a splattering or slapping sound
¹splat·ter \'splat-ər\ *vb* [prob. blend of *splash* and *spatter*] *vt* : SPATTER ~ *vi* : to scatter or fall in or as if in drops
²splatter *n* : SPATTER, SPLASH
¹splay \'splā\ *vb* [ME *splayen,* short for *displayen* — more at DISPLAY] *vt* **1** : to spread out **2** : to make (as the jamb of a door) oblique : BEVEL ~ *vi* **1** : to become splayed **2** : SLOPE, SLANT
²splay *n* **1** : a slope or bevel esp. of the sides of a door or window **2** : SPREAD, EXPANSION
³splay *adj* **1** : turned outward ⟨~ knees⟩ **2** : AWKWARD, UNGAINLY
splay·foot \'splā-ˌfůt, -'fůt\ *n* : a foot abnormally flattened and spread out; *specif* : FLATFOOT — **splayfoot** *or* **splay·foot·ed** \-'fůt-əd\ *adj*
spleen \'splēn\ *n* [ME *splen,* fr. MF or L; MF *esplen,* fr. L *splen,* fr. Gk *splēn;* akin to L *lien* spleen] **1** : a highly vascular ductless organ near the stomach or intestine of most vertebrates concerned with final destruction of blood cells, storage of blood, and production of lymphocytes **2** *obs* : the seat of emotions or passions **3** *archaic* : MELANCHOLY **4** : mingled ill will and bad temper **5** *obs* : a sudden impulse or whim : CAPRICE *syn* see MALICE
spleen·ful \-fəl\ *adj* : full of or affected with spleen : SPLENETIC
spleen·wort \-ˌwərt, -ˌwȯ(ə)rt\ *n* [fr. the belief in its power to cure disorders of the spleen] : any of a genus (*Asplenium*) of ferns having linear or oblong sori borne obliquely on the upper side of a veinlet
spleeny \'splē-nē\ *adj* **1** : full of or displaying spleen **2** *NewEng* : peevish and irritable with hypochondriac inclinations
splen- *or* **spleno-** *comb form* [L, fr. Gk *splēn-, splēno-,* fr. *splēn*] : spleen ⟨*splen*ectomy⟩ ⟨*spleno*megaly⟩
splen·dent \'splen-dənt\ *adj* [ME, fr. LL *splendent-, splendens,* fr. L, prp. of *splendēre*] **1** : SHINING, GLOSSY ⟨~ luster⟩ **2** : ILLUSTRIOUS, BRILLIANT ⟨~ genius⟩
splen·did \'splen-dəd\ *adj* [L *splendidus,* fr. *splendēre* to shine; akin to Gk *splēdos* ashes, Skt *sphuliṅga* spark] **1** : possessing or displaying splendor: as **a** : SHINING, BRILLIANT **b** : SHOWY, MAGNIFICENT **2** : ILLUSTRIOUS, GRAND **3** : EXCELLENT ⟨~ motives⟩ — **splen·did·ly** *adv* — **splen·did·ness** *n*
syn SPLENDID, RESPLENDENT, GORGEOUS, GLORIOUS, SUBLIME, SUPERB *shared meaning element* : extraordinarily or transcendently impressive
splen·dif·er·ous \splen-'dif-(ə-)rəs\ *adj* [*splendor* + *-i-* + *-ferous*] **1** : SPLENDID **2** : deceptively splendid — **splen·dif·er·ous·ly** *adv* — **splen·dif·er·ous·ness** *n*
splen·dor \'splen-dər\ *n* [ME *splendure,* fr. AF *splendur,* fr. L *splendor,* fr. *splendēre*] **1 a** : great brightness or luster : BRILLIANCY **b** : MAGNIFICENCE, POMP **2** : something splendid — **splen·dor·ous** *also* **splen·drous** \-d(ə-)rəs\ *adj*
splen·dour \-dər\ *chiefly Brit var of* SPLENDOR
sple·nec·to·my \spli-'nek-tə-mē\ *n, pl* **-mies** [ISV] : surgical removal of the spleen — **sple·nec·to·mized** \-ˌmīzd\ *adj*
sple·net·ic \spli-'net-ik, *archaic* 'splen-ə-(ˌ)tik\ *adj* [LL *spleneticus,* fr. L *splen* spleen] **1** *archaic* : given to melancholy **2** : marked by bad temper, malevolence, or spite *syn* see IRASCIBLE — **sple·net·ic** *n* — **sple·net·i·cal·ly** \spli-'net-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
splen·ic \'splen-ik\ *adj* [L *splenicus,* fr. Gk *splēnikos,* fr. *splēn* spleen] : of, relating to, or located in the spleen ⟨~ blood flow⟩
sple·ni·us \'splē-nē-əs\ *n, pl* **-nii** \-nē-ˌī\ [NL, fr. L *splenium* plaster, compress, fr. Gk *splēnion,* fr. *splēn*] : a flat oblique muscle of each side of the back of the neck
spleno·meg·a·ly \ˌsplen-ō-'meg-ə-lē\ *n, pl* **-lies** [ISV *splen-* + Gk *megal-, megas* large — more at MUCH] : enlargement of the spleen
spleu·chan \'splůk-ən, 'splūk-\ *n* [ScGael *spliūcan* & IrGael *spliūchān*] *Scot & Irish* : a pouch esp. for tobacco or money
¹splice \'splīs\ *vt* **spliced; splic·ing** [obs. D *splissen;* akin to MD *splitten* to split] **1 a** : to unite (as two ropes) by interweaving the strands **b** : to unite (as spars, timbers, or rails) by lapping two ends together or by applying a piece that laps upon two ends and making fast **2** : to unite in marriage : MARRY — **splic·er** *n*
²splice *n* **1** : a joining or joint made by splicing **2** : MARRIAGE, WEDDING



splice 1

spline \'splīn\ *n* [origin unknown] **1** : a thin wood or metal strip used in building construction **2** : a key that is fixed to one of two connected mechanical parts and fits into a keyway in the other; *also* : a keyway for such a key
¹splint \'splint\ *or* **splent** \'splent\ *n* [ME, fr. MLG *splinte, splente;* akin to OHG *spaltan* to split — more at SPILL] **1** : a small plate or strip of metal used in making armor **2 a** : a thin strip of wood

suitable for interweaving (as into baskets) **b** : SPLINTER **c** : material or a device used to protect and immobilize a body part (as a broken arm) **3** : a bony enlargement on the upper part of the cannon bone of a horse usu. on the inside of the leg

²splint *vt* **1** : to support and immobilize (as a broken bone) with a splint **2** : to brace with or as if with splints

splint bone *n* : one of the slender rudimentary metacarpal or metatarsal bones on either side of the cannon bone in the limbs of the horse and related animals

¹splin·ter \'splint-ər\ *n* [ME, fr. MD; akin to MLG *splinte* splint] **1** : a thin piece split or rent off lengthwise : SLIVER **2** : a group or faction broken away from a parent body — **splinter** *adj* — **splin·tery** \'splint-ə-rē, 'splin-trē\ *adj*

²splinter *vb* **splin·tered; splin·ter·ing** \'splint-ə-riŋ, 'splin-triŋ\ *vt* **1** : to split or rend into long thin pieces : SHIVER **2** : to split into fragments, parts, or factions ~ *vi* : to become splintered

¹split \'split\ *vb* **split; split·ting** [D *splitten*, fr. MD; akin to OHG *spaltan* to split — more at SPILL] *vt* **1 a** : to divide lengthwise usu. along a grain or seam or by layers **b** : to affect as if by cleaving or forcing apart ⟨the river ~*s* the town in two⟩ **2 a** (1) : to tear or rend apart : BURST (2) : to subject (an atom or atomic nucleus) to artificial disintegration esp. by fission **b** : to affect as if by breaking up or tearing apart : SHATTER ⟨a roar that ~ the air⟩ **3** : to divide into parts or portions: as **a** : to divide between persons : SHARE **b** : to divide into factions, parties, or groups **c** : to mark (a ballot) or cast or register (a vote) so as to vote for candidates of different parties **d** (1) : to divide or break down (a chemical compound) into constituents ⟨~ a fat into glycerol and fatty acids⟩ (2) : to remove by such separation ⟨~ off carbon dioxide⟩ **e** : to divide (stock) by issuing a larger number of shares to existing shareholders usu. without increase in total par value **4** : to separate (the parts of a whole) by interposing something ⟨~ an infinitive⟩ **5** : LEAVE ⟨~ the fraternity party after a few drinks⟩ ~ *vi* **1 a** : to become split lengthwise or into layers **b** : to break apart : BURST **2 a** : to become divided up or separated off ⟨~ into factions⟩ **b** : to sever relations or connections **c** : LEAVE; *esp* : to leave without delay **3** : to apportion shares ***syn*** see TEAR — **split·ter** *n* — **split hairs** : to make oversubtle or trivial distinctions — **split one's sides** : to laugh heartily

²split *n* **1 a** : a narrow break made by or as if by splitting **b** : a position of bowling pins left standing with space for pins between them **2** : a piece split off or made thin by splitting **3 a** : a division into or between divergent or antagonistic elements or forces **b** : a faction formed in this way **4 a** : the act or process of splitting **b** : the act of lowering oneself to the floor or leaping into the air with legs extended at right angles to the trunk **5** : a product of division by or as if by splitting **6** : a bottle of half the size of the usual small bottle for a drink **7** : a sweet composed of sliced fruit (as banana), ice cream, syrup, and often nuts and whipped cream

³split *adj* **1** : DIVIDED, FRACTURED **2** : prepared for use by splitting ⟨~ bamboo⟩ ⟨~ hides⟩ **3** : HETEROZYGOUS — used esp. by breeders of cage birds sometimes with *for* **4** : widely spaced

split decision *n* : a decision in a boxing match reflecting a division of opinion among the referee and judges

split end *n* : an offensive football end who lines up usu. several yards to the side of the formation

split infinitive *n* : an infinitive with *to* having a modifier between the *to* and the verbal (as in "to really start")

split–level \'split-'lev-əl\ *adj* : divided vertically so that the floor level of rooms in one part is approximately midway between the levels of two successive stories in an adjoining part ⟨a ~ house⟩ — **split–lev·el** \-,lev-əl\ *n*

split pea *n* : a dried hulled pea in which the cotyledons usu. split apart

split personality *n* : a personality structure composed of two or more internally consistent groups of behavior tendencies and attitudes each acting independently of and apparently dissociated from the other

split rail *n* : a fence rail split from a log

split second *n* : a fractional part of a second : FLASH

split shift *n* : a shift of working hours divided into two or more working periods at times (as mornings and evening) separated by more than normal periods of time off (as for lunch or rest)

split ticket *n* : a ballot cast by a voter who votes for candidates of more than one party

split·ting \'split-iŋ\ *adj* : that splits or causes to split: as **a** : causing a piercing sensation ⟨a ~ headache⟩ **b** : very fast or quick **c** : SIDESPLITTING ⟨a ~ laugh⟩

splore \'splō(ə)r, 'splȯ(ə)r\ *n* [origin unknown] **1** *Scot* : FROLIC, CAROUSAL **2** *Scot* : COMMOTION

¹splotch \'spläch\ *n* [perh. blend of *spot* and *blotch*] : BLOTCH, SPOT — **splotchy** \-ē\ *adj*

²splotch *vt* : to mark with a splotch : cover with splotches

¹splurge \'splərj\ *n* [perh. blend of *splash* and *surge*] : an ostentatious demonstration or effort

²splurge *vb* **splurged; splurg·ing** *vi* **1** : to make a splurge **2** : to indulge oneself extravagantly — often used with *on* ⟨~ on a new dress⟩ ~ *vt* : to spend extravagantly or ostentatiously

¹splut·ter \'splət-ər\ *n* [prob. alter. of *sputter*] **1** : a confused noise (as of hasty speaking) **2** : a splashing or sputtering sound

²splutter *vi* **1** : to make a noise as if spitting **2** : to speak hastily and confusedly ~ *vt* : to utter hastily or confusedly : STAMMER — **splut·ter·er** \'splət-ər-ər\ *n*

splut·tery \'splət-ə-rē\ *adj* : marked by spluttering

Spode \'spōd\ *n* : ceramic ware (as bone china, stone china, or Parian ware) made at the works established by Josiah Spode in 1770 at Stoke in Staffordshire, England

spod·u·mene \'späj-ə-,mēn\ *n* [prob. fr. F *spodumène*, fr. G *spodumen*, fr. Gk *spodoumenos*, prp. of *spodousthai* to be burnt to ashes, fr. *spodos* ashes] : a white to yellowish, purplish, or emerald-green monoclinic mineral $LiAlSi_2O_6$ that is a lithium aluminum silicate and occurs in prismatic crystals often of great size

¹spoil \'spȯi(ə)l\ *n* [ME *spoile*, fr. MF *espoille*, fr. L *spolia*, pl. of *spolium* — more at SPILL] **1 a** : plunder taken from an enemy in war or a victim in robbery : LOOT **b** : public offices made the property of a successful party — usu. used in pl. **c** : something gained by special effort — usu. used in pl. **2 a** : SPOLIATION, PLUNDERING **b** : the act of damaging : HARM, IMPAIRMENT **3** : an object of plundering : PREY **4** : earth and rock excavated or dredged **5** : an object damaged or flawed in the making
syn SPOIL, PILLAGE, PLUNDER, BOOTY, PRIZE, LOOT *shared meaning element* : something taken from another by force or craft

²spoil *vb* **spoiled** \'spȯi(ə)ld, 'spȯi(ə)lt\ *or* **spoilt** \'spȯi(ə)lt\; **spoil·ing** [ME *spoilen*, fr. MF *espoillier*, fr. L *spoliare*, fr. *spolium*] *vt* **1 a** : DESPOIL, STRIP **b** : PILLAGE, ROB **2** *archaic* : to seize by force **3 a** : to damage seriously : RUIN **b** : to impair the quality or effect of ⟨a quarrel ~*ed* the celebration⟩ **4 a** : to impair the disposition or character of by overindulgence or excessive praise **b** : to pamper excessively : CODDLE ~ *vi* **1** : to practice plunder and robbery **2** : to lose valuable or useful qualities usu. as a result of decay **3** : to have an eager desire ⟨~*ing* for a fight⟩ ***syn*** see INDULGE, DECAY — **spoil·able** \'spȯi-lə-bəl\ *adj*

spoil·age \'spȯi-lij\ *n* **1** : the act or process of spoiling **2** : something spoiled or wasted **3** : loss by spoilage

spoil·er \'spȯi-lər\ *n* **1** : one that spoils **2** : a long narrow plate along the upper surface of an airplane wing that may be raised for reducing lift and increasing drag — see AIRPLANE illustration **3** : an air deflector on the front or on the rear deck of an automobile and esp. a racer to reduce the tendency to lift off the road at high speeds

spoils·man \'spȯi(ə)lz-mən\ *n* : one who serves a party for a share of the spoils; *also* : one who sanctions such practice

spoil·sport \'spȯi(ə)l-,spō(ə)rt, -,spȯ(ə)rt\ *n* : one who spoils the sport or pleasure of others

spoils system *n* : a practice of regarding public offices and their emoluments as plunder to be distributed to members of the victorious party

¹spoke \'spōk\ *past & archaic past part of* SPEAK

²spoke *n* [ME, fr. OE *spāca*; akin to MD *spike* spike] **1 a** : one of the small radiating bars inserted in the hub of a wheel to support the rim **b** : something resembling the spoke of a wheel **2** : a rung of a ladder **3** : one of the projecting handles of a steering wheel of a boat

³spoke *vt* **spoked; spok·ing** : to furnish with or as if with spokes

spo·ken \'spō-kən\ *adj* [pp. of *speak*] **1 a** : delivered by word of mouth : ORAL **b** : used in speaking : UTTERED ⟨the ~ word⟩ **2** : characterized by speaking in (such) a manner — used in combination ⟨soft-*spoken*⟩ ⟨plain*spoken*⟩

spoke·shave \'spōk-,shāv\ *n* [²*spoke*] : a draw knife or small transverse plane with end handles for planing convex or concave surfaces

spokes·man \'spōks-mən\ *n* [prob. irreg. fr. *spoke*, obs. pp. of *speak*] : one who speaks as the representative of another or others

spokes·wom·an \-,swu̇m-ən\ *n* : a female spokesman

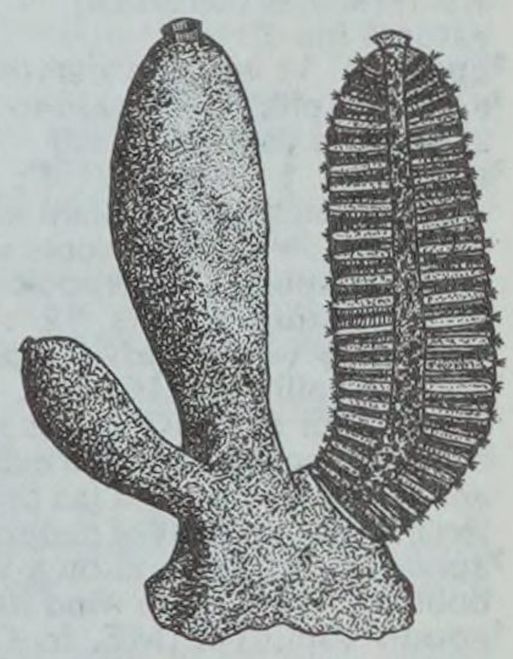
spo·li·ate \'spō-lē-,āt\ *vt* **-at·ed; -at·ing** [L *spoliatus*, pp.] : DESPOIL

spo·li·a·tion \,spō-lē-'ā-shən\ *n* [ME, fr. L *spoliation-*, *spoliatio*, fr. *spoliatus* pp. of *spoliare* to plunder — more at SPOIL] **1 a** : the act of plundering **b** : the state of having been plundered esp. in war **2** : the act of injuring esp. beyond reclaim — **spo·li·a·tor** \'spō-lē-,āt-ər\ *n*

spon·dee \'spän-,dē\ *n* [ME *sponde*, fr. MF or L; MF *spondee*, fr. L *spondeum*, fr. Gk *spondeios*, fr. *spondeios* of a libation, fr. *spondē* libation; fr. its use in music accompanying libations — more at SPOUSE] : a metrical foot consisting of two long or stressed syllables — **spon·da·ic** \spän-'dā-ik\ *adj or n*

spon·dy·li·tis \,spän-də-'līt-əs\ *n* [NL, fr. Gk *sphondylos*, *spondylos* vertebra, lit., whorl; akin to Gk *sphadazein* to jerk, *sphendonē* sling] : inflammation of the vertebrae

¹sponge \'spənj\ *n* [ME, fr. OE, fr. L *spongia*, fr. Gk] **1 a** (1) : an elastic porous mass of interlacing horny fibers that forms the internal skeleton of various marine animals (phylum Porifera) and is able when wetted to absorb water (2) : a piece of sponge (as for scrubbing and cleaning) (3) : a porous rubber or cellulose product used similarly to a sponge **b** : any of a phylum (Porifera) of aquatic lower invertebrate animals that are essentially double-walled cell colonies and permanently attached as adults **2 a** *archaic* : something that effaces or blots out existing impressions, memories, or emotions **b** *obs* : a process or method of cancelling or wiping off indebtedness without making payment **3** : a pad (as of folded gauze) used in surgery and medicine (as to remove discharge or apply medication) **4** : one who lives on others : SPONGER **5 a** : raised dough (as for yeast bread) **b** : a whipped dessert usu. containing whites of eggs or gelatin **c** : a metal (as platinum) obtained in porous form usu. by reduction without fusion ⟨titanium ~⟩ **d** : the egg mass of a crab



sponge 1b: right branch in cross section

²sponge *vb* **sponged; spong·ing** *vt* **1** : to cleanse, wipe, or moisten with or as if with a sponge **2** : to erase or destroy with or as if with a sponge — often used with *out* ⟨whole paragraphs had been *sponged* out⟩ **3** : to get by sponging on another **4** : to absorb with or as if with or in the manner of a sponge ~ *vi* **1** : to

absorb, soak up, or imbibe like a sponge **2** : to get something from or live on another by imposing on hospitality or good nature **3** : to dive or dredge for sponges — **spong·er** *n*

sponge cake *n* : a light cake made without shortening

sponge cloth *n* : any of various soft porous fabrics esp. in a loose honeycomb weave

sponge rubber *n* : cellular rubber resembling a natural sponge in structure used esp. for cushions, vibration dampeners, weather stripping, and gaskets

spon·gin \'spən-jən\ *n* [G, fr. L *spongia* sponge] : a scleroprotein that is the chief constituent of flexible fibers in sponge skeletons

spongy \'spən-jē\ *adj* **spong·i·er; -est** **1** : resembling a sponge: **a** : soft and full of cavities ⟨~ ice⟩ **b** : elastic, porous, and absorbent **2** **a** : not firm or solid **b** : being in the form of a metallic sponge ⟨~ iron⟩ **3** : moist and soft like a sponge full of water ⟨a ~ moor⟩ — **spong·i·ness** *n*

spongy parenchyma *n* : a spongy layer that is composed of irregular chlorophyll-bearing cells interspersed with air spaces and that fills the part of a leaf between the palisade parenchyma and the lower epidermis — called also *spongy layer, spongy tissue*

spon·son \'spän(t)-sən\ *n* [prob. by shortening & alter. fr. *expansion*] **1** **a** : a projection (as a gun platform) from the side of a ship or a tank **b** : an air chamber along a canoe to increase stability and buoyancy **2** : a light air-filled structure protruding from the hull of a seaplane to steady it on water

¹spon·sor \'spän(t)-sər\ *n* [LL, fr. L, guarantor, surety, fr. *sponsus*, pp. of *spondēre* to promise — more at SPOUSE] **1** : one who presents a candidate for baptism or confirmation and undertakes responsibility for his religious education or spiritual welfare **2** : one who assumes responsibility for some other person or thing **3** : a person or an organization that pays for or plans and carries out a project or activity; *esp* : one that pays the cost of a radio or television program usu. in return for limited advertising time during its course — **spon·so·ri·al** \spän-'sōr-ē-əl, -'sȯr-\ *adj* — **spon·sor·ship** \'spän(t)-sər-ˌship\ *n*

²sponsor *vt* **spon·sored; spon·sor·ing** \'spän(t)s-(ə-)riŋ\ : to be or stand sponsor for

spon·ta·ne·ity \ˌspänt-ən-'ē-ət-ē, ˌspänt-ᵊn-, -'ā-ət-\ *n* **1** : the quality or state of being spontaneous **2** : voluntary or undetermined action or movement; *also* : its source ***syn*** see UNCONSTRAINT

spon·ta·ne·ous \spän-'tā-nē-əs\ *adj* [LL *spontaneus*, fr. L *sponte* of one's free will, voluntarily — more at SPIN] **1** : proceeding from natural feeling or native tendency without external constraint **2** : arising from a momentary impulse **3** : controlled and directed internally : SELF-ACTING ⟨~ movement characteristic of living things⟩ **4** : produced without being planted or without human labor : INDIGENOUS **5** : developing without apparent external influence, force, cause, or treatment ⟨~ recovery from a severe illness⟩ **6** : not apparently contrived or manipulated : NATURAL — **spon·ta·ne·ous·ly** *adv* — **spon·ta·ne·ous·ness** *n*

syn SPONTANEOUS, IMPULSIVE, INSTINCTIVE, AUTOMATIC, MECHANICAL *shared meaning element* : acting or activated without deliberation ***ant*** studied

spontaneous combustion *n* : self-ignition of combustible material through chemical action (as oxidation) of its constituents

spontaneous generation *n* : ABIOGENESIS

spontaneous recovery *n* : reappearance of an extinguished conditioned response without positive reinforcement

spon·toon \spän-'tün\ *n* [F *sponton*, fr. It *spuntone*, fr. *punta* sharp point, fr. (assumed) VL *puncta* — more at POINT] : a short pike formerly borne by subordinate officers of infantry

¹spoof \'spüf\ *vt* [*Spoof*, a hoaxing game invented by Arthur Roberts †1933 E comedian] **1** : DECEIVE, HOAX **2** : to make good-natured fun of

²spoof *n* **1** : HOAX, DECEPTION **2** : a light humorous parody

¹spook \'spük\ *n* [D; akin to MLG *spōk* ghost] : GHOST, SPECTER — **spook·ish** \'spü-kish\ *adj*

²spook *vt* **1** : HAUNT 3 **2** : to make frightened or frantic : SCARE; *esp* : to startle into violent activity (as stampeding) ⟨~*ed* the herd of horses⟩ ~ *vi* : to become spooked ⟨cattle ~*ing* at shadows⟩

spooky \'spü-kē\ *adj* **spook·i·er; -est** **1** : relating to, resembling, or suggesting spooks **2** : NERVOUS, SKITTISH ⟨a ~ horse⟩ — **spook·i·ly** \-kə-lē\ *adv* — **spook·i·ness** \-kē-nəs\ *n*

¹spool \'spül\ *n* [ME *spole*, fr. MF or MD; MF *espole*, fr. MD *spoele*; akin to OHG *spuola* spool] **1** : a cylindrical device which has a rim or ridge at each end and an axial hole for a pin or spindle and on which material (as thread, wire, or tape) is wound **2** : material or the amount of material wound on a spool

²spool *vt* **1** : to wind on a spool **2** : WIND ⟨~ the thread off the bobbin⟩ ~ *vi* **1** : to wind itself on a spool **2** : WIND

¹spoon \'spün\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *spōn* splinter, chip; akin to OHG *spān* splinter, chip, Gk *sphēn* wedge] **1** : an eating or cooking implement consisting of a small shallow bowl with a handle **2** : something that resembles a spoon in shape (as a usu. metal or shell fishing lure)

²spoon *vt* **1** : to take up and usu. transfer in a spoon **2** : to propel (a ball) by a weak lifting stroke ~ *vi* **1** [prob. fr. the Welsh custom of an engaged man's presenting his fiancée with a spoon] : to make love by caressing, kissing, and talking amorously : NECK **2** : to spoon a ball

spoon·bill \'spün-ˌbil\ *n* **1** : any of several wading birds (family Plataleidae) related to the ibises that have the bill greatly expanded and flattened at the tip **2** : any of several broad-billed ducks (as the shoveler)

spoonbill cat *n* : PADDLEFISH

spoon–billed \'spün-'bild\ *adj* : having the bill or snout expanded and spatulate at the end

spoon bread *n, chiefly South & Midland* : soft bread made of cornmeal mixed with milk, eggs, and shortening and served with a spoon

spoon·drift \'spün-ˌdrift\ *n* [alter. of Sc *speendrift* — more at SPINDRIFT] : spray blown from waves during a gale at sea

spoo·ner·ism \'spü-nə-ˌriz-əm\ *n* [William A. *Spooner* †1930 E clergyman & educator] : a transposition of usu. initial sounds of two or more words (as in *tons of soil* for *sons of toil*)

spoon–feed \'spün-ˌfēd\ *vt* **-fed** \-ˌfed\; **-feed·ing** **1** : to feed by means of a spoon **2** **a** : to present (information) so completely as to preclude independent thought ⟨~ material to students⟩ **b** : to present information to in this manner

spoon·ful \'spün-ˌfůl\ *n, pl* **spoonfuls** \-ˌfůlz\ *also* **spoons·ful** \'spünz-ˌfůl\ : as much as a spoon will hold; *specif* : TEASPOONFUL

spoony *or* **spoon·ey** \'spü-nē\ *adj* **spoon·i·er; -est** [E slang *spoon* (simpleton)] **1** : SILLY, FOOLISH; *esp* : unduly sentimental **2** : sentimentally in love

¹spoor \'spů(ə)r, 'spō(ə)r, 'spȯ(ə)r\ *n* [Afrik, fr. MD; akin to OE *spor* footprint, spoor, *spurnan* to kick — more at SPURN] : a track, a trail, or droppings esp. of a wild animal

²spoor *vt* : to track by a spoor ~ *vi* : to track something by its spoor

spor- *or* **spori-** *or* **sporo-** *comb form* [NL *spora*] : seed : spore ⟨*sporo*cyst⟩ ⟨*spor*angium⟩ ⟨*spori*cidal⟩

spo·rad·ic \spə-'rad-ik\ *adj* [ML *sporadicus*, fr. Gk *sporadikos*, fr. *sporadēn* here and there, fr. *sporad-*, *sporas* scattered; akin to Gk *speirein* to sow] : occurring occasionally, singly, or in scattered instances ***syn*** see INFREQUENT — **spo·rad·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

sporadic E layer *n* : a layer of ionization occurring irregularly within the E region of the ionosphere

spo·ran·gio·phore \spə-'ran-jē-ə-ˌfō(ə)r, -ˌfȯ(ə)r\ *n* : a stalk or receptacle bearing sporangia

spo·ran·gi·um \spə-'ran-jē-əm\ *n, pl* **-gia** \-jē-ə\ [NL, fr. *spor-* + Gk *angeion* vessel — more at ANGI-] : a case within which usu. asexual spores are produced whether a cell (as in bacteria or algae) producing spores endogenously or a complex structure (as in a fern) — **spo·ran·gial** \-jē-əl\ *adj*

¹spore \'spō(ə)r, 'spȯ(ə)r\ *n* [NL *spora* seed, spore, fr. Gk, act of sowing, seed, fr. *speirein* to sow — more at SPROUT] : a primitive usu. unicellular resistant or reproductive body produced by plants and some invertebrates and capable of development into a new individual in some cases unlike the parent either directly or after fusion with another spore — **spored** \'spō(ə)rd, 'spȯ(ə)rd\ *adj*

²spore *vi* **spored; spor·ing** : to produce or reproduce by spores

spore case *n* : a case containing spores : SPORANGIUM

spore fruit *n* : a specialized structure (as an ascocarp) that produces spores : FRUITING BODY

spo·ri·cid·al \ˌspōr-ə-'sīd-ᵊl, ˌspȯr-\ *adj* : tending to kill spores — **spo·ri·cide** \'spōr-ə-ˌsīd, 'spȯr-\ *n*

spo·rif·er·ous \spə-'rif-(ə-)rəs; spȯr-'if-, spōr-\ *adj* : bearing or producing spores

spo·ro·carp \'spōr-ə-ˌkärp, 'spȯr-\ *n* [ISV *spor-* + Gk *karpos* fruit — more at HARVEST] : a structure (as in red algae, fungi, or mosses) in or on which spores are produced

spo·ro·cyst \-ˌsist\ *n* [ISV] **1** : a unicellular resting cell (as in slime molds and algae) that may give rise to asexual spores **2** **a** : a case or cyst secreted by some sporozoans preliminary to sporogony; *also* : a sporozoan encysted in such a case **b** : a saccular body that is the first asexual reproductive form of a digenetic trematode and buds off cells from its inner surface which develop into rediae — **spo·ro·cys·tic** \ˌspōr-ə-'sis-tik, ˌspȯr-\ *adj*

spo·ro·gen·e·sis \ˌspōr-ə-'jen-ə-səs, ˌspȯr-\ *n* [NL] **1** : reproduction by spores **2** : spore formation

spo·ro·gen·ic \ˌspōr-ə-'jen-ik, ˌspȯr-\ *adj* : SPOROGENOUS

spo·rog·e·nous \spə-'räj-ə-nəs, spȯ-\ *adj* : of, relating to, involving, or reproducing by sporogenesis

spo·ro·go·ni·um \ˌspōr-ə-'gō-nē-əm, ˌspȯr-\ *n, pl* **-nia** \-nē-ə\ [NL, fr. *spor-* + *-gonium* (as in *archegonium*)] : the sporophyte of a moss or liverwort consisting typically of a stalk bearing a capsule in which spores are produced and remaining permanently attached to the gametophyte

spo·rog·o·ny \spə-'räg-ə-nē, spȯ-\ *n* [ISV] : reproduction by spores; *specif* : spore formation in a sporozoan by encystment and subsequent division of a zygote — **spo·ro·gon·ic** \ˌspōr-ə-'gän-ik, ˌspȯr-\ *or* **spo·rog·o·nous** \spə-'räg-ə-nəs, spȯ-\ *adj*

spo·ro·phore \ˌspōr-ə-ˌfō(ə)r, 'spȯr-ə-ˌfȯ(ə)r\ *n* [ISV] : the part (as a spore fruit of a fungus or the placenta of a seed plant) of a sporophyte that develops spores

spo·ro·phyll \-ˌfil\ *n* [ISV] : a spore-bearing and usu. greatly modified leaf

spo·ro·phyte \-ˌfīt\ *n* [ISV] : the individual or generation of a plant exhibiting alternation of generations that bears asexual spores — compare GAMETOPHYTE — **spo·ro·phyt·ic** \ˌspōr-ə-'fit-ik, ˌspȯr-\ *adj*

spo·ro·pol·len·in \ˌspōr-ə-'päl-ə-nən, ˌspȯr-\ *n* [ISV *spor-* + *pollen* + *-in*] : a relatively chemically inert polymer that makes up the outer layer of pollen grains and spores of higher plants

spo·ro·tri·cho·sis \spə-ˌrä-trik-'ō-səs; ˌspōr-ə-trik-, ˌspȯr-\ *n* [NL, fr. *sporotrichum*, genus name] : infection with or disease caused by fungi (genus *Sporotrichum*) that is characterized by nodules and abscesses in the superficial lymph nodes, skin, and subcutaneous tissues, that occurs esp. in man and horses, and that is usu. transmitted by entry of the fungus through a skin abrasion or wound (as from the prick of a thorn)

-spo·rous \'spōr-əs, 'spȯr-; s-pə-rəs\ *adj comb form* [NL *spora* spore] : having (such or so many) spores ⟨homo*sporous*⟩

spo·ro·zo·an \ˌspōr-ə-'zō-ən, ˌspȯr-\ *n* [NL *Sporozoa*, class name, fr. *spor-* + *-zoa*] : any of a large class (Sporozoa) of strictly parasitic protozoans that have a complicated life cycle usu. involving both asexual and sexual generations often in different hosts and include important pathogens (as malaria parasites, coccidia, and piroplasms) — **sporozoan** *adj*

spo·ro·zo·ite \-'zō-ˌīt\ *n* [NL *Sporozoa* + ISV *-ite*] : a usu. motile infective form of some sporozoans that is a product of sporogony and initiates an asexual cycle in the new host

spor·ran \'spȯr-ən, 'spär-\ *n* [ScGael *sporan*] : a pouch of skin with the hair or fur on that is worn in front of the kilt with Scots Highland dress

[1]sport \'spō(ə)rt, 'spȯ(ə)rt\ *vb* [ME *sporten* to divert, disport, short for *disporten*] *vt* **1** : to make usu. ostentatious display of : show off ⟨~ a new hat⟩ **2** [[2]*sport*] : to put forth as a sport or bud variation ~ *vi* **1 a** : to amuse oneself : FROLIC ⟨lambs ~*ing* in the meadow⟩ **b** : to engage in a sport **2 a** : to mock or ridicule something **b** : to speak or act in jest : TRIFLE **3** [[2]*sport*] : to deviate or vary abruptly from type (as by bud variation) : MUTATE



1 sporran

[2]sport *n* **1 a** : a source of diversion : RECREATION **b** : sexual play **c** (1) : physical activity engaged in for pleasure (2) : a particular activity (as hunting or an athletic game) so engaged in **2 a** : PLEASANTRY, JEST **b** : MOCKERY, DERISION **3 a** : something tossed or driven about in or as if in play **b** : LAUGHINGSTOCK **4 a** : SPORTSMAN **b** : a person living up to the ideals of sportsmanship ⟨he's a good ~ about losing⟩ **c** : a companionable person **5** : an individual exhibiting a sudden deviation from type beyond the normal limits of individual variation usu. as a result of mutation esp. of somatic tissue ***syn*** see FUN

[3]sport *or* **sports** *adj* : of, relating to, or suitable for sports ⟨~ equipment⟩; *esp* : styled in a manner suitable for casual or informal wear ⟨~ coats⟩

sport fish *n* : a fish important for the sport it affords anglers

sport·fish·er·man \'spōrt-ˌfish-ər-mən, 'spȯrt-\ *n* : a powerboat equipped for sportfishing

sport·fish·ing \-ˌfish-iŋ\ *n* : fishing done with a rod and reel for sport or recreation

sport·ful \-fəl\ *adj* **1 a** : productive of sport or amusement : ENTERTAINING, DIVERTING **b** : PLAYFUL, FROLICSOME **2** : done in sport — **sport·ful·ly** \-fə-lē\ *adv* — **sport·ful·ness** *n*

sport·ing \'spōrt-iŋ, 'spȯrt-\ *adj* **1 a** : used or suitable for sport **b** : marked by or calling for sportsmanship **c** : involving such risk as a sports contender may expect to take or encounter ⟨a ~ chance⟩ **2** : of or relating to dissipation and esp. gambling **3** : tending to mutate freely — **sport·ing·ly** \-iŋ-lē\ *adv*

sport·ive \-iv\ *adj* **1 a** : FROLICSOME, PLAYFUL **b** : ARDENT, WANTON **2** : relating to sports and esp. field sports — **sport·ive·ly** *adv* — **sport·ive·ness** *n*

sports car *also* **sport car** *n* : a low comparatively small usu. 2≈ passenger automobile designed for quick response, easy maneuverability, and high-speed driving

sports·cast \'spō(ə)rt-ˌskast, 'spȯ(ə)rt-\ *n* [*sport* + broad*cast*] : a radio or television broadcast of a sports event or of information about sports — **sports·cast·er** \-ˌskas-tər\ *n*

sports·man \'spō(ə)rt-smən, 'spȯ(ə)rt-\ *n* **1** : one who engages in sports and esp. in hunting and fishing **2** : a person who is fair, generous, and a good loser, and a graceful winner — **sports·man·like** \-ˌlīk\ *adj* — **sports·man·ly** \-lē\ *adj*

sports·man·ship \-ˌship\ *n* : conduct becoming to a sportsman

sports·wear \'spō(ə)rt-ˌswa(ə)r, 'spȯ(ə)rt-, -ˌswe(ə)r\ *n* : clothing suitable for recreation

sports·wom·an \-ˌswu̇m-ən\ *n* : a female sportsman

sports·writ·er \'spō(ə)rts-ˌrīt-ər, 'spȯ(ə)rts-\ *n* : one who writes about sports esp. for a newspaper

sports·writ·ing \-iŋ\ *n* : writing that relates to sports

sporty \'spōrt-ē, 'spȯrt-\ *adj* **sport·i·er; -est** **1** : characteristic of a sport or sportsman : SPORTSMANLIKE **2 a** : notably loose or dissipated : FAST **b** : FLASHY, SHOWY ⟨~ clothes⟩ **3** : capable of giving good sport ⟨a ~ boat⟩ — **sport·i·ly** \'spōrt-ᵊl-ē, 'spȯrt-\ *adv* — **sport·i·ness** \'spōrt-ē-nəs, 'spȯrt-\ *n*

spor·u·late \'spōr-(y)ə-ˌlāt, 'spȯr-\ *vi* **-lat·ed; -lat·ing** [back≈ formation fr. *sporulation*] : to undergo sporulation

spor·u·la·tion \ˌspōr-(y)ə-'lā-shən, ˌspȯr-\ *n* [ISV, fr. NL *sporula*, dim. of *spora* spore] : the formation of spores; *esp* : division into many small spores (as after encystment) — **spor·u·la·tive** \'spōr-(y)ə-ˌlāt-iv, 'spȯr-\ *adj*

-spo·ry \ˌspōr-ē, ˌspȯr-; s-pə-rē\ *n comb form* [*-spo*rous + *-y*] : quality or state of having (such) spores ⟨homo*spory*⟩

[1]spot \'spät\ *n* [ME; akin to MD *spotte* stain, speck, ON *spotti* small piece] **1** : a taint on character or reputation : FAULT ⟨the only ~ on the family name⟩ **2 a** : a small area visibly different (as in color, finish, or material) from the surrounding area **b** (1) : an area marred or marked (as by dirt) (2) : a circumscribed surface lesion of disease (as measles) or decay ⟨~*s* of rot⟩ ⟨rust ~*s* on a leaf⟩ **c** : a conventionalized design used on playing cards to distinguish suits and indicate values **3** : an object having a specified number of spots or a specified numeral on its surface **4** : a small quantity or amount : BIT **5 a** : a particular place or area **b** : a small extent of space **6** : a small croaker (*Leiostomus xanthurus*) of the Atlantic coast with a black spot behind the shoulders **7 a** : a particular position (as in an organization or a hierarchy) **b** : a place on an entertainment program **8** : SPOTLIGHT **9** : a position usu. of difficulty or embarrassment **10** : a brief announcement or advertisement broadcast between scheduled radio or television programs — **on the spot** *or* **upon the spot** **1** : at once : IMMEDIATELY **2** : at the place of action **3 a** : in a responsible or accountable position **b** : in difficulty or danger ⟨their opposition put him *on the spot*⟩

[2]spot *vb* **spot·ted; spot·ting** *vt* **1** : to stain the character or reputation of : DISGRACE **2** : to mark in or with a spot : STAIN **3** : to locate or identify by a spot **4 a** : to single out : IDENTIFY; *specif* : to note as a known criminal or a suspicious person **b** : DETECT, NOTICE ⟨~ a mistake⟩ **c** (1) : to locate accurately ⟨~ an enemy position⟩ (2) : to cause to strike accurately ⟨~ the battery's fire⟩ **5 a** : to lie at intervals in or over : STUD **b** : to place at intervals or in a desired spot ⟨~ field telephones⟩ **c** : to fix in or as if in the beam of a spotlight **d** : to schedule in a particular spot or at a particular time **6** : to remove a spot from **7** : to allow as a handicap ~ *vi* **1** : to become stained or discolored in spots **2** : to cause a spot **3** : to act as a spotter; *esp* : to locate targets — **spot·ta·ble** \'spät-ə-bəl\ *adj*

[3]spot *adj* **1 a** : being, originating, or done on the spot or in or for a particular spot ⟨~ coverage of the news⟩ **b** : available for immediate delivery after sale ⟨~ commodities⟩ **c** (1) : paid out upon delivery ⟨~ cash⟩ (2) : involving immediate cash payment ⟨~ transaction⟩ **d** (1) : broadcast between scheduled programs ⟨~ announcements⟩ (2) : originating in a local station for a national advertiser **e** : performing occasionally when needed ⟨chance of making the . . . varsity as a ~ starter and relief pitcher —*N.Y. Times*⟩ **2** : made at random or restricted to a few places or instances ⟨a ~ check⟩; *also* : selected at random or as a sample

SPOT \'spät\ *abbr* satellite positioning and tracking

spot–check \'spät-ˌchek\ *vt* : to sample or investigate quickly or at random ~ *vi* : to make a spot check

spot·less \'spät-ləs\ *adj* : having no spot: **a** : free from impurity : IMMACULATE ⟨~ kitchens⟩ **b** : PURE, UNBLEMISHED ⟨~ reputation⟩ — **spot·less·ly** *adv* — **spot·less·ness** *n*

[1]spot·light \'spät-ˌlīt\ *n* **1 a** : a projected spot of light used to illuminate brilliantly a person, object, or group on a stage **b** : conspicuous public notice ⟨held the political ~⟩ **2 a** : a light designed to direct a narrow intense beam of light on a small area **b** : something that illuminates brilliantly

[2]spotlight *vt* : to illuminate with or as if with a spotlight

spot pass *n* : a pass (as in football or basketball) made to a predetermined spot on the field or court rather than directly to a player

spot·ted \'spät-əd\ *adj* **1** : marked with spots **2** : being sullied : TARNISHED **3** : characterized by the appearance of spots

spotted adder *n* **1** : MILK SNAKE **2** : HOGNOSE SNAKE

spotted alfalfa aphid *n* : a highly destructive Old World aphid (*Therioaphis maculata*) that is established in the U.S. from coast to coast in warmer areas and that injects a toxic saliva in feeding esp. on alfalfa and causes yellowing and stunting of affected plants

spotted cucumber beetle *n* : a rather slender greenish yellow beetle (*Diabrotica undecimpunctata howardi*) that feeds as an adult on various ornamental and crop plants and is a vector of wilt disease esp. of cucumbers and melons

spotted fever *n* : any of various eruptive fevers: as **a** : TYPHUS **b** : ROCKY MOUNTAIN SPOTTED FEVER

spotted sea trout *n* : a weakfish (*Cynoscion nebulosus*) that is a valuable food and sport fish of the south Atlantic and Gulf coasts of the U.S. — called also *sea trout, spotted weakfish*

spot·ter \'spät-ər\ *n* **1** : one that makes or applies a spot (as for identification) **2** : one that looks or keeps watch: as **a** : one that locates enemy targets **b** : a civilian who watches for approaching airplanes **3** : one that removes spots **4** : one that places something on or in a desired spot

spot test *n* **1** : a test conducted on the spot to yield immediate results **2** : a test limited to a few key or sample points or a relatively small percentage of random spots

spot·ty \'spät-ē\ *adj* **spot·ti·er; -est** **1** : marked with spots : SPOTTED **2** : lacking uniformity esp. in quality ⟨~ attendance⟩ — **spot·ti·ly** \'spät-ᵊl-ē\ *adv* — **spot·ti·ness** \'spät-ē-nəs\ *n*

spou·sal \'spaů-zəl, -səl\ *n* [ME *spousaille*, fr. MF *espousailles* espousal] : NUPTIALS — usu. used in pl. — **spousal** *adj*

[1]spouse \'spaůs *also* 'spaůz\ *n* [ME, fr. OF *espous* (masc.) & *espouse* (fem.), fr. L *sponsus* betrothed man, groom & *sponsa* betrothed woman, bride, fr. *sponsus*, pp. of *spondēre* to promise, betroth; akin to Gk *spendein* to make a libation, promise, *spondē* libation (pl., treaty)] : married person : HUSBAND, WIFE

[2]spouse \'spaůz, 'spaůs\ *vt* **spoused; spous·ing** *archaic* : WED

[1]spout \'spaůt\ *vb* [ME *spouten*; akin to MD *spoiten* to spout, OE *spīwan* to spew] *vt* **1** : to eject (as liquid) in a stream ⟨wells ~*ing* oil⟩ **2 a** : to speak or utter readily, volubly, and at length **b** : to speak or utter in a pompous or oratorical manner : DECLAIM ~ *vi* **1** : to issue with force or in a jet : SPURT **2** : to eject material (as liquid) in a jet **3** : DECLAIM — **spout·er** *n*

[2]spout *n* **1** : a pipe or conductor through which a liquid is discharged or conveyed in a stream: as **a** : a pipe for carrying rainwater from a roof **b** : a projecting tube or lip from which water issues **2** : a discharge or jet of liquid from or as if from a pipe; *esp* : WATERSPOUT **3** *archaic* : PAWNSHOP — **spout·ed** \'spaůt-əd\ *adj*

spp *abbr* species

SPQR *abbr* **1** [L *senatus populusque Romanus*] the senate and the people of Rome **2** small profits, quick returns

SPR *abbr* Society for Psychical Research

sprach·ge·fühl \'shpräk-kə-ˌfül\ *n* [G, fr. *sprache* language + *gefühl* feeling] **1** : sensibility to conformance with or divergence from the established usage of a language **2** : a feeling for what is linguistically effective or appropriate

sprag \'sprag\ *n* [perh. of Scand origin; akin to Sw dial. *spragge* branch] : a pointed stake or steel bar let down from a halted vehicle (as a wagon) to prevent it from rolling

[1]sprain \'sprān\ *n* [origin unknown] **1** : a sudden or violent twist or wrench of a joint with stretching or tearing of ligaments **2** : a sprained condition

[2]sprain *vt* : to subject to sprain

sprat \'sprat\ *n* [alter. of ME *sprot*, fr. OE *sprott*] **1** : a small European herring (*Clupea sprattus*) closely related to the common herring; *also* : a small or young herring or similar fish (as an anchovy) **2** : a young, small, or insignificant person

sprawl \'sprȯl\ *vb* [ME *sprawlen*, fr. OE *sprēawlian*] *vi* **1 a** *archaic* : to lie thrashing or tossing about **b** : to creep or clamber awkwardly **2** : to lie or sit with arms and legs spread out **3** : to

spread or develop irregularly ~ *vt* : to cause to spread out carelessly or awkwardly — **sprawl** *n*

[1]spray \'sprā\ *n* [ME] **1** : a usu. flowering branch or shoot **2** : a decorative flat arrangement of flowers and foliage (as on a coffin) **3** : something (as a jeweled pin) resembling a spray

[2]spray *n* [obs. E *spray* (to sprinkle), fr. MD *sprayen;* akin to Gk *speirein* to scatter — more at SPROUT] **1** : water flying in small drops or particles blown from waves or thrown up by a waterfall **2 a** : a jet of vapor or finely divided liquid **b** : a device (as an atomizer or sprayer) by which a spray is dispersed or applied **c** (1) : an application of a spray or by spraying (2) : a substance (as paint or insecticide) so applied

[3]spray *vt* **1** : to disperse or apply as a spray **2** : to project spray on or into ~ *vi* **1** : to break up into spray **2** : to disperse or apply a spray — **spray·er** *n*

spray gun *n* : an apparatus resembling a gun for applying a substance (as paint or insecticide) in the form of a spray

[1]spread \'spred\ *vb* **spread; spread·ing** [ME *spreden*, fr. OE *sprǣdan;* akin to OHG *spreiten* to spread, OE *-sprūtan* to sprout — more at SPROUT] *vt* **1 a** : to open or expand over a larger area ⟨~ out the map⟩ **b** : to stretch out : EXTEND ⟨~ its wings for flight⟩ **2 a** : to distribute over an area ⟨~ fertilizer⟩ **b** : to distribute over a period or among a group ⟨~ the work over a few weeks⟩ **c** : to apply on a surface ⟨~ butter on bread⟩ **d** (1) : to cover or overlay with ⟨~ the cloth on the table⟩ (2) *archaic* : to cover completely **e** (1) : to prepare or furnish for dining : SET ⟨~ the table⟩ (2) : SERVE ⟨~ the afternoon tea⟩ **3 a** : to make widely known ⟨~ the news⟩ **b** : to extend the range or incidence of ⟨~ a disease⟩ **c** : DIFFUSE, EMIT ⟨flowers ~*ing* their fragrance⟩ **4** : to push apart by weight or force ~ *vi* **1 a** : to become dispersed, distributed, or scattered **b** : to become known or disseminated ⟨panic ~ rapidly⟩ **2** : to grow in length or breadth : EXPAND **3** : to move apart (as from pressure or weight) : SEPARATE — **spread·abil·i·ty** \ˌspred-ə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* — **spread·able** \'spred-ə-bəl\ *adj*

[2]spread *n* **1 a** : the act or process of spreading **b** : extent of spreading **2** : something spread out: as **a** : a surface area : EXPANSE **b** *West* (1) : RANCH (2) : a herd of animals **c** (1) : a prominent display in a periodical (2) : two facing pages (as of a newspaper) usu. with matter running across the fold; *also* : the matter occupying these pages **3** : something spread on or over a surface: as **a** : a food to be spread (as on bread or crackers) ⟨a cheese ~⟩ **b** : a sumptuous meal : FEAST **c** : a cloth cover for a table or bed **4** : distance between two points : GAP

[1]spread–ea·gle \'spred-ˌē-gəl\ *vb* **spread–ea·gled; spread–ea·gling** \-ˌē-g(ə-)liŋ\ *vi* **1** : to execute a spread eagle (as in skating) **2** : to stand or move with arms and legs stretched out : SPRAWL ~ *vt* **1** : to stretch out into the position of a spread eagle **2** : to spread over : stretch across

[2]spread–eagle *adj* [fr. the spread eagle on the Great Seal of the U.S.] : marked by bombast and boastful exaggeration esp. of the greatness of the U.S. ⟨~ oratory⟩

spread eagle *n* **1** : a representation of an eagle with wings raised and legs extended **2** : something resembling or suggestive of a spread eagle; *specif* : a skating figure executed with the skates heel to heel in a straight line

spread end *n* : SPLIT END

spread·er \'spred-ər\ *n* : one that spreads: as **a** : an implement for scattering material **b** : a small knife for spreading butter **c** : WETTING AGENT **d** : a device (as a bar) holding two linear elements (as lines, guys, rails) apart and usu. taut

spread formation *n* : an offensive football formation in which the ends are positioned three to five yards outside the tackles, the tailback plays seven to eight yards behind the line, and the other three backs are in flanking position close to the line

spreading factor *n* : HYALURONIDASE

spree \'sprē\ *n* [perh. alter. of Sc *spreath* cattle raid, foray, fr. ScGael *sprēidh* cattle, fr. L *praeda* booty — more at PREY] : an unrestrained indulgence in or outburst of an activity ⟨went on a buying ~⟩ ; *esp* : BINGE, CAROUSAL

sprent \'sprent\ *adj* [fr. pp. of obs. *sprenge* (to sprinkle)] *archaic* : sprinkled over

[1]sprig \'sprig\ *n* [ME *sprigge*] **1 a** : a small shoot : TWIG **b** : a small division of grass used for propagation **2 a** : HEIR **b** : YOUTH **c** : a small specimen **3** : an ornament resembling a sprig, stemmed flower, or leaf **4** : a small headless nail : BRAD

[2]sprig *vt* **sprigged; sprig·ging** **1** : to drive sprigs or brads into **2** : to mark or adorn with the representation of plant sprigs **3** : to propagate (a grass) by means of stolons or small divisions

spright·ful \'sprīt-fəl\ *adj* [obs. *spright*] : full of life or spirit : SPRIGHTLY — **spright·ful·ly** \-fə-lē\ *adv* — **spright·ful·ness** *n*

spright·ly \-lē\ *adj* **spright·li·er; -est** [obs. *spright* (sprite), alter. of *sprite*] : marked by a gay lightness and vivacity : SPIRITED ***syn*** see LIVELY — **spright·li·ness** *n*

sprig·tail \'sprig-ˌtāl\ *n* : any of several birds with pointed tails; *esp* : PINTAIL a

[1]spring \'spriŋ\ *vb* **sprang** \'spraŋ\ *or* **sprung** \'sprəŋ\; **sprung; spring·ing** \'spriŋ-iŋ\ [ME *springen*, fr. OE *springan;* akin to OHG *springan* to jump, Gk *sperchesthai* to hasten] *vi* **1 a** (1) : DART, SHOOT (2) : to be resilient or elastic; *also* : to move by elastic force ⟨the lid *sprang* shut⟩ **b** : to become warped **2** : to issue with speed and force or as a stream **3 a** : to grow as a plant **b** : to issue by birth or descent **c** : to come into being : ARISE **d** *archaic* : DAWN **e** : to begin to blow — used with *up* ⟨a breeze quickly *sprang* up⟩ **4 a** : to make a leap or series of leaps **b** : to leap or jump up suddenly **5** : to stretch out in height : RISE ~ *vt* **1** : to cause to spring **2 a** : to undergo or bring about the splitting or cracking of ⟨wind *sprang* the mast⟩ **b** : to undergo the opening of (a leak) **3 a** : to cause to operate suddenly ⟨~ a trap⟩ **b** : to apply or insert by bending **c** : to bend by force **4** : to leap over **5** : to produce or disclose suddenly or unexpectedly **6** : to make lame : STRAIN **7** : to release or cause to be released from confinement or custody

syn SPRING, ARISE, RISE, ORIGINATE, DERIVE, FLOW, ISSUE, EMANATE, PROCEED, STEM *shared meaning element* : to come up or out of something into existence

[2]spring *n, often attrib* **1 a** : a source of supply; *esp* : a source of water issuing from the ground **b** : an ultimate source esp. of action or motion **2** : SPRING TIDE **3** : a time or season of growth or development; *specif* : the season between winter and summer comprising in the northern hemisphere usu. the months of March, April, and May or as reckoned astronomically extending from the March equinox to the June solstice **4** : an elastic body or device that recovers its original shape when released after being distorted **5 a** : the act or an instance of leaping up or forward : BOUND **b** (1) : capacity for springing : RESILIENCE (2) : BOUNCE, ENERGY **6** : the point or plane at which an arch or vault curve springs from its impost ***syn*** see MOTIVE

[3]spring *vt* **sprung** \'sprəŋ\; **spring·ing** \'spriŋ-iŋ\ : to fit with springs

spring·ald \'spriŋ-əld\ *or* **spring·al** \-əl\ *n* [prob. fr. ME, a kind of catapult, fr. MF *espringale*] : a young man : STRIPLING

spring beauty *n* : any of a genus (*Claytonia*) of plants of the purslane family; *esp* : one (*C. virginica*) that sends up in early spring a 2-leaved stem bearing delicate pink flowers

spring·board \'spriŋ-ˌbō(ə)rd, -ˌbȯ(ə)rd\ *n* **1** : a flexible board usu. secured at one end and used for gymnastic stunts or diving **2** : a point of departure : JUMPING-OFF PLACE

spring·bok \'spriŋ-ˌbäk\ *n, pl* **springbok** *or* **springboks** [Afrik, fr. *spring* to jump + *bok* male goat] : a swift and graceful southern African gazelle (*Antidorcas euchore*) noted for its habit of springing lightly and suddenly into the air

spring catch *n* : a catch (as for a door) with a bolt that can be retracted by pressure and is shot by a spring when the pressure is released

spring chicken *n* : a young person

spring–clean·ing \'spriŋ-'klē-niŋ\ *n* [*[2]spring*] : the act or process of doing a thorough cleaning of a place

springe \'sprinj\ *n* [ME *sprenge, springe;* akin to OE *springan* to spring] **1** : a noose fastened to an elastic body to catch small game **2** : SNARE, TRAP

spring·er \'spriŋ-ər\ *n* **1** : a stone or other solid laid at the impost of an arch — see ARCH illustration **2** : one that springs; *esp* : SPRINGER SPANIEL **3** : a cow nearly ready to calve

springer spaniel *n* : a medium-sized sporting dog of either of two breeds that is used chiefly for finding and flushing small game: **a** : ENGLISH SPRINGER SPANIEL **b** : WELSH SPRINGER SPANIEL

spring fever *n* : a lazy or restless feeling often associated with the onset of spring

Spring·field rifle \ˌspriŋ-ˌfēl(d)-\ *n* [*Springfield*, Mass.] : a .30 caliber bolt-operated repeating rifle used by U.S. troops esp. in World War I

spring·form pan \ˌspriŋ-ˌfȯrm-\ *n* [fr. the spring by which the rim is attached to the bottom] : a pan or mold with an upright detachable rim fastened to the bottom of the pan with a clamp or spring

spring·head \'spriŋ-ˌhed\ *n* : FOUNTAINHEAD

spring·house \-ˌhau̇s\ *n* : a small building situated over a spring and used for cool storage (as of dairy products or meat)

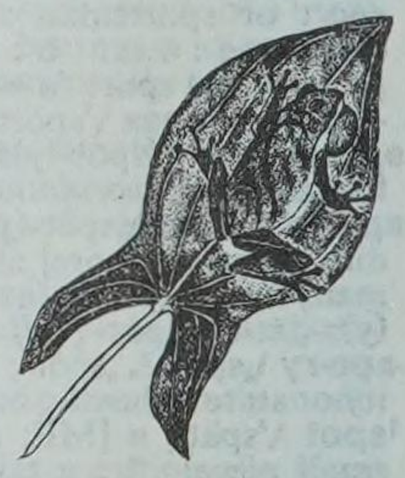
spring·ing \'spriŋ-iŋ\ *n* **1** : SPRING 5 **2** : SPRINGING LINE

springing bow *n* : a method of bowing a stringed instrument so that the bow rebounds from the string

springing line *n* : the usu. horizontal line connecting the two opposite points at which the curve of an arch or vault begins

spring load *vt* : to load or secure by means of spring tension or compression

spring peeper *n* : a small brown tree toad (*Hyla crucifer*) of the eastern U.S. and Canada that has a shrill piping call and breeds in ponds and streams in the spring



spring peeper

spring·tail \'spriŋ-ˌtāl\ *n* : COLLEMBOLAN

spring·tide \-ˌtīd\ *n* : SPRINGTIME

spring tide *n* : a tide of greater-than-average range around the times of new and full moon

spring·time \'spriŋ-ˌtīm\ *n* **1** : the season of spring **2** : YOUTH **3** : an early or flourishing stage of development

spring tooth *n* : a flat curved springy steel tooth (as on a cultivator)

spring wagon *n* : a light farm wagon equipped with springs

spring·wood \'spriŋ-ˌwu̇d\ *n* : the softer more porous portion of an annual ring of wood that develops early in the growing season — compare SUMMERWOOD

springy \'spriŋ-ē\ *adj* **spring·i·er; -est** **1** : abounding with springs : SPONGY **2** : having an elastic quality : RESILIENT — **spring·i·ly** \'spriŋ-ə-lē\ *adv* — **spring·i·ness** \'spriŋ-ē-nəs\ *n*

[1]sprin·kle \'spriŋ-kəl\ *vb* **sprin·kled; sprin·kling** \-k(ə-)liŋ\ [ME *sprenklen, sprinclen;* akin to MHG *spreckel, sprenkel* spot, OE *spearca* spark] *vt* **1** : to scatter in drops or particles **2 a** : to scatter over **b** : to scatter at intervals in or among : DOT **c** : to wet lightly ~ *vi* **1** : to scatter a liquid in fine drops **2** : to rain lightly in scattered drops — **sprin·kler** \-k(ə-)lər\ *n*

[2]sprinkle *n* **1** : the act or an instance of sprinkling; *specif* : a light rain **2** : SPRINKLING

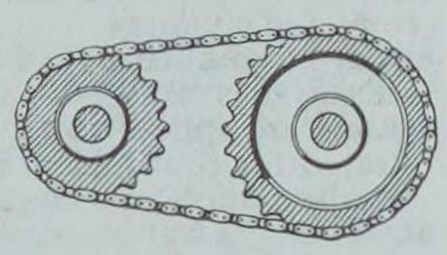
sprin·klered \'spriŋ-klərd\ *adj* : having an automatic sprinkler system

sprinkler system *n* : a system for protecting a building against fire by means of overhead pipes which convey an extinguishing fluid (as water) to heat-activated outlets

sprin·kling \'spriŋ-kliŋ\ *n* **1** : a limited quantity or amount : MODICUM **2** : a small quantity falling in scattered drops or particles **3** : a small number distributed at random : SCATTERING

[1]sprint \'sprint\ *vi* [of Scand origin; akin to Sw dial. *sprinta* to jump, hop; akin to OHG *sprinzan* to jump up, Gk *spyrthizein*] : to run at top speed esp. for a short distance — **sprint·er** *n*

²sprint *n* **1** : the act or an instance of sprinting **2 a** : DASH 6b **b** : a burst of speed
sprint car *n* : a front-engined open wheel racing car used esp. on short dirt tracks
sprit \'sprit\ *n* [ME *spret, sprit*, fr. OE *sprēot* pole, spear; akin to OE *-sprūtan* to sprout] : a spar that crosses a fore-and-aft sail diagonally
sprite \'sprīt\ *n* [ME *sprit*, fr. OF *esprit*, fr. L *spiritus* spirit] **1 a** *archaic* : SOUL **b** : a disembodied spirit : GHOST **2 a** : ELF, FAIRY **b** : an elfish person
sprit·sail \'sprit-ˌsāl, -səl\ *n* : a sail extended by a sprit
sprock·et \'spräk-ət\ *n* [origin unknown] **1** : a tooth or projection (as on a wheel) shaped so as to engage with a chain **2** : a toothed cylinder or wheel that engages the perforations of something (as motion-picture film) to move it through a mechanism (as a projector)
sprocket wheel *n* : a wheel with cogs or sprockets to engage with the links of a chain

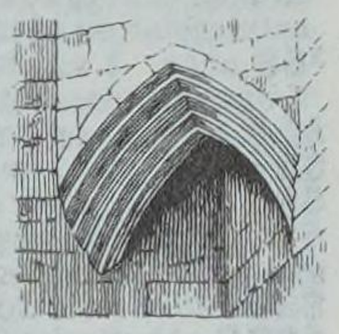


sprocket wheel

¹sprout \'spraůt\ *vb* [ME *sprouten*, fr. OE *-sprūtan*; akin to OHG *spriozan* to sprout, Gk *speirein* to scatter, sow] *vi* **1** : to grow, spring up, or come forth as or as if a sprout **2** : to send out new growth ⟨potatoes kept too warm will ~ prematurely⟩ ~ *vt* : to send forth or up : cause to develop : GROW
²sprout *n* **1 a** : SHOOT 1a; *esp* : a young shoot (as from a seed or root) **b** *pl* (1) : edible shoots esp. of a crucifer (2) : a plant (as brussels sprouts) producing sprouts **2** : something resembling a sprout: as **a** : a young person **b** : SCION
sprouting broccoli *n* : BROCCOLI 2
¹spruce \'sprüs\ *n* [obs. *Spruce* Prussia, fr. ME, alter. of *Pruce*, fr. OF] : any of a genus (*Picea*) of evergreen trees of the pine family with a conical head of dense foliage and soft light wood; *also* : any of several coniferous trees (as Douglas fir) of similar habit
²spruce *adj* **spruc·er; spruc·est** [perh. fr. obs. E *Spruce leather* leather imported from Prussia] : neat or smart in appearance : TRIM — **spruce·ly** *adv* — **spruce·ness** *n*
³spruce *vb* **spruced; spruc·ing** *vt* : to make spruce — often used with *up* ~ *vi* : to make oneself spruce ⟨~ up a bit⟩
spruce beer *n* : a beverage flavored with spruce; *esp* : one made from spruce twigs and leaves boiled with molasses or sugar and fermented with yeast
spruce budworm *n* : a tortricid moth (*Choristoneura fumiferana*) whose larva feeds on evergreen trees (as spruce and balsam fir) in the northern U.S. and Canada
spruce pine *n* : an American tree (as some pines and spruces or the common eastern hemlock) of the pine family with light, soft, or weak wood
sprucy \'sprü-sē\ *adj* **spruc·i·er; -est** : SPRUCE
¹sprue \'sprü\ *n* [D *spruw*; akin to MLG *sprūwe*, a kind of tumor] : a chronic disease marked esp. by fatty diarrhea and deficiency symptoms
²sprue *n* [origin unknown] **1** : the hole through which metal or plastic is poured into the gate and thence into a mold **2** : the waste piece cast in a sprue
sprung *past of* SPRING
sprung rhythm *n* : a poetic rhythm designed to approximate the natural rhythm of speech and characterized by the frequent juxtaposition of single accented syllables and the occurrence of mixed types of feet
spry \'sprī\ *adj* **spri·er** *or* **spry·er** \'sprī(-ə)r\; **spri·est** *or* **spry·est** \'sprī-əst\ [perh. of Scand origin; akin to Sw dial. *sprygg* spry] : vigorously active : BRISK ***syn*** see AGILE ***ant*** doddering — **spry·ly** *adv* — **spry·ness** *n*
sps *abbr* [L *sine prole superstite*] without surviving issue
¹spud \'spəd\ *n* [ME *spudde* dagger] **1** : a tool or device (as for digging, lifting, or cutting) having the characteristics of a spade and a chisel **2** : POTATO
²spud *vb* **spud·ded; spud·ding** *vt* **1** : to dig with a spud **2** : to begin to drill (an oil well) ~ *vi* : to use a spud
¹spume \'spyüm\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *spuma* — more at FOAM] : frothy matter on liquids : FOAM, SCUM — **spu·mous** \'spyü-məs\ *adj* — **spumy** \-mē\ *adj*
²spume *vi* **spumed; spum·ing** : FROTH, FOAM
spu·mo·ni *or* **spu·mo·ne** \spü-'mō-nē\ *n* [It *spumone*, aug. of *spuma* foam, fr. L] : ice cream in layers of different colors, flavors, and textures often with candied fruits and nuts
spun *past of* SPIN
spun glass *n* **1** : FIBERGLASS **2** : blown glass that has slender threads of glass incorporated in it
¹spunk \'spəŋk\ *n* [ScGael *spong* sponge, tinder, fr. L *spongia* sponge] **1 a** : a woody tinder : PUNK **b** : any of various fungi used to make tinder **2** : METTLE, PLUCK **3** : SPIRIT, LIVELINESS
²spunk *vi, dial* : to show spirit — usu. used with *up*
spunk·ie \'spəŋ-kē\ *n* **1** *Scot* : IGNIS FATUUS **2** *Scot* : LIQUOR, SPIRITS
spunky \'spəŋ-kē\ *adj* **spunk·i·er; -est** : full of spunk : SPIRITED — **spunk·i·ly** \-kə-lē\ *adv* — **spunk·i·ness** \-kē-nəs\ *n*
spun rayon *n* : a rayon-staple yarn or fabric
spun sugar *n* : sugar boiled to long threads and gathered up and shaped or heaped on a stick as a candy
spun yarn *n* **1** : a textile yarn spun from staple-length fiber **2** : a small rope or stuff formed of two or more rope yarns loosely twisted and used for seizings esp. on board ship
¹spur \'spər\ *n* [ME *spure*, fr. OE *spura*; akin to OE *spurnan* to kick — more at SPURN] **1 a** : a pointed device secured to a rider's heel and used to urge on the horse **b** [fr. the acquisition of spurs by a person achieving knighthood] *pl* : recognition and reward for achievement ⟨won his academic ~s as the holder of a chair in a university —James Mountford⟩ **2** : a goad to action : STIMULUS **3** : something projecting like or suggesting a spur: as **a** : a projecting root or branch of a tree **b** (1) : a stiff sharp spine (as on the wings or legs of a bird or insect); *esp* : one on a cock's leg — see COCK illustration (2) : a gaff for a gamecock **c** : a hollow projecting appendage of a corolla or calyx (as in larkspur or columbine) **d** : CLIMBING IRON **4** : a ridge or lesser elevation that extends laterally from a mountain or mountain range **5** : a short wooden brace of a post **6** : a reinforcing buttress of masonry in a fortification ***syn*** see MOTIVE — **on the spur of the moment** : on impulse : SUDDENLY
²spur *vb* **spurred; spur·ring** *vt* **1** : to urge (a horse) on with spurs **2** : to incite to action or accelerated growth or development : STIMULATE **3** : to put spurs on ~ *vi* : to spur one's horse on
spurge \'spərj\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, purge, spurge, fr. *espurgier* to purge, fr. L *expurgare* — more at EXPURGATE] : any of various mostly shrubby plants (family Euphorbiaceae, the spurge family, and esp. genus *Euphorbia*) with a bitter milky juice
spur gear *n* : a gear wheel with radial teeth parallel to its axis — called also *spur wheel*
spurge laurel *n* : a low Eurasian shrub (*Daphne laureola*) with oblong evergreen leaves and axillary racemes of yellowish flowers
spu·ri·ous \'spyůr-ē-əs\ *adj* [LL & L; LL *spurius* false, fr. L, of illegitimate birth, fr. *spurius*, n., bastard] **1** : of illegitimate birth : BASTARD **2 a** : outwardly similar or corresponding to something without having its genuine qualities : FALSE **b** : superficially like but morphologically unlike ⟨a ~ fruit⟩ **3 a** : of falsified or erroneously attributed origin : FORGED **b** : of a deceitful nature or quality — **spu·ri·ous·ly** *adv* — **spu·ri·ous·ness** *n*
¹spurn \'spərn\ *vb* [ME *spurnen*, fr. OE *spurnan*; akin to OHG *spurnan* to kick, L *spernere* to spurn, Gk *spairein* to quiver] *vi* **1** *obs* **a** : STUMBLE **b** : KICK **2** *archaic* : to reject something disdainfully ~ *vt* **1** : to tread sharply or heavily upon : TRAMPLE **2** : to reject with disdain or contempt : SCORN ***syn*** see DECLINE ***ant*** crave, embrace — **spurn·er** *n*
²spurn *n* **1 a** : KICK **b** *obs* : STUMBLE **2 a** : disdainful rejection **b** : contemptuous treatment
spur-of-the-moment *adj* : occurring or developing without premeditation : hastily extemporized ⟨a ~ decision⟩
spurred \'spərd\ *adj* **1** : wearing spurs **2** : having one or more spurs ⟨a ~ violet⟩
spur·rey *or* **spur·ry** \'spər-ē, 'spə-rē\ *n, pl* **spurreys** *or* **spurries** [D *spurrie*, fr. ML *spergula*] : a small white-flowered European weed (*Spergula arvensis*) of the pink family with whorled filiform leaves; *also* : any of several related and similar herbs
spur·ri·er \'spər-ē-ər, 'spə-rē-\ *n* : one who makes spurs
¹spurt \'spərt\ *n* [origin unknown] **1** : a short period of time : MOMENT **2 a** : a sudden brief burst of effort or activity **b** : a sharp or sudden increase in business activity
²spurt *vi* : to make a spurt
³spurt *vb* [perh. akin to MHG *spürzen* to spit, OE *-sprūtan* to sprout — more at SPROUT] *vi* : to gush forth : SPOUT ~ *vt* : to expel in a stream or jet : SQUIRT
⁴spurt *n* : a sudden gush : JET
spur·tle \'spərt-ᵊl\ *n* [origin unknown] *chiefly Scot* : a wooden stick for stirring porridge
spur track *n* : a track that diverges from a main line : SIDING
spur-winged \'spər-'wiŋd\ *adj* : having one or more horny spurs on the bend of the wings
sput·nik \'spůt-nik, 'spət-, 'spüt-\ *n* [Russ, lit., traveling companion, fr. *s, so* with + *put'* path; akin to Gk *hama* together and to Skt *patha* way — more at SAME, FIND] : SATELLITE 2b
¹sput·ter \'spət-ər\ *vb* [akin to D *sputteren* to sputter, OE *-sprūtan* to sprout] *vt* **1** : to spit or squirt from the mouth with explosive sounds : SPLUTTER **2** : to utter hastily or explosively in confusion or excitement **3** : to dislodge (atoms) from the surface of a material by collision with high energy particles; *also* : to deposit (a metallic film) by such a process ~ *vi* **1** : to spit or squirt particles of food or saliva noisily from the mouth **2** : to speak explosively or confusedly in anger or excitement **3** : to make explosive popping sounds — **sput·ter·er** \-ər-ər\ *n*
²sputter *n* **1** : confused and excited speech or discussion **2** : the act or sound of sputtering
spu·tum \'sp(y)üt-əm\ *n, pl* **spu·ta** \-ə\ [L, fr. neut. of *sputus*, pp. of *spuere* to spit — more at SPEW] : expectorated matter made up of saliva and often discharges from the respiratory passages
¹spy \'spī\ *vb* **spied; spy·ing** [ME *spien*, fr. OF *espier*, of Gmc origin; akin to OHG *spehōn* to spy; akin to L *specere* to look, look at, *species* appearance, species, Gk *skeptesthai* & *skopein* to watch, look at, consider] *vt* **1** : to watch secretly usu. for hostile purposes **2** : to catch sight of : SEE **3** : to search or look for intensively ~ *vi* **1** : to observe or search for something : LOOK **2** : to watch secretly as a spy
²spy *n, pl* **spies** **1** : one that spies: **a** : one who keeps secret watch on a person or thing to obtain information **b** : one who acts in a clandestine manner or on false pretenses to obtain information in the zone of operations of a belligerent with the intention of communicating it to the hostile party **2** : an act of spying
spy·glass \'spī-ˌglas\ *n* : a small telescope
sq *abbr* **1** squadron **2** square
squab \'skwäb\ *n, pl* **squabs** [prob. of Scand origin; akin to Sw dial. *skvabb* anything soft and thick] **1** *or pl* **squab** : a fledgling bird; *specif* : a fledgling pigeon about four weeks old **2** : a short fat person **3 a** : COUCH **b** : a cushion for a chair or couch — **squab** *adj*
¹squab·ble \'skwäb-əl\ *n* [prob. of Scand origin; akin to Sw dial. *skvabbel* dispute] : a noisy altercation or quarrel usu. over trifles : WRANGLE ***syn*** see QUARREL

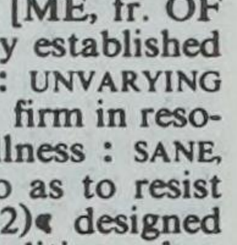
²squabble *vi* **squab·bled; squab·bling** \-(ə-)liŋ\ : to quarrel noisily and to no purpose : WRANGLE — **squab·bler** \-(ə-)lər\ *n*
¹squad \'skwäd\ *n* [MF *esquade*, fr. OSp & OIt; OSp *escuadra* & OIt *squadra* derivs. of (assumed) VL *exquadrare* to make square — more at SQUARE] **1** : a small organized group of military personnel; *esp* : a tactical unit that can be easily directed in the field **2** : a small group engaged in a common effort or occupation
²squad *vt* **squad·ded; squad·ding** : to arrange in squads
squad car *n* : a police automobile connected by a two-way radio with headquarters — called also *cruiser, prowl car*
squad·ron \'skwäd-rən\ *n* [It *squadrone*, aug. of *squadra* squad] : a unit of military organization: **a** : a cavalry unit higher than a troop and lower than a regiment **b** : a naval unit consisting of two or more divisions and sometimes additional vessels **c** (1) : a unit of the U.S. Air Force higher than a flight and lower than a group **c** (2) : a military flight formation
squadron leader *n* : a commissioned officer in the British air force who ranks with a major in the army
squad room *n* **1** : a room in a barracks used to billet soldiers **2** : a room in a police station where members of the force assemble
squa·lene \'skwā-ˌlēn\ *n* [ISV, fr. L *squalus*, a sea fish] : an acyclic hydrocarbon $C_{30}H_{50}$ that is widely distributed in nature (as in seeds and esp. in shark-liver oils) and is a precursor of sterols (as cholesterol)
squal·id \'skwäl-əd\ *adj* [L *squalidus* — more at SQUALOR] **1** : marked by filthiness and degradation from neglect or poverty **2** : SORDID ***syn*** see DIRTY — **squal·id·ly** *adv* — **squal·id·ness** *n*
¹squall \'skwȯl\ *vb* [of Scand origin; akin to ON *skval* useless chatter] *vi* : to cry out raucously : SCREAM ~ *vt* : to utter in a strident voice — **squall·er** *n*
²squall *n* : a raucous cry
³squall *n* [prob. of Scand origin; akin to Sw *skval* rushing water] **1** : a sudden violent wind often with rain or snow **2** : a short-lived commotion
⁴squall *vi* : to blow a squall
squally \'skwȯ-lē\ *adj* **squall·i·er; -est** **1** : marked by squalls **2** : GUSTY
squa·lor \'skwäl-ər *also* 'skwāl-\ *n* [L; akin to L *squalidus* squalid, *squama* scale] : the quality or state of being squalid
squam- *or* **squamo-** *comb form* [NL, fr. L *squama*] : scale : squama ⟨*squam*ation⟩
squa·ma \'skwā-mə, 'skwä-\ *n, pl* **squa·mae** \'skwā-ˌmē, 'skwä-ˌmī\ [L] : SCALE; *also* : a structure resembling a scale
squa·mate \-ˌmāt\ *adj* : SCALY ⟨~ reptiles⟩
squa·ma·tion \skwə-'mā-shən\ *n* **1** : the state of being scaly **2** : the arrangement of scales on an animal
¹squa·mo·sal \skwə-'mō-səl, -zəl\ *adj* **1** : SQUAMOUS **2** : of, relating to, or being a membrane bone of the skull of many vertebrates corresponding to the squamous portion of the temporal bone of man
²squamosal *n* : a squamosal bone
squa·mose \'skwā-ˌmōs, 'skwä-\ *adj* : SQUAMOUS
squa·mous \-məs\ *adj* [L *squamosus*, fr. *squama* scale] **1 a** : covered with or consisting of scales : SCALY **b** : of, relating to, or being a stratified epithelium that consists at least in its outer layers of small scalelike cells **2** : of, relating to, or being the anterior upper portion of the temporal bone of various mammals (as man) — **squa·mous·ly** *adv*
squamous cell *n* : a cell of or derived from squamous epithelium
squa·mu·lose \'skwā-myə-ˌlōs, 'skwä-\ *adj* [L *squamula*, dim. of *squama*] : minutely squamous
¹squan·der \'skwän-dər\ *vb* **squan·dered; squan·der·ing** \-d(ə-)riŋ\ [origin unknown] *vt* **1** : to cause to disperse : SCATTER **2** : to spend extravagantly or foolishly : DISSIPATE ~ *vi* : DISPERSE, SCATTER ***syn*** see WASTE — **squan·der·er** \-dər-ər\ *n*
²squander *n* : an act of squandering
¹square \'skwa(ə)r, 'skwe(ə)r\ *n* [ME, fr. MF *esquarre*, fr. (assumed) VL *exquadra*, fr. *exquadrare* to square, fr. L *ex-* + *quadrare* to square — more at QUADRATE] **1** : an instrument having at least one right angle and two straight edges used to lay out or test right angles **2** : a rectangle with all four sides equal **3** : any of the quadrilateral spaces marked out on a board for playing games **4** : the product of a number multiplied by itself **5 a** : an open place or area formed at the meeting of two or more streets **b** : BLOCK 6c **6** : a solid object or piece approximating a cube or having a square as its largest face **7** : an unopened cotton flower with its enclosing bracts **8** : a person who is overly conventional or conservative in taste or way of life — **on the square** **1** : at right angles **2** : in a fair open manner : HONESTLY — **out of square** : not at an exact right angle
²square *adj* **squar·er; squar·est** **1 a** : having four equal sides and four right angles **b** : forming a right angle ⟨~ corner⟩ **2** : raised to the second power **3 a** : being approximately a cube ⟨~ cabinet⟩ **b** : of a shape suggesting strength and solidity ⟨~ shoulders⟩ ⟨a ~, thick, hard-working man —Maria Edgeworth⟩ **c** : rectangular and equilateral in section ⟨~ tower⟩ **4 a** : converted from a linear unit into a square unit having the same length of side — see METRIC SYSTEM table, WEIGHT table **b** : being of a specified length in each of two equal dimensions ⟨10 feet ~⟩ **5 a** : exactly adjusted : precisely constructed or aligned **b** : JUST, FAIR ⟨~ in all his dealings⟩ **c** : leaving no balance : SETTLED **d** : EVEN, TIED **e** : SUBSTANTIAL, SATISFYING ⟨~ meal⟩ **f** : being unsophisticated, conservative, or conventional **6** : set at right angles with the mast and keel — used of the yards of a square-rigged ship — **square·ly** *adv* — **square·ness** *n*
³square *vb* **squared; squar·ing** *vt* **1 a** : to make square or rectangular ⟨~ a building stone⟩ **b** : to test for deviation from a right angle, straight line, or plane surface **2** : to bring approximately to a right angle ⟨*squared* his shoulders⟩ **3 a** : to multiply (a number) by itself : raise to the second power **b** : to find a square equal in area to ⟨~ a circle⟩ **4** : to regulate or adjust by or to some standard or principle ⟨~ our actions by the opinions of others —John Milton⟩ **5 a** : BALANCE, SETTLE ⟨~ an account⟩ **b** : to even the score of **6** : to mark off into squares **7 a** : to set right : bring into agreement **b** : BRIBE, FIX ~ *vi* **1** : to agree with exactness : match precisely **2** : to settle matters; *esp* : to pay the bill **3** : to take a fighting stance ***syn*** see AGREE
⁴square *adv* **1** : in a straightforward or honest manner **2 a** : so as to face or be face to face **b** : at right angles **3** : with nothing intervening : DIRECTLY ⟨ran ~ into him⟩ **4** : in a firm manner ⟨looked him ~ in the eye⟩ **5** : in a square shape
square away *vi* **1** : to square the yards so as to sail before the wind **2** : to put everything in order or in readiness **3** : to take up a fighting stance ~ *vt* : to put in order or in readiness
square bracket *n* : BRACKET 3a
square dance *n* : a dance for four couples who form a hollow square — **square dancer** *n* — **square dancing** *n*
square deal *n* : an honest and fair transaction or trade
square knot *n* : a knot made of two reverse half-knots and typically used to join the ends of two cords — see KNOT illustration
square matrix *n* : a mathematical matrix with the same number of rows and columns
square measure *n* : a unit or system of units for measuring area — see METRIC SYSTEM table, WEIGHT table
square of opposition : a square figure on which may be demonstrated the four logical oppositions of contrariety, subcontrariety, subalternation, and contradiction
squar·er \'skwar-ər, 'skwer-\ *n* : one who squares; *esp* : a workman who squares timber or stone
square rig *n* : a sailing-ship rig in which the principal sails are extended on yards fastened to the masts horizontally and at their center
square-rigged \'skwa(ə)r-'rigd, 'skwe(ə)r-\ *adj* : having or equipped with a square rig
square-rig·ger \-'rig-ər\ *n* : a square-rigged craft
square root *n* : a factor of a number that when squared gives the number ⟨the *square root* of 9 is ± 3⟩
square sail \'skwa(ə)r-ˌsāl, 'skwe(ə)r-səl\ *n* : a 4-sided sail extended on a yard suspended at the middle from a mast
square shooter *n* : a just or honest person
square-shoul·dered \'skwa(ə)r-'shōl-dərd, 'skwe(ə)r-\ *adj* : having shoulders that are high and well braced back
square-toed \-'tōd\ *adj* **1** : having a toe that is square **2** : OLD-FASHIONED, CONSERVATIVE — **square-toed·ness** *n*
square wave *n* : the rectangular wave form of a quantity that varies periodically and abruptly from one to the other of two uniform values
squar·ish \'skwa(ə)r-ish, 'skwe(ə)r-\ *adj* : somewhat square in form or appearance — **squar·ish·ly** *adv* — **squar·ish·ness** *n*
¹squash \'skwäsh, 'skwȯsh\ *vb* [MF *esquasser*, fr. (assumed) VL *exquassare*, fr. L *ex-* + *quassare* to shake — more at QUASH] *vt* **1** : to press or beat into a pulp or a flat mass : CRUSH **2** : to put down : SUPPRESS ⟨~ a revolt⟩ ~ *vi* **1** : to flatten out under pressure or impact **2** : to proceed with a splashing or squelching sound **3** : SQUEEZE, PRESS — **squash·er** *n*
²squash *n* **1** *obs* : something soft and easily crushed; *specif* : an unripe pod of peas **2** : the sudden fall of a heavy soft body or the sound of such a fall **3** : a squelching sound made by walking on oozy ground or in water-soaked boots **4** : a crushed mass **5** *Brit* : sweetened citrus fruit juice usu. with added soda water **6** : SQUASH RACQUETS
³squash *adv* : with a squash or a squashing sound
⁴squash *n, pl* **squash·es** *or* **squash** [by shortening & alter. fr. earlier *isquoutersquash*, fr. Natick & Narraganset *askútasquash*] : any of various fruits of plants (genus *Cucurbita*) of the gourd family widely cultivated as vegetables and for livestock feed; *also* : a plant and esp. a vine that bears squashes
squash bug *n* : a large black American bug (*Anasa tristis* of the family Coreidae) injurious to squash vines
squash racquets *n pl but sing in constr* : a singles or doubles game played in a 4-wall court with a long-handled racket and a rubber ball that can be caromed off any number of walls
squash tennis *n* : a singles racket game resembling squash racquets played with an inflated ball the size of a tennis ball
squashy \'skwäsh-ē, 'skwȯsh-\ *adj* **squash·i·er; -est** **1** : easily squashed : very soft ⟨~ cushions⟩ **2** : softly wet : BOGGY **3** : soft because overripe ⟨~ melons⟩ — **squash·i·ly** \-ə-lē\ *adv* — **squash·i·ness** \-ē-nəs\ *n*
¹squat \'skwät\ *vb* **squat·ted; squat·ting** [ME *squatten*, fr. MF *esquatir*, fr. *es-* ex- (fr. L *ex-*) + *quatir* to press, fr. (assumed) VL *coactire* to press together, fr. L *coactus*, pp. of *cogere* to drive together — more at COGENT] *vt* **1** : to cause (oneself) to crouch or sit on the ground **2** : to occupy as a squatter ~ *vi* **1** : to crouch close to the ground as if to escape observation ⟨*squatting* hare⟩ **2** : to assume or maintain a position in which the body is supported on the feet and the knees are bent so that the buttocks rest on or near the heels **3** : to become a squatter
²squat *n* **1 a** : the act of squatting **b** : the posture of one that squats **2 a** : a place where one squats **b** : the lair of a small animal ⟨~ of a hare⟩
³squat *adj* **squat·ter; squat·test** **1** : sitting with the haunches close above the heels **2 a** : low to the ground **b** : marked by disproportionate shortness or thickness — **squat·ly** *adv* — **squat·ness** *n*
¹squat·ter \'skwät-ər\ *vi* [prob. of Scand origin; akin to Dan *skvatte* to sprinkle] : to go along through or as if through water
²squatter *n* : one that squats: as **a** : one that settles on property without right or title or payment of rent **b** : one that settles on public land under government regulation with the purpose of acquiring title
squatter sovereignty *n* : POPULAR SOVEREIGNTY 2
squat·ty \'skwät-ē\ *adj* **squat·ti·er; -est** **1** : low to the ground **2** : DUMPY, THICKSET
squaw \'skwȯ\ *n* [of Algonquian origin; akin to Natick *squáas* woman] **1** : an American Indian woman **2** : WOMAN, WIFE — usu. used disparagingly
squaw·fish \-ˌfish\ *n* : any of several large cyprinid fishes (genus *Ptychocheilus*) of western No. America

[1]squawk \'skwȯk\ *vi* [prob. blend of *squall* and *squeak*] **1** : to utter a harsh abrupt scream **2** : to complain or protest loudly or vehemently — **squawk·er** *n*
[2]squawk *n* **1** : a harsh abrupt scream **2** : a noisy complaint
squawk box *n* : an intercom speaker
squaw man *n* : a white man married to an Indian woman and usu. living as one of her tribe
squaw·root \'skwȯ-ˌrüt, -ˌru̇t\ *n* : a No. American scaly herb (*Conopholis americana*) of the broomrape family parasitic on oak and hemlock roots
[1]squeak \'skwēk\ *vb* [ME *squeken*] *vi* **1** : to utter or make a short shrill cry or noise **2** : SQUEAL 2a **3** : to pass, succeed, or win by a narrow margin ~ *vt* : to utter in a shrill piping tone
[2]squeak *n* **1** : a sharp shrill cry or sound **2** : ESCAPE ⟨a close ~⟩ — **squeaky** \'skwē-kē\ *adj*
squeak·er \'skwē-kər\ *n* **1** : one that squeaks **2** : a contest (as an election) won by a small margin
[1]squeal \'skwē(ə)l\ *vb* [ME *squelen*] *vi* **1** : to make a shrill cry or noise **2 a** : to turn informer **b** : COMPLAIN, PROTEST ~ *vt* **1** : to utter or express with or as if with a squeal **2** : to cause to make a loud shrill noise ⟨~*ing* the tires⟩ — **squeal·er** *n*
[2]squeal *n* : a shrill sharp cry or noise
squea·mish \'skwē-mish\ *adj* [ME *squaymisch*, modif. of AF *escoymous*] **1 a** : easily nauseated : QUEASY **b** : affected with nausea : NAUSEATED **2 a** : excessively fastidious or scrupulous in conduct or belief **b** : easily offended or disgusted ***syn*** see NICE — **squea·mish·ly** *adv*
squea·mish·ness *n* : the quality or state of being squeamish
[1]squee·gee \'skwē-ˌjē\ *n* [prob. imit.] : a blade of leather or rubber set on a handle and used for spreading, pushing, or wiping liquid material on, across, or off a surface (as a window); *also* : a smaller similar device or a small rubber roller with handle used by a photographer or lithographer
[2]squeegee *vt* **squee·geed; squee·gee·ing** : to smooth, wipe, or treat with a squeegee
[1]squeeze \'skwēz\ *vb* **squeezed; squeez·ing** [alter. of obs. E *quease*, fr. ME *queysen*, fr. OE *cwȳsan*; akin to Icel *kveisa* stomach cramps] *vt* **1 a** : to exert pressure esp. on opposite sides of : COMPRESS **b** : to extract or emit under pressure **c** : to force or thrust by compression **2 a** (1) : to get by extortion (2) : to deprive by extortion **b** : to cause economic hardship to **c** : to reduce the amount of ⟨~*s* profits⟩ **3** : to crowd into a limited area **4** : to gain or win by a narrow margin **5** : to force (another player) to discard in bridge so as to unguard a suit **6** : to score by means of a squeeze play ~ *vi* **1** : to give way before pressure **2** : to exert pressure; *also* : to practice extortion or oppression **3** : to force one's way ⟨~ through a door⟩ **4** : to pass, win, or get by narrowly — **squeez·abil·i·ty** \ˌskwē-zə-ˈbil-ət-ē\ *n* — **squeez·able** \'skwē-zə-bəl\ *adj* — **squeez·er** *n*
[2]squeeze *n* **1 a** : an act or instance of squeezing : COMPRESSION **b** : HANDCLASP; *also* : EMBRACE **2 a** : a quantity squeezed out from something ⟨a ~ of lemon⟩ **b** : a group crowded together : CROWD **3 a** : a commission charged by an oriental servant for service **b** : a profit taken by a middleman on goods or transactions **4** : a financial pressure caused by narrowing margins or by shortages **5** : a forced discard in bridge **6** : SQUEEZE PLAY
squeeze bottle *n* : a bottle of flexible plastic that dispenses its contents by being pressed
squeeze off *vt* : to fire (a round) by squeezing the trigger ~ *vi* : to fire a weapon by squeezing the trigger
squeeze play *n* **1** : a baseball play in which a runner on third base starts for home plate as the ball is being pitched and the batter attempts to bunt to give the runner a chance to score **2** : the exertion of pressure in order to extort a concession or gain a goal
squeg \'skweg\ *vi* **squegged; squeg·ging** [back-formation fr. *squegger* (tube in which the valve oscillates)] : to oscillate in a highly irregular fashion — used of an electronic system
[1]squelch \'skwelch\ *n* [imit.] **1** : a sound of or as if of semiliquid matter under suction ⟨the ~ of mud⟩ **2** : the act of suppressing; *esp* : a retort that silences an opponent — **squelchy** *adj*
[2]squelch *vt* **1 a** : to fall or stamp on so as to crush **b** (1) : to completely suppress : QUELL (2) : SILENCE **2** : to emit or move with a sucking sound ~ *vi* **1** : to emit a sucking sound like that of an object being withdrawn from mire **2** : to splash through water, slush, or mire — **squelch·er** *n*
sque·teague \skwi-ˈtēg\ *n, pl* **squeteague** [Narraganset *pesukwiteaug*, pl.] : any of various weakfishes (esp. *Cynoscion regalis*)
[1]squib \'skwib\ *n* [origin unknown] **1 a** : a small firecracker **b** : a broken firecracker in which the powder burns with a fizz **2** : a small electric or pyrotechnic device used to ignite a charge; *also* a similar device used to fire an igniter in a rocket **3 a** : a short humorous or satiric writing or speech **b** : a short news item; *esp* : FILLER
[2]squib *vb* **squibbed; squib·bing** *vi* **1** : to speak, write, or publish squibs **2** : to fire a squib ~ *vt* **1 a** : to utter in an offhand manner **b** : to make squibs against : LAMPOON **2** : to shoot off : FIRE **3** : to kick (a football) just far enough on a kickoff to be legally recoverable by the kicking team
squib kick *n* : ONSIDE KICK
[1]squid \'skwid\ *n, pl* **squid** *or* **squids** [origin unknown] : any of numerous 10-armed cephalopods (esp. of the genera *Loligo* and *Ommastrephes*) having a long tapered body, a caudal fin on each side, and usu. a slender internal chitinous support
[2]squid *vi* **squid·ded; squid·ding** : to fish with or for squid
squiffed \'skwift\ *or* **squif·fy** \'skwif-ē\ *adj* [origin unknown] : INTOXICATED, DRUNK
[1]squig·gle \'skwig-əl\ *vb* **squig·gled; squig·gling** \-(ə-)liŋ\ [blend of *squirm* and *wriggle*] *vi* **1** : SQUIRM, WRIGGLE **2** : to write or paint hastily : SCRIBBLE ~ *vt* **1** : SCRIBBLE **2** : to form or cause to form in squiggles
[2]squiggle *n* : a short wavy twist or line : CURLICUE; *esp* : an illegible scrawl — **squig·gly** \-(ə-)lē\ *adj*
squil·gee \'skwē-ˌjē, 'skwil-ˌjē\ *var of* SQUEEGEE
squill \'skwil\ *n* [ME, fr. L *squilla, scilla*, fr. Gk *skilla*] **1 a** : a Mediterranean bulbous herb (*Urginea maritima*) of the lily family — called also *sea onion* **b** (1) *usu pl* : the dried sliced bulb scales of a squill used as an expectorant, cardiac stimulant, and diuretic (2) : the bulb of a red-bulbed form of squill used in rat poison **2** : SCILLA **3** [NL *Squilla*] : SQUILLA
squil·la \'skwil-ə\ *n, pl* **squillas** *or* **squil·lae** \'skwil-ˌē, -ˌī\ [NL, genus name, fr. L, squill, prawn] : any of various stomatopod crustaceans (esp. genus *Squilla*) that burrow in mud or beneath stones in shallow water along the seashore
[1]squinch \'skwinch\ *n* [alter. of earlier *scunch* (back part of the side of an opening)] : a support (as an arch, lintel, or corbeling) carried across the corner of a room under a superimposed mass


squinch

[2]squinch *vb* [prob. blend of *squint* and *pinch*] *vt* **1** : to screw up (the eyes or face) : SQUINT **2 a** : to make more compact **b** : to cause to crouch down or draw together ~ *vi* **1** : FLINCH **2** : to crouch down or draw together **3** : SQUINT
[1]squin·ny \'skwin-ē\ *vb* **squin·nied; squin·ny·ing** [prob. fr. obs. E *squin* asquint, fr. ME *skuin*] : SQUINT
[2]squinny *n* : SQUINT — **squinny** *adj*
[1]squint \'skwint\ *adj* [short for *asquint*] **1** *of an eye* : looking or tending to look obliquely or askance (as with envy or disdain) **2** *of the eyes* : not having the visual axes parallel : CROSSED
[2]squint *vi* **1 a** : to have an indirect bearing, reference, or aim **b** : to deviate from a true line **2 a** : to look in a squint-eyed manner **b** : to be cross-eyed **c** : to look or peer with eyes partly closed ~ *vt* : to cause (an eye) to squint — **squint·er** *n* — **squint·ing·ly** \-iŋ-lē\ *adv*
[3]squint *n* **1** : STRABISMUS **2** : an instance of squinting **3** : HAGIOSCOPE — **squinty** \'skwint-ē\ *adj*
squint–eyed \'skwint-ˈīd\ *adj* **1** : having eyes that squint; *specif* : affected with cross-eye **2** : looking askance (as in envy)
squinting construction *n* : an ambiguous grammatical construction that contains a word or phrase (as *often* in "getting dressed often is a nuisance") interpretable as modifying either what precedes or what follows
[1]squire \'skwī(ə)r\ *n* [ME *squier*, fr. OF *esquier* — more at ESQUIRE] **1** : a shield bearer or armor-bearer of a knight **2 a** : a male attendant esp. on a great personage **b** : a man who devotedly attends a lady : GALLANT **3 a** : a member of the British gentry ranking below a knight and above a gentleman **b** : an owner of a country estate; *esp* : the principal landowner in a village or district **c** (1) : JUSTICE OF THE PEACE (2) : LAWYER (3) : JUDGE — **squir·ish** \'skwī(ə)r-ish\ *adj*
[2]squire *vt* **squired; squir·ing** : to attend as a squire : ESCORT
squire·ar·chy *or* **squir·ar·chy** \'skwī(ə)r-ˌär-kē\ *n, pl* **-chies** **1** : the gentry or landed-proprietor class **2** : government by a landed gentry
squirm \'skwərm\ *vi* [perh. imit.] : to twist about like a worm : FIDGET — **squirm** *n* — **squirmy** \'skwər-mē\ *adj*
[1]squir·rel \'skwər(-ə)l, 'skwə-rəl, *chiefly Brit* 'skwir-əl\ *n, pl* **squirrels** *also* **squirrel** [ME *squirel*, fr. MF *esquireul*, fr. (assumed) VL *scuriolus*, dim. of *scurius*, alter. of L *sciurus*, fr. Gk *skiouros*, fr. *skia* shadow + *oura* tail; akin to OHG *ars* buttocks, OIr *err* tail — more at SHINE] **1** : any of various small or medium-sized rodents (family Sciuridae): as **a** : any of numerous New or Old World arboreal forms having a long bushy tail and strong hind legs **b** : GROUND SQUIRREL **2** : the fur of a squirrel
[2]squirrel *vt* **-reled** *or* **-relled; -rel·ing** *or* **-rel·ling** [fr. the squirrel's habit of storing up gathered nuts and seeds for winter use] : to store up for future use — often used with *away*
squirrel cage *n* **1** : a cage for a small animal (as a squirrel) that contains a rotatable cylinder for exercising **2** : something resembling the working of a squirrel cage in repetitiveness or endlessness
squirrel corn *n* : a No. American herb (*Dicentra canadensis*) of the fumitory family with much-divided leaves and a scapose raceme of cream-colored flowers
squir·rel·ly \'skwər(-ə)-lē, 'skwə-rə-\ *adj* : extremely odd : CRAZY
squirrel monkey *n* : a small soft-haired So. American monkey (*Saimiri sciureus*) that has a long tail not used for grasping and is colored chiefly yellowish gray with a white face and black nose
squirrel rifle *n* [fr. its being suitable only for small game] : a small-bore rifle — called also *squirrel gun*
[1]squirt \'skwərt\ *vb* [ME *squirten*; akin to LG *swirtjen* to squirt] *vi* : to come forth in a sudden rapid stream from a narrow opening : SPURT ~ *vt* : to cause to squirt — **squirt·er** *n*
[2]squirt *n* **1 a** : an instrument (as a syringe) for squirting a liquid **b** : a small quick stream : JET **c** : the action or an instance of squirting **2 a** : an impudent youngster **b** : KID
squirt gun *n* : WATER PISTOL
squirting cucumber *n* : a Mediterranean plant (*Ecballium elaterium*) of the gourd family with oblong fruit that bursts from the peduncle when ripe and forcibly ejects the seeds
squish \'skwish\ *vb* [alter. of *squash*] *vt* **1** : SQUASH **2** : SQUELCH, SUCK ~ *vi* : SQUELCH, SUCK — **squish** *n*
squishy \-ē\ *adj* **squish·i·er; -est** : being soft, yielding, and damp — **squish·i·ness** *n*
squoosh \'skwüsh, 'skwüsh\ *vb* [by alter.] : SQUASH
squush \'skwəsh\ *vb* [by alter.] : SQUASH
[1]Sr *abbr* **1** senior **2** sister
[2]Sr *symbol* strontium

SR *abbr* **1** seaman recruit **2** sedimentation rate **3** shipping receipt
sri \'s(h)rē\ *n* [Skt *śrī*, lit., majesty, holiness; akin to Gk *kreiōn* ruler, master] — used as a conventional title of respect when addressing or speaking of a distinguished Indian
sRNA \'es-ˌär-ˌen-'ā\ *n* [*soluble RNA*] : TRANSFER RNA
SRO *abbr* **1** single-room occupancy **2** standing room only
SRV *abbr* space rescue vehicle
ss *abbr* [L *semis*] one half
1SS \(')es-'es\ *n* [G, abbr. for *Schutzstaffel* elite guard] : a unit of Nazis created to serve as bodyguard to Hitler and later expanded to take charge of intelligence, central security, policing action, and extermination of undesirables
2SS *abbr* **1** saints **2** same size **3** steamship **4** Sunday school **5** sworn statement
SSA *abbr* Social Security Administration
SSE *abbr* south-southeast
SSG *or* **SSgt** *abbr* staff sergeant
SSM *abbr* staff sergeant major
ssp *abbr* subspecies
SSR *abbr* Soviet Socialist Republic
SSRC *abbr* Social Science Research Council
SSS *abbr* Selective Service System
SST *abbr* supersonic transport
SSW *abbr* south-southwest
st *abbr* **1** stanza **2** state **3** stitch **4** stone **5** street
St *abbr* **1** saint **2** stratus
ST *abbr* **1** short ton **2** single throw
1-st — see -EST
2-st *symbol* — used after the figure 1 to indicate the ordinal number *first* ⟨1*st*⟩ ⟨91*st*⟩
sta *abbr* station; stationary
1stab \'stab\ *n* [ME *stabbe*] **1** : a wound produced by a pointed weapon **2 a** : a thrust of a pointed weapon **b** : a jerky thrust **3** : EFFORT, TRY
2stab *vb* **stabbed; stab·bing** *vt* **1** : to wound or pierce by the thrust of a pointed weapon **2** : THRUST, DRIVE ~ *vi* : to thrust or give a wound with or as if with a pointed weapon — **stab·ber** *n*
1sta·bile \'stā-ˌbīl, -ˌbil\ *adj* [L *stabilis* — more at STABLE] **1** : STATIONARY, STABLE **2** : resistant to chemical change
2sta·bile \-ˌbēl\ *n* [prob. F, fr. L *stabilis*, adj.] : an abstract sculpture or construction similar in appearance to a mobile but made to be stationary
sta·bil·i·ty \stə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n, pl* **-ties** **1** : the quality, state, or degree of being stable: as **a** : the strength to stand or endure : FIRMNESS **b** : the property of a body that causes it when disturbed from a condition of equilibrium or steady motion to develop forces or moments that restore the original condition **c** : resistance to chemical change or to physical disintegration **2** : residence for life in one monastery
sta·bi·lize \'stā-bə-ˌlīz\ *vb* **-lized; -liz·ing** *vt* **1** : to make stable, steadfast, or firm **2** : to hold steady: as **a** : to maintain the stability of (as an airplane) by means of a stabilizer **b** : to limit fluctuations of (as prices) **c** : to establish a minimum price for ~ *vi* : to become stable, firm, or steadfast — **sta·bi·li·za·tion** \ˌstā-bə-lə-'zā-shən\ *n*
sta·bi·liz·er \'stā-bə-ˌlī-zər\ *n* : one that stabilizes something: as **a** : a substance added to another substance (as an explosive or plastic) or to a system (as an emulsion) to prevent or retard an unwanted alteration of physical state **b** : a gyroscope device to keep ships steady in a heavy sea **c** : an airfoil providing stability for an airplane; *specif* : the fixed horizontal member of the tail assembly — see AIRPLANE illustration
1sta·ble \'stā-bəl\ *n* [ME, fr. OF *estable*, fr. L *stabulum*, fr. *stare* to stand — more at STAND] **1** : a building in which domestic animals are sheltered and fed; *esp* : such a building having stalls or compartments ⟨horse ~⟩ **2 a** : the racehorses of one owner **b** : a group of athletes (as boxers) or performers under one management **c** : the racing cars of one owner **d** : GROUP, COLLECTION — **sta·ble·man** \-mən, -ˌman\ *n*
2stable *vb* **sta·bled; sta·bling** \-b(ə-)liŋ\ *vt* : to put or keep in a stable ~ *vi* : to dwell in or as if in a stable
3stable *adj* **sta·bler** \-b(ə-)lər\; **sta·blest** \-b(ə-)ləst\ [ME, fr. OF *estable*, fr. L *stabilis*, fr. *stare* to stand] **1 a** : firmly established : FIXED, STEADFAST **b** : not changing or fluctuating : UNVARYING **c** : PERMANENT, ENDURING **2 a** : steady in purpose : firm in resolution **b** : not subject to insecurity or emotional illness : SANE, RATIONAL ⟨a ~ personality⟩ **3 a** (1) : placed so as to resist forces tending to cause motion or change of motion (2) : designed so as to develop forces that restore the original condition when disturbed from a condition of equilibrium or steady motion **b** (1) : not readily altering in chemical makeup or physical state ⟨~ emulsions⟩ (2) : not spontaneously radioactive — **sta·ble·ness** \-bəl-nəs\ *n* — **sta·bly** \-b(ə-)lē\ *adv*
stable fly *n* : a two-winged fly (*Stomoxys calcitrans*) that bites severely, is abundant about stables, and often enters dwellings esp. in autumn
sta·ble·mate \'stā-bəl-ˌmāt\ *n* **1** : a horse stabled with another **2** : one of two or more boxers having the same manager
sta·bler \-b(ə-)lər\ *n* : one that keeps a stable
sta·bling \-b(ə-)liŋ\ *n* : accommodation for animals in a building; *also* : the building for this
stab·lish \'stab-lish\ *vb* [by shortening] *archaic* : ESTABLISH — **stab·lish·ment** \-mənt\ *n, archaic*
stac·ca·to \stə-'kät-(ˌ)ō\ *adj* [It, fr. pp. of *staccare* to detach, deriv. of OF *destachier* — more at DETACH] **1 a** : cut short or apart in performing : DISCONNECTED ⟨~ notes⟩ **b** : marked by short clear-cut playing or singing of tones or chords ⟨a ~ style⟩ **2** : ABRUPT, DISJOINTED — **staccato** *adv* — **staccato** *n*
staccato mark *n* : a pointed vertical stroke or a dot placed over or under a musical note to be produced staccato



staccato marks

1stack \'stak\ *n* [ME *stak*, fr. ON *stakkr*; akin to OE *staca* stake] **1** : a large usu. conical pile (as of hay, straw, or grain in the sheaf) left standing in the field for storage **2 a** : an orderly pile or heap **b** : a large quantity or number **3** : an English unit of measure esp. for firewood that is equal to 108 cubic feet **4 a** : a number of flues embodied in one structure rising above a roof **b** : a vertical pipe (as to carry off smoke) **c** : the exhaust pipe of an internal-combustion engine **5** : a pyramid of three rifles interlocked **6** : a structure of bookshelves for compact storage of books — usu. used in pl. **7** : a pile of chips sold to or won by a poker player **8 a** : a memory or a section of memory in a computer for temporary storage ⟨a push-down ~⟩ **b** : a computer memory consisting of arrays of memory elements stacked one on top of another
2stack *vt* **1** : to arrange in a stack : PILE **2** : to arrange secretly for cheating ⟨the cards were ~*ed*⟩ **3** : to assign (an airplane) by radio to a particular altitude and position within a group circling before landing ~ *vi* : to form a stack — **stack·er** *n*
stack·able \'stak-ə-bəl\ *adj* : easily stacked
stacked \'stakt\ *adj, slang, of a woman* : being shapely and having large breasts
stack up *vi* **1** : to add up : TOTAL **2** : to measure up : COMPARE — usu. used with *against*
stac·te \'stak-tē\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *staktē*, fr. fem. of *staktos* oozing out in drops, fr. *stazein* to drip — more at STAGNATE] : a sweet spice used by the ancient Jews in preparing incense
stad·dle \'stad-ᵊl\ *n* [ME *stathel* base, support, fr. OE *stathol*; akin to OE *stede* place — more at STEAD] **1** : a base (as of piling) for a stack of hay or straw **2** : a supporting framework
stade \'stād\ *n* [MF *estade*, fr. L *stadium*] : STADIUM 1a
sta·dia \'stād-ē-ə\ *n* [It, prob. fr. L, pl. of *stadium*] : a surveying method for determination of distances and differences of elevation by means of a telescopic instrument having two horizontal lines through which the marks on a graduated rod are observed; *also* : the instrument or rod
sta·di·um \'stād-ē-əm\ *n, pl* **-dia** \-ē-ə\ *or* **-di·ums** [ME, fr. L, fr. Gk *stadion*, alter. of *spadion*, fr. *span* to pull — more at SPAN] **1 a** : any of various ancient Greek units of length ranging in value from 607 to 738 English feet **b** : an ancient Roman unit of length equal to 606.95 English feet **2 a** : a course for footraces in ancient Greece orig. one stadium in length **b** : a tiered structure with seats for spectators surrounding an ancient Greek running track **c** : a large usu. unroofed building with tiers of seats for spectators at sports events **3** [NL, fr. L] : a stage in a life history; *esp* : one between successive molts
stadt·hold·er \'stat-ˌhōl-dər\ *n* [part trans. of D *stadhouder*, fr. *stad* place + *houder* holder] **1** : a viceroy in a province of the Netherlands **2** : a chief executive officer of the United Provinces of the Netherlands — **stadt·hold·er·ate** \-də-rət\ *n* — **stadt·hold·er·ship** \-dər-ˌship\ *n*
1staff \'staf\ *n, pl* **staffs** \'stafs, 'stavz\ *or* **staves** \'stavz, 'stāvz\ [ME *staf*, fr. OE *stæf*; akin to OHG *stab* staff, *stampfōn* to stamp — more at STAMP] **1 a** : a long stick carried in the hand for support in walking **b** : a supporting rod: as (1) *archaic* : SHAFT 1a(1) (2) : a crosspiece in a ladder or chair : RUNG (3) : FLAGSTAFF (4) : a pivoted arbor **c** : CLUB, CUDGEL **2 a** : CROSIER **b** : a rod carried as a symbol of office or authority **3** : the horizontal lines with their spaces on which music is written — called also *stave* **4** : any of various graduated sticks or rules used for measuring : ROD **5** *pl staffs* **a** : the officers chiefly responsible for the internal operations of an institution or business **b** : a group of officers appointed to assist a civil executive or commanding officer **c** : military or naval officers not eligible for operational command **d** : the personnel who assist a director in carrying out an assigned task **e** *pl* **staff** : a member of a staff — **staff** *adj*
2staff *vt* **1** : to supply with a staff or with workers **2** : to serve as a staff member of
3staff *n* [prob. fr. G *staffieren* to trim] : a building material having a plaster of Paris base and used in exterior wall coverings of temporary buildings
staff·er \'staf-ər\ *n* : a member of a staff (as of a newspaper)
staff officer *n* : a commissioned officer assigned to a military commander's staff — compare LINE OFFICER
staff of life : a staple of diet; *esp* : BREAD
Staf·ford·shire terrier \ˌstaf-ərd-ˌshi(ə)r-, -shər-\ *n* [*Staffordshire*, England] : any of a breed of strong, stocky, alert terriers that have a short, stiff glossy coat
Staffs *abbr* Staffordshire
staff sergeant *n* : a noncommissioned officer ranking in the army above a sergeant and below a platoon sergeant or sergeant first class, in the air force above a sergeant and below a technical sergeant, and in the marine corps above a sergeant and below a gunnery sergeant
staff sergeant major *n* : a noncommissioned officer in the army ranking above a master sergeant
staff tree *n* : any of a genus (*Celastrus* of the family Celastraceae, the staff-tree family) of mostly twining shrubby plants including the common bittersweet
1stag \'stag\ *n, pl* **stags** [ME *stagge*, fr. OE *stagga*; akin to ON andar*steggi* drake, OE *stingan* to sting] **1** *or pl* **stag** : an adult male red deer; *broadly* : the male of various deer (esp. genus *Cervus*) **2** *chiefly Scot* : a young horse; *esp* : a young unbroken stallion **3** : a male animal castrated after maturity — compare STEER 1 **4** : a young adult male domestic fowl **5 a** : a social gathering of men only **b** : a man who attends a dance or party unaccompanied by a woman
2stag *vb* **stagged; stag·ging** *vt* [*stag* (informer)] *Brit* : to spy on ~ *vi* : to attend a dance or party without a woman companion
3stag *adj* **1 a** : restricted to men ⟨a ~ party⟩ **b** : intended or suitable for a gathering of men only; *esp* : PORNOGRAPHIC ⟨~ movies⟩ **2** : unaccompanied by someone of the opposite sex ⟨~ women⟩ — **stag** *adv*
stag beetle *n* : any of numerous mostly large lamellicorn beetles (family Lucanidae) having males with long and often branched mandibles suggesting the antlers of a stag

[1]stage \'stāj\ *n* [ME, fr. OF *estage*, fr. (assumed) VL *staticum*, fr. L *stare* to stand — more at STAND] **1 a** : one of a series of positions or stations one above the other : STEP **b** : the height of the surface of a river above an arbitrary zero point **2 a** (1) : a raised platform (2) : the part of a theater between the proscenium and the rear wall including the acting area, wings, and storage space (3) : the acting profession : the theater as an occupation or activity **b** : a center of attention or scene of action **3 a** : a scaffold for workmen **b** : the small platform of a microscope on which an object is placed for examination **4 a** : a place of rest formerly provided for those traveling by stagecoach : STATION **b** : the distance between two stopping places on a road **c** : STAGECOACH **5 a** : a period or step in a progress, activity, or development; *esp* : one of the distinguishable periods of growth and development of a plant or animal ⟨the larval ~ of an insect⟩ **b** : one passing through a (specified) stage **6** : an element or part in a complex electronic contrivance; *specif* : a single tube with its associated components in an amplifier **7** : a propulsion unit of a rocket with its own fuel and container — **on the stage** : in or into the acting profession

[2]stage *vt* **staged; stag·ing** **1** : to produce (as a play) on a stage **2** : to produce for public view ⟨~ a track meet⟩

stage business *n* : BUSINESS 5

stage·coach \'stāj-ˌkōch\ *n* : a horse-drawn passenger and mail coach running on a regular schedule between established stops

stage·craft \-ˌkraft\ *n* : the effective management of theatrical devices or techniques

stage direction *n* : a description (as of a character or setting) or direction (as to indicate stage business) provided in the text of a play

stage director *n* **1** : DIRECTOR c **2** : STAGE MANAGER

stage fright *n* : nervousness felt at appearing before an audience

stage·hand \'stāj-ˌhand\ *n* : a stage worker who handles scenery, properties, or lights

stage–man·age \-ˌman-ij\ *vt* [back-formation fr. *stage manager*] **1 a** : to arrange or exhibit so as to achieve a desired effect **b** : to arrange or direct from behind the scenes **2** : to act as stage manager for — **stage management** *n*

stage manager *n* : one who supervises the physical aspects of a stage production, assists the director during rehearsals, and is in charge of the stage during a performance

stag·er \'stā-jər\ *n* : an experienced person : VETERAN

stage set *n* : scenery and properties designed and arranged for a particular scene in a play

stage·struck \'stāj-ˌstrək\ *adj* : fascinated by the stage; *esp* : having an ardent desire to become an actor

stage whisper *n* **1** : a loud whisper by an actor that is audible to the spectators but is supposed for dramatic effect not to be heard by one or more of the actors **2** : an audible whisper

[1]stag·ger \'stag-ər\ *vb* **stag·gered; stag·ger·ing** \-(ə-)riŋ\ [alter. of earlier *stacker*, fr. ME *stakeren*, fr. ON *stakra*, freq. of *staka* to push; akin to OE *staca* stake] *vi* **1 a** : to reel from side to side : TOTTER **b** : to move on unsteadily **2** : to rock violently : SHAKE ⟨the ship ~*ed*⟩ **3** : to waver in purpose or action : HESITATE ~ *vt* **1** : to cause to doubt or hesitate : PERPLEX **2** : to cause to reel or totter **3** : to arrange in any of various zigzags, alternations, or overlappings of position or time ⟨~ work shifts⟩ ⟨~ teeth on a cutter⟩ **4** : to adjust (as the wings of a biplane) so that the leading edge of one wing projects beyond the leading edge of another wing — **stag·ger·er** \-ər-ər\ *n*

[2]stagger *n* **1** *pl but sing or pl in constr* : an abnormal condition of domestic mammals and birds associated with damage to the central nervous system and marked by incoordination and a reeling unsteady gait **2** : a reeling or unsteady gait or stance **3** : the amount by which the leading edge of an upper wing of a biplane is advanced over that of a lower expressed as percentage of gap

[3]stagger *adj* : marked by an alternating or overlapping arrangement

stag·ger·bush \'stag-ər-ˌbůsh\ *n* : a shrubby heath (*Lyonia mariana*) of the eastern U.S. that is poisonous to livestock

stag·ger·ing *adj* : tending to stagger : ASTONISHING, OVERWHELMING — **stag·ger·ing·ly** \'stag-(ə-)riŋ-lē\ *adv*

stag·gery \'stag-(ə-)rē\ *adj* : UNSTEADY

stag·gy \'stag-ē\ *adj* : having the appearance of a mature male — used of female or castrated male domestic animals

stag·horn sumac \ˌstag-ˌhȯrn-\ *n* : a small tree or shrub (*Rhus typhina*) of eastern No. America with velvety-pubescent branches and flower stalks, leaves that turn brilliant red in fall, and dense panicles of greenish yellow flowers followed by bright crimson fruits

stag·hound \'stag-ˌhaůnd\ *n* : a hound formerly used in hunting the stag and other large animals; *specif* : a large heavy hound resembling the English foxhound

stag·ing \'stā-jiŋ\ *n* **1** : SCAFFOLDING **2 a** : the business of running stagecoaches **b** : the act of journeying in stagecoaches **3** : the putting of a play on the stage **4 a** : the moving of troops or matériel forward in several stages **b** : the assembling of troops or matériel in transit in a particular place **5** : the disengaging and discarding of a burned-out rocket unit from a space vehicle during flight

staging area *n* : an area in which troops are assembled and readied prior to a new operation or mission

Stag·i·rite \'staj-ə-ˌrīt\ *n* [Gk *Stagiritēs*, fr. *Stagira*, city in ancient Macedonia] : a native or resident of Stagira ⟨Aristotle the ~⟩

stag·nant \'stag-nənt\ *adj* **1 a** : not flowing in a current or stream : MOTIONLESS ⟨~ water⟩ **b** : STALE ⟨long disuse had made the air ~ and foul —Bram Stoker⟩ **2** : DULL, INACTIVE — **stag·nan·cy** \-nən-sē\ *n* — **stag·nant·ly** *adv*

stag·nate \'stag-ˌnāt\ *vi* **stag·nat·ed; stag·nat·ing** [L *stagnatus*, pp. of *stagnare*, fr. *stagnum* body of standing water; akin to Gk *stazein* to drip] : to become or remain stagnant — **stag·na·tion** \stag-'nā-shən\ *n*

stagy \'stā-jē\ *or* **stag·ey** *adj* **stag·i·er; -est** : of or resembling the stage; *esp* : marked by pretense or artificiality : THEATRICAL — **stag·i·ly** \-jə-lē\ *adv* — **stag·i·ness** \-jē-nəs\ *n*

[1]staid \'stād\ *adj* [fr. pp. of [3]*stay*] : marked by settled sedateness and often prim self-restraint : SOBER, GRAVE ***syn*** see SERIOUS ***ant*** jaunty — **staid·ly** *adv* — **staid·ness** *n*

[2]staid *past of* STAY

[1]stain \'stān\ *vb* [ME *steynen*, partly fr. MF *desteindre* to discolor & partly of Scand origin; akin to ON *steina* to paint — more at DISTAIN] *vt* **1** : DISCOLOR, SOIL **2** : to suffuse with color **3 a** : to taint with guilt, vice, or corruption **b** : to bring reproach on **4** : to color (as wood, glass, or cloth) by processes affecting chemically or otherwise the material itself ~ *vi* : to receive a stain — **stain·able** \'stā-nə-bəl\ *adj*

[2]stain *n* **1 a** : a soiled or discolored spot **b** : a natural spot of color contrasting with the ground **2** : a taint of guilt : STIGMA **3 a** : a preparation (as of dye or pigment) used in staining; *esp* : one capable of penetrating the pores of wood **b** : a dye or mixture of dyes used in microscopy to make visible minute and transparent structures, to differentiate tissue elements, or to produce specific chemical reactions

stain·abil·i·ty \ˌstā-nə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* : the capacity of cells and cell parts to stain specifically and consistently with particular dyes and stains

stained glass *n* : glass colored or stained for use in windows: **a** : glass colored throughout by metallic oxides fused into it **b** : clear glass cased with colored glass **c** : clear glass into whose surface the pigments have been burned

stain·er \'stā-nər\ *n* : one that stains: as **a** : a worker who applies a coloring or finishing stain to wood or leather **b** : a pigment used merely to give color to a paint as distinguished from the base **c** : an insect that stains the material on which it feeds

[1]stain·less \'stān-ləs\ *adj* **1 a** : free from stain or stigma **b** : highly resistant to stain **2** : made from materials resistant to stain — **stain·less·ly** *adv*

[2]stainless *n* : tableware made of stainless steel

stainless steel *n* : an alloy of iron with chromium and sometimes nickel or manganese that is practically immune to rusting and ordinary corrosion

stair \'sta(ə)r, 'ste(ə)r\ *n* [ME *steir*, fr. OE *stæger*; akin to OE & OHG *stīgan* to rise, Gk *steichein* to walk] **1** : a series of steps or flights of steps for passing from one level to another — often used in pl. but sing. or pl. in constr. ⟨a narrow private ~*s* —Lewis Mumford⟩ **2** : a single step of a stairway

stair·case \-ˌkās\ *n* **1** : the structure containing a stairway **2** : a flight of stairs with the supporting framework, casing, and balusters

stair·way \-ˌwā\ *n* : one or more flights of stairs usu. with landings to pass from one level to another

stair·well \-ˌwel\ *n* : a vertical shaft in which stairs are located

[1]stake \'stāk\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *staca*; akin to MLG *stake* stake, L *tignum* beam] **1** : a pointed piece of wood or other material driven or to be driven into the ground as a marker or support **2 a** : a post to which a person is bound for execution by burning **b** : execution by burning at a stake **3 a** : something that is staked for gain or loss **b** : the prize in a contest **c** : an interest or share in an undertaking (as a commercial venture) **4** : a Mormon territorial jurisdiction comprising a group of wards **5** : an upright stick at the side or end of a vehicle to retain the load **6** : GRUBSTAKE — **at stake** : at issue : in jeopardy

[2]stake *vt* **staked; stak·ing** **1** : to mark the limits of by or as if by stakes **2** : to tether to a stake **3** : BET, HAZARD **4** : to fasten up or support (as plants) with stakes **5** : to back financially **6** : GRUBSTAKE — **stake a claim** : to assert a title or right to something by or as if by placing stakes to satisfy a legal requirement

stake body *n* : an open motortruck body consisting of a platform with stakes inserted along the outside edges to retain a load

stake·hold·er \'stāk-ˌhōl-dər\ *n* : a person entrusted with the stakes of bettors

stake·out \'stā-ˌkaůt\ *n* : a surveillance maintained by the police of an area or a person suspected of criminal activity

stake out \stā-'kaůt\ *vt* **1** : to assign (as a policeman) to an area usu. to conduct a surveillance **2** : to maintain a stakeout of

stake race *n* : a horse race in which the prize offered is made up at least in part of money (as entry fees) put up by the owners of the horses entered

stake truck *n* : a truck having a stake body

Sta·kha·nov·ite \stə-'kän-ə-ˌvīt\ *n* [Alexei G. *Stakhanov b*1905 Russ miner] : a Soviet industrial worker awarded recognition and special privileges for output beyond production norms — **Sta·kha·nov·ism** \-ˌviz-əm\ *n*

sta·lac·tite \stə-'lak-ˌtīt *also* 'stal-ək-\ *n* [NL *stalactites*, fr. Gk *stalaktos* dripping, fr. *stalassein* to let drip — more at STALE] : a deposit of calcium carbonate (as calcite) resembling an icicle hanging from the roof or sides of a cavern — **sta·lac·tit·ic** \ˌstal-ˌak-'tit-ik, -ək-; stə-ˌlak-\ *adj*

sta·lag \'stäl-ˌäg\ *n* [G, short for *stammlager* base camp, fr. *stamm* base + *lager* camp] : a German prison camp for noncommissioned officers or enlisted men

sta·lag·mite \stə-'lag-ˌmīt *also* 'stal-əg-\ *n* [NL *stalagmites*, fr. Gk *stalagma* drop or *stalagmos* dripping; akin to Gk *stalassein* to let drip] : a deposit of calcium carbonate like an inverted stalactite formed on the floor of a cave by the drip of calcareous water — **sta·lag·mit·ic** \ˌstal-ˌag-'mit-ik, -əg-; stə-, lag-\ *adj*

[1]stale \'stā(ə)l\ *adj* **stal·er; stal·est** [ME, aged (of ale); akin to MD *stel* stale] **1** : tasteless or unpalatable from age **2** : tedious from

familiarity **3** : impaired in legal force or effect by reason of being allowed to rest without timely use, action, or demand ⟨a ~ affidavit⟩ ⟨a ~ debt⟩ **4** : impaired in vigor or effectiveness — **stale·ly** \'stā(ə)l-lē\ *adv* — **stale·ness** *n*

²stale *vb* **staled; stal·ing** *vt* **1** : to make stale **2** *archaic* : to make common : CHEAPEN ~ *vi* : to become stale

³stale *n* [ME; akin to MLG *stal* horse urine, Gk *stalassein* to let drip] : urine of a domestic animal (as a horse)

⁴stale *vi* **staled; stal·ing** : URINATE — used chiefly of camels and horses

¹stale·mate \'stā(ə)l-ˌmāt\ *n* [obs. E *stale* (stalemate) + E *mate*] **1** : a drawing position in chess in which only the king can move and although not in check can move only into check **2** : a drawn contest : DEADLOCK; *also* : the state of being stalemated

²stalemate *vt* : to bring into a stalemate

Sta·lin·ism \'stäl-ə-ˌniz-əm, 'stal-\ *n* : the political, economic, and social principles and policies associated with Stalin; *esp* : the theory and practice of communism developed by Stalin from Marxism-Leninism and characterized esp. by rigid authoritarianism, widespread use of terror, and often by emphasis on Russian nationalism — **Sta·lin·ist** \-nəst\ *n or adj* — **Sta·lin·ize** \-ˌnīz\ *vt* — **Sta·lin·oid** \-ˌnȯid\ *n or adj*

¹stalk \'stȯk\ *vb* [ME *stalken*, fr. OE *bestealcian;* akin to OE *stealc* lofty, *stelan* to steal — more at STEAL] *vi* **1** : to pursue quarry or prey stealthily **2** : to walk stiffly or haughtily ~ *vt* **1** : to pursue by stalking **2** : to go through (an area) in search of prey or quarry ⟨~ the woods for deer⟩ — **stalk·er** *n*

²stalk *n* **1** : the act of stalking **2** : a stalking gait

³stalk *n* [ME *stalke;* akin to OE *stealc* lofty] **1 a** : the main stem of an herbaceous plant often with its dependent parts **b** : a part of a plant (as a petiole, stipe, or peduncle) that supports another **2** : a slender upright object or supporting or connecting part; *esp* : PEDUNCLE ⟨the ~ of a crinoid⟩ — **stalked** \'stȯkt\ *adj* — **stalk·less** \'stȯ-kləs\ *adj* — **stalky** \'stȯ-kē\ *adj*

stalk–eyed \'stȯ-ˌkīd\ *adj* : having the eyes raised on stalks — used chiefly of crustaceans

stalk·ing–horse \'stȯ-kiŋ-ˌhȯ(ə)rs\ *n* **1** : a horse or a figure like a horse behind which a hunter stalks game **2** : something used to mask a purpose **3** : a candidate put forward to divide the opposition or to conceal someone's real candidacy

¹stall \'stȯl\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *steall;* akin to OHG *stal* place, stall, L *locus* (OL *stlocus*) place, Gk *stellein* to set up, place, send] **1 a** : a compartment for a domestic animal in a stable or barn **b** : a space marked off for parking a motor vehicle **2 a** : a seat in the chancel of a church with back and sides wholly or partly enclosed **b** : a church pew **c** *Brit* : a front orchestra seat in a theater **3** : a booth, stand, or counter at which articles are displayed for sale **4** : a protective sheath for a finger or toe : COT **5** : a small compartment ⟨a shower ~⟩

²stall *vt* **1** : to put into or keep in a stall **2** *obs* : to install in office **3 a** : to bring to a standstill : BLOCK; *esp* : MIRE **b** : to cause (an engine) to stop usu. inadvertently **c** : to cause (an airplane or airfoil) to go into a stall ~ *vi* **1** : to come to a standstill (as from mired wheels or engine failure) **2** : to experience a stall in flying

³stall *n* : the condition of an airfoil or airplane operating so that there is a flow breakdown and loss of lift with a tendency to drop

⁴stall *n* [alter. of *stale* (lure)] : a ruse to deceive or delay

⁵stall *vi* : to play for time : DELAY ~ *vt* : to hold off, divert, or delay by evasion or deception

stall–feed \'stȯl-ˌfēd\ *vt* **-fed** \-ˌfed\; **-feed·ing** : to feed in a stall esp. so as to fatten ⟨~ an ox⟩

stal·lion \'stal-yən\ *n* [ME *stalion*, fr. MF *estalon*, of Gmc origin; akin to OHG *stal* stall] : an uncastrated male horse : a male horse kept for breeding; *also* : a male animal (as a dog or a sheep) kept primarily as a stud

¹stal·wart \'stȯl-wərt\ *adj* [ME, alter. of *stalworth*, fr. OE *stælwierthe* serviceable] : marked by outstanding strength and vigor of body, mind, or spirit ⟨~ common sense⟩ ***syn*** see STRONG — **stal·wart·ly** *adv* — **stal·wart·ness** *n*

²stalwart *n* **1** : a stalwart person **2** : an unwavering partisan

stal·worth \'stȯl-(ˌ)wərth\ *archaic var of* STALWART

sta·men \'stā-mən\ *n, pl* **stamens** *also* **sta·mi·na** \'stā-mə-nə, 'stam-ə-\ [L, warp, thread; akin to Gk *stēmōn* thread, *histanai* to cause to stand — more at STAND] : a microsporophyll of a seed plant; *specif* : the organ of a flower that produces the male gamete, consists of an anther and a filament, and is morphologically a spore-bearing leaf — see FLOWER illustration

stamin- *or* **stamini-** *comb form* [L *stamin-, stamen*] : stamen ⟨*stamin*ody⟩ ⟨*stamini*ferous⟩

stam·i·na \'stam-ə-nə\ *n* [L, pl. of *stamen* warp, thread of life spun by the Fates] : STAYING POWER, ENDURANCE

sta·mi·nal \'stā-mən-ᵊl, 'stam-ən-\ *adj* : of, relating to, or consisting of a stamen

sta·mi·nate \'stā-mə-nət, 'stam-ə-, -ˌnāt\ *adj* **1** : having or producing stamens **2** *of a diclinous flower* : having stamens but no pistils

sta·mi·no·di·um \ˌstā-mə-'nōd-ē-əm, ˌstam-ə-\ *n pl* **-dia** \-ē-ə\ [NL, fr. *stamin-* + *-odium* thing resembling, fr. Gk *-ōdēs* like] : an abortive or sterile stamen

sta·mi·no·dy \'stā-mə-ˌnōd-ē, 'stam-ə-\ *n* [*stamin-* + Gk *-ōdēs* like] : the metamorphosis of other floral organs into stamens

stam·mel \'stam-əl\ *n* [prob. fr. *stamin* (a woolen fabric)] **1** *obs* : a coarse woolen clothing fabric usu. dyed red and used sometimes for undershirts of penitents **2** *archaic* : the bright red color of stammel

stam·mer \'stam-ər\ *vb* **stam·mered; stam·mer·ing** \-(ə-)riŋ\ [ME *stameren*, fr. OE *stamerian;* akin to OHG *stamalōn* to stammer, Lith *stumti* to push] *vi* : to make involuntary stops and repetitions in speaking : HALT — compare STUTTER ~ *vt* : to utter with involuntary stops or repetitions — **stammer** *n* — **stam·mer·er** \-ər-ər\ *n*

syn STAMMER, STUTTER *shared meaning element* : to speak or utter stumblingly

¹stamp \'stamp; *vt2a & vi2 are also* 'stämp *or* 'stȯmp\ *vb* [ME *stampen;* akin to OHG *stampfōn* to stamp, L *temnere* to despise, Gk *stembein* to shake up] *vt* **1** : to pound or crush with a pestle or a heavy instrument **2 a** (1) : to strike or beat forcibly with the bottom of the foot (2) : to bring down (the foot) forcibly **b** : to extinguish or destroy by or as if by stamping with the foot — usu. used with *out* ⟨~ out cancer⟩ **3 a** : IMPRESS, IMPRINT ⟨~ "paid" on the bill⟩ **b** : to attach a stamp to **4** : to cut out, bend, or form with a stamp or die **5 a** : to provide with a distinctive character ⟨~*ed* with a dreary, institutionalized look —Bernard Taper⟩ **b** : CHARACTERIZE ~ *vi* **1** : POUND **2** : to strike or thrust the foot forcibly or noisily downward

²stamp *n* **1** : a device or instrument for stamping **2** : the impression or mark made by stamping or imprinting **3 a** : a distinctive character, indication, or mark **b** : a lasting imprint **4** : the act of stamping **5** : a stamped or printed paper affixed in evidence that a tax has been paid; *also* : POSTAGE STAMP

¹stam·pede \stam-'pēd\ *n* [AmerSp *estampida*, fr. Sp, crash, fr. *estampar* to stamp, of Gmc origin; akin to OHG *stampfōn* to stamp] **1** : a wild headlong rush or flight of frightened animals **2** : a mass movement of people at a common impulse

²stampede *vb* **stam·ped·ed; stam·ped·ing** *vt* **1** : to cause to run away in headlong panic **2** : to cause (a group of people) to act on mass impulse ~ *vi* **1** : to flee headlong in panic **2** : to act on mass impulse — **stam·ped·er** *n*

stamp·er \'stam-pər, 'stäm-, 'stȯm-; *compare* ¹STAMP\ *n* : one that stamps: as **a** : a worker who performs an industrial stamping operation **b** : an implement for pounding or stamping **c** : any of various stamping machines

stamping ground \'stamp-, 'stämp-, 'stȯmp-\ *n* : a favorite or habitual resort

stamp mill \'stamp-\ *or* **stamping mill** \'stam-piŋ-\ *n* : a mill in which ore is crushed with stamps; *also* : a machine for stamping ore — called also *quartz battery*

stamp tax *n* : a tax collected by means of a stamp purchased and affixed (as to a deck of playing cards); *specif* : such a tax on a document (as a deed or promissory note) — called also *stamp duty*

stance \'stan(t)s\ *n* [MF *estance* position, posture, stay, fr. (assumed) VL *stantia*, fr. L *stant-, stans*, prp. of *stare* to stand] **1** *chiefly Scot* **a** : STATION **b** : SITE **2 a** : a way of standing or being placed : POSTURE **b** : intellectual or emotional attitude ⟨took an anti-war ~⟩ **3 a** : the position of the feet of a golfer or batter preparatory to making a swing **b** : the position of both body and feet from which an athlete starts or operates

¹stanch \'stȯnch, 'stänch\ *vt* [ME *staunchen*, fr. MF *estancher*, fr. (assumed) VL *stanticare*, fr. L *stant-, stans*, prp.] **1** : to check or stop the flowing of ⟨~*ed* her tears⟩; *also* : to stop the flow of blood from (a wound) **2** *archaic* : ALLAY, EXTINGUISH **3 a** : to stop or check in its course ⟨trying to ~ the crime wave⟩ **b** : to make watertight : stop up — **stanch·er** *n*

²stanch *var of* STAUNCH

¹stan·chion \'stan-chən\ *n* [ME *stanchon*, fr. MF *estanchon*, fr. OF, aug. of *estance* stay, prop] **1** : an upright bar, post, or support (as for a roof) **2** : a device that fits loosely around a cow's neck and limits forward and backward motion (as in a stall)

²stanchion *vt* **stan·chioned; stan·chion·ing** \'stanch-(ə-)niŋ\ **1 a** : to provide with stanchions **b** : to support or brace with or as if with a stanchion **2** : to secure (as a cow) by a stanchion

¹stand \'stand\ *vb* **stood** \'stu̇d\; **stand·ing** [ME *standen*, fr. OE *standan;* akin to OHG *stantan, stān* to stand, L *stare*, Gk *histanai* to cause to stand, set, *histasthai* to stand, be standing] *vi* **1 a** : to support oneself on the feet in an erect position **b** : to be a specified height when fully erect ⟨~*s* six feet two⟩ **c** : to rise to an erect position **2 a** : to take up or maintain a specified position or posture ⟨~ aside⟩ **b** : to maintain one's position ⟨~ firm⟩ **3** : to be in a particular state or situation ⟨~*s* accused⟩ **4** : to hold a course at sea **5** *obs* : HESITATE **6 a** : to have or maintain a relative position in or as if in a graded scale ⟨~*s* first in his class⟩ **b** : to be in a position to gain or lose because of an action taken or a commitment made ⟨~*s* to make quite a profit⟩ **7** *chiefly Brit* : to be a candidate : RUN **8 a** : to rest or remain upright on a base or lower end ⟨a clock *stood* on the mantle⟩ **b** : to occupy a place or location ⟨the house ~*s* on a knoll⟩ **9 a** : to remain stationary or inactive ⟨the car *stood* in the garage for a week⟩ **b** : to gather slowly and remain ⟨tears ~*ing* in her eyes⟩ **10** : AGREE, ACCORD — used chiefly in the expression *it stands to reason* **11 a** : to exist in a definite written or printed form ⟨copy a passage exactly as it ~*s*⟩ **b** : to remain valid or efficacious ⟨the order given last week still ~*s*⟩ **12** *of a male animal* : to be available as a sire — used esp. of horses ~ *vt* **a** : to endure or undergo successfully ⟨this book will ~ the test of time⟩ **b** : to tolerate without flinching : bear courageously ⟨he ~*s* pain well⟩ **c** : to endure the presence or personality of ⟨can't ~ his boss⟩ **d** : to afford to accept or have ⟨looks like he could ~ a drink⟩ **2** : to remain firm in the face of ⟨~ a siege⟩ **3** : to submit to ⟨~ trial⟩ **4 a** : to perform the duty of ⟨~ guard⟩ **b** : to participate in (a military formation) **5** : to pay the cost of (a treat) : pay for ⟨I'll ~ you a dinner⟩ ⟨~ drinks⟩ **6** : to cause to stand : set upright ***syn*** see BEAR — **stand·er** *n* — **stand a chance** : to have a chance — **stand for** **1** : to be a symbol for : REPRESENT **2** : to put up with : PERMIT — **stand on** **1** : to depend upon **2** : to insist on ⟨never *stands on* ceremony⟩ — **stand one's ground** : to maintain one's position — **stand on one's own feet** : to think or act independently — **stand treat** : to pay the cost of food, drink, or entertainment for others in a group

²stand *n* **1** : an act of stopping or staying in one place **2 a** : a halt for defense or resistance **b** : an often defensive effort of some duration or degree of success ⟨a goal-line ~⟩ **c** (1) : a stop made to give a performance ⟨a one-night ~⟩ (2) : a town where such a stop is made **3 a** : a place or post where one stands **b** : a strongly or aggressively held position esp. on a debatable issue **4 a** : the place taken by a witness for testifying in court **b** *pl* (1) : a section of the tiered seats for spectators of a sport or spectacle (2) : the occupants of such seats **c** : a raised platform (as for a

speaker) serving as a point of vantage **5 a** : a small often open-air structure for a small retail business ⟨a vegetable ~⟩ ⟨a hot dog ~⟩ **b** : a site fit for business opportunity **6** : a place where a passenger vehicle stops or parks ⟨a taxi ~⟩ **7** : ¹HIVE 2 **8** : a frame on or in which something may be placed for support **9** : a group of plants growing in a continuous area **10** : a standing posture ***syn*** see POSITION

¹stan·dard \'stan-dərd\ *n* [ME, fr. MF *estandard* rallying point, standard, of Gmc origin; akin to OE *standan* to stand and to OE *ord* point — more at ODD] **1** : a conspicuous object (as a banner) formerly carried at the top of a pole and used to mark a rallying point esp. in battle or to serve as an emblem **2 a** : a long narrow tapering flag that is personal to an individual or corporation and bears heraldic devices **b** : the personal flag of the head of a state or of a member of a royal family **c** : an organization flag carried by a mounted or motorized military unit **d** : BANNER **3** : something established by authority, custom, or general consent as a model or example : CRITERION **4** : something set up and established by authority as a rule for the measure of quantity, weight, extent, value, or quality **5 a** : the fineness and legally fixed weight of the metal used in coins **b** : the basis of value in a monetary system **6** : a structure built for or serving as a base or support **7 a** : a shrub or herb grown with an erect main stem so that it forms or resembles a tree **b** : a fruit tree grafted on a stock that does not induce dwarfing **8 a** : the large odd upper petal of a papilionaceous flower (as the pea) **b** : one of the three inner usu. erect and incurved petals of an iris **9** : a musical composition (as a song) that has become a part of the standard repertoire

syn STANDARD, CRITERION, GAUGE, YARDSTICK, TOUCHSTONE *shared meaning element* : a means of determining what a thing should be

²standard *adj* **1 a** : constituting or conforming to a standard esp. as established by law or custom ⟨~ weight⟩ **b** : sound and usable but not of top quality ⟨~ beef⟩ **2 a** : regularly and widely used, available, or supplied ⟨~ automobile equipment⟩ **b** : well-established and very familiar ⟨the ~ opera⟩ **3** : having recognized and permanent value ⟨a ~ reference work⟩ **4** : substantially uniform and well established by usage in the speech and writing of the educated and widely recognized as acceptable ⟨~ pronunciation is subject to regional variations⟩

stan·dard–bear·er \'stan-dərd-ˌbar-ər, -ˌber-\ *n* **1** : one that bears a standard or banner **2** : the leader of an organization, movement, or party

stan·dard·bred \-ˌbred\ *n, often cap* : any of an American breed of light trotting and pacing horses bred for speed and noted for endurance

standard candle *n* : CANDLE 3

standard deviation *n* **1** : a measure of the dispersion of a frequency distribution that is the square root of the arithmetic mean of the squares of the deviation of each of the class frequencies from the arithmetic mean of the frequency distribution; *also* : a similar quantity found by dividing by one less than the number of squares in the sum of squares instead of taking the arithmetic mean **2** : a parameter that indicates the way in which a probability function or a probability density function is centered around its mean and that is equal to the square root of the moment in which the deviation from the mean is squared

Standard English *n* : the English that with respect to spelling, grammar, pronunciation, and vocabulary is substantially uniform though not devoid of regional differences, that is well established by usage in the formal and informal speech and writing of the educated, and that is widely recognized as acceptable wherever English is spoken and understood

standard error *n* : the standard deviation of the probability function or probability density function of a random variable and esp. of a statistic; *specif* : the standard error of the mean of a sample from a population with a normal distribution that is equal to the standard deviation of the normal distribution divided by the square root of the sample size

standard gauge *n* : a railroad gauge of 4 feet $8\frac{1}{2}$ inches

stan·dard·ize \'stan-dərd-ˌīz\ *vt* **-ized; -iz·ing** **1** : to compare with a standard **2** : to bring into conformity with a standard — **stan·dard·iza·tion** \ˌstan-dərd-ə-'zā-shən\ *n*

standard of living **1** : the necessities, comforts, and luxuries enjoyed or aspired to by an individual or group **2** : a minimum of necessities, comforts, or luxuries held essential to maintaining a person or group in customary or proper status or circumstances

standard operating procedure *n* : established or prescribed methods to be followed routinely for the performance of designated operations or in designated situations — called also *standing operating procedure*

standard position *n* : the position of an angle with its vertex at the origin of a rectangular-coordinate system and its initial side coinciding with the positive x-axis

standard schnauzer *n* : a schnauzer of a breed that attains a height at the highest point of the shoulder blades of 18 to 20 inches in the male and 17 to 19 inches in the female

standard score *n* : an individual test score expressed as the deviation from the mean score of the group in units of standard deviation

standard time *n* : the time of a region or country that is established by law or general usage as civil time; *specif* : the mean solar time of a meridian that is a multiple of 15 arbitrarily applied to a local area or to one of the 24 time zones and designated as a number of hours earlier or later than Greenwich time

stand·away \ˌstan-də-ˌwā\ *adj* : standing out from the body ⟨a ~ skirt⟩

¹stand·by \'stan(d)-ˌbī\ *n, pl* **stand·bys** \-ˌbīz\ **1 a** : one to be relied upon esp. in emergencies **b** : a favorite or reliable choice or resource **2** : one that is held in reserve ready for use : SUBSTITUTE — **on standby** : ready or available for immediate action or use

²stand·by \ˌstan(d)-ˌbī\ *adj* **1** : held near at hand and ready for use ⟨a ~ power plant⟩ ⟨~ equipment⟩ **2** : relating to the act or condition of standing by ⟨~ duty⟩ ⟨a ~ period⟩

stand by \(')stan(d)-'bī\ *vi* **1** : to be present; *also* : to remain apart or aloof **2** : to be or to get ready to act ~ *vt* : to remain loyal or faithful to : DEFEND

stand down *vi* : to leave the witness stand

stand·ee \stan-'dē\ *n* : one who occupies standing room

stand–in \'stan-ˌdin\ *n* **1** : someone employed to occupy an actor's place while lights and camera are readied **2** : SUBSTITUTE

stand in \(')stan-'din\ *vi* : to act as a stand-in — **stand in with** : to be in a specially favored position with

¹stand·ing \'stan-diŋ\ *adj* **1 a** : upright on the feet or base : ERECT ⟨the ~ audience⟩ **b** : not yet cut or harvested ⟨~ timber⟩ ⟨~ grain⟩ **2 a** : not being used or operated ⟨a ~ factory⟩ **b** : not flowing : STAGNANT ⟨~ water⟩ **3 a** : remaining at the same level, degree, or amount for an indeterminate period ⟨a ~ offer⟩ **b** : continuing in existence or use indefinitely **4** : established by law or custom **5** : not movable **6** : done from a standing position ⟨a ~ jump⟩ ⟨a ~ ovation⟩

²standing *n* **1 a** : a place to stand in : LOCATION **b** : a position from which one may assert or enforce legal rights and duties **2 a** : length of service or experience esp. as determining rank, pay, or privilege **b** : position or condition in society or in a profession; *esp* : good reputation **c** : position relative to a standard of achievement or to achievements of competitors **3** : maintenance of position or condition : DURATION ⟨a custom of long ~⟩

standing army *n* : a permanent army of paid soldiers

standing committee *n* : a permanent committee esp. of a legislative body

standing crop *n* : the total amount or number of living things or of one kind of living thing (as an uncut farm crop, the fish in a pond, or organisms in an ecosystem) in a particular situation at any given time

standing order *n* : an instruction or prescribed procedure in force permanently or until specifically changed or canceled; *esp* : any of the rules for the guidance and government of parliamentary procedure which endure through successive sessions until vacated or repealed

standing room *n* : space for standing; *esp* : accommodation available for spectators or passengers after all seats are filled

standing wave *n* : a single-frequency mode of vibration of a body or physical system in which the amplitude varies from place to place, is constantly zero at fixed points, and has maxima at other points

stan·dish \'stan-dish\ *n* [origin unknown] : a stand for writing materials : INKSTAND

¹stand-off \'stan-ˌȯf\ *adj* **1** : STANDOFFISH **2** : used for holding something at a distance from a surface ⟨a ~ insulator⟩

²standoff *n* **1** : the act of standing off **2 a** : a counterbalancing effect **b** : TIE, DRAW ⟨the two teams played to a ~⟩

stand off \(')stan-'ȯf\ *vi* **1** : to stay at a distance in social intercourse **2** : to sail away from the shore ~ *vt* **1** : to keep from advancing : REPEL **2** : to put off : STALL

stand·off·ish \stan-'ȯ-fish\ *adj* : somewhat cold and reserved — **stand·off·ish·ly** *adv* — **stand·off·ish·ness** *n*

stand oil *n* : a thickened drying oil; *esp* : linseed oil heated to about 600° F

stand·out \'stan-ˌaůt\ *n* : one that is prominent or conspicuous esp. because of excellence

stand out \(')stan-'aůt\ *vi* **1 a** : to appear as if in relief : PROJECT **b** : to be prominent or conspicuous **2** : to steer away from shore **3** : to be stubborn in resolution or resistance

stand·pat \ˌstan(d)-ˌpat\ *adj* [*stand pat*] : stubbornly conservative : resisting or opposing change

stand pat \'stan(d)-'pat\ *vi* [⁴*pat*] **1** : to play one's hand as dealt in draw poker without drawing **2** : to oppose or resist change — **stand·pat·ter** \'stan(d)-ˌpat-ər, -'pat-\ *n* — **stand·pat·tism** \-ˌpat-ˌiz-əm\ *n*

stand·pipe \'stan(d)-ˌpīp\ *n* : a high vertical pipe or reservoir that is used to secure a uniform pressure in a water-supply system

stand·point \-ˌpȯint\ *n* : a position from which objects or principles are viewed and according to which they are compared and judged

stand·still \-ˌstil\ *n* : a state characterized by absence of motion or of progress : STOP

stand–up \ˌstan-ˌdəp\ *adj* **1 a** : ERECT, UPRIGHT **b** : stiffened to stay upright without folding over ⟨a ~ collar⟩ **2** : performed in or requiring a standing position ⟨a ~ bar⟩

stand up \(')stan-'dəp\ *vi* **1** : to rise to a standing position **2** : to remain sound and intact under stress, attack, or close scrutiny ~ *vt* : to fail to keep an appointment with — **stand up for** : to defend against attack or criticism — **stand up to** **1** : to meet fairly and fully **2** : to face boldly — **stand up with** : to be best man or maid of honor for at a wedding ceremony

stand–up comedian *n* : a comedian whose act consists of a monologue of jokes, gags, or satirical comments performed usu. while standing alone on a stage or in front of a camera

stane \'stān\ *Scot var of* STONE

Stan·ford–Bi·net test \ˌstan-fərd-bi-'nā-\ *n* [*Stanford* University, Calif.] : an intelligence test prepared at Stanford University as a revision of the Binet-Simon scale and commonly employed with children — called also *Stanford-Binet*

¹stang \'staŋ\ *vt* [ME *stangen*, fr. ON *stanga* to prick; akin to ON *stinga* to sting] *chiefly Scot* : STING

²stang *n, chiefly Scot* : PANG

stan·hope \'stan-əp\ *n* [Fitzroy *Stanhope* †1864 Brit clergyman] : a gig, buggy, or phaeton typically having a high seat and closed back

Sta·ni·slav·ski method \ˌstan-ə-ˈslaf-ski-, -ˈslav-\ *n* [Konstantin *Stanislavski*] : a technique in acting by which an actor strives to empathize with the character he is portraying so as to effect a realistic interpretation

¹stank \ˈstaŋk\ *past of* STINK

²stank *n* [ME, fr. OF *estanc*] **1** *dial Brit* **a** : POND, POOL **b** : a ditch containing water **2** *Brit* : a small dam : WEIR

stan·na·ry \ˈstan-ə-rē\ *n, pl* **-ries** [ML *stannaria* tin mine, fr. LL *stannum* tin] : one of the regions in England containing tinworks — usu. used in pl.

stan·nic \ˈstan-ik\ *adj* [prob. fr. F *stannique*, fr. LL *stannum* tin, fr. L, an alloy of silver and lead, prob. of Celt origin; akin to Corn *stēn* tin] : of, relating to, or containing tin esp. with a valence of four

stan·nite \ˈstan-ˌīt\ *n* [LL *stannum* tin] : a mineral Cu_2FeSnS that is a steel-gray or iron-black sulfide of copper, iron, and tin with a metallic luster and occurs in granular masses

stan·nous \ˈstan-əs\ *adj* [ISV, fr. LL *stannum*] : of, relating to, or containing tin esp. when bivalent

stan·za \ˈstan-zə\ *n* [It, stay, abode, room, stanza, fr. (assumed) VL *stantia* stay — more at STANCE] : a division of a poem consisting of a series of lines arranged together in a usu. recurring pattern of meter and rhyme : STROPHE — **stan·za·ic** \stan-ˈzā-ik\ *adj*

sta·pe·dec·to·my \ˌsta-pi-ˈdek-tə-mē\ *n, pl* **-mies** [ISV, fr. NL *staped-, stapes*] : surgical removal and prosthetic replacement of the stapes to relieve deafness — **sta·pe·dec·to·mized** \-ˌmīzd\ *adj*

sta·pe·di·al \stā-ˈpēd-ē-əl, stə-\ *adj* : of, relating to, or located near the stapes

sta·pe·lia \stə-ˈpēl-yə\ *n* [NL, genus name, fr. J. B. van *Stapel* †1636 D botanist] : any of a genus (*Stapelia*) of African plants of the milkweed family with succulent leafless toothed stems like cactus joints and showy but putrid-smelling flowers

sta·pes \ˈstā-(ˌ)pēz\ *n, pl* **stapes** *or* **sta·pe·des** \ˈstā-pə-ˌdēz\ [NL *staped-, stapes*, fr. ML, stirrup, alter. of LL *stapia*] : the innermost ossicle of the ear of mammals — see EAR illustration

staph \ˈstaf\ *n* : STAPHYLOCOCCUS

staph·y·li·nid \ˌstaf-ə-ˈlī-nəd\ *n* [NL *Staphylinidae*, deriv. of Gk *staphylē* bunch of grapes] : any of a family (Staphylinidae) of beetles that have a long body and very short wing covers beneath which the wings are folded transversely — **staphylinid** *adj*

staph·y·lo·coc·cal \ˌstaf-(ə-)lō-ˈkäk-əl\ *adj* : of, relating to, or being a staphylococcus

staph·y·lo·coc·cic \-ˈkäk-(s)ik\ *adj* : caused by a staphylococcus

staph·y·lo·coc·cus \-ˈkäk-əs\ *n, pl* **-coc·ci** \-ˈkäk-ˌ(s)ī, -(ˌ)(s)ē\ [NL, genus name, fr. Gk *staphylē* bunch of grapes + NL *-coccus*; akin to OE *stæf* staff] : any of various nonmotile gram-positive spherical bacteria (esp. genus *Staphylococcus*) that occur singly, in pairs or tetrads, or in irregular clusters and include parasites of skin and mucous membranes

¹sta·ple \ˈstā-pəl\ *n* [ME *stapel* post, staple, fr. OE *stapol* post; akin to MD *stapel* step, heap, emporium, OE *steppan* to step] **1** : a U-shaped metal loop both ends of which are driven into a surface to hold the hook, hasp, or bolt of a lock, secure a rope, or fix a wire in place **2** : a small U-shaped wire both ends of which are driven through layers of thin and easily penetrable material (as paper) and usu. clinched to hold the layers together

²staple *vt* **sta·pled; sta·pling** \-p(ə-)liŋ\ : to provide with or secure by staples

³staple *n* [ME, fr. MD *stapel* emporium] **1** : a town used as a center for the sale or exportation of commodities in bulk **2** : a place of supply : SOURCE **3** : a chief commodity or production of a place **4 a** : a commodity for which the demand is constant **b** : something having widespread and constant use or appeal **c** : the sustaining or principal element : SUBSTANCE **5** : RAW MATERIAL **6 a** : textile fiber (as wool or rayon) of relatively short length that when spun and twisted forms a yarn rather than a filament **b** : the length of a piece of such textile fiber

⁴staple *adj* **1** : used, needed, or enjoyed constantly usu. by many individuals **2** : produced regularly or in large quantities ⟨~ crops such as wheat and rice⟩ **3** : PRINCIPAL, CHIEF

¹sta·pler \ˈstā-p(ə-)lər\ *n* : one that deals in staple goods or in staple fiber

²stapler *n* : one that inserts staples; *esp* : a small usu. hand-operated device for inserting wire staples

¹star \ˈstär\ *n, often attrib* [ME *sterre*, fr. OE *steorra*; akin to OHG *sterno* star, L *stella*, Gk *astēr, astron*] **1 a** : a natural luminous body visible in the sky esp. at night **b** : a self-luminous gaseous celestial body of great mass whose shape is usu. spheroidal and whose size may be as small as the earth or larger than the earth's orbit **2 a** (1) : a planet or a configuration of the planets that is held in astrology to influence one's destiny or fortune — usu. used in pl. (2) : a waxing or waning fortune or fame ⟨her ~ was rising⟩ **b** *obs* : DESTINY **3 a** : a conventional figure with five or more points that represents a star; *esp* : ASTERISK **b** : an often star-shaped ornament or medal worn as a badge of honor, authority, or rank or as the insignia of an order **c** : one of a group of conventional stars used to place something in a scale of value **4** : something resembling a star ⟨was hit on the head and saw ~*s*⟩ **5 a** : the principal member of a theatrical or operatic company who usu. plays the chief roles **b** : a highly publicized theatrical or motion-picture performer **c** : an outstandingly talented performer ⟨a track ~⟩ **d** : a person who stands out among his fellows — **star·less** \-ləs\ *adj* — **star·like** \-ˌlīk\ *adj*

²star *vb* **starred; star·ring** *vt* **1** : to sprinkle or adorn with stars **2 a** : to mark with a star as being preeminent **b** : to mark with an asterisk **3** : to advertise or display prominently : FEATURE ⟨the movie ~*s* a famous stage personality⟩ ~ *vi* **1** : to play the most prominent or important role **2** : to perform outstandingly

³star *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or being a star ⟨received ~ billing⟩ **2** : of outstanding excellence : PREEMINENT ⟨a ~ athlete⟩

star apple *n* : a tropical American tree (*Chrysophyllum cainito*) of the sapodilla family grown in warm regions for ornament or fruit; *also* : the apple-shaped edible fruit

¹star·board \ˈstär-bərd\ *n* [ME *sterbord*, fr. OE *stēorbord*, fr. *stēor-* steering oar + *bord* ship's side — more at STEER, BOARD] : the right side of a ship or aircraft looking forward — compare PORT

²starboard *vt* : to turn or put (a helm or rudder) to the right

³starboard *adj* : of, relating to, or situated to starboard

¹starch \ˈstärch\ *vt* [ME *sterchen*, prob. fr. (assumed) OE *stercan* to stiffen; akin to OE *stearc* stiff — more at STARK] : to stiffen with or as if with starch

²starch *n* **1** : a white odorless tasteless granular or powdery complex carbohydrate $(C_6H_{10}O_5)_x$ that is the chief storage form of carbohydrate in plants, is an important foodstuff, and is used also in adhesives and sizes, in laundering, and in pharmacy and medicine **2** : a stiff formal manner : FORMALITY **3** : resolute vigor

star–cham·ber \ˈstär-ˈchām-bər\ *adj* [*Star Chamber*, a court existing in England from the 15th century until 1641] : characterized by secrecy and often being irresponsibly arbitrary and oppressive

starchy \ˈstär-chē\ *adj* **starch·i·er; -est** **1** : containing, consisting of, or resembling starch **2** : consisting of or marked by formality or stiffness — **starch·i·ly** \-chə-lē\ *adv* — **starch·i·ness** \-chē-nəs\ *n*

star–crossed \ˈstär-ˌkrȯst\ *adj* : not favored by the stars : ILL-FATED ⟨a pair of ~ lovers take their life —Shak.⟩

star·dom \ˈstärd-əm\ *n* **1** : the status or position of a star ⟨the actress quickly reached ~⟩ **2** : a body of stars

star·dust \ˈstär-ˌdəst\ *n* : a feeling or impression of romance, magic, or ethereality

¹stare \ˈsta(ə)r, ˈste(ə)r\ *vb* **stared; star·ing** [ME *staren*, fr. OE *starian*; akin to OHG *starēn* to stare, L *strenuus* strenuous, Gk *stereos* solid, Lith *starinti* to stiffen] *vi* **1** : to look fixedly often with wide-open eyes **2** : to show oneself conspicuously ⟨the error *stared* from the page⟩ **3** *of hair* : to stand on end : BRISTLE; *also* : to appear rough and lusterless ~ *vt* **1** : to have an effect upon by staring **2** : to look at with a searching or earnest gaze ***syn*** see GAZE — **star·er** *n* — **stare one in the face** : to be undeniably and forcefully evident or apparent

²stare *n* : the act or an instance of staring ⟨a blank ~⟩

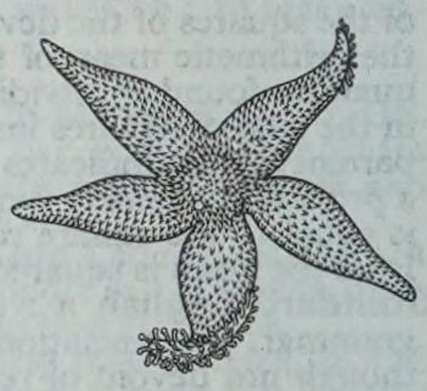
sta·re de·ci·sis \ˌster-ē-di-ˈsī-səs, ˌstar-\ *n* [L, to stand by decided matters] : a doctrine or policy of following rules or principles laid down in previous judicial decisions unless they contravene the ordinary principles of justice

stare down *vt* : to cause to waver or submit by or as if by staring

sta·rets \ˈstär-(y)əts\ *n, pl* **star·tsy** \ˈstärt-sē\ [Russ, lit., old man, fr. *staryĭ* old — more at STOUR] : a spiritual director or religious teacher in the Eastern Orthodox Church; *specif* : a spiritual adviser who is not necessarily a priest, who is recognized for his piety, and who is turned to by monks or laymen for spiritual guidance

star facet *n* : one of the eight small triangular facets which abut on the table in the bezel of a brilliant — see BRILLIANT illustration

star·fish \ˈstär-ˌfish\ *n* : any of a class (Asteroidea) of echinoderms having a body of usu. five radially disposed arms about a central disk and feeding largely on mollusks (as oysters)



starfish

star·flow·er \-ˌflau̇(-ə)r\ *n* : any of several plants having star-shaped pentamerous flowers; *esp* : any of a genus (*Trientalis*, esp. *T. americana*) of plants of the primrose family

star·gaze \-ˌgāz\ *vi* [back-formation fr. *stargazer*] **1** : to gaze at stars **2** : to gaze raptly or contemplatively

star·gaz·er \-ˌgā-zər\ *n* **1** : one that gazes at the stars: as **a** : ASTROLOGER **b** : ASTRONOMER **2** : any of several marine percoid fishes (family Uranoscopidae) with the eyes on top of the head

star·gaz·ing \-ˌgā-ziŋ\ *n* **1** : the act or practice of a stargazer **2 a** : absorption in chimerical or impractical ideas : WOOLGATHERING **b** : the quality or state of being absentminded

star grass *n* : any of various grassy plants with stellate flowers or arrangement of leaves: as **a** : any of a genus (*Hypoxis*) of herbs of the amaryllis family **b** : COLICROOT a **c** : a perennial grass (*Cynodon plectostachyum*) that has stems attaining a height of 3 to 4 feet and that is used esp. in Africa and India for pasture and hay

¹stark \ˈstärk\ *adj* [ME, stiff, strong, fr. OE *stearc*; akin to OHG *starc* strong, Lith *starinti* to stiffen — more at STARE] **1** *archaic* : STRONG, ROBUST **2 a** : rigid in or as if in death **b** : rigidly conforming (as to a pattern or doctrine) : ABSOLUTE ⟨~ discipline⟩ **3** : SHEER, UTTER ⟨~ nonsense⟩ **4 a** : BARREN, DESOLATE **b** (1) : having few or no ornaments : BARE ⟨a ~ white room⟩ (2) : HARSH, BLUNT ⟨the ~ realities of death⟩ **5** : sharply delineated ***syn*** see STIFF — **stark·ly** *adv* — **stark·ness** *n*

²stark *adv* **1** : in a stark manner **2** : to an absolute or complete degree : WHOLLY ⟨~ naked⟩ ⟨~ mad⟩

star·let \ˈstär-lət\ *n* : a young movie actress being coached and publicized for starring roles

star·light \-ˌlīt\ *n* : the light given by the stars

star·ling \ˈstär-liŋ\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *stærlinc*, fr. *stær* starling + *-ling*, *-linc* -ling; akin to OHG *stara* starling, L *sturnus*] : any of a family (Sturnidae, esp. genus *Sturnus*) of usu. dark gregarious passerine birds; *esp* : a dark brown or in summer glossy greenish black European bird (*S. vulgaris*) naturalized in the U.S., southern Canada, Australia, and New Zealand and often a pest

star·lit \ˈstär-ˌlit\ *adj* : lighted by the stars

star–nosed mole \ˌstär-ˌnōz(d)-\ *n* : a common black long-tailed semiaquatic No. American mole (*Condylura cristata*) distinguished by a series of pink fleshy projections surrounding the nostrils

star–of–Bethlehem *n* : any of a genus (*Ornithogalum*) of bulbous herbs (as the chincherinchee) of the lily family with basal leaves resembling grass; *esp* : one (*O. umbellatum*) with greenish flowers that is naturalized in the eastern U.S.

star of Beth·le·hem \-ˈbeth-li-ˌhem, -lē-(h)əm\ : a star which according to Christian tradition guided the Magi to the infant Jesus in Bethlehem

Star of Da·vid \-ˈdā-vəd\ : MAGEN DAVID

star route *n* [so called fr. the asterisk used to designate such routes in postal publications] : a mail-delivery route in a rural or thinly populated area served by a private carrier under contract who takes mail from one post office to another or from a railroad station to a post office and usu. also delivers mail to private mailboxes along the route

star·ry \'stär-ē\ *adj* **star·ri·er; -est** **1 a** : adorned or studded with stars **b** : of, relating to, or consisting of the stars : STELLAR **c** : shining like stars : SPARKLING **d** : having parts arranged like the rays of a star : STELLATE **2** : as high as or seemingly as high as the stars ⟨~ speculations⟩ **3** : STARRY-EYED

star·ry–eyed \ˌstär-ē-'īd\ *adj* : regarding an object or a prospect in an overly favorable light; *specif* : characterized by dreamy, impracticable, or utopian thinking : VISIONARY

Stars and Bars *n pl but sing in constr* : the first flag of the Confederate States of America having three bars of red, white, and red respectively and a blue union with white stars in a circle representing the seceded states

Stars and Stripes *n pl but sing in constr* : the flag of the United States having 13 alternately red and white horizontal stripes and a blue union with white stars representing the states

star sapphire *n* : a sapphire that when cut with a convex surface and polished exhibits asterism

star shell *n* **1** : a shell that on bursting releases a shower of brilliant stars and is used for signaling **2** : a shell with an illuminating projectile

star–span·gled \'stär-ˌspaŋ-gəld\ *adj* : studded with stars

star–stud·ded \'stär-ˌstəd-əd\ *adj* : abounding in or covered with stars ⟨a ~ cast⟩ ⟨a ~ uniform⟩

star system *n* : the practice of casting famous performers in motion-picture and theatrical roles esp. in order to exploit their popular appeal

¹start \'stärt\ *vb* [ME *sterten;* akin to MHG *sterzen* to stand up stiffly, move quickly, Lith *starinti* to stiffen — more at STARE] *vi* **1 a** : to move suddenly and violently : SPRING ⟨~*ed* angrily to his feet⟩ **b** : to react with a sudden brief involuntary movement ⟨~*ed* when a shot rang out⟩ **2 a** : to issue with sudden force ⟨blood ~*ing* from the wound⟩ **b** : to come into being, activity, or operation ⟨when does the movie ~⟩ **3** : to protrude or seem to protrude ⟨his eyes ~*ing* from their sockets⟩ **4** : to become loosened or forced out of place ⟨one of the planks has ~*ed*⟩ **5 a** : to begin a course or journey ⟨~*ed* towards the door⟩ ⟨~*ed* north⟩ **b** : to range from a specified initial point ⟨the rates ~ at $10⟩ **6** : to begin an activity or undertaking; *esp* : to begin work **7** : to be a participant in a game or contest; *esp* : to be in the starting lineup ~ *vt* **1** : to cause to leave a place of concealment : FLUSH ⟨~ a rabbit⟩ **2** *archaic* : STARTLE, ALARM **3** : to bring up for consideration or discussion **4** : to bring into being ⟨~ a rumor⟩ **5** : to cause to become loosened or displaced **6** : to begin the use or employment of ⟨~ a fresh loaf of bread⟩ **7 a** : to cause to move, act, or operate ⟨~ the motor⟩ **b** : to cause to enter a game or contest; *esp* : to put in the starting lineup **c** : to care for during early stages **8** : to perform the first stages or actions of ⟨~*ed* studying music at the age of five⟩ ***syn*** see BEGIN — **start something** : to make trouble — **to start with** **1** : at the beginning : INITIALLY **2** : in any event

²start *n* **1 a** : a sudden involuntary bodily movement or reaction **b** : a brief and sudden action or movement **c** : a sudden capricious impulse or outburst **2** : a beginning of movement, activity, or development **3** : a lead or handicap at the beginning of a race or competition **4** : a place of beginning **5** : the act or an instance of being a competitor in a race or a member of a starting lineup in a game ⟨undefeated in six ~*s* —*Current Biog.*⟩

start·er \'stärt-ər\ *n* **1** : one who initiates or sets going: as **a** : an official who gives the signal to begin a race **b** : one who dispatches vehicles **2 a** : one that enters a competition; *esp* : a member of a starting lineup **b** : one that begins to engage in an activity or process **3** : one that causes something to begin operating: as **a** : SELF-STARTER **b** : material containing microorganisms used to induce a desired fermentation **c** : a compound used to start a chemical reaction **4** : something that is the beginning of a process, activity, or series

star thistle *n* **1** : a widely naturalized spiny European weed (*Centaurea calcitrapa*) with purple flowers — called also *caltrops* **2** : any of various knapweeds related to the star thistle

starting block *n* : a device that consists of two blocks mounted on either side of an adjustable frame which is usu. anchored to the ground and that provides a runner with a rigid surface against which to brace his feet at the start of a race

starting gate *n* **1** : a mechanically operated barrier used as a starting device for a race **2** : a barrier that when knocked aside by a competitor (as a skier) starts an electronic timing device

¹star·tle \'stärt-ᵊl\ *vb* **star·tled; star·tling** \'stärt-liŋ, -ᵊl-iŋ\ [ME *stertlen,* freq. of *sterten* to start] *vi* : to move or jump suddenly (as in surprise or alarm) ⟨the baby ~*s* easily⟩ ~ *vt* : to frighten or surprise suddenly and usu. not seriously

²startle *n* : a sudden mild shock (as of surprise or alarm)

star·tling *adj* : causing momentary fright, surprise, or astonishment — **star·tling·ly** \'stärt-liŋ-lē, -ᵊl-iŋ-\ *adv* — **star·tling·ness** \-nəs\ *n*

start–up \'stärt-ˌəp\ *n* : the act or an instance of setting in operation or motion

star turn *n, chiefly Brit* : the featured skit or number in a theatrical production; *broadly* : the most widely publicized person or item in a group

star·va·tion \stär-'vā-shən\ *n* **1** : the act or an instance of starving **2** : the state of being starved

starvation wages *n* : wages insufficient to provide the ordinary necessities of life

starve \'stärv\ *vb* **starved; starv·ing** [ME *sterven* to die, fr. OE *steorfan;* akin to OHG *sterban* to die, Lith *starinti* to stiffen — more at STARE] *vi* **1 a** : to perish from lack of food **b** : to suffer extreme hunger **2** *archaic* **a** : to die of cold **b** : to suffer greatly from cold **3** : to suffer or perish from deprivation ⟨*starved* for affection⟩ ~ *vt* **1 a** : to kill with hunger **b** : to deprive of nourishment **c** : to cause to capitulate by or as if by depriving of nourishment **2** : to destroy by or cause to suffer from deprivation **3** *archaic* : to kill with cold

starve·ling \'stärv-liŋ\ *n* : one that is thin from or as if from lack of food

¹stash \'stash\ *vt* [origin unknown] **1** *chiefly Brit* : to put an end to : STOP, QUIT **2** : to store in a usu. secret place for future use

²stash *n* **1** : hiding place : CACHE **2** : something stored or hidden away ⟨a ~ of narcotics⟩

sta·sis \'stā-səs, 'stas-əs\ *n, pl* **sta·ses** \'stā-ˌsēz, 'stas-ˌēz\ [NL, fr. Gk, act or condition of standing, stopping, fr. *histasthai* to stand — more at STAND] **1** : a slowing or stoppage of the normal flow of body fluids: as **a** : slowing of the current of circulating blood **b** : reduced motility of the intestines with retention of feces **2** : a state of static balance or equilibrium : STAGNATION

-sta·sis \'stā-səs\ *n comb form, pl* **-sta·ses** \'stā-ˌsēz\ [NL, fr. Gk *stasis* standing, stopping] **1** : stoppage : slowing ⟨hemo*stasis*⟩ ⟨bacterio*stasis*⟩ **2** : stable state ⟨homeo*stasis*⟩

stat *abbr* **1** [L *statim*] immediately **2** statute

-stat \ˌstat\ *n comb form* [NL *-stata,* fr. Gk *-statēs* one that stops or steadies, fr. *histanai* to cause to stand — more at STAND] **1** : stabilizing agent or device ⟨gyro*stat*⟩ ⟨thermo*stat*⟩ **2** : instrument for reflecting (something specified) constantly in one direction ⟨helio*stat*⟩ **3** : agent causing inhibition of growth without destruction ⟨bacterio*stat*⟩

sta·tant \'stāt-ᵊnt\ *adj* [L *status,* pp. of *stare* to stand + E *-ant*] : standing in profile with all feet on the ground — used of a heraldic animal

¹state \'stāt\ *n, often attrib* [ME *stat,* fr. OF & L; OF *estat,* fr. L *status,* fr. *status,* pp. of *stare* to stand — more at STAND] **1 a** : mode or condition of being ⟨a ~ of readiness⟩ **b** (1) : condition of mind or temperament ⟨in a highly nervous ~⟩ (2) : a condition of abnormal tension or excitement **2 a** : a condition or stage in the physical being of something ⟨insects in the larval ~⟩ ⟨the gaseous ~ of water⟩ **b** : any of various conditions characterized by definite quantities (as of energy, angular momentum, or magnetic moment) in which an atomic system may exist **3 a** : social position; *esp* : high rank **b** (1) : elaborate or luxurious style of living (2) : formal dignity : POMP — usu. used with *in* **4 a** : a body of persons constituting a special class in a society : ESTATE 3 **b** *pl* : the members or representatives of the governing classes assembled in a legislative body **c** *obs* : a person of high rank (as a noble) **5 a** : a politically organized body of people usu. occupying a definite territory; *esp* : one that is sovereign **b** : the political organization of such a body of people **6** : the operations or concerns of the government of a country **7** : one of the constituent units of a nation having a federal government ⟨the United *States* of America⟩ **8** : the territory of a state

syn STATE, CONDITION, SITUATION, STATUS *shared meaning element* : the way in which one manifests existence or the circumstances under which one exists or by which one is given distinctive character. STATE may imply a mode of existence ⟨Hell is not a place but a *state* —T. S. Eliot⟩ but more often implies the sum of the qualities involved in a particular kind of existence or existence at a particular time and place ⟨he remained in a weakened *state* for many months⟩ ⟨the present *state* of the art allows no final conclusion⟩ CONDITION more distinctly imputes the effect of immediate or temporary influences as a ruling factor ⟨under the best *conditions,* a voyage is one of the severest tests to try a man —R. W. Emerson⟩ SITUATION applies to a state or condition that is the resultant of a combination of definite circumstances; it implies arrangement of these circumstances that makes for a particular condition (as of embarrassment, advantage, or difficulty) ⟨there was a dizzy succession of events and of constantly changing *situations* for a politician to watch —W. L. Shirer⟩ ⟨ready to exploit any favorable *situation*⟩ STATUS applies to one's state or condition as determined with some definiteness especially for legal administrative purposes or by social or economic considerations ⟨his *status* as executive assistant gave him access to confidential reports⟩

²state *vt* **stat·ed; stat·ing** **1** : to set by regulation or authority **2** : to express the particulars of esp. in words : REPORT; *broadly* : to express in words — **stat·able** *or* **state·able** \'stāt-ə-bəl\ *adj*

state aid *n* : public monies appropriated by a state government for the partial support or improvement of a public local institution

State attorney *or* **State's attorney** *n* : a legal officer appointed to represent a state in the courts : PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

state bank *n* **1** : NATIONAL BANK 1 **2** : a bank chartered by and operating under the laws of a state of the U.S.

State bird *n* : a bird selected (as by the legislature) as an emblem of a state of the U.S.

state capitalism *n* : an economic system in which private capitalism is modified by a varying degree of government ownership and control

state church *n, often cap S&C* : ESTABLISHED CHURCH

state college *n* : a college that is financially supported by a state government, often specializes in a branch of technical or professional education, and often forms part of the state university

state·craft \'stāt-ˌkraft\ *n* : the art of conducting state affairs

stat·ed \'stāt-əd\ *adj* **1** : FIXED, REGULAR ⟨the president shall, at ~ times, receive . . . a compensation —*U.S. Constitution*⟩ **2** : set down explicitly : DECLARED — **stat·ed·ly** *adv*

stated clerk *n* : an executive officer of a Presbyterian general assembly, synod, or presbytery ranking below the moderator

State flower *n* : a flowering plant selected (as by the legislature) as an emblem of a state of the U.S.

state·hood \'stāt-ˌhůd\ *n* : the condition of being a state; *esp* : the condition or status of one of the states of the U.S.
state·house \-ˌhaůs\ *n* : the building in which a state legislature sits
state·less \'stāt-ləs\ *adj* **1** : having no state **2** : lacking the status of a national ⟨a ~ person⟩ — **state·less·ness** *n*
state·ly \'stāt-lē\ *adj* **state·li·er; -est** **1 a** : HAUGHTY, UNAPPROACHABLE **b** : marked by lofty or imposing dignity **2** : impressive in size or proportions ***syn*** see GRAND — **state·li·ness** *n* — **stately** *adv*
state medicine *n* : administration and control by the national government of medical and hospital services provided to the whole population and paid for out of funds raised by taxation
state·ment \'stāt-mənt\ *n* **1** : the act or process of stating or presenting orally or on paper **2** : something stated: as **a** : a report of facts or opinions **b** : a single declaration or remark : ASSERTION **3** : PROPOSITION 2a **4** : the presentation of a theme in a musical composition **5** : a summary of a financial account showing the balance due
state of the art : the level of development (as of a device, procedure, process, technique, or science) reached at any particular time usu. as a result of modern methods
state of war **1 a** : a state of actual armed hostilities regardless of a formal declaration of war **b** : a legal state created and ended by official declaration regardless of actual armed hostilities and usu. characterized by operation of the rules of war **2** : the period of time during which a state of war is in effect
state prison *n* : a prison maintained by a state of the U.S. for the imprisonment of persons convicted of the more serious crimes (as felonies)
sta·ter \'stāt-ər, stä-'te(ə)r\ *n* [ME, fr. LL, fr. Gk *statēr*, lit., a unit of weight, fr. *histanai* to cause to stand, weigh — more at STAND] : an ancient gold or silver coin of the Greek city-states of any of numerous standards
state·room \'stāt-ˌrüm, -ˌrům\ *n* **1** : CABIN 1a **2** : a private room on a railroad car with one or more berths and a toilet
state's evidence *n, often cap S* **1** : one who gives evidence for the prosecution in U.S. state or federal criminal proceedings **2** : evidence for the prosecution in a criminal proceeding
States General *n pl* **1** : the assembly of the three orders of clergy, nobility, and third estate in France before the Revolution **2** : the legislature of the Netherlands from the 15th century to 1796
¹state·side \'stāt-ˌsīd\ *adj* [*(United) States* + *side*] : being in, going to, coming from, or characteristic of the 48 conterminous states of the U.S. ⟨transferred from Europe to ~ duty⟩
²stateside *adv* : in or to the continental U.S.
states·man \'stāts-mən\ *n* **1** : one versed in the principles or art of government; *esp* : one actively engaged in conducting the business of a government or in shaping its policies **2** : one who exercises political leadership wisely and without narrow partisanship — **states·man·like** \-ˌlīk\ *adj* — **states·man·ly** \-lē\ *adj* — **states·man·ship** \-ˌship\ *n*
state socialism *n* : an economic system with limited socialist characteristics introduced by usu. gradual political action
states' right·er \'stāts-'rīt-ər\ *n* : one who advocates strict interpretation of the U.S. constitutional guarantee of states' rights
states' rights *n pl* : all rights not vested by the Constitution of the U.S. in the federal government nor forbidden by it to the separate states
State tree *n* : a tree selected (as by the legislature) as an emblem of a state of the U.S.
state university *n* : a university maintained and administered by one of the states of the U.S. as part of the state public educational system
¹state·wide \'stāt-'wīd\ *adj* : including all parts of a state
²statewide *adv* : throughout the state
¹stat·ic \'stat-ik\ *adj* [NL *staticus*, fr. Gk *statikos* causing to stand, skilled in weighing, fr. *histanai* to cause to stand, weigh — more at STAND] **1** : exerting force by reason of weight alone without motion **2** : of or relating to bodies at rest or forces in equilibrium **3** : showing little change ⟨a ~ population⟩ **4 a** : characterized by a lack of movement, animation, or progression **b** : producing an effect of repose or quiescence ⟨a ~ design⟩ **5 a** : standing or fixed in one place : STATIONARY **b** *of water* : stored in a tank but not under pressure **6** : of, relating to, or producing stationary charges of electricity : ELECTROSTATIC **7** : of, relating to, or caused by radio static — **stat·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj* — **stat·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
²static *n* [*static electricity*] **1** : disturbing effects produced in a radio or television receiver by atmospheric or various natural or manmade electrical disturbances; *also* : the electrical disturbances producing these effects **2** : OPPOSITION ⟨don't give me any ~⟩
stat·i·ce \'stat-ə-(ˌ)sē\ *n* [NL, genus of herbs, fr. L, an astringent plant, fr. Gk *statikē*, fr. fem. of *statikos* causing to stand, astringent] : SEA LAVENDER, THRIFT
static line *n* : a cord attached to a parachute pack and to an airplane to open the parachute after a jumper clears the plane
stat·ics \'stat-iks\ *n pl but sing or pl in constr* : mechanics dealing with the relations of forces that produce equilibrium among material bodies
static tube *n* : a tube used for indicating static as distinct from impact pressure in a stream of fluid
¹sta·tion \'stā-shən\ *n* [ME *stacioun*, fr. MF *station*, fr. L *station-*, *statio*, fr. *status*, pp. of *stare* to stand — more at STAND] **1** : the place or position in which something or someone stands or is assigned to stand or remain **2** : the act or manner of standing : POSTURE **3** : a stopping place: as **a** (1) : a regular stopping place in a transportation route (2) : the building connected with such a stopping place : DEPOT 3 **b** : one of the stations of the cross **4 a** : a post or sphere of duty or occupation **b** : a stock farm or ranch of Australia or New Zealand **5** : STANDING, RANK ⟨a woman of high ~⟩ **6** : a place for specialized observation and study of scientific phenomena ⟨a seismological ~⟩ ⟨a marine biological ~⟩ **7** : a place established to provide a public service: as **a** : FIRE STATION **b** : a branch post office **8 a** : a complete assemblage of radio or television equipment for transmitting or receiving **b** : the place in which such a station is located
²station *vt* **sta·tioned; sta·tion·ing** \'stā-sh(ə-)niŋ\ : to assign to or set in a station or position : POST
sta·tion·al \'stā-shnəl, -shən-ᵊl\ *adj* : of, relating to, or being a mass formerly celebrated by the pope at designated churches in Rome on appointed holy days
sta·tion·ary \'stā-shə-ˌner-ē\ *adj* **1** : fixed in a station, course, or mode : IMMOBILE **2** : unchanging in condition
stationary front *n* : the boundary between two air masses neither of which is replacing the other
stationary wave *n* : STANDING WAVE — called also *stationary vibration*
station break *n* : a pause in a radio or television broadcast for announcement of the identity of the network or station; *also* : an announcement or advertisement during this pause
sta·tio·ner \'stā-sh(ə-)nər\ *n* [ME *staciouner*, fr. ML *stationarius*, fr. *station-*, *statio* shop, fr. L, station] **1** *archaic* **a** : BOOKSELLER **b** : PUBLISHER **2** : one that sells stationery
sta·tio·nery \'stā-shə-ˌner-ē\ *n* [*stationer*] **1** : materials (as paper, pens, and ink) for writing or typing **2** : letter paper usu. accompanied with matching envelopes
station house *n* : a house at a post or station; *specif* : a police station
sta·tion·mas·ter \'stā-shən-ˌmas-tər\ *n* : an official in charge of the operation of a railroad station
stations of the cross *often cap S&C* **1** : a series of usu. 14 images or pictures esp. in a church that represent the stages of Christ's passion **2** : a devotion involving commemorative meditation before the stations of the cross
station wagon *n* : an automobile that has an interior longer than a sedan's, has one or more rear seats readily lifted out or folded to facilitate light trucking, has no separate luggage compartment, and often has an adjustable rear window and a tailgate
stat·ism \'stāt-ˌiz-əm\ *n* : concentration of economic controls and planning in the hands of a highly centralized government
stat·ist \'stāt-əst\ *n* : an advocate of statism — **statist** *adj*
sta·tis·tic \stə-'tis-tik\ *n* [back-formation fr. *statistics*] **1** : a single term or datum in a collection of statistics **2 a** : a quantity (as the mean of a sample) that is computed from a sample; *specif* : ESTIMATE 3b **b** : a random variable that takes on the possible values of a statistic
sta·tis·ti·cal \-ti-kəl\ *adj* : of, relating to, or employing the principles of statistics — **sta·tis·ti·cal·ly** \-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
statistical mechanics *n pl but usu sing in constr* : a branch of mechanics dealing with the application of the principles of statistics to the mechanics of a system consisting of a large number of parts having motions that differ by small steps over a large range
stat·is·ti·cian \ˌstat-ə-'stish-ən\ *n* : one versed in or engaged in compiling statistics
sta·tis·tics \stə-'tis-tiks\ *n pl but sing or pl in constr* [G *statistik* study of political facts and figures, fr. NL *statisticus* of politics, fr. L *status* state] **1** : a branch of mathematics dealing with the collection, analysis, interpretation, and presentation of masses of numerical data **2** : a collection of quantitative data
sta·tive \'stāt-iv\ *adj* : expressing a bodily or mental state — compare ACTIVE 3b
stato- *comb form* [ISV, fr. Gk *statos* stationary, fr. *histasthai* to stand — more at STAND] **1** : resting ⟨*stato*blast⟩ **2** : equilibrium ⟨*stato*cyst⟩
stato·blast \'stat-ə-ˌblast\ *n* [ISV] **1** : a bud in a freshwater bryozoan that overwinters in a chitinous envelope and develops into a new individual in spring **2** : GEMMULE b
stato·cyst \-ˌsist\ *n* [ISV] : an organ of equilibrium occurring esp. among invertebrate animals and consisting usu. of a fluid-filled vesicle in which are suspended calcareous particles
stat·ol·a·try \stāt-'äl-ə-trē\ *n* [*¹state* + *-o-* + *-latry*] : advocacy of a highly centralized and all-powerful national government
stato·lith \'stat-ᵊl-ˌith\ *n* [ISV] **1** : the calcareous body in a statocyst **2** : any of various starch grains or other solid bodies in the plant cytoplasm that are held to be responsible by changes in their position for changes in orientation of a part or organ
sta·tor \'stāt-ər\ *n* [NL, fr. L, one that stands, fr. *status*, pp. of *stare* to stand — more at STAND] : a stationary part in a machine in or about which a rotor revolves
stato·scope \'stat-ə-ˌskōp\ *n* [ISV] **1** : a sensitive aneroid barometer for recording small changes in atmospheric pressure **2** : an instrument for indicating small changes in the altitude of an airplane
¹stat·u·ary \'stach-ə-ˌwer-ē\ *n, pl* **-ar·ies** **1 a** : the art of making statues **b** : a collection of statues **2** : SCULPTOR
²statuary *adj* : of, relating to, or suitable for statues
stat·ue \'stach-(ˌ)ü, 'stach-ə(-w)\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *statua*, fr. *statuere* to set up — more at STATUTE] : a three-dimensional representation usu. of a person, animal, or mythical being that is produced by sculpturing, modeling, or casting
Statue of Liberty **1** : a large copper statue of a woman holding a torch aloft in her right hand located on Liberty Island in New York harbor **2** : an offensive football play in which a back raises his arm as if to throw a pass and the ball is taken from his hand by a teammate who runs by him
stat·u·esque \ˌstach-ə-'wesk\ *adj* : resembling a statue esp. in massive dignity or shapeliness — **stat·u·esque·ly** *adv* — **stat·u·esque·ness** *n*
stat·u·ette \ˌstach-ə-'wet\ *n* : a small statue
stat·ure \'stach-ər\ *n* [ME, fr. OF, fr. L *statura*, fr. *status*, pp. of *stare* to stand — more at STAND] **1** : natural height (as of a person) in an upright position **2** : quality or status gained by growth, development, or achievement ***syn*** see QUALITY
sta·tus \'stāt-əs, 'stat-\ *n, often attrib* [L — more at STATE] **1** : the condition of a person or thing in the eyes of the law **2 a** : position or rank in relation to others ⟨the ~ of a father⟩ **b** : relative

rank in a hierarchy of prestige; *esp* : high prestige **3** : state of affairs : SITUATION ***syn*** see STATE

sta·tus quo \ˌstāt-ə-ˈskwō, ˌstat-\ *n* [L, state in which] : the existing state of affairs ⟨seeks to preserve the *status quo*⟩

stat·ut·able \ˈstach-ət-ə-bəl, ˈstach-ˌüt-\ *adj* : made, regulated, or imposed by or in conformity to statute : STATUTORY ⟨~ tonnage⟩

stat·ute \ˈstach-(ˌ)üt, -ət\ *n* [ME, fr. OF *statut*, fr. LL *statutum* law, regulation, fr. L, neut. of *statutus*, pp. of *statuere* to set up, station, fr. *status* position, condition, state] **1** : a law enacted by the legislative branch of a government **2** : an act of a corporation or of its founder intended as a permanent rule **3** : an international instrument setting up an agency and regulating its scope or authority

statute book *n* : the whole body of legislation of a given jurisdiction whether or not published as a whole — usu. used in pl.

statute mile *n* : MILE 1a

statute of limitations : a statute assigning a certain time after which rights cannot be enforced by legal action or offenses cannot be punished

stat·u·to·ry \ˈstach-ə-ˌtōr-ē, -ˌtȯr-\ *adj* **1** : of or relating to statutes **2** : enacted, created, or regulated by statute ⟨a ~ age limit⟩

statutory offense *n* : a crime created by statute; *esp* : STATUTORY RAPE

statutory rape *n* : sexual intercourse with a female who is below the statutory age of consent

¹staunch \ˈstȯnch, ˈstänch\ *var of* STANCH

²staunch \ˈstȯnch, ˈstänch\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF *estanche*, fem. of *estanc*, fr. OF, fr. *estancher* to stanch] **1 a** : WATERTIGHT, SOUND **b** : strongly built : SUBSTANTIAL **2** : steadfast in loyalty or principle ***syn*** see FAITHFUL — **staunch·ly** *adv* — **staunch·ness** *n*

stau·ro·lite \ˈstȯr-ə-ˌlīt\ *n* [F, fr. Gk *stauros* cross + F *-lite* — more at STEER] : a mineral $(Fe,Mg)_2Al_9Si_4O_{23}(OH)$ consisting of basic iron aluminum silicate in prismatic orthorhombic crystals often twinned so as to resemble a cross — **stau·ro·lit·ic** \ˌstȯr-ə-ˈlit-ik\ *adj*

¹stave \ˈstāv\ *n* [back-formation fr. *staves*] **1** : ¹STAFF 1, 2 **2** : any of the narrow strips of wood or narrow iron plates placed edge to edge to form the sides, covering, or lining of a vessel (as a barrel) or structure **3** : RUNG 3b **4** : STANZA **5** : ¹STAFF 3

²stave *vb* **staved** *or* **stove** \ˈstōv\; **stav·ing** *vt* **1** : to break in the staves of (a cask) **2** : to smash a hole in ⟨~ in a boat⟩; *also* : to crush or break inward ⟨*staved* in several ribs⟩ **3** : to drive or thrust away ~ *vi* **1** : to become stove in — used of a boat or ship **2** : to walk or move rapidly

stave off *vt* : to ward or fend off

staves *pl of* STAFF

staves·acre \ˈstāv-ˌzā-kər\ *n* [by folk etymology fr. ME *staphisagre*, fr. ML *staphis agria*, fr. Gk, lit., wild raisin] : a Eurasian larkspur (*Delphinium staphisagria*); *also* : its violently emetic and cathartic seeds

¹stay \ˈstā\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *stæg*; akin to ON *stag* stay, OE *stēle* steel] **1** : a large strong rope usu. of wire used to support a mast **2** : a guy rope — **in stays** : in process of going about from one tack to another

²stay *vt* **1** : to fasten (as a smokestack) with or as if with stays **2** : to incline (a mast) forward, aft, or to one side by the stays ~ *vi* : to go about : TACK

³stay *vb* **stayed** \ˈstād\ *or* **staid** \ˈstād\; **stay·ing** [ME *stayen*, fr. MF *ester* to stand, stay, fr. L *stare* — more at STAND] *vi* **1** : to stop going forward : PAUSE **2** : to stop doing something : CEASE **3** : to continue in a place or condition : REMAIN **4** : to stand firm **5** : to take up residence : LODGE **6** : to keep even in a contest or rivalry ⟨~ with the leaders⟩ **7** : to call a poker bet without raising **8** *obs* : to be in waiting or attendance ~ *vt* **1** : to wait for : AWAIT **2** : to last out (as a race) **3** : to remain during ⟨~*ed* the whole time⟩ **4 a** : to stop or delay the proceeding or advance of by or as if by interposing an obstacle : HALT ⟨~ an execution⟩ **b** : to check the course of (as a disease) **c** : ALLAY, PACIFY ⟨~*ed* the civil war⟩ **d** : to quiet the hunger of temporarily

syn **1** STAY, REMAIN, WAIT, ABIDE, TARRY, LINGER *shared meaning element* : to continue in a place
2 see DEFER

— **stay put** : to be firmly fixed, attached, or established

⁴stay *n* **1 a** : the action of halting : the state of being stopped **b** : a stopping or suspension of procedure or execution by judicial or executive order **2** *obs* : MODERATION, SELF-CONTROL **3** : a residence or sojourn in a place **4** : capacity for endurance

⁵stay *n* [MF *estaie*, of Gmc origin; akin to OHG *stān* to stand — more at STAND] **1** : one that serves as a prop : SUPPORT **2** : a corset stiffened with bones — usu. used in pl.

⁶stay *vt* **1** : to provide physical or moral support for : SUSTAIN **2** : to fix on something as a foundation

stay–at–home \ˌstā-ət-ˌhōm\ *adj* : remaining habitually in one's residence, locality, or country — **stay–at–home** \ˈstā-\ *n*

stay·er \ˈstā-ər\ *n* : one that stays; *esp* : one that upholds or supports

staying power *n* : capacity for endurance : STAMINA

stay–in strike \ˈstā-ˌin-\ *n* : a slowdown or stoppage of work intended to bring pressure on an employer and concerted by workers who remain in their work place — compare SIT-DOWN

stay·sail \ˈstā-ˌsāl, -səl\ *n* : a fore-and-aft sail hoisted on a stay — see SAIL illustration

STB *abbr* **1** [L *sacrae theologiae baccalaureus*] bachelor of sacred theology **2** [L *scientiae theologicae baccalaureus*] bachelor of theology

stbd *abbr* starboard

std *abbr* standard

STD *abbr* [L *sacrae theologiae doctor*] doctor of sacred theology

Ste *abbr* [F *sainte*] saint (female)

¹stead \ˈsted\ *n* [ME *stede*, fr. OE; akin to OHG *stat* place, *stān* to stand] **1** *obs* : LOCALITY, PLACE **2** : ADVANTAGE, SERVICE — used chiefly in the phrase *to stand one in good stead* **3** : the office, place, or function ordinarily occupied or carried out by someone or something else ⟨acted in his brother's ~⟩

²stead *vt* : to be of avail to : HELP

stead·fast \ˈsted-ˌfast *also* -fəst\ *adj* **1 a** : firmly fixed in place : IMMOVABLE **b** : not subject to change ⟨the ~ doctrine of original sin —Ellen Glasgow⟩ **2** : firm in belief, determination, or adherence : LOYAL ***syn*** see FAITHFUL ***ant*** capricious — **stead·fast·ly** *adv* — **stead·fast·ness** \-ˌfas(t)-nəs, -fəs(t)-\ *n*

stead·ing \ˈsted-ᵊn, ˈstēd-, -iŋ\ *n* [ME *steding*, fr. *stede* place, farm] **1** : a small farm **2** *chiefly Scot* : the service buildings or area of a farm

¹steady \ˈsted-ē\ *adj* **steadi·er; -est** [¹*stead*] **1 a** : firm in position : FIXED **b** : direct or sure in movement : UNFALTERING **c** : keeping nearly upright in a seaway ⟨a ~ ship⟩ **2** : showing little variation or fluctuation : STABLE, UNIFORM ⟨a ~ breeze⟩ ⟨~ prices⟩ **3 a** : not easily moved or upset : RESOLUTE ⟨~ nerves⟩ **b** (1) : constant in feeling, principle, purpose, or attachment (2) : DEPENDABLE **c** : not given to dissipation : SOBER — **steadi·ly** \ˈsted-ᵊl-ē\ *adv* — **steadi·ness** \ˈsted-ē-nəs\ *n*

syn STEADY, EVEN, EQUABLE *shared meaning element* : not varying throughout a course or extent ***ant*** unsteady, nervous, jumpy

²steady *vb* **stead·ied; steady·ing** *vt* : to make or keep steady ~ *vi* : to become steady — **steadi·er** *n*

³steady *adv* **1** : in a steady manner : STEADILY **2** : on the course set — used as a direction to the helmsman of a ship

⁴steady *n, pl* **stead·ies** : one that is steady; *specif* : a boyfriend or girl friend with whom one goes steady

steady state *n* : a state or condition of a system or process (as one of the energy states of an atom) that does not change in time

steady state theory *n* : a theory in astronomy: the universe has always existed and has always been expanding with hydrogen being created continuously — compare BIG BANG THEORY

steak \ˈstāk\ *n* [ME *steke*, fr. ON *steik*; akin to ON *steikja* to roast on a stake, *stik*, stick, stake — more at STICK] **1 a** : a slice of meat cut from a fleshy part of a beef carcass **b** : a similar slice of a specified meat other than beef ⟨ham ~⟩ **c** : a cross-section slice of a large fish ⟨swordfish ~⟩ **2** : ground beef prepared for cooking or for serving in the manner of a steak ⟨hamburg ~⟩

steak house *n* : a restaurant whose specialty is beefsteak

steak knife *n* : a table knife with an often serrated steel blade

¹steal \ˈstē(ə)l\ *vb* **stole** \ˈstōl\; **sto·len** \ˈstō-lən\; **steal·ing** [ME *stelen*, fr. OE *stelan*; akin to OHG *stelan* to steal] *vi* **1** : to take the property of another **2** : to come or go secretly, unobtrusively, gradually, or unexpectedly **3** : to steal a base ~ *vt* **1 a** : to take or appropriate without right or leave and with intent to keep or make use of wrongfully **b** : to take away by force or unjust means **c** : to take secretly or without permission **d** : to appropriate entirely to oneself or beyond one's proper share ⟨~ the show⟩ **2 a** : to move, convey, or introduce secretly : SMUGGLE **b** : to accomplish in a concealed or unobserved manner ⟨~ a visit⟩ **3 a** : to seize, gain, or win by trickery, skill, or daring ⟨a basketball player adept at ~*ing* the ball⟩ **b** *of a base runner* : to gain (a base) by running without the aid of a hit or an error — **steal·er** *n*

syn STEAL, PILFER, FILCH, PURLOIN *shared meaning element* : to take another's possession without right and without his knowledge or permission

— **steal a march** : to gain an advantage unobserved — **steal one's thunder** : to appropriate or adapt for one's own ends something devised by another

²steal *n* **1** : the act or an instance of stealing **2** : a fraudulent or questionable political deal **3** : BARGAIN 2 ⟨it's a ~ at that price⟩

steal·ing *n* : the act of one who steals

stealth \ˈstelth\ *n* [ME *stelthe*; akin to OE *stelan* to steal] **1 a** *archaic* : THEFT **b** *obs* : something stolen **2** : the act or action of proceeding furtively, secretly, or imperceptibly ⟨the state moves by ~ to gather information —Nat Hentoff⟩ **3** : the state of being furtive or unobtrusive ⟨his leopard ~ and grace —James Purdy⟩

stealthy \ˈstel-thē\ *adj* **stealth·i·er; -est** **1** : slow, deliberate, and secret in action or character **2** : intended to escape observation : FURTIVE ***syn*** see SECRET — **stealth·i·ly** \-thə-lē\ *adv* — **stealth·i·ness** \-thē-nəs\ *n*

¹steam \ˈstēm\ *n* [ME *stem*, fr. OE *stēam*; akin to D *stoom* steam] **1** : a vapor arising from a heated substance **2 a** : the invisible vapor into which water is converted when heated to the boiling point **b** : the mist formed by the condensation on cooling of water vapor **3 a** : water vapor kept under pressure so as to supply energy for heating, cooking, or mechanical work; *also* : the power so generated **b** : driving force : POWER ⟨got there under his own ~⟩ **c** : emotional tension ⟨needed to let off a little ~ after exams⟩ **4 a** : STEAMER 2a **b** : travel by or a trip in a steamer

²steam *vi* **1** : to rise or pass off as vapor **2** : to give off steam or vapor **3** : to move or travel by or as if by the agency of steam **4** : to be angry : BOIL ⟨~*ing* over the insult he had received⟩ ~ *vt* **1** : to give out as fumes : EXHALE **2** : to apply steam to; *esp* : to expose to the action of steam (as for softening or cooking)

steam beer *n* : a highly effervescent beer brewed in the western U.S.

steam·boat \ˈstēm-ˌbōt\ *n* : a boat propelled by steam power

steamboat Gothic *n* [fr. its use in homes of retired steamboat captains in imitation of the style of river steamboats] : an elaborately ornamented architectural style used in homes built in the middle 19th century in the Ohio and Mississippi river valleys

steam boiler *n* : a boiler for producing steam

steam chest *n* : the chamber from which steam is distributed to a cylinder of a steam engine

steam engine *n* : an engine driven or worked by steam; *specif* : a reciprocating engine having a piston driven in a closed cylinder by steam

steam·er \'stē-mər\ *n* **1** : a vessel in which articles are subjected to steam **2 a** : a ship propelled by steam **b** : an engine, machine, or vehicle operated or propelled by steam **3** : one that steams **4** : SOFT-SHELL CLAM
steamer rug *n* : a warm covering for the lap and feet esp. of a person sitting on a ship's deck
steamer trunk *n* : a trunk suitable for use in a stateroom of a steamer; *esp* : a shallow trunk that may be stowed beneath a berth
steam fitter *n* : one that installs or repairs equipment (as steam pipes) for heating, ventilating, or refrigerating systems — **steam fitting** *n*
steam heating *n* : a system of heating (as for a building) in which steam generated in a boiler is piped to radiators
steam iron *n* : a pressing iron with a compartment holding water that is converted to steam by the iron's heat and emitted through the soleplate onto the fabric being pressed
[1]steam·roll·er \'stēm-'rō-lər\ *n* **1** : a steam-driven road roller; *broadly* : ROAD ROLLER **2** : a crushing force esp. when ruthlessly applied to overcome opposition
[2]steam·roll·er \-'rō-lər\ *also* **steam·roll** \-ˌrōl\ *vt* **1** : to crush or consolidate with a steamroller **2 a** : to overwhelm by greatly superior force ⟨~ the opposition⟩ **b** : to bring by overwhelming force or pressure ⟨~*ed* the bill through the legislature⟩ ~ *vi* : to move or proceed with irresistible force
steam·ship \'stēm-ˌship\ *n* : STEAMER 2a
steam shovel *n* : a power shovel operated by steam; *broadly* : POWER SHOVEL
steam table *n* : a table having openings to hold containers of cooked food over steam or hot water circulating beneath them
steam turbine *n* : a turbine that is driven by the pressure of steam discharged at high velocity against the turbine vanes
steam up *vt* : to make angry or excited : AROUSE
steamy \'stē-mē\ *adj* **steam·i·er; -est** **1** : consisting of, characterized by, or full of steam **2** : EROTIC ⟨a ~ love scene⟩ — **steam·i·ly** \-mə-lē\ *adv* — **steam·i·ness** \-mē-nəs\ *n*
ste·ap·sin \stē-'ap-sən\ *n* [Gk *stear* fat + E *-psin* (as in *pepsin*)] : the lipase in pancreatic juice
stea·rate \'stē-ə-ˌrāt, 'sti(-ə)r-ˌāt\ *n* : a salt or ester of stearic acid
stea·ric \stē-'ar-ik, 'sti(ə)r-ik\ *adj* [F *stéarique*, fr. Gk *stear*] **1** : of, relating to, obtained from, or resembling stearin or tallow **2** : of or relating to stearic acid ⟨~ esters⟩
stearic acid *n* : a white crystalline fatty acid $C_{18}H_{36}O_2$ obtained by saponifying tallow or other hard fats containing stearin; *also* : a commercial mixture of stearic and palmitic acids
stea·rin \'stē-ə-rən, 'sti(-ə)r-ən\ *n* [F *stéarine*, fr. Gk *stear*] **1** : an ester of glycerol and stearic acid **2** *also* **stea·rine** *same or* 'stē-əˌrēn, 'sti(-ə)r-ˌēn\ : the solid portion of a fat **3** *usu* **stearine** : commercial stearic acid
steat- *or* **steato-** *comb form* [Gk, fr. *steat-*, *stear* — more at STONE] : fat ⟨*steato*lysis⟩
ste·atite \'stē-ə-ˌtīt\ *n* [L *steatitis*, a precious stone, fr. Gk, fr. *steat-*] **1** : a massive talc having a grayish green or brown color : SOAPSTONE **2** : an electrically insulating porcelain composed largely of steatite — **ste·atit·ic** \ˌstē-ə-'tit-ik\ *adj*
ste·atol·y·sis \ˌstē-ə-'täl-ə-səs\ *n* [NL] : breakdown of neutral fats into glycerol and free fatty acids
ste·ato·py·gia \(ˌ)stē-ˌat-ə-'pī-j(ē-)ə\ *n* [NL, fr. *steat-* + Gk *pygē* rump, buttocks; akin to Latvian *pauga* cushion, Gk *physan* to blow — more at FOG] : an excessive development of fat on the buttocks esp. of females that is common among the Hottentots and some Negro peoples — **ste·ato·py·gic** \-'pī-jik\ *or* **ste·ato·py·gous** \-'pī-gəs\ *adj*
ste·at·or·rhea \(ˌ)stē-ˌat-ə-'rē-ə\ *n* [NL] : an excess of fat in the stools
stedfast *var of* STEADFAST
steed \'stēd\ *n* [ME *stede*, fr. OE *stēda* stallion; akin to OE *stōd* stud — more at STUD] : HORSE; *esp* : a spirited horse for state or war
steek \'stēk\ *vb* [ME *steken* to pierce, fix, enclose; akin to OE *stician* to pierce — more at STICK] *chiefly Scot* : SHUT, CLOSE
[1]steel \'stē(ə)l\ *n* [ME *stele*, fr. OE *stȳle*, *stēle*; akin to OHG *stahal* steel, Skt *stakati* he resists] **1** : commercial iron that contains carbon in any amount up to about 1.7 percent as an essential alloying constituent, is malleable when under suitable conditions, and is distinguished from cast iron by its malleability and lower carbon content **2** : an instrument or implement of or characteristically of steel: as **a** : a thrusting or cutting weapon **b** : an instrument (as a fluted round rod with a handle) for sharpening knives **c** : a piece of steel for striking sparks from flint **d** : a strip of steel used for stiffening **3** : a quality (as of mind or spirit) that suggests steel ⟨nerves of ~⟩ **4 a** : the steel manufacturing industry **b** *pl* : shares of stock in steel companies
[2]steel *vt* **1** : to overlay, point, or edge with steel **2 a** : to cause to resemble steel (as in looks or hardness) **b** : to fill with resolution or determination
[3]steel *adj* **1** : made of steel **2** : of or relating to the production of steel **3** : resembling steel
steel band *n* : a band orig. developed in Trinidad and composed of tuned percussion instruments cut out of oil barrels
steel blue *n* **1** : a variable color averaging a grayish blue **2** : any of the blue colors assumed by steel at various temperatures in tempering
steel engraving *n* **1** : the art or process of engraving on steel **2** : an impression taken from an engraved steel plate
steel guitar *n* : HAWAIIAN GUITAR
steel·head \'stē(ə)l-ˌhed\ *n* : a large-sized western No. American silvery anadromous trout usu. held to be a race of the rainbow trout (*Salmo gairdneri*)
steel·ie *also* **steely** \'stē-lē\ *n, pl* **steel·ies** : a steel playing marble
steel-trap \ˌstē(ə)l-ˌtrap\ *adj* : extremely quick and incisive
steel wool *n* : an abrasive material composed of long fine steel shavings and used esp. for scouring and burnishing
steel·work \'stē(ə)l-ˌwərk\ *n* **1** : work in steel **2** *pl but sing or pl in constr* : an establishment where steel is made
steel·work·er \-ˌwər-kər\ *n* : one that works in steel and esp. in the manufacturing of it
steely \'stē-lē\ *adj* **steel·i·er; -est** **1** : made of steel **2** : resembling steel — **steel·i·ness** *n*
steel·yard \'stē(ə)l-ˌyärd, 'stil-yərd\ *n* [prob. fr. [3]*steel* + *yard* (rod)] : a balance in which an object to be weighed is suspended from the shorter arm of a lever and the weight determined by moving a counterpoise along a graduated scale on the longer arm until equilibrium is attained
steen·bok \'stēn-ˌbäk, 'stān-\ *or* **stein·bok** \'stīn-, 'stān-\ *n* [Afrik *steenbok*; akin to OE *stānbucca* ibex; both fr. a prehistoric WGmc compound whose elements are represented respectively by OE *stān* stone and OE *bucca* buck] : any of a genus (*Raphicerus*) of small plains antelopes of southern and eastern Africa
[1]steep \'stēp\ *adj* [ME *stepe*, fr. OE *stēap* high, steep, deep; akin to MHG *stief* steep, ON *staup* lump, knoll, cup] **1** : LOFTY, HIGH — used chiefly of a sea **2** : making a large angle with the plane of the horizon **3 a** : mounting or falling precipitously ⟨the stairs were very ~⟩ **b** : being or characterized by a rapid and intensive decline or increase **4** : difficult to accept, meet, or perform : EXCESSIVE — **steep·ly** *adv* — **steep·ness** *n*
syn STEEP, ABRUPT, PRECIPITOUS, SHEER *shared meaning element* : having an incline approaching the perpendicular
[2]steep *n* : a precipitous place
[3]steep *vb* [ME *stepen*; akin to Sw *stöpa* to steep, and prob. to ON *staup* cup] *vt* **1** : to soak in a liquid at a temperature under the boiling point (as for softening, bleaching, or extracting an essence) **2** : to cover with or plunge into a liquid (as in bathing, rinsing, or soaking) **3** : to saturate with or subject thoroughly to (some strong or pervading influence) ~ *vi* : to undergo the process of soaking in a liquid ***syn*** see SOAK — **steep·er** *n*
[4]steep *n* **1** : the state or process of being steeped **2** : a bath or solution in which something is steeped **3** : a tank in which a material is steeped
steep·en \'stē-pən, 'stēp-ᵊm\ *vb* **steep·ened; steep·en·ing** \'stēp-(ə-)niŋ\ *vt* : to make steeper ~ *vi* : to become steeper
stee·ple \'stē-pəl\ *n* [ME *stepel*, fr. OE *stēpel* tower; akin to OE *stēap* steep] : a tall structure usu. having a small spire at the top and surmounting a church tower; *broadly* : a whole church tower
stee·ple·bush \'stē-pəl-ˌbůsh\ *n* : HARDHACK
stee·ple·chase \-ˌchās\ *n* [fr. the use of church steeples as landmarks to guide the riders] : a race across country by horsemen; *also* : a race over a course obstructed by obstacles (as hedges, walls, or hurdles) — **stee·ple·chas·er** \-ˌchā-sər\ *n*
stee·ple·jack \-ˌjak\ *n* : one whose work is building smokestacks, towers, or steeples or climbing up the outside of such structures to paint and make repairs
[1]steer \'sti(ə)r\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *stēor* young ox; akin to OHG *stior* young ox, Skt *sthavira*, *sthūra* stout, thick, broad] **1** : a male bovine animal castrated before sexual maturity — compare STAG 3 **2** : an ox less than four years old
[2]steer *vb* [ME *steren*, fr. OE *stīeran*; akin to OE *stēor-* steering oar, Gk *stauros* stake, cross, *stylos* pillar, Skt *sthavira*, *sthūra* stout, thick, L *stare* to stand — more at STAND] *vt* **1** : to direct the course of; *esp* : to guide by mechanical means (as a rudder) **2** : to set and hold to (a course) ~ *vi* **1** : to direct the course (as of a ship or automobile) **2** : to pursue a course of action **3** : to be subject to guidance or direction ⟨an automobile that ~*s* well⟩ ***syn*** see GUIDE — **steer·able** \'stir-ə-bəl\ *adj* — **steer·er** *n* — **steer clear** : to keep entirely away — often used with *of*
[3]steer *n* : a hint as to procedure : TIP
[4]steer *dial Brit var of* STIR
steer·age \'sti(ə)r-ij\ *n* **1** : the act or practice of steering; *broadly* : DIRECTION **2** [fr. its orig. being located near the rudder] : a section in a passenger ship for passengers paying the lowest fares and given inferior accommodations
steer·age·way \-ˌwā\ *n* : a rate of motion sufficient to make a ship or boat answer the helm
steering column *n* : the column that encloses the connections to the steering gear of a vehicle (as an automobile)
steering committee *n* : a managing or directing committee; *specif* : a committee that determines the order in which business will be taken up in a U.S. legislative body
steering gear *n* : a mechanism by which something is steered
steering wheel *n* : a handwheel by means of which one steers
steers·man \'sti(ə)rz-mən\ *n* : one who steers : HELMSMAN
[1]steeve \'stēv\ *vt* **steeved; steev·ing** [ME *steven*, prob. fr. Sp *estibar* or Pg *estivar* to pack tightly, fr. L *stipare* to press together — more at STIFF] : to stow esp. in a ship's hold
[2]steeve *vb* **steeved; steev·ing** [origin unknown] *vi, of a bowsprit* : to incline upward at an angle with the horizon or the line of the keel ~ *vt* : to set (a bowsprit) at an upward inclination
[3]steeve *n* : the angle that a bowsprit makes with the horizon or with the keel
stego·saur \'steg-ə-ˌsȯr\ *n* [NL *Stegosauria*, group name, fr. *Stegosaurus*, genus name] : any of a suborder (Stegosauria) of dinosaurs with strongly developed dorsal bony armor
stego·sau·rus \ˌsteg-ə-'sȯr-əs\ *n* [NL, genus name, fr. Gk *stegos* roof + *sauros* lizard — more at THATCH, SAURIA] : any of a genus (*Stegosaurus*) of large armored dinosaurs of the Upper Jurassic rocks of Colorado and Wyoming
stein \'stīn\ *n* [prob. fr. G *steingut* stoneware, fr. *stein* stone + *gut* goods] : an earthenware mug esp. for beer often holding about a pint; *also* : the quantity of beer that a stein holds
ste·la \'stē-lə\ *or* **ste·le** \'stē-lē\ *n, pl* **ste·lae** \-(ˌ)lē\ [L & Gk; L *stela*, fr. Gk *stēlē*; akin to Gk *stellein* to set up — more at STALL] : a usu. carved or inscribed stone slab or pillar used for commemorative purposes
ste·lar \'stē-lər, -ˌlär\ *adj* : of, relating to, or constituting a stele
stele \'stē(ə)l, 'stē-lē\ *n* [NL, fr. Gk *stēlē* stela, pillar] : the usu. cylindrical central vascular portion of the axis of a vascular plant
stel·la \'stel-ə\ *n* [L, star; fr. the star on the reverse] : an experimental coin worth about four dollars that was issued by the U.S. in

1879 and 1880 and was designed to serve as an international coin based on the metric system

stel·lar \'stel-ər\ *adj* [LL *stellaris*, fr. L *stella* star — more at STAR] **1 a** : of or relating to the stars : ASTRAL **b** : composed of stars **2** : of or relating to a theatrical or film star ⟨~ names⟩ **3 a** : PRINCIPAL, LEADING ⟨a ~ role⟩ **b** : OUTSTANDING

stel·late \'stel-ˌāt\ *adj* [L *stella*] : resembling a star (as in shape) ⟨a ~ leaf⟩

stel·li·form \'stel-ə-ˌfȯrm\ *adj* [NL *stelliformis*, fr. L *stella* + *-iformis* -iform] : shaped like a star ⟨a starfish is a ~ echinoderm⟩

stel·li·fy \-ˌfī\ *vt* **-fied; -fy·ing** [ME *stellifien*, fr. MF *stellifier*, fr. ML *stellificare*, fr. L *stella* star] : to turn into a star : place among the stars : GLORIFY



Greek grave stela

[1]stem \'stem\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *stefn*, *stemn* stem of a plant or ship; OE *stefn* akin to OE *stæf* staff; OE *stemn* akin to OE *standan* to stand] **1 a** : the main trunk of a plant; *specif* : a primary plant axis that develops buds and shoots instead of roots **b** : a plant part (as a branch, petiole, or stipe) that supports another (as a leaf or fruit) **c** : a bunch of bananas **2** : the bow or prow of a ship — compare STERN **3** : a line of ancestry : STOCK; *esp* : a fundamental line from which others have arisen **4** : the part of an inflected word that remains unchanged except by phonetic changes or variations throughout an inflection **5** : something held to resemble a plant stem: as **a** : a main or heavy stroke of a letter; *also* : BODY 7 **b** : the short perpendicular line extending from the head of a musical note **c** : the part of a tobacco pipe from the bowl outward **d** : the cylindrical support of a piece of stemware (as a goblet) **e** : a shaft of a watch used for winding — **from stem to stern** : THROUGHOUT, THOROUGHLY

[2]stem *vt* **stemmed; stem·ming** **1** : to make headway against (as an adverse tide, current, or wind) **2** : to check or go counter to (something adverse) — **stem·mer** *n*

[3]stem *vb* **stemmed; stem·ming** *vi* : to have or trace an origin or development ~ *vt* **1** : to remove the stem from **2** : to make stems for (as artificial flowers) ***syn*** see SPRING — **stem·mer** *n*

[4]stem *vb* **stemmed; stem·ming** [ME *stemmen* to dam up, fr. ON *stemma;* akin to OE *stamerian* to stammer] *vt* **1 a** : to stop or dam up (as a river) **b** : to stop or check by or as if by damming; *esp* : STANCH ⟨~ a flow of blood⟩ **2** : to turn (skis) in stemming ~ *vi* **1** : to restrain or check oneself; *also* : to become checked or stanched **2** : to retard oneself by forcing the heel of one ski or of both skis outward from the line of progress

[5]stem *n* **1** : CHECK, DAM **2** : an act or instance of stemming on skis

stem cell *n* : an unspecialized and usu. embryonic cell ancestral to one or more specialized cells (as a blood cell); *esp* : an embryonic cell destined to give rise to germ cells and often identifiable in early cleavage

stem christie *n, often cap C* : a turn in skiing begun by stemming one ski and completed by bringing the skis parallel into a christie

stem·less \'stem-ləs\ *adj* : having no stem : ACAULESCENT

stem·ma \'stem-ə\ *n, pl* **stem·ma·ta** \-ət-ə\ [L, wreath, pedigree (fr. the wreaths placed on ancestral images), fr. Gk, wreath, fr. *stephein* to crown, enwreathe] **1** : a simple eye present in some insects **2** : a scroll (as among the ancient Romans) containing a genealogical list **3** : a tree showing the relationships of the manuscripts of a literary work

[1]stemmed \'stemd\ *adj* : having a stem — usu. used in combination ⟨long-*stemmed* roses⟩

[2]stemmed *adj* : having the stem removed ⟨~ berries⟩

stem·my \'stem-ē\ *adj* **stem·mi·er; -est** : abounding in stems

stem rust *n* **1** : a rust attacking the stem of a plant; *esp* : a destructive disease esp. of wheat caused by a rust fungus (*Puccinia graminis*) which produces reddish brown lesions in the uredostage and black lesions in the teliospore stage and has any of several plants of the barberry family as an alternate host **2** : the fungus causing stem rust

stem·son \'stem(p)-sən\ *n* [*stem* + *-son* (as in *keelson*)] : a piece of curved timber bolted to the stem, keelson, and apron in a ship's frame near the bow

stem turn *n* : a skiing turn executed by stemming an outside ski

stem·ware \'stem-ˌwa(ə)r, -ˌwe(ə)r\ *n* : glass hollow ware mounted on a stem

stem–wind·er \-'wīn-dər\ *n* **1** : a stem-winding watch **2** [fr. the superiority of the stem-winding watch over the older key-wound watch] : one that is first-rate of its kind

stem–wind·ing \-diŋ\ *adj* : wound by an inside mechanism turned by the knurled knob at the outside end of the stem ⟨a ~ watch⟩

Sten \'sten\ *n* [Major *S*heppard, 20th cent. E army officer + Mr. *T*urpin, 20th cent. E civil servant + *En*gland] : a light simple 9-millimeter British machine carbine

sten- *or* **steno-** *comb form* [Gk, fr. *stenos*] : close : narrow : little ⟨*steno*bathic⟩

stench \'stench\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *stenc;* akin to OE *stincan* to emit a smell — more at STINK] : STINK — **stench·ful** \-fəl\ *adj* — **stenchy** \'sten-chē\ *adj*



stencil 1

[1]sten·cil \'sten(t)-səl\ *n* [ME *stanselen* to ornament with sparkling colors, fr. MF *estanceler*, fr. *estancele* spark, fr. (assumed) VL *stincilla*, fr. L *scintilla*] **1** : an impervious material (as a sheet of paper, thin wax, or woven fabric) perforated with lettering or a design through which a substance (as ink, paint, or metallic powder) is forced onto a surface to be printed **2** : something (as a pattern, design, or print) that is produced by means of a stencil **3** : a printing process that uses a stencil

[2]stencil *vt* **sten·ciled** *or* **sten·cilled; sten·cil·ing** *or* **sten·cil·ling** \-s(ə-)liŋ\ **1** : to produce by stencil **2** : to mark or paint with a stencil — **sten·cil·er** *or* **sten·cil·ler** \-s(ə-)lər\ *n*

sten·cil·ize \-sə-ˌlīz\ *vt* **-ized; -iz·ing** **1** : STENCIL 2 **2** : to cut into a stencil

stencil paper *n* : strong tissue paper impregnated or coated (as with paraffin) for stencils

steno \'sten-(ˌ)ō\ *n, pl* **sten·os** **1** : STENOGRAPHER **2** : STENOGRAPHY

steno·bath·ic \ˌsten-ə-'bath-ik\ *adj* [*sten-* + Gk *bathos* depth — more at BATH-] *of a pelagic organism* : living within narrow limits of depth

steno·graph \'sten-ə-ˌgraf\ *vt* [back-formation fr. *stenographer*] : to write or report in stenographic characters

ste·nog·ra·pher \stə-'näg-rə-fər\ *n* **1** : a writer of shorthand **2** : one employed chiefly to take and transcribe dictation

ste·nog·ra·phy \-fē\ *n* **1** : the art or process of writing in shorthand **2** : shorthand esp. written from dictation or oral discourse **3** : the making of shorthand notes and subsequent transcription of them — **steno·graph·ic** \ˌsten-ə-'graf-ik\ *adj* — **steno·graph·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

steno·ha·line \ˌsten-ō-'hā-ˌlīn, -'hal-ˌīn\ *adj* [ISV *sten-* + Gk *halinos* of salt, fr. *hals* salt — more at SALT] *of an aquatic organism* : unable to withstand wide variation in salinity of the surrounding water

ste·noph·a·gous \ste-'näf-ə-gəs\ *adj* [ISV] : eating few kinds of foods ⟨~ insects⟩

ste·nosed \stə-'nōzd, -'nōst\ *adj* [fr. pp. of *stenose* (to affect with stenosis)] : affected with stenosis

ste·no·sis \stə-'nō-səs\ *n, pl* **-no·ses** \-ˌsēz\ [NL, fr. Gk *stenōsis* act of narrowing, fr. *stenoun* to narrow, fr. *stenos* narrow] : a narrowing or constriction of the diameter of a bodily passage or orifice — **ste·not·ic** \-'nät-ik\ *adj*

steno·therm \'sten-ə-ˌthərm\ *n* [back-formation fr. *stenothermal*] : an organism only slightly resistant to change in temperature — **steno·ther·mal** \ˌsten-ə-'thər-məl\ *adj* — **steno·ther·my** \'sten-ə-ˌthər-mē\ *n*

steno·top·ic \ˌsten-ə-'täp-ik\ *adj* [prob. fr. G *stenotop* stenotopic, fr. *sten-* + Gk *topos* place — more at TOPIC] : having a narrow range of adaptability to changes in environmental conditions

steno·type \'sten-ə-ˌtīp\ *n* [*steno-* (as in *stenography*) + *type*] : a small machine somewhat like a typewriter used to record speech by means of phonograms — **stenotype** *vt* — **steno·typ·ist** \-ˌtī-pəst\ *n* — **ste·no·ty·py** \'sten-ə-ˌtī-pē, stə-'nät-ə-pē\ *n*

sten·tor \'sten-ˌtȯ(ə)r, 'stent-ər\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *Stentōr* Stentor, a Greek herald in the Trojan War noted for his loud voice] **1** : a person having a loud voice **2** : any of a widely distributed genus (*Stentor*) of ciliate protozoans that have a trumpet-shaped body attached to the substrate by the smaller end with the mouth at the larger end

sten·to·ri·an \sten-'tōr-ē-ən, -'tȯr-\ *adj* : extremely loud

sten·to·ro·phon·ic \ˌstent-ə-rə-'fän-ik\ *adj* [NL *stentorophonicus*, fr. Gk *Stentōr* Stentor + *-o-* + *phōnē* voice — more at BAN] : speaking or sounding very loud : STENTORIAN

[1]step \'step\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *stæpe;* akin to OHG *stapfo* step, *stampfōn* to stamp] **1** : a rest for the foot in ascending or descending: as **a** : STAIR **b** : a ladder rung **2 a** (1) : an advance or movement made by raising the foot and bringing it down elsewhere (2) : a combination of foot or foot and body movements constituting a unit or a repeated pattern ⟨a dance ~⟩ (3) : manner of walking : STRIDE **b** : FOOTPRINT **c** : the sound of a footstep ⟨heard his ~s in the hall⟩ **3 a** : the space passed over in one step **b** : a short distance ⟨a store located just a ~ from the bank⟩ **c** : the height of one stair **4** *pl* : COURSE, WAY ⟨directed his ~s toward the river⟩ **5 a** : a degree, grade, or rank in a scale **b** : a stage in a process ⟨was guided through every ~ of her career⟩ **6** : a frame on a ship designed to receive an upright shaft; *esp* : a block supporting the heel of a mast **7** : an action, proceeding, or measure often occurring as one in a series ⟨is taking ~s to improve the situation⟩ **8** : a step-like offset or part usu. occurring in a series **9** : a musical scale degree — **step·like** \-ˌlīk\ *adj* — **stepped** \'stept\ *adj* — **in step** **1** : with each foot moving to the same time as the corresponding foot of others or in time to music **2** : in harmony or agreement — **out of step** : not in step

[2]step *vb* **stepped; step·ping** *vi* **1 a** : to move by raising the foot and bringing it down elsewhere or by moving each foot in succession **b** : DANCE **2 a** : to go on foot : WALK **b** *obs* : ADVANCE, PROCEED **c** : to be on one's way : LEAVE — often used with *along* **d** : to move briskly ⟨kept us *stepping*⟩ **3** : to press down with the foot ⟨~ on the brake⟩ **4** : to come as if at a single step ⟨*stepped* into a good job⟩ ~ *vt* **1** : to take by moving the feet in succession ⟨~ three paces⟩ **2 a** : to move (the foot) in any direction : SET ⟨the first man to ~ foot on the moon⟩ **b** : to traverse on foot **3** : to go through the steps of : PERFORM ⟨~ a minuet⟩ **4** : to make erect by fixing the lower end in a step **5** : to measure by steps ⟨~ off 50 yards⟩ **6 a** : to provide with steps **b** : to make steps in ⟨~ a key⟩ **7** : to construct or arrange in or as if in steps ⟨craggy peaks with terraces *stepped* up the sides —*Time*⟩ — **step on it** : to increase one's speed : hurry up

step- *comb form* [ME, fr. OE *stēop-;* akin to OHG *stiof-* step-] : related by virtue of a remarriage (as of a parent) and not by blood ⟨*step*parent⟩ ⟨*step*sister⟩
step-broth-er \'step-ˌbrəth-ər\ *n* : a son of one's stepparent by a former marriage
step–by–step \ˌstep-bə-'step\ *adj* : marked by successive degrees usu. of limited extent : GRADUAL
step-child \'step-ˌchīld\ *n* **1** : a child of one's wife or husband by a former marriage **2** : one that fails to receive proper care or attention ⟨is no longer a ~ in the family of nations —F. R. Smith⟩
step dance *n* : a dance in which steps are emphasized rather than gesture or posture
step-daugh-ter \'step-ˌdȯt-ər\ *n* : a daughter of one's wife or husband by a former marriage
step–down \'step-ˌdaůn\ *n* : a decrease or reduction in size or amount ⟨a ~ in dosage⟩
step down \(')step-'daůn\ *vt* : to lower the voltage of (a current) by means of a transformer ~ *vi* : RETIRE, RESIGN ⟨*stepped down* as chairman of the board —*Current Biog.*⟩
step-fa-ther \'step-ˌfäth-ər\ *n* : the husband of one's mother by a subsequent marriage
steph-a-no-tis \ˌstef-ə-'nōt-əs\ *n* [NL, genus name, fr. Gk *stephanōtis* fit for a crown, fr. *stephanos* crown, fr. *stephein* to crown] : any of a genus (*Stephanotis*) of Old World tropical woody vines of the milkweed family with fragrant white flowers the corolla of which has a cylindrical dilated tube and spreading limb
¹step–in \'step-ˌin\ *adj* : put on by being stepped into
²step–in *n* : an article of step-in clothing: as **a** : a shoe resembling but usu. having a higher vamp than a pump and concealed elastic to adjust the fit **b** : a woman's short panties — usu. used in pl.
step in \(')step-'in\ *vi* **1** : to make a brief informal visit **2** : to intervene in an affair or dispute
step-lad-der \'step-ˌlad-ər\ *n* : a portable set of steps with a hinged frame for steadying
step-moth-er \'-ˌməth-ər\ *n* : the wife of one's father by a subsequent marriage
step out \(')step-'aůt\ *vi* **1** : to go away from a place usu. for a short distance and for a short time ⟨*stepped out* for a smoke⟩ **2** : to go or march at a vigorous or increased pace **3** : DIE **4** : to lead an active social life **5** : to be unfaithful — usu. used with *on* ⟨hadn't been married two months before I knew he was *stepping out* on me —James Jones⟩
step-par-ent \'step-ˌpar-ənt, -ˌper-\ *n* : the husband or wife of one's mother or father by a subsequent marriage
steppe \'step\ *n* [Russ *step'*] **1** : one of the vast usu. level and treeless tracts in southeastern Europe or Asia **2** : arid land with xerophilous vegetation found usu. in regions of extreme temperature range and loess soil
stepped–up \'step-'təp\ *adj* : increased in intensity : ACCELERATED, INTENSIFIED ⟨a ~ advertising program⟩
step-per \'step-ər\ *n* : one (as a fast horse or a dancer) that steps
step-ping–off place \ˌstep-iŋ-'ȯf-\ *n* **1** : the outbound end of a transportation line **2** : a place from which one departs for unknown territory
step-ping–stone \'step-iŋ-ˌstōn\ *n* **1** : a stone on which to step (as in crossing a stream) **2** : a means of progress or advancement
step rocket *n* : a multistage rocket whose sections are fired successively
step-sis-ter \'step-ˌsis-tər\ *n* : a daughter of one's stepparent by a former marriage
step-son \'-ˌsən\ *n* : a son of one's husband or wife by a former marriage
step stool *n* : a stool with one or two steps that often fold away beneath the seat
step turn *n* : a skiing turn executed in a downhill traverse by lifting the upper ski from the ground, placing it in the desired direction, weighting it, and bringing the other ski parallel
step–up \'step-ˌəp\ *n* : an increase or advance in size or amount
step up \(')step-'əp\ *vt* **1** : to increase the voltage of (a current) by means of a transformer **2** : to increase, augment, or advance by one or more steps ⟨*step up* production⟩ ~ *vi* **1** : to come forward **2** : to undergo an increase ⟨business is *stepping up*⟩ **3** : to receive a promotion — **step–up** \'step-ˌəp\ *adj*
step-wise \'-ˌwīz\ *adj* **1** : marked by or proceeding in steps **2** : moving by step to adjacent musical tones
ster *abbr* sterling
-ster \stər\ *n comb form* [ME, fr. OE *-estre* female agent; akin to MD *-ster*] **1** : one that does or handles or operates ⟨spin*ster*⟩ ⟨tap*ster*⟩ ⟨team*ster*⟩ **2** : one that makes or uses ⟨song*ster*⟩ ⟨pun*ster*⟩ **3** : one that is associated with or participates in ⟨game*ster*⟩ ⟨gang*ster*⟩ **4** : one that is ⟨young*ster*⟩
ster-co-ra-ceous \ˌstər-kə-'rā-shəs\ *adj* [L *stercor-, stercus* excrement; akin to MHG *drec* filth] : relating to, being, or containing feces
ster-cu-lia gum \ˌstər-ˌk(y)ül-yə-\ *n* [NL *Sterculia,* genus of trees] : any of several vegetable gums similar to tragacanth and often used as substitutes for it that are obtained from tropical Asiatic trees (genera *Cochlospermum* and *Sterculia* and esp. *S. urens* and *C. gossypium*)
stere \'sti(ə)r, 'ste(ə)r\ *n* [F *stère,* fr. Gk *stereos*] — see METRIC SYSTEM table
stere- *or* **stereo-** *comb form* [NL, fr. Gk, fr. *stereos* solid — more at STARE] **1** : solid : solid body ⟨*stereo*taxis⟩ **2 a** : stereoscopic ⟨*stereo*opsis⟩ **b** : having or dealing with three dimensions of space ⟨*stereo*chemistry⟩
¹ste-reo \'ster-ē-ˌō, 'stir-\ *n, pl* **ste-re-os** **1** : STEREOTYPE **2** [short for *stereoscopy*] **a** : a stereoscopic method, system, or effect **b** : a stereoscopic photograph **3** [by shortening] **a** : stereophonic reproduction **b** : a stereophonic sound system
²stereo *adj* **1 a** : STEREOSCOPIC **b** : STEREOTYPED **2** : STEREOPHONIC
ste-reo-bate \'ster-ē-ə-ˌbāt, 'stir-\ *n* [F or L; F *stéréobate,* fr. L *stereobata* foundation, fr. Gk *stereobatēs,* fr. *stere-* + *bainein* to step, go — more at COME] : a substructure of masonry visible above the ground level
ste-reo-chem-is-try \ˌster-ē-ō-'kem-ə-strē, ˌstir-\ *n* [ISV] **1** : a branch of chemistry that deals with the spatial arrangement of atoms and groups in molecules **2** : the spatial arrangement of atoms and groups within a substance and its relation to the properties of the substance — **ste-reo-chem-i-cal** \-'kem-i-kəl\ *adj*
ste-reo-gram \'ster-ē-ə-ˌgram, 'stir-\ *n* [ISV] **1** : a diagram or picture representing objects with an impression of solidity or relief **2** : STEREOGRAPH
ste-reo-graph \-ˌgraf\ *n* [ISV] : a pair of stereoscopic pictures or a picture composed of two superposed stereoscopic images that gives a three-dimensional effect when viewed with a stereoscope or special spectacles — **stereograph** *vt*
ste-re-og-ra-phy \ˌster-ē-'äg-rə-fē, ˌstir-\ *n* **1** : the art, process, or technique of delineating the forms of solid bodies on a plane **2** : stereoscopic photography — **ste-reo-graph-ic** \ˌster-ē-ə-'graf-ik\ *adj* — **ste-reo-graph-i-cal-ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
ste-reo-iso-mer \ˌster-ē-ō-'ī-sə-mər, ˌstir-\ *n* [ISV] : any of a group of isomers in which atoms are linked in the same order but differ in their spatial arrangement — **ste-reo-iso-mer-ic** \-ˌī-sə-'mer-ik\ *adj* — **ste-reo-isom-er-ism** \-ī-'säm-ə-ˌriz-əm\ *n*
ste-re-ol-o-gy \ˌster-ē-'äl-ə-jē, ˌstir-\ *n* [ISV] : a branch of science concerned with the development and testing of inferences about the three-dimensional properties and reactions of objects or matter ordinarily observed or observable from a two-dimensional point of view — **ste-reo-log-i-cal** \-ē-ə-'läj-i-kəl\ *adj* — **ste-reo-log-i-cal-ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
ste-reo-met-ric \ˌster-ē-ō-'me-trik, ˌstir-\ *adj* [NL *stereometricus,* fr. Gk *stereometrikos,* fr. *stereometria* measurement of solids, fr. *stere-* + *-metria* -metry] : having or representing a simple readily measurable solid form
ste-reo-mi-cro-scope \-'mī-krə-ˌskōp\ *n* : a microscope having a set of optics for each eye to make an object appear in three dimensions — **ste-reo-mi-cro-scop-ic** \-ˌmī-krə-'skäp-ik\ *adj* — **ste-reo-mi-cro-scop-i-cal-ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
ste-reo-phon-ic \ˌster-ē-ə-'fän-ik, ˌstir-\ *adj* [ISV] : giving, relating to, or constituting a three-dimensional effect of auditory perspective — **ste-reo-phon-i-cal-ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **ste-reo-pho-ny** \ˌster-ē-'äf-ə-nē, ˌstir-; 'ster-ē-ə-ˌfō-nē, 'stir-\ *n*
ste-reo-pho-tog-ra-phy \ˌster-ē-ō-fə-'täg-rə-fē, ˌstir-\ *n* [ISV] : stereoscopic photography — **ste-reo-pho-to-graph-ic** \-ˌfōt-ə-'graf-ik\ *adj*
ste-re-op-sis \ˌster-ē-'äp-səs, ˌstir-\ *n* [NL, fr. *stere-* + Gk *opsis* vision — more at OPTIC] : stereoscopic vision
ste-re-op-ti-con \-'äp-ti-kən\ *n* [NL, fr. *stere-* + Gk *optikon,* neut. of *optikos* optic] : a projector for transparent slides often made double so as to produce dissolving views
ste-reo-reg-u-lar \ˌster-ē-ō-'reg-yə-lər, ˌstir-\ *adj* : of, relating to, or involving stereochemical regularity in the repeating units of a polymeric structure — **ste-reo-reg-u-lar-i-ty** \-ˌreg-yə-'lar-ət-ē\ *n*
ste-reo-scope \'ster-ē-ə-ˌskōp, 'stir-\ *n* : an optical instrument with two eyeglasses for helping the observer to combine the images of two pictures taken from points of view a little way apart and thus to get the effect of solidity or depth
ste-reo-scop-ic \ˌster-ē-ə-'skäp-ik, ˌstir-\ *adj* **1** : of or relating to stereoscopy or the stereoscope **2** : characterized by stereoscopy ⟨~ vision⟩ — **ste-reo-scop-i-cal-ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
ste-re-os-co-py \ˌster-ē-'äs-kə-pē, ˌstir-; 'ster-ē-ə-ˌskō-pē, 'stir-\ *n* [ISV] **1** : a science that deals with stereoscopic effects and methods **2** : the seeing of objects in three dimensions
ste-reo-spe-cif-ic \ˌster-ē-ō-spi-'sif-ik, ˌstir-\ *adj* : being, produced by, or involved in a stereochemically specific process ⟨many enzymes act as ~ catalysts in biological reactions⟩ ⟨~ plastics⟩ — **ste-reo-spe-cif-i-cal-ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **ste-reo-spec-i-fic-i-ty** \-ˌspes-ə-'fis-ət-ē\ *n*
ste-reo-tape \'ster-ē-ō-ˌtāp, 'stir-\ *n* : a stereophonic magnetic tape
ste-reo-tax-ic \ˌster-ē-ə-'tak-sik, ˌstir-\ *adj* [NL *stereotaxis* stereotaxic technique (fr. *stere-* + *taxis*) + E *-ic*] : of, relating to, or being a technique or apparatus used in neurological research or surgery for directing the tip of a delicate instrument (as a needle or an electrode) in three planes in attempting to reach a predetermined locus in the nervous system — **ste-reo-tax-i-cal-ly** \-si-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
ste-re-ot-ro-pism \ˌster-ē-'ä-trə-ˌpiz-əm, ˌstir-\ *n* [ISV] : THIGMOTROPISM
¹ste-reo-type \'ster-ē-ə-ˌtīp, 'stir-\ *n* [F *stéréotype,* fr. *stéré-* stere- + *type*] **1** : a plate made by molding a matrix of a printing surface and making from this a cast in type metal **2** : something conforming to a fixed or general pattern; *esp* : a standardized mental picture that is held in common by members of a group and that represents an oversimplified opinion, affective attitude, or uncritical judgment — **ste-reo-typ-i-cal** \ˌster-ē-ə-'tip-i-kəl\ *also* **ste-reo-typ-ic** \-ik\ *adj*
²stereotype *vt* **1** : to make a stereotype from **2 a** : to repeat without variation : make hackneyed **b** : to develop a mental stereotype about — **ste-reo-typ-er** *n*
ste-reo-typed *adj* : lacking originality or individuality
ste-reo-ty-py \'ster-ē-ə-ˌtī-pē, 'stir-\ *n, pl* **-pies** **1** : the art or process of making or of printing from stereotype plates **2** : frequent almost mechanical repetition of the same posture, movement, or form of speech (as in schizophrenia)
ste-ric \'ster-ik, 'sti(ə)r-\ *adj* [ISV *stere-* + *-ic*] : relating to or involving the arrangement of atoms in space : SPATIAL — **ste-ri-cal-ly** \'ster-i-k(ə-)lē, 'stir-\ *adv*
ste-rig-ma \stə-'rig-mə\ *n, pl* **-ma-ta** \-mət-ə\ *also* **-mas** [NL, fr. Gk *stērigma* support, fr. *stērizein* to prop] : one of the slender stalks at the top of the basidium of some fungi from the tips of which the basidiospores are abstricted; *broadly* : a stalk or filament that bears conidia or spermatidia
ster-il-ant \'ster-ə-lənt\ *n* : a sterilizing agent
ster-ile \'ster-əl, *chiefly Brit* -ˌīl\ *adj* [L *sterilis;* akin to Goth *stairo* sterile, Gk *steira*] **1 a** : failing to produce or incapable of producing offspring ⟨a ~ hybrid⟩ **b** : failing to bear or incapable of

producing fruit or spores **c** : incapable of germinating ⟨~ spores⟩ **d** *of a flower* : neither perfect nor pistillate **2 a** : unproductive of vegetation ⟨a ~ arid region⟩ **b** : deficient in ideas or originality **c** : free from living organisms and esp. microorganisms — **ster·ile·ly** \-əl-(l)ē\ *adv* — **ste·ril·i·ty** \stə-'ril-ət-ē\ *n*

syn STERILE, BARREN, IMPOTENT, UNFRUITFUL, INFERTILE *shared meaning element* : lacking the power to bear offspring or produce fruit ***ant*** fertile

ster·il·ize \'ster-ə-ˌlīz\ *vt* **-ized; -iz·ing** : to make sterile: as **a** : to cause (land) to become unfruitful **b** (1) : to deprive of the power of reproducing **b** (2) : to make incapable of germination **c** : to make powerless or useless usu. by restraining from a normal function, relation, or participation ⟨capital *sterilized* by hoarders⟩ **d** : to free from living microorganisms — **ster·il·iza·tion** \ˌster-ə-lə-'zā-shən\ *n* — **ster·il·iz·er** \'ster-ə-ˌlī-zər\ *n*

ster·let \'stər-lət\ *n* [Russ *sterlyad'*] : a small sturgeon (*Acipenser ruthenus*) that is found in the Caspian sea and its rivers and is a source of caviar

¹ster·ling \'stər-liŋ\ *n* [ME, silver penny] **1** : British money **2** : sterling silver or articles of it

²sterling *adj* **1 a** : of, relating to, or calculated in terms of British sterling **b** : payable in sterling **2 a** *of silver* : having a fixed standard of purity usu. defined legally as represented by an alloy of 925 parts of silver with 75 parts of copper **b** : made of sterling silver **3** : conforming to the highest standard ⟨~ character⟩ — **ster·ling·ly** \-liŋ-lē\ *adv* — **ster·ling·ness** *n*

sterling area *n* : a group of countries whose currencies are tied to the British pound sterling — called also *sterling bloc*

¹stern \'stərn\ *adj* [ME *sterne*, fr. OE *styrne*; akin to OE *starian* to stare] **1 a** : having a definite hardness or severity of nature or manner : AUSTERE **b** : expressive of severe displeasure : HARSH **2** : forbidding or gloomy in appearance **3** : INEXORABLE ⟨~ necessity⟩ **4** : STURDY, STOUT ⟨a ~ resolve⟩ ***syn*** see SEVERE ***ant*** soft, lenient — **stern·ly** *adv* — **stern·ness** \'stərn-nəs\ *n*

²stern *n* [ME, rudder, prob. of Scand origin; akin to ON *stjōrn* act of steering; akin to OE *stīeran* to steer — more at STEER] **1** : the rear end of a boat **2** : a hinder or rear part : the last or latter part

ster·nal \'stərn-ᵊl\ *adj* : of or relating to the sternum

stern chase *n* [*²stern*] : a chase in which a pursuing ship follows in the path of another

stern chaser *n* : a gun so placed as to be able to fire astern at a pursuing ship

stern·fore·most \'stərn-'fō(ə)r-ˌmōst, -'fȯ(ə)r-\ *adv* : with the stern in advance : BACKWARD

ster·nite \'stər-ˌnīt\ *n* [ISV, fr. Gk *sternon* chest] : the ventral part or shield of a somite of an arthropod; *esp* : the chitinous plate that forms the ventral surface of an abdominal or occas. a thoracic segment of an insect

stern·most \'stərn-ˌmōst\ *adj* : farthest astern

ster·no·cos·tal \ˌstər-nō-'käs-tᵊl\ *adj* [NL *sternum* + E *-o-* + *costal*] : of, relating to, or situated between the sternum and ribs

stern·post \'stərn-ˌpōst\ *n* : the principal member at the stern of a ship extending from keel to deck

stern sheets *n pl* : the space in the stern of an open boat not occupied by the thwarts

stern·son \'stərn(t)-sən\ *n* [*stern* + keel*son*] : the end of a keelson to which the sternpost is bolted

ster·num \'stər-nəm\ *n, pl* **sternums** *or* **ster·na** \-nə\ [NL, fr. Gk *sternon* chest, breastbone; akin to OHG *stirna* forehead, L *sternere* to spread out — more at STREW] : a compound ventral bone or cartilage connecting the ribs or the shoulder girdle or both — called also *breastbone*

ster·nu·ta·tion \ˌstər-nyə-'tā-shən\ *n* [L *sternutation-*, *sternutatio*, fr. *sternutatus*, pp. of *sternutare* to sneeze, fr. *sternutus*, pp. of *sternuere* to sneeze; akin to Gk *ptarnysthai* to sneeze] : the act, fact, or noise of sneezing — **ster·nu·ta·to·ry** \ˌstər-'n(y)üt-ə-ˌtōr-ē, -ˌtȯr-\ *adj*

ster·nu·ta·tor \'stər-nyə-ˌtāt-ər\ *n* : an agent that induces sneezing and often lacrimation and vomiting

stern·ward \'stərn-wərd\ *or* **stern·wards** \-wərdz\ *adv* : AFT, ASTERN

stern·way \'stərn-ˌwā\ *n* : movement of a ship backward or with stern foremost

stern-wheel·er \-'hwē-lər, -'wē-\ *n* : a paddle-wheel steamer having a stern wheel instead of side wheels

ste·roid \'sti(ə)r-ˌȯid *also* 'ste(ə)r-\ *n* [ISV *sterol* + *-oid*] : any of numerous compounds containing the carbon ring system of the sterols and including the sterols and various hormones and glycosides — **steroid** *or* **ste·roi·dal** \stə-'rȯid-ᵊl\ *adj*

ste·roido·gen·e·sis \stə-ˌrȯid-ə-'jen-ə-səs; ˌstir-ˌȯid- *also* ˌster-\ *n* [NL] : synthesis of steroids

ste·roido·gen·ic \-'jen-ik\ *adj* : of, relating to, or involved in steroidogenesis ⟨~ cells⟩ ⟨~ response of ovarian tissue⟩

ste·rol \'sti(ə)r-ˌōl, 'ste(ə)r-, -ˌōl\ *n* [ISV, fr. *-sterol* (as in *cholesterol*)] : any of various solid cyclic alcohols (as cholesterol) widely distributed in animal and plant lipids

ster·tor \'stərt-ər, 'stər-ˌtȯ(ə)r\ *n* [NL, fr. L *stertere* to snore; akin to *sternuere* to sneeze] : the act or fact of producing a snoring sound : SNORING

ster·to·rous \'stərt-ə-rəs\ *adj* : characterized by a harsh snoring or gasping sound — **ster·to·rous·ly** *adv*

stet \'stet\ *vt* **stet·ted; stet·ting** [L, let it stand, fr. *stare* to stand — more at STAND] : to direct retention of (a word or passage previously ordered to be deleted or omitted from a manuscript or printer's proof) by annotating usu. with the word *stet*

stetho·scope \'steth-ə-ˌskōp, *also* 'steth\ *n* [F *stéthoscope*, fr. Gk *stēthos* chest + F *-scope*] : an instrument used to detect and study sounds produced in the body — **stetho·scop·ic** \ˌsteth-ə-'skäp-ik *also* ˌsteth\ *adj* — **stetho·scop·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

Stet·son \'stet-sən\ *trademark* — used for a broad-brimmed high-crowned felt hat

¹ste·ve·dore \'stēv(-ə)-ˌdō(ə)r, -ˌdȯ(ə)r\ *n* [Sp *estibador*, fr. *estibar* to pack, fr. L *stipare* to press together — more at STIFF] : one who works at or is responsible for loading and unloading ships in port

²stevedore *vb* **-dored; -dor·ing** *vt* : to handle (cargo) as a stevedore; *also* : to load or unload the cargo of (a ship) in port ~ *vi* : to work as a stevedore

stevedore knot *n* : a stopper knot similar to a figure eight knot but with one or more extra turns — called also *stevedore's knot*; see KNOT illustration

Ste·ven·graph \'stē-vən-ˌgraf\ *or* **Ste·vens·graph** \-vənz-\ *n* [Thomas *Stevens*, 19th cent. Am weaver] : a woven silk picture

¹stew \'st(y)ü\ *n* [ME *stu*, fr. MF *estuve*, fr. (assumed) VL *extufa*, fr. *extufare* to stew] **1** *obs* : a utensil used for boiling **2** : a hot bath **3 a** : BROTHEL **b** : a district of brothels — usu. used in pl. **4 a** : fish or meat usu. with vegetables prepared by stewing **b** (1) : a heterogeneous mixture (2) : a state of heat and congestion **5** : a state of excitement, worry, or confusion

²stew *vt* : to boil slowly or with simmering heat ~ *vi* **1** : to become cooked by stewing **2** : to swelter esp. from confinement in a hot or stuffy atmosphere **3** : to become agitated or worried

¹stew·ard \'st(y)ü-ərd, 'st(y)ù(-ə)rd\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *stīweard*, fr. *stī* hall, sty + *weard* ward] **1** : one employed in a large household or estate to manage domestic concerns (as the supervision of servants, collection of rents, and keeping of accounts) **2** : SHOP STEWARD **3** : a fiscal agent **4 a** : an employee on a ship, airplane, bus, or train who manages the provisioning of food and attends passengers **b** : one appointed to supervise the provision and distribution of food and drink in an institution **5** : one who actively directs affairs : MANAGER

²steward *vt* : to act as a steward for : MANAGE ~ *vi* : to perform the duties of a steward

stew·ard·ess \-əs\ *n* : a woman who performs the duties of a steward; *esp* : one who attends passengers (as on an airplane)

stew·ard·ship \-ˌship\ *n* : the office, duties, and obligations of a steward; *also* : the individual's responsibility to manage his life and property with proper regard to the rights of others

stewed \'st(y)üd\ *adj* : DRUNK

stew·pan \'st(y)ü-ˌpan\ *n* : a saucepan used for stewing

stg *abbr* sterling

stge *abbr* storage

sthen·ic \'sthen-ik\ *adj* [NL *sthenicus*, fr. Gk *sthenos* strength] **1** : notably or excessively vigorous or energetic ⟨~ fever⟩ ⟨~ emotions⟩ **2** : PYKNIC

stib·ine \'stib-ˌēn\ *n* [ISV, fr. L *stibium* antimony] : a colorless poisonous flammable gas SbH_3 of antimony and hydrogen with a disagreeable odor

stib·nite \'stib-ˌnīt\ *n* [alter. of obs. E *stibine* stibnite, fr. F, fr. L *stibium* antimony, fr. Gk *stibi*, fr. Egypt *stm*] : a mineral Sb_2S_3 consisting of antimony trisulfide that occurs in orthorhombic lead-gray crystals of metallic luster and that is also massive in form

sticho·myth·ia \ˌstik-ə-'mith-ē-ə\ *also* **sti·chom·y·thy** \stik-'äm-ə-thē\ *n* [Gk *stichomythia*, fr. *stichomythein* to speak dialogue in alternate lines, fr. *stichos* row, verse + *mythos* speech, myth; akin to Gk *steichein* to walk, go — more at STAIR] : dialogue esp. of altercation or dispute delivered by two actors in alternating lines (as in classical Greek drama) — **sticho·myth·ic** \ˌstik-ə-'mith-ik\ *adj*

¹stick \'stik\ *n* [ME *stik*, fr. OE *sticca*; akin to ON *stik* stick, OE *stician* to stick] **1** : a woody piece or part of a tree or shrub: as **a** : a usu. dry or dead severed shoot, twig, or slender branch **b** : a cut or broken branch or piece of wood gathered for fuel or construction material **2 a** : a long slender piece of wood: as (1) : a club or staff used as a weapon (2) : WALKING STICK **b** : an implement used for striking or propelling an object in a game **c** : something used to force compliance **d** : a baton symbolizing an office or dignity; *also* : a person entitled to bear such a baton **3** : a piece of the materials composing something (as a building) **4 a** : any of various implements resembling a stick in shape, origin, or use: as (1) : COMPOSING STICK (2) : an airplane lever operating the elevators and ailerons (3) : the gearshift lever of an automobile **b** : STICKFUL **5** : something prepared (as by cutting, molding, or rolling) in a relatively long and slender often cylindrical form ⟨a ~ of candy⟩ ⟨a ~ of butter⟩ **6 a** : PERSON, CHAP **b** : a dull, inert, stiff, or spiritless person **7** *pl* : wooded or rural districts **8** : an herbaceous stalk resembling a woody stick ⟨celery ~*s*⟩ **9** : MAST; *also* : YARD **10** : a piece of furniture **11 a** : a number of bombs arranged for release from a bombing plane in a series across a target **b** : a number of parachutists dropping together **12** *slang* : a marijuana cigarette **13** *slang* : SURFBOARD

²stick *vt* **1** : to arrange (lumber) in stacks **2** : to provide a stick as a support for **3** : to set (type) in a composing stick : COMPOSE

³stick *vb* **stuck** \'stək\; **stick·ing** [ME *stikken*, fr. OE *stician*; akin to OHG *sticken* to prick, L *instigare* to urge on, goad, Gk *stizein* to tattoo] *vt* **1 a** : to pierce with something pointed : STAB **b** : to kill by piercing **2** : to push or thrust so as or as if to pierce **3 a** : to fasten by thrusting in **b** : IMPALE **c** : PUSH, THRUST **4** : to put or set in a specified place or position **5** : to furnish with things fastened on by or as if by piercing **6** : to attach by or as if by causing to adhere to a surface **7 a** : to compel to pay esp. by trickery **b** : OVERCHARGE **8 a** : to halt the movement or action of **b** : BAFFLE, STUMP **9 a** : CHEAT, DEFRAUD **b** : to saddle with something disadvantageous or disagreeable ~ *vi* **1** : to hold to something firmly by or as if by adhesion: **a** : to become fixed in place by means of a pointed end **b** : to become fast by or as if by miring or by gluing or plastering ⟨*stuck* in the mud⟩ **2 a** : to remain in a place, situation, or environment **b** : to hold fast or adhere resolutely : CLING **c** : to remain effective **d** : to keep close in a chase or competition **3** : to become blocked, wedged,

or jammed **4 a** : BALK, SCRUPLE **b** : to find oneself baffled **c** : to be unable to proceed **5** : PROJECT, PROTRUDE
syn STICK, ADHERE, COHERE, CLING, CLEAVE *shared meaning element* : to become closely attached
— **stick one's neck out** : to make oneself vulnerable unnecessarily (as by taking another's part) — **stick to one's knitting** : to mind one's own business — **stuck on** : infatuated with

⁴stick *n* **1** : a thrust with a pointed instrument : STAB **2 a** : DELAY, STOP **b** : IMPEDIMENT **3** : adhesive quality or substance

stick around *vi* : to stay or wait about : LINGER

stick·ball \'stik-ˌbȯl\ *n* : baseball adapted for play in streets or small areas and using a broomstick and a lightweight ball

stick·er \'stik-ər\ *n* **1** : one that pierces with a point **2 a** : one that adheres or causes adhesion **b** : a slip of paper with gummed back that when moistened adheres to a surface

stick figure *n* : a drawing showing the head of a human being or animal as a circle and all other parts as straight lines

stick·ful \'stik-ˌfu̇l\ *n* : as much set type as fills a composing stick

stick·han·dler \-ˌhan-(d)lər, -dᵊl-ər\ *n* : a lacrosse or hockey player

sticking plaster *n* : an adhesive plaster esp. for closing superficial wounds

sticking point *n* : an item resulting or likely to result in an impasse

stick insect *n* : any of various usu. wingless insects (esp. family Phasmatidae) with a long round body resembling a stick

stick–in–the–mud \'stik-ən-thə-ˌməd\ *n* : one who is slow, old-fashioned, or unprogressive; *esp* : an old fogy

stick·it \'stik-ət\ *adj* [Sc, fr. pp. of E ³*stick*] **1** *Scot* : UNFINISHED **2** *chiefly Scot* : having failed esp. in an intended profession

stick·le \'stik-əl\ *vi* **stick·led; stick·ling** \-(ə-)liŋ\ [ME *stightlen*, freq. of *stighten* to arrange, fr. OE *stihtan;* akin to OE *stǣger* stair — more at STAIR] **1** : to contend esp. stubbornly and usu. on insufficient grounds **2** : to feel scruples : SCRUPLE

stick·le·back \'stik-əl-ˌbak\ *n* [ME *stykylbak*, fr. OE *sticel* goad + ME *bak* back; akin to OE *stician* to stick] : any of numerous small scaleless fishes (family Gasterosteidae) having two or more free spines in front of the dorsal fin

stick·ler \'stik-(ə-)lər\ *n* **1** : one who insists on exactness or completeness in the observance of something ⟨a ~ for obedience⟩ **2** : something that baffles or puzzles : POSER, STICKER

stick·man \'stik-ˌman, -mən\ *n* : one who handles a stick: as **a** : one who supervises the play at a dice table, calls the decisions, and retrieves the dice **b** : a player in any of various games (as hockey or lacrosse) played with a stick

stick out *vi* **1 a** : to jut out : PROJECT **b** : to be prominent or conspicuous **2** : to be persistent (as in a demand or an opinion) ~ *vt* : to endure to the end — often used with *it*

stick·pin \'stik-ˌpin\ *n* : an ornamental pin; *esp* : one worn in a necktie

stick·seed \-ˌsēd\ *n* : any of a genus (*Lappula*) of weedy herbs of the borage family with bristly adhesive fruit

stick shift *n* : a manually operated gearshift mounted on the steering column or floor of an automobile

stick·tight \'stik-ˌtīt\ *n* : BUR MARIGOLD

stick–to–it·ive·ness \stik-'tü-ət-iv-nəs\ *n* [fr. the phrase *stick to it*] : dogged perseverance : TENACITY

stick·um \'stik-əm\ *n* [³*stick* + *-um* (prob. alter. of *them*)] : a substance that adheres or causes adhesion

stick·up \'stik-ˌəp\ *n* : a robbery at the point of a gun : HOLDUP

stick up \(')stik-'əp\ *vi* : to stand upright or on end : PROTRUDE ~ *vt* : to rob at the point of a gun — **stick up for** : to speak or act in defense of : SUPPORT

stick·weed \'stik-ˌwēd\ *n* : any of several plants (as a beggar's-lice) with adhesive seeds

stick·work \-ˌwərk\ *n* **1** : the use (as in hockey) of one's stick in offensive and defensive techniques **2** : batting ability in baseball

sticky \'stik-ē\ *adj* **stick·i·er; -est** **1 a** : ADHESIVE **b** (1) : VISCOUS, GLUEY (2) : coated with a sticky substance **2** : HUMID, MUGGY; *also* : CLAMMY **3** : tending to stick **4 a** : DISAGREEABLE, UNPLEASANT **b** : AWKWARD, STIFF **c** : DIFFICULT, PROBLEMATIC — **stick·i·ly** \'stik-ə-lē\ *adv* — **stick·i·ness** \'stik-ē-nəs\ *n*

¹stiff \'stif\ *adj* [ME *stif*, fr. OE *stīf;* akin to MD *stijf* stiff, L *stipare* to press together, Gk *steibein* to tread on] **1 a** : not easily bent : RIGID **b** : lacking in suppleness ⟨~ muscles⟩ **c** : impeded in movement — used of a mechanism **d** : DRUNK **e** : incapable of normal alert response ⟨scared ~⟩ **2 a** : FIRM, RESOLUTE **b** : STUBBORN, UNYIELDING **c** : PROUD **d** (1) : marked by reserve or decorum (2) : lacking in ease or grace : STILTED **3** : hard fought : PUGNACIOUS, SHARP **4 a** (1) : exerting great force ⟨a ~ wind⟩ (2) : FORCEFUL, VIGOROUS **b** : POTENT ⟨a ~ dose⟩ **5** : of a dense or glutinous consistency : THICK **6 a** : HARSH, SEVERE ⟨a ~ penalty⟩ **b** : ARDUOUS, RUGGED ⟨~ terrain⟩ **7** : not easily heeled over by an external force (as the wind) ⟨a ~ ship⟩ **8** : EXPENSIVE, STEEP ⟨paid a ~ price⟩ — **stiff·ly** *adv*
syn STIFF, RIGID, INFLEXIBLE, TENSE, STARK *shared meaning element* : difficult or impossible to bend or enliven *ant* relaxed, supple

²stiff *adv* : in a stiff manner : STIFFLY

³stiff *n* **1** : CORPSE **2 a** : BUM, TRAMP **b** : HAND, LABORER

stiff–arm \'stif-ˌärm\ *vb or n* : STRAIGHT-ARM

stiff·en \'stif-ən\ *vb* **stiff·ened; stiff·en·ing** \-(ə-)niŋ\ : to make or become stiff or stiffer — **stiff·en·er** \-(ə-)nər\ *n*

stiff·ish \'stif-ish\ *adj* : moderately stiff

stiff–necked \-'nekt\ *adj* **1** : HAUGHTY, STUBBORN **2** : STILTED

stiff·ness \-nəs\ *n* : the quality or state of being stiff

¹sti·fle \'stī-fəl\ *n* [ME] : the joint next above the hock in the hind leg of a quadruped (as a horse) corresponding to the knee in man — see HORSE illustration

²stifle *vb* **sti·fled; sti·fling** \-f(ə-)liŋ\ [alter. of ME *stuflen*] *vt* **1 a** : to kill by depriving of oxygen : SUFFOCATE **b** (1) : SMOTHER (2) : MUFFLE **2 a** : to cut off (as the voice or breath) **b** : to withhold from circulation or expression : REPRESS ⟨~ his anger⟩ **c** : DETER, DISCOURAGE ~ *vi* : to become suffocated by or as if by lack of oxygen : SMOTHER — **sti·fler** \-f(ə-)lər\ *n* — **sti·fling·ly** \-f(ə-)liŋ-lē\ *adv*

stig·ma \'stig-mə\ *n, pl* **stig·ma·ta** \stig-'mät-ə, 'stig-mət-ə\ *or* **stigmas** [L *stigmat-, stigma* mark, brand, fr. Gk, fr. *stizein* to tattoo — more at STICK] **1 a** *archaic* : a scar left by a hot iron : BRAND **b** : a mark of shame or discredit : STAIN **c** : an identifying mark or characteristic; *specif* : a specific diagnostic sign of a disease **2 a** *stigmata pl* : bodily marks or pains resembling the wounds of the crucified Christ and sometimes accompanying religious ecstasy **b** : PETECHIA **3 a** : a small spot, scar, or opening on a plant or animal **b** : the part of the pistil of a flower which receives the pollen grains and on which they germinate —see FLOWER illustration — **stig·mal** \'stig-məl\ *adj*

stig·mas·ter·ol \stig-'mas-tə-ˌrōl, -ˌrōl\ *n* [NL Physo*stigma* (genus including the Calabar bean) + ISV *sterol*] : a crystalline sterol $C_{29}H_{48}O$ obtained esp. from the oils of Calabar beans and soybeans

¹stig·mat·ic \stig-'mat-ik\ *adj* **1** : having or conveying a social stigma **2** : of or relating to supernatural stigmata **3** : ANASTIGMATIC — used esp. of a bundle of light rays intersecting at a single point — **stig·mat·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

²stigmatic *n* : one marked with stigmata

stig·ma·tism \'stig-mə-ˌtiz-əm\ *n* [L *stigmat-, stigma*] : the condition of an optical system (as a lens) in which rays of light from a single point converge in a single focal point — compare ASTIGMATISM

stig·ma·tist \'stig-mət-əst, stig-'mät-\ *n* : STIGMATIC

stig·ma·tize \'stig-mə-ˌtīz\ *vt* **-tized; -tiz·ing** **1 a** *archaic* : BRAND **b** : to describe or identify in opprobrious terms **2** : to mark with stigmata — **stig·ma·ti·za·tion** \ˌstig-mət-ə-'zā-shən\ *n*

stil·bene \'stil-ˌbēn\ *n* [ISV, fr. Gk *stilbein* to glitter] : an aromatic hydrocarbon $C_{14}H_{12}$ used as a phosphor and in making dyes

stil·bes·trol \stil-'bes-ˌtrȯl, -ˌtrōl\ *n* [*stilb*ene + *estr*us + *-ol*] **1** : a crystalline synthetic derivative $C_{14}H_{12}O_2$ of stilbene that differs from the related diethylstilbestrol in lack of the ethyl groups and in possession of but slight estrogenic activity **2** : DIETHYLSTILBESTROL

stil·bite \'stil-ˌbīt\ *n* [F, fr. Gk *stilbein*] : a mineral $NaCa_2Al_5Si_{13}O_{36}.14H_2O$ consisting of a hydrous silicate of aluminum, calcium, and sodium and often occurring in sheaflike aggregations of crystals

¹stile \'stī(ə)l\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *stigel;* akin to OE *stǣger* stair — more at STAIR] : a step or set of steps for passing over a fence or wall; *also* : TURNSTILE

²stile *n* [prob. fr. D *stijl* post] : one of the vertical members in a frame or panel into which the secondary members are fitted

sti·let·to \stə-'let-(ˌ)ō\ *n, pl* **-tos** *or* **-toes** [It, dim. of *stilo* stylus, dagger, fr. L *stilus* stylus — more at STYLE] **1** : a slender dagger with a blade thick in proportion to its breadth **2** : a pointed instrument for piercing holes for eyelets or embroidery

¹still \'stil\ *adj* [ME *stille*, fr. OE; akin to OHG *stilli* still, OE *steall* stall] **1 a** : devoid of or abstaining from motion **b** *archaic* : SEDENTARY **c** : not carbonated ⟨~ wine⟩ **d** (1) : of, relating to, or being a static photograph as contrasted with a motion picture (2) : engaged in taking still photographs ⟨a ~ photographer⟩ **2 a** : uttering no sound : QUIET **b** : SUBDUED, MUTED **3 a** : CALM, TRANQUIL **b** : free from noise or turbulence — **still·ness** *n*

²still *vt* **1 a** : ALLAY, CALM **b** : to put an end to : SETTLE **2** : to arrest the motion of **3** : SILENCE ~ *vi* : to become motionless or silent : QUIET

³still *adv* **1** : without motion ⟨sit ~⟩ **2** *archaic* **a** : ALWAYS, CONTINUALLY **b** : in a progressive manner : INCREASINGLY **3** — used as a function word to indicate the continuance of an action or condition ⟨~ lived there⟩ ⟨drink it while it's ~ hot⟩ ⟨will ~ be rich⟩ **4** : in spite of that : NEVERTHELESS ⟨those who take the greatest care ~ make mistakes⟩ **5 a** : EVEN 2c ⟨a ~ more difficult problem⟩ **b** : YET 1a

⁴still *n* **1** : QUIET, SILENCE **2** : a static photograph; *specif* : a photograph of actors or scenes of a motion picture for publicity or documentary purposes

⁵still *vb* [ME *stillen*, short for *distillen* to distill] : DISTILL

⁶still *n* **1** : DISTILLERY **2** : apparatus used in distillation comprising either the chamber in which the vaporization is carried out or the entire equipment

still alarm *n* : a fire alarm transmitted (as by telephone call) without sounding the signal apparatus

still·birth \'stil-ˌbərth, -'bərth\ *n* : the birth of a dead fetus

still·born \-'bȯ(ə)rn\ *adj* **1** : dead at birth — compare LIVE-BORN **2** : failing from the start : ABORTIVE — **stillborn** \-ˌbȯ(ə)rn\ *n*

still–hunt \-ˌhənt\ *vi* : to ambush or stalk a quarry; *esp* : to pursue game noiselessly usu. without a dog ~ *vt* : to lie in wait for : approach by stealth

still hunt *n* : a quiet pursuing or ambushing of game

still life *n, pl* **still lifes** **1** : a picture consisting predominantly of inanimate objects **2** : the category of graphic arts concerned with inanimate subject matter

still·man \'stil-mən\ *n* **1** : one who owns or operates a still **2** : one who tends distillation equipment (as in an oil refinery)

still·room \'stil-ˌrüm, -ˌru̇m\ *n* [⁶*still*] *Brit* : a room connected with the kitchen where liqueurs, preserves, and cakes are kept and beverages (as tea) are prepared

still water *n* : a part of a stream where the gradient is so gentle that no current is visible

¹stil·ly \'stil-lē\ *adv* : in a calm manner : QUIETLY

²stilly \'stil-ē\ *adj* [⁴*still* + *-y*] : STILL, QUIET

¹stilt \'stilt\ *n* [ME *stilte;* akin to OHG *stelza* stilt, OE *steall* position, stall — more at STALL] **1 a** : one of two poles each with a rest or strap for the foot used to elevate the wearer above the ground in walking **b** : a pile or post serving as one of the supports of a structure above ground or water level **2** *pl also* **stilt** : any of various notably long-legged 3-toed limicoline birds (genera *Himantopus* and *Cladorhynchus*) that are related to the avocets, frequent inland ponds and marshes, and nest in small colonies

²stilt *vt* : to raise on or as if on stilts

stilt·ed \'stil-təd\ *adj* **1** : having the springing line higher than the apparent level of the impost ⟨a ~ arch⟩ **2 a** : POMPOUS, LOFTY **b** : FORMAL, STIFF — **stilt·ed·ly** *adv* — **stilt·ed·ness** *n*

Stil·ton \'stilt-ᵊn\ *n* [*Stilton*, Huntingdonshire, England] : a blue-veined cheese with wrinkled rind made of whole cows' milk enriched with cream

stime \'stīm\ *n* [ME (northern dial.)] *chiefly Scot & Irish* : GLIMMER; *also* : GLIMPSE

stim·u·lant \'stim-yə-lənt\ *n* **1** : an agent (as a drug) that produces a temporary increase of the functional activity or efficiency of an organism or any of its parts **2** : STIMULUS **3** : an alcoholic beverage — not used technically — **stimulant** *adj*

stim·u·late \-ˌlāt\ *vb* **-lat·ed; -lat·ing** [L *stimulatus*, pp. of *stimulare*, fr. *stimulus* goad; akin to L *stilus* stake, stylus — more at STYLE] *vt* **1** : to excite to activity or growth or to greater activity : ANIMATE, AROUSE **2 a** : to function as a physiological stimulus to **b** : to arouse or affect by a stimulant (as a drug) ~ *vi* : to act as a stimulant or stimulus ***syn*** see PROVOKE ***ant*** unnerve, deaden — **stim·u·la·tion** \ˌstim-yə-'lā-shən\ *n* — **stim·u·la·tive** \'stim-yə-ˌlāt-iv\ *adj* — **stim·u·la·tor** \-ˌlāt-ər\ *n* — **stim·u·la·to·ry** \-lə-ˌtōr-ē, -ˌtȯr-\ *adj*

stim·u·lus \'stim-yə-ləs\ *n, pl* **-li** \-ˌlī, -ˌlē\ [L] : something that rouses or incites to activity: as **a** : INCENTIVE **b** : STIMULANT 1 **c** : an agent (as an environmental change) that directly influences the activity of living protoplasm (as by exciting a sensory organ or evoking muscular contraction or glandular secretion)

¹sting \'stiŋ\ *vb* **stung** \'stəŋ\; **sting·ing** \'stiŋ-iŋ\ [ME *stingen*, fr. OE *stingan*; akin to ON *stinga* to sting, Gk *stachys* spike of grain, *stochos* target, aim] *vt* **1** : to prick painfully: as **a** : to pierce or wound with a poisonous or irritating process **b** : to affect with sharp quick pain or smart ⟨hail *stung* their faces⟩ **2** : to cause to suffer acutely ⟨*stung* with remorse⟩ **3** : OVERCHARGE, CHEAT ~ *vi* **1** : to use a sting **2** : to feel a keen burning pain or smart — **sting·ing·ly** \-iŋ-lē\ *adv*

²sting *n* **1 a** : the act of stinging; *specif* : the thrust of a stinger into the flesh **b** : a wound or pain caused by or as if by stinging **2** : STINGER 2 **3** : a stinging element, force, or quality

sting·a·ree \'stiŋ-ə-rē *also* 'stiŋ-rē\ *n* [by alter.] : STINGRAY

sting·er \'stiŋ-ər\ *n* **1** : one that stings; *specif* : a sharp blow or remark **2** : a sharp organ (as of a bee, scorpion, or stingray) of offense and defense usu. connected with a poison gland or otherwise adapted to wound by piercing and inoculating a poisonous secretion **3** : a cocktail of equal parts of white crème de menthe and brandy

sting·ing hair \ˌstiŋ-iŋ-\ *n* : a glandular hair (as of a nettle) whose base secretes a stinging fluid

sting·less \'stiŋ-ləs\ *adj* : having no sting or stinger

sting·ray \-ˌrā *also* -rē\ *n* : any of numerous rays (as of the family Dasyatidae) with one or more large sharp barbed dorsal spines near the base of the whiplike tail capable of inflicting severe wounds



stingray

stin·gy \'stin-jē\ *adj* **stin·gi·er; -est** [prob. fr. (assumed) E dial. *stinge*, n., sting; akin to OE *stingan* to sting] **1** : not generous or liberal : sparing or scant in giving or spending **2** : meanly scanty or small — **stin·gi·ly** \-jə-lē\ *adv* — **stin·gi·ness** \-jē-nəs\ *n*
syn STINGY, CLOSE, NIGGARDLY, PARSIMONIOUS, PENURIOUS, MISERLY *shared meaning element* : being unwilling or showing unwillingness to share with others ***ant*** generous

¹stink \'stiŋk\ *vi* **stank** \'staŋk\ *or* **stunk** \'stəŋk\; **stunk; stink·ing** [ME *stinken*, fr. OE *stincan*; akin to OHG *stinkan* to emit a smell] **1** : to emit a strong offensive odor **2** : to be offensive; *also* : to be in bad repute **3** : to possess something to an offensive degree ⟨~*ing* with wealth⟩ **4** : to be extremely bad in quality — **stinky** \'stiŋ-kē\ *adj*

²stink *n* **1** : a strong offensive odor : STENCH **2** : a public outcry against something offensive

stink·ard \'stiŋ-kərd\ *n* : a mean or contemptible person

stink·bug \'stiŋk-ˌbəg\ *n* : any of various true bugs (order Hemiptera) that emit a disagreeable odor

stink·er \'stiŋ-kər\ *n* **1 a** : one that stinks **b** : an offensive or contemptible person **c** : something of very poor quality **2** : any of several large petrels that have an offensive odor **3** *slang* : something extremely difficult ⟨the examination was a real ~⟩

stink·horn \'stiŋk-ˌhȯ(ə)rn\ *n* : an ill-smelling fungus (order Phallales, esp. *Phallus impudicus*)

¹stink·ing *adj* **1** : strong and offensive to the sense of smell **2** *slang* : offensively drunk ***syn*** see MALODOROUS — **stink·ing·ly** \'stiŋ-kiŋ-lē\ *adv*

²stinking *adv* : to an extreme degree ⟨got ~ drunk⟩

stink·ing rog·er \ˌstiŋ-kiŋ-'räj-ər, -kən-\ *n* [fr. the name *Roger*] : any of various fetid plants (as a figwort or henbane)

stinking smut *n* : ²BUNT

stink·pot \'stiŋk-ˌpät\ *n* **1** : an earthen jar charged with materials of an offensive and suffocating smell formerly sometimes thrown upon an enemy's deck **2** : STINKER 1

stink·stone \-ˌstōn\ *n* : a stone that emits a fetid smell on being struck or rubbed owing to decomposition of organic matter

stink up *vt* : to cause to stink or be filled with a stench

stink·weed \'stiŋ-ˌkwēd\ *n* : any of various strong-scented or fetid plants; *esp* : PENNYCRESS

stink·wood \-ˌkwu̇d\ *n* **1** : any of several trees with a wood of unpleasant odor; *esp* : a southern African tree (*Ocotea bullata*) of the laurel family yielding a valued cabinet wood **2** : the wood of a stinkwood

¹stint \'stint\ *vb* [ME *stinten*, fr. OE *styntan* to blunt, dull; akin to ON *stuttr* scant, L *tundere* to beat, OE *stocc* stock] *vt* **1** *archaic* : to put an end to : STOP **2 a** : to restrain within certain limits : CONFINE **b** : to restrict with respect to a share or allowance **3** : to assign a task to (a person) ~ *vi* **1** *archaic* : STOP, DESIST **2** : to be sparing or frugal — **stint·er** *n*

²stint *n* **1** : RESTRAINT, LIMITATION **2** : a definite quantity of work assigned ***syn*** see TASK

³stint *n, pl* **stints** *also* **stint** [ME *stynte*] : any of several small sandpipers

stipe \'stīp\ *n* [NL *stipes*, fr. L, tree trunk; akin to L *stipare* to press together — more at STIFF] : a usu. short plant stalk: as **a** : the stem supporting the cap of a fungus **b** : a part that is similar to a stipe and connects the holdfast and blade of a frondose alga **c** : the petiole of a fern frond **d** : a prolongation of the receptacle beneath the ovary of a seed plant — **stiped** \'stīpt\ *adj*

sti·pel \'stī-pəl, stī-'pel\ *n* [NL *stipella*, dim. of *stipula* stipule] : the stipule of a leaflet — **sti·pel·late** \'stī-pə-ˌlāt, stī-'pel-ət\ *adj*

sti·pend \'stī-ˌpend, -pənd\ *n* [alter. of ME *stipendy*, fr. L *stipendium*, fr. *stip-*, *stips* gift + *pendere* to weigh, pay — more at PENDANT] : a fixed sum of money paid periodically for services or to defray expenses ***syn*** see WAGE

¹sti·pen·di·ary \stī-'pen-dē-ˌer-ē\ *adj* **1** : receiving or compensated by wages or salary ⟨a ~ curate⟩ **2** : of or relating to a stipend

²stipendiary *n, pl* **-ar·ies** : one who receives a stipend

sti·pes \'stī-ˌpēz\ *n, pl* **stip·i·tes** \'stip-ə-ˌtēz\ [NL *stipit-*, *stipes*, fr. L, tree trunk — more at STIPE] : PEDUNCLE; *esp* : the second basal segment of a maxilla of an insect or crustacean — **stip·i·tate** \'stip-ə-ˌtāt\ *adj*

¹stip·ple \'stip-əl\ *vt* **stip·pled; stip·pling** \-(ə-)liŋ\ [D *stippelen* to spot, dot; akin to L *stipare* to press together] **1** : to engrave by means of dots and flicks **2 a** : to make (as in paint or ink) by small short touches that together produce an even or softly graded shadow **b** : to apply (as paint) by repeated small touches **3** : SPECKLE, FLECK — **stip·pler** \-(ə-)lər\ *n*

²stipple *n* : production of gradation of light and shade in graphic art by stippling small points, larger dots, or longer strokes; *also* : an effect produced by or as if by stippling

stip·u·lar \'stip-yə-lər\ *adj* : of, resembling, or provided with stipules ⟨~ glands⟩

¹stip·u·late \'stip-yə-ˌlāt\ *vb* **-lat·ed; -lat·ing** [L *stipulatus*, pp. of *stipulari* to demand some term in an agreement] *vi* **1** : to make an agreement or covenant to do or forbear something : CONTRACT **2** : to demand an express term in an agreement — used with *for* ~ *vt* **1** : to specify as a condition or requirement of an agreement or offer **2** : to give a guarantee of — **stip·u·la·tor** \-ˌlāt-ər\ *n*

²stip·u·late \'stip-yə-lət\ *adj* : having stipules

stip·u·la·tion \ˌstip-yə-'lā-shən\ *n* **1** : an act of stipulating **2** : something stipulated; *esp* : a condition, requirement, or item specified in a legal instrument — **stip·u·la·to·ry** \'stip-yə-lə-ˌtōr-ē, -ˌtȯr-\ *adj*

stip·ule \'stip-(ˌ)yü(ə)l\ *n* [NL *stipula*, fr. L, stalk; akin to L *stipes* tree trunk] : either of a pair of appendages borne at the base of the leaf in many plants — **stip·uled** \-ˌyü(ə)ld\ *adj*

¹stir \'stər\ *vb* **stirred; stir·ring** [ME *stiren*, fr. OE *styrian*; akin to MHG *stürn* to incite] *vt* **1 a** : to cause an esp. slight movement or change of position of **b** : to disturb the quiet of : AGITATE **2 a** : to disturb the relative position of the particles or parts of esp. by a continued circular movement **b** : to mix by or as if by stirring **3** : BESTIR, EXERT **4** : to bring into notice or debate : RAISE **5 a** : to rouse to activity : stir strong feelings in **b** : to call forth (as a memory) : EVOKE **c** : PROVOKE ~ *vi* **1 a** : to make a slight movement **b** : to begin to move (as in rousing) **2** : to begin to be active **3** : to be active or busy **4** : to pass an implement through a substance with a circular movement **5** : to be able to be stirred — **stir·rer** *n*

²stir *n* **1 a** : a state of disturbance, agitation, or brisk activity **b** : widespread notice and discussion : IMPRESSION **2** : a slight movement **3** : a stirring movement
syn STIR, BUSTLE, FLURRY, POTHER, FUSS, ADO *shared meaning element* : signs of excitement or hurry ***ant*** tranquillity

³stir *n* [origin unknown] *slang* : PRISON

Stir *abbr* Stirling

stir·about \'stər-ə-ˌbau̇t\ *n* : a porridge of Irish origin consisting of oatmeal or cornmeal boiled in water or milk and stirred

stirk \'stərk\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *stirc*; akin to L *sterilis* sterile] *Brit* : a young bull or cow esp. between one and two years old

Stir·ling's formula \'stər-liŋz-\ *n* [James *Stirling* †1770 Sc mathematician] : the formula

$$\sqrt{2\pi n}\, n^n e^{-n}$$

that gives the approximate value of the factorial of a very large number *n*

stirp \'stərp\ *n* [L *stirp-*, *stirps* — more at TORPID] : a line descending from a common ancestor : STOCK, LINEAGE

stirps \'sti(ə)rps, 'stərps\ *n, pl* **stir·pes** \'sti(ə)r-ˌpās, 'stər-(ˌ)pēz\ [L, lit., stem, stock — more at TORPID] **1** : a branch of a family or the person from whom it is descended **2 a** : a group of animals equivalent to a superfamily **b** : a race or fixed variety of plants

stir·ring \'stər-iŋ\ *adj* **1** : ACTIVE, BUSTLING **2** : ROUSING, INSPIRING

stir·rup \'stər-əp *also* 'stir-əp *or* 'stə-rəp\ *n* [ME *stirop*, fr. OE *stigrāp*; akin to OHG *stegareif* stirrup; both fr. a prehistoric NGmc-WGmc compound whose first element is akin to OHG *stīgan* to go up and whose second element is represented by OE *rāp* rope — more at STAIR] **1** : either of a pair of small light frames or rings for receiving the foot of a rider that are attached by a strap to a saddle and used to aid in mounting and as a support while riding **2** : a piece resembling a stirrup (as a support or clamp in carpentry and machinery) **3** : a rope secured to a yard and attached to a thimble in its lower end for supporting a footrope

stirrup cup *n* **1** : a cup of drink (as wine) taken by a rider about to depart **2** : a farewell cup

stirrup leather *n* : the strap suspending a stirrup
stirrup pump *n* : a portable hand pump held in position by a foot bracket and used for throwing a jet or spray of liquid
1stitch \'stich\ *n* [ME *stiche*, fr. OE *stice*; akin to OE *stician* to stick] **1** : a local sharp and sudden pain esp. in the side **2 a** : one in-and-out movement of a threaded needle in sewing, embroidering, or suturing **b** : a portion of thread left in the material after one stitch **3** : a least part esp. of clothing **4** : a single loop of thread or yarn around an implement (as a knitting needle or crochet hook) **5** : a series of stitches **6** : a method of stitching — **in stitches** : in a state of uncontrollable laughter
2stitch *vt* **1 a** : to fasten, join, or close with or as if with stitches **b** : to make, mend, or decorate with or as if with stitches **2** : to unite by means of staples ~ *vi* : SEW — **stitch·er** *n*
stitch·ery \'stich-(ə-)rē\ *n* : NEEDLEWORK
stitch·wort \'stich-ˌwərt, -ˌwȯ(ə)rt\ *n* : any of several chickweeds (genus *Stellaria*)
stithy \'stiṯh-ē, 'stith-\ *n, pl* **stith·ies** [ME, fr. ON *stethi*; akin to OE *stede* stead] **1** : ANVIL **2** : SMITHY
sti·ver \'stī-vər\ *n* [D *stuiver*] **1 a** : a unit of value of the Netherlands equal to $^1/_{20}$ gulden **b** : a coin representing one stiver **2** : something of little value
stk *abbr* stock
STL *abbr* [NL *sacrae theologiae licentiatus*] licentiate of sacred theology
STM *abbr* **1** [NL *sacrae theologiae magister*] master of sacred theology **2** master of theology
stoa \'stō-ə\ *n* [Gk; akin to Gk *stylos* pillar — more at STEER] : an ancient Greek portico usu. walled at the back with a front colonnade designed to afford a sheltered promenade
stoat \'stōt\ *n, pl* **stoats** *also* **stoat** [ME *stote*] : ERMINE 1a; *broadly* : a weasel with a black-tipped tail — used esp. of an animal in the brown summer coat
stob \'stäb\ *n* [ME, stump; akin to ME *stubb* stub] *chiefly dial* : STAKE, POST
stoc·ca·do \stə-'käd-(ˌ)ō\ *n, pl* **-dos** [It *stoccata*] *archaic* : a thrust with a rapier
sto·chas·tic \stə-'kas-tik, stō-\ *adj* [Gk *stochastikos* skillful in aiming, fr. *stochazesthai* to aim at, guess at, fr. *stochos* target, aim, guess — more at STING] **1** : RANDOM; *specif* : involving a random variable ⟨a ~ process⟩ **2** : involving chance or probability : PROBABILISTIC ⟨a ~ model of radiation-induced mutation⟩ — **sto·chas·ti·cal·ly** \-ti-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
1stock \'stäk\ *n* [ME *stok*, fr. OE *stocc*; akin to OHG *stoc* stick, MIr *tūag* bow] **1 a** : STUMP **b** *archaic* : a log or block of wood **c** (1) : something without life or consciousness (2) : a dull, stupid, or lifeless person **2** : a supporting framework or structure: as **a** *pl* : the frame or timbers holding a ship during construction **b** *pl* : a device for publicly punishing offenders consisting of a wooden frame with holes in which the feet or feet and hands can be locked **c** (1) : the wooden part by which a rifle or shotgun is held during firing (2) : the butt of an implement (as a whip or fishing rod) (3) : BITSTOCK, BRACE **d** (1) : a long beam on a field gun forming the third support point in firing (2) : the beam of a plow to which handles, share, colter, and moldboard are secured **3 a** : the main stem of a plant : TRUNK **b** (1) : a plant or plant part united with a scion in grafting and supplying mostly underground parts to a graft (2) : a plant from which slips or cuttings are taken **4** : the crosspiece of an anchor **5 a** : the original (as a man, race, or language) from which others derive : SOURCE **b** (1) : the descendants of one individual : FAMILY, LINEAGE (2) : a compound organism — compare CLONE **c** : an infraspecific group usu. having unity of descent **d** (1) : a related group of languages (2) : a language family **6 a** (1) : the equipment, materials, or supplies of an establishment (2) : LIVESTOCK **b** : a store or supply accumulated; *esp* : the inventory of goods of a merchant or manufacturer **7 a** *archaic* : a supply of capital : FUNDS; *esp* : money or capital invested or available for investment or trading **b** (1) : the part of a tally formerly given to the creditor in a transaction (2) : a debt or fund due (as from a government) for money loaned at interest; *also, Brit* : capital or a debt or fund bearing interest in perpetuity and not ordinarily redeemable as to principal **c** (1) : the proprietorship element in a corporation usu. divided into shares and represented by transferable certificates (2) : a portion of such stock of one or more companies (3) : STOCK CERTIFICATE **8** : any of a genus (Matthiola) of herbs or subshrubs of the mustard family with racemes of usu. sweet-scented flowers **9** : a wide band or scarf worn about the neck esp. by some clergymen **10 a** : liquid in which meat, fish, or vegetables have been simmered that is used as a basis for soup, gravy, or sauce **b** : raw material from which something is manufactured **c** : the portion of a pack of cards not distributed to the players at the beginning of a game **11 a** (1) : an estimate or evaluation of something ⟨take ~ of the situation⟩ (2) : the estimation in which someone or something is held ⟨his ~ with the electorate remains high —*Newsweek*⟩ **b** : confidence or faith placed in someone or something ⟨put little ~ in his testimony⟩ **12** : the production and presentation of plays by a stock company **13** : STOCK CAR 2 — **in stock** : on hand : in the store and ready for delivery — **out of stock** : having no more on hand : sold out
2stock *vt* **1** : to make (a domestic animal) pregnant **2** : to fit to or with a stock **3** : to provide with stock or a stock : SUPPLY ⟨~ a stream with trout⟩ **4** : to procure or keep a stock of **5** : to graze (livestock) on land ~ *vi* **1** : to send out new shoots **2** : to put in stock or supplies ⟨~ up on canned goods⟩
3stock *adj* **1 a** : kept regularly in stock ⟨comes in ~ sizes⟩ ⟨a ~ model⟩ **b** : commonly used or brought forward : STANDARD ⟨the ~ answer⟩ **2 a** : kept for breeding purposes : BROOD ⟨a ~ mare⟩ **b** : devoted to the breeding and rearing of livestock ⟨a ~ farm⟩ **c** : used or intended for livestock ⟨a ~ train⟩ **3** : of or relating to a stock company **4** : employed in handling, checking, or taking care of the stock of merchandise on hand ⟨a ~ boy⟩
1stock·ade \stä-'kād\ *n* [Sp *estacada*, fr. *estaca* stake, pale, of Gmc origin; akin to OE *staca* stake] **1** : a line of stout posts set firmly to form a defense **2 a** : an enclosure or pen made with posts and stakes **b** : an enclosure in which prisoners are kept
2stockade *vt* **stock·ad·ed; stock·ad·ing** : to fortify or surround with a stockade
stock·breed·er \'stäk-ˌbrēd-ər\ *n* : one who is engaged in the breeding and care of livestock for the market, for show purposes, or for racing
stock·bro·ker \-ˌbrō-kər\ *n* : a broker who executes orders to buy and sell securities and often also acts as a security dealer — **stock·brok·ing** \-ˌbrō-kiŋ\ *or* **stock·bro·ker·age** \-k(ə-)rij\ *n*
stock·car \-ˌkär\ *n* : a latticed railroad boxcar for carrying livestock
stock car *n* **1** : an automotive vehicle of a model and type kept in stock for regular sales **2** : a racing car having the basic chassis of a commercially produced assembly-line model
stock certificate *n* : an instrument evidencing ownership of one or more shares of the capital stock of a corporation
stock company *n* **1** : a corporation or joint-stock company of which the capital is represented by stock **2** : a theatrical company attached to a repertory theater; *esp* : one without outstanding stars
stock dividend *n* **1** : the payment by a corporation of a dividend in the form of shares usu. of its own stock without change in par value — compare STOCK SPLIT **2** : the stock distributed in a stock dividend
stock·er \'stäk-ər\ *n* **1** : a young animal (as a steer or heifer) suitable for being fed and fattened for market **2** : an animal (as a heifer) suitable for use in a breeding establishment **3** : STOCK CAR 2
stock exchange *n* **1** : a place where security trading is conducted on an organized system **2** : an association of people organized to provide an auction market among themselves for the purchase and sale of securities
stock·fish \-ˌfish\ *n* [ME *stokfish*, fr. MD *stocvisch*, fr. *stoc* stick + *visch* fish] : fish (as cod, haddock, or hake) dried hard in the open air without salt
stock·hold·er \'stäk-ˌhōl-dər\ *n* : an owner of stocks : SHAREHOLDER
stock·i·nette *or* **stock·i·net** \ˌstäk-ə-'net\ *n* [alter. of earlier *stocking net*] : a soft elastic usu. cotton fabric used esp. for bandages and infants' wear
stock·ing \'stäk-iŋ\ *n* [obs. *stock* to cover with a stocking] **1 a** : a usu. knit close-fitting covering for the foot and leg **b** : SOCK **2** : something resembling a stocking; *esp* : a ring of distinctive color on the lower part of the leg of an animal — **stock·inged** \-iŋd\ *adj* — **in one's stocking feet** : having on stockings but no shoes
stocking cap *n* : a long knitted cone-shaped cap with a tassel or pom-pom worn esp. for winter sports or play
stock–in–trade \ˌstäk-ən-'trād, 'stäk-ən-ˌ\ *n* **1** : the equipment necessary to or used in a trade or business **2** : something that resembles the standard equipment of a tradesman or business ⟨the light and frivolous charm which was her stage ~ —S. H. Adams⟩
stock·ish \'stäk-ish\ *adj* : like a stock : STUPID
stock·ist \'stäk-əst\ *n, Brit* : one (as a retailer) that stocks goods
stock·job·ber \'stäk-ˌjäb-ər\ *n* : STOCKBROKER — usu. used disparagingly
stock·job·bing \-ˌjäb-iŋ\ *n* : speculative exchange dealings
stock·keep·er \'stäk-ˌkē-pər\ *n* **1** : one (as a herdsman or shepherd) having the charge or care of livestock **2** : one that keeps and records stock (as in a warehouse) : one that keeps an inventory of goods on hand, shipped, or received
stock·man \-mən, -ˌman\ *n* : one occupied as an owner or worker in the raising of livestock (as cattle or sheep)
stock market *n* **1** : STOCK EXCHANGE 1 **2 a** : a market for particular stocks **b** : the market for stocks throughout a country
1stock·pile \'stäk-ˌpīl\ *n* : a storage pile: as **a** : a reserve supply of something essential accumulated within a country for use during a shortage **b** : a gradually accumulated reserve of something ⟨avert ~s of unsold cars —Bert Pierce⟩
2stockpile *vt* **1** : to place or store in or on a stockpile **2** : to accumulate a stockpile of ⟨~ war materials in Europe —A. O. Wolfers⟩ — **stock·pil·er** *n*
stock·pot \'stäk-ˌpät\ *n* **1** : a pot in which soup stock is prepared **2** : an abundant supply : REPOSITORY
stock·proof \-'prüf\ *adj* : proof against livestock
stock·room \-ˌrüm, -ˌrům\ *n* **1** : a storage place for supplies or goods used in a business **2** : a room (as in a hotel) where traveling salesmen may exhibit their goods
stock saddle *n* : a deep-seated saddle with a high pommel and broad skirts and fenders used orig. by cattlemen — called also *western saddle*
stock split *n* : a division of corporate stock by the issuance to existing shareholders of a specified number of new shares with a corresponding lowering of par value for each outstanding share — compare STOCK DIVIDEND
stock–still \'stäk-'stil\ *adj* : very still : MOTIONLESS ⟨stood ~⟩
stock·tak·ing \'stäk-ˌtā-kiŋ\ *n* **1** : the action of checking or taking an inventory of goods or supplies on hand (as in a store) **2** : the action of estimating a situation at a given moment
stocky \'stäk-ē\ *adj* **stock·i·er; -est** : compact, sturdy, and relatively thick in build — **stock·i·ly** \'stäk-ə-lē\ *adv* — **stock·i·ness** \'stäk-ē-nəs\ *n*
stock·yard \'stäk-ˌyärd\ *n* : a yard for stock; *specif* : one in which transient cattle, sheep, swine, or horses are kept temporarily for slaughter, market, or shipping
1stodge \'stäj\ *vt* **stodged; stodg·ing** [origin unknown] : to stuff full esp. with food
2stodge *n* : a thick filling food (as oatmeal or stew)
stodgy \'stäj-ē\ *adj* **stodg·i·er; -est** [2*stodge*] **1** : having a thick gluey consistency : HEAVY ⟨~ bread⟩ **2** : moving in a slow plodding way esp. as a result of physical bulkiness **3** : DULL, BORING ⟨out on a peaceful rather ~ Sunday boat trip —Edna Ferber⟩ **4** : extremely old-fashioned : HIDEBOUND **5 a** : DRAB **b** : DOWDY — **stodg·i·ly** \'stäj-ə-lē\ *adv* — **stodg·i·ness** \'stäj-ē-nəs\ *n*

sto·gie *or* **sto·gy** \'stō-gē\ *n, pl* **stogies** [*Conestoga,* Pa.] **1** : a stout coarse shoe : BROGAN **2** : an inexpensive slender cylindrical cigar; *broadly* : CIGAR

[1]sto·ic \'stō-ik\ *n* [ME, fr. L *stoicus,* fr. Gk *stōïkos,* lit., of the portico, fr. *Stoa* (*Poikilē*) the Painted Portico, portico at Athens where Zeno taught] **1** *cap* : a member of a school of philosophy founded by Zeno of Citium about 300 B.C. holding that the wise man should be free from passion, unmoved by joy or grief, and submissive to natural law **2** : one apparently or professedly indifferent to pleasure or pain

[2]stoic *or* **sto·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj* **1** *cap* : of, relating to, or resembling the Stoics or their doctrines ⟨*Stoic* logic⟩ **2** : not affected by or showing passion or feeling; *esp* : firmly restraining response to pain or distress ⟨a ~ indifference to cold⟩ ***syn*** see IMPASSIVE — **sto·ical·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

stoi·chio·met·ric \ˌstȯi-kē-ō-'me-trik\ *adj* : of, relating to, used in, or marked by stoichiometry — **stoi·chio·met·ri·cal·ly** \-tri-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

stoi·chi·om·e·try \ˌstȯi-kē-'äm-ə-trē\ *n* [Gk *stoicheion* element + E *-metry;* akin to Gk *stichos* row, *steichein* to walk, go — more at STAIR] **1** : a branch of science that deals with the application of the laws of definite proportions and of the conservation of matter and energy to chemical activity **2** : quantitative chemical properties and composition esp. as a factor in processes of chemical or physical change

sto·icism \'stō-ə-ˌsiz-əm\ *n* **1** *cap* : the philosophy of the Stoics **2** : indifference to pleasure or pain : IMPASSIVENESS

stoke \'stōk\ *vb* **stoked; stok·ing** [D *stoken;* akin to MD *stuken* to push] *vt* **1** : to poke or stir up (as a fire) : supply with fuel **2** : to feed abundantly ~ *vi* : to stir up or tend a fire (as in a furnace) : supply a furnace with fuel

stoke·hold \'stōk-ˌhōld\ *n* **1** : one of the spaces in front of the boilers of a ship from which the furnaces are fed **2** : a room containing a ship's boilers — called also *fireroom*

stoke·hole \-ˌhōl\ *n* **1** : the mouth to the grate of a furnace **2** : STOKEHOLD

stok·er \'stō-kər\ *n* **1** : one employed to tend a furnace and supply it with fuel; *specif* : one that tends a marine steam boiler **2** : a machine for feeding a fire

Stokes' aster \'stōk-ˌsas-tər, ˌstōk-sə-'zas-\ *n* [Jonathan *Stokes*] : STOKESIA

stoke·sia \stō-'kē-zh(ē-)ə, 'stōk-sē-ə\ *n* [NL, genus name, fr. Jonathan *Stokes* †1831 E botanist] : a perennial composite herb (*Stokesia laevis*) of the southern U.S. often grown for its large showy heads of blue flowers

STOL *abbr* short takeoff and landing

[1]stole \'stōl\ *past of* STEAL

[2]stole *n* [ME, fr. OE, fr. L *stola,* fr. Gk *stolē* equipment, robe, fr. *stellein* to set up, make ready — more at STALL] **1** : a long loose garment : ROBE **2** : an ecclesiastical vestment consisting of a long usu. silk band worn traditionally around the neck by bishops and priests and over the left shoulder by deacons — see VESTMENT illustration **3** : a long wide scarf or similar covering worn by women usu. across the shoulders

stoled \'stōld\ *adj* : having or wearing a stole

stolen *past part of* STEAL

stol·id \'stäl-əd\ *adj* [L *stolidus* dull, stupid; akin to OHG *stal* place — more at STALL] : having or expressing little or no sensibility : UNEMOTIONAL ***syn*** see IMPASSIVE ***ant*** sensitive — **sto·lid·i·ty** \stä-'lid-ət-ē, stə-\ *n* — **stol·id·ly** \'stäl-əd-lē\ *adv*

stol·len \'s(h)tō-lən, 's(h)tȯ-; 'stəl-ə(n)\ *n, pl* **stollen** *or* **stollens** [G] : a sweet yeast bread of German origin containing fruit and nuts

sto·lon \'stō-lən, -ˌlän\ *n* [NL *stolon-, stolo,* fr. L, branch, sucker; akin to Arm *steł* branch, OHG *stal* place — more at STALL] **1 a** : a horizontal branch from the base of a plant that produces new plants from buds at its tip or nodes (as in the strawberry) — called also *runner* **b** : a hypha (as of rhizopus) produced on the surface and connecting a group of conidiophores **2** : an extension of the body wall (as of a hydrozoan) that develops buds giving rise to new zooids which usu. remain united by the stolon — **sto·lon·ate** \-lə-ˌnāt\ *adj*

sto·lon·if·er·ous \ˌstō-lə-'nif-(ə-)rəs\ *adj* : bearing or developing stolons — **sto·lon·if·er·ous·ly** *adv*

stom- *or* **stomo-** *comb form* [Gk & NL *stoma*] : mouth : stoma ⟨*stom*odaeum⟩

sto·ma \'stō-mə\ *n, pl* **sto·ma·ta** \-mət-ə\ *also* **stomas** [NL, fr. Gk *stomat-, stoma* mouth] **1** : any of various small simple bodily openings esp. in a lower animal **2** : one of the minute openings in the epidermis of a plant organ (as a leaf) through which gaseous interchange takes place; *also* : the opening with its associated cellular structures **3** : an artificial permanent opening esp. in the abdominal wall made in surgical procedures

[1]stom·ach \'stəm-ək, -ik\ *n* [ME *stomak,* fr. MF *estomac,* fr. L *stomachus* gullet, esophagus, stomach, fr. Gk *stomachos,* fr. *stoma* mouth; akin to MBret *staffn* mouth, Av *staman-*] **1 a** : a dilatation of the alimentary canal of a vertebrate communicating anteriorly with the esophagus and posteriorly with the duodenum **b** : a cavity in an invertebrate animal that is analogous to a stomach **c** : the part of the body that contains the stomach : BELLY, ABDOMEN **2 a** : desire for food caused by hunger : APPETITE **b** : INCLINATION, DESIRE ⟨had no ~ for an argument⟩ **3** *obs* **a** : SPIRIT, VALOR **b** : PRIDE **c** : SPLEEN, RESENTMENT

[2]stomach *vt* **1** *archaic* : to take offense at **2** : to bear without overt reaction or resentment : BROOK ⟨couldn't ~ her attitude⟩

stom·ach·ache \-ˌāk\ *n* : pain in or in the region of the stomach

stom·ach·er \'stəm-i-kər, -i-chər\ *n* : the center front section of a waist or underwaist or a usu. heavily embroidered or jeweled separate piece for the center front of a bodice worn by men and women in the 15th and 16th centuries

[1]sto·mach·ic \stə-'mak-ik\ *adj* : of or relating to the stomach ⟨~ vessels⟩ — **sto·mach·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

[2]stomachic *n* : a stimulant or tonic for the stomach

stom·achy \'stəm-ək-ē, -ik-\ *adj* **1** *dial Brit* : IRASCIBLE, IRRITABLE **2** : having a large stomach

sto·mal \'stō-məl\ *adj* : of, relating to, or situated near a surgical stoma ⟨a ~ ulcer⟩

stomat- *or* **stomato-** *comb form* [NL, fr. Gk, fr. *stomat-, stoma*] : mouth : stoma ⟨*stomat*itis⟩ ⟨*stomato*logy⟩

sto·ma·tal \'stōm-ət-ᵊl\ *adj* : of, relating to, or constituting plant stomata ⟨~ openings⟩ ⟨~ behavior of bean plants⟩

sto·mate \'stō-ˌmāt\ *n* [irreg. fr. NL *stomat-, stoma*] : STOMA 2

sto·ma·ti·tis \ˌstō-mə-'tīt-əs\ *n, pl* **-tit·i·des** \-'tit-ə-ˌdēz\ *or* **-ti·tis·es** \-'tīt-ə-səz\ [NL] : any of numerous inflammatory diseases of the mouth

sto·ma·tol·o·gy \ˌstō-mə-'täl-ə-jē\ *n* [ISV] : a branch of medical science dealing with the mouth and its disorders — **sto·ma·to·log·i·cal** \ˌstō-mət-ᵊl-'äj-i-kəl\ *also* **sto·ma·to·log·ic** \-ik\ *adj* — **sto·ma·tol·o·gist** \ˌstō-mə-'täl-ə-jəst\ *n*

sto·mato·pod \stō-'mat-ə-ˌpäd\ *n* [NL *Stomatopoda,* order name, fr. *stomat-* + *-poda*] : any of an order (Stomatopoda) of marine crustaceans (as a squilla) that have gills on the abdominal appendages — **stomatopod** *adj*

sto·mo·dae·um *or* **sto·mo·de·um** \ˌstō-mə-'dē-əm\ *n, pl* **-daea** \-'dē-ə\ *also* **-dae·ums** *or* **-dea** *also* **-de·ums** [NL, fr. *stom-* + Gk *hodaion,* neut. of *hodaios* being on the way, fr. *hodos* way — more at CEDE] : the anterior ectodermal part of the alimentary canal or tract — **sto·mo·dae·al** *or* **sto·mo·de·al** \-'dē-əl\ *adj*

[1]stomp \'stämp, 'stȯmp\ *vb* : STAMP

[2]stomp *n* **1** : STAMP 4 **2** : a jazz dance marked by heavy stamping

-s·to·my \s-tə-mē\ *n comb form* [ISV, fr. Gk *stoma* mouth, opening] : surgical operation establishing a usu. permanent opening into (such) a part ⟨entero*stomy*⟩ or between (such) parts ⟨gastroduodeno*stomy*⟩

[1]stone \'stōn\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *stān;* akin to OHG *stein* stone, Gk *stear* hard fat] **1** : a concretion of earthy or mineral matter: **a** (1) : such a concretion of indeterminate size or shape (2) : ROCK **b** : a piece of rock for a specified function: as (1) : a building block (2) : a paving block (3) : a precious stone : GEM (4) : GRAVESTONE (5) : GRINDSTONE (6) : WHETSTONE (7) : a stand or table with a smooth flat top on which to impose or set type (8) : a surface upon which a drawing, text, or design to be lithographed is drawn or transferred **2** : something resembling a small stone: as **a** : CALCULUS 1 **b** : the hard central portion of a drupaceous fruit (as a peach) **c** : a hard stony seed (as of a date) **3** *pl usu* **stone** : any of various units of weight; *esp* : an official British unit equal to 14 pounds **4 a** : CURLING STONE **b** : a round playing piece used in various games (as backgammon or go)

[2]stone *vt* **stoned; ston·ing** **1** : to hurl stones at; *esp* : to kill by pelting with stones **2** *archaic* : to make hard or insensitive to feeling **3** : to face, pave, or fortify with stones **4** : to remove the stones or seeds of (a fruit) **5 a** : to rub, scour, or polish with a stone **b** : to sharpen with a whetstone — **ston·er** *n*

[3]stone *adj* : of, relating to, or made of stone

stone- *comb form* [[1]*stone* (in such combinations as *stone-blind*)] : completely ⟨*stone*-broke⟩

Stone Age *n* : the first known period of prehistoric human culture characterized by the use of stone tools

stone–blind \'stōn-'blīnd\ *adj* : totally blind — **stone–blind·ness** \-'blīn(d)-nəs\ *n*

stone–broke \-'brōk\ *adj* : completely broke : lacking funds

stone canal *n* : a tube in many echinoderms that contains calcareous deposits and leads from the ring of the water-vascular system surrounding the mouth to the madreporite

stone cell *n* : a more or less spherical sclereid

stone·chat \-ˌchat\ *n* : a common European songbird (*Saxicola torquata*); *also* : any of various related birds (genus *Saxicola*)

stone china *n* : a hard dense opaque feldspathic pottery developed in England; *broadly* : IRONSTONE CHINA

stone–cold \'stōn-'kōld\ *adj* : completely cold : lacking warmth

stone·crop \'stōn-ˌkräp\ *n* **1** : SEDUM; *esp* : a mossy evergreen creeping sedum (*Sedum acre*) with pungent fleshy leaves **2** : any of various plants of the orpine family related to the sedums

stone·cut·ter \-ˌkət-ər\ *n* **1** : one that cuts, carves, or dresses stone **2** : a machine for dressing stone — **stone·cut·ting** \-ˌkət-iŋ\ *n*

stoned \'stōnd\ *adj* **1** : DRUNK **2** : being under the influence of a drug taken esp. for pleasure

stone–dead \'stōn-'ded\ *adj* : LIFELESS

stone–deaf \-'def\ *adj* : totally deaf — **stone–deaf·ness** *n*

stone·fish \'stōn-ˌfish\ *n* : any of several small spiny venomous scorpion fishes (esp. genus *Synanceja*) common about coral reefs of the tropical Indo-Pacific

stone fly *n* : an insect (order Plecoptera) with an aquatic carnivorous nymph having gills and an adult used by anglers for bait

stone fruit *n* : a fruit with a stony endocarp : DRUPE

stone–ground \'stōn-'graůnd\ *adj* : ground in a buhrstone mill ⟨~ flour⟩

stone lily *n* : a fossil crinoid

stone·ma·son \'stōn-ˌmās-ᵊn\ *n* : a mason who builds with stone — **stone·ma·son·ry** \-rē\ *n*

stone parsley *n* : a slender herb (*Sison amomum*) of the carrot family with aromatic seeds that are used as a condiment

stone roller *n* **1** : HOG SUCKER **2** : a common cyprinid fish (*Campostoma anomalum*) found esp. in clear streams of the central U.S.

stone·wall \'stōn-'wȯl\ *vi* **1** *chiefly Brit* : to engage in obstructive parliamentary debate or delaying tactics **2** : to be uncooperative, obstructive, or evasive ~ *vt* : to refuse to comply or cooperate with — **stone·wall·er** *n*

stone wall *n* **1** *chiefly North* : a fence made of stones; *esp* : one built of rough stones without mortar to enclose a field **2** : an immovable block or obstruction (as in public affairs)
stone·ware \-ˌwa(ə)r, -ˌwe(ə)r\ *n* : a strong opaque ceramic ware that is high-fired, well vitrified, and nonporous
stone·work \-ˌwərk\ *n* **1** : a structure or part built of stone : MASONRY **2** : the shaping, preparation, or setting of stone
stone·work·er \-ˌwər-kər\ *n* : STONECUTTER 1
stone·wort \-ˌwərt, -ˌwȯ(ə)rt\ *n* : any of a family (Characeae) of freshwater green algae resembling the horsetails and often encrusted with calcareous deposits
stony *also* **ston·ey** \'stō-nē\ *adj* **ston·i·er; -est** **1** : abounding in or having the nature of stone : ROCKY **2** **a** : insensitive to pity or human feeling **b** : manifesting no movement or reaction : DUMB, EXPRESSIONLESS **c** : fearfully gripping : PETRIFYING **3** *archaic* : consisting of or made of stones **4** : STONE-BROKE — **ston·i·ly** \'stōn-ᵊl-ē\ *adv* — **ston·i·ness** \'stōn-ē-nəs\ *n*
stony·heart·ed \ˌstō-nē-'härt-əd\ *adj* : UNFEELING, CRUEL — **stony-heart·ed·ness** *n*
stood *past of* STAND
¹stooge \'stüj\ *n* [origin unknown] **1** : STRAIGHT MAN **2** **a** : one who plays a subordinate or compliant role to a principal **b** : PUPPET 3 **3** : STOOL PIGEON
²stooge *vi* **stooged; stoog·ing** : to act as a stooge ⟨congressmen who ~ for the oil and mineral interests —*New Republic*⟩
¹stool \'stül\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *stōl;* akin to OHG *stuol* chair, OSlav *stolŭ* seat, throne, OE *standan* to stand] **1** **a** : a seat usu. without back or arms supported by three or four legs or by a central pedestal **b** : a low bench or portable support for the feet or knees : FOOTSTOOL **2** : a seat used as a symbol of office or authority; *also* : the rank, dignity, office, or rule of a chieftain **3** **a** : a seat used while defecating or urinating **b** : a discharge of fecal matter **4** **a** : a stump or group of stumps of a tree esp. when producing suckers **b** : a plant crown from which shoots grow out **c** : a shoot or growth from a stool **5** : STOOL PIGEON — **fall between two stools** : to fail because of inability to choose between or reconcile two alternative or conflicting courses of action
²stool *vi* : to throw out shoots in the manner of a stool
stool·ie \'stü-lē\ *n* : STOOL PIGEON
stool pigeon *n* [prob. fr. the early practice of fastening the decoy bird to a stool] **1** : a pigeon used as a decoy to draw others within a net **2** : a person acting as a decoy or informer; *esp* : a spy sent into a group to report (as to the police) on its activities
¹stoop \'stüp\ *vb* [ME *stoupen*, fr. OE *stūpian;* akin to OE *stēap* steep, deep — more at STEEP] *vi* **1** **a** : to bend the body forward and downward sometimes simultaneously bending the knees **b** : to stand or walk with a temporary or habitual forward inclination of the head, body, or shoulders **2** : YIELD, SUBMIT **3** **a** : to descend from a superior rank, dignity, or status **b** : to lower oneself morally **4** **a** *archaic* : to move down from a height : ALIGHT **b** : to fly or dive down swiftly usu. to attack prey ~ *vt* **1** : DEBASE, DEGRADE **2** : to bend (a part of the body) forward and downward
syn STOOP, CONDESCEND, DEIGN *shared meaning element* : to descend from one's level (as of rank or dignity) usu. to do something
²stoop *n* **1** **a** : an act of bending the body forward **b** : a temporary or habitual forward bend of the back and shoulders **2** : the descent of a bird esp. on its prey **3** : a lowering of oneself
³stoop *n* [D *stoep;* akin to OE *stæpe* step — more at STEP] : a porch, platform, entrance stairway, or small veranda at a house door
stoop·ball \'stüp-ˌbȯl\ *n* : a variation of baseball in which a player throws a ball against a stoop or building and runs to base while other players attempt to retrieve the rebound and put him out
stoop crop *n* : a crop (as of a vegetable) that requires extensive hand labor and stooping in cultivating and harvesting
stoop labor *n* **1** : the work required or done in cultivating or harvesting a stoop crop **2** : workers employed to cultivate or harvest stoop crops
¹stop \'stäp\ *vb* **stopped; stop·ping** [ME *stoppen*, fr. OE *-stoppian;* akin to OHG *stopfōn* to stop, stuff; both fr. a prehistoric WGmc word borrowed fr. (assumed) VL *stuppare* to stop with tow, fr. L *stuppa* tow, fr. Gk *styppē*] *vt* **1** **a** : to close by filling or obstructing **b** : to hinder or prevent the passage of **c** : to get in the way of : be wounded or killed by ⟨easy to ~ a bullet along a lonely . . . road —Harvey Fergusson⟩ **2** **a** : to close up or block off (an opening) : PLUG **b** : to make impassable : CHOKE, OBSTRUCT **c** : to cover over or fill in (a hole or crevice) **3** **a** : to cause to give up or change a course of action **b** : to hold back : RESTRAIN, PREVENT **4** **a** : to cause to cease : CHECK, SUPPRESS **b** : DISCONTINUE **5** **a** : to deduct or withhold (a sum due) **b** : to instruct one's bank not to honor or pay **6** **a** : to arrest the progress or motion of : cause to halt ⟨*stopped* the car⟩ **b** : PARRY **c** : to check by means of a weapon : bring down : KILL **d** : to beat in a prizefight by a knockout; *broadly* : DEFEAT **e** : BAFFLE, NONPLUS **7** : to change the pitch of (as a violin string) by pressing with the finger or (as a wind instrument) by closing one or more finger holes or by thrusting the hand or a mute into the bell **8** : to hold an honor card and enough protecting cards to be able to block (a bridge suit) before an opponent can run many tricks ~ *vi* **1** **a** : to cease activity or operation **b** : to come to an end esp. suddenly : CLOSE, FINISH **2** **a** : to cease to move on : HALT **b** : PAUSE, HESITATE **3** **a** : to break one's journey : STAY **b** *chiefly Brit* : REMAIN **c** : to make a brief call : drop in **4** : to become choked : CLOG — **stop·pa·ble** \'stäp-ə-bəl\ *adj*
syn STOP, CEASE, QUIT, DISCONTINUE, DESIST *shared meaning element* : to suspend or cause to suspend activity
²stop *n* **1** **a** : CESSATION, END **b** : a pause or breaking off in speech **2** **a** (1) : a graduated set of organ pipes of similar design and tone quality (2) : a corresponding set of vibrators or reeds of a reed organ (3) : STOP KNOB **b** : a means of regulating the pitch of a musical instrument **3** **a** : something that impedes, obstructs, or brings to a halt : IMPEDIMENT, OBSTACLE **b** : the aperture of a camera lens; *also* : a marking of a series (as of f-numbers) on a camera for indicating settings of the diaphragm **c** : a drain plug : STOPPER **4** : a device for arresting or limiting motion **5** : the act of stopping : the state of being stopped : CHECK **6** **a** : a halt in a journey : STAY ⟨made a brief ~ to refuel⟩ **b** : a stopping place ⟨a bus ~⟩ **7** **a** *chiefly Brit* : any of several punctuation marks **b** — used in telegrams and cables to indicate a period **c** : a pause or break in a verse that marks the end of a grammatical unit **8** **a** : an order stopping payment (as of a check or note) by a bank **b** : STOP ORDER **9** : a consonant in the articulation of which there is a stage (as in the *p* of *apt* or the *g* of *tiger*) when the breath passage is completely closed **10** : a depression in the face of an animal at the junction of forehead and foreface — see DOG illustration
³stop *adj* : serving to stop : designed to stop ⟨~ line⟩ ⟨~ signal⟩
stop-and-go \ˌstäp-ən-'gō, -ᵊm-, *attrib* -ˌgō\ *adj* : of, relating to, or involving frequent stops; *esp* : controlled or regulated by traffic lights ⟨~ driving⟩
stop bath *n* : an acid bath used to check photographic development of a negative or print
stop·cock \'stäp-ˌkäk\ *n* : a cock for stopping or regulating flow (as through a pipe)
stop down *vt* : to reduce the effective aperture of (a lens) by means of a diaphragm
¹stope \'stōp\ *n* [prob. fr. LG *stope*, lit., step; akin to OE *stæpe* step — more at STEP] : a usu. steplike excavation underground for the removal of ore that is formed as the ore is mined in successive layers
²stope *vb* **stoped; stop·ing** *vi* : to mine by means of a stope ~ *vt* : to extract (ore) from a stope — **stop·er** *n*
stop·gap \'stäp-ˌgap\ *n* : something that serves as a temporary expedient : MAKESHIFT ***syn*** see RESOURCE
stop knob *n* : one of the handles by which an organist draws or shuts off a particular stop
stop·light \'stäp-ˌlīt\ *n* **1** : a light on the rear of a motor vehicle that is illuminated when the driver presses the brake pedal **2** : TRAFFIC SIGNAL
stop order *n* : an order to a broker to buy or sell respectively at the market when the price of a security advances or declines to a designated level
stop·over \'stäp-ˌō-vər\ *n* **1** : a stop at an intermediate point in one's journey **2** : a stopping place on a journey
stop·page \'stäp-ij\ *n* : the act of stopping : the state of being stopped : HALT, OBSTRUCTION
stop payment *n* : a depositor's order to a bank to refuse to honor a specified check drawn by him
¹stop·per \'stäp-ər\ *n* **1** : one that brings to a halt or causes to stop operating or functioning : CHECK: as **a** : a playing card that will stop the run of a suit **b** : a baseball pitcher depended on to win important games or to stop a losing streak; *also* : an effective relief pitcher **2** : one that closes, shuts, or fills up; *specif* : something (as a bung or cork) used to plug an opening
²stopper *vt* **stop·pered; stop·per·ing** \-(ə-)riŋ\ : to close or secure with or as if with a stopper
stopper knot *n* : a knot used to prevent a rope from passing through a hole or opening
¹stop·ple \'stäp-əl\ *n* [ME *stoppell*, fr. *stoppen* to stop] : something that closes an aperture : STOPPER, PLUG
²stopple *vt* **stop·pled; stop·pling** \-(ə-)liŋ\ : STOPPER
stop street *n* : a street on which a vehicle must stop just before entering a through street
stop·watch \'stäp-ˌwäch\ *n* : a watch having a hand that can be started and stopped at will for exact timing (as of a race)
stor *abbr* storage
stor·age \'stōr-ij, 'stȯr-\ *n* **1** **a** : space or a place for storing **b** : an amount stored **c** : MEMORY 4 **2** **a** : the act of storing : the state of being stored; *specif* : the safekeeping of goods in a depository (as a warehouse) **b** : the price charged for keeping goods in a storehouse **3** : the production by means of electric energy of chemical reactions that when allowed to reverse themselves generate electricity again without serious loss
storage cell *n* : a cell or connected group of cells that converts chemical energy into electrical energy by reversible chemical reactions and that may be recharged by passing a current through it in the direction opposite to that of its discharge — called also *storage battery*
sto·rax \'stō(ə)r-ˌaks, 'stȯ(ə)r-\ *n* [ME, fr. LL, alter. of L *styrax*, fr. Gk] **1** **a** : a fragrant balsam obtained from the bark of an Asiatic tree (*Liquidambar orientalis*) of the witch-hazel family that is used as an expectorant and sometimes in perfumery — called also *Levant storax* **b** : a balsam from the sweet gum that is similar to storax **2** : any of a genus (*Styrax* of the family Styracaceae, the storax family) of trees or shrubs with usu. hairy leaves and flowers in drooping racemes — compare BENZOIN
¹store \'stō(ə)r, 'stȯ(ə)r\ *vt* **stored; stor·ing** [ME *storen*, fr. OF *estorer* to construct, restore, store, fr. L *instaurare* to renew, restore, fr. *in-* + *-staurare* (akin to Gk *stauros* stake) — more at STEER] **1** : FURNISH, SUPPLY; *esp* : to stock against a future time ⟨~ a ship with provisions⟩ **2** : to lay away : ACCUMULATE ⟨~ vegetables for winter use⟩ ⟨an organism that absorbs and ~s DDT⟩ **3** : to place or leave in a location (as a warehouse, library, or computer memory) for preservation or later use or disposal **4** : to provide storage room for : HOLD ⟨elevators for *storing* surplus wheat⟩ — **stor·able** \'stōr-ə-bəl, 'stȯr-\ *adj*
²store *n* **1** **a** : something that is stored or kept for future use **b** *pl* : articles (as of food) accumulated for some specific object and drawn upon as needed : STOCK, SUPPLIES **c** : something that is accumulated **d** : a source from which things may be drawn as needed : a reserve fund **2** : STORAGE — usu. used with *in* ⟨when placing eggs in ~ —*Dublin Sunday Independent*⟩ **3** : a large quantity, supply, or number : ABUNDANCE **4** **a** : STOREHOUSE, WAREHOUSE **b** *chiefly Brit* : MEMORY 4 **5** : a business establishment where usu. diversified goods are kept for retail sale ⟨grocery ~⟩ — compare SHOP — **in store** : in a state of imminence

[3]store *adj* **1** *or* **stores** : of, relating to, kept in, or used for a store **2** : purchased from a store as opposed to natural or homemade : MANUFACTURED, READY-MADE ⟨~ clothes⟩ ⟨~ bread⟩
store-bought \'stō(ə)r-ˌbȯt, 'stȯ(ə)r-\ *adj* : STORE 2 ⟨~ clothes⟩
store cheese *n* [fr. its being a staple article stocked in grocery stores] : CHEDDAR
[1]store-front \'stō(ə)r-ˌfrənt, 'stȯ(ə)r-\ *n* **1** : the front side of a store or store building facing a street **2** : a building, room, or suite of rooms having a storefront
[2]storefront *adj* **1** : occupying a room or suite of rooms in a store building at street level and immediately behind a storefront ⟨a ~ school⟩ **2** : of, relating to, or characteristic of a storefront church ⟨a ~ evangelist⟩
storefront church *n* : a city church that utilizes storefront quarters as a meeting place and that usu. holds services of a highly emotional nature
store-house \'stō(ə)r-ˌhaùs, 'stȯ(ə)r-\ *n* **1** : a building for storing goods (as provisions) : MAGAZINE, WAREHOUSE **2** : an abundant supply or source : REPOSITORY
store-keep-er \-ˌkē-pər\ *n* **1** : one that has charge of supplies (as military stores) **2** : one that operates a retail store
store-room \-ˌrüm, -ˌrùm\ *n* **1** : a room or space for the storing of goods or supplies **2** : STOREHOUSE 2
store-ship \-ˌship\ *n* : a ship used to carry supplies
store-wide \-'wīd\ *adj* : including all or most merchandise in a store ⟨a ~ sale⟩
[1]sto-ried \'stōr-ēd, 'stȯr-\ *adj* **1** : decorated with designs representing scenes from story or history ⟨a ~ frieze⟩ ⟨a ~ tapestry⟩ **2** : having an interesting history : celebrated in story or history
[2]storied *or* **sto-reyed** \'stōr-ēd, 'stȯr-\ *adj* : having stories ⟨a two-*storied* house⟩
stork \'stȯ(ə)rk\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *storc;* akin to OHG *storah* stork, OE *stearc* stiff — more at STARK] : any of various large mostly Old World wading birds (family Ciconiidae) that have long stout bills and are related to the ibises and herons
storks-bill \'stȯrks-ˌbil\ *n* : any of several plants of the geranium family with elongate beaked fruits; *esp* : PELARGONIUM
[1]storm \'stȯ(ə)rm\ *n, often attrib* [ME, fr. OE; akin to OHG *sturm* storm, OE *styrian* to stir] **1 a** : a disturbance of the atmosphere marked by wind and usu. by rain, snow, hail, sleet, or thunder and lightning **b** : a heavy fall of rain, snow, or hail **c** (1) : wind having a speed of 64 to 72 miles per hour (2) : WHOLE GALE — see BEAUFORT SCALE table **d** : a serious disturbance of any element of nature **2** : a disturbed or agitated state : a sudden or violent commotion **3 a** : PAROXYSM, CRISIS **b** : a sudden heavy influx or onset **4** : a heavy discharge of objects (as missiles) **5** : a tumultuous outburst **6** : a violent assault on a defended position — **by storm** : by or as if by employing a bold swift frontal movement esp. with the intent of defeating or winning over quickly
[2]storm *vi* **1 a** : to blow with violence **b** : to rain, hail, snow, or sleet **2** : to attack by storm ⟨~*ed* ashore at zero hour⟩ **3** : to be in or to exhibit a violent passion : RAGE ⟨~*ing* at the unusual delay⟩ **4** : to rush about or move impetuously, violently, or angrily ⟨the mob ~*ed* through the streets⟩ ~ *vt* : to attack, take, or win over by storm ⟨~ a fort⟩ ***syn*** see ATTACK
storm and stress *n, often cap both Ss* : STURM UND DRANG
storm boat *n* : a light fast craft used to transport attacking troops across streams
storm-bound \'stȯ(ə)rm-'baùnd\ *adj* : cut off from outside communication by a storm or its effects : stopped or delayed by storms
storm cellar *n* : CYCLONE CELLAR
storm door *n* : an additional door placed outside an ordinary outside door for protection against severe weather
storm petrel *n* : any of various small petrels; *esp* : a small sooty black white-marked petrel (*Hydrobates pelagicus*) frequenting the north Atlantic and Mediterranean
storm trooper *n* **1** : a member of a private Nazi army notorious for aggressiveness, violence, and brutality **2** : one that resembles a Nazi storm trooper
storm window *n* : a sash placed outside an ordinary window as a protection against severe weather — called also *storm sash*
stormy \'stȯr-mē\ *adj* **storm-i-er; -est** **1** : relating to, characterized by, or indicative of a storm ⟨a ~ day⟩ ⟨a ~ autumn⟩ **2** : marked by turmoil or fury ⟨a ~ life⟩ ⟨a ~ conference⟩ — **storm-i-ly** \'stȯr-mə-lē\ *adv* — **storm-i-ness** \-mē-nəs\ *n*
stormy petrel *n* **1** : STORM PETREL **2 a** : one fond of strife **b** : a harbinger of trouble
[1]sto-ry \'stōr-ē, 'stȯr-\ *n, pl* **stories** [ME *storie,* fr. OF *estorie,* fr. L *historia*] **1** *archaic* : HISTORY 1,3 **2 a** : an account of incidents or events **b** : a statement regarding the facts pertinent to a situation in question **c** : ANECDOTE; *esp* : an amusing one **3 a** : a fictional narrative shorter than a novel; *specif* : SHORT STORY **b** : the intrigue or plot of a narrative or dramatic work **4** : a widely circulated rumor **5** : LIE, FALSEHOOD **6** : LEGEND, ROMANCE **7** : a news article or broadcast
[2]story *vt* **sto-ried; sto-ry-ing** **1** *archaic* : to narrate or describe in story **2** : to adorn with a story or a scene from history
[3]story *also* **sto-rey** \'stōr-ē, 'stȯr-ē\ *n, pl* **stories** *also* **storeys** [ME *storie,* fr. ML *historia* picture, story of a building, fr. L, history, tale; prob. fr. pictures adorning the windows of medieval buildings] **1** : a set of rooms on one floor level of a building **2** : a horizontal division of a building's exterior not necessarily corresponding exactly with the stories within
sto-ry-board \-ˌbō(ə)rd, -ˌbȯ(ə)rd\ *n* : a panel or series of panels on which is tacked a set of small rough drawings depicting consecutively the important changes of scene and action in a planned film or television show or act
[1]sto-ry-book \-ˌbůk\ *n* : a book of stories ⟨~*s* for children⟩
[2]storybook *adj* : FAIRY-TALE
story line *n* : the plot of a story or play
sto-ry-tell-er \'stōr-ē-ˌtel-ər, 'stȯr-\ *n* : a teller of stories: as **a** : a relator of anecdotes **b** : a reciter of tales (as in a children's library) **c** : LIAR, FIBBER **d** : a writer of stories
sto-ry-writ-er \-ˌrīt-ər\ *n* : a writer of stories
stoss \'stäs, 'stȯs, 's(h)tōs\ *adj* [G *stoss-,* fr. *stossen* to push; akin to L *tundere* to beat — more at STINT] : facing toward the direction from which an overriding glacier impinges ⟨the ~ slope of a hill⟩
sto-tin-ka \stō-'tiŋ-kə, stə-\ *n, pl* **-tin-ki** \-kē\ [Bulg] — see *lev* at MONEY table
stound \'staůnd, 'stünd\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *stund;* akin to OHG *stunta* time, hour, OE *standan* to stand] *archaic* : TIME, WHILE
stoup \'stüp\ *n* [ME *stowp,* prob. of Scand origin; akin to ON *staup* cup — more at STEEP] **1** : a container for beverages: as **a** : a large glass **b** : TANKARD **c** : FLAGON **2** : a basin at the entrance of a church for holy water
[1]stour \'stů(ə)r\ *adj* [ME *stor,* fr. OE *stōr;* akin to OHG *stuori* large, Russ *staryĭ* old, OE *standan* to stand] **1** *chiefly Scot* : STRONG, HARDY **2** *chiefly Scot* : STERN, HARSH
[2]stour *n* [ME, fr. OF *estour,* of Gmc origin; akin to OHG *sturm* storm, battle — more at STORM] **1 a** *archaic* : BATTLE, CONFLICT **b** *dial Brit* : TUMULT, UPROAR **2** *chiefly Scot* : DUST, POWDER
[1]stout \'staůt\ *adj* [ME, fr. OF *estout,* of Gmc origin; akin to OHG *stolz* proud] **1** : strong of character: as **a** : BRAVE, BOLD **b** : FIRM, DETERMINED; *also* : OBSTINATE, UNCOMPROMISING **2** : physically or materially strong: **a** : STURDY, VIGOROUS **b** : STAUNCH, ENDURING **c** : SOLID, SUBSTANTIAL **3** : FORCEFUL ⟨a ~ attack⟩; *also* : VIOLENT ⟨a ~ wind⟩ **4** : bulky in body : FAT ***syn*** see STRONG — **stout-ish** \-ish\ *adj* — **stout-ly** *adv* — **stout-ness** *n*
[2]stout *n* **1** : a heavy-bodied brew that is darker and sweeter than porter and is made with roasted malt and a relatively high percentage of hops **2 a** : a fat person **b** : a clothing size designed for the large figure
stout-en \'staůt-ᵊn\ *vb* **stout-ened; stout-en-ing** \'staůt-niŋ, -ᵊn-iŋ\ *vt* : to make stout ⟨~ a resolve⟩ ~ *vi* : to become stout
stout-heart-ed \'staůt-'härt-əd\ *adj* : having a stout heart or spirit: **a** : COURAGEOUS **b** : STUBBORN ⟨hearken unto me, ye ~, that are far from righteousness —Isa 46:12 (AV)⟩ — **stout-heart-ed-ly** *adv* — **stout-heart-ed-ness** *n*
[1]stove \'stōv\ *n* [ME, fr. MD or MLG, heated room, steam room; akin to OHG *stuba* heated room, steam room; both fr. a prehistoric WGmc-NGmc word borrowed fr. (assumed) VL *extufa,* deriv. of L *ex-* + Gk *typhein* to smoke — more at DEAF] **1 a** : a portable or fixed apparatus that burns fuel or uses electricity to provide heat (as for cooking or heating) **b** : a device that generates heat for special purposes (as for heating tools or heating air for a hot blast) **c** : KILN **2** *chiefly Brit* : a hothouse esp. for the cultivation of tropical exotics; *broadly* : GREENHOUSE
[2]stove *past of* STAVE
stove-pipe \'stōv-ˌpīp\ *n* **1** : pipe of large diameter usu. of sheet steel used as a stove chimney or to connect a stove with a flue **2** : a tall silk hat
sto-ver \'stō-vər\ *n* [ME, modif. of AF *estovers* necessary supplies, fr. OF *estoveir* to be necessary, fr. L *est opus* there is need] **1** *chiefly dial Eng* : FODDER **2** : mature cured stalks of grain with the ears removed that are used as feed for livestock
stow \'stō\ *vt* [ME *stowen* to place, fr. *stowe* place, fr. OE *stōw;* akin to OFris *stō* place, Gk *stylos* pillar — more at STEER] **1** : HOUSE, LODGE **2 a** : to put away : STORE **b** *obs* : to lock up for safekeeping : CONFINE **3 a** : to dispose in an orderly fashion : ARRANGE, PACK **b** : LOAD **4** *slang* : to put aside : STOP **5 a** *archaic* : CROWD **b** : to cram in (food) — usu. used with *away* ⟨~*ed* away a huge dinner⟩
stow-age \-ij\ *n* **1 a** : an act or process of stowing **b** : goods in storage or to be stowed **2 a** : storage capacity **b** : a place or receptacle for storage **3** : the state of being stored
stow-away \'stō-ə-ˌwā\ *n* : one that stows away
stow away \ˌstō-ə-'wā\ *vi* : to secrete oneself aboard a vehicle as a means of obtaining transportation
[1]STP \ˌes-ˌtē-'pē\ *n* [fr. *STP,* a trademark for a motor fuel additive] : a psychedelic drug chemically related to mescaline and amphetamine
[2]STP *abbr* standard temperature and pressure
str *abbr* **1** steamer **2** strophe
STR *abbr* submarine thermal reactor
stra-bis-mus \strə-'biz-məs\ *n* [NL, fr. Gk *strabismos* condition of squinting, fr. *strabizein* to squint, fr. *strabos* squint-eyed; akin to Gk *strephein* to twist — more at STROPHE] : inability of one eye to attain binocular vision with the other because of imbalance of the muscles of the eyeball — called also *squint* — **stra-bis-mic** \-mik\ *adj*
[1]strad-dle \'strad-ᵊl\ *vb* **strad-dled; strad-dling** \'strad-liŋ, -ᵊl-iŋ\ [irreg. fr. *stride*] *vi* **1** : to stand, sit, or walk with the legs wide apart; *esp* : to sit astride **2** : to spread out irregularly : SPRAWL **3** : to be noncommittal : favor or seem to favor two apparently opposite sides **4** : to buy in one market and sell short in another ~ *vt* **1** : to stand, sit, or be astride of ⟨~ a horse⟩ **2** : to be noncommittal in regard to ⟨~ an issue⟩ — **strad-dler** \-lər, -ᵊl-ər\ *n* — **straddle the fence** : to be in a position of neutrality or indecision
[2]straddle *n* **1** : the act or position of one who straddles **2** : a noncommittal or equivocal position **3 a** : an option giving the holder the double privilege of a put and a call **b** : the state of being long in one market and short in another
Stra-di-va-ri \ˌstrad-ə-'vär-ē, -'var-, -'ver-\ *n* : STRADIVARIUS
Strad-i-var-i-us \ˌstrad-ə-'var-ē-əs, -'ver-\ *n, pl* **-var-ii** \-ē-ˌī\ [latinized form of Stradivari] : a stringed instrument (as a violin) made by Antonio Stradivari of Cremona
strafe \'strāf, *esp Brit* 'sträf\ *vt* **strafed; straf-ing** [G *Gott strafe England* God punish England, slogan of the Germans in World War I] : to rake (as ground troops) with fire at close range and esp.

with machine-gun fire from low-flying aircraft — **strafe** *n* — **straf·er** *n*

¹strag·gle \'strag-əl\ *vi* **strag·gled; strag·gling** \-(ə-)liŋ\ [ME *straglen*] **1** : to wander from the direct course or way : ROVE, STRAY **2** : to trail off from others of its kind ⟨little cabins *straggling* off into the woods⟩ — **strag·gler** \-(ə-)lər\ *n*

²straggle *n* : a straggling group (as of persons or objects)

strag·gly \'strag-(ə-)lē\ *adj* **strag·gli·er; -est** : spread out or scattered irregularly ⟨a ~ beard⟩

¹straight \'strāt\ *adj* [ME *streght, straight,* fr. pp. of *strecchen* to stretch] **1 a** : free from curves, bends, angles, or irregularities ⟨~ hair⟩ ⟨~ timber⟩ ⟨a ~ stream⟩ **b** : generated by a point moving continuously in the same direction and expressed by a linear equation ⟨a ~ line⟩ ⟨the ~ segment of a curve⟩ **2** : DIRECT, UNINTERRUPTED: as **a** : lying along or holding to a direct or proper course or method ⟨a ~ thinker⟩ **b** : CANDID, FRANK ⟨gave me a ~ answer⟩ **c** : coming directly from a trustworthy source ⟨a ~ tip on the horses⟩ **d** (1) : having the elements in an order ⟨the ~ sequence of events⟩ (2) : CONSECUTIVE ⟨12 ~ days⟩ **e** : having the cylinders arranged in a single straight line ⟨a ~ eight-cylinder engine⟩ **f** : UPRIGHT, VERTICAL ⟨the picture isn't quite ~⟩ **3 a** : exhibiting honesty and fairness ⟨~ dealing⟩ **b** : properly ordered or arranged ⟨set the kitchen ~⟩ ⟨set us ~ on that issue⟩; *also* : CORRECT ⟨get the facts ~⟩ **c** : free from extraneous matter : UNMIXED ⟨~ gin⟩ **d** : marked by no exceptions or deviations in support of a principle or party ⟨a ~ Republican⟩ ⟨a ~ ballot⟩ **e** : having a fixed price for each regardless of the number sold ⟨cigars 20 cents ~⟩ **f** : not deviating from the general norm or prescribed pattern ⟨preferred acting in ~ dramas to musicals or comedies⟩ **g** (1) : exhibiting no deviation from what is established or accepted as usual, normal, or proper : CONVENTIONAL; *also* : SQUARE 5f (2) : not using or under the influence of drugs **h** : HETEROSEXUAL **4** : being the only form of remuneration ⟨a salesman on ~ commission⟩ — **straight·ish** \-ish\ *adj* — **straight·ly** *adv* — **straight·ness** *n*

²straight *adv* : in a straight manner

³straight *vt, chiefly Scot* : STRAIGHTEN

⁴straight *n* **1** : something that is straight: as **a** : a straight line or arrangement **b** : STRAIGHTAWAY; *esp* : HOMESTRETCH **c** : a true or honest report or course **2 a** : a sequence (as of shots, strokes, or moves) resulting in a perfect score in a game or contest **b** : first place at the finish of a horse race : WIN **3** : a poker hand containing five cards in sequence but not of the same suit — see POKER illustration **4** : a conventional person; *esp* : a person who is not a member of the hippie culture

straight A \ˌstrāt-ˌā\ *adj* : having or constituting a first-class record of achievement ⟨a *straight A* student⟩

straight and narrow *n* [prob. alter. of *strait and narrow;* fr. the admonition of Mt 7:14 (AV), "strait is the gate and narrow is the way which leadeth unto life"] : the way of propriety and rectitude — used with *the*

straight angle *n* : an angle whose sides lie in opposite directions from the vertex in the same straight line and which equals two right angles

¹straight–arm \'strāt-ˌärm\ *n* : an act or instance of warding off a football tackler with the arm fully extended from the shoulder, elbow locked, and the palm of the hand placed firmly against any part of his body — called also *stiff-arm*

²straight–arm *vt* : to ward off with or as if with a straight-arm ~ *vi* : to use a straight-arm in warding off an opponent

¹straight·away \'strāt-ə-ˌwā\ *adj* **1** : proceeding in a straight line : continuous in direction **2** : IMMEDIATE

²straightaway *n* : a straight course: as **a** : the straight part of a closed racecourse : STRETCH **b** : a straight and unimpeded stretch of road or way

³straight·away \ˌstrāt-ə-'wā\ *adv* : without hesitation or delay

straight·bred \'strāt-ˈbred\ *adj* : produced by breeding a single breed, strain, or type ⟨a ~ Angus heifer⟩ — compare CROSSBRED — **straight·bred** \-ˌbred\ *n*

straight chain *n* : an open chain of atoms having no side chains

straight·edge \'strāt-ˌej\ *n* : a bar or piece of material (as of wood, metal, or plastic) with a straight edge for testing straight lines and surfaces or drawing straight lines

straight·en \'strāt-ᵊn\ *vb* **straight·ened; straight·en·ing** \'strāt-niŋ, -ᵊn-iŋ\ *vt* : to make straight — usu. used with *up* or *out* ~ *vi* : to become straight — usu. used with *up* or *out* — **straight·en·er** \'strāt-nər, -ᵊn-ər\ *n*

straight face *n* : a face giving no evidence of emotion and esp. of merriment — **straight–faced** \'strāt-ˈfāst\ *adj* — **straight–faced·ly** \-ˈfā-səd-lē, -ˈfās-tlē\ *adv*

straight flush *n* : a poker hand containing five cards of the same suit in sequence — see POKER illustration

¹straight·for·ward \(')strāt-ˈfȯr-wərd\ *also* **straight·for·wards** \-wərdz\ *adv* : in a straightforward manner

²straightforward *adj* **1** : proceeding in a straight course or manner : DIRECT, UNDEVIATING **2 a** : free from evasiveness or obscurity : EXACT, CANDID ⟨a ~ account⟩ **b** : CLEAR-CUT, PRECISE — **straight·for·ward·ly** *adv* — **straight·for·ward·ness** *n*

syn STRAIGHTFORWARD, FORTHRIGHT, ABOVEBOARD *shared meaning element* : free from all that is dishonest or secretive ***ant*** devious, indirect

straight–line \ˌstrāt-ˌlīn\ *adj* **1** : being a mechanical linkage or equivalent device designed to produce or copy motion in a straight line **2** : having the principal parts arranged in a straight line ⟨a ~ compressor having the steam and air cylinders in a straight line⟩ **3** : marked by a uniform spread and esp. in equal segments over a given term ⟨~ amortization⟩ ⟨~ depreciation⟩

straight man *n* : a member of a comedy team who feeds lines to his partner who in turn replies with usu. humorous quips

straight off *adv* : at once : IMMEDIATELY

straight–out \ˌstrāt-ˌau̇t\ *adj* **1** : FORTHRIGHT, BLUNT ⟨gave him a ~ answer⟩ **2** : OUTRIGHT, THOROUGHGOING

straight poker *n* : poker in which the players bet on the five cards dealt to them and then have a showdown without drawing — compare DRAW POKER, STUD POKER

straight razor *n* : a razor with a rigid steel cutting blade hinged to a case that forms a handle when the razor is open for use

straight ticket *n* : a ballot cast for all the candidates of one party

¹straight·way \'strāt-'wā, -ˌwā\ *adv* **1** : in a direct course : DIRECTLY ⟨fell ~ to the bottom of the stairs⟩ **2** : right away : IMMEDIATELY, FORTHWITH ⟨~ the clouds began to part⟩

²straight·way \ˌstrāt-ˌwā\ *adj* : having or affording a straight way ⟨a ~ valve⟩

¹strain \'strān\ *n* [ME *streen* progeny, lineage, fr. OE *strēon* gain, acquisition; akin to OHG *gistriuni* gain, L *struere* to heap up — more at STRUCTURE] **1 a** : LINEAGE, ANCESTRY **b** : a group of presumed common ancestry with clear-cut physiological but usu. not morphological distinctions ⟨a high-yielding ~ of winter wheat⟩; *broadly* : a specified infraspecific group (as a stock, line, or ecotype) **c** : KIND, SORT ⟨discussions of a lofty ~⟩ **2 a** : inherited or inherent character, quality, or disposition ⟨a ~ of madness in the family⟩ **b** : TRACE, STREAK ⟨a ~ of fanaticism⟩ **3 a** : TUNE, AIR **b** : a passage of verbal or musical expression **c** : a stream or outburst of forceful or impassioned speech **4 a** : the tenor, pervading note, burden, or tone of an utterance or of a course of action or conduct **b** : MOOD, TEMPER

²strain *vb* [ME *strainen,* fr. MF *estraindre,* fr. L *stringere* to bind or draw tight, press together; akin to Gk *strang-, stranx* drop squeezed out, *strangalē* halter] *vt* **1 a** : to draw tight : cause to fit firmly ⟨~ the bandage over the wound⟩ **b** : to stretch to maximum extension and tautness ⟨~ a canvas over a frame⟩ **2 a** : to exert (as oneself) to the utmost **b** : to injure by overuse, misuse, or excessive pressure ⟨~*ed* his heart by overwork⟩ **c** : to cause a change of form or size in (a body) by application of external force **3** : to squeeze or clasp tightly: as **a** : HUG **b** : to compress painfully : CONSTRICT **4 a** : to cause to pass through a strainer : FILTER **b** : to remove by straining ⟨~ lumps out of the gravy⟩ **5** : to stretch beyond a proper limit ⟨that story ~*s* my credulity⟩ **6** *obs* : to squeeze out : EXTORT ~ *vi* **1 a** : to make violent efforts : STRIVE ⟨has to ~ to reach the high notes⟩ **b** : to sustain a strain, wrench, or distortion **c** : to contract the muscles forcefully in attempting to defecate — often used in the phrase *strain at stool* **2** : to pass through or as if through a strainer ⟨the liquid ~*s* readily⟩ **3** : to make great difficulty or resistance : BALK — **strain a point** : to go beyond a usual, accepted, or proper limit or rule

³strain *n* **1** : an act of straining or the condition of being strained: as **a** : excessive physical or mental tension; *also* : a force, influence, or factor causing such tension ⟨her responsibilities were a constant ~⟩ **b** : excessive or difficult exertion or labor **c** : bodily injury from excessive tension, effort, or use ⟨heart ~⟩; *esp* : one resulting from a wrench or twist and involving undue stretching of muscles or ligaments ⟨back ~⟩ **d** : deformation of a material body under the action of applied forces **2** : an unusual reach, degree, or intensity : PITCH **3** *archaic* : a strained interpretation of something said or written

strained \'strānd\ *adj* **1** : done or produced with excessive effort **2** : pushed by antagonism near to open conflict ⟨~ relations⟩

strain·er \'strā-nər\ *n* : one that strains: as **a** : a device (as a sieve) to retain solid pieces while a liquid passes through **b** : any of various devices for stretching or tightening something

strain gauge *n* : EXTENSOMETER

straining beam *n* : a short piece of timber in a truss used to hold the ends of struts or rafters in place — see QUEEN POST illustration

strain·om·e·ter \strā-'näm-ət-ər\ *n* : EXTENSOMETER

¹strait \'strāt\ *adj* [ME, fr. OF *estreit,* fr. L *strictus* strait, strict — more at STRICT] **1** *archaic* **a** : NARROW **b** : limited in space or time **c** : closely fitting : CONSTRICTED, TIGHT **2** *archaic* : STRICT, RIGOROUS **3 a** : causing distress : DIFFICULT **b** : limited as to means or resources — **strait·ly** *adv* — **strait·ness** *n*

²strait *adv, obs* : in a close or tight manner

³strait *n* **1 a** *archaic* : a narrow space or passage **b** : a comparatively narrow passageway connecting two large bodies of water — often used in pl. but sing. in constr. **c** : ISTHMUS **2** : a situation of perplexity or distress — often used in pl. ***syn*** see JUNCTURE

strait·en \'strāt-ᵊn\ *vt* **strait·ened; strait·en·ing** \'strāt-niŋ, -ᵊn-iŋ\ **1 a** : to make strait or narrow **b** : to hem in : CONFINE **2** *archaic* : to restrict in freedom or scope : HAMPER **3** : to subject to distress, privation, or deficiency ⟨in ~*ed* circumstances⟩

¹strait·jack·et *or* **straight·jack·et** \'strāt-ˌjak-ət\ *n* **1** : a cover or overgarment of strong material (as canvas) used to bind the body and esp. the arms closely in restraining a violent prisoner or patient **2** : something that restricts or confines like a straitjacket

²straitjacket *or* **straightjacket** *vt* : to confine in or as if in a straitjacket

strait·laced *or* **straight·laced** \'strāt-'lāst\ *adj* **1** : wearing or having a bodice or stays tightly laced **2** : excessively strict in manners, morals, or opinion — **strait·laced·ly** \-'lā-səd-lē, -'lās-tlē\ *adv* — **strait·laced·ness** \-'lās(t)-nəs, -'lā-səd-nəs\ *n*

Straits dollar \'strāts-\ *n* [*Straits* Settlements, former British crown colony] : a dollar formerly issued by British Malaya and used in much of southern and eastern Asia and the East Indies

strake \'strāk\ *n* [ME; akin to OE *streccan* to stretch — more at STRETCH] **1** : a continuous band of hull planking or plates on a ship; *also* : the width of such a band **2** : STREAK, STRIPE

stra·mash \strə-'mash\ *n* [prob. imit.] *chiefly Scot* **1** : DISTURBANCE, RACKET **2** : CRASH, SMASHUP

stra·mo·ni·um \strə-'mō-nē-əm\ *n* [NL] **1** : JIMSONWEED **2** : the dried leaves of the jimsonweed or of a related plant (genus *Datura*) used in medicine similarly to belladonna esp. in the treatment of asthma

¹strand \'strand\ *n* [ME, fr. OE; akin to ON *strönd* strand, L *sternere* to spread out — more at STREW] : the land bordering a body of water : SHORE, BEACH

²strand *vt* **1** : to run, drive, or cause to drift onto a strand : run aground **2** : to leave in a strange or an unfavorable place esp.

without funds or means to depart **3** : to leave (a base runner) on base at the end of an inning in baseball ~ *vi* : to become stranded

[3]strand *n* [ME *stronde, strande*] *Scot & dial Eng* **1** : STREAM **2** : SEA

[4]strand *n* [ME *strond*] **1 a** : fibers or filaments twisted, plaited, or laid parallel to form a unit for further twisting or plaiting into yarn, thread, rope, or cordage **b** : one of the wires twisted together or laid parallel to form a wire rope or cable **c** : something (as a molecular chain) resembling a strand **2** : an element (as a yarn or thread) of a woven or plaited material **3** : an elongated or twisted and plaited body resembling a rope ⟨a ~ of pearls⟩ **4** : one of the elements interwoven in a complex whole

[5]strand *vt* **1** : to break a strand of (a rope) accidentally **2 a** : to form (as a rope) from strands **b** : to play out, twist, or arrange in a strand

strand·ed \'stran-dəd\ *adj* : having a strand or strands esp. of a specified kind or number — usu. used in combination ⟨the double-*stranded* molecule of DNA⟩ — **strand·ed·ness** *n*

strand·er \'stran-dər\ *n* : a machine that makes strands into cable or rope

strand·line \'stran-ˌ(d)līn\ *n* : SHORELINE; *esp* : a shoreline above the present water level

strange \'strānj\ *adj* **strang·er; strang·est** [ME, fr. OF *estrange*, fr. L *extraneus*, lit., external, fr. *extra* outside — more at EXTRA-] **1 a** *archaic* : of, relating to, or characteristic of another country : FOREIGN **b** : not native to or naturally belonging in a place : of external origin, kind, or character **2 a** : not before known, heard, or seen : NEW, UNFAMILIAR **b** : exciting wonder or awe : EXTRAORDINARY, QUEER **3 a** : discouraging familiarities : RESERVED, DISTANT **b** : ill at ease **4** : UNACCUSTOMED, UNVERSED ⟨she was ~ to his ways⟩ — **strange·ly** *adv*

syn STRANGE, SINGULAR, UNIQUE, UNPARALLELED, PECULIAR *shared meaning element* : deviating from what is ordinary, usual, or to be expected ***ant*** familiar

strange·ness \'strānj-nəs\ *n* **1** : the quality or state of being strange **2** : the quantum characteristic of a strongly interacting elementary particle that indicates the possible transformations upon strong interaction with other elementary particles

strange particle *n* : a short-lived unstable elementary particle (as a kaon or a sigma) that is created in high-energy particle collisions and has a strangeness quantum number different from zero

[1]strang·er \'strān-jər\ *n* [ME, fr. MF *estrangier* foreign, foreigner, fr. *estrange*] **1** : one who is strange: as **a** (1) : FOREIGNER (2) : a resident alien **b** : one in the house of another as a guest, visitor, or intruder **c** : a person or thing that is unknown or with whom one is unacquainted **d** : one who does not belong to or is kept from the activities of a group **e** : one not privy or party to an act, contract, or title : one that interferes without right **2** : one ignorant of or unacquainted with someone or something

[2]stranger *adj* : of, relating to, or being a stranger : FOREIGN

[3]stranger *vt, obs* : ESTRANGE, ALIENATE

strange woman *n* [fr. the expression frequently used in Prov (AV)] : PROSTITUTE

stran·gle \'straŋ-gəl\ *vb* **stran·gled; stran·gling** \-g(ə-)liŋ\ [ME *stranglen*, fr. MF *estrangler*, fr. L *strangulare*, fr. Gk *strangalan*, fr. *strangalē* halter — more at STRAIN] *vt* **1 a** : to choke to death by compressing the throat with something (as a hand or rope) : THROTTLE **b** : to obstruct seriously or fatally the normal breathing of ⟨the bone wedged in his throat and *strangled* him⟩ **c** : STIFLE **2** : to suppress or hinder the rise, expression, or growth of ~ *vi* **1** : to become strangled **2** : to die from or as if from interference with breathing — **stran·gler** \-g(ə-)lər\ *n*

stran·gle·hold \'straŋ-gəl-ˌhōld\ *n* **1** : an illegal wrestling hold by which one's opponent is choked **2** : a force or influence that chokes or suppresses freedom of movement or expression

stran·gles \'straŋ-gəlz\ *n pl but sing or pl in constr* [pl. of obs. *strangle* (act of strangling)] : an infectious febrile disease of horses caused by a bacterium (*Streptococcus equi*) and marked by inflammation and congestion of mucous membranes

stran·gu·late \'straŋ-gyə-ˌlāt\ *vb* **-lat·ed; -lat·ing** [L *strangulatus*, pp. of *strangulare*] *vt* : STRANGLE, CONSTRICT ~ *vi* : to become constricted so as to stop circulation ⟨the hernia will ~ and become necrotic⟩

stran·gu·la·tion \ˌstraŋ-gyə-'lā-shən\ *n* **1** : the action or process of strangling or strangulating **2** : the state of being strangled or strangulated; *esp* : excessive or pathological constriction or compression of a bodily tube (as a blood vessel or a loop of intestine) that interrupts its ability to act as a passage

stran·gu·ry \'straŋ-gyə-rē, -ˌgyůr-ē\ *n, pl* **-ries** [ME, fr. L *stranguria*, fr. Gk *strangouria*, fr. *strang-, stranx* drop squeezed out + *ourein* to urinate, fr. *ouron* urine — more at STRAIN, URINE] : a slow and painful discharge of urine drop by drop

[1]strap \'strap\ *n* [alter. of *strop*, fr. ME, band or loop of leather or rope, fr. OE, thong for securing an oar; akin to MHG *strupfe* strap; all fr. a prehistoric WGmc word borrowed fr. L *struppus* band, strap, fr. Gk *strophos* twisted band; akin to Gk *strephein* to twist — more at STROPHE] **1** : a band, plate, or loop of metal for binding objects together or for clamping an object in position **2 a** : a narrow usu. flat strip or thong of a flexible material and esp. leather used for securing, holding together, or wrapping **b** : something made of a strap forming a loop ⟨a boot ~⟩ **c** : a strip of leather used for flogging **d** : STROP **3** : a shoe fastened with a usu. buckled strap **4** *Irish* : TROLLOP

[2]strap *vt* **strapped; strap·ping** **1 a** (1) : to secure with or attach by means of a strap (2) : to support (as a sprained joint) with overlapping strips of adhesive plaster **b** : BIND, CONSTRICT **2** : to beat or punish with a strap **3** : STROP **4** : to cause to suffer from an extreme scarcity ⟨is often *strapped* for cash⟩

strap·hang·er \'strap-ˌhaŋ-ər\ *n* : a standing passenger in a subway, streetcar, bus, or train who clings for support to one of the short straps or similar devices placed along the aisle — **strap·hang** \-ˌhaŋ\ *vi*

strap·less \-ləs\ *adj* : having no strap; *specif* : made or worn without shoulder straps ⟨a ~ evening gown⟩

strap·pa·do \stra-'pād-(ˌ)ō, -'päd-\ *n* [modif. of It *strappata*, lit., sharp pull] : a former punishment or torture consisting of hoisting the subject by a rope and letting him fall to the length of the rope; *also* : a machine used to inflict this torture

strap·per \'strap-ər\ *n* : one that is unusually large or robust

strap·ping \'strap-iŋ\ *adj* : having a vigorously sturdy constitution

strass \'stras\ *n* [F *stras, strass*] : PASTE 3

strat·a·gem \'strat-ə-jəm, -ˌjem\ *n* [It *stratagemma*, fr. L *strategema*, fr. Gk *stratēgēma*, fr. *stratēgein* to be a general, maneuver, fr. *stratēgos* general, fr. *stratos* army (akin to L *stratus*, pp. of *sternere* to spread out) + *agein* to lead — more at STRATUM, AGENT] **1 a** : an artifice or trick in war for deceiving and outwitting the enemy **b** : a cleverly contrived trick or scheme for gaining an end **2** : skill in ruses or trickery ***syn*** see TRICK

stra·te·gic \strə-'tē-jik\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or marked by strategy ⟨a ~ retreat⟩ **2 a** : necessary to or important in the initiation, conduct, or completion of a strategic plan **b** : required for the conduct of war ⟨~ materials⟩ **c** : of great importance within an integrated whole or to a planned effect ⟨emphasized ~ points⟩ **3** : designed or trained to strike an enemy at the sources of his military, economic, or political power ⟨a ~ bomber⟩ — **stra·te·gi·cal** \-ji-kəl\ *adj* — **stra·te·gi·cal·ly** \-ji-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

strat·e·gist \'strat-ə-jəst\ *n* : one skilled in strategy

strat·e·gy \-jē\ *n, pl* **-gies** [Gk *stratēgia* generalship, fr. *stratēgos*] **1 a** (1) : the science and art of employing the political, economic, psychological, and military forces of a nation or group of nations to afford the maximum support to adopted policies in peace or war (2) : the science and art of military command exercised to meet the enemy in combat under advantageous conditions **b** : a variety of or instance of the use of strategy **2 a** : a careful plan or method : a clever stratagem **b** : the art of devising or employing plans or stratagems toward a goal

syn STRATEGY, TACTICS, LOGISTICS *shared meaning element* : an aspect of military science

strath \'strath\ *n* [ScGael *srath*] : a flat wide river valley or the low-lying grassland along it

strath·spey \('strath-'spā\ *n, pl* **strathspeys** [*Strath Spey*, district of Scotland] : a Scottish dance that is similar to but slower than the reel; *also* : the music for this dance

strati- *comb form* [NL *stratum*] : stratum ⟨*strati*form⟩

stra·tic·u·late \strə-'tik-yə-lət, stra-\ *adj* [(assumed) NL *straticulum*, dim. of *stratum*] : characterized by thin parallel strata

strat·i·fi·ca·tion \ˌstrat-ə-fə-'kā-shən\ *n* **1 a** : the act or process of stratifying **b** : the state of being stratified **2** : a stratified formation

strat·i·fi·ca·tion·al grammar \ˌstrat-ə-fə-'kā-shnəl-, -shən-ᵊl-\ *n* : a grammar based on the theory that language consists of a series of hierarchically related strata linked together by representational rules

strat·i·form \'strat-ə-ˌfȯrm\ *adj* : having a stratified formation

strat·i·fy \'strat-ə-ˌfī\ *vb* **-fied; -fy·ing** [NL *stratificare*, fr. *stratum* + L *-ificare* -ify] *vt* **1 a** : to form, deposit, or arrange in strata **b** (1) : to divide or arrange into classes, castes, or social strata (2) : to divide into a series of graded statuses **2** : to store (seeds) in layers alternating with moisture-holding material (as earth or peat) ~ *vi* : to become arranged in strata

strati·graph·ic \ˌstrat-ə-'graf-ik\ *adj* : of, relating to, or determined by stratigraphy

stra·tig·ra·phy \strə-'tig-rə-fē, stə-\ *n* [ISV] **1** : the arrangement of strata **2** : geology that deals with the origin, composition, distribution, and succession of strata

strato- *comb form* [NL *stratus*] : stratus and ⟨*strato*cumulus⟩

stra·toc·ra·cy \strə-'täk-rə-sē\ *n, pl* **-cies** [Gk *stratos* army — more at STRATAGEM] : a military government

stra·to·cu·mu·lus \ˌsträt-ō-'kyü-myə-ləs, ˌstrat-\ *n* [NL] : stratified cumulus consisting of large balls or rolls of dark cloud which often cover the whole sky esp. in winter — see CLOUD illustration

strato·sphere \'strat-ə-ˌsfi(ə)r\ *n* [F *stratosphère*, fr. NL *stratum* + *-o-* + F *sphère* sphere, fr. L *sphaera*] **1** : an upper portion of the atmosphere which is above approximately seven miles depending on latitude, season, and weather and in which temperature changes little with changing altitude and clouds of water are rare **2** : a very high or the highest region on a graded scale ⟨the ~ of English society —*New Yorker*⟩ — **strato·spher·ic** \ˌstrat-ə-'sfi(ə)r-ik, -'sfer-\ *adj*

stra·tum \'strāt-əm 'strat-\ *n, pl* **stra·ta** \'strāt-ə, 'strat-\ [NL, fr. L, spread, bed, fr. neut. of *stratus*, pp. of *sternere* to spread out — more at STREW] **1** : a bed or layer artificially made **2 a** : a sheetlike mass of sedimentary rock or earth of one kind lying between beds of other kinds **b** : a region of the sea or atmosphere that is analogous to a stratum of the earth **c** : a layer of tissue ⟨deep ~ of the skin⟩ **d** : a layer in which archaeological material (as artifacts, skeletons, and dwelling remains) is found on excavation **3 a** : a part of a historical or sociological series representing a period or a stage of development **b** : a socioeconomic level of society comprised of persons of the same or similar status esp. with regard to education or culture **4** : one of a series of layers, levels, or gradations in an ordered system ⟨*strata* of thought⟩ **5** : a statistical subpopulation

stra·tus \'strāt-əs, 'strat-\ *n, pl* **stra·ti** \'strāt-ˌī, 'strat-\ [NL, fr. L, pp. of *sternere*] : a cloud form of greater horizontal extension and comparatively lower altitude (2000 to 7000 feet) than the cumulostratus or cirrostratus — see CLOUD illustration

stra·vage *or* **stra·vaig** \strə-'vāg\ *vi* [prob. by shortening and alter. fr. *extravagate*] *chiefly Scot* : ROAM

[1]straw \'strȯ\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *strēaw;* akin to OHG *strō* straw, OE *strewian* to strew] **1 a** : stalks of grain after threshing; *broadly* : dry stalky plant residue used like grain straw (as for bedding or packing) **b** : a natural or artificial heavy fiber used for weaving, plaiting, or braiding **2** : a dry coarse stem esp. of a cereal grass **3 a** (1) : something of small worth or significance (2) : something too insubstantial to provide support or help in a desperate situation ⟨clutching at ~s⟩ **b** : CHAFF 2 **4 a** : something (as a hat) made of straw **b** : a tube (as of paper, plastic, or glass) for sucking up a beverage — **strawy** \'strȯ(-)i\ *adj* — **straw in the wind** : a slight fact that is an indication of a coming event

[2]straw *adj* **1** : made of straw ⟨a ~ rug⟩ **2** : of, relating to, or used for straw ⟨a ~ barn⟩ **3** : of the color of straw ⟨~ hair⟩ **4** : of little or no value : WORTHLESS **5** : of, relating to, resembling, or being a man of straw **6** : of, relating to, or concerned with the discovery of preferences by means of a straw vote

straw·ber·ry \'strȯ-ˌber-ē, -b(ə-)rē\ *n, often attrib* [fr. the appearance of the achenes on the surface] : the juicy edible usu. red fruit of a plant (genus *Fragaria*) of the rose family that is technically an enlarged pulpy receptacle bearing numerous achenes; *also* : a plant whose fruits are strawberries



strawberry

strawberry bush *n* **1** : a No. American euonymus (*Euonymus americanus*) with crimson pods and seeds with a scarlet aril **2** : [2]WAHOO

strawberry mark *n* : a usu. red and elevated birthmark that is a small vascular tumor

strawberry roan *n* : a roan horse with a decidedly red ground color

strawberry shrub *n* : any of a genus (*Calycanthus* of the family Calycanthaceae, the strawberry-shrub family) of shrubs with fragrant brownish red flowers

strawberry tomato *n* : GROUND-CHERRY; *esp* : a stout hairy annual herb (*Physalis pruinosa*) of eastern No. America with sweet globular yellow fruits

strawberry tree *n* : a European evergreen tree (*Arbutus unedo*) of the heath family with racemose white flowers and fruits like strawberries

straw·board \'strȯ-ˌbō(ə)rd, -ˌbȯ(ə)rd\ *n* : board made of straw pulp and used esp. for packing

straw boss *n* **1** : an assistant to a foreman in charge of supervising and expediting the work of a small gang of workmen **2** : a member of a group of workers who supervises the work of the others in addition to doing his own job

straw·flow·er \'strȯ-ˌflau̇(-ə)r\ *n* : any of several everlasting flowers; *esp* : an Australian annual herb (*Helichrysum bracteatum*) that is much grown for its heads of chaffy brightly colored long-keeping flowers

straw·hat theater \ˌstrȯ-ˌhat-\ *n* [fr. the former fashion of wearing straw hats in summer] : SUMMER THEATER

straw man *n* **1** : a weak or imaginary opposition (as an argument or adversary) set up only to be easily confuted **2** : a person set up to serve as a cover for a usu. questionable transaction

straw vote *n* : an unofficial vote taken (as at a chance gathering) to indicate the relative strength of opposing candidates or issues

straw wine *n* : a sweet dessert wine produced from grapes partially dried in the sun often on straw before fermentation

straw·worm \'strȯ-ˌwərm\ *n* : any of several larval chalcid flies that injure the straw of cereal grasses (as wheat)

straw yellow *n* : a pale yellow

[1]stray \'strā\ *vi* [ME *straien*, fr. MF *estraier*, fr. (assumed) VL *extragare*, fr. L *extra-* outside + *vagari* to wander — more at EXTRA-, VAGARY] : WANDER: as **a** : to wander from company, restraint, or proper limits **b** : to roam about without fixed direction or purpose **c** : to move in a winding course : MEANDER **d** : to move without voluntary control ⟨eyes ~*ing* absently around the room⟩ **e** : to become distracted from an argument or chain of thought ⟨~*ed* from the point⟩ **f** : to wander accidentally from a fixed or chosen route **g** : ERR, SIN — **stray·er** *n*

[2]stray *n* [ME, fr. OF *estraié*, pp. of *estraier*] **1 a** : a domestic animal that is wandering at large or is lost **b** : a person or thing that strays **2** [ME, fr. *straien* to stray] *archaic* : the act of going astray **3** : a disturbing electrical effect in radio reception not produced by a transmitting station **4** : an unexpected formation encountered in drilling an oil or gas well

[3]stray *adj* **1** : having strayed : WANDERING ⟨a ~ cow⟩ **2** : occurring at random or sporadically ⟨a few ~ hairs⟩ **3** : not serving any useful purpose : UNWANTED ⟨~ light⟩

[1]streak \'strēk\ *n* [ME *streke*, fr. OE *strica;* akin to OHG *strich* line, L *striga* row — more at STRIKE] **1** : a line or mark of a different color or texture from the ground : STRIPE **2 a** : the color of the fine powder of a mineral obtained by scratching or rubbing against a hard white surface and constituting an important distinguishing character **b** : inoculum implanted in a line on a solid medium **c** : any of several virus diseases of plants (as the potato, tomato, or raspberry) resembling mosaic but usu. producing at least some linear markings **3 a** : a narrow band of light **b** : a lightning bolt **4 a** : a slight admixture : TRACE ⟨had a mean ~ in him⟩ **b** : a brief run (as of luck) **c** : a consecutive series ⟨was on a winning ~⟩ **5** : a narrow layer (as of ore)

[2]streak *vt* : to make streaks on or in ⟨tears ~*ing* her face⟩ ~ *vi* **1** : to move swiftly : RUSH ⟨a jet ~*ing* across the sky⟩ **2** : to have a streak (as of winning or outstanding performances)

streaked \'strēkt, 'strē-kəd\ *adj* **1** : marked with stripes or linear discolorations **2** : physically or mentally disturbed : UPSET

streak·ing \'strē-kiŋ\ *n* : the lightening (as by chemicals) of a few long strands of hair to produce a streaked effect

streaky \'strē-kē\ *adj* **streak·i·er; -est** **1** : marked with streaks ⟨~ bacon⟩ **2** : APPREHENSIVE ⟨nervous and ~⟩ **3** : apt to vary (as in effectiveness) : UNRELIABLE — **streak·i·ness** *n*

[1]stream \'strēm\ *n* [ME *streme*, fr. OE *strēam;* akin to OHG *stroum* stream, Gk *rhein* to flow, Skt *sarati* it flows — more at SERUM] **1** : a body of running water (as a river or brook) flowing on the earth; *also* : any body of flowing fluid (as water or gas) **2 a** : a steady succession (as of words or events) ⟨kept up an endless ~ of chatter⟩ **b** : a constantly renewed supply **c** : a continuous moving procession ⟨a ~ of traffic⟩ **3** : an unbroken flow (as of gas or particles of matter) **4** : a ray of light **5 a** : a prevailing attitude or group ⟨has always run against the ~ of current fashion⟩ **b** : a dominant influence or line of development **6** *Brit* : TRACK 3b — **on stream** : in or into production

[2]stream *vi* **1 a** : to flow in or as if in a stream **b** : to leave a bright trail ⟨a meteor ~*ed* through the sky⟩ **2 a** : to exude a bodily fluid profusely ⟨her eyes were ~*ing* from the onions⟩ **b** : to become wet with a discharge of bodily fluid ⟨~*ing* with perspiration⟩ **3** : to trail out at full length ⟨her hair ~*ing* back as she ran⟩ **4** : to pour in large numbers ⟨complaints came ~*ing* in⟩ ~ *vt* **1** : to emit freely or in a stream ⟨his eyes ~*ed* tears⟩ **2** : to display fully extended ***syn*** see POUR

stream·bed \'strēm-ˌbed\ *n* : the channel occupied or formerly occupied by a stream

stream·er \'strē-mər\ *n* **1 a** : a flag that streams in the wind; *esp* : PENNANT **b** : any long narrow wavy strip resembling or suggesting a banner floating in the wind **c** : BANNER 2 **2 a** : a long extension of the solar corona visible only during a total solar eclipse **b** *pl* : AURORA BOREALIS

stream·ing \'strē-miŋ\ *n* **1** : an act or instance of flowing; *specif* : CYCLOSIS **2** *Brit* : TRACKING

stream·let \'strēm-lət\ *n* : a small stream

[1]stream·line \'strēm-ˌlīn, -'līn\ *n* **1** : the path of a fluid particle relative to a solid body past which the fluid is moving in smooth flow without turbulence **2 a** : a contour designed to minimize resistance to motion through a fluid (as air) **b** : a smooth or flowing line designed as if for decreasing air resistance

[2]streamline *vt* **1** : to design or construct with a streamline **2** : to bring up to date : MODERNIZE **3 a** : ORGANIZE **b** : to make simpler or more efficient

stream·lined \-ˌlīnd, -'līnd\ *adj* **1 a** : contoured to reduce resistance to motion through a fluid (as air) **b** : stripped of nonessentials : COMPACT **c** : effectively integrated : ORGANIZED **2** : having flowing lines **3** : brought up to date : MODERNIZED **4** : of or relating to streamline flow

streamline flow *n* : an uninterrupted flow (as of air) past a solid body in which the direction at every point remains unchanged with the passage of time

stream·lin·er \'strēm-'lī-nər\ *n* : one that is streamlined; *esp* : a streamlined train

stream of consciousness **1** : individual conscious experience considered as a series of processes or experiences continuously moving forward in time **2** : INTERIOR MONOLOGUE

streek \'strēk\ *vt* [ME (northern dial.) *streken;* akin to OE *streccan* to stretch] **1** *chiefly Scot* : STRETCH, EXTEND **2** *chiefly Scot* : to lay out (a dead body)

[1]street \'strēt\ *n* [ME *strete*, fr. OE *strǣt;* akin to OHG *strāza* street; both fr. a prehistoric WGmc word borrowed fr. LL *strata* paved road, fr. L, fem. of *stratus*, pp. of *sternere* to spread out — more at STREW] **1 a** : a thoroughfare esp. in a city, town, or village that is wider than an alley or lane and that usu. includes sidewalks **b** : the part of a street reserved for vehicles **c** : a thoroughfare with abutting property ⟨lives on a fashionable ~⟩ **2** : the people occupying property on a street ⟨the whole ~ knew about the accident⟩ **3** : a promising line of development or a channeling of effort **4** *cap* : a district (as Wall Street or Fleet Street) identified with a particular profession **5** : an environment (as in a depressed neighborhood or section of a city) of prostitution, poverty, dereliction, or crime — **on the street** *or* **in the street** **1** : idle, homeless, or out of a job **2** : out of prison : at liberty — **up one's street** *or* **down one's street** : suited to one's abilities or taste

[2]street *adj* **1 a** : adjoining or giving access to a street ⟨the ~ door⟩ **b** : carried on or taking place in the street ⟨~ fighting⟩ **c** : living or working on the streets ⟨a ~ peddler⟩ **d** : located in, used for, or serving as a guide to the streets ⟨a ~ map⟩ **e** : performing in or heard on the street ⟨a ~ band⟩ **f** : suitable for wear or use on the street ⟨~ clothes⟩ **g** : not touching the ground — used of a woman's dress in lengths reaching the knee, calf, or ankle **2** : caused by a street virus ⟨~ distemper⟩

street arab \-'ar-əb, -'ā-ˌrab\ *n, often cap A* : a homeless vagabond and esp. an outcast boy or girl in the streets of a city : GAMIN

street·car \'strēt-ˌkär\ *n* : a vehicle on rails used primarily for transporting passengers and typically operating on city streets

street·light \-ˌlīt\ *n* : a light usu. mounted on a pole and constituting one of a series spaced at intervals along a public street or highway

street railway *n* : a line operating streetcars or buses

streets \'strēts\ *adv, chiefly Brit* : far and away ⟨a nice woman, ~ above these other callers —Katherine Mansfield⟩

street theater *n* : GUERRILLA THEATER

street virus *n* : virulent or natural virus (as that causing rabies) as distinguished from virus attenuated in the laboratory

street·walk·er \'strēt-ˌwȯ-kər\ *n* : PROSTITUTE; *esp* : one who solicits in the streets — compare CALL GIRL — **street·walk·ing** \-kiŋ\ *n*

strength \'streŋ(k)th\ *n* [ME *strengthe*, fr. OE *strengthu;* akin to OHG *strengi* strong — more at STRONG] **1** : the quality or state of being strong : capacity for exertion or endurance **2** : power to resist force : SOLIDITY, TOUGHNESS **3** : power of resisting attack : IMPREGNABILITY **4 a** : legal, logical, or moral force **b** : a strong attribute or inherent asset ⟨the ~s and the weaknesses of the book are evident⟩ **5 a** : degree of potency of effect or of concentration **b** : intensity of light, color, sound, or odor **c** : vigor of expression **6** : force as measured in numbers : effective

numbers of any body or organization ⟨an army at full ~⟩ **7** : one regarded as embodying or affording force or firmness : SUPPORT **8** : maintenance of or a rising tendency in a price level : firmness of prices **9** : BASIS — used in the phrase *on the strength of* — **from strength to strength** : vigorously forward : from one high point to the next

strength·en \'streŋ(k)-thən\ *vb* **strength·ened; strength·en·ing** \'streŋ(k)th-(ə-)niŋ\ *vt* : to make stronger ~ *vi* : to become stronger — **strength·en·er** \'streŋ(k)th-(ə-)nər\ *n*

strength·less \'streŋ(k)th-ləs\ *adj* [ME *strentheles*, fr. *strenthe* strength + *-les* -less] : having no strength — **strength·less·ness** *n*

stren·u·ous \'stren-yə-wəs\ *adj* [L *strenuus* — more at STARE] **1 a** : vigorously active : ENERGETIC **b** : FERVENT, ZEALOUS **2** : marked by or calling for energy or stamina : ARDUOUS — **stren·u·os·i·ty** \ˌstren-yə-'wäs-ət-ē\ *n* — **stren·u·ous·ly** \'stren-yə-wəs-lē\ *adv* — **stren·u·ous·ness** *n*

strep \'strep\ *adj* : STREPTOCOCCAL

strep throat *n* : SEPTIC SORE THROAT

strepto- *comb form* [NL, fr. Gk, fr. *streptos* twisted, fr. *strephein* to twist — more at STROPHE] **1** : twisted : twisted chain ⟨*streptococcus*⟩ **2** : streptococcus ⟨*streptokinase*⟩

strep·to·ba·cil·lus \ˌstrep-tō-bə-'sil-əs\ *n* [NL] : any of various bacilli in which the individual cells are joined in a chain; *esp* : one (*Streptobacillus moniliformis*) that is the causative agent of one form of rat-bite fever

strep·to·coc·cal \ˌstrep-tə-'käk-əl\ *also* **strep·to·coc·cic** \-'käk-(s)ik\ *adj* : of, relating to, or caused by streptococci ⟨a ~ sore throat⟩ ⟨~ organisms⟩

strep·to·coc·cus \-'käk-əs\ *n, pl* **-coc·ci** \-'käk-ˌ(s)ī, -'käk-(ˌ)(s)ē\ [NL, genus name] : any of a genus (*Streptococcus*) of nonmotile chiefly parasitic gram-positive bacteria that divide only in one plane, occur in pairs or chains but not in packets, and include important pathogens of man and domestic animals; *broadly* : a coccus occurring in chains

strep·to·ki·nase \ˌstrep-tō-'kī-ˌnās, -ˌnāz\ *n* : a proteolytic enzyme from hemolytic streptococci active in promoting dissolution of blood clots

strep·to·ly·sin \ˌstrep-tə-'līs-ᵊn\ *n* : an antigenic hemolysin produced by streptococci

strep·to·my·ces \-'mī-ˌsēz\ *n, pl* **streptomyces** [NL, fr. *strepto-* + Gk *mykēs* fungus; akin to L *mucus* mucus] : any of a genus (*Streptomyces*) of mostly soil actinomycetes including some that form antibiotics as by-products of their metabolism

strep·to·my·cete \-'mī-ˌsēt, -ˌmī-'sēt\ *n* [NL *Streptomycet-*, *Streptomyces*, genus name] : any of a family (Streptomycetaceae) of actinomycetes (as a streptomyces) that form vegetative mycelia which rarely break up into bacillary forms, have conidia borne on sporophores, and are typically aerobic soil saprophytes but include a few parasites of plants and animals

strep·to·my·cin \-'mīs-ᵊn\ *n* : an antibiotic organic base $C_{21}H_{39}H_7O_{12}$ produced by a soil actinomycete (*Streptomyces griseus*), active against many bacteria, and used esp. in the treatment of infections (as tuberculosis) by gram-negative bacteria

strep·to·thri·cin \-'thrīs-ᵊn, -'thris-\ *n* [NL *Streptothric-*, *Streptothrix*, genus of bacteria, fr. *strepto-* + Gk *trich-*, *thrix* hair — more at TRICH-] : a basic antibiotic produced by a soil actinomycete (*Streptomyces lavendulae*) and active against bacteria and to some degree against fungi

¹stress \'stres\ *n* [ME *stresse* stress, distress, fr. *destresse* — more at DISTRESS] **1** : constraining force or influence: as **a** : a force exerted when one body or body part presses on, pulls on, pushes against, or tends to compress or twist another body or body part; *esp* : the intensity of this mutual force commonly expressed in pounds per square inch **b** : the deformation caused in a body by such a force **c** : a physical, chemical, or emotional factor that causes bodily or mental tension and may be a factor in disease causation **d** : a state resulting from a stress; *esp* : one of bodily or mental tension resulting from factors that tend to alter an existent equilibrium **e** : STRAIN, PRESSURE ⟨the environment is under ~ to the point of collapse —Joseph Shoben⟩ **2** : EMPHASIS, WEIGHT ⟨lay ~ on a point⟩ **3** *archaic* : intense effort or exertion **4** : intensity of utterance given to a speech sound, syllable, or word producing relative loudness **5 a** : relative force or prominence of sound in verse **b** : a syllable having relative force or prominence **6** : ACCENT 6a, 6b(2)

²stress *vt* **1** : to subject to phonetic stress : ACCENT **2** : to subject to physical stress **3** : to lay stress on : EMPHASIZE

stress·ful \'stres-fəl\ *adj* : full of or subject to stress — **stress·ful·ly** \-fə-lē\ *adv*

stress·less \-ləs\ *adj* : having no stress; *specif* : having no accent ⟨a ~ syllable⟩ — **stress·less·ness** *n*

stress mark *n* : a mark used with (as before, after, or over) a written syllable in the respelling of a word to show that this syllable is to be stressed when spoken : ACCENT MARK

stress·or \'stres-ər, -ˌȯ(ə)r\ *n* : a stimulus that causes stress

stress–verse \'stres-ˌvərs\ *n* : verse whose rhythm is produced by recurrence of stresses without regard to number of syllables or any fixed distribution of unstressed elements

¹stretch \'strech\ *vb* [ME *strecchen*, fr. OE *streccan*; akin to OHG *strecchan* to stretch, OE *starian* to stare] *vt* **1** : to extend (as one's limbs or body) in a reclining position **2** : to reach out : EXTEND ⟨~*ed* forth his arm⟩ **3** : to extend in length ⟨~*ed* her neck to see what was going on⟩ **4** : to fell with or as if with a blow **5** : to cause the limbs of (a person) to be pulled esp. in torture **6** : to draw up (one's body) from a cramped, stooping, or relaxed position **7** : to pull taut ⟨canvas ~*ed* on a frame⟩ **8 a** : to enlarge or distend esp. by force **b** : to extend or expand as if by physical force ⟨~ one's mind with a good book⟩ **c** : STRAIN ⟨~*ed* his already thin patience⟩ **9** : to cause to reach or continue (as from one point to another or across a space) ⟨~ a wire between two posts⟩ **10 a** : to amplify or enlarge beyond natural or proper limits ⟨the rules can be ~*ed* this once⟩ **b** : to expand (as by improvisation) to fulfill a larger function ⟨~*ing* a dollar⟩ ~ *vi* **a** : to become extended in length or breadth or both : SPREAD ⟨broad plains ~*ing* to the sea⟩ **b** : to extend over a continuous period **2** : to become extended without breaking **3 a** : to extend one's body or limbs **b** : to lie down at full length — **stretch·abil·i·ty** \ˌstrech-ə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* — **stretch·able** \'strech-ə-bəl\ *adj* — **stretch a point** : to go beyond what is strictly warranted in making a claim or concession — **stretch one's legs** **1** : to extend the legs **2** : to take a walk in order to relieve stiffness caused by prolonged sitting

²stretch *n* **1 a** : an exercise of something (as the understanding or the imagination) beyond ordinary or normal limits **b** : an extension of the scope or application of something ⟨a ~ of language⟩ **2** : the extent to which something may be stretched **3** : the act of stretching : the state of being stretched **4 a** : an extent in length or area ⟨a ~ of woods⟩ **b** : a continuous period of time ⟨can write for eight hours at a ~⟩ **5** : a walk to relieve fatigue **6** : a term of imprisonment **7 a** : either of the straight sides of a racecourse; *esp* : HOMESTRETCH **b** : a final stage **8** : the capacity for being stretched : ELASTICITY

³stretch *adj* : easily stretched : ELASTIC ⟨a ~ wig⟩

stretch·er \'strech-ər\ *n* **1** : one that stretches; *esp* : a device or machine for stretching or expanding something **2 a** : a brick or stone laid with its length parallel to the face of the wall **b** : a timber or rod used esp. when horizontal as a tie in framed work **3** : a litter (as of canvas) for carrying a disabled or dead person **4** : a rod or bar extending between two legs of a chair or table

stretch·er–bear·er \-ˌbar-ər, -ˌber-\ *n* : one who carries one end of a stretcher

stretch–out \'strech-ˌau̇t\ *n* **1** : a system of industrial operation in which workers are required to do extra work and esp. to operate more machines than formerly either with slight or with no additional pay **2 a** : the act of stretching out : the state of being stretched out **b** : an economizing measure that spreads a limited quantity over a larger field than orig. intended

stretch receptor *n* : MUSCLE SPINDLE

stretch runner *n* : a racehorse that makes a strong bid in the homestretch

stret·to \'stret-(ˌ)ō\ *also* **stret·ta** \-ə\ *n, pl* **stret·ti** \-(ˌ)ē\ *or* **stret·tos** [*stretto* fr. It, fr. *stretto* narrow, close; *stretta* fr. It, fr. fem. of *stretto*] **1 a** : the overlapping of answer with subject in a musical fugue **b** : the part of a fugue characterized by this overlapping **2** : a concluding passage performed in a quicker tempo

streu·sel \'strü-səl, -zəl, 's(h)trȯi-\ *n* [G, lit., something strewn, fr. MHG *ströusel* something strewn, fr. *ströuwen* to strew, fr. OHG *strewen*] : a crumbly mixture of fat, sugar, and flour and sometimes nuts and spices that is used as topping or filling for cake

strew \'strü\ *vt* **strewed; strewed** *or* **strewn** \'strün\; **strew·ing** [ME *strewen, strowen*, fr. OE *strewian, strēowian*; akin to OHG *strewen* to strew, L *sternere* to spread out, Gk *stornynai*] **1** : to spread by scattering **2** : to cover by or as if by scattering something ⟨~*ing* the highways with litter⟩ **3** : to become dispersed over as if scattered **4** : to spread abroad : DISSEMINATE

strew·ment \'strü-mənt\ *n, archaic* : something (as flowers) strewed or designed for strewing

stria \'strī-ə\ *n, pl* **stri·ae** \'strī-ˌē\ [L, furrow, channel — more at STRIKE] **1** : a minute groove or channel **2** : a narrow line or band (as of color) esp. when one of a series of parallel grooves or lines

¹stri·ate \'strī-ət, -ˌāt\ *adj* : STRIATED

²stri·ate \-ˌāt\ *vt* **stri·at·ed; stri·at·ing** : to mark with striae

stri·at·ed \'strī-ˌāt-əd\ *adj* **1** : marked with striae **2** : of, relating to, or being striated muscle

striated muscle *n* : muscle tissue that is marked by transverse dark and light bands, that is made up of elongated multinuclear fibers, and that is found in the muscles under voluntary control clothing the vertebrate skeleton and in all or most of the musculature of arthropods — compare SMOOTH MUSCLE

stri·a·tion \strī-'ā-shən\ *n* **1 a** : the fact or state of being striated **b** : arrangement of striae **2** : STRIA **3** : one of the alternate dark and light cross bands of a myofibril of striated muscle

strick \'strik\ *n* [ME *stric, strik*, prob. of LG or D origin; akin to MLG *strik* rope, MD *stric*] : a bunch of hackled flax, jute, or hemp

strick·en \'strik-ən\ *adj* [fr. pp. of *strike*] **1** : having the contents leveled off even with the top ⟨a ~ measure of grain⟩ **2** : hit or wounded by or as if by a missile **3 a** : afflicted or overwhelmed by or as if by disease, misfortune, or sorrow **b** : made incapable or unfit : INCAPACITATED

¹strick·le \'strik-əl\ *n* [ME *strikell*; akin to OE *strīcan* to stroke — more at STRIKE] **1** : an instrument for leveling off measures of grain **2** : an instrument for whetting scythes **3** : a foundry tool for smoothing the surface of a core or mold

²strickle *vt* **strick·led; strick·ling** \-(ə-)liŋ\ : to smooth or form with a strickle

strict \'strikt\ *adj* [L *strictus*, fr. pp. of *stringere* to bind tight — more at STRAIN] **1 a** : stringent in requirement or control ⟨under ~ orders⟩ **b** : severe in discipline ⟨a ~ teacher⟩ **2 a** : inflexibly maintained or adhered to : COMPLETE ⟨~ secrecy⟩ **b** : rigorously conforming to principle or a norm ⟨a ~ Catholic⟩ **3** *archaic* **a** : TIGHT, CLOSE; *also* : INTIMATE **b** : NARROW **4** : EXACT, PRECISE ⟨in the ~ sense of the word⟩ **5** : of narrow erect habit of growth ⟨a ~ inflorescence⟩ ***syn*** see RIGID ***ant*** lenient, indulgent — **strict·ly** \'strik-(t)lē\ *adv* — **strict·ness** \'strik(t)-nəs\ *n*

stric·ture \'strik-chər\ *n* [ME, fr. LL *strictura*, fr. L *strictus*, pp. of *stringere* to bind tight] **1** : an abnormal narrowing of a bodily passage; *also* : the narrowed part **2** : something that closely re-

strains or limits : RESTRICTION ⟨moral ~s⟩ **3** : an adverse criticism : CENSURE ***syn*** see ANIMADVERSION ***ant*** commendation

[1]stride \'strīd\ *vb* **strode** \'strōd\; **strid·den** \'strid-ᵊn\; **strid·ing** \'strīd-iŋ\ [ME *striden*, fr. OE *strīdan;* akin to MLG *striden* to straddle, OE *starian* to stare] *vi* **1** : to stand astride **2** : to move with or as if with long steps **3** : to take a very long step ~ *vt* **1** : BESTRIDE, STRADDLE **2** : to step over **3** : to move over or along with or as if with long measured steps — **strid·er** \'strīd-ər\ *n*

[2]stride *n* **1** : a long step **2** : an act of striding **3** : a stage of progress : ADVANCE **4 a** : a cycle of locomotor movements (as of a horse) completed when the feet regain the initial relative positions; *also* : the distance traversed in a stride **b** : the most effective natural pace : maximum competence or capability **5** : a manner of striding — **in stride** **1** : without interference with regular activities **2** : without becoming upset

stri·dence \'strīd-ᵊn(t)s\ *n* : STRIDENCY

stri·den·cy \'strīd-ᵊn-sē\ *n* : the quality or state of being strident

stri·dent \'strīd-ᵊnt\ *adj* [L *strident-, stridens,* prp. of *stridere, stridēre* to make a harsh noise; akin to Gk & L *strix* owl] : characterized by harsh, insistent, and discordant sound ⟨a ~ voice⟩; *also* : commanding attention by a loud or obtrusive quality ⟨~ slogans⟩ ***syn*** see VOCIFEROUS — **stri·dent·ly** *adv*

stride piano *n* [fr. the repeated strides taken by the left hand] : a style of jazz piano playing in which the right hand plays the melody while the left hand alternates between a single note and a chord played an octave or more higher

stri·dor \'strīd-ər, 'strī-ˌdȯ(ə)r\ *n* [L, fr. *stridere, stridēre*] **1** : a harsh, shrill, or creaking noise **2** : a harsh vibrating sound heard during expiration in cases of obstruction of the air passages

strid·u·late \'strij-ə-ˌlāt\ *vi* **-lat·ed; -lat·ing** [back-formation fr. *stridulation*] : to make a shrill creaking noise by rubbing together special bodily structures — used esp. of male insects (as crickets or grasshoppers) — **strid·u·la·tion** \ˌstrij-ə-'lā-shən\ *n* — **strid·u·la·to·ry** \'strij-ə-lə-ˌtōr-ē, -ˌtȯr-\ *adj*

strid·u·lous \'strij-ə-ləs\ *adj* [L *stridulus,* fr. *stridere, stridēre*] : making a shrill creaking sound — **strid·u·lous·ly** *adv*

strife \'strīf\ *n* [ME *strif,* fr. OF *estrif*] **1 a** : bitter sometimes violent conflict or dissension ⟨political ~⟩ **b** : an act of contention : FIGHT, STRUGGLE **2** : exertion or contention for superiority **3** *archaic* : earnest endeavor ***syn*** see DISCORD ***ant*** peace, accord — **strife·less** \'strī-fləs\ *adj*

strig·il \'strij-əl\ *n* [L *strigilis;* akin to L *stringere* to touch lightly — more at STRIKE] : an instrument used by ancient Greeks and Romans for scraping moisture off the skin after a bath or exercising

stri·gose \'strī-ˌgōs\ *adj* [NL *strigosus,* fr. *striga* bristle, fr. L, furrow] : having appressed bristles or scales ⟨a ~ leaf⟩

[1]strike \'strīk\ *vb* **struck** \'strək\; **struck** *also* **strick·en** \'strik-ən\; **strik·ing** \'strī-kiŋ\ [ME *striken,* fr. OE *strīcan* to stroke, go; akin to OHG *strīhhan* to stroke, L *stringere* to touch lightly, *striga, stria* furrow] *vi* **1** : to take a course : GO ⟨*struck* off through the brush⟩ **2** : to aim and usu. deliver a blow or thrust (as with the hand, a weapon, or a tool) **3** : to come into contact forcefully ⟨two ships *struck* in mid channel⟩ **4** : to delete something **5** : to lower a flag usu. in surrender **6 a** : to become indicated by a clock, bell, or chime ⟨the hour had just *struck*⟩ **b** : to make known the time by sounding ⟨the clock *struck* as they entered⟩ **7** : PIERCE, PENETRATE ⟨the wind seemed to ~ through our clothes⟩ **8 a** : to engage in battle **b** : to make a military attack **9** : to become ignited **10** : to discover something ⟨he *struck* on a new plan of attack⟩ **11 a** : to pull on a fishing rod in order to set the hook **b** *of a fish* : to seize the bait **12** : DART, SHOOT **13 a** *of a plant cutting* : to take root **b** *of a seed* : GERMINATE **14** : to make an impression **15** : to stop work in order to force an employer to comply with demands **16** : to make a beginning ⟨the need to ~ vigorously for success⟩ **17** : to thrust oneself forward ⟨he *struck* into the midst of the argument⟩ **18** : to work diligently : STRIVE ~ *vt* **1 a** : to strike at : HIT **b** : to drive or remove by or as if by a blow **c** : to attack or seize with a sharp blow (as of fangs or claws) ⟨*struck* by a snake⟩ **d** : INFLICT ⟨~ a blow⟩ **e** : to produce by or as if by a blow or stroke ⟨Moses *struck* water from the rock⟩ **f** : to separate by a sharp blow ⟨~ off flints⟩ **2 a** : to haul down : LOWER ⟨~ a flag⟩ **b** : to dismantle and take away **c** : to strike the tents of (a camp) **3** : to afflict suddenly ⟨*stricken* by a heart attack⟩ **4 a** : to engage in (a battle) : FIGHT **b** : to make a military attack on **5** : DELETE, CANCEL ⟨~ the last paragraph⟩ **6 a** : to penetrate painfully : PIERCE **b** : to cause to penetrate **c** : to send down or out ⟨trees *struck* roots deep into the soil⟩ **7 a** : to level (as a measure of grain) by scraping off what is above the rim **b** : STRICKLE **8** : to indicate by sounding **9 a** (1) : to bring into forceful contact (2) : to shake (hands) in confirming an agreement (3) : to thrust suddenly **b** : to come into contact or collision with **c** *of light* : to fall on **d** *of a sound* : to become audible to **10 a** : to affect with a mental or emotional state or a strong emotion ⟨*struck* with horror at the sight⟩ **b** : to affect a person with (a strong emotion) ⟨his words *struck* fear in the listeners⟩ **c** : to cause to become by or as if by a sudden blow ⟨*struck* him dead⟩ **11 a** : to produce by stamping **b** (1) : to produce (as fire) by or as if by striking (2) : to cause to ignite by friction **12** : to make and ratify the terms of ⟨~ a bargain⟩ **13 a** : to play or produce by stroking keys or strings ⟨*struck* a series of chords on the piano⟩ **b** : to produce as if by playing an instrument ⟨his voice *struck* a note of concern⟩ **14 a** : to hook (a fish) by a sharp pull on the line **b** *of a fish* : to snatch at (a bait) **15 a** : to occur to ⟨the answer *struck* him suddenly⟩ **b** : to appear to esp. as a revelation or as remarkable : IMPRESS **16** : BEWITCH **17** : to arrive at by computation ⟨~ a balance⟩ **18 a** : to come to : ATTAIN **b** : to come upon : DISCOVER ⟨~ gold⟩ **19** : to engage in a strike against (an employer) **20** : to take on : ASSUME ⟨~ a pose⟩ **21 a** : to place (a plant cutting) in a medium for growth and rooting **b** : to so propagate (a plant) **22** : to make one's way along **23** : to cause (an arc) to form (as between electrodes of an arc lamp) **24** *of an insect* : to oviposit on or in

syn **1** STRIKE, HIT, SMITE, SLAP, SWAT, PUNCH *shared meaning element* : to come or bring into contact with a sharp blow **2** see AFFECT

[2]strike *n* **1** : STRICKLE **2** : an act or instance of striking **3 a** : a work stoppage by a body of workers to enforce compliance with demands made on an employer **b** : a temporary stoppage of activities in protest against an act or condition **4** : the direction of the line of intersection of a horizontal plane with an uptilted geological stratum **5 a** : a pull on a fishing rod to strike a fish **b** : a pull on a line by a fish in striking **6** : a stroke of good luck; *esp* : a discovery of a valuable mineral deposit **7 a** : a pitched ball that is in the strike zone or is swung at and is not hit fair **b** : a perfectly thrown ball **8** : DISADVANTAGE, HANDICAP ⟨his racial background was a second ~ against him —K. D. Miller⟩ **9** : an act or instance of knocking down all the bowling pins with the first bowl **10** : establishment of roots and plant growth **11** : cutaneous myiasis (as of sheep) ⟨body ~⟩ **12 a** : a military attack; *esp* : an air attack on a single objective **b** : a group of airplanes taking part in such an attack

strike·bound \'strīk-ˌbau̇nd\ *adj* : subjected to a strike

strike·break·er \-ˌbrā-kər\ *n* : one hired to replace a striking worker

strike·break·ing \-kiŋ\ *n* : action designed to break up a strike

strike·less \'strī-kləs\ *adj* : marked by the absence of strikes

strike off *vt* **1** : to produce in an effortless manner **2** : to depict clearly and exactly

strike·out \'strī-ˌkau̇t\ *n* : an out in baseball resulting from a batter's being charged with three strikes

strike out \(')strī-'kau̇t\ *vt, of a baseball pitcher* : to retire (a batter) by a strikeout ~ *vi* **1** : to enter upon a course of action **2** : to set out vigorously **3** : to make an out in baseball by a strikeout **4** : to finish bowling a string with consecutive strikes; *specif* : to bowl three strikes in the last frame

strike·over \'strī-ˌkō-vər\ *n* : an act or instance of striking a typewriter character on a spot occupied by another character

strik·er \'strī-kər\ *n* **1** : one that strikes: as **a** : a player in any of several games who strikes **b** : the hammer of the striking mechanism of a clock or watch **c** : BLACKSMITH **d** : a worker on strike **2** : an enlisted man working for a petty officer's rate

strike up *vi* : to begin to sing or play or to be sung or played ~ *vt* **1** : to cause to begin singing or playing ⟨*strike up* the band⟩ **2** : to cause to begin ⟨*strike up* a conversation⟩

strike zone *n* : the area (as between the armpits and tops of the knees of a batter in his natural stance) over home plate through which a pitched baseball must pass to be called a strike

strik·ing \'strī-kiŋ\ *adj* : attracting attention or notice through unusual or conspicuous qualities ⟨a woman of ~ beauty⟩ ***syn*** see NOTICEABLE — **strik·ing·ly** \-kiŋ-lē\ *adv*

[1]string \'striŋ\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *streng;* akin to L *stringere* to bind tight — more at STRAIN] **1** : a small cord used to bind, fasten, or tie **2 a** *archaic* : a cord (as a tendon or ligament) of an animal body **b** : a plant fiber (as a leaf vein) **3 a** : the gut or wire cord of a musical instrument **b** *pl* (1) : the stringed instruments of an orchestra (2) : the players of such instruments **4 a** : a group of objects threaded on a string ⟨a ~ of fish⟩ **b** (1) : a series of things arranged in or as if in a line ⟨a ~ of cars⟩ (2) : a sequence of like items (as bits, characters, or words) **c** : a group of business properties scattered geographically ⟨a ~ of newspapers⟩ **d** : the animals and esp. horses belonging to or used by one individual **5 a** : a means of recourse : EXPEDIENT **b** : a group of players ranked according to skill or proficiency **6** : SUCCESSION, SEQUENCE ⟨a ~ of successes⟩ **7 a** : one of the inclined sides of a stair supporting the treads and risers **b** : STRINGCOURSE **8 a** : BALKLINE 1 **b** : the action of lagging for break in billiards **9** : LINE 13 **10** *pl* **a** : contingent conditions or obligations **b** : CONTROL, DOMINATION — **string·less** \'striŋ-ləs\ *adj* — **on the string** : subject to one's influences

[2]string *vb* **strung** \'strəŋ\; **string·ing** \'striŋ-iŋ\ *vt* **1 a** : to equip with strings **b** : to tune the strings of **2** : to make tense : key up **3 a** : to thread on or as if on a string **b** : to thread with objects **c** : to tie, hang, or fasten with string **4** : to hang by the neck **5** : to remove the strings of ⟨~ beans⟩ **6 a** : to extend or stretch like a string ⟨~ wires from tree to tree⟩ **b** : to set out in a line or series **7** : FOOL, HOAX ⟨cowboys ~*ing* tenderfeet with tall tales —Carl Van Doren⟩ — often used with *along* ~ *vi* **1** : to move, progress, or lie in a string **2** : to form into strings **3** : LAG 3

string along *vi* : to go along : AGREE ~ *vt* : to keep waiting

string bass *n* : DOUBLE BASS

string bean *n* **1** : a bean of one of the older varieties of kidney bean that have stringy fibers on the lines of separation of the pods; *broadly* : SNAP BEAN **2** : a very tall thin person

string·board \'striŋ-ˌbō(ə)rd, -ˌbȯ(ə)rd\ *n* : a board or built-up facing used in stair building to cover the ends of the steps and hide the true string

string·course \-ˌkō(ə)rs, -ˌkȯ(ə)rs\ *n* : a horizontal band (as of bricks) in a building forming a part of the design

stringed \'striŋd\ *adj* **1** : having strings **2** : produced by strings

stringed instrument *n* : a musical instrument (as a violin, harp, or piano) sounded by plucking, striking, or drawing a bow across tense strings

strin·gen·cy \'strin-jən-sē\ *n* : the quality or state of being stringent

strin·gen·do \strin-'jen-(ˌ)dō\ *adv* [It, verbal of *stringere* to press, fr. L, to bind tight] : with quickening of tempo (as to a climax) — used as a direction in music

strin·gent \'strin-jənt\ *adj* [L *stringent-, stringens,* prp. of *stringere* to bind tight] **1** : TIGHT, CONSTRICTED **2** : marked by rigor, strictness, or severity esp. with regard to rule or standard **3** : marked by money scarcity and credit strictness ***syn*** see RIGID — **strin·gent·ly** *adv*

string·er \'striŋ-ər\ *n* **1** : one that strings **2** : a string, wire, or chain often with snaps on which fish are strung by a fisherman **3** : a narrow vein or irregular filament of mineral traversing a rock mass of different material **4 a** : a long horizontal timber to connect uprights in a frame or to support a floor **b** : STRING 7a **c** : a

tie in a truss **5 a** : a longitudinal member extending from bent to bent of a railroad bridge and carrying the track **b** : a longitudinal member (as in an airplane fuselage or wing) to reinforce the skin **6 a** : a news correspondent who is paid space rates **b** : a newsman who works for a publication or news agency on a part-time basis; *broadly* : CORRESPONDENT **7** : one estimated to be of specified excellence or efficiency — usu. used in combination ⟨first-*stringer*⟩ ⟨second-*stringer*⟩

string-halt \'striŋ-ˌhȯlt\ *n* : a condition of lameness in the hind legs of a horse caused by muscular spasms — **string-halt-ed** \-ˌhȯl-təd\ *adj*

string-ing \'striŋ-iŋ\ *n* : the material with which a racket is strung

string line *n* : BALKLINE 1

string-piece \'striŋ-ˌpēs\ *n* : the heavy squared timber lying along the top of the piles forming a dock front or timber pier

string quartet *n* **1** : a quartet of performers on stringed instruments usu. including a first and second violin, a viola, and a cello **2** : a composition for string quartet

string tie *n* : a narrow necktie

stringy \'striŋ-ē\ *adj* **string-i-er; -est** **1 a** : containing, consisting of, or resembling fibrous matter or string ⟨~ hair⟩ **b** : lean and sinewy in build : WIRY **2** : capable of being drawn out to form a string : ROPY ⟨a ~ precipitate⟩ — **string-i-ness** *n*

stringy-bark \'striŋ-ē-ˌbärk\ *n* **1** : any of several Australian eucalypti with fibrous inner bark **2** : the bark of a stringybark

¹strip \'strip\ *vb* **stripped** \'stript\ *also* **stript; strip-ping** [ME *strippen*, fr. OE *-strīpan;* akin to OHG *stroufen* to strip] *vt* **1 a** : to remove clothing, covering, or surface matter from **b** : to deprive of possessions **c** : to divest of honors, privileges, or functions **2 a** : to remove extraneous or superficial matter from ⟨a prose style *stripped* to the bones⟩ **b** : to remove furniture, equipment, or accessories from ⟨~ a ship for action⟩ **3** : to make bare or clear (as by cutting or grazing) **4** : to finish a milking of by pressing the last available milk from the teats ⟨~ a cow⟩ **5 a** : to remove cured leaves from the stalks of (tobacco) **b** : to remove the midrib from (tobacco leaves) **6** : to tear or damage the thread of (a separable part or fitting) **7** : to separate (components) from a mixture or solution **8** : to press eggs or milt out of (a fish) ~ *vi* **1 a** : to take off clothes **b** : to perform a striptease **2** : PEEL 1 — **strip-pa-ble** \'strip-ə-bəl\ *adj*

²strip *n* [perh. fr. MLG *strippe* strap] **1 a** : a long narrow piece of material **b** : a long narrow area of land or water **2** : AIRSTRIP

strip chart *n* : a device used for the continuous graphic recording of time-dependent data

strip–crop \'strip-ˌkräp\ *vt* : to practice strip-cropping on ~ *vi* : to practice strip-cropping

strip–crop-ping *n* : the growing of a cultivated crop (as corn) in strips alternating with strips of a sod-forming crop (as hay) arranged to follow an approximate contour of the land and minimize erosion

¹stripe \'strīp\ *n* [ME; akin to MD *stripe*] : a stroke or blow with a rod or lash

²stripe *n* [prob. fr. MD; akin to OE *strica* streak — more at STREAK] **1 a** : a line or long narrow section differing in color or texture from parts adjoining **b** (1) : a textile design consisting of lines or bands against a plain background (2) : a fabric with a striped design **2** : a narrow strip of braid or embroidery usu. in the shape of a bar, arc, or chevron that is worn (as on the sleeve of a military uniform) to indicate rank or length of service **3** : a distinct variety or sort : TYPE ⟨men of the same political ~⟩ — **stripe-less** \'strī-pləs\ *adj*

³stripe *vt* **striped** \'strīpt; *see* STRIPED *adj*\; **strip-ing** : to make stripes on or variegate with stripes

striped \'strīpt, 'strī-pəd\ *adj* : having stripes or streaks

striped bass *n* : a large anadromous food and sport fish (*Morone saxatilis* of the family Percichthyidae) that occurs along the Atlantic coast of the U.S. and has been introduced along the Pacific coast

striped skunk *n* : a common No. American skunk (*Mephitis mephitis*) usu. with white on the top of the head that extends posteriorly in two narrowly separated stripes

strip-er \'strī-pər\ *n* **1** : one that wears stripes (as on a sleeve) to indicate rank or length of service **2** : STRIPED BASS

strip-film \'strip-ˌfilm\ *n* : FILMSTRIP

strip-ing \'strī-piŋ\ *n* **1** : the act or process of marking with stripes **2 a** : the stripes marked or painted on something **b** : a design of stripes

strip-ling \'strip-liŋ\ *n* [ME] : an adolescent boy

strip mine *n* : a mine that is worked from the earth's surface by the stripping of overburden; *esp* : a coal mine situated along the outcrop of a flat dipping bed — **strip–mine** *vt* — **strip miner** *n*

strip-per \'strip-ər\ *n* **1** : one that strips **2** : STRIPTEASER **3** : a machine that separates a desired part of an agricultural crop

strip poker *n* : a poker game in which a player pays his losses by removing articles of clothing

strip-tease \'strip-ˌtēz\ *n* : a burlesque act in which a female performer removes her clothing piece by piece

strip-teas-er \-ˌtē-zər\ *n* : one who performs a striptease

stripy \'strī-pē\ *adj* **strip-i-er; -est** : marked by stripes or streaks

strive \'strīv\ *vi* **strove** \'strōv\ *also* **strived** \'strīvd\; **striv-en** \'striv-ən\ *or* **strived; striv-ing** \'strī-viŋ\ [ME *striven*, fr. OF *estriver*, of Gmc origin; akin to MHG *streben* to endeavor, OE *strīdan* to stride] **1** : to struggle in opposition : CONTEND **2** : to devote serious effort or energy : ENDEAVOR ***syn*** see ATTEMPT — **striv-er** \'strī-vər\ *n*

strobe \'strōb\ *n* [by shortening & alter.] **1** : STROBOSCOPE **2** : a device that utilizes a flashtube for high-speed illumination (as in photography) **3** : STROBOTRON

strobe light *n* : STROBE

stro-bi-la \strō-'bī-lə, 'strō-bə-\ *n, pl* **-lae** \-(ˌ)lē\ [NL, fr. Gk *strobilē* plug of lint shaped like a pinecone, fr. *strobilos* pinecone] : a linear series of similar animal structures (as the segmented body of a tapeworm) produced by budding — **stro-bi-lar** \-'bī-lər; -bə-lər, -ˌlär\ *adj*

stro-bi-la-tion \ˌstrō-bə-'lā-shən\ *n* [NL *strobila*] : asexual reproduction by transverse division of the body into segments which develop into separate individuals, zooids, or proglottids in many coelenterates and worms

stro-bile \'strō-ˌbīl, -bəl\ *n* [NL *strobilus*] **1** : STROBILUS 1 **2** : a spike with persistent overlapping bracts that resembles a cone and is the pistillate inflorescence of the hop

stro-bi-li-za-tion \ˌstrō-bə-lə-'zā-shən\ *n* : STROBILATION

stro-bi-lus \strō-'bī-ləs, 'strō-bə-\ *n, pl* **-li** \-ˌlī\ [NL, fr. LL, pinecone, fr. Gk *strobilos* twisted object, top, pinecone, fr. *strobos* action of whirling — more at STROPHE] **1** : an aggregation of sporophylls resembling a cone (as in the club mosses and horsetails) **2** : the cone of a gymnosperm

stro-bo-scope \'strō-bə-ˌskōp\ *n* [Gk *strobos* whirling + ISV *-scope*] : an instrument for determining the speed of cyclic motion (as rotation or vibration) that causes the motion to appear slowed or stopped: as **a** : a revolving disk with holes around the edge through which an object is viewed **b** : a device that uses a flashtube to intermittently illuminate a moving object **c** : a cardboard disk with marks to be viewed under intermittent light

stro-bo-scop-ic \ˌstrō-bə-'skäp-ik\ *adj* : of, utilizing, or relating to a stroboscope or a strobe — **stro-bo-scop-i-cal-ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

stro-bo-tron \'strō-bə-ˌträn\ *n* [*stroboscope* + *-tron*] : a gas-filled electron tube used esp. as a source of bright flashes of light for a stroboscope

strode *past of* STRIDE

¹stroke \'strōk\ *vt* **stroked; strok-ing** [ME *stroken*, fr. OE *strācian;* akin to OHG *strīhhan* to stroke — more at STRIKE] : to rub gently in one direction; *also* : CARESS — **strok-er** *n*

²stroke *n* [ME; akin to OE *strīcan* to stroke — more at STRIKE] **1** : the act of striking; *esp* : a blow with a weapon or implement **2** : a single unbroken movement; *esp* : one of a series of repeated or to-and-fro movements **3** : a striking of the ball in a game (as tennis); *specif* : a striking or attempt to strike the ball that constitutes the scoring unit in golf **4 a** : a sudden action or process producing an impact ⟨~ of lightning⟩ **b** : an unexpected result ⟨~ of luck⟩ **5** : APOPLEXY **6 a** : one of a series of propelling beats or movements against a resisting medium ⟨a ~ of the oar⟩ **b** : an oarsman who sets the tempo for a crew **7 a** : a vigorous or energetic effort ⟨a ~ of genius⟩ **b** : a delicate or clever touch in a narrative, description, or construction **8** : HEARTBEAT **9** : the movement or the distance of the movement in either direction of a mechanical part (as a piston rod) having a reciprocating motion **10** : the sound of a bell being struck ⟨at the ~ of twelve⟩ **11** [¹*stroke*] : an act of stroking or caressing **12 a** : a mark or dash made by a single movement of an implement **b** : one of the lines of a letter of the alphabet

³stroke *vb* **stroked; strok-ing** *vt* **1 a** : to mark with a short line ⟨~ the *t*'s⟩ **b** : to cancel by drawing a line through ⟨*stroked* out his name⟩ **2** : to set the stroke for (a rowing crew); *also* : to set the stroke for the crew of (a rowing boat) **3** : HIT; *esp* : to propel (a ball) with a controlled swinging blow ~ *vi* : to row at a certain number of strokes a minute

stroke play *n* : golf competition scored by total number of strokes

stroll \'strōl\ *vb* [prob. fr. G dial. *strollen*] *vi* **1** : to walk in a leisurely or idle manner : RAMBLE **2** : to go from place to place in search of occupation or profit ⟨~*ing* players⟩ ⟨~*ing* musicians⟩ ~ *vt* : to walk at leisure along or about — **stroll** *n*

stroll-er \'strō-lər\ *n* **1** : one that strolls **2 a** : VAGRANT, TRAMP **b** : an itinerant actor **3** : a carriage designed as a chair in which a baby may be pushed

stro-ma \'strō-mə\ *n, pl* **stro-ma-ta** \-mət-ə\ [NL *stromat-, stroma*, fr. L, bed covering, fr. Gk *strōmat-, strōma*, fr. *stornynai* to spread out — more at STREW] **1 a** : the supporting framework of an animal organ typically consisting of connective tissue **b** : the spongy protoplasmic framework of some cells (as a red blood cell) **2 a** : a compact mass of fungous hyphae producing perithecia or pycnidia **b** : the colorless proteinaceous matrix of a chloroplast in which the chlorophyll-containing lamellae are embedded — **stro-mal** \-məl\ *adj* — **stro-ma-tal** \-mət-ᵊl\ *adj* — **stro-mat-ic** \strō-'mat-ik\ *adj*

stro-mat-o-lite \strō-'mat-ᵊl-ˌīt\ *n* [L *stromat-, stroma* bed covering + E *-o-* + *-lite*] : a laminated sedimentary fossil formed from layers of blue-green algae — **stro-mat-o-lit-ic** \-ˌmat-ᵊl-'it-ik\ *adj*

stro-mey-er-ite \'strō-ˌmī(ə)r-ˌīt, strō-'\ *n* [G *stromeyerit*, fr. Friedrich *Strohmeyer* †1835 G chemist] : a steel-gray mineral CuAgS consisting of silver copper sulfide of metallic luster

strong \'strȯŋ\ *adj* **stron-ger** \'strȯŋ-gər\; **stron-gest** \'strȯŋ-gəst\ [ME, fr. OE *strang;* akin to OHG *strengi* strong, L *stringere* to bind tight — more at STRAIN] **1** : having or marked by great physical power : ROBUST **2** : having moral or intellectual power **3** : having great resources (as of wealth or talent) **4** : of a specified number ⟨an army ten thousand ~⟩ **5 a** : striking or superior of its kind ⟨a ~ resemblance⟩ **b** : effective or efficient esp. in a specified direction **6** : FORCEFUL, COGENT ⟨~ evidence⟩ **7** : not mild or weak : EXTREME, INTENSE: as **a** : rich in some active agent ⟨~ beer⟩ **b** *of a color* : high in chroma **c** : ionizing freely in solution ⟨~ acids and bases⟩ **d** : magnifying by refracting greatly ⟨~ lens⟩ **8** *obs* : FLAGRANT **9** : moving with rapidity or force ⟨~ wind⟩ **10** : ARDENT, ZEALOUS ⟨a ~ supporter⟩ **11 a** : not easily injured : SOLID **b** : not easily subdued or taken ⟨a ~ fort⟩ **12** : well established : FIRM ⟨~ beliefs⟩ **13** : not easily upset or nauseated ⟨a ~ stomach⟩ **14** : having an offensive or intense odor or flavor : RANK **15** : tending to steady or higher prices ⟨a ~ market⟩ **16** : of, relating to, or constituting a verb or verb conjugation that forms the past tense by a change in the root vowel and the past

participle usu. by the addition of *-en* with or without change of the root vowel (as *strive, strove, striven* or *drink, drank, drunk*) — **strong** *adv* — **strong·ish** \'strȯŋ-ish\ *adj* — **strong·ly** \'strȯŋ-lē\ *adv*

syn STRONG, STOUT, STURDY, STALWART, TOUGH, TENACIOUS *shared meaning element* : showing power to resist or endure ***ant*** weak

¹strong–arm \'strȯŋ-ˈärm\ *adj* : having or using undue force

²strong–arm *vt* **1** : to use force on : ASSAULT **2** : to rob by force

strong·box \'strȯŋ-ˌbäks\ *n* : a strongly made chest or case for money or valuables

strong breeze *n* : wind having a speed of 25 to 31 miles per hour

strong drink *n* : intoxicating liquor

strong gale *n* : wind having a speed of 47 to 54 miles per hour

strong·hold \'strȯŋ-ˌhōld\ *n* **1** : a fortified place **2 a** : a place of security or survival ⟨one of the last ~*s* of the ancient Gaelic language —George Holmes⟩ **b** : a place dominated by a particular group or marked by a particular characteristic ⟨a Republican ~⟩ ⟨~*s* of snobbery —Lionel Trilling⟩

strong interaction *n* : a fundamental interaction experienced by elementary particles (as hadrons) that is more powerful than any other known force and is responsible for the binding together of neutrons and protons in the atomic nucleus and for processes of particle creation in high-energy collisions

strong–mind·ed \'strȯŋ-ˈmīn-dəd\ *adj* : having a vigorous mind; *esp* : marked by independence of thought and judgment — **strong–mind·ed·ly** *adv* — **strong–mind·ed·ness** *n*

strong room *n* : a room for money or valuables specially constructed to be fireproof and burglarproof

strong side *n* : the side of a football formation having the greater number of players; *specif* : the side on which the tight end plays

strong suit *n* **1** : a long suit containing high cards **2** : something in which one excels : FORTE

stron·gyle \'strän-ˌjīl, -jəl\ *n* [deriv. of Gk *strongylos* round, compact; akin to L *stringere* to bind tight — more at STRAIN] : any of various roundworms (family Strongylidae) related to the hookworms and mostly parasitic in the alimentary tract and tissues of the horse

stron·gy·lo·sis \ˌsträn-jə-ˈlō-səs\ *n* [NL] : infestation with or disease caused by strongyles

stron·tia \'strän-ch(ē-)ə, 'stränt-ē-ə\ *n* [NL, fr. obs. E *strontian*, fr. *Strontian*, village in Scotland] **1** : a white solid monoxide SrO of strontium resembling lime and baryta **2** : strontium hydroxide $Sr(OH)_2$

stron·tian·ite \'strän-chə-ˌnīt\ *n* : a mineral $SrCO_3$ consisting of strontium carbonate and occurring in various forms and colors

stron·tic \'stränt-ik\ *adj* : of or relating to strontium

stron·tium \'strän-ch(ē-)əm, 'stränt-ē-əm\ *n* [NL, fr. *strontia*] : a soft malleable ductile bivalent metallic element of the alkaline-earth group occurring only in combination and used esp. in color TV tubes, in crimson fireworks, and in the production of some ferrites — see ELEMENT table

strontium 90 *n* : a heavy radioactive isotope of strontium having the mass number 90 that is present in the fallout from nuclear explosions and is hazardous because like calcium it can be assimilated in biological processes and deposited in the bones of human beings and animals — called also *radiostrontium*

¹strop \'sträp\ *n* [ME — more at STRAP] : STRAP: **a** : a short rope with its ends spliced to form a circle **b** : a usu. leather band for sharpening a razor

²strop *vt* **stropped; strop·ping** : to sharpen (a razor) on a strop

stro·phan·thin \strō-ˈfan(t)-thən\ *n* [ISV, fr. NL *Strophanthus* (genus of tropical trees or vines)] : any of several glycosides or mixtures of glycosides from African plants (genera *Strophanthus* and *Acocanthera*) of the dogbane family; *esp* : a bitter toxic glycoside $C_{36}H_{54}O_{14}$ from a woody vine (*Strophanthus kombé*) used similarly to digitalis

stro·phe \'strō-fē, -ˌfē\ *n* [Gk *strophē*, lit., act of turning, fr. *strephein* to turn, twist; akin to Gk *strobos* action of whirling] **1** : the movement of the classical Greek chorus while turning from one side to the other of the orchestra **2 a** : a rhythmic system composed of two or more lines repeated as a unit; *esp* : such a unit recurring in a series of strophic units **b** : STANZA **c** : the part of a Greek choral ode sung during the strophe of the dance

stro·phic \'strō-fik, 'sträf-ik\ *adj* **1** : relating to, containing, or consisting of strophes **2** *of a song* : using the same music for successive stanzas — compare THROUGH-COMPOSED

stro·phoid \'strō-ˌfȯid\ *n* [F *strophoïde*, fr. Gk *strophos* twisted band (fr. *strephein* to twist) + *-oïde* -oid] : a plane curve that is generated by a point whose distance from the y-axis along a variable straight line which always passes through a fixed point is equal to the y-intercept and that has the equation $\rho = a(\sec\theta \pm \tan\theta)$ in polar coordinates

stroud \'straůd\ *n* [prob. fr. *Stroud*, town in England] **1** *also* **stroud·ing** \-iŋ\ : a coarse woolen cloth formerly used in trade with No. American Indians **2** : a blanket or garment of stroud

strove *past & chiefly dial past part of* STRIVE

strow \'strō\ *vt* **strowed; strown** \'strōn\ *or* **strowed; strow·ing** [ME *strowen* — more at STREW] *archaic* : SCATTER

stroy *vb* [ME *stroyen*, short for *destroyen*] *obs* : DESTROY

struck \'strək\ *adj* [pp. of *strike*] : closed or affected by a labor strike ⟨a ~ factory⟩ ⟨a ~ employer⟩

struc·tur·al \'strək-chə-rəl, 'strək-shrəl\ *adj* **1 a** : of, relating to, or affecting structure ⟨~ stability⟩ **b** : used in building structures ⟨~ clay⟩ **c** : involved in or caused by structure esp. of the economy ⟨~ unemployment⟩ **2** : of or relating to the physical makeup of a plant or animal body **3** : of, relating to, or resulting from the effects of folding or faulting of the earth's crust : TECTONIC **4** : concerned with or relating to structure rather than history or comparison ⟨~ linguistics⟩ — **struc·tur·al·ly** \-ē\ *adv*

structural formula *n* : an expanded molecular formula showing the arrangement within the molecule of atoms and of bonds

structural gene *n* : a gene that determines the amino acid sequence of a protein (as an enzyme) through a specific messenger RNA

structural iron *n* : iron worked or cast in structural shapes

struc·tur·al·ism \'strək-chə-rə-ˌliz-əm, 'strək-shrə-\ *n* **1** : structural linguistics **2** : an anthropological movement associated esp. with Claude Lévi-Strauss that seeks to analyze social relationships in terms of highly abstract relational structures often expressed in a logical symbolism — **struc·tur·al·ist** \-ləst\ *n or adj*

structural isomerism *n* : isomerism in which atoms are linked in a different order

struc·tur·al·ize \'strək-chə-rə-ˌlīz, 'strək-shrə-ˌlīz\ *vt* **-ized; -iz·ing** : to organize or incorporate into a structure — **struc·tur·al·iza·tion** \ˌstrək-chə-rə-lə-ˈzā-shən, ˌstrək-shrə-\ *n*

structural steel *n* **1** : rolled steel in structural shapes **2** : steel suitable for structural shapes

¹struc·ture \'strək-chər\ *n* [ME, fr. L *structura*, fr. *structus*, pp. of *struere* to heap up, build; akin to L *sternere* to spread out — more at STREW] **1** : the action of building : CONSTRUCTION **2 a** : something (as a building) that is constructed **b** : something arranged in a definite pattern of organization ⟨a rigid totalitarian ~ —J. L. Hess⟩ **3** : manner of construction : MAKEUP ⟨Gothic in ~⟩ **4 a** : the arrangement of particles or parts in a substance or body ⟨soil ~⟩ ⟨molecular ~⟩ **b** : arrangement or interrelation of parts as dominated by the general character of the whole ⟨economic ~⟩ **5 a** : the aggregate of elements of an entity in their relationships to each other **b** (1) : the composition of conscious experience with its elements and their combinations (2) : GESTALT

²structure *vt* **struc·tured; struc·tur·ing** \'strək-chə-riŋ, 'strək-shriŋ\ **1** : to form into a structure **2** : BUILD, CONSTRUCT

struc·ture·less \'strək-chər-ləs\ *adj* : lacking structure; *esp* : devoid of cells ⟨a ~ membrane⟩ — **struc·ture·less·ness** *n*

stru·del \'s(h)trüd-ᵊl\ *n* [G, lit., whirlpool] : a pastry made from a thin sheet of dough rolled up with filling and baked ⟨apple ~⟩

¹strug·gle \'strəg-əl\ *vi* **strug·gled; strug·gling** \-(ə-)liŋ\ [ME *struglen*] **1** : to make violent strenuous efforts against opposition **2** : to proceed with difficulty or with great effort ⟨*struggling* to maintain his composure⟩ — **strug·gler** \-(ə-)lər\ *n*

²struggle *n* **1** : a violent effort or exertion : a strong and strongly motivated attempt **2** : CONTEST, STRIFE ***syn*** see ATTEMPT

struggle for existence : the automatic competition (as for food, space, or light) of members of a natural population that tends to eliminate less efficient individuals and thereby increase the chance of the more efficient to pass on inherited adaptive traits

¹strum \'strəm\ *vb* **strummed; strum·ming** [imit.] *vt* **1 a** : to brush the fingers lightly over the strings of (a musical instrument) in playing ⟨~ a guitar⟩; *also* : ³THRUM 1 **b** : to play (music) on a guitar ⟨~ a tune⟩ **2** : to cause to sound vibrantly ⟨winds *strummed* the rigging — H.A. Chippendale⟩ ~ *vi* **1** : to strum a stringed instrument **2** : to sound vibrantly — **strum·mer** *n*

²strum *n* : an act, instance, or sound of strumming

stru·ma \'strü-mə\ *n, pl* **stru·mae** \-(ˌ)mē, -ˌmī\ *or* **strumas** **1** [L — more at STRUT] **a** *archaic* : SCROFULA **b** : GOITER **2** [NL, fr. L] : a swelling at the base of the capsule in many mosses — **stru·mose** \-ˌmōs\ *adj*

strum·pet \'strəm-pət\ *n* [ME] : PROSTITUTE

strung \'strəŋ\ *past of* STRING

strung out *adj* **1** : addicted to a drug **2** : physically debilitated from or as if from long-term drug addiction

¹strunt \'strənt\ *vi* [by alter.] *Scot* : STRUT

²strunt *n* [origin unknown] *Scot* : LIQUOR

¹strut \'strət\ *vb* **strut·ted; strut·ting** [ME *strouten*, fr. OE *strūtian* to exert oneself; akin to L *struma* goiter, OE *starian* to stare] *vi* **1** : to become turgid : SWELL **2 a** : to walk with a high gait **b** : to walk with a pompous and affected air ~ *vt* : to parade (as clothes) with a show of pride — **strut·ter** *n*

syn STRUT, SWAGGER, BRISTLE, BRIDLE *shared meaning element* : to assume an air of dignity or importance

²strut *n* **1** : a structural piece designed to resist pressure in the direction of its length **2** : a pompous step or walk

³strut *vt* **strut·ted; strut·ting** : to provide, stiffen, support, or hold apart with or as if with a strut

stru·thi·ous \'strü-thē-əs, -thē-\ *adj* [LL *struthio* ostrich, irreg. fr. Gk *strouthos*] : of or relating to the ostriches and related birds : RATITE

strych·nine \'strik-ˌnīn, -nən, -ˌnēn\ *n* [F, fr. NL *Strychnos*, genus name, fr. L, nightshade, fr. Gk] : a bitter poisonous alkaloid $C_{21}H_{22}N_2O_2$ that is obtained from nux vomica and related plants (genus *Strychnos*) and acts as a stimulant to the central nervous system

strych·nin·ism \-ˌiz-əm\ *n* : chronic strychnine poisoning

Stu·art \'st(y)ü-ərt, 'st(y)ù(-ə)rt\ *adj* [Robert *Stewart* (Robert II of Scotland) †1390] : of or relating to the Scottish royal house to which belonged the rulers of Scotland from 1371 to 1603 and of Great Britain from 1603 to 1649 and from 1660 to 1714 — **Stuart** *n*

¹stub \'stəb\ *n* [ME *stubb*, fr. OE *stybb*; akin to Gk *stypos* stem, *typtein* to beat — more at TYPE] **1 a** : STUMP 2 **b** : a short piece remaining on a stem or trunk where a branch has been lost **2** : something made or worn to a short or blunt shape; *esp* : a pen with a short blunt nib **3** : a short blunt part left after a larger part has been broken off or used up ⟨pencil ~⟩ **4** : something cut short or stunted **5 a** : a small part of a leaf (as of a checkbook) attached to the backbone for memoranda of the contents of the part torn away **b** : the part of a ticket returned to the user

²stub *vt* **stubbed; stub·bing** **1 a** : to grub up by the roots **b** : to clear (land) by grubbing out rooted growth **c** : to hew or cut down (a tree) close to the ground **2** : to extinguish (as a cigarette) by crushing **3** : to strike (one's foot or toe) against an object

stub·ble \'stəb-əl\ *n, often attrib* [ME *stuble*, fr. OF *estuble*, fr. L *stupula* stalk, straw, alter. of *stipula* — more at STIPULE] **1** : the basal part of herbaceous plants and esp. cereal grasses remaining attached to the soil after harvest **2** : a rough surface or growth resembling stubble; *esp* : a short growth of beard — **stub·bly** \-(ə-)lē\ *adj*

stubble mulch *n* : a lightly tilled mulch of plant residue used to prevent erosion, conserve moisture, and add organic matter to the soil

stub·born \'stəb-ərn\ *adj* [ME *stuborn*] **1 a** (1) : unreasonably or perversely unyielding : MULISH (2) : justifiably unyielding : RESOLUTE **b** : suggestive or typical of a strong stubborn nature ⟨a ~ jaw⟩ **2** : performed or carried on in an unyielding, obstinate, or persistent manner ⟨~ strife⟩ **3** : difficult to handle, manage, or treat : REFRACTORY ⟨a ~ cold⟩ ***syn*** see OBSTINATE — **stub·born·ly** *adv* — **stub·born·ness** \-ərn-(n)əs\ *n*

stub·by \'stəb-ē\ *adj* **1 a** : resembling a stub : being short and thick ⟨~ fingers⟩ **b** : being short and thickset : SQUAT **c** : being short, broad, or blunt (as from use or wear) **2** : abounding with stubs : BRISTLY

[1]stuc·co \'stək-(ˌ)ō\ *n, pl* **stuccos** *or* **stuccoes** [It, of Gmc origin; akin to OHG *stucki* piece, crust, OE *stocc* stock] **1 a** : a material usu. made of portland cement, sand, and a small percentage of lime and applied in a plastic state to form a hard covering for exterior walls **b** : a fine plaster used in the decoration and ornamentation of interior walls **2** : STUCCOWORK

[2]stucco *vt* : to coat or decorate with stucco

stuc·co·work \'stək-ō-ˌwərk\ *n* : work done in stucco

stuck *past of* STICK

stuck–up \'stək-'əp\ *adj* : superciliously self-important

[1]stud \'stəd\ *n, often attrib* [ME *stod*, fr. OE *stōd*; akin to OE *standan* to stand] **1 a** : a group of animals and esp. horses kept primarily for breeding **b** : a place (as a farm) where a stud is kept **2** : STUDHORSE; *broadly* : a male animal kept for breeding — **at stud** : for breeding as a stud ⟨retired racers standing *at stud*⟩

[2]stud *n* [ME *stode*, fr. OE *studu*; akin to OE *stōw* place — more at STOW] **1 a** : one of the smaller uprights in the framing of the walls of a building to which sheathing, paneling, or laths are fastened : SCANTLING **b** : height from floor to ceiling **2 a** : a boss, rivet, or nail with a large head used (as on a shield or belt) for ornament or protection **b** : a solid button with a shank or eye on the back inserted through an eyelet in a garment as a fastener or ornament **3 a** : any of various infixed pieces (as a rod or pin) projecting from a machine and serving chiefly as a support or axis **b** : one of the metal cleats inserted in a snow tire to increase traction

[3]stud *vt* **stud·ded; stud·ding** **1** : to furnish (as a building or wall) with studs **2** : to adorn, cover, or protect with studs **3** : to set (a place or thing) with a number of prominent objects

[4]stud *abbr* student

stud·book \'stəd-ˌbůk\ *n* : an official record (as in a book) of the pedigree of purebred animals (as horses or dogs)

stud·ding \'stəd-iŋ\ *n* **1** : the studs of a building or wall **2** : material for studs

stud·ding sail \'stəd-iŋ-ˌsāl, 'stən(t)-səl\ *n* [origin unknown] : a light sail set at the side of a principal square sail of a ship in free winds

stu·dent \'st(y)üd-ᵊnt, *oftenest in South* -ənt\ *n, often attrib* [ME, fr. L *student-, studens*, fr. prp. of *studēre* to study — more at STUDY] **1** : SCHOLAR, LEARNER; *esp* : one who attends a school **2** : one who studies : an attentive and systematic observer

student body *n* : the students at an educational institution

student government *n* : the organization and management of student life, activities, or discipline by various student organizations in a school or college

student lamp *n* : a desk reading lamp with a tubular shaft, one or two arms for a shaded light, and originally an oil reservoir

stu·dent·ship \'st(y)üd-ᵊnt-ˌship, -ənt-\ *n* **1** : the state of being a student **2** *Brit* : a grant for university study

stu·dent's t distribution \'st(y)üd-ᵊn(t)s-, -ən(t)s-\ *n, often cap S* [*Student*, pen name of W. S. Gossett †1937 Brit statistician] : T DISTRIBUTION

student teacher *n* : a student who is engaged in practice teaching

student teaching *n* : PRACTICE TEACHING

student union *n* : a building on a college campus that is devoted to student activities and that usu. contains lounges, auditoriums, offices, and game rooms

stud·horse \'stəd-ˌhȯ(ə)rs\ *n* : a stallion kept esp. for breeding

stud·ied \'stəd-ēd\ *adj* **1** : KNOWLEDGEABLE, LEARNED **2** : carefully considered or prepared : THOUGHTFUL **3** : produced or marked by conscious design or premeditation ⟨~ indifference⟩ — **stud·ied·ly** *adv* — **stud·ied·ness** *n*

stu·dio \'st(y)üd-ē-ˌō\ *n, pl* **-dios** [It, lit., study, fr. L *studium*] **1 a** : the working place of a painter, sculptor, or photographer **b** : a place for the study of an art (as dancing, singing, or acting) **2** : a place where motion pictures are made **3** : a place maintained and equipped for the transmission of radio or television programs

studio apartment *n* : a small apartment consisting typically of a main room, kitchenette, and bathroom

studio couch *n* : an upholstered usu. backless couch that can be made to serve as a double bed by sliding from underneath it the frame of a single cot

stu·di·ous \'st(y)üd-ē-əs\ *adj* **1** : given to study ⟨~ of Japanese art —J.G. Huneker⟩ **2 a** : of, relating to, or concerned with study **b** : favorable to study **3 a** : diligent or earnest in intent ⟨made a ~ effort⟩ **b** : marked by or suggesting purposefulness or diligence ⟨a ~ expression on his face⟩ **c** : deliberately or consciously planned : STUDIED ⟨spoke with a ~ accent⟩ — **stu·di·ous·ly** *adv* — **stu·di·ous·ness** *n*

stud poker *n* [*[1]stud*] : poker in which each player is dealt his first card facedown and his other four cards faceup with a round of betting taking place after each of the last four rounds of dealing

[1]study \'stəd-ē\ *n, pl* **stud·ies** [ME *studie*, fr. OF *estudie*, fr. L *studium*; akin to L *studēre* to study] **1** : a state of contemplation : REVERIE **2 a** : application of the mental faculties to the acquisition of knowledge ⟨years of ~⟩ **b** : such application in a particular field or to a specific subject ⟨the ~ of Latin⟩ **c** : careful or extended consideration ⟨the proposal is under ~⟩ **d** (1) : a careful examination or analysis of a phenomenon, development, or question (2) : a paper in which such a study is published **3** : a building or room devoted to study or literary pursuits **4** : PURPOSE, INTENT **5 a** : a branch or department of learning : SUBJECT **b** : the activity or work of a student ⟨returning to his *studies* after vacation⟩ **c** : an object of study or deliberation ⟨every gesture a careful ~ —Marcia Davenport⟩ **d** : something attracting close attention or examination **6** : a literary or artistic production intended as a preliminary outline or an experimental interpretation of specific features or characteristics **7** : a musical composition for the practice of a point of technique

[2]study *vb* **stud·ied; study·ing** *vi* **1 a** : to engage in study **b** : to undertake formal study of a subject **2** *dial* : MEDITATE, REFLECT **3** : ENDEAVOR, TRY ~ *vt* **1** : to read in detail esp. with the intention of learning **2** : to engage in the study of ⟨~ biology⟩ ⟨~ medicine⟩ **3** : PLOT, DESIGN **4** : to consider attentively or in detail ***syn*** see CONSIDER — **studi·er** \'stəd-ē-ər\ *n*

study hall *n* **1** : a room in a school set aside for study **2** : a period in a student's day set aside for study and homework

[1]stuff \'stəf\ *n* [ME, fr. MF *estoffe*, fr. OF, fr. *estoffer* to equip, stock] **1** : materials, supplies, or equipment used in various activities: as **a** *obs* : military baggage **b** : bullets or shells fired from a gun **c** : PERSONAL PROPERTY, POSSESSIONS **2** : material to be manufactured, wrought, or used in construction ⟨clear half-inch pine ~ —Emily Holt⟩ **3** : a finished textile suitable for clothing; *esp* : wool or worsted material **4 a** : literary or artistic production **b** : writing, discourse, or ideas of little value : TRASH **5 a** : an aggregate of matter ⟨volcanic rock is curious ~⟩ **b** (1) : matter of a particular and often unspecified kind ⟨sold tons of the ~⟩ (2) : something (as a drug or food) consumed by man ⟨he used to drink but is now off the ~⟩ **c** : a group or scattering of miscellaneous objects or articles ⟨pick that ~ up off the floor⟩ **6 a** : fundamental material : SUBSTANCE ⟨~ of greatness⟩ ⟨~ of manhood⟩ **b** : subject matter ⟨a teacher who knows his ~⟩ **7 a** : actions or talk in specific circumstances ⟨don't give me any of that ~⟩ **b** : special knowledge or capability ⟨showing their ~⟩ **8 a** : spin imparted to a thrown or hit ball to make it curve or change course **b** : variety of breaking pitches as distinguished from fastballs ⟨greatest pitcher of my time . . . had tremendous ~ —Ted Williams⟩

[2]stuff *vt* **1 a** : to fill by packing things in : CRAM ⟨when offered candy, the child ~*ed* his pockets⟩ **b** : to fill to satiety : SURFEIT ⟨~*ed* himself with turkey⟩ **c** : to prepare (meat or vegetables) by filling or lining with a stuffing **d** : to fill (as a cushion) with a soft material or padding **e** : to fill out the skin of (an animal) for mounting **f** : to fill (a hole) by packing in material **2** : to fill by intellectual effort ⟨~*ing* their heads with facts⟩ **3** : to choke or block up (the nasal passages) **4 a** : to cause to enter or fill : THRUST ⟨~*ed* a lot of clothing into a laundry bag⟩ **b** : to put (as a ball or puck) into a goal forcefully from close range

stuffed shirt *n* : a smug, conceited, and usu. pompous person often with an inflexibly conservative or reactionary attitude

stuff·er \'stəf-ər\ *n* **1** : one that stuffs **2** : an enclosure (as a leaflet) inserted in an envelope in addition to a bill, statement, or notice **3** : a series of extra threads or yarn running lengthwise in a fabric to add weight and bulk and to form a backing esp. for carpets

stuff·ing \'stəf-iŋ\ *n* : material used to stuff; *esp* : a seasoned mixture used to stuff food (as meat, vegetables, or eggs)

stuffing box *n* : a device that prevents leakage along a moving part (as a piston rod) passing through a hole in a vessel (as a cylinder) containing steam, water, or oil and that consists of a box or chamber made by enlarging the hole and a gland to compress the contained packing

stuff·less \'stəf-ləs\ *adj* : lacking stuff or substance

stuff shot *n* : DUNK SHOT

stuffy \'stəf-ē\ *adj* **stuff·i·er; -est** **1** : ILL-NATURED, ILL-HUMORED **2 a** : oppressive to the breathing : CLOSE **b** : stuffed up ⟨a ~ nose⟩ **3** : lacking in vitality or interest : STODGY, DULL **4** : narrowly inflexible in standards of conduct : SELF-RIGHTEOUS — **stuff·i·ly** \'stəf-ə-lē\ *adv* — **stuff·i·ness** \'stəf-ē-nəs\ *n*

stull \'stəl\ *n* [perh. modif. of G *stollen* post, support] **1** : a round timber used to support the sides or back of a mine **2** : one of a series of props wedged between the walls of a stope to hold up a platform

stul·ti·fi·ca·tion \ˌstəl-tə-fə-'kā-shən\ *n* : the act or process of stultifying : the state of being stultified

stul·ti·fy \'stəl-tə-ˌfī\ *vt* **-fied; -fy·ing** [LL *stultificare* to make foolish, fr. L *stultus* foolish; akin to L *stolidus* stolid] **1** : to allege or prove to be of unsound mind and hence not responsible **2 a** : to cause to appear or be stupid, foolish, or absurdly illogical **b** : to impair, invalidate, or reduce to futility esp. through enfeebling or repressive influence ⟨what provokes interest and what *stultifies* it —Jeanne S. Chall⟩

[1]stum \'stəm\ *vt* **stummed; stum·ming** [D *stommen*, fr. *stom*, n.] *archaic* : to renew (wine) by mixing with must and reviving fermentation

[2]stum *n* [D *stom*] *archaic* : unfermented or partly fermented grape juice; *esp* : must in which fermentation has been artificially arrested

[1]stum·ble \'stəm-bəl\ *vb* **stum·bled; stum·bling** \-b(ə-)liŋ\ [ME *stumblen*, prob. of Scand origin; akin to Norw dial. *stumle* to stumble; akin to OE *stamerian* to stammer] *vi* **1 a** : to fall into sin or waywardness **b** : to make an error : BLUNDER **c** : to come to an obstacle to belief **2** : to trip in walking or running **3 a** : to walk unsteadily or clumsily **b** : to speak or act in a hesitant or faltering manner **4 a** : to come unexpectedly or by chance ⟨~ onto the truth⟩ **b** : to fall or move carelessly ~ *vt* **1** : to cause

to stumble : TRIP **2** : BEWILDER, CONFOUND — **stum·bler** \-b(ə-)lər\ *n* — **stum·bling·ly** \-b(ə-)liŋ-lē\ *adv*

²stumble *n* : an act or instance of stumbling

stum·ble·bum \'stəm-bəl-ˌbəm\ *n* : a clumsy or inept person; *specif* : an inept boxer

stumbling block \'stəm-bliŋ-\ *n* **1** : an impediment to belief or understanding : PERPLEXITY **2** : an obstacle to progress

¹stump \'stəmp\ *n* [ME *stumpe;* akin to OHG *stumpf* stump, ME *stampen* to stamp] **1 a** : the basal portion of a bodily part remaining after the rest is removed **b** : a rudimentary or vestigial bodily part **2** : the part of a plant and esp. a tree remaining attached to the root after the trunk is cut **3** : a remaining part : STUB **4** : a place or occasion for political public speaking

²stump *vt* **1** : to reduce to a stump : TRIM **2 a** : DARE, CHALLENGE **b** : to frustrate the progress or efforts of : BAFFLE **3** : to clear (land) of stumps **4** : to travel over (a region) making political speeches or supporting a cause **5 a** : to walk over heavily or clumsily **b** : STUB 3 ~ *vi* **1** : to walk heavily or noisily **2** : to go about making political speeches or supporting a cause — **stump·er** *n*

³stump *n* [F or Flem; F *estompe,* fr. Flem *stomp,* lit., stub, fr. MD; akin to OHG *stumpf* stump] : a short thick roll of leather, felt, or paper usu. pointed at both ends and used for shading or blending a drawing in crayon, pencil, charcoal, pastel, or chalk

⁴stump *vt* : to tone or treat (a drawing) with a stump

stump·age \'stəm-pij\ *n* **1** : the value of standing timber **2** : uncut marketable timber; *also* : the right to cut it

stumpy \'stəm-pē\ *adj* **1** : full of stumps **2** : being short and thick : STUBBY

¹stun \'stən\ *vt* **stunned; stun·ning** [ME *stunen,* modif. of OF *estoner* — more at ASTONISH] **1** : to make senseless, groggy, or dizzy by or as if by a blow : DAZE **2** : to bewilder with noise **3** : to overcome esp. with astonishment or disbelief : ASTONISH

²stun *n* : the effect of something that stuns : SHOCK

stung *past of* STING

stunk *past of* STINK

stun·ner \'stən-ər\ *n* **1** : one that stuns **2** : an unusually beautiful or attractive person or thing

stun·ning \'stən-iŋ\ *adj* : strikingly beautiful or attractive — **stun·ning·ly** \-iŋ-lē\ *adv*

stun·sail *or* **stun·s'l** \'stən(t)-səl\ *n* [by contr.] : STUDDING SAIL

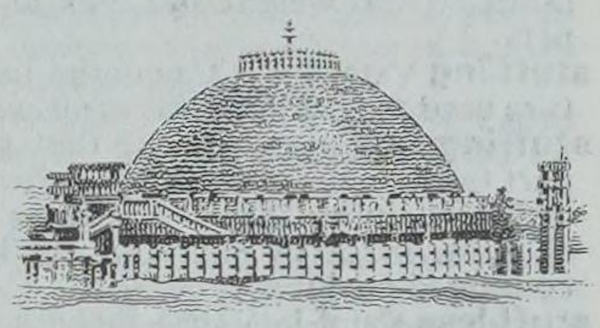
¹stunt \'stənt\ *vt* [E dial. *stunt* stubborn, stunted, abrupt, prob. of Scand origin; akin to ON *stuttr* scant — more at STINT] : to hinder the normal growth of : DWARF — **stunt·ed·ness** *n*

²stunt *n* **1** : a check in growth **2** : one (as an animal) that is stunted **3** : a plant disease in which dwarfing occurs

³stunt *n* [prob. alter. of *stump* (challenge)] **1** : an unusual or difficult feat performed or undertaken chiefly to gain attention or publicity **2** : a shifting or switching of the positions of the defensive players in football intended to confuse the blocking assignments of the opponents

⁴stunt *vi* **1** : to perform stunts **2** : to engage in a stunt in football

stu·pa \'stü-pə\ *n* [Skt *stūpa*] : a hemispherical or cylindrical mound or tower serving as a Buddhist shrine



stupa

¹stupe \'st(y)üp\ *n* [ME, fr. L *stuppa* coarse part of flax, tow, fr. Gk *styppē*] : a hot wet often medicated cloth applied externally (as to stimulate circulation)

²stupe *n* [short for *stupid*] : a stupid person : DOLT

stu·pe·fa·cient \ˌst(y)ü-pə-'fā-shənt\ *n* [L *stupefacient-, stupefaciens,* prp. of *stupefacere* to stupefy] : something promoting stupefaction : NARCOTIC

stu·pe·fac·tion \-'fak-shən\ *n* [NL *stupefaction-, stupefactio,* fr. L *stupefactus,* pp. of *stupefacere*] : the act of stupefying : the state of being stupefied

stu·pe·fy \-ˌfī\ *vt* **-fied; -fy·ing** [MF *stupefier,* modif. of L *stupefacere,* fr. *stupēre* to be astonished + *facere* to make, do — more at DO] **1** : to make stupid, groggy, or insensible **2** : ASTONISH

stu·pen·dous \st(y)ü-'pen-dəs\ *adj* [L *stupendus,* gerundive of *stupēre*] **1** : causing astonishment or wonder : AWESOME, MARVELOUS **2** : of amazing size or greatness : TREMENDOUS ***syn*** see MONSTROUS — **stu·pen·dous·ly** *adv* — **stu·pen·dous·ness** *n*

¹stu·pid \'st(y)ü-pəd\ *adj* [MF *stupide,* fr. L *stupidus,* fr. *stupēre* to be benumbed, be astonished; akin to Gk *typtein* to beat — more at TYPE] **1 a** : slow of mind : OBTUSE **b** : given to unintelligent decisions or acts **c** : lacking intelligence or reason : BRUTISH **2** : dulled in feeling or sensation : TORPID ⟨still ~ from the sedative⟩ **3** : marked by or resulting from dullness : SENSELESS **4 a** : lacking interest or point **b** : VEXATIOUS, EXASPERATING ⟨this ~ flashlight won't work⟩ — **stu·pid·ly** *adv* — **stu·pid·ness** *n*

syn STUPID, DULL, DENSE, CRASS, DUMB *shared meaning element* : lacking in or exhibiting a lack of power to absorb ideas or impressions ***ant*** intelligent

²stupid *n* : a stupid person

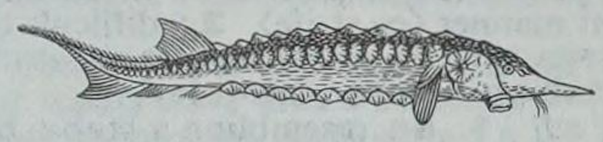
stu·pid·i·ty \st(y)ü-'pid-ət-ē\ *n, pl* **-ties** **1** : the quality or state of being stupid **2** : a stupid idea or act

stu·por \'st(y)ü-pər\ *n* [ME, fr. L, fr. *stupēre*] **1** : a condition characterized by great diminution or suspension of sense or feeling ⟨drunken ~⟩ **2** : a state of extreme apathy or torpor resulting often from stress or shock : DAZE

stu·por·ous \'st(y)ü-p(ə-)rəs\ *adj* : marked or affected by or as if by stupor

stur·dy \'stərd-ē\ *adj* **stur·di·er; -est** [ME, brave, stubborn, fr. OF *estourdi* stunned, fr. pp. of *estourdir* to stun, fr. (assumed) VL *exturdire* to be dizzy as a thrush that is drunk from eating grapes, fr. L *ex-* + *turdus* thrush — more at THRUSH] **1 a** : firmly built or constituted : STOUT **b** : HARDY **c** : sound in design or execution : SUBSTANTIAL **2 a** : marked by or reflecting physical strength or vigor **b** : FIRM, RESOLUTE ***syn*** see STRONG ***ant*** decrepit — **stur·di·ly** \'stərd-ᵊl-ē\ *adv* — **stur·di·ness** \'stərd-ē-nəs\ *n*

stur·geon \'stər-jən\ *n* [ME, fr. OF *estourjon,* of Gmc origin; akin to OE *styria* sturgeon] : any of various usu. large elongate edible ganoid fishes (as of the genus *Acipenser*) which are widely distributed in the north temperate zone and whose roe is made into caviar



sturgeon

Sturm and Drang \ˌs(h)tu̇r-mu̇nt-'dräŋ, -mənt-\ *n* [G, fr. *Sturm und Drang* (*Storm and Stress*), drama by Friedrich von Klinger] **1** : a late 18th century German literary movement characterized by works containing rousing action and high emotionalism that often deal with the individual's revolt against society **2** : TURMOIL

sturt \'stərt\ *n* [ME, contention, alter. of *strut;* akin to OE *strūtian* to exert oneself — more at STRUT] *chiefly Scot* : CONTENTION

¹stut·ter \'stət-ər\ *vb* [freq. of E dial. *stut* to stutter, fr. ME *stutten;* akin to D *stotteren* to stutter, L *tundere* to beat — more at STINT] *vi* **1** : to speak with involuntary disruption or blocking of speech (as by spasmodic repetition or prolongation of vocal sounds) **2** : to move or act in a halting or spasmodic manner ⟨the old jalopy bucks and ~*s* uphill —William Cleary⟩ ~ *vt* : to say, speak, or sound with or as if with a stutter ***syn*** see STAMMER — **stut·ter·er** \-ər-ər\ *n*

²stutter *n* **1** : an act or instance of stuttering **2** : a speech disorder involving stuttering accompanied by fear and anxiety

¹sty \'stī\ *n, pl* **sties** *also* **styes** [ME, fr. OE *stig;* akin to ON *-stī* sty] **1** : a pen or enclosed housing for swine **2** : an unkempt filthy dwelling or abode ⟨her house was a perfect ~⟩

²sty *vb* **stied** *or* **styed; sty·ing** *vt* : to lodge or keep in a sty ~ *vi* : to live in a sty

³sty *or* **stye** \'stī\ *n, pl* **sties** *or* **styes** [short for obs. E *styan,* fr. (assumed) ME, alter. of OE *stīgend,* fr. *stīgan* to go up, rise — more at STAIR] : an inflamed swelling of a sebaceous gland at the margin of an eyelid

sty·gian \'stij-(ē-)ən\ *adj, often cap* [L *stygius,* fr. Gk *stygios,* fr. *Styg-, Styx* Styx] **1** : of or relating to the river Styx **2 a** : extremely dark **b** : having a gloomy or forbidding aspect ⟨the expression on her heavy features . . . was ~ —Nancy Hale⟩

¹styl- *or* **stylo-** *comb form* [L, fr. Gk, fr. *stylos* — more at STEER] : pillar ⟨*styl*olite⟩

²styl- *or* **styli-** *or* **stylo-** *comb form* [L *stilus* stake, stalk — more at STYLE] : style : styloid process ⟨*styl*ate⟩ ⟨*styli*ferous⟩ ⟨*stylo*graphic⟩

sty·lar \'stī-lər, -ˌlär\ *adj* [¹*style*] **1** : of, relating to, or constituting an elongated process **2** : of or relating to the style of a plant ovary

-sty·lar \'stī-lər, -ˌlär\ *adj comb form* [Gk *stylos* pillar — more at STEER] : having (such or so many) pillars : having (such) columniation ⟨amphi*stylar*⟩

¹style \'stī(ə)l\ *n* [ME *stile, style,* fr. L *stilus* stake, stylus, style of writing; akin to OE *stician* to stick] **1 a** : STYLUS **b** : the shadow-producing pin of a sundial **c** : a filiform prolongation of a plant ovary bearing a stigma at its apex — see FLOWER illustration **d** : a slender bristle or other elongated process on an animal **2 a** : mode of expressing thought in language; *esp* : a manner of expression characteristic of an individual, period, school, or nation ⟨a classic ~⟩ **b** : manner or tone assumed in discourse **c** : the custom or plan followed in spelling, capitalization, punctuation, and typographic arrangement and display **3** : mode of address : TITLE **4 a** (1) : manner or method of acting or performing esp. as sanctioned by some standard (2) : a distinctive or characteristic manner **b** : a fashionable luxurious mode of life ⟨lived in ~⟩ **c** : overall excellence, skill, or grace in performance, manner, or appearance ***syn*** see FASHION — **style·less** \'stī(ə)l-ləs\ *adj* — **style·less·ness** *n*

²style *vt* **styled; styl·ing** **1** : to designate by an identifying term : NAME ⟨*styled* themselves pro-Marxists —John Womack *b*1937⟩ **2 a** : to cause to conform to a customary style **b** : to design and make in accord with the prevailing mode — **styl·er** *n*

¹-style \ˌstīl\ *adj comb form* : exhibiting the style of ⟨ranch-*style*⟩

²-style *adv comb form* : in the style or manner of ⟨cowboy-*style*⟩

style·book *n* : a book explaining, describing, or illustrating a prevailing, accepted, or authorized style

sty·let \stī-'let, 'stī-lət\ *n* [F, fr. MF *stilet* stiletto, fr. OIt *stiletto*] **1 a** : a slender surgical probe **b** : a thin wire inserted into a catheter to maintain rigidity or into a hollow needle to maintain patency **c** : a pointed instrument (as for graving) **2** : a relatively rigid elongated organ or appendage (as a piercing mouthpart) of an animal **3** : STILETTO

sty·li·form \'stī-lə-ˌfȯrm\ *adj* [NL *stiliformis,* fr. L *stilus* + *-formis* -form] : resembling a style : bristle-shaped ⟨a ~ copulatory organ⟩

styl·ing \'stī-liŋ\ *n* : the way in which something is styled

styl·ish \'stī-lish\ *adj* : having style; *specif* : conforming to current fashion — **styl·ish·ly** *adv* — **styl·ish·ness** *n*

styl·ist \'stī-ləst\ *n* **1** : a master or model of style; *esp* : a writer or speaker in matters of style **2** : one who develops, designs, or advises on styles

sty·lis·tic \stī-'lis-tik\ *adj* : of or relating esp. to literary or artistic style — **sty·lis·ti·cal·ly** \-ti-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

sty·lis·tics \stī-'lis-tiks\ *n pl but sing or pl in constr* **1** : an aspect of literary study that emphasizes the analysis of various elements of style (as metaphor and diction) **2** : the study of the devices in a language that produce expressive value

sty·lite \'stī-ˌlīt\ *n* [LGk *stylitēs,* fr. Gk *stylos* pillar — more at STEER] : a Christian ascetic living atop a pillar — **sty·lit·ic** \stī-'lit-ik\ *adj*

styl·ize \'stī(ə)l-ˌīz\ *vt* **styl·ized; styl·iz·ing** : to conform to a conventional style; *specif* : to represent or design according to a style

or stylistic pattern rather than according to nature — **styl·i·za·tion** \ˌstī-lə-ˈzā-shən\ *n*

sty·lo·bate \ˈstī-lə-ˌbāt\ *n* [L *stylobates*, fr. Gk, *stylobatēs*, fr. *stylos* pillar + *bainein* to walk, go — more at COME] : a continuous flat coping or pavement on which a row of architectural columns is supported

sty·lo·graph \-ˌgraf\ *n* : a stylographic pen

sty·lo·graph·ic \ˌstī-lə-ˈgraf-ik\ *adj* **1** : of or relating to stylography **2** : of, relating to, or being a fountain pen that has a fine point fitted with a needle which by pressure of the point on a surface is pushed back to release the flow of ink — **sty·lo·graph·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj* — **sty·lo·graph·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

sty·log·ra·phy \stī-ˈläg-rə-fē\ *n* : a mode of writing or tracing lines by means of a style or similar instrument

sty·loid \ˈstī(ə)l-ˌȯid\ *adj* : resembling a style : STYLIFORM — used esp. of slender pointed skeletal processes (as on the ulna)

sty·lo·lite \ˈstī-lə-ˌlīt\ *n* [ISV] : a small longitudinally grooved column of the same material as the rock in which it occurs

sty·lo·po·di·um \ˌstī-lə-ˈpōd-ē-əm\ *n, pl* **-dia** \-ē-ə\ [NL, fr. ²*styl-* + Gk *podion* small foot, base — more at PEW] : a disk-shaped or conical expansion at the base of the style in plants of the carrot family

-sty·lous \ˈstī-ləs\ *adj comb form* [¹*style*] : having (such or so many) floral styles ⟨mono*stylous*⟩

sty·lus \ˈstī-ləs\ *n, pl* **sty·li** \ˈstī(ə)l-ˌī\ *also* **sty·lus·es** \ˈstī-lə-səz\ [modif. of L *stilus* stake, stylus — more at STYLE] : an instrument for writing, marking, or incising: as **a** : an instrument used by the ancients in writing on clay or waxed tablets **b** : a hard-pointed pen-shaped instrument for marking on stencils used in a reproducing machine **c** (1) : NEEDLE 3c **c** (2) : a cutting tool used to produce an original record groove during disc recording

¹sty·mie \ˈstī-mē\ *n* [perh. fr. Sc *stymie* person with poor eyesight] **1** : a condition existing on a golf putting green when the ball nearer the hole lies in the line of play of another ball **2** : OBSTACLE

²stymie *vt* **sty·mied; sty·mie·ing** : to present an obstacle to : stand in the way of

styp·tic \ˈstip-tik\ *adj* [ME *stiptik*, fr. L *stypticus*, fr. Gk *styptikos*, fr. *styphein* to contract] : tending to contract or bind : ASTRINGENT; *esp* : tending to check bleeding — **styptic** *n*

styptic pencil *n* : a cylindrical stick of a medicated styptic substance used esp. in shaving to stop the bleeding from small cuts

sty·rax \ˈstī-ˌraks\ *n* [L] : STORAX

sty·rene \ˈstī-ˌrēn\ *n* [ISV, fr. L *styrax*] : a fragrant liquid unsaturated hydrocarbon C_8H_8 used chiefly in making synthetic rubber, resins, and plastics and in improving drying oils

Sty·ro·foam \ˈstī-rə-ˌfōm\ *trademark* — used for an expanded rigid polystyrene plastic

Styx \ˈstiks\ *n* [L *Styg-*, *Styx*, fr. Gk] : a river of the underworld over which shades of the dead are ferried on their way to Hades

su·able \ˈsü-ə-bəl\ *adj* : liable to be sued in court — **su·abil·i·ty** \ˌsü-ə-ˈbil-ət-ē\ *n* — **su·ably** \-blē\ *adv*

sua·sion \ˈswā-zhən\ *n* [ME, fr. L *suasion-*, *suasio*, fr. *suasus*, pp. of *suadēre* to urge, persuade; akin to L *suavis*] : the act of influencing or persuading — **sua·sive** \ˈswā-siv, -ziv\ *adj* — **sua·sive·ly** *adv* — **sua·sive·ness** *n*

suave \ˈswäv\ *adj* [MF, pleasant, sweet, fr. L *suavis* — more at SWEET] **1** : smoothly though often superficially affable and polite **2** : smooth in performance or finish — **suave·ly** *adv* — **suave·ness** *n* — **sua·vi·ty** \ˈswäv-ət-ē\ *n*

syn SUAVE, URBANE, DIPLOMATIC, BLAND, SMOOTH, POLITIC *shared meaning element* : ingratiatingly tactful and well-mannered ***ant*** bluff

¹sub \ˈsəb\ *n* : SUBSTITUTE

²sub *vb* **subbed; sub·bing** *vi* : to act as a substitute ~ *vt* **1** : SUBEDIT **2** : to apply a substratum to (as a photographic film) **3** : SUBCONTRACT 1

³sub *n* : SUBMARINE

⁴sub *n* [short for *substratum*] : a photographic substratum

⁵sub *abbr* **1** subaltern **2** subtract **3** suburb

sub- *prefix* [ME, fr. L, under, below, secretly, from below, up, near, fr. *sub* under, close to — more at UP] **1** : under : beneath : below ⟨*sub*soil⟩ ⟨*sub*aqueous⟩ **2 a** : subordinate : secondary : next lower than or inferior to ⟨*sub*station⟩ ⟨*sub*editor⟩ **b** : subordinate portion of : subdivision of ⟨*sub*committee⟩ ⟨*sub*species⟩ **c** : with repetition (as of a process) so as to form, stress, or deal with subordinate parts or relations ⟨*sub*let⟩ ⟨*sub*contract⟩ **3 a** : less than completely, perfectly, or normally : somewhat ⟨*sub*dominant⟩ ⟨*sub*ovate⟩ **b** (1) : containing less than the usual or normal amount of (such) an element or radical ⟨*sub*oxide⟩ (2) : basic — in names of salts ⟨*sub*acetate⟩ **4 a** : almost : nearly ⟨*sub*erect⟩ **b** : falling nearly in the category of and often adjoining : bordering upon ⟨*sub*arctic⟩

sub·ac·id \ˌsəb-ˈas-əd, ˈsəb-\ *adj* [L *subacidus*, fr. *sub-* + *acidus* acid] **1** : moderately acid ⟨~ fruit juices⟩ **2** : rather tart ⟨~ comments⟩ — **sub·ac·id·ly** *adv* — **sub·ac·id·ness** *n*

sub·acute \ˌsəb-ə-ˈkyüt\ *adj* : moderately acute ⟨a ~ angle⟩ ⟨a ~ flower petal⟩ ⟨~ inflammation⟩ — **sub·acute·ly** *adv*

sub·adult \ˌsəb-ə-ˈdəlt; ˌsəb-ˈad-ˌəlt, ˈsəb-\ *n* : an individual that has passed through the juvenile period but not yet attained typical adult characteristics — **subadult** *adj*

sub·aer·i·al \ˌsəb-ˈar-ē-əl, ˈsəb-, -ˈer-; ˌsəb-ā-ˈir-ē-əl\ *adj* : situated, formed, or occurring on or adjacent to the surface of the earth ⟨~ erosion⟩ ⟨~ roots⟩ — **sub·aer·i·al·ly** \-ē-ə-lē\ *adv*

sub·agen·cy \ˌsəb-ˈā-jən-sē, ˈsəb-, ˈsəb-ˌ\ *n* : a subordinate agency

sub·agent \ˈsəb-ˌā-jənt\ *n* : a subordinate agent; *specif* : a person employed by an agent to assist him in transacting the affairs of his principal

su·bah·dar *or* **su·ba·dar** \ˌsü-bə-ˈdär\ *n* [Per *ṣūbadār*] **1** : a governor of a province **2** : the chief native officer of a native company in the former British Indian army

sub·al·pine \ˌsəb-ˈal-ˌpīn, ˈsəb-\ *adj* **1** : of or relating to the region about the foot and lower slopes of the Alps **2** *cap* : of, relating to, or growing on high upland slopes

¹sub·al·tern \sə-ˈbȯl-tərn, *esp Brit* ˈsəb-əl-tərn\ *adj* [LL *subalternus*, fr. L *sub-* + *alternus* alternate, fr. *alter* other (of two) — more at ALTER] **1** : inferior in quality or status : SUBORDINATE **2** : particular with reference to a related universal proposition ⟨"some S is P" is a ~ proposition to "all S is P"⟩

²subaltern *n* **1** : a person holding a subordinate position **2** : SUBALTERNATE

¹sub·al·ter·nate \sə-ˈbȯl-tər-nət\ *adj* : SUBALTERN 1 — **sub·al·ter·nate·ly** *adv*

²subalternate *n* : a particular proposition that follows immediately from a universal

sub·al·ter·na·tion \sə-ˌbȯl-tər-ˈnā-shən\ *n* : the relation of a subalternate to a universal

sub·ant·arc·tic \ˌsəb-ant-ˈärk-tik, -ˈärt-ik\ *adj* : of, relating to, characteristic of, or being a region just outside the antarctic circle

sub·api·cal \ˌsəb-ˈā-pi-kəl, ˈsəb- *also* -ˈap-i-\ *adj* : situated below or near an apex — **sub·api·cal·ly** \-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

sub·aquat·ic \ˌsəb-ə-ˈkwät-ik, -ˈkwat-\ *adj* [ISV] : somewhat aquatic ⟨a marginal ~ flora⟩

sub·aque·ous \ˌsəb-ˈā-kwē-əs, ˈsəb-, -ˈak-wē-\ *adj* : existing, formed, or taking place in or under water

sub·arc·tic \ˌsəb-ˈärk-tik, ˈsəb-ˈärt-ik\ *adj* [ISV] : of, relating to, characteristic of, or being regions immediately outside of the arctic circle or regions similar to these in climate or conditions of life — **subarctic** *n*

sub·ar·ea \ˈsəb-ˌar-ē-ə, -ˌer-\ *n* : a subdivision of an area

sub·as·sem·bly \ˌsəb-ə-ˈsem-blē\ *n* : an assembled unit designed to be incorporated with other units in a finished product

sub·at·mo·spher·ic \ˌsəb-ˌat-mə-ˈsfi(ə)r-ik, ˈsəb-, -ˈsfer-\ *adj* : less or lower than that of the atmosphere ⟨~ temperatures⟩

sub·atom·ic \ˌsəb-ə-ˈtäm-ik\ *adj* : of or relating to the inside of the atom or to particles smaller than atoms

sub·au·di·ble \ˌsəb-ˈȯd-ə-bəl, ˈsəb-\ *adj* : having a frequency or intensity below the limit of hearing

sub·au·di·tion \ˌsəb-ȯ-ˈdish-ən\ *n* [LL *subaudition-*, *subauditio*, fr. *subauditus*, pp. of *subaudire* to understand, fr. L *sub-* + *audire* to hear — more at AUDIBLE] **1** : the act of understanding or supplying something not expressed **2** : something that is understood or supplied in comprehending a text

sub·av·er·age \ˌsəb-ˈav-(ə-)rij, ˈsəb-\ *adj* : of a lower level or quality than some norm ⟨~ minds⟩ ⟨~ education⟩

sub·base \ˈsəb-ˌbās\ *n* : underlying support placed below what is normally construed as a base: as **a** : the lowest member horizontally of an architectural base or of a baseboard or pedestal **b** : pervious fill (as crushed stone) placed under a roadbed

sub·base·ment \ˈsəb-ˌbā-smənt\ *n* : a basement located below the true basement of a building

sub·bing \ˈsəb-iŋ\ *n* [⁴*sub*] : SUBSTRATUM e

sub·cab·i·net \ˌsəb-ˈkab-(ə-)nət, ˈsəb-\ *adj* : of, relating to, or being a high administrative position in the U.S. government that ranks below the cabinet level

sub·cap·su·lar \ˌsəb-ˈkap-sə-lər, ˈsəb-\ *adj* : situated or occurring beneath or within a capsule ⟨~ cataracts⟩

sub·ce·les·tial \ˌsəb-sə-ˈles(h)-chəl\ *adj* : situated beneath the heavens; *specif* : MUNDANE

sub·cel·lu·lar \ˌsəb-ˈsel-yə-lər, ˈsəb-\ *adj* : of less than cellular scope or level of organization ⟨~ particles⟩

sub·cen·ter \ˌsəb-ˌsent-ər\ *n* : a secondary center; *esp* : a center (as for shopping) located outside the main business area of a city

sub·cen·tral \ˌsəb-ˈsen-trəl, ˈsəb-\ *adj* **1** : located under a center **2** : nearly but not quite central — **sub·cen·tral·ly** \-trə-lē\ *adv*

sub·chas·er \ˈsəb-ˌchā-sər\ *n* : SUBMARINE CHASER

sub·chlo·ride \ˌsəb-ˈklō(ə)r-ˌīd, ˈsəb-, -ˈklȯ(ə)r-\ *n* [ISV] **1** : a binary chloride containing a relatively small proportion of chlorine **2** : a basic chloride

sub·class \ˈsəb-ˌklas\ *n* : a primary division of a class: as **a** : a biological taxonomic category below a class and above an order **b** : SUBSET

¹sub·cla·vi·an \ˌsəb-ˈklā-vē-ən\ *adj* [NL *subclavius*, fr. *sub-* + *clavicula* clavicle] **1** : located under the clavicle **2** : of or relating to a subclavian part (as an artery, vein, or nerve)

²subclavian *n* : a subclavian part (as an artery, vein, or nerve)

subclavian artery *n* : the proximal part of the main artery of the arm or forelimb

subclavian vein *n* : the proximal part of the main vein of the arm or forelimb

sub·cli·max \ˌsəb-ˈklī-ˌmaks, ˈsəb-\ *n* : a stage or community in an ecological succession immediately preceding a climax; *esp* : one held in relative stability throughout edaphic or biotic influences or by fire

sub·clin·i·cal \-ˈklin-i-kəl\ *adj* : only slightly abnormal and not detectable by the usual clinical tests ⟨a ~ infection⟩ — **sub·clin·i·cal·ly** \-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

sub·col·le·giate \ˌsəb-kə-ˈlē-j(ē-)ət\ *adj* : designed for students who are not adequately prepared to take college-level courses

sub·com·mit·tee \ˈsəb-kə-ˌmit-ē, ˌsəb-kə-ˈ\ *n* : a subdivision of a committee usu. organized for a specific purpose

sub·com·mu·ni·ty \ˌsəb-kə-ˈmyü-nət-ē\ *n* : a distinct community existing within a large urban area

sub·com·pact \ˈsəb-ˈkäm-ˌpakt\ *n* : an automobile smaller than a compact

¹sub·con·scious \ˌsəb-ˈkän-chəs, ˈsəb-\ *adj* **1** : existing in the mind but not immediately available to consciousness ⟨his ~ motive⟩ **2** : imperfectly or incompletely conscious ⟨a ~ state⟩ — **sub·con·scious·ly** *adv* — **sub·con·scious·ness** *n*